

Pony Express

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Senior – freshman profiles

By Susan Beresford and David Hoytt



ASHLEY BUTLER

- ◆ Maybe not for me, but for freshmen- not being able to go off campus is pretty bad. I got suspended freshman year for that.
- ◆ Probably not that much...
- ◆ Not succeeding...or being a bum and not being able to shower.
- ◆ A cat because cats don't listen to anyone.
- ◆ I'd pitch a tent-I wouldn't really watch but I'd throw them some blankets.
- ◆ It's a pretty campus but it's too long. There are also good teachers...especially Mr. Krakora.
- ◆ I'm not sure...Winona Ryder, but I wouldn't steal things in my movie.

QUESTIONS

- ◆ What rules at school do you disagree with the most?
- ◆ If a rich person wanted to buy your parents, how much would you sell them for?
- ◆ What's your biggest fear?
- ◆ If you could be an animal, what would you be and why?
- ◆ If you were on vacation at the beach and people were swimming naked would you stay and watch or leave?
- ◆ What's your favorite thing about San Marin?
- ◆ If there were a movie made about your life, who would play you and why?

MEGAN BERESFORD

- ◆ Freshmen going off campus for lunch. If they can do it at Novato why can't we? We're better than they are, right?
- ◆ \$1,000,000. They're too strict.
- ◆ My big sister Susan because she's so tough.
- ◆ A skunk so I could get back at the people I don't like.
- ◆ I'd probably join the party.
- ◆ Rudy breaking up the fights. He's sooo brave!
- ◆ Josh Hartnett because he's so hot,.

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Something at San Marin bother you? Confuse you? Want to know when or why a tradition started? Contact the *Pony Express* and we'll find out for you.

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Dedication merges past with present

On September 28, 2002, members of the San Marin community past and present came together on the San Marin football field to dedicate a flagpole to Paul Sloan (Class of '93) and a bench to Jack Keohane (Class of '78), both of whom lost their lives in the September 11 attack on the World Trade Center.

The dedication included performances by the San Marin music department and presentation of the colors by the ROTC color guard joined by members of the Novato Professional Firefighters Association and the captains of the San Marin football teams.

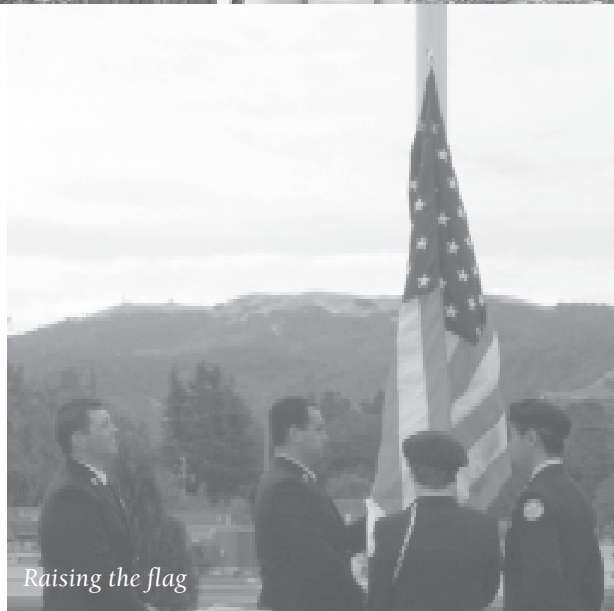
Bill Stiveson, San Marin assistant principal for 30 years, said, "When you walk around this campus, you will see that San Marin has had many memorials over the years. In a large high school community, a microcosm of society at large, many students and faculty members have passed away by car accidents, cancer, and any number of illnesses. Al Berti, a math teacher, has a memorial in the middle of the campus. Larry Demetrak, also a math teacher, has a building named after him. Paul Ferreboeuf, and English teacher and basketball coach, our latest tragedy in the faculty, has the gym floor named after him.

"But this memorial is special. Special in that these two young men were cut off in their prime as a result of a terrorist attack on our country...

"So a few years from now, on a quiet autumn evening when I walk the campus and see the memorials of my friends and colleagues, I will stop by this memorial in particular because of what it symbolizes.... But I will also see in my mind's eye Paul and Jack, these two beautiful young men taken from us in their prime. I will have a deep sense of loss because of their sacrifice but also a great sense of pride to have known them and helped nurture and develop them at San Marin."



Bill Stiveson



Raising the flag



Football team leaders watch the ceremony

Drug testing of athletes possible

By Mike Gutierrez and Mark Kellner

According to San Marin's new Athletic Director, Mark Carlson, the Novato Unified School District is considering the establishment of a drug testing system for all High School athletes.

The method of testing would require each student athlete to provide a urine sample. If this test proves positive to any of the following drugs a second test will be performed to confirm previous results: steroids, illegal sport enhancing drugs, and marijuana or other recreational drugs. If the second test verifies that drug use is in fact evident within the athlete's system they would be put on probation status. This person would then have to attend counseling regarding their drug abuse, and could possibly be barred from competition in their games.

Last year's athletic director Tom Zechlin reported he had yet to hear about this new district policy, but when questioned about it said, "I'm all for it. If students have nothing to hide I don't see what they have to worry about."

Carlson reported that the idea originally spurned from Chicago public schools, where the system has been in use for 12 years, and has been very successful in keeping sports competitions both fair, and for the most part, drug-free.

Though some students might feel that drug testing is a violation of their privacy, a Supreme Court decision made in June legalizes these random tests. The Supreme Court decision not only applies to student athletes, like Chicago's drug-testing system, but now holds all students participating in after school activities or clubs accountable for their decisions.

They ruled that schools' interest in getting rid of drugs on campus outweighs students' right of privacy.

Although rumors have been spreading rampantly among students and coaches about this new policy, in reality, the NUSD or other member schools of the Marin County Athletic League still have yet to adopt it.

"The school District and both schools [San Marin and Novato] are definitely interested in getting it in action, but I haven't heard anything further about it since the policy arrived on my desk in August," Carlson reported.

Peer counseling gets the ax

By Stephanie Alderson and Mark Kellner

Remember the presentation two years ago when Ryan Booth was dressed in a white condom, trying to promote safe sex?

Or when your younger siblings came home from middle school exclaiming, "Mommy, mommy we got to see San Marin's peer counselors do an awesome show today."

"When we used to travel around and perform our skits, people loved us. We would get letters and phone calls from people asking us to travel and perform for them. We were able to perform for middle schools in other districts," said Maura Purcell, an avid peer counselor.

When principal Loeta Andersen returned to San Marin this year after a year as Assistant principal at Redwood High School in Larkspur, she was dumbfounded when she saw the class was missing from the master schedule.

Andersen said that further investigation on her part revealed that although a full roster of students was already accepted into the class last spring, late last school year Greg Duffey, San Marin's former principal, cancelled the class after the school district cut the number of "sections" allocated to San Marin.

Sections or class periods are allotted to each school based on their school population. They are first allocated to academic classes to meet all the requirements of the students, and the left over sections are then used for electives.

Because last year's peer counseling teacher Tanya Tcheshnykh was a counselor, the section allotted to the class came out of the counseling department and not one of the elective sections. She was leading the class as part of her counseling duties.

However, with schedules constantly changing, and work loads maxed out for SM counselors, Duffey determined that it was too much time for one of the new counselors to commit.

"The school has a commitment to the program and we've investigated the possibility of one of our new counselors being an advisor of the program, but we're just not sure what form the program can take right now," said Toni Beal, one of San Marin's assistant principals.

Previous peer counselors are discussing the possibility of making peer counseling a club this year, because a class is not possible. "We're hoping to make peer counseling a club so we can possibly reconstitute the class for next year's students," said Devonne Johnson, a devoted SM peer counselor.

Peer counselors say the class, which was taught by former San Marin science teacher Lyn Moreno for many years, was independent from school funding. They raised all their money for materials and travel expenses. However, the funding for a period of a teacher's time would come out of the school budget.

"We don't have 'peer counseling boosters' like music and sports," said Purcell.

It just comes down to money. "I'm really hoping to get it back for next year. It is important, especially for a high school as big as San Marin. We should have it," said Andersen.

San Marin already offers a limited number of electives, and peer counselors and the administration feel that removing peer counseling from San Marin takes away from the atmosphere as a whole.

Our own "Breakfast Club"

By Jamie Lummis and Abby Yim

It's Saturday morning 8:00, Mom is in the kitchen cooking pancakes, Dad is reading the paper and the morning cartoons are blasting the living room. Where are you?

Well, if you're the usual Tuesday school attendee you may find yourself trapped in a San Marin classroom.

"I don't care, I'll just do my homework." This seems to be the attitude held by most Tuesday school frequenters. It could be said that they are taking advantage of the convenience of having detention during the school week.

"I believe with all my heart that kids are taking advantage of Tuesday schools," Principal Loeta Andersen comments.

Andersen hopes that the move will motivate students to be more aware of their actions and cut down on the number of detentions distributed. This may be achieved solely based on the fact that students

will no longer be able to work on their own homework. They will now be forced to complete specially assigned Saturday School work.

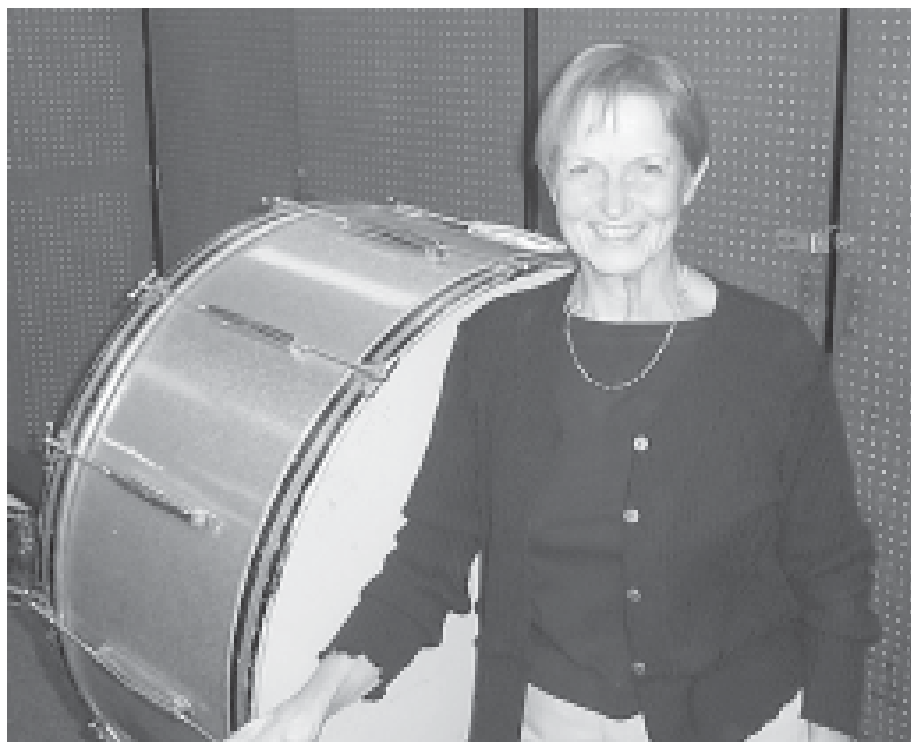
The question is will Saturday school decrease the number of behavioral problems? The feelings are mixed. "It won't stop me from doing what I've done in the past," one honest student comments.

However some seem to be going along with Andersen's grand master plan. Junior Jared Overfield states, "I don't appreciate it moving to Saturday but it will stop me from getting into trouble because I don't want to wake up that early during the weekend!"

So before you plan to ditch your sixth and seventh period classes, double check your Friday night plans because you may be finding yourself listening to the sound of your alarm clock at around 7:30 Saturday morning.

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PERFORMING ARTS NOTES



Gates drums up excitement in the music department

By Kevin Kahn and Michael Lovejoy

For San Marin's award-winning music department, another year of concerts, festivals, and gigs is off to a "great start," says music teacher Emily Gates. With a great mix of talented young freshman and experienced juniors and seniors, our concert and jazz bands and choirs are sure to have another quality, fun-filled year.

Gates, an institution at San Marin, has taught music at the school for over 20 years. She began teaching in Novato at Sinaloa Middle School and was offered a job as band director at the high school. Choir, her specialty, was not offered at the time, and the reply from school administrators was that choir doesn't work at the school. However, Gates decided to take the job at San Marin and has transformed the previously poor and unorganized music department into one of the best in the region.

In her first year here, only three people signed up for choir, compared with the two Jazz choirs, Concert Choir, Show Choir, Musical Theater Workshop, and Women's Jazz Choir of today. In addition to Concert Band, Pit Orchestra Band, and Jazz Band,

Gates' tireless efforts touch the music student's each day. In recent years, San Marin's talented musicians have been asked to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City twice, in Banff, Alberta, and on cruise ships sailing the Pacific. The music program has also earned numerous awards and accolades.

Gates' reason for continuing to teach music here is the kids' success after high school. "What kids do when they leave here is amazing. I have former students working on music all over the world, from Europe to Broadway, and I like to help get them there."

The San Marin community can see the fabulous music students at our many concerts. Here's what's in store for fall:

10/4: Fall Show - Jazz and Concert Bands and all choirs

10/11: Vocal Jazz Festival at San Marin - Hosting a choir festival for area schools

11/7-10: Fall Musical - "She Loves Me"

Don't forget to promote school spirit by watching the San Marin Pep Band at every home football game!

Drama gets fired up

By Logan Bartling

The stars of Linda Kislingbury-Cain's drama class are almost ready to make their move.

Rumors, a play by Neil Simon, who authored TV's "The Odd Couple," will be their first production of the 2002 school year, and they aim to please. Opening night is November 21st.

The drama class is excited by the opportunity to present the first Neil Simon play performed at San Marin Drama.

"*Rumors* is a fabulously funny, farce" commented Kislingbury, affectionately called Mrs. K by her students.

"The play is really funny. It combines a quick wit with even quicker dialogue that

will keep the audience teetering on the edge of their seats." remarked Jeremy Brown, obviously confident about the quality of the production.

Brown believes that one of the best qualities of *Rumors* is the lack of a single star, "It's an ensemble cast, which allows a lot of interaction between characters and keeps the humor fresh."

The class loves performing so much that they're already discussing extending the production for an additional show. Currently, the drama class is scheduled to perform a show each night from November 21st to November 24th.

Tickets are not yet available, but will be sold both at the door and in advance.

A summer at Cambridge with Laurel

By Brad McCarter and Abby Yim

During the summer, you can usually find your average sixteen year old at the local mall, pool or the ever-dreaded family vacation.

But unlike most "average" sixteen year olds, San Marin Junior Laurel Lemontt could be found studying diplomacy and English Literature at Cambridge University in England.

This highly competitive program is not exactly "average" either; it is an intense study that requires each applicant to fulfill certain requirements; B+ average, three letters of recommendation from teachers, and a two-page essay on what you plan to gain while at the university.

"It was very difficult to meet all the requirements, but I was up to the challenge because I wanted to do something productive with my summer," Lemontt explains. Unwilling to let her mind take a break over the 3 month hiatus from school, Lemontt looked up this program via the internet and struck gold.

The organization is called The Cambridge Tradition and offered various programs; criminology, medicine and psychology, just to name a few.

"I was really interested in the diplomacy program and it sounded like something that would be fun to learn about," says Lemontt.

In the diplomacy program, students

participated in class discussions and in-class essay writing based on current international affairs.

Michael McKinley, Director of Jesus College, Cambridge, said, "Laurel has a keen interest in international relations, and



shows promise of distinguishing herself in a college course or future career in international relations.."



Creative writing club formed

By Amber Shields

Distressed at San Marin's lack of a creative writing class or club, junior Laurel Lemontt decided to take action and created her own creative writing club.

"I love creative writing and there hasn't been a class or a club at San Marin for a while. I'm a writer and I want to get together with people and share our work."

In the club, Lemontt plans to share and talk about students' writing while also looking at other great works of prose and poetry. She also hopes to do some writing in the club.

Meetings will be held during lunch on Mondays in room 501, beginning October 7.



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Uvarov and Donohoe trade jobs, lives

By Bridget O'Connor

Can you imagine packing your bags and venturing off to an entirely different country, with a culture so deeply different from that of your native land, and actually going to school?

For those of you who find a feat such as this impossible, well, we have some news for you: it's far from impossible.

Terry Donahoe, who has taught in the Novato School District for twenty-seven years, likes to move around to keep from getting bored.

In his career, he has started at Hill Junior High (before it closed for a number of years in the '80's), moved to San Marin and taught journalism and English, and then move to Sinaloa in 1985. His next position was teaching social studies at North Marin. He returned to San Marin last year. Donahoe, who likes to experience new things, participated in the Fullbright Exchange Program once before, spending a year teaching in England.

Zaynep Uvarov was born in Turkey. All of her education in Turkey was in English and the school where she teaches is all English as well. She has been teaching for eight years.

Last year, both Donahoe and Uvarov applied and were accepted into the Fullbright Teacher Exchange program and began preparing to trade jobs and homes for the year.

This past summer the two met in Washington D.C., and wished each other luck as they each ventured to an unknown land.

Does American culture differ greatly from that of Turkey?

Donahoe: There's no comparison. America is continually changing and reinventing itself where Turkish culture slowly evolved over millennia. Modern Turkish culture is the result of its geography. Because it is a land bridge between Asia and Europe, many ethnic groups passed through and left their mark. Phrygians, Hittites, Assyrians, Persians, Slavs, Seljuks, Armenians, Greeks, and Romans each contributed to Turkish architecture, customs, and cuisine. Islam has been a dominant factor in Turkish life since the 10th century. The Ottoman Empire controlled

most of the Middle East and the Balkan Peninsula for over five centuries.

Uvarov: Not a very great deal, but obviously there are differences in terms of humor, food, and the level of individuality. Turkish people are a closed society; that means they are less individualistic and sometimes I find it hard to understand here especially when students do everything in class to get more points. However, I think it is a good thing because people say what they think openly and freely, which is a good thing.

How does the method of teaching differ?

Donahoe: One of the biggest differences is that Turkish students remain in the same classroom all day. It's the individual subject teachers who move. I go into an eighth grade classroom to teach my English lesson, and when I'm done, I head off to another room.

The school day is very long. Students have nine forty-minute periods. School begins at 8:15 and ends at 4:35. In middle and high schools, students' grades are determined mostly by quarter and semester tests.

Uvarov: As I mentioned the American system has a lot more space for points/grades and exams. Students are competing all the time, which is a good thing.

In Turkey, we don't have to offer students so many points; they do some things in class just because they have fun doing and learning.

Most students won't do much here if there are no rewards in terms of grading. So obviously teaching is different.

Students here can do more independently but one thing that is hard is to cater for students who are not motivated.

At home I would try to help those individually because we have fewer students in each class, but here the system does not allow it to be.

What are the similarities in education?

Donahoe: Like teachers in the US, Turkish teachers are always look-

ing for ways to motivate students. Students complain about too much homework.

Uvarov: Most things are similar but the ultimate goal after high school and the system is a little different. In Turkey, we have a central exam for all universities, but there are many who can't pass the exam. So it's very important for Turkish students to be able to pass this exam and go to good colleges (universities, as we call them).

Here it's similar but if you have a good GPA I think you can go to a good school after high school. Perhaps students are less stressed because probably they will end up going to college, whereas in Turkey, if they can't pass the entrance exam, they have to wait for a year to retake the exam which puts a lot of pressure on many students at the high school level.

How do students differ?

Donahoe: I teach English as a foreign language to students who will use English during their university education or in business. The kids are very affectionate. I've been the recipient of many student hugs since I've been here. The kids love to talk. It's often a challenge getting students' attention during class.

Uvarov: American students are mostly mature and they are responsible (at least from my experience). Turkish kids are mostly the same, but perhaps more protected by their parents. Some of the issues and student problems are not problems over there but mostly they are very similar.

How is the simple task of crossing the street different in Turkey and America?

Donahoe: Turkish drivers don't slow down for pedestrians. They honk to let pedestrians know that they'd better get out of the way. Before I step off the curb, my head swivels in ev-

ery possible direction in order to avoid any danger—I look left, right, in back of me, around the corner, down the street. I've become a proficient jay-walker and taxi dodger.

Uvarov: It doesn't differ, but here the drivers stop immediately if a pedestrian is trying to cross. In

because we can't speak the language. We've been taking Turkish classes for three weeks, and already things have gotten easier.

Uvarov: Yes. People are very helpful, supportive, tolerant, and understanding. I really didn't have any difficulties assimilating to society.



Uvarov and Donahoe meet in DC

Turkey this is a rare occasion unless you're at the crossing.

What has been the hardest thing to get used to?

Donahoe: Although Istanbul doesn't cover a huge area, it's packed with people. Istanbul's population has been estimated at 10 million people, but it's probably larger. I think the entire Bay Area has between 3 and 4 million people. Streets are crowded. Sidewalks are crowded. Traffic is usually nightmarish.

Uvarov: Trying to understand what works best for my students. Because they're American and their mother tongue is English doesn't mean they know all the words in the books we're reading. I thought they would at first, but now I understand. I've spent time figuring out what really works best for them.

Apart from this, having my own class is something new class as we teachers walk in an out of classes back home. At the beginning it was kind of hard to get used to the idea that I had a class to myself.

Has it been easy to assimilate to society? Why or why not?

Donahoe: My inability to speak Turkish has made communication difficult. Few people speak English, but the Turks have been very tolerant of my feeble attempts to speak Turkish. Shopping takes much longer for my wife and me

If you could live in the country in which you are an exchange teacher, would you? Why or why not?

Donahoe: Living in Turkey for an extended period would be exciting. The people are friendly. The food is delicious. The scenery is spectacular. Everywhere I look, I get a history lesson. The upper Bosphorus where I live and work reminds me of Sausalito. I'd love to spend a few years exploring the countryside. The US dollar stretches a lot further here than it does in Marin County.

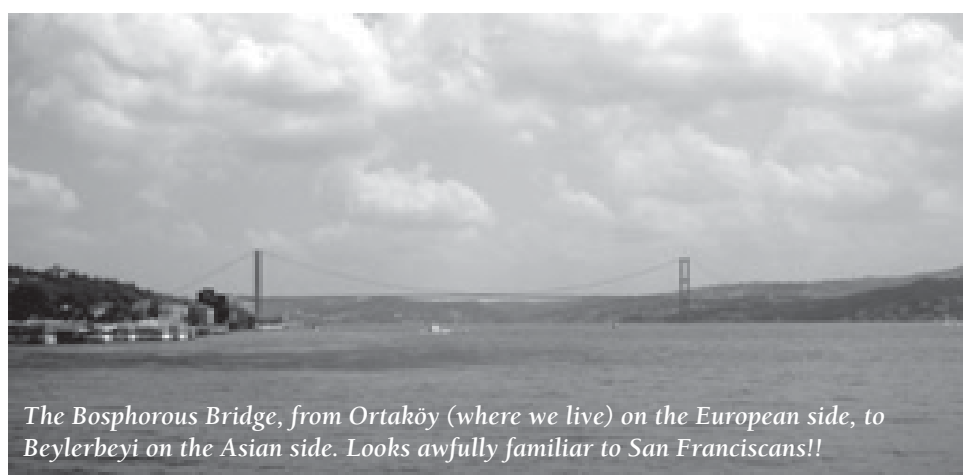
Uvarov: I probably would. It's a beautiful place with beautiful people. There are many things to do.

What do you miss the most about your home country?

Donahoe: Ben and Jerry's Chunky Monkey. Maybe you could send some.

Uvarov: My mom's cooking and my niece who is only three and half years old.

So far, Donahoe and Uvarov have been able to assimilate into the culture and society of the countries they are living in. The fact that both say that the people have made the feat much more enjoyable says a lot about the countries they now inhabit.



The Bosphorus Bridge, from Ortaköy (where we live) on the European side, to Beylerbeyi on the Asian side. Looks awfully familiar to San Franciscans!!

Hollywood



If you could have any super power, what would it be? Would you use it for good or evil?

Jon Sin: I would want mind-control and make everyone fix me peppered turkey sandwiches and water my Chia pet.

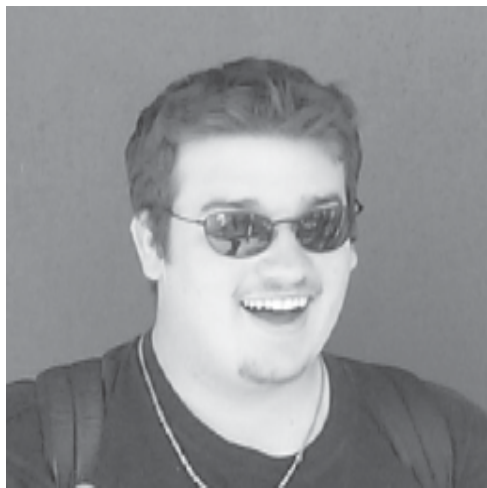
Lisa Bandner: I'd want to be in control of EVERY situation.



What would you do for a Klondike bar?

Jack Rolovich: Anything Ashley wanted me to do.

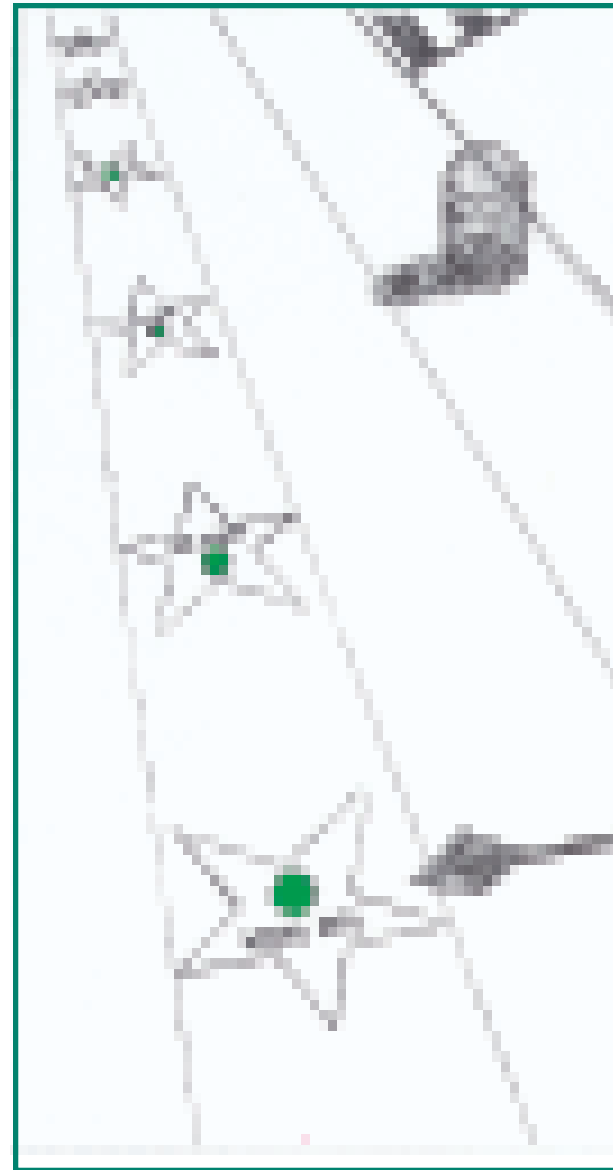
Ashley Puma: Anything Jack wanted me to do.



If you could trade places with any person affiliated with San Marin, who would it be and why?

Andrew Banakus: Wait, is this a one time trade or a long term one because I'm not sure I'm ready for that kind of commitment.

Devonne Johnson: No one, because then I would have to work at San Marin.



If you were a woodchuck, how much wood

Greg Rosell: Uh!



If you had one day to live, what would you do?

Mike Gutierrez: You don't want to know.


Jessica Zanoni: I'd spend the day with Mike.



If you saw your partner sitting in a corner bo
him/her come home with you?

Bret Pughe: Did you just fart, cause you blew me away.

Good Nights



Saturday, October 5, 2002
12:30 pm: Parade
2:00 pm: Varsity football vs. Tamalpais
Halftime: Queen crowned
8:30 pm–11:30 pm: Homecoming Dance
King crowned after 10:00



If you were a type of car, what would you be and why?

Danny Gasparini: Well, if I could travel to any place in the United States, it would be Crosby, West Dakota.



Brooke Barnecut: I would be a 1985 Ford Fiesta because I was born to party.



If you were about to be executed and could have one last meal, what would you eat?

Scott Dumont: I'd eat out.



Gina Rosellini: A big fat Italian sausage.



...would you chuck...and why?

Annie Drummond-Hay: If I were a wood chuck, I would chuck all the wood I could chuck, because if I were a wood chuck I would chuck wood.



If you could be any member of a circus who / what would you be?

David Hoytt: I would be Cristina's trapeze partner.



Cristina Restivo: I would be a trapeze performer because I'm so flexible.



...both at Wendy's, what would you say to make

Susan Beresford: What do you say we go back to my place and I'll put you in a half Nelson.



If you could go to Homecoming with any celebrity, who would you ask and why?

Ryan O'Leary: Heather Locklear, SHWING!



Kim Larkey: Matt Galli.

Homecoming memories

By Stephanie Alderson and Rebecca Guthrie

Jennifer Carlomagno, science teacher (San Marin Class of '89)

"I have many fond memories of dances at San Marin. I remember one year my date never even made it to the dance, he passed out in the limo.

Also there was some big scandal with a guy's date hooking up with someone else, it was a very big deal."

Mike Kinane, history teacher (San Marin Class of '93)

"I never understood why Homecoming was such a formal

event. When I was a junior, my friends and I wore tuxes and took our dates to Burger King for dinner. We even wore the crowns. Our dates were not happy."

Chris Eisenberg, office manager:

"I went to Terra Linda High School and our homecoming was in the gym. I wore a blue suit, like business attire. I remember the gym being packed because there were 2,400 students. It was my junior year, that must have been 1967."

Lilli Rollins, Assistant Principal:

"I had a strict family and my father was the minister of the town. So guess who took my date and I to Homecoming? My father. My date had to sit in the front seat while I had to sit in the back.

I remember the dance being from 7-10 and I remember wearing a pink pastel-colored dress. Girls in those days wore light pastel colors and the wider the skirts the more hip you were. My date wore a pink cummerbund with a pink bow tie."

Come out for Homecoming

By Amber Shields

San Marin's Homecoming isn't just a dance, but a full day of spirited filled activities.

The exciting day begins with a parade around the football field at 12:30. This parade features San Marin students along with the Homecoming King and Queen candidates driven around in snazzy convertibles.

At 2:00 the Mustang varsity football team takes on Tamalapais.

The dramatic crowning of the Homecoming Queen takes place at

half-time. Each of the queen candidates walks onto the football field, escorted by her father. The girls open their flower boxes, all of which are filled with roses. The girl with the red roses is the winner.

The dance starts at 8:30 that night. Come dressed up for the Hollywood Nights theme. At around 10:00 the King is crowned. Dancing continues until 11:30.

Celebrate the whole Homecoming Day by supporting your school and team at the game and dance.

Homecoming is special...enjoy it

By Rachel Oppenheimer, Myra Perez, and Challen Pressley

Gather 'round kids, to hear a tale of Homecoming... a night of glamour, serious cash flow, and a whole lot of fun.

With a theme like "Hollywood Nights," anything is possible!

Some go stag, and some take a date, but by the end of the night, everyone has a mate.

The typical night begins by being blinded from the never ending flashes of your parents' camera.

Finally, you are free, and embark on your journey with the first stop for dinner.

Girls hardly eat so they don't pop out of their dress while the guys chow down and make quite a mess.

The next stop: San Marin. You can see the gym bouncing, and excitement's in the air as you try to

get to the dance without ruining your hair. As senior Ashleigh Childers once put it, "I just go to get jiggy with it..."

Beautiful dresses soaked in sweat haven't seen their end yet.

It's 12:00 and the after parties are just getting started. While some settle in at the local hotel, others take a joy ride in the limo, or just simply go home. No matter what you do, make sure no one spews on you.

After a night full of excitement, it finally comes to an end just as the sun is peaking over the horizon. The night is over, and everyone snuggles into their bed to sleep the whole day away, what a small price to pay.

The week after, it's still on everyone's mind because this homecoming dance was one of a kind.

Homecoming styles have changed



Chris Kayser and Denise Cruz, 1993



Queen candidate Jennifer Springfield and Brook Spanier, 1989



Tracy Hermsmeyer

Homecoming word search

By Rachel Oppenheimer, Myra Perez, and Challen Pressley

Circle these words when you find them:

- Hollywood Nights
- dance
- football game
- limousine
- money
- queen
- king
- dress
- parties
- corsage
- hotel

A	L	W	Z	H	J	E	O	V	U	C	T	R	L	C	H	E	O	P	N
M	P	A	R	T	I	E	S	A	Y	R	H	A	L	D	L	E	L	N	P
G	A	Y	L	E	E	G	W	K	A	L	C	W	I	A	I	O	I	Q	P
M	E	I	E	R	K	G	H	S	E	I	P	N	A	H	F	C	M	W	O
Q	W	R	E	C	H	U	I	O	P	A	N	S	D	O	F	G	O	H	O
K	L	Z	X	C	V	O	M	V	Q	E	I	J	K	T	S	E	U	A	P
Q	C	G	F	U	S	L	L	W	R	M	Y	R	A	E	B	R	S	E	T
M	O	N	E	Y	B	U	D	L	G	E	A	L	Z	L	Z	X	I	C	V
Q	W	I	R	T	Y	U	I	O	Y	J	O	E	Y	X	O	X	N	O	L
H	M	K	A	D	G	U	P	Q	W	W	L	M	A	T	Q	U	E	E	N
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T	Y	U	I	O	P	A	S	D	G	H	J	O	K	L	Z	X	C	V	B
D	A	N	C	E	N	U	Q	G	P	H	I	L	D	R	E	S	S	A	D
F	H	K	L	Z	C	X	B	N	A	I	M	R	T	N	Y	U	I	O	P
R	A	C	H	E	L	E	J	E	R	W	C	H	I	L	I	W	T	L	P
A	D	F	B	X	Z	D	Q	U	A	H	J	T	A	L	K	G	S	H	D
E	G	A	S	R	U	O	C	R	D	V	H	S	U	C	X	K	H	L	S
S	L	U	T	F	H	A	C	B	E	A	K	R	Y	R	W	H	S	T	U
A	L	C	H	A	L	L	E	N	Q	W	F	G	H	S	E	E	R	Y	S
Z	F	O	O	T	B	A	L	L	G	A	M	E	N	H	G	S	J	K	O

Homecoming on same day as Novato, MC

by Stephanie Alderson and Rebecca Guthrie

Many of you are probably aware that October 5th is not only the date of San Marin's homecoming, but also of Novato's and Marin Catholic's. According to the San Marin administration, this occurred for a number of reasons, most of them unique to this year.

There are very few home football games this year at San Marin and the fans want to witness a victory on their home turf. The San Marin Mustangs are playing the MCAL's perennial doormat, Tamalpais High School, instead of longtime-rivals, the Novato Hornets or recent league leader, the Redwood Giants. The attempt to change game day was unsuccessful.

Interim principal Loeta Andersen noticed the conflict her first day on the job in August. She

made a quick call to Novato High School Matt Byrnes to work something out. "Unfortunately, almost every Saturday in October is a standardized testing day and Novato happens to be the main testing site."

Thus, October 5 stayed for both Novato schools.

Senior Class representative Laura Kopp explains, "It is foreseen that we will lose money. We may lose people who decide to go to Novato High's or Marin Catholic's. From my experience in leadership, homecoming has been the biggest fundraiser for the senior class. But it is too late in the game to change it. I don't know if it will affect the senior class budget, but this should just encourage more people to participate; go buy candy, go to school dances, attend the barbecues."

Royalty represents Mustangs

By Bridget O'Connor, Christina Pelka, and Katie Winsor



What is your favorite thing about your twin?

Melanie McCollum, Junior Princess: He's small, furry, and we love to cuddle... Wait, that was Mr. Blimp... Rest in Peace.... I love you Francis!

Marshall McCollum, Junior Prince: When Melanie straps on Daddy's Billy Bob Teeth and dances to "Where the Boys Are" while watching "Psycho."

You should have voted for me

By Ross Thelen

So, it is true.

After all of the gallons of cologne, the hours spent in front of the mirror perfecting my handsome appearance, and the thousands of dollars spent on Abercrombie clothing, after all that, I get nothing.

The past four years of my life have all been dedicated to one goal: become the homecoming king of 2003.

I had it all going for me: suave, charm, and a pert behind.

Somewhere along the line, though, it all went wrong, and now I have no chance of achieving my lifelong dream. This truly can't be happening.

But it is.

I am no longer the He-man that I envisioned myself as.

Instead, that sexy loincloth I wore has been ripped off and my sword removed.

I am not a beautiful hero any longer; I am a pale kid standing naked out in public, and everyone is laughing at me.

I can't believe they took away my sword.

Before I knew that my goal would not be achieved, I was Arnold Schwarzenegger. Now I am a 50-year old retired body-builder with droopy and gross muscles.

I was the President of the United States. Now my scandal has been exposed and everybody

is humiliating me.

It wasn't supposed to be like this.

I was supposed to be the one under the spotlight, dancing with the voluptuous queen. Everyone would watch us, and our eyes would meet and it all would be perfect. People would clap and smile, and take pictures, and a beautiful love song would come on in the background.

All of my worries would disappear, and I would melt into a symphony of love and harmony, combining with my partner in one furious fit of passion.

At this point I would sing along with the music, "It's getting hot in here, so take off all your clothes."

It would have been the most beautiful moment in all of history.

But I guess that that wasn't good enough for some of you. Well, you are missing out.

It would have been the best show of your lives, and you wouldn't even have had to be over 17.

I take pride in the fact that all of you will spend the rest of your lives disappointed that you missed the opportunity of seeing me gyrate around the dance-floor.

Don't come crying to me about it; you did it to yourself.

Ross Thelen is a senior who is currently curled up in a ball in the corner of his room, crying.



If you could be a Disney character, who would you be?

Ashley Ng, Sophomore Duchess: Beauty in "Beauty and the Beast" because I can tame even the wildest beast

Casey Pughe, Sophomore Duke: Frodo



If you could have any celebrity babysit you, would who it be and why?

Rachel Shotz, Freshman Lady: Ja Rule, because he's always on time

Ross Matthewson, Freshman Lord: Verne Troyer, because he dances like a madman

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Mustangs slip but don't slide

By David Hoytt

It's happened. The sky has fallen, hell has frozen over, and pigs are flying out of you know where. On a cold, dark night at Sonoma Valley High School, the San Marin Mustangs varsity football team lost for the first time in over a year, 17-15.

Things started out fine and optimism seemed at a high point as **Scott Dumont** booted out the opening kickoff, pinning the Dragons deep in their own half of the field. The stout Mustang defense forced Sonoma into punting and the offense took the ball, promptly marching down the field for a game-opening field goal by **Eric Benson** (now a conditioning casualty). That was followed by another strong defensive stand and another touchdown, this coming on the heels of running back, Senior **Erik Egide**. However, that is where the good news ended for the Mustang offense. Two second quarter hail marry touchdown passes gave the Dragons a lead and the stunned Mustang players and fans seemed as if hit by a speeding train. But help came in the form of **Derek**

haven't felt in two years and one I never want to feel again." So the Mustangs left with a silent bus ride

by a solid performance by the line, Egide had the breakout performance the Mustangs needed



David Hoytt

photo by Larry Hoytt

home with only one thought on their minds.

If that question was "what if" when the Mustangs played perennial doormat San Rafael the very next week, the answer would

most definitely be a resounding victory. 41-8, to be exact. Many felt this win was inevitable, as the Bulldogs drew the unlucky task of playing an angry giant. "It was a good way to get our confidence back and prove that we're for real," said senior **Mike Gutierrez**. "It was really what we needed coming off of Sonoma." With a

rejuvenated offensive attack, the Mustangs quickly put up 28 points before the half and by then it was no contest. Standouts were Junior **Justin Graniss**, who hauled two touchdown receptions, and Egide, who compiled over 50 rushing yards by way of only eight carries. The surprise of the night would have to be senior **Keith Thompson**, who took advantage of extra carries and compiled over 120 yards to go with a touchdown of his own. All of these performances added up to an easy victory. However, a dark rain cloud stood just around the corner in the very next week.

That rain cloud, though, turned out to be merely a light covering of fog as the Mustangs walked all over supposed MCAL powerhouse, Redwood. Backed

rushing deep into the 100-yard ranks. Also having a breakout game was senior **Scott Dumont** who caught two touchdown receptions out of the backfield. "After Redwood was talking so much trash, it felt good to show that the Mustangs are no pushover," commented Dumont following the victory.

Having another standout performance was the Mustang defense, who, barring one trick play on the first play from scrimmage and a kick return, held the Giants scoreless. Starring on defense was Letsch, who collected two sacks despite being in a car accident that morning, one which left his car totaled. "After the accident happened, I didn't even expect to be on the field that day," Letsch said after the win, "Surprisingly enough, though, I went out and had the best game of my career." The Redwood game, however, was not the most important part of the day.

As many of you probably know, former San Marin students Paul Sloan and Jack Keohane were tragically taken from all who knew them on September 11, 2001. Before the Junior Varsity game began, there was a dedication of the Paul Sloan Memorial Flag Pole and the Jack Keohane Memorial Bench, which both stand along side the track on Mead Field. The dedication included the playing of *Amazing Grace* by Jason Gavazza, a performance by the jazz choir and a moving song by junior **Drew Gasparini**.

I consider myself fortunate to have been one of the people at that ceremony and to have been able to share in some of the memories of these two fine individuals. While I didn't have the pleasure of knowing either of the two men in life, I now consider them my friends and they will always share a place in my heart and in all who were there. On behalf of the 'Pony Express', our prayers go out to them and their families.

Promising start for JV

By Colin Dietz

The San Marin JV football team, led by experienced juniors, has responded with a two game winning streak after a disappointing loss in the season opener. The team expects to not only be over .500, but to be in contention for the division championship. However, following a 10 game season, there are no play-offs.

Prior to last week's key matchup against Redwood, Junior **Sean McIntosh** stated, "Redwood is the game that means the most to the coaching staff." Redwood JV coach John Jones, a long-time San Marin Pop Warner coach, has had prior coaching experiences with many of the players that he faced in Saturday's game.

It was evident against Redwood that the Mustangs came out ready to hit. The Mustangs got on the board first with a **Brock Bacon** touchdown pass to **Anthony Gonzalez**. After an evenly played first half the Mustangs held a slim lead of 6-0, thanks to their defense.

The Mustangs came out of halftime determined to win. Just as they were gaining momentum and putting together a magnificent drive they had a costly penalty. A 40 yard touchdown pass on a screen play was called back because of offensive holding.

It looked as though the momentum had swung until Bacon connected with **Chris Knowles** on a 45-yard pass. On the ensuing play a Mustang fumble was recovered by fullback **Matt Mauer** for a touchdown. The Mustangs now controlled a 14-0 lead after a drive that ate up over half of the third quarter.

The defense once again stopped Redwood's offense and the Mustangs regained control of the football. However, Bacon threw an interception with 9:06 left in the fourth quarter as the Mustangs were trying to run out the clock. A controversial pass interference call on the ensuing play resulted in a 15-yard penalty (high school rules) for Redwood. The drive was capped off with a 22-yard touchdown pass closing the Mustangs lead to 14-8.

When the Mustangs received the kick-off following the Red-

wood touchdown, they were determined to run out the clock. However, their goal failed when the Redwood defense stepped up to the challenge on 4th and 2 and annihilated the Mustangs' runningback.

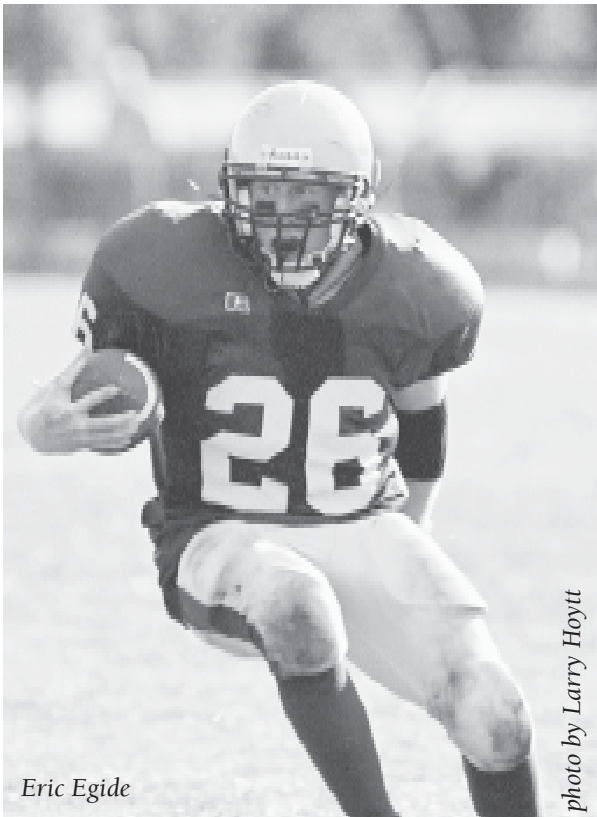
Redwood had the ball on their own 42 yard line with 2:38 left in the game. Any hope that Redwood had was crushed when McIntosh intercepted a pass to solidify a Mustangs victory. The defense stopped Redwood's last drive thanks to a great pass rush led by **Ryan Larkin** and **Nic Banaugh**. It was Larkin's hit on Redwood's quarterback that forced the interception.

The Mustangs ran out the remaining 1:25 with runs by Mauer. The game, however, ended on a controversial hit that led to a near fight at midfield. As Bacon took a knee with 10 seconds left to run out the clock, Redwood's middle linebacker left over the offensive linemen and hit Bacon with an uncontested cheap shot. Bacon limped off the field as sides yelled profanities at one another. Hopefully, this incident will not hinder Bacon's ability to lead the Mustangs to future victories. When asked about the game, McIntosh responded, "We are just an all-around better team and we outplayed them today."

With the experience and talent that the Mustangs have displayed thus far, they can now earn the respect they deserve. Mauer looks ahead at the rest of the season, "Our main concern now is beating Novato." The Mustangs will have to wait until November 2 to beat the Hornets. Until then, they hope to build their confidence with more victories.

The season started out on a disappointing note in an 8-7 loss to Sonoma. Throughout the game it was "turnovers, turnovers, turnovers." SM had a total of 5 fumbles, unacceptable at any level of play.

The Mustangs bounced back the following week to beat the Ignacio Valley frosh/soph team 20-6. They only had *one* penalty the entire game, which is what the coaches had emphasized all week long. **Matt Corral** rumbled on the ground for two touchdowns to lead the Mustangs' offense.



Eric Egide

photo by Larry Hoytt

Bosia. Bosia, who shredded the return teams all night long, returned a punt all the way into the end zone to give the Mustangs a 15-14 lead at the half. However, that's when it all came crumbling down.

The second half brought highlights on defense as the Dragons were held to a field goal that was the product of a drive of less than five yards. However, it is tough to win a game without offense and that's just what the Mustangs were lacking. The offensive line buckled and all Egide was limited to less than 50 yards in the half. Without the solid running threat, the Dragons could focus more on the pass and in the end the result was a 15-17 loss for the Mustangs. Senior **Eric Letsch** echoed the feelings of the entire team, saying, "It was a feeling I

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The swing is in

By Niki Kidd

The San Marin High School girls' golf team started their season with an opening match loss to Redwood on September 17th. The Mustangs fell to the MCAL powerhouse Giants 307-280 (low score wins) at home. Junior **Rachel Oppenheimer** blew away the field, shooting a 44, but the individual effort wasn't enough in the team competition.

The Mustang's a three-match week against Novato, Marin Catholic, and Justin Sienna proved to be a disaster in the win/loss column, but a success in the learning process for the season. Although they lost all three matches, in each one they progressively improved their play.

Against Justin Sienna, the defending MCAL champions, the Mustangs put in their best match of the season, losing 251-276. Oppenheimer led the Mustangs with a 46, along with strong outputs from senior **Niki Kidd** with a 53, freshman **Allison Green**, also with a 53, and senior **Andrina Carlsen** with a 56.

Runners start strong

By Amber Shields

The girls' cross-country team started the year strong with a second place finish to Marin Catholic at the Stinson Beach relays on Thursday September 5.

The team followed up with another great performance at the Viking Opener Invitational, including a third place finish by newcomer freshman **Alison Greggor** in her race.

At the invitational Contra Loma Classic, the girls' varsity team beat out nine of the top East Bay team to finish first as a team. Led by sophomore **Meagan McCray** who came in third, the team finished with all of their five top runners coming in the first 10 places. Senior **Zoe Brown** came in fourth, followed by sophomore **Lauren Candia** in 8th, junior **Courtney Dowdall** in 9th, and sophomore **Carli O'Leary** finishing in 10th place.

In the Junior Varsity race, Greggor received first place finish followed by junior **Danielle Deshazo** coming in second.

Water polo on the rise

By Jamie Lummis, Myra Perez, and Katie Winsor

The girls' water polo team kicked off their season with a loss against Novato High. Senior **Emily Parker**, junior **Melanie McCollum**, and sophomores **Kayla Schott-Bresler** and **Myra Perez** scored the team's four goals. Other outstanding plays were made by sophomore **Sarah Cochrane**, junior **Jamie Lummis**, and senior **Jade Fielding**.

Although they started off the season with a loss, the team rebounded in their next game with an astounding victory over Redwood, 7-3. Goals were scored by Perez, McCollum, and Parker. The win against Redwood moved the Lady Mustangs to an overall fifth place in the MCAL standings.

The boys began their MCAL season with a win over arch-rival Novato for the second year in a row. The score was 13-8. The team's leading offense, senior **Greg Rosell** and sophomore **Matt Petty**, each contributed four goals. Other goals were scored by seniors **Bret Pughe** and **Bud Norris**. Senior **Jonah Friedman** played solid defense throughout the game. The boys' water polo team is currently placed sixth in MCAL standings.

Even if the wins haven't been coming in just yet, the Mustangs are still improving on the golf course. Carlsen said, "We have more patience and we can keep a better pace." Not only has their speed of play improved, but the Lady 'Stangs are also improving in the little, yet important, aspects of the game. "We are also cutting off unnecessary strokes by improving on our short game," Carlsen added.

The players range from beginners to the top of the MCAL echelon, with three team members competing in their first matches within the first four matches. Junior **Jennie Gay**, and sophomores **Emma Wnuk** and **Lauren Schwarze** all made their match debuts, and are consistently improving every time out on the course.

With their second half of the season coming up, not to mention the MCAL tournament at Peacock Gap in San Rafael, the Mustangs still have plenty of time to improve on their record as well as improve overall in the sport of golf.

On Saturday September 23, the girls' team triumphed again with a 6th place team finish in the Golden Cowchip Varsity Race at Novato's own Cowchip Classic.

Deshazo looks forward to the season ahead, "We've done really well in a bunch of invitationals and are going to be ready when the season starts."

The boys' team is still having troubles putting together a full team, but they are still running every race like it counts. Led by returning runner **Dan Byers**, this team is still working to create an identity. **Pat Deshazo**, **Ryan Pedigo**, and **Roger Klein** have been putting in good individual races. Boys interested in learning more about cross country should talk to Coach Tom Zechlin in room 504.

Slow start for volleyball

By Christina Pelka

After a long and anxious preseason of conditioning and tournaments, the girls' volleyball team kicked off their season with a disappointing loss to Justin Sienna.

Although the game ended in only three matches, the team's determination never waned. Vanessa Miner said, "The team has a lot of talent, but right now we just aren't clicking."

After a disappointing finish in 2001, the team's returning seniors will look to the enthusiastic juniors, the talented sophomores and a new coach, Tim Hawkins, for help.

Soccer slump

By Sean Johannessen

Wins have been hard to come by for this year's boys' varsity soccer team.

After a strong start with victories over Justin Sienna and San Rafael the team has failed to win in their last four games.

Currently, the team has a 2-4 mark in MCAL and a 3-5 mark overall. "We've caught some tough breaks but hopefully we can get back on track," commented junior Andrew Marcus.

Their latest loss came at the hands of Tamalpais last Friday. Tam jumped to an early lead and was able to hold on, 4-2, in spite of a valiant effort by junior Jeff Russell, who scored twice to give him four goals on the season. Russell leads the team in goals scored this season followed by senior Guillermo Andrade, who has three.

ATHLETES OF THE ISSUE

Jessica Ruth

By Niki Kidd

What do Venus Williams, Serena Williams, and San Marin junior Jessica Ruth have in common?

All three have been nationally ranked in the United States Tennis Association's junior rankings.

Ruth, who transferred from Blue Valley High School in Kansas City before this school year, has been ripping up the competition in MCAL's. She is the #1 ranked player on the San Marin tennis team, and is arguably one of the best players in the entire league.

Thus far, she is 3-1 in individual match play, with victories over the top ranked players of Marin Catholic, San Rafael, and Justin Sienna.

Her victory in the Justin Sienna was her best all around match this season. She won in straight sets against a tough opponent. "My opponent was very good, and I was just very happy that I was able to attack her weaknesses," Ruth said.

Ruth was one of the few bright spots on a tennis team that started 0-3 until their upset victory over Marin Catholic. The victory over MC gave the Mustangs their

first win of the season, and started the team back on the winning ways that they expected from the start of the season.

As a team, Ruth felt that the victory over Marin Catholic "showed our good overall play as a team."

With a core nucleus of seniors graduating this season from the tennis squad, Ruth will be the main focus of the team next season, where she will turn heads and smash the competition.



Derek Bosia

By Bret Pughe

With the Mustangs football team losing their season opener to a tough Sonoma team, most signs of last year's miraculous undefeated season came from kick-off and punt returner Derek Bosia.

Playing against a stingy Sonoma defense, the San Marin offense had trouble moving the ball. So Bosia decided to take matters into his own hands, returning a Sonoma kick-off eighty yards for the Mus-

tangs first score of the game. For Bosia, a senior and second year starter on the Mustangs team, returning kicks is not a new job. On the 2001 NCS championship squad, Bosia returned a ninety-six yard kick-off for a touchdown, the longest in school history. "I was fortunate enough to come onto the team last year and play a position I had experience in. I just wanted to help the team."

However, Bosia's returning heroics are not just limited to kick-offs. Late in the game against Sonoma, Bosia hauled in a punt and made a dazzling thirty-yard return, setting up the offense with incredible field position deep in Sonoma territory and a chance to take control of the game. Although the Mustangs came up just short of a victory, Bosia feels that the loss could actually help with the attitude of the team: "The loss showed us that we're not invisible. Hopefully it will push us to work harder. We won't lose again. Our team will continue to progress, and we can only take it one game at a time."



Tennis Faults

By Niki Kidd

The girls' tennis squad started the MCAL regular season 0-3, despite a positive attitude towards the 2002 season. "It was not what we were looking for in this situation, but I think we can get through this and improve this season," said senior **Niki Scioli**. The 0-3 start put a damper on their hopes for a winning season, although it is not out of reach by any means.

Because after that tough start, the Mustangs pulled through with the upset victory over Marin Catholic 5-4 in match play. It was a total team effort, with strong performances coming from their star players all the way down to their last doubles pair. Four of the five victories came in straight sets, and the final match went down to the wire to decide the match. Doubles partners **Annie Drummond-Hay** and **Dina**

Rosenberg finished off the upset with a 6-3, 4-6, 10-7 victory, with the super-tiebreaker third set deciding the match.

On September 17th, the Mustangs lost to MCAL tennis dominators Branson 9-0 in match play. Despite the sound defeat, many bright spots came through for the tennis team. Senior doubles **Megan Mallonee** and **Lindsey Knaebel** had the closest match of the day, losing 7-6 (7-6), 7-6 (7-2).

This season has had a disappointing win-loss total, but great performances and young talent has shown through the defeats. Juniors **Jessica Ruth** and **Sizhe Liu** have put in impressive efforts even in losing causes.

The wins may be few and far between, but the effort and dedication are definitely in place to make the rest of the season a successful one.

CONCERT CORNER

By Julia Capasso and Paige Lehman

This month in Concert Corner, you'll find more underground and local show listings. Your support of these bands is vital and necessary for their survival! So please check these shows out; we'll try to include shows as close to Novato as we can.

Queens of the Stone Age at the Fillmore, SF (10/5)

Jimmy Eat World at the Warfield, SF (10/9)

Public Enemy, Dilated Peoples, Blackalicious at the Fillmore, SF (10/10)

Willie Nelson with Los Lobos at the Chronicle Pavilion, Concord (10/10)

The Labrats with the Social Drones and the Dismembers at Café Eclectica, Albany (1309 Solano, 10/11)

Dredge with Apex Theory, Exposure, Locale A.M., and Further at the Phoenix Theater, (10/12)

Jurassic 5 with Planet Asia and D-Styles at the Fillmore, SF (10/13)

True Skool 3 Year Anniversary, SF feat. **Bahamadia, Genessee, Foreign Legion**, at Storyville, SF (751 Fulton, 10/18)

Bob Dylan and Band at the Greek Theatre, Berkeley (10/18)

40-Grit, Hostility, Element of Surprise, Dopesick, Still Breathing, and Sick Head Tribe at the Pound, SF (Pier 96, 10/19)

Scissorhands with For the Crown and Ten Grand at Gilman, Berkeley (10/19)

Nelly with The St. Lunatics, Fabolous, and Amerie at the Fillmore, SF (10/20)

Ani DiFranco at the Paramount Theater, Oakland (10/25-26)

Dashboard Confessional with Hot Rod Circuit at Slims, SF (10/30)

Tiger Army, Loose Change, and guests at the Phoenix Theater, Petaluma (11/2)

Don't forget: Lauren Mendez performs her original songs at the Broken Drum in San Rafael on Sundays.

Did you know?

compiled by Logan Bartling

Giant Lemurs larger than Gorillas used to exist in Madagascar only 2,000 years ago, and beavers larger than Polar bears used to live in North America only 10,000 years ago.

Donald Duck was banned from Finland because he wasn't wearing any pants.

A monkey was once tried and convicted for smoking a cigarette in South Bend, Indiana.

95% of United States paper currency has embedded traces of cocaine.

The average penguin can jump 6 feet in the air.

Jon Wilkes Booth's brother saved Abraham Lincoln's son's life during the Civil War.

In the year 500, Damascus began producing high quality steel weapons according to a lost recipe. Although we have examples of the weapons, no modern process cannot reproduce the strength of the steel.

ASB Account Totals

ASB General \$3,660.63

Class of 2003- \$8,745.93

Class of 2004- \$2,925.14

Class of 2005- \$1,026.36

Class of 2006- \$50.00

Note: Last month's totals did not include the Class of 2005's portion of the Car Wash earnings. The Pony Express staff apologizes for any confusion that may have resulted.

as of September 26, 2002

Hazing a rite of passage?

By Marie Buich and Alyssa Pomponio

Chalking the hill, a fierce rivalry with Novato High School, the annual senior prank. As these trademark San Marin traditions live on, the infamous freshman hazing ritual is in the process of elimination.

Lilli Rollins, Assistant Principal at San Marin, is strongly against hazing in

contact results in harsher consequences, such as a maximum five-day suspension. San Marin is, "trying to dispel this tradition," says Rollins. School administrators plan to hold grade level meetings in the near future to discuss the seriousness of hazing.

ASB President Greg Rosell said that hazing is a customary tradition at San Marin and should remain that way, unless violence is involved. "The administration's actions are too harsh. As long as no one is hurt, punishments should be to a minimum."

Freshman Steven Tidwell's attitude towards hazing is similar to Rosell's. "It's really not a big deal...it should keep going...it's tradition." He also commented, "Before school, my friends said they knew people who got egged on Fridays...nothing really happened this year so far...but I'm not scared."

Freshman hazing has been long practiced throughout high schools for decades. U. S. history teacher Jaime Curren reminisces about her high school experiences in Connecticut. Upper classmen on the volleyball team "initiated" incoming freshman volleyball players. "They would stop me in the hallways and make me roll or dive in front of everyone. But I was not traumatized."

English teacher Mark Whitburn remembers the thirteen years of hazing throughout his high school teaching career at San Marin. The tactics of hazing have transformed over the years, from massive water balloon-fights to present day egging. Although he doesn't embrace these events, he believes, "A sporadic egg doesn't hurt anyone."

As the much-debated hazing issue persists at San Marin, students remain eager to keep this ritual alive, which many see as harmless. School officials, on the other hand, are doing everything in their power to shatter this long-lived tradition.



general. "It (hazing) may have been tolerated more in the 80's because we weren't as conscious about the events happening in our country; today there is zero tolerance for hazing." San Marin, along with the other Marin County district schools, follows the strict board policy #5137 and state education code regarding this issue. The policy states, "Students shall refrain from unruly, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior, including demeaning activities such as hazing and slave days." Although this is an administrative regulation, each school within the district has the right to dictate its own consequences for those who refuse to comply with these guidelines. Punishments vary according to the action's extremity. A light consequence is issued when no physical contact is made; however, any sort of physical

San Marin calendar

October 4	Fall Show
October 5	Homecoming
October 12	SAT
October 16	Minimum Day
October 18	End of first quarter
October 19	PSAT at San Marin
October 26	ACT
October 27	Daylight Savings Time ends
October 31	Halloween
November 7-9	Fall musical, "She Loves Me"
November 11	Veteran's Day; No school
November 15	Pony Express #3

In the November 15 Pony Express:

- **Hornet's Buzz** crushed
- **Oregon Shakespeare Festival** visits
- **Fall sports**