



Pony Express

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The culture behind the crime

By Jade Fielding



When it comes to vandalism, San Marin has seen better days.

This year our campus has already been invaded numerous times, from the multiple hill defacements to the mess made with the trash cans to the most recent tagging on the window.

One could put the blame on rival Novato High seniors, but the problem is part of a greater issue, of which many people are ignorant..

Those who are unfamiliar with graffiti may ask, what is DMA and what is that white residue left on all these windows?

DMA and etch, the substance used in defacing the windows, are merely by products of the graffiti movement which was sparked in the late 60's and has developed into a controversial underground subculture.

The History

The style of graffiti we know today is fairly new, but graffiti itself has been around since the days of the caveman, ancient Greece, and Pompeii.

Modern day graffiti is believed to have first made its mark in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with the appearance of the tags "Cornbread" and "CoolEarl".

It soon came to New York City and began to merge with the hip hop scene which was just beginning to take off in the early 70's.

By the 80's, hip hop became mainstream and represented four elements: emceeing, deejaying, breaking, and graffiti, although graffiti appears to have separated itself

from the hip hop culture of today.

Grffiti has developed significantly since the early days. It started with city kids writing their names

of the styles that we see today including bubble letters. With the discovery of different nozzle sizes, large, intricate pieces (short for masterpiece which is slang for an uncommissioned mural) began to develop.

By the early 80's it was common to see a large colorful "wild style" covering a train car, running along an elevated subway line. From this exposure, artists gained recognition and fame in their communities..

In 1989, the NY Metropolitan Transit Authority instituted the Clean Train Movement, which removed trains hit with graffiti from circulation. Today, since subway art is essentially gone, artists have resorted to freight trains, walls, highways, window scribing, street art (i.e. posters with the emphasis on art rather than the artist's alias) and, occasionally, traditional canvases.

Grffiti Today

Grffiti writers come from a

with permanent markers, usually followed by their street number, i.e. "Taki 183."

Spray painting was the next medium to hit graffiti and tags became bigger and more creative to stand out from the competition.

"Phase 2" is one graffiti artist often credited with inventing many



Costly graffiti angers community

By Logan Bartling

All over the United States and around the world, murals and messages are etched on public and private buildings, overpasses and sidewalks, even schools are not spared from a night time vandal out to leave his mark, artistically and financially.

Some of it is political, some of it is to acquire a reputation, and some of it is just to defy authority, but in the end, all of it hurts the victims square in the pocketbook.

San Marin is the latest victim of this brand vandalism. Urban looking scribbles of 'DMA' have been found all over campus. The cost is estimated to go as high as nine thousand dollars, due to the substance used. Etch bath, or simply "Etch," cannot be washed, rubbed or even scraped off of glass surfaces, which is why it has been banned in several states.. San Marin will need

entirely new windows, and the process of replacing the glass has already begun.

The "DMA" scribbled all over campus means "Dodging Marin Authority," or alternatively, "Don't Mess Around." Most students don't agree with this type of graffiti, which doesn't represent anything in the way of art or politics. "It's stupid," said Senior Will Grayson, "It was just a whole lot of property damage. They didn't try to express anything."

It is estimated that American cities and municipalities pay around 14-18 billion dollars annually to deal with graffiti.

Novato's downtown businesses have been having problems with graffiti for decades. Vandalism of this type is common downtown, and although it may cost a little over six bucks for a few cans of spray paint, it can cost a small business thousands of dollars

replace a window, or repaint a wall. If the graffiti is on a city park, or a city owned building, then the taxpayers are the ones that end up paying the costs.

Many cities, including Novato, have set aside walls where legitimate graffiti artists can showcase their art without fear of it being taken down or painted over. The reason that cities fight graffiti so vigorously is because of the fear that heavily vandalized areas have more crime and therefore less property value.

The problem continues to be that graffiti is a counterculture, and most people who leave graffiti don't want to conform, and don't have anything to say or art to express; preferring instead to continue to leave their mark in the form a few letters here and there, that have no real value to anybody but the vandal, and those paid to repair the damage.

Inside:



What to do if you're stuck in Novato over vacation ...page 4



Seniors lead 2002 Mustangs...pages 6-7



Wondering how recruiters get your phone number?... page 8

In the February 7 Pony Express (note publication date change)

• Getting in shape...all you need to know about dieting and exercise

• Basketball and wrestling MCAL updates

diverse range of ages and backgrounds. Reasons for vandalism vary from artist to artist.

A respected Oakland graffiti artist, "Eskae" uses graffiti to argue with the modern concepts of property and ownership.

A common perception of graffiti is that the pieces are acceptable but the quick tags and two color outlines are not, and have no artistic value..

From a vandal's perspective, there is lot of creativity put into coming up with their own letter style and signature.

Grffiti artists tag to gain respect and stature in the graffiti community. The more one's tag is seen by his or her fellow artists, the more respect that artist gains among his peers.

Tagging or "bombing" is the fundamental form of graffiti. We see tags more often because they can be done quickly in more visible places.. Supplies can also be costly. A masterpiece can require several cans of spray paint but a single can is enough for many small tags.

Is graffiti art? Should the graffiti "artist" have to pay for replacing the etched windows at San Marin?



By Rachel Oppenheimer

I believe graffiti is considered art, however, the marks around campus are nothing but juvenile acts of destruction. Pat Wallen

Yes they should have to pay for it, Graffiti is not art. Name Withheld

If its actually graffiti, then it's art, but this is just crap written by an idiot. So.... Yes they should have to pay for it. Name Withheld

I think the "artist" should be fined heavily, and must be required to participate in community service. Something to do with cleaning up graffiti. Graffiti is only art when its on your own property or when you have the "OK" from someone in charge. Kenny Simmons

I don't think that the artist should have written on the windows but they should not pay because graffiti is art but it looks much better on walls or trains and when it's done in paint. Danny Wilson

The "artist" should pay for it. Some graffiti is art, but it depends on what it is and where it is. Ryan Jedd

I believe that the vandal should pay for it. Graffiti can certainly be art...but this time it was just vandalism. Jeff Arnold

Yes, graffiti can bring forth an important message but there is a fine line between art and vandalsim. Alison Dorsey

Unbalanced semesters

By Sean Johannessen and Abby Yim

Just as students start to get over the post summer shock it seems that finals are creeping around the corner ready for attack.

For most of us, Winter Break used to mean procrastinating on the finals to come but now they signify the stress that comes with wondering when your parents will get the report card in the mail.

Now in the second year in which finals have come before the break, we have to wonder is the new semester system an improvement?

San Marin Spanish teacher, Natasha Pelka

What about the people who are affected most by the semester change? Junior Matt Boykin enjoys the freedom that comes with having a Winter Break without having to worry about studying. "I like being able to just relax over break and not worry about forgetting any of the stuff I might be tested on."

Other students have mixed reactions. "I have lukewarm feelings on it," said junior Hanna Yanover. "On one hand, it's nice to have the break free and start on a clean slate when you get back to school. On the other hand, I lose precious studying time that I oh so desperately need. I just need to decide which hand is right..."

What about finals infringing on getting into the excitement of the holidays? Some feel that despite the relief created by finally being done with finals, they miss the exciting build up and holiday cheer while preparing for that one really hard final.

Senior Laurel Nakamine feels the strain of having her last final just a few days before Christmas

Even though that first final may give you a little shock, remember that you have the whole Winter Break to recuperate, be thankful that finals are over and have a fresh start when you return to school in January.

Now we can relax and enjoy the vacation.

New Mustangs

Born November 15, 2002
to Jaime and Zach Curren
Carter James Curren

Born November 18, 2002
to Pat and Lisa Donlan
Sean Clifford Donlan
Andrew Warren Donlan

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Bush's war or America's?

Why we should fight

By Michael Lovejoy

If the US had the opportunity to prevent the September 11th attacks by declaring war on the terrorists before the tragedies, many people would support a prolonged conflict with enemies of democracy. However, now that we are



aware of Saddam Hussein's nuclear weapons, chemical warfare, biological warfare, and ballistic missile programs, the majority of Americans would not support ousting the Iraqi dictator militarily.

Since we are unsure of the extent of Hussein's Weapons of Mass Destruction programs, we should wait for the U.N. Weapons Inspectors to search the country. We are unsure of this information because Hussein had not allowed the inspectors in his country since 1998. Their new search may take much time, since they need to organize and train officials, but by year's end they should have about one hundred inspectors.

Since Hussein cannot be trusted, America should attack his regime if the U.N. Weapons Inspectors find any hidden weapons, are obstructed in their search of the country, or can prove blatant lies in Iraq's recent weapons declaration. As seen in the Gulf War, he will not hesitate to murder his own people.

In an October report, the C.I.A. stated that Iraq could make a nuclear weapon within a year if it acquired sufficient fissile material. Without foreign aid, it could make such a weapon by 2005. The report also stated "Baghdad diverts some of the \$10 billion worth of goods now entering Iraq every year for humanitarian needs to support military and Weapons of Mass Destruction programs instead."

A potential war with Iraq would not be simply a war for oil. The United States imports more than five times the amount of oil from Mexico and Canada than from Iraq. Though America would not be killed economically if we did not import any oil from them, it would certainly not help the economy. War, as bad as it may be, could be necessary to disarm a dangerous regime in Iraq.

Would-be war is all about oil

By Paige Lehman

The Bush Administration would have us believe that war with Iraq is necessary to protect the United States: if we don't bomb them, they will bomb us.

However, many people across the globe are questioning this logic; realizing that this chapter in the "war on terrorism" is not about bringing down a ruthless dictator and protecting innocent Iraqi civilians but about greed, power, and corruption.

US-Iraq relations were not always strained. In fact, Saddam Hussein was once considered to be an ally to the United States. The US even sold weapons to Iraq in the late 1980s, with the knowledge that Hussein used many of those weapons to kill Kurds in the 1988 Halabja massacre. It wasn't until Hussein defied the US and invaded Kuwait that he was recognized as a brutal dictator and was nicknamed "The Butcher of Baghdad"

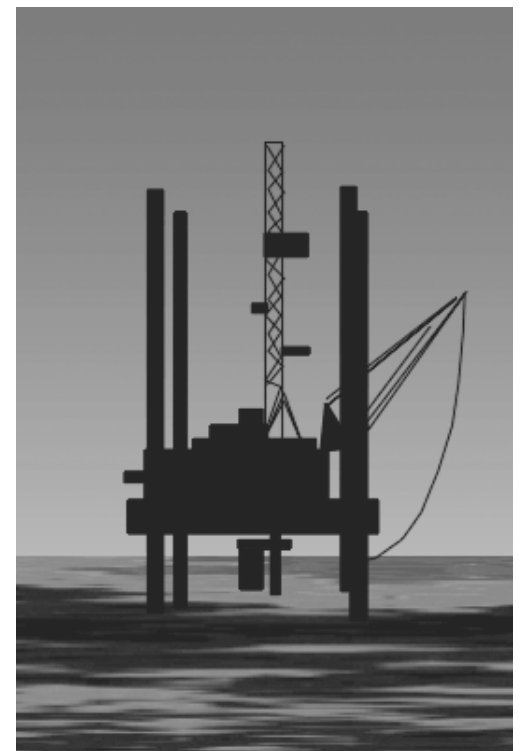
Which brings us up to today, where the atrocities of September 11 still haunt many Americans. Justice is being demanded, but is being looked for in the wrong places. There is no evidence that Hussein has any ties to Al Qaeda or othierterrorist groups, but there is evidence that President Bush planned a regime change in Iraq before ever taking office. The Bush Administration is manipulating people's fear caused by the September 11 attacks by making them believe that war is the only way to prevent any further attacks on the United States. Their claims of Iraq harboring weapons of mass destruction are greatly exaggerated; in October the CIA issued a report stating that military threat from Iraq is at its lowest in a decade.

Another claim made by the Administration is that in attacking

Iraq, we are actually helping its citizens by bringing down Hussein's tyranny. Ultimately, these attacks will cause more harm than help. Over one million people have died from economic sanctions led by the US. Millions more would be killed in the attacks, or from the aftermath.

The real answer lies in the oil fields. Iraq has the second largest oil reserves in the world. It has long bothered the US that it does not have better access to this supply. The United States has never hidden its singled-minded pursuit of oil, including the recent developments in Alaska. Oil companies have already divided up Iraq's oil for their taking. The only way to obtain this oil is for a regime change to take place in Iraq.

To repair its relationship with Iraq, the United States must look to



the United Nations. Founded after World War II, the U.N.'s main goal is to prevent bloodshed and strengthen alliances between nations through diplomacy, not warfare. The people of the United States also need to understand what this war is really about, and come forward in saying that the United States people will not stand for another war.

Just too much

By Niki Kidd

With the recent SAT cheating incident at the Branson School, many people were outraged that this young student would go to such far lengths only to slightly improve her score. What these people fail to realize is the new pressures facing high school students these days, with higher admissions standards that are often keyed around standardized testing and grades.

Scores that were once outstanding all but 20 years ago now pale in comparison to the scores needed to be admitted into the country's top colleges. Grades are also becoming more inflated, as average GPA's of colleges around the country have been steadily increasing, causing more stress to the average student just trying to succeed in school and life.

With main college mainstays of applications, personal statements, SAT's, SAT II's, and ACT's, students are feeling overwhelmed by the amount of work they have to do before they can even step foot on a college campus.

In the UC system especially, the admission rates have been steadily decreasing while the admission requirements are steadily increasing. UCLA accepts only one-fourth of its applicants, second in the UC system only to UC Berkeley, which admits less than one-fourth. Even the easier schools in the UC system to get into have had increased competition in the admissions process, as UC Santa Cruz now has a 3.47 average GPA and a 1149 average SAT I's.

CSU's have also felt the crunch, as test scores and GPA's have been steadily increasing throughout the decade. San Diego State now has an average GPA of 3.62 and average SAT scores of 1104, making it a very competitive school to get into now.



These new pressures extend farther than the senior frantically filling out application forms, trying to remember the most important community service project they've ever done. It now stretches down throughout the high school experience; as parents seem to be freaking out about their child's college prospects all the way back to freshman year.

With all of these new pressures, students are having health related problems. Many students have had to miss school or extra-curricular activities in order to try to relax and lessen the stress that they have on their shoulders. Or some students take a lower road, choosing to cheat in order to succeed.

It is no wonder that this Branson student decided to sneak a peak at her neighbor's test. Especially in the mostly affluent society that is Marin, pressures are only continuing to mount as kids try to get accepted to the top schools and live up to their, and their parents, expectations. Maybe that one extra question she got right would push her into Stanford or UC Berkeley.

Maybe not. Maybe it is just another case of students taking these tests too seriously, putting too much undue stress on themselves to the point of a mental

breakdown. But these beliefs that test scores and grades are so important are not self-taught; they are pushed onto high school students by parents, teachers, and society.

As if peer pressure wasn't enough, now today's high school student has to deal with higher expectations on test scores, grades, and extracurricular activities to try to please the admissions registrar at colleges. It is now almost expected that graduating high school students move onto college, a good college at that, something not as widely expected from previous generations. These new pressures have led to astonishing concerns by some students. Senior Allison Dorsey put it best when she said, "I worked hard for four years, trying my best, while I now feel my "best" is not good enough."

When hard work and strong efforts are not enough, the system is failing. Perhaps instead of pressuring young high school students into feeling inadequate when compared to the rest of the country, colleges, parents, and teachers should lessen the burdens attached with the high school and college admissions process. Because as any senior could tell you, the stress is just too much. Enough is enough.





Danny vs. Ashley

By Rebecca Guthrie

When walking on the San Marin campus, one would never suspect that there is a war occurring. No, this is not between classes or a fight with the teachers, this is a battle. A crusade of.....feet!

Seniors Danny Gasparini and Ashley Karell have been wearing sandals everyday since August 26th. And they are going as long as it takes to obtain the glory of, well, the person who can wear sandals the longest.

"This is a battle between good and evil," says Gasparini defiantly. "No it's not!" shoots back Karrel. "Fine then, it is a battle against mother nature!" Danny corrects, "and a five dollar bet." "Six dollars," stammers Ashley.

The real test will occur in the coming winter months when the rain will create the familiar San Marin mud puddles and morning

frost will have to be scraped off cars. But Gasparini is not concerned. "One time I was walking and my feet got cold. I kept my Birks on and did not put on my shoes because I knew that if I gave up my birks, I would lose to Mother Nature and also forfeit my dignity to Ashley," sneers Danny.

"Rain, snow, hail, mud, and horse manure, I can withstand it all!" Ashley states, "Keep in mind that I don't wear socks and Danny does. Therefore I am already winning."

When questioned about whether or not their actual sandals would be able to handle this intense race, Danny says, "We have been wearing the same pair for a while now. Should something happen to them, we are prepared with several backup pairs." Ashley adds, "I'll walk barefoot if I have to."

How will we know when this great battle has been won? "The bet is over when Ashley puts on her shoes!" Danny sneers. "Ditto but opposite," confirms Ashley.

How do fellow classmates react to such a rigorous competition on the San Marin campus?

"I think it's fabulous," says senior Rachel Walera, "I wish I could be more like Ashley. She is truly a role model." Senior Devonne Johnson says, "I cannot say. Both have a lot of admirable dedication to this cause." Gasparini's junior brother Drew says, "My brother Danny walked to San Francisco, he can do anything. And this does not surprise me."

Surely the San Marin population is anxiously awaiting the outcome of this vicious battle of Ashley versus Danny.

Don't frown if you're stuck in town over Winter Break

By Marie Buich

Option #1: Day in the City

Where: San Francisco

What to Do:

- Take the Larkspur/Sausalito Ferry to SF
- Take a Cable Car to Union Square
- Shop till ya drop! Holiday bargains!
- Bites to Eat: Dine in Chinatown for a delicious oriental dish, like dim sum at the Hang Ah Tea Room

Option #2: Ice Skating Adventure at Embarcadero

Where: Embarcadero, past Pier 39

What to Do: Iceskate with friends (under \$10/person) for a 45-min. session

Bites to Eat: After burning all your calories, feast at Tropical Rainforest Cafe or at Johnny Rockets nearby Pier 39

Option #3: Drive Up North to Petaluma Bowling Alley

Where: Pleasant town of Petaluma

What to Do: - Saturday night Rock'N'Bowl fun! For everyone! Prices (including shoes and bowling) under \$15. Saturday nights after 10 p.m.

Chance to meet new people from schools all over!

Bites to Eat: Wide variety of places to grab a quick, tasty dinner, including Old Chicago Pizza, Johnny Garlicks, Mystic

Theater...yummy!

Feel free to go cow-tipping on the drive home... only if you dare...

Option #4: Wave-Watching at Headlands

Where: Exit before approaching Golden Gate Bridge

What to Do: Get together with some homies and bring some blankets and cozy coats while watching the sunset and waves roll along the rocky coast. For a workout, take a beautiful stroll across the Golden Gate Bridge, overlooking the city in all its magnificence.

Option #5: Lovely Night on the Town

Where: Billiards on Fourth Street, San Rafael

What to Do: Get a group of friends, play some pool, relax, have fun.

Bites to Eat: Have a delicious, not to mention healthy sushi dinner at Akira or Amici's Pizzeria or Pinky's Pizza

Option #6: Miniature Golf Tourny

Where: Scandia Family Fun Center

What to Do: Drive up (20 minute total) to Rohnert Park and choose from a variety of activities, including arcade, bumper-boats, car raceway.

Bites to Eat: In'N Out, Wild Fox, Fresh Choice...plenty of choices!

Sleepy? Sleep deprivation hits teens hard

By Brad McCarter

Are you getting enough sleep? A recent survey says, "Probably not." More than 30% of Americans are not receiving a sufficient amount of sleep, and it's more than likely that you aren't either. Recent studies have shown that with more demanding school and job expectations, later bedtimes, and earlier school days, the vast majority of adolescents are becoming chronically sleep deprived.

Sleep is one of those things that we all tend to put off. But as scientists and researchers conduct more and more tests, they find out more and more effects of sleep deprivation. Some of these effects can lead to irritability, learning disabilities, behavioral problems, and even serious health risks, like diabetes and a weakened immune system.

There are also the more obvious effects of constant sleepiness such as impaired cognitive reflexes. But scientists say that if adolescents got only 1 to 2 hours more of sleep each night, then they might be a little better behaved, better able to learn and, get this, better looking.

According to the National Sleep Foundation, the average teenager gets anywhere from 6 to 7 hours of sleep each night when they really need 8-1/2 to 9-1/2 hours. This chronic sleep deprivation is causing students to lack motivation, as well as decreasing efficiency at absorbing and retaining knowledge.

For many teens, the day starts out with the alarm clock blaring at 6:00am followed by a fumbling stagger in the shower and down to breakfast to get to school by 7:00 or 7:30. Then after 6-1/2 hours of

classes, we are to go to sports practice or a job or rehearsals, go home and finish our homework, and somehow find sometime to eat. Oh yeah...and sleep.

While scientists still are unsure of what really goes on during "deep sleep", they are continually testing and researching the effects of not getting enough of it, and have all concurred that everyone could use more. So, if we don't learn to slow our lives down and get a little more quality sleep, then who knows what kinds of effects it may have on our lives in the future.



Final exam schedule

Tuesday, December 17

Period 1:	7:40 am – 8:15 am
Period 2 final:	8:20 am – 10:15 am
break:	10:15 am – 10:25 am
Period 3:	10:30 am – 11:05 am
Period 4:	11:10 am – 11:45 pm
Period 5:	11:50 pm – 12:25 pm
lunch:	12:25 pm – 1:00 pm
Period 6:	1:05 pm – 1:40 pm
Period 7:	1:45 pm – 2:20 pm

Wednesday, December 18

Period 3:	8:20 am – 10:15 am
break:	10:15 am – 10:30 am
Period 4:	10:35 am – 12:30 pm

Thursday, December 19

Period 5:	8:20 am – 10:15 am
break:	10:15 am – 10:30 am
Period 6:	10:35 am – 12:30 pm

Friday, December 20

Period 1:	8:20 am – 10:15 am
break:	10:15 am – 10:30 am
Period 7:	10:35 am – 12:30 pm

Should you fake it?

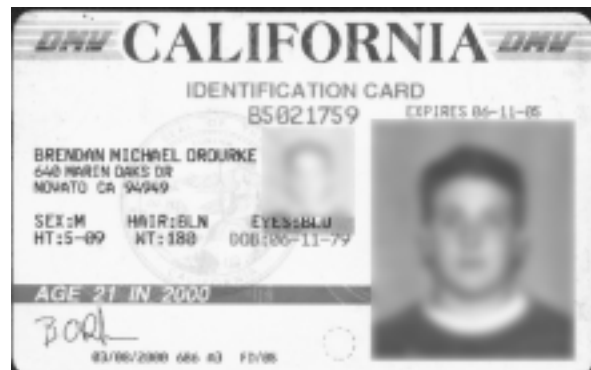
By Rachel Oppenheimer and Alyssa Pomponio

It seems like not long ago fake IDs were used for getting into clubs seeming 'older' than their actual age. Now fake IDs are used solely for buying alcohol.

A San Marin junior supports this idea and says, "I originally got it so I could get into clubs and bars, but I find that most people ask me to buy alcohol for them. That's

sion of your driver's license. Bar and store owners often confiscate suspected IDs, and may display them publicly. There's your face hanging out there for public humiliation.

In some states, the use of a fake driver's license has been made into a felony. A felony is more serious than a misdemeanor. In the short term, it means more jail time, higher fines, and years-long suspension of driving privileges. In the long term, a felony means you now have a criminal



record. That will make it much harder for you to find a job, it can mean difficulties getting into school, and you may never be allowed to own a gun or vote.

Perhaps the consequences are meaningless if you don't get caught. There's certainly no way to know how many get caught, but don't doubt for a second that it happens. Bar owners and employees get very good at spotting fake IDs. They have to. Their business depends on it. The same applies to stores selling tobacco. They might just chase you out, but they may post your fake ID publicly.

They may even turn it over to the police, who confiscate fake IDs on a regular basis. Once they have

why most people get them, that's what it's turning into- More of a means to get alcohol than a means of going out." Using a fake ID for liquor or cigarettes seems so minor it can hardly be called a crime. Almost nobody gets caught, and the worst that happens is you get thrown out of the store or bar. Right? Wrong.

True, this isn't the biggest crime that can be committed. It's certainly not a violent crime. It's not the same as dealing drugs or smuggling guns. However, it is a misdemeanor offense. In the US., penalties vary from state to state, but can include jail time, fines, community service, and suspen-

it, prosecution is sure to follow.

You could be looking at months in jail, and hundreds of dollars in fines, especially for a repeat offense.

It would seem that the police have other things to worry about, and in some places that may be true. However, in areas with large amounts of underage drinking, like near college campuses, underage drinking and ID laws is often a focus of law enforcement.

Making an ID is tougher than people who tell you how make it sound. The equipment to make something good is very expensive. Holograms and magnetic strips are very difficult to produce passably often costing \$100-\$150. "Mine cost \$90 and it seems to work all the time, but it wouldn't if it were scanned, so I'm taking a chance every time I use it," a senior girl said.

Those that sell IDs always swear they're very good quality, hard to catch, and maybe even come with guarantees and testimonials. However, they're probably not any better. What's more, since these are people who have little respect for the law, don't be surprised when they take your money and give you crap or nothing at all. They can get away with it because you can't exactly complain to the police. Your money is just gone.

If you're unconcerned about the trouble you might make for yourself, consider the trouble you make for others. The maker of the fake ID has committed a felony, and you can bet that the law will

want to know where your fake came from. The person who lends their ID to you will suffer all the legal problems you do. Even if they don't know what you plan to do, just letting someone else use an ID is illegal. The bar owner who lets you in, unless a court or the police decide the fake was so good there's no way the owner could know the difference, also faces fines, suspension and outright revocation of the liquor license. That means the bar is out of business. Even if the business doesn't go under, employees who sell liquor and cigarettes can be fined and

even fired for failing to spot a minor.

In other words, besides the consequences for yourself, you can get other people fined, jailed, fired, and put out of business. Not exactly a victimless crime. A senior said that "One of my friends got caught and two others got them taken away. One ID was ripped right in front of him, and other was arrested, but nothing really happened." Although this person was lucky in this instance, not everyone is relieved of the harsh consequences, and most people get fined or arrested.

Not an unforgotten child

By Mark Kellner

Would you be perturbed if you found out the San Marin administration handed over all of your student information to the local recruiters' office to be used at their discretion for recruiting purposes?

Under President Bush's administration, a new act was passed that requires public secondary schools to provide military recruiters access to facilities and contact information for every student.

Bush signed the No Child Left Behind Act in January of 2001, and although it was mainly an act pertaining to the education of youth, buried within it was the not-so-minor catch. It specifically states "...under this Act shall provide, on a request made by military recruiters...access to secondary school students names, addresses, and telephone listings."

Most students enjoy the sanctity and privacy of their homes, but with this new act you could be subject to an evening phone call or even be surprised by a home visit from a military recruiter. Being disturbed during your free time by a military recruiter and being swayed into holding a gun for the Army may just not be your idea of fun. "I definitely would not be cool with them calling my house," said Katie Standish, a SM senior. You might ask, "How did he end up at my doorstep, because I sure never gave him my address."

Upon request schools are required to hand over student information, including their full names, home addresses and telephone numbers. If schools do not comply, they are subject to having their federal funding revoked, a key in school income.

Have you been called on yet? If not, there is a way to prevent it. A form called the Opt-Out form, which allows for students and parents to have the opportunity to withhold all personal information was sent home in September.

Those who did not turn in the Opt-Out form may have their

information released. The majority of the students did not return the Opt-Out form. "I didn't know what it is so I would have just tossed the form," said



Standish. If you wish to have your private information withheld, complete the form as soon as possible, otherwise recruiters, upon request, will receive your name, address, and telephone number.

This year, in addition to the past several years, the military has filled their recruitment-quotas before deadline, and have not requested student listings. Due to the worsening situation in Iraq and the war on terrorism, however, recruiters may request these listings.

Because your transcripts can be turned over without your knowledge, some believe that this is an infringement on our privacy. In the Nov./Dec. 2002 edition of "Mother Jones Magazine," Jill Wynns, president of the San Francisco Board of Education, said, "For the federal government to ignore or discount the concerns of the privacy rights of millions of high school students is not a good thing, and it's something we should be concerned about."

Students at San Marin were largely unaware of the new policy and shared the same opinion as Wynns. "It just seems like an invasion of privacy," said Laurel Nakamine, a SM senior.

Sex and the slammer

By Rebecca Guthrie

Some of the seniors have or will be turning eighteen this year. With this newly gained adulthood comes many responsibilities. Along with the ability to vote, buy cigarettes, go clubbing, and excuse yourself from class, the consequences of certain actions (namely SEX) are more serious.

Statutory rape (also known as "unlawful sex with a minor") is defined in the California Penal code as: An act of sexual intercourse with a person who is not the spouse of the perpetrator, if the person is a minor. For the purposes of this section a "minor" is a person who is under the age of eighteen and an "adult" is a person who is at least eighteen years of age. Any person who engages in an act of unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor who is no more than three years older or three years younger than the perpetrator, is guilty of misdemeanor. In other words, if there is four or more years between the two individuals, then it is considered to be a felony. "Consent" is meant to be positive cooperation in act or attitude pursuant to an exercise of free will, the person must act freely

and voluntarily and have knowledge of the nature of the act or the transaction involved.

The laws for statutory rape vary from state to state in America. California is one of the state's with the highest age of consent, eighteen. The state legislature's reasoning is simply that California has the highest teen birth rate of any state in America. Three of four births to high school girls are fathered by adults. Men over twenty five account for twice as many teen births as boys under eighteen years old. The average age of difference between high school girls and their partners is seven years six months. This is just in California.

The average age for most states is sixteen. In Connecticut, it is considered first degree sexual assault if the victim is under 13 and the perpetrator is more than two years older. It is second degree sexual assault if the victim is 13-15 and the perpetrator is more than two years older. In Washington, D.C., one can get 19 years in prison if the victim is under 16 and the perpetrator is over 16. Hawaii's age of consent is a mere 14 and it is considered first degree sexual

assault if the perpetrator is "knowingly" having sex with a victim under 14.

The repercussions for such an act vary depending on the situation and age of individuals. The usual sentence is prison for one year. If the perpetrator is over 21 and the victim is under 16 there is the possibility of four years in a state prison. If the act is with a minor at least two years younger, the fine is \$5,000. If the minor is three years younger, the fine is \$10,000. If the adult is over 21 and the victim is under 16, the fine is \$25,000.

The scariest thing is the fact that anyone can report knowledge of perceived statutory rape to local law enforcement or to the District Attorney's Statutory Rape Vertical Prosecution Unit and it is taken extremely seriously. Hypothetically, if a 16 year old female knowingly has sexual intercourse with an 18 year old male, than he is "jailbait" and will have a hard time defending himself.

Knowledge and awareness is the best safeguard (even in the heat of the moment) to protect oneself and one's future.

Seniors dominate

#2 Derek Bosia

Bo
Cornerback (1st team all-purpose back)
7 years
"There is one type faster than Keith. That's NPD."
Derek had a stellar season, leading the defense with 7 interceptions. Despite his diminutive appearance, he constantly played above himself and terrorized receivers twice his size and topped it off by catching a touchdown. Adding to his value was his returning abilities, bringing back numerous punts and kicks including a touchdown against Sonoma Valley.

#3 Jared Barrilleaux

Deuce
Quarterback/ Defensive back
5 years
"No team will match the success of the San Marin Mustangs in '01 '02"
What do you get when you combine 4.0 intellect and a sub-five-second forty? You get Jared Barrilleaux. Despite a lack of snaps at QB, Jared was the steady hand that kept many teams from climbing back into games with key throws and good decisions under center. However, he excelled on defense, making numerous plays and shutting down opposing teams every chance he got.

#9 Darryl Fisherbaugh

Fish
Outside linebacker/ Receiver
8 years
"DMA's a joke!"
Darryl has been beating the odds his entire career as a receiver. One would think that a person with fingers half the size of a normal human being wouldn't be able to have any success in such a tough position. But Darryl has done more than just be successful, catching numerous touchdowns and making countless important first downs. However, his most valuable skill was probably kickoff returns. Somehow as an up back, he returned 5 or 6 kicks, always holding it with two hands. It doesn't matter how small your fingers are if you're smart.

#12 Jack Rolovich

Rolo
Quarterback (2nd team)
7 years
"I would like to take this chance to thank all the offensive linemen for protecting my [butt] for 3



years." Ever since transferring from Marin Catholic his sophomore year, Rolovich has provided the strong arm and hard head the Mustangs have needed to be successful. Finishing the year third in yardage, second in touchdowns, and first in passer efficiency, he time and again carried the team solely on his shoulders in the rare instances when the running game stalled, being one of the most valuable offensive assets on the team.

#19 Mike Gutierrez

Prior
Receiver/ outside linebacker



4 years
"Our success as a team has been phenomenal, but I won't miss the 4-5 hour practices one bit."
Mike has been an invaluable member of the Mustangs since his days as a receiver and kicker for the freshman team. Always willing to give 110%, he has constantly contributed on the practice field and taken fine advantage of his time on the playing field, making punishing blocks on special teams and important tackles on defense.

#20 Cuyler Ballenger

Free Safety (Honorable mention)
8 years
"[It's been] a brutal experience- I'm not just talking about football."
After a year off, Cuyler emerged from retirement with Jordanesque success. Immediately retaking his starting job on the defense and emerging as the leader of the unit, he made his presence known and not just with his hard hits and air-tight coverage. Instead it was his emotional, yet steady demeanor that helped guide the defense through the season.

#22 Scott Dumont

Duey
Fullback (honorable mention) / Outside Linebacker (1st team)
6 years
"I like being Jack's cousin."
Scott has never had the gaudy offensive numbers of a star running back. He rarely saw more than 5 carries per game in his career. However, on any other team he surely would have



dominated as the featured back. Arguably the best all-around athlete on the team, the three-sport star constantly opened gaping holes for the tailbacks and was the definition of a rover on defense, easily leading the team in tackles.

#23 Jason Hunter

Big Hunt
Receiver
6 years
"This has been one of the best experiences of my life."
Anyone who said Juniors on Junior Varsity can't play is eating their words right now. After dominating last year, Jason came to the Varsity level and didn't miss a beat. Tired of being left out, he pumped iron in the off-season and came out with new strength and quickness. The new Jason Hunter was the most dangerous third down receiver on the roster, showcasing his talents in the Drake playoff game, with 6 catches, most for first downs.

#24 Troy Bartok

Receiver/ Cornerback (1st team)
"Novato's lucky I got hurt."
How do you replace a speedy cornerback over 6' tall with great hands? It sure isn't easy. When Troy went down with torn knee ligaments during the Mustangs' victory over Terra Linda, everyone thought the worst because he was so valuable to the team. How valuable? In the first game, which Troy also missed, the Mustangs surrendered two long touchdowns where he would have been. Against Novato it was Kyle Sammons catching a fade pass for a long touchdown and Marin Catholic's Dave DiAmbrosio had the most yards of the season. All losses. All games Troy missed. Case in point.

#25 Keith Thompson

Liar
Tailback
4 years
"It was a great tie that I will never forget."
Keith is the fastest person I have ever seen. PERIOD. Dominating the second half all season long, Keith showed his talents on sweep after sweep after sweep. His lack of size was no disadvantage because you can't tackle what you can't catch. He even out-rushed Egide twice in the season. So what could he do to outdo himself. Well, you should see him outrun a portly police officer.

#26 Erik Egide

God White Lightning
Tailback (1st team)/ Middle Linebacker
7 years
"It was a good run. Dino is a P.H."
Picture a hybrid between an eighteen-wheel diesel truck and a Mazeratti. Now throw in a Volkswagon Beetle and you

Mustangs re

They say that repeating is the hardest. December 7, the anniversary of the attacks true as the Mustangs were defeated. At around five o'clock, when the appeared that the Mustangs were ready to sl to beat the Hornets, who had already di. However, that caused a sort of fire in their p to Novato's Goliath was foreign to them a. It was evident as they entered the resolute and new the task in front of them destined for the Mustangs. However, as th it wasn't to be as the they were dominated. Coming out with the same fire t struck first with a 58-yard strike from Jack they were poised for a huge game. But w capped by an 18-yard touchdown pass, the with a 50-yard bomb to a wide-open Kyle. A field goal and two more touchd quarter half gone. Rolovich's 19-yard pass had no bearing on the final result. Leading the Mustangs statistical Hunter (3 receptions for 93 yards and the l was only suffocated by Novato's swar Mustangs' defense, normally equal in pot high 519 yards of offense. Despite the loss, these Mustangs a whole lot this year. They've triumphed back from bad losses, but they've always. The fact that they failed to do so in their successes and they should all be pro

Story by David Hoytt
Photos by Larry Hoytt who has generously shared his football photos with the Pony Express staff all season

The 2002 Mustangs



get Erik Egide. Formerly an offensive lineman, Erik uses a stout muscular build and deceptive speed to break ankles all over the county. If you don't believe me, try to tackle him.

#50 A.J. Filipelli

Ginzu
Guard
7 years
Plug up the A-Gap!"
A.J. was quite possibly the smallest starting offensive lineman in the last decade if not in San Marin history. Weighing in at a stout 155 pounds, he had the appearance of a wide receiver, but he plays like a man twice his size. Constantly opening holes at his right guard position, he defied the odds and even made numerous "pancake blocks" and offense isn't even his best position. Last year, with limited time at defensive end he recorded five sacks.

#51 Joey Archuleta

Arch
Defensive Tackle

10 years
"Zunk is so bad. He should just stay home and play with himself."
Joey has held the post at defensive tackle since he came to San Marin in his sophomore year. Always one of the emotional leaders on and off the field, his fiery personality was always contagious to those around him. Despite a few off-sides penalties, his explosive physical play disrupted offenses every moment he was on the field.

#55 Jason Pederson

Pourne
Center/ Defensive Tackle
5 years
"Choo-choo. Watch out, Big Jay is comin' through!"
Starting the year atop the depth chart at center and getting time on defense, things were looking bright for Jason. His physical play was just what the team needed until he endured a well-documented torn patella. With his movement restricted, Jason was forced to take on a more limited role. However, working in more of a spot role, he added a tremendous presence of the bench in tough situations. Even if football doesn't work out, he can still always fall back on his career as a professional bag-hitter.

#57 Bob Toothman

Tootie
Defensive Tackle
5 years
"It's been fun. I'm sad I have to go."
For a guy whose bones are half dust, Bob had one heck of a year. Suffering from numerous injuries for the extent of his high school career, Bob hasn't been able to get much playing time. Instead, the only offered his best effort everyday at practice. Coming to every practice ready to work won

him the respect of his teammates. That, and the fact that he did it all with a wound resembling a shotgun shell entry wound.

#58 Eric Letsch

Flounder
Defensive (honorable mention)/ offensive tackle
4 years
"To succeed in life you first have to fail."
Last year, Letsch earned an impressive 6.5 sacks to pace a strong Mustang defense. This year he was forced into an offensive job, as well, which could have hurt his defensive productivity. But thanks to lots of hard work and dedication, he recorded a team high 8.5 sacks, picking up right where he left off and cementing his position as one of the league's premier defensive stoppers.

#59 Dan McCarthy

Big Dog
Defensive Tackle
4 years
"If you can't run with the big dogs stay on the porch."
If the hill behind the far goalpost is ever blown up everyone will know who to talk to. Possibly the person who hated that hill more than any other living being, Danny let everyone know how he felt every moment. That's why it may be surprising that he was the hardest working player on the team. But it's not surprising when you see him not budging at defensive tackle. Don't believe it? You try pushing him out of the way.

#65 Geoff Zunker

Zunk
Defensive End
ROOKIE
"Archie is slow, can't tackle, and is softer than my pillow."
When a hybrid sport mixing basketball and football is created. Geoff's hall of fame induction ceremony won't be far behind. Constantly mixing his shiftiness on the court with a strong trunk, he patented the "Zunker Shimmy," a move that is feared by tackles all over the county. After learning about the game in his first and final high school season, Geoff threw numerous blocks on kickoff return, leaving Mustang fans to wonder, "What could have been?"

#68 David Hoytt

Hoytta
Guard (1st team)/ Defensive End (1st team)
8 years

"It feels good to be the winningest player in San Marin history. Add it up."
David started his career as a boy among men as a freshman on the JV team. However, as he rose through the ranks, he managed to gain some skills and win some games in the process. In fact, his average of over 9 wins per season is unofficially the highest total in school history (pending Justin Graniss's senior season). Always surrounded by some of the best talent in the league, he wasn't allowed to showcase his running talents but did get a carry this year, gaining 5 yards.

#69 Mike Ford

Grandpa
Middle Linebacker
9 years
"And another one bites the dust..."
If a person's wisdom is measured by the number of gray hairs on their head then Mike is the wisest person to come through San Marin football in history. Coming into this season slim and trim, he constantly played above his size in practice and games alike. Mike has never been the biggest guy on the field but he probably has gained more respect over the years for his toughness and never-quit attitude.

#75 Charlie Ford

Upchuck
Center
7 years
"I wish I could play as well as the All-American, Jason Pederson."
Charlie was thrown into the starting lineup in midseason when the starter, Jason Pederson, was fallen by a knee injury. Although the smaller of the two, he hit the field running and played solid all season. **Chucking** a line without much size, Chuck was constantly

asked to chase down speedy linebackers and stop blitzes and consistently succeeded, helping the Mustangs stay in the playoff hunt and even dominate.

#77 Kevin Correnti



Crom
Defensive/ offensive tackle (1st team)
4 years
"Am I really that slow 'cuz I was running a lot faster in my head. I ate seven hotdogs."
Kevin once again proved himself as one of the premier offensive tackles in the league. This year, playing up to his 6'5" 250+ lbs. stature and then some, he was the fear in the back of every defensive end's mind. One of the best pass-blockers in the league, he helped keep Rolovich's blind side clear all year long. There could be many reasons for his success but I believe that Crom is smiling down on Kevin Correnti.



Main winners

st achievement in sports, at any level. On Pearl Harbor, that statement was proved by the vaunted Novato Hornets 31-14. bus arrived at San Rafael High School, it shock the county. No one gave them a chance smantled them 35-7 earlier in the season. preparations for the game. The role of David and it gave them an edge. e field to screaming fans that this team was was a great one. It seemed that glory was e nearly 4000 in attendance soon found out, d almost from the start. hey had shown in Pre-game, the Mustangs **Rolovich to Jason Hunter**. It appeared that ith the extra point try failed and long drive e Hornets took the lead and then stretched it e **Sammons**. owns put the game out of reach with the third to **Scott Dumont** closed out the scoring but ily were **Eric Egide** (62 yards rushing) and ong touchdown). However, Hunter's spark ming style of defense. Conversely, the ency, was embarrassed, giving up a season should keep their heads up. They've done over injury and adversity, they've bounced seemed to bounce back on top. n this particular game cannot take away from ud of themselves because everyone else is.

To drink, or not to drink...

By Alyssa Pomponio and Challen Pressley

In the holiday spirit of giving and sharing, another thought lurks in the minds of San Marin students: drinking on New Years Eve.

While some find it as a means of enhancing the night's fun, others consider it a dangerous and overrated tradition.

We challenged five students from different grades to answer our questions about their upcoming night.

Why do you choose whether or not to drink on New Years?

Freshman Girl: I don't drink because I am already too hyper and don't feel I need to.

Junior Girl: Drinking enhances the experience. It loosens you up. You have to get trashed...it's New Years!

Senior Guy: I feel drinking makes normal situations fun. It makes boring people seem interesting.

Senior Girl: I don't drink at all because I don't like the thought of

losing control and I have a lot to lose. I've worked too hard to get to where I am to jeopardize it by drinking.

How do your surroundings affect your decision?

Sophomore Guy: Everyone does it, so I do it.

Junior Girl: I'm going to be at bars in Long Island before going to Times Square and it's like, why not drink. More cocktails when you're pre-gaming the night is a plus.

Senior Guy: New Years seems more fun when in a social environment because it's fun to socialize when you're drunk. It's easier to go for the kiss when you're drunk, but you're more appealing when you are sober.

Senior Girl: I'm almost always with my family on New Years. It's by choice and I wouldn't want to be anywhere else.

How would your night be different if you changed your decision?

Junior Girl: I have spent New Years sober and it was still really fun. Drinking is just an excuse to be crazy.

Sophomore Guy: I would have to deal with people who were drinking and act differently around them. It would take away from the festivities.

Senior Girl: If I drank, I wouldn't remember the night, but it's never been a question to drink or not.

Senior Guy: My night would be safer but far more dull.

What was your favorite New Years experience and how was drinking involved?

Sophomore Guy: I went to Tahoe last year. We were all drunk.

Junior Girl: Freshman year with all the hot seniors and we all took

shots together and it was really crazy.

Senior Girl: I went skiing with my family in Utah and drank hot coco with them.

Senior Guy: Two years ago was the best. It involved me and my closest friends drinking when we couldn't drive.

Top spots to celebrate New Years

By Susan Beresford and Bret Pughe

Cold weather and rainy days can only mean one thing: winter in Novato.

For many of us, despite the sometimes-gloomy atmosphere, winter brings many exciting times to look forward to. As the rain pours outside, most San Marin students are sitting in desks getting antsy for winter break, anticipating hitting the slopes in Tahoe, tearing open neatly wrapped packages at Christmas, and, most of all, NEW YEAR'S!

This exciting holiday gives San Marin students a time to party, have fun, and celebrate the occasion. Party hats, horns,

fireworks, and sparkling cider are only a few of the annual customs people enjoy on New Year's.

Where will you be to celebrate 2003...?

At home on your couch

Although television offers many New Year's specials and your couch is pretty darn comfortable, you're not experiencing the social aspect of New Year's. At least get the energy to jump up off your couch and bang pots and pans in the street when the ball drops.

Novato

Despite the fact that it's not the most exciting place in the world and we spend pretty much every weekend here, New Year's sparks a certain type of energy in Novato, making it an eventful night. Last year, Santa Ynez Circle became a new hot spot for New Year's festivities. We hope 2003 offers the same type of scene.

San Francisco

A relatively short trip from Novato, the city offers a wide variety of New Year's festivities. Every year, several popular bands play at the Bill Graham Civic Center, The Fillmore, and The Great American Music Hall. Past performers include Macy Gray. Entertainment can also be found at the Embarcadero, where the street is closed with thousands of energetic partiers awaiting midnight.

Fire works are blasted off of a boat near the Bay Bridge, which can be seen from miles away. And if you're a true New Year's fanatic, you can sleep in your car and watch the New Year's day parade the next morning!

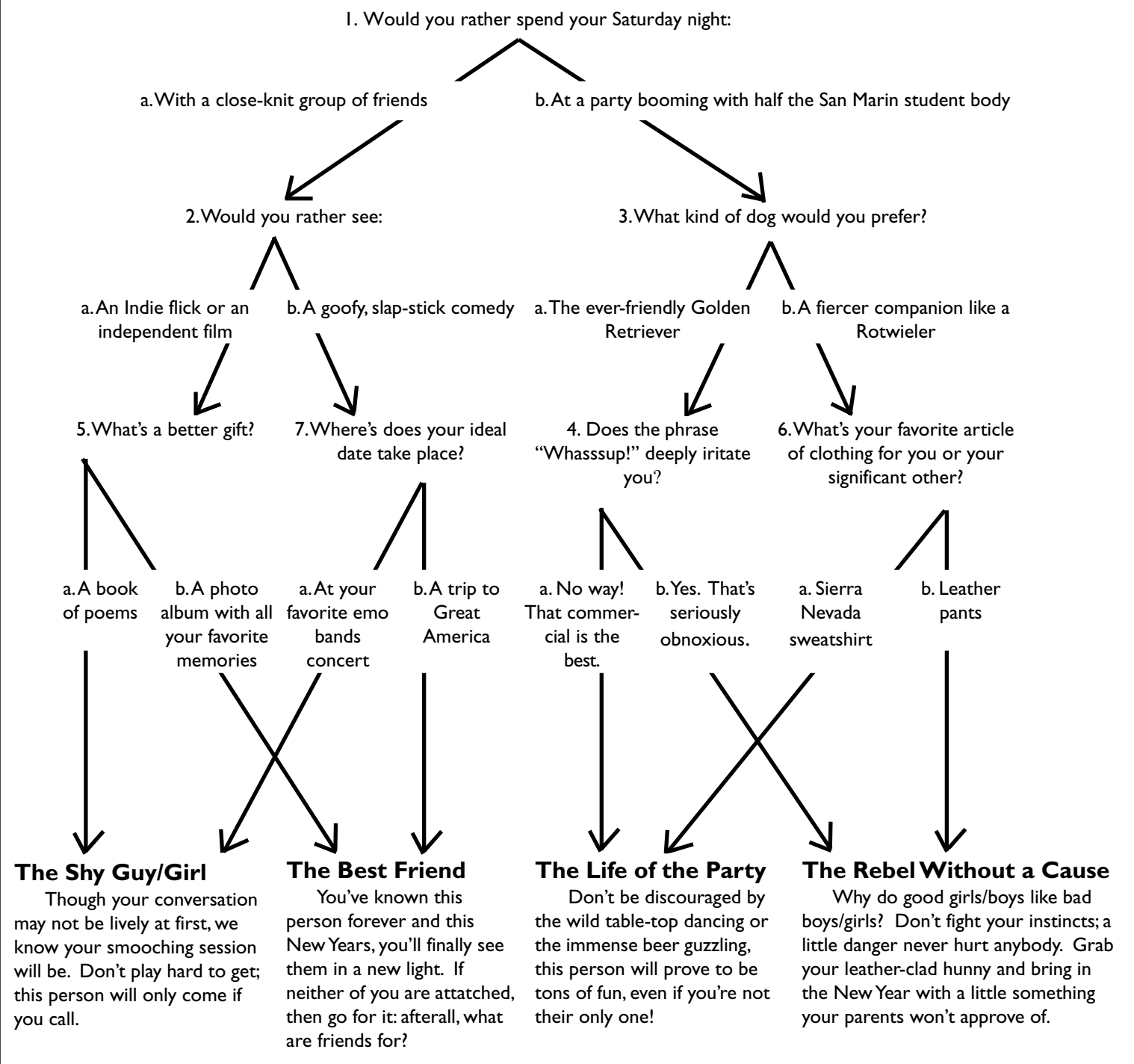
South Shore, Lake Tahoe

The perfect New Year's Eve day: snowboarding all day in the powdery bowls of Heavenly Valley, returning to your Hotel room for a hot tub, and hitting the "strip" for a guaranteed night of fun. The "strip," as it is known to many, is located on a small stretch of road at the state line between California and Nevada. It consists of hotels/casinos, restaurants, arcades, and shops. The hot spot of Lake Tahoe on New Year's, the "strip," is closed off to cars and filled with blocks of raging teenagers, who are all filled with anticipation for the countdown.

And your New Years kisser will be...

Stumped about who to smooch this New Years? Take our Midnight Matchup Quiz to find out!

By Myra Perez, Alyssa Pomponio, Challen Pressley



Audioslave is alive

By Zack Kinyon

**“Destruction leads to a very rough road, but it also breeds creation ”
Red Hot Chili Peppers**



Few band splits have impacted the rock world harder in recent memory than those of Soundgarden (1997) and Rage Against the Machine (2000). The two bands had little in common musically, and were rarely mentioned together. Soundgarden (Chris Cornell, Kim Thayil, Ben Shepherd, Matt Cameron) broke after 12 years on friendly terms. Rage Against the Machine (Zack de la Rocha, Tom Morello, Tim Commerford, Brad Wilk), on the other hand, was a fiercely political quartet whose demise shocked the world as frontman Zack de la Rocha announced he was leaving to pursue a solo career. The rift was attributed to “a complete failure in (band) communication,” and after recording three Platinum albums in the nineties, Commerford, Wilk, and Morello were left without a vocalist. Soundgarden guitarist/singer was approached by Rick Rubin and asked to jam. The Audioslave self-titled debut album is the product of their initial 19-day session, was released November 19.

The opening track, Cochise, begins with a tension-building time bomb intro reminiscent of Rage’s The Ghost of Tom Joad, that fi-

nally erupts into a classic Morello riff, joined by the unexpected but surprisingly welcome sandpaper rough wail of Cornell.

The most intriguing aspect of Audioslave may be the addition of a singer to this instrumental unit. With Rage Against the Machine, Morello, Commerford, and Wilk (and de la Rocha), constructed their music predominantly around an unmelodic rap vocal delivery, which limited the element of harmony and tune that they incorporated. But what is striking about this marriage from the moment verse one of Cochise starts is the fact that a voice is singing along with the band’s signature dynamic guitar riff, something that’s never really been done on a record before.

The main fault of this album is its, the weird guitar noises aside, lack of imagination, musically, vocally and lyrically, especially for a front man who engineered the majority of Soundgarden’s material. The songs were written on the adrenaline of a three-week jam session and may or may not have much added to them artistically beyond that small window. The song formula often feels sort of

redundant; a heavy intro followed by a verse-chorus-verse-chorus-guitar solo-bridge-chorus sequence. Chris Cornell reportedly (and evidently) composed virtually none of the music for Audioslave’s debut, other than overseeing the process by directing the vocals and being a catalyst when the other three were stuck on a bridge or transition. Brad Wilk and Tim Commerford do a solid job laying the rhythmic foundation, but the beats on the Audioslave disc rarely if ever stray from 4/4 time signatures. This factor is certainly not suffocating to the art-

work; there are great bands that live solely on straight beats, Rage Against the Machine being one, and nonetheless manage to hold worlds of creative capacity. Audioslave, as the artists stress, is not Rage with a new singer. It is a new band. However, it’s difficult to get over the impression, especially upon first listen, that most of the music sounds undeniably like Morello, Commerford, and Wilk picked up right where they left off on their last RATM record, 2000’s Renegades. Cornell is a great all-around musician and throwing him more fully into the writing process would probably prolong the construction of albums, but, as any music fan familiar with his work could predict, it would only stimulate and enhance the music and send it in new creative directions, and could develop Audioslave into a truly unique and ground breaking force.

All in all Audioslave is very well done. Its greatness will be determined by how interesting it is after its novelty has worn off. If you have any interest in rock music, definitely check it out. At the very least it will physically jar you like nothing else being released in mainstream music at the moment.

CONCERT CORNER

By Julia Capasso

Shows are sparse this December and January. However, there are a few great shows taking place that you can’t miss.

The December 14 show at the Pound won’t disappoint hard-core fans with The Hope Conspiracy and Unerath making appearances. Hostility returns from its out of state tour to play at the Pound the following Saturday.

Check out these upcoming Bay Area concerts:

The Ataris with Sugarcult and Rufio
at Slims December 13 \$13.50

Live 105’s Not So Silent Night featuring **Moby, Disturbed, Papa Roach, Good Charlotte, The Donnas, dj Shadow, Sum 41 and Jurassic 5**
at the Shark Tank December 13 \$35

Def Leopard
at the Civic Center December 14 \$39.50

Pitch Black with Beneath the Ashes, Breathe In, and The Cause
at the Phoenix December 14 \$TBA

Guns and Roses
at the Shark Tank December 31 \$75/49.50

From Autumn To Ashes with The Hope Conspiracy, Unerath, A Static Lullaby and Clearing Autumn Skies
at the Pound December 14 \$10

Counting Crows with Toad the Wet Sprocket
at the Warfield December 16 \$35

Oakenfeld (Live and Paul Oakenfeld)
at the Warfield December 18

Starch with Dead Breed, Kaos, Hostility and Zodiacal Circle
at the Pound December 21 \$10

Oakland Interfaith Gospel Ensemble
at Slims December 24 \$15

The Les Claypool Frog Brigade
at the Fillmore December 31 \$55

Striking Distance with Desperate Measures, The Damage Done, Diehard Youth and Far From Breaking
at Gilman January 4 \$5

For The Clown with Modern Life Is War, Rosary, and Allegiance
at Gilman January 5 \$5

The Used with Taking Back Sunday and The Blood Brothers
at Slims January 15 \$12

Pains Of Sleep with Animosity, Embrace the End, All Shall Parish, Clearing Autumn Skies and Something Must Die (local hard-core night)
at Gilman January 18 \$5

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Jumping for Hoops

By Niki Kidd

A simple steal. One steal that resembles any other. But this one steal was different, this one steal changed the mood of the game, and the San Marin girls' varsity basketball team hopes it changes the mood for the season.

After an opening season loss to Rancho Cotate, in which the Mustangs led for all but the last fifteen seconds of the game, the Mustangs were down on their luck. The opening quarter in their next game, against the Piner Prospectors, the Mustangs were slow, sloppy, and, for lack of a better word, sucky.

It all changed with one steal. The Mustangs were suddenly on fire, showing quickness not yet seen this season. Crashing the boards,

flying up and down the floor, and diving on the ground, the Mustangs outplayed their counterparts handily in the second half. The full-court press was relentless, as the Lady 'Stangs racked up point after point, and won their first game of the season.

The game wasn't without its mistakes, as the Mustangs found themselves in the double bonus for fouls in each half, but in the overall scheme of the season, it is a good start to the new season.

With new spaces on the team, created by the departure of seven seniors, coach Mark Carlson has added nine new athletes to the squad, and enormous amount for basketball teams. The returning players include seniors **Megan Mallonee**, **Jenna Newberry**, **Annie**

Drummond-Hay, and **Ashley Puma**, and junior **Bridget O'Connor** and **Jennie Gay**.

Newberry, an all-league honorable mention last season, will lead the floor at the point for her second season as starter.

Mallonee, O'Connor, and Gay will all get more playing time this season, hoping to make a big impact to lead the Mustangs to a playoff birth for the first time since the 1996-97 season..

The nine new players include seniors **Niki Kidd**, **Jenny Sack**, and **Diana Keating**, junior **Christina Pelka**, and sophomores **Megan Pachetti**, **Signey Toquinto**, **Stephanie Nevin**, **Megan Faherty** and **Courtney Coughlin**.

Stuart brings new attitude

By Colin Dietz

The Mustangs hope to pack the gym with fans this year. Coach Chad Stuart has brought a new attitude to the program to override last season's underachievement.

Stuart, who hired new coaches at all levels of boy's basketball, comes from Drake High School in hopes to earn new respect for the San Marin basketball program.

When asked the difference between this year and last year, **Zach Bachmeier** replied, "New coaches... new attitude." With only one home game this preseason the Mustangs hope to put together a respectable record in order to draw a large fan base for the regular season that exceeds that of the past years.

The Mustangs, without the football playing members due to their NCS playoff run, started the season on a dismal note with a disappointing 47-79 defeat to Rancho Cotate. Outsize and outnumbered, they were out-rebounded 22-35. **Paul Kirpes** shot 6 for 10 from the field to lead the team with 14 points. The most shocking stat of the game was the Mustangs 32% shooting compared with 69% by Rancho Cotate. The Mustangs failed to gain any momentum after Bachmeier was ejected midway through the first quarter.

According to NCS rules, Bachmeier was forced to sit on the bench and watch his Mustangs lose a game that was within their grasp against Santa Rosa. The Mustangs' 26 turnovers, 11 in the third quarter, led to a

collapse against the Panthers 51-62. The Mustangs did, however, out-rebound the Panthers 30-27, led by **Colin Dietz** with eight and **Andre Leverson** with five. With Bachmeier out, **Alex Kovaleff** took over the offense from the point guard position to lead the team with 26 points. After the game, when asked how it felt to be the leading scorer, Kovaleff stated, "Look at the scoreboard. As long as there's not a 'W' up there I don't care. It's a team effort." Also contributing to a 50% field goal shooting was Kirpes with 10 points.

Starting the season 0-2, the Mustangs desperately needed a win at home against Maria Carrillo. In front of a small crowd, soon to be larger, the Mustangs held on to win in the final seconds 65-64. Bachmeier, after missing the majority of the first two games, stepped up big. Although leading the team with 31 points, it was his unselfish pass to Kirpes, who hit an eight-foot jump shot with less than 5 seconds left, that sealed the Mustang victory. Kirpes also led the team in rebounding with nine, as the Mustangs out-rebounded their opponent

again 27-24. Prior to Kirpes' shot, **Nick Fahy** hit a clutch three-pointer to bring the Mustangs within one point.

The Mustangs traveled to Albany in hopes of raising their record to .500 before the return of the football players. It took overtime to accomplish that feat but the Mustangs pulled off a 96-63 victory. Losing a five-point lead with under a minute left, the Mustangs took control in overtime. Bachmeier led the offense with 34 points, shooting 19 for 21 from the free throw line. Kovaleff and Kirpes also contributed on offense, with Kirpes leading the Mustangs in rebounds.

With the return of the football players, including team captain **Scott Dumont**, the Mustangs hope to continue their win streak. The season home opener is January 7 at 7:30 against Justin Siena, at which point the Mustangs hope to have accomplished a strong preseason in order to draw more fans than in years past. With a new attitude and team play the Mustangs are going to be a fun team to watch this year.

JV girls are winners

By Katie Winsor

Having won all three of their preseason games so far, this year's JV girls' basketball team is off to a great start. Star players to watch this year include juniors **Mia Cruz** and Sarah Meier and sophomores **Ashley Colclough** and **Elena Miller**.

The girls won their first preseason game against Rancho Cotati with a final score of 34-16. Colclough contributed 16 points with assists by sophomore **Ashley House**.

In the second preseason game against

Piner, Miller put 12 points on the scoreboard. The final score of the game was 38-21.

Sophomore **Kelly Fitzpatrick**, one of the team's best players, is currently suffering from a soccer injury. When Fitzpatrick's broken collarbone heals, she will begin playing with the team. Miller notes, "Kelly is one of our top players. It's difficult to play our best without her."

This year, the team is being coached by Tim

Hawkins. Hawkins coached the San Marin girl's varsity volleyball team this year, but this is his first year coaching basketball for the Lady Mustangs. "He's a good coach, but we'll have to get used to him," points out Miller.

Comprised of the majority of last year's frosh girls' basketball team, the team already knows how to work together. "We learned how to work well together last season, and now's our chance to prove it," says Colclough.

New JV coaches invigorate program

By Bridget O'Connor

The entirely new JV boys' basketball coaching staff, led by Rob Pheatt and Greg Cunha, looks forward to a positive and successful season.

Assistant coach Cunha said, "In the past I have heard rumors about San Marin—that the athletes do not possess positive attitudes. We are all here to change the attitudes to positive ones for all the kids."

The long and successful football season has made it difficult for the coaches to establish a team. "Right now we have a lot of great players who show a lot of heart, but there are many football players intending to try out and we can't make a final decision until their season is over," commented Cunha.

Last year's 3-10 record allows plenty of room for improvement. The team hopes to better this record and show the MCAL that San Marin is a force to be reckoned with.

Sophomore Chris Knowles looks forward to a great season, "Everyone works really hard on this team and hustles every practice and game. I think that our hard work will enable us to have a successful season...so be afraid, be very afraid."

Winter sports preview

By Bridget O'Connor and Christina Pelka

Sport	2001-2002 MCAL record	Coaches	Players to watch
Boys' varsity basketball	(6-7)	Chad Stuart	Zach Bachmeier, Scott Dumont, Brian Tuel
Girls' varsity basketball	(4-9)	Mark Carlson, John Pachetti	Megan Mallonee, Megan Pachetti, Jenna Newberry
Boys' JV basketball	(3-10)	Rob Pheatt	Casey Pughe, Amaan Nathoo, Anthony Gonzalez
Girls' JV basketball	(10-3)	Tim Hawkins	Ashley House, Ashley Colclough, Elena Miller
Boys' freshman basketball	(7-6)	Mike Ahern	Cliff Bachmeier, Alex Randall, Chris Dittmann
Girls' freshman basketball	(10-3)	Fred Lucas	Shannon Silva, Jennie DiStefano, Jessica Champagne
Varsity wrestling	(2-1)	Chris Augusto	Bret Pughe, Derek Bosia, Kevin Correnti, Dean Mariello, Marshall McCollum
Frosh/soph wrestling	North MCAL champions	Chris Augusto	Paul Lillie, Nick Basile, Matt Petty, Christian Correnti
Varsity Spirit Leaders		Kim Mengarelli	Amanda Bautista, Jenny Higby, Blake Vantrease
Frosh/Soph Spirit Leaders		Kim Mengarelli	Kristen Jones, Rachel Schotz

Fall athletes earn accolades

By Christina Pelka and Bridget O'Connor

Sport	MCAL record	Coaches	Outstanding Players
Varsity football	7-2	Chris Augusto, Israel Jones, Brent Moore, John Ruckrigel, Dave Ayers, Nick Rolovich	David Hoytt (1st Team All League Offense/Defense, Most Valuable Lineman), Brian Tuel (2nd Team All League Defense), Eric Letsch (Honorable Mention Defense), Erik Egide (1st Team All League Offense, Most Valuable Offensive), Scott Dumont (1st Team All League Defense, Honorable Mention Offense, Most Valuable Player), Derek Bosia (1st Team All Purpose), Cuyler Ballenger (Honorable Mention Defense, most Valuable Defensive), Jack Rolovich (2nd Team All League Offense, Most Valuable Back), Jason Hunter (Most Improved), Brian Tuel (Most Improved), Kevin Correnti (Bill Stiveson Award), Geoffrey Zunker (Sportsmanship Award), Michael Ford
JV football	6-3-1	Zach Pascoe, Kevin Ghee, John Ayers	Matt Corral (Most Valuable), Anthony Gonzalez, Most Valuable Player), Chris Susoeff (Most Improved), Leland Hansen (Sportsmanship Award)
Freshman football	7-1	Dan Fisherbaugh	Keith Renner (Most Valuable), Nicholas Basile (Sportsmanship Award)
Boys' varsity soccer	6-8	Jason Clark, Dave Russell	Dario Garzo (1st Team All League, Most Improved), Ryn Scott (2nd Team All League), Jeff Russell (2nd Team All League), Edgar Ramirez (2nd Team All League), Guillermo Andrade (2nd Team All League, Most Valuable), Pat McIntosh (Honorable Mention, Sportsmanship Award)
Boys' frosh/soph soccer	2-12	Abel Martinez, Mike Carbone	Geoffrey Slaughter (Most Improved), Loney Nicol (Sportsmanship Award)
Girls' cross country	7-2	Tom Zechlin	Zoe Brown (Most Valuable), Carli O'Leary (Most Improved), Amber Shields (Sportsmanship Award)
Girls' tennis	5-9	Suzie Seavey	Jessica Ruth (most Valuable), Dina Rosenberg (most Improved), Lea Wyatt (Sportsmanship Award)
Girls' golf	2-8	Randy Willis	Rachel Oppenheimer (1st Team All League, Most Valuable), Niki Kidd (2nd Team All League), Lauren Schwarze (Most Improved), Andrina Carlsen (Sportsmanship Award)
Girls' varsity volleyball	1-13	Tim Hawkins	Jenny Sack (Most Valuable, Sportsmanship Award), Signy Toquinto (Most Improved)
Girls' frosh/soph volleyball	8-6	Francine Cunnie	Katie Landeros (Most Valuable, Sportsmanship Award), Lindsey Bensen (Most Valuable)
Boys' water polo	6-4	Bryan Pughe	Bret Pughe (2nd Team All League, Most Valuable), Matt Petty (Honorable Mention), Bud Norris (Most Improved), Jonah Friedman (Sportsmanship Award)
Girls' water polo	6-4	Jim Larson	Emily Parker (2nd Team All League, Most Valuable), Melanie McCollum (Honorable Mention), Sarah Cochrane (Most Improved), Cristina Restivo (Sportsmanship Award), Lelani Gilpin (Sportsmanship Award)
Varsity Spirit Leaders	—	Kim Mengarelli	Nina Tran (Most Valuable), Lauren Strobel (Most Improved)
Junior Varsity Spirit Leaders	—	Kim Mengarelli	Jessica Alvarez (Most Improved), Nicole Lundgren (Sportsmanship Award)

MCAL halts spirit

By Christina Pelka and Bridget O'Connor

"I'm blind, I'm deaf... I might as well be an MCAL fan!" As the 2002-2003 basketball season rapidly approaches, we are reminded once more of the MCAL regulations that restrict us from expressing our true emotion and spirit. "It used to be a happy place. A place filled with excitement, love, and devotion. Pride filled

Hank Moroski Gym each Tuesday and Friday night, as the powerful and beautiful Mustangs bombarded the gym through the locker room doors. Music blaring and fans gyrating in the bleachers, we were unstoppable," a San Marin alumnus reminisced.

This year, a new atmosphere awaits us. Below, we have listed

some of the more outrageous, yet abided regulations for the upcoming season.

- Welcome the visiting teams and officials with good sportsmanship and respect
- Reserve the front row of the student rooting section for the cheerleaders
- No insulting or antagonizing officials, opposing teams, or fans
- No costumes, except for mascots
- No body painting
- No bare chests

Students responded adversely to the rules. The rule pertaining to insulting officials, opposing teams and fans has disturbed certain die-hard basketball fans.

"It really, really scares me..." cried junior Loren Egide, "If a player from an opposing team is a bum, why shouldn't we tell him...?"

This article isn't here to discourage you from attending San Marin basketball games. Just a simple reminder so as to keep San Marin's cheering section from offending anyone.

Let the grappling begin

By Bret Pughe

Running, dieting, and sweating. Yes, it's that time of the year again as the San Marin High wrestling season gears up for what hopes to be a winning season. With three senior returning MCAL champions **Derek Bosia**, **Bret Pughe**, and **Kevin Correnti**, the team has high goals for the 2002-2003 season.

Other key returning wrestlers include junior **Brendan Dempsey**, junior **Stephan Needham**, and junior **Marshall McCollum**. Joining the wrestling program for the first year are a number of talented fresh-

men, including **Paul Lillie**, who said, "I'm extremely excited to be a part of such a great team and I'm learning a lot. Everyone has a positive attitude for the upcoming season."

The Mustang grapplers opened their season with a duel meet against Redwood on December 12, after the Pony Express went to press.

This weekend San Marin hosts the annual Green and Gold wrestling tournament, which looks to showcase wrestling talent from the North Coast Section.



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ODDS AND ENDS

Tahoe resorts ready for winter season

By Mike Guterrez

Resort	Size	Ticket Prices*	Terrain	Elevations & Annual Snowfall	Lifts	Current Conditions as of December 9*
Alpine Meadows	Average	Adult: \$54, Young Ad: \$42, Child: \$10	100 Trails, 2,000 Acres, 25% Beg., 40% Int., 35% Adv., 1 Half Pipe, 1 Terrain Park	Base: 6,835' Summit: 8,637', Annual Snowfall: 495in.	Total: 13, Express Chairs: 2	45% of mountain open 3 lifts open
Boreal	Small	Adult: \$34, Young Ad: N/A, Child: \$10	41 Trails, 380 Acres, 30% Beg., 55% Int., 15% Adv., 1 Half Pipe, 2 Terrain Parks	Base: 6,640' Summit: 7,700', Annual Snowfall: 400in.	Total: 9, Express Chairs: 2	65% of mountain open 4 lifts open
Heavenly	Huge	Adult: \$57, Young Ad: \$47, Child: \$29	82 Trails, 4,800 Acres, 20% Beg., 45% Int., 35% Adv., 1 Half Pipe, 2 Terrain Parks	Base: 6,540' Summit: 10,040', Annual Snowfall: 360in.	Total: 27, Express Chairs: 6	20% of mountain open
Kirkwood	Average	Adult: \$52, Young Ad: \$41, Child: \$11	65 Trails, 2,300 Acres, 15% Beg., 50% Int., 35% Adv., 1 Half Pipe, 2 Terrain Parks	Base: 7,800' Summit: 9,800', Annual Snowfall: 500in.	Total: 12, Express Chairs: 1	20-48% of mountain open 4 lifts open
Northstar	Very Large	Adult: \$54, Young Ad: \$44, Child: \$17	56 Trails, 2,420 Acres, 25% Beg., 50% Int., 25% Adv., 1 Half Pipe, 1 Terrain Parks	Base: 6,330' Summit: 8,610', Annual Snowfall: 350in.	Total: 15, Express Chairs: 5	42% of mountain open 5 lifts open
Sierra at Tahoe	Average	Adult: \$50, Young Ad: \$40, Child: \$17	46 Trails, 2,000 Acres, 25% Beg., 50% Int., 25% Adv., 2 Half Pipes, 2 Terrain Parks	Base: 6,640' Summit: 8,852', Annual Snowfall: 480in.	Total: 10, Express Chairs: 5	40% of mountain open
Squaw Valley	Large	Adult: \$56, Young Ad: \$28, Child: \$5	74 Trails, 4,000 Acres, 25% Beg., 45% Int., 30% Adv., 1 Half Pipe, 3 Terrain Parks	Base: 6,200' Summit: 9,050', Annual Snowfall: 450 in.	Total: 33, Express Chairs: 7	30% of mountain open 9 lifts open
Sugar Bowl	Average	Adult: \$54, Young Ad: \$40, Child: \$12	82 Trails, 1,500 Acres, 17% Beg., 43% Int., 40% Adv., 1 Half Pipe, 2 Terrain Parks	Base: 6,540' Summit: 8,383', Annual Snowfall: 500in.	Total: 10, Express Chairs: 4	40% of mountain open

* Conditions change constantly. Check with the resort before you go

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