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Pony Express

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San Marin Talent Puts on a Good Show

By Abby Yim

Have you ever seen a man with three balls? If you attended the San Marin talent show, then you can answer that question with two words:

that reached a high on the entertainment scale, ranging from a Britney Spears dance montage performed by junior Jake Greenley to a classical

of the night, awarding him second place in the competition. Williams' skills are the result of 8 1/2 years of practice. At six years old, his elementary school teacher enrolled him in a musical program. Since then, he has won three music scholarships and is in the Marin Youth Orchestra. Williams plans to pursue his musical talent as "possibly a minor in college."

Another highlight of the evening occurred when the term "public displays of affection" took on a new height. Although Novato is nowhere near Dawson's Creek, it sure felt like we were in the WB Wednesday night line-up when senior Jeff Russell serenaded his girlfriend, sophomore Nicole Domecus. No one knew that someone could be as happy as Domecus was to hear that Josh Groban song.

The three judges, Ellie Backer, Alex Hunt, and Bob Cline, had a difficult



Spinrad shows off his three balls

decision to make when it came to picking the first place recipient. It was not surprising, however, that the honor went to senior Drew Gasparini who performed a grand total of five songs, three of them original compositions.

Those in attendance seemed to have as much fun as the performers. Senior Bertrand Johnson's favorite

act was an excerpt from the play "My Fair Lady." Commenting on Jason Gavazza's interpretation of Eliza Doolittle, "What a fox."

The night was concluded by an original film entitled "Alien Avengers," the second film of the night that showcased the Academy students video skills.

Each one of the acts contributed to a diverse and extremely entertaining show. Those who missed out on sharing their talent have until next year's show to practice. Even those who already wowed audiences have a chance to do it again. Greenley has already put his choreography to practice for next year. "I want it to be just as shocking as last year, but different. I'm planning a Britney Spears, Kylie Minogue, and Madonna Western sex thing with a hip-hop twist. Urban Cowboy if you will." Oh we will, and we'll all be ready for next year.



Senior Jeff Russell gives an emotional performance

Mike Spinrad. Our first-year history teacher proved that his skills carried well beyond the classroom; as M.C., he showed that he could work a crowd as well as a drum set. The students also showcased a wide variety of talents

piano performance by Angela Shi.

One of the most impressive acts was given by freshman Doug Williams. His rendition of J.C. Bach's Concerto in C Minor on the viola was one of the favorites

Getting High at Lunch?... Things You Might Want to Know

By Clint Potter

We've all seen it before, the stereotypical stoner coming to class late, red eyed, reeking of weed and with Twinkie in hand. This is exactly what the administration doesn't want. To combat off-campus drug use during lunch, the administration has imposed a new policy.

In a cabinet meeting several weeks ago, the topic was brought up on how to stop kids from coming to class stoned. After much debate, a brilliant observation was made: the students who come in late are often the ones under the influence. So this idea manifested itself in the

new policy we see today.

Stripped down, the policy sends students



who are five minutes or later to class down to the office for inspection. Now

if a particular student is suspected to be under the influence, they are subjected to rule 5131.6 of the NUSD's administrative rules and regulations. This states that any student suspected of being under the influence can be suspended for five school days and 40 days of extracurricular activity. Furthermore, the student's backpack /purse will be searched along with all their pockets, but all of this is only done if the administrator is almost positive the student is inebriated.

The administration has reported great success with the new policy, suspending a

student for possessing drug paraphernalia on the first day the policy was introduced. History teacher Mr. Spinrad supports the school's decision "Believe[ing] that the administration and school board are doing everything possible to keep students in class and learning."

Even with the results the administration has been receiving, some of the student body is opposed to yet another regulation being placed on their shoulders. Sophomore Danny Burns voices his opinion that "There's no need for this rule; sending you down for a tardy just takes away from the learning experience." Which brings up the question whether or not the administration is taking

the best course of action.

The new policy is another attempt to forcefully stop drug use during school. However, this is not a fool-proof plan and it is still ultimately up to the student to use or not use drugs. For this reason persuasion could be a more effective alternative to deterring rules and regulations. For example the chilling "Every 15 Minutes" program in which a realistic drunk driving incident is acted out and emphasizes the idea that drinking and driving can be a fatal choice. With the use of persuasion it is possible to stop drug use for a lifetime, while disciplinary measures usually just stop unruly behavior for a short period of time.

"Jesus Pizza": What a Hypocrisy

By Alyssa Pomponio and Amber Shields

"During lunch all freshmen are required to remain on campus." (San Marin High School "Campus Regulations") As the only closed high school campus in Marin County, this San Marin rule (which was first instituted to ease the transition from middle to high school) often stirs up controversy. But the real controversy is the hypocritical enforcement of this rule.

For the past ten years, freshmen have been allowed to leave campus during lunch to dine at All Saints Lutheran Church across the street, on what is now called "Jesus Pizza Thursday". This is clearly contradictory to the closed campus rule, and yet it continues.

This tradition endures because the administration feels this is a safe situation for freshmen to experience the lunchtime privilege of upper classmen. Principal Loeta Andersen says the church is a safe area because "there are adults at the door and serving food, so there is supervision." In addition, Yard Supervisor Barbara Allen stands in front of the school on Thursdays and watches to make sure students make it safely across the street and don't keep

walking past the church. Though this agreement between the church and the school seems ideal in theory, flaws remain. There



may be adult supervision, but who is to say that this supervision is any safer than that of adults working at local eateries; administrators know no more about these adult supervisors than they do of restaurant owners. And though there is a yard supervisor watching from campus, this precaution is also flawed. Allen's presence may stop some students from leaving the church grounds, but her distance and the wide open spaces surrounding the church make it an easy escape for restless freshmen who continue to walk off. An anonymous freshman admits, "Sometimes I stay for the pizza because it's cheap, but sometimes I just go to a friend's house or up to Apple instead."

This arrangement not only affects the freshmen on campus, but the whole community. While it is one thing to say freshmen cannot go off campus at all, it is another to say that they can only go to the church. We are in no way a religious school, yet this agreement implies that only by going to a religious institution can freshman partake in the off-campus privilege that they desire. Though not the intention of the administration, it is inadvertently tying church to school and forcing some students to enter a possibly uncomfortable situation in a place of worship.

If students are allowed to support this one business operation by buying a pizza lunch, they should be permitted to support local businesses as well. In addition to having this nonexistent freedom of choice, this injustice is also taking away from the local businesses that support San Marin. Tagliaferri's Delicatessen, for example, has supplied discounted meals at previous baseball championships and this year's Senior Fashion

Show. Restaurants like Chevy's Fresh Mex have held numerous fundraisers for different San Marin Events. A plethora of other local businesses donate to Music Boosters, Sports Boosters, and School Fuel.

While the All Saints Lutheran Church has offered itself to San Marin in times of need (it opened its parking lot when SM's was under renovation and it has continually made itself accessible as an emotional sanctuary to both students and faculty), it has never helped the school monetarily. As a public school, we should incorporate ourselves into the community, not ostracize ourselves by making special deals with groups San Marin

doesn't officially work with. The administration needs to stop creating its own exceptions to San Marin rules and take a firm position on this issue. The best solution would be to make SM an open campus, like all other Marin County schools. If the administration feels that an "easy transition" is necessary for freshmen students, they need to follow through with their decision. A closed campus would be the easiest solution, but if they feel one lunch a week should be rewarded, students should be allowed to go off campus anywhere, not just the church. Whatever the final decision, the administration must pick a stance and follow it.

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The Pony Express is published monthly by the journalism class at San Marin High School. The Pony Express seeks to provide a public forum for student expression and encourages letters to the editors. No unsigned letters will be accepted; however the author's name may be withheld upon request.

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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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Life on the Red Planet may have been possible

By Holly Long

NASA scientists announced on March 2, 2004 that the Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity has made the discovery that Mars was once drenched in water, and that this may have made life possible at some time in the past. Then, on March 23, they revealed that the Opportunity was believed to be on shoreline of a salty sea, at least two inches deep.

This is exactly what NASA wanted to find when it launched two Mars Exploration Rovers, the Spirit and the Opportunity, to find evidence of water and study geologic records to ascertain whether the Mars environment may have been suitable for life. The Spirit landed on Mars on January 3, 2004 in Gusev Crater, and began work by grinding, doing rock abrasions, using cameras to send back images, and collecting other data.

This landing site was chosen because it was thought to have contained a lake. Landing on the opposite side



of the planet on January 25, 2004 in Meridiani Planum, the Opportunity was sent to investigate gray hematite, a mineral which sometimes forms in the presence of water.

The Opportunity found evidence of water by analyzing a chunk of bedrock scientists call "El Capitan" in its landing site, Meridiani Planum. Scientists have

come to the conclusion that water existed there because of its texture and chemistry; large amounts of mineral salts indicative of water are contained in the rock, left over from highly salty liquid water. It has niches where crystals once grew, and water action appears to have created crossbedding, which makes layers of rock lie at an angle to the main layers.

Also, round BB-sized particles called "blueberries" are embedded in the rock and around the crater, which contain hematite and are thought to have formed when the environment was wet.

The Spirit has also found hints of water's existence, reported by NASA on March 5, 2004. It was discovered in a different type of rock, dubbed "Humphrey,"

in Gusev Crater. Although much less water is indicated, cracks and crevices in the rock appear to contain minerals crystallized out of water.

Now that the discovery of a previously habitable Mars environment has been made, scientists speculate that life on Mars could have existed, but this is merely a possibility. "This dramatic confirmation of standing water in Mars' history builds on a progression of discoveries about that most Earthlike of alien planets. This result gives us impetus to expand our ambitious program of exploring Mars to learn whether microbes have ever lived there and, ultimately, whether we can," says NASA's Associate Administrator for Space Science, Dr. Ed Weiler.

Unfortunately, the rovers are not equipped with the tools necessary to search for fossil evidence. Also, the rocks cannot be dated unless a separate mission retrieves rocks and brings them back to Earth, so the time of water's existence is unknown.

Despite the knowledge gained from this mission, some students, like sophomore Erika Unruh, believe that "the money used on the Mars rover program would be better spent on improving our planet rather than exploring others." The \$820 million mission is to continue as the rovers explore different targets on Mars. Even with controversy, NASA's success serves to glorify space exploration once again with its scientific results and the images that bring it to life.

UC Davis Misinforms

By Kevin Kahn, guest reporter

On Monday, March 15th, 6,000 applicants to the University of California at Davis opened their e-mails to learn that they had been accepted for the fall 2004 quarter and were to receive a Regents Scholarship. However, a few hours later, their joy had quickly been overtaken by confusion and annoyance.

The e-mail had incorrectly notified 6,000 of the 21,000 accepted applicants that they had received the prestigious scholarship. Three hours later, UCD employees sent a second e-mail to these people stating that they had been awarded the scholarship by error. "We take this unfortunate mistake very seriously and deeply apologize for the error," said UC Davis Chancellor Larry N. Vanderhoef, who personally wrote a letter of apology via e-mail for the 6,000 affected students. "We are examining our procedures to ensure that this doesn't happen again. We feel for the students who received this incorrect

communication, and we hope they will still give consideration for attending UC Davis." Though still accepted to the university, most would not be one of the 800 true recipients of the award.

The Davis Regents Scholarship is the highest monetary honor awarded by all campuses of the University of California system, with \$7,500 a year granted toward college expenses. All applicants to the university are eligible for the scholarship, with its criteria based on high academic achievement.

This was the first year that the Regents Scholarship notified recipients via e-mail, ironically, in hopes of simplifying the process as well as to reducing postage costs. Next year, all UC applications throughout the system must be submitted electronically. Davis says, however, that they have since strengthened their computer systems in hopes of eliminating any future mishaps.

A Matter of Church, State, or Love?

By Paige Lehman

In a time of high unemployment, foreign conflict and upcoming elections, Americans have decided to fixate their attention on something else: gay marriage. San Francisco mayor Gavin Newsom's decision to give gay couples the right to marry in the city has sparked a sudden national interest in marriage for gay couples while, high divorce and domestic abuse rates among married heterosexual couples soar. President Bush has even gone so far to propose an amendment that would forbid gay marriage. Those who support the President on this issue argue about protecting the sacred institution of marriage and the importance of traditional families, but many gay rights activists say the basis of their argument is thinly veiled homophobia. The California Supreme Court's decision to stop San Francisco from issuing marriage licenses to gay couples has further propelled this issue into the limelight, heated debates sparking all over the country.

In October 2003, President Bush announced "Marriage Protection Week", dedicated to preserving the sanctity of marriage. "Marriage Protection Week", however, failed to address the fact that 50% of American

marriages end in divorce; instead, it focused on gay marriages, which somehow seem to be a bigger threat to heterosexual marriages than adultery, abuse, or divorce. It is often overlooked that gay couples actually have a higher rate of long term relationships than heterosexual couples do.

Nowhere in the United States can homosexual couples get married, although Vermont and now Massachusetts extend civil union rights to gays and lesbians. A civil union means that the couple receives three hundred state rights, but is denied 1,049 federal rights, including social security benefits and adoption privileges. The irony of this is that the gay community has often been accused of being promiscuous and spreading the AIDS virus, but are not legally allowed to be in a monogamous relationship that is recognized by any level of government.

For many opposed to the idea of gay marriages, the issue is with the word "marriage." The idea for gays to legally be in civil unions is alright by them, but calling it marriage is crossing the line into long-held traditions and religious beliefs. The Massachusetts Legislature voted recently to recognize same-sex unions at the same

time banning gay marriage. Also, many people object not to issuing marriage licenses to same-sex unions, but rather the way it has been done. What Mayor Newsom did in San Francisco was, in fact, illegal - a direct violation of a referendum California voters approved to define marriage strictly between a man and a woman.

For now, the issue is in the hands of the both of the state and federal government. Those who were granted one of the 4,161 marriage licenses issued in San Francisco before the state Supreme Court halted them will get a chance to argue their case in court later this year. President Bush has furthered his opposition to gay marriage by proposing a Constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage. If passed, this would be the first Constitutional amendment that explicitly denies rights to a group of people. In Massachusetts, the Legislature's decision has made both sides unhappy, and vowing to change the law. Meanwhile, thousands of gays and lesbians across the nation wait to see if the government will one day grant them the rights they feel they have been entitled to all along.

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Forget the Mall, Go Online

By Julia Capasso

With today's students packing their schedules with schoolwork and extracurricular activities, it may be difficult to find the time to enjoy one of life's most cherished pleasures: shopping. Consequently, many teenagers, along with the rest of the American public, have been turning to their computers, perusing the internet for cheap deals and eclectic variety. Online consumers spent \$44.1 billion in 2002, and with

sites such as Amazon and Ebay gaining popularity, overall spending is projected to increase by 19% over the next five years,

The benefits of shopping online are obvious: no lines, guaranteed delivery, varied selection, and often cheaper deals. Junior Megan Paulson points out that shopping online saves time and effort, and that "usually there's a wider selection online." Schedules filled with school, AP classes,

sports, and work prevent students from squeezing in a few hours at the mall, but websites never close; one can shop at his or her own convenience, whether it be midnight or 7 o'clock in the morning. Oftentimes if a store has sold out of a certain stock, one can simply go to the store's website and order the item, and it will be on their doorstep in 3 to 5 business days.

Don't expect internet shopping to replace

traditional malls and outlets, however. Junion Michelle Lee says that while shopping online can be convenient, "I don't prefer it [to shopping at the mall.]" Most students agree that nothing can replace physically trying on clothes. Though most online vendors provide size charts and tips to aid the consumer in finding the right size for them, the way the clothes fit can never truly be determined until they are on the body. Other products

like CD's and movies are more practical items to buy online, and sites such as Amazon.com provide prices up to 50% off the original retail price. Also, many are hesitant to use their credit cards (or more commonly their parents' credit cards) and risk internet fraud.

However, if you find yourself strapped for time and you really want to buy those pink Uggs, don't stress; they're only a mouse click away.

College... It Happens

Where is everyone going?

Reva Birnbaum- San Diego State, University of Washington, Willamette University, University of Puget Sound, University of California Davis
Matt Boykin- Cal Poly
Matt Brand- Arizona State
Kevin Breakstone- Humboldt State
Leslie Butori- Channel Islands University, University of California Riverside
Jason Chakkalake- San Diego State, Marquette University
Laura Cherkas- Scripps University, Claremont McKenna University
Muiread Donlevy- Oregon State, San Bernadino State
Courtney Dowdall- Chico State, Arizona State University
Mia Ernst- Chico State, Fullerton State
Dominique Fougere- Humboldt State
Natalie Graham- Chico State, Sacramento State
Laura Hauser- Chico State, San Diego State, Cal Poly Pomona
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Steve Kenyon- Chapman University, School of Film and Television
Diana Kem- San Francisco State
Zack Kinyon- University of California Davis, University of California Santa Cruz
Whitney Lee- Chico State, University of Oregon, University of Eugene
Andre Leverson- Morehouse University, Northridge University
Michael Lovejoy - University of California Los Angeles, University of California Santa Cruz, University of California Davis, University of California Berkeley
Joseph Martinez- Chico State, University of the Pacific, Cal Poly
Matt Mauer- Sacramento State, Sonoma State, San Francisco State
Megan McDuffy- Chico State, University of California Santa Cruz, San Diego State, University of California Riverside, Longbeach State
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Blane Shields- Santa Clara University
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Zack Warren- Brigham Young University
Katie Winsor- University of California Davis, University of California Santa Barbara, University of California San

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The Best and Worst Date I Ever Had

By Joey Mertel and Denise Nilan

The below articles are based on a real date that took place on March 6. Although Joey and Denise still remain friends, the obvious differences between the two has lead to no further dates, or public outings involving food.

Joe's Experience

It's hard to describe the excitement of having lunch with Denise. Everything about the day was great, and I never met a girl who understood me so well. I felt comfortable; I didn't feel the need to try to impress her. I felt that we both had a great time enjoying each others' company. Denise was so nice and listened to everything I had to say, and it looked like she was having a great time.

As we walked into McNears, a sports bar in Petaluma, I saw the many TV's hanging on the wall and thought, "Now, I can't let Denise see me watching the game." I acted as slyly as I could and only gazed at the TV when she wasn't looking, never truly listening to what she had to say. It was hard not cheering for my favorite team, but I did have to act somewhat interested in what she was saying. I could tell she was impressed with my manners. So far I thought everything was going smoothly and once the menus came, things just got better.

As we ordered our drinks, I warned Denise with a little hand gesture and mouthing not to order Pepsi because it would just cause her face to break out. Trying to be as polite as possible and without embarrassing her in front of our waitress, whom by the way was extremely hot, I mumbled "zits" under my breath. She took my advice and ordered lemonade and I could tell she was relieved I had said something. I tried not to bring up how hot our waitress was but I just couldn't hold it in. "Wow! Did you see how hot our waitress was!?! I've never seen anyone like her." I knew Denise must have been thinking the same thing because of the look she shot me. I was glad we agreed on something.

We ordered our meals, Denise, of course, ordered her usual plate of anything without meat and I tried my best not to roll my eyes. Like usual, I asked the price of everything I ordered. Suddenly I felt Denise's foot hit mine and I thought, "What an inappropriate time to play footsies." I continued ordering while staring deeply into our hot waitresses' eyes.

Unbelievably, our date got even better once our food arrived. I ate politely making sure I took each bite slowly and carefully so as not to gross out Denise with my mouthful of hamburger.

After our meals my hands appeared messier than my plate. I didn't want to leave Denise alone at the table, so I quickly grabbed an ice cube from my cup and washed my hand with it. I had no place to put my ice cube when I was finished with it, so I put it back into Denise's cup. Then she lifted her cup to drink from it, with my ice cube still floating about. I felt very bad about it but I couldn't tell her and ruin my image of being a polite gentleman.

Finally, the date was coming to an end. Denise's mom allowed her to use her credit card to pay for herself. I assumed that Denise was going to take advantage of her mom's Visa and pay for both of us. It was a great idea, seeing that I had left my wallet in the car. When we left the restaurant a man opened the door for us, and, without thinking, I slipped through before Denise and thanked the man on the way out. Oh well, on our next date perhaps I'll open the door for her.

Denise's Experience

I'll admit it. Taking a boy to a sports bar was a mistake. But after stepping out of the restaurant, I discovered that taking a boy out in public might have been the root of my mistake. I understand I cannot base my entire "meal eating with males" opinion

on one traumatic experience, but I can't help but wonder if somewhere in every guy, there is this inner wilderness beast that is only caged up temporarily ready to be released. In this particular case, the beast was not caged, not even tamed, and I was the unwilling witness of this animal's outrageous engulfing of a meal.

The first squeaking steps into McNears, a Petaluma sports bar, brought pure delight on my male companions face. The six TVs wedged in every nook of the room seemed to light up his face instantly. Our seats were angled perfectly so that a television and a glimpse of his "precious" car could be seen at all times. With eye contact at a minimum, my hopes of having a conversation were already over.

Our menus arrived and my first public humiliation occurred while ordering drinks. As I requested a Pepsi from our waitress, Joey gestured to his face and obviously mouthed the word "Zits" to me. I felt my face burn with embarrassment, and quickly changed my order to lemonade. While the scolding words were about to spill from my mouth, Joey's face lit up with happiness as he uttered, "Did you see how hot our waitress is?" I just bent my head in shame. No words were needed.

The second wind of public embarrassment came while ordering lunch. I never understood how challenging ordering a meal could be. While I managed to order with ease, Joey re-asked the price of everything, even though it was on the menu. When Joey's hamburger with extra mayo arrived, the gates of hell were opened. He began ripping apart the burger piece by piece, ridding the slab of meat of every vegetable, unless you count ketchup as a vegetable. By the time my sandwich came Joey was already half through with his mayonnaise-drenched meal, and had a pair of hungry eyes set on my fries. After licking the remaining sauce from his fingers, and destroying every napkin on the table, the massacre seemed to be over, but it wasn't.

The meal was finished with Joey's rendition of washing his hands. He took ice out of his water glass, washed his hands with it, and put the remaining ice into my drink. I'm assuming this was some attempt at a joke, so I grunted my fake laugh as I died of shock inside. After a large argument over splitting the bill, we got up to leave. A man at the exit opened the door for Joey and me. Joey took a huge step in front of me and yelled thanks to the guy. This so called date was over.

Backpacking

By Clint Potter

If you don't like walking long distances, carrying heavy things on your back and roughin' it in the forest, backpacking probably isn't for you. But for those tough outdoor enthusiasts we live in a golden state for backpacking. California is not only home to one of the most diverse geographies, but it is also one of the most beautiful places in the world.

If you've decided to plan a trip in this fine state the first part is selecting where to hike. There are a few things to consider when choosing: 1) The difficulty of the terrain 2) altitude 3) time of year/ weather 4.) Scenery. Once you have selected a park you must call to obtain a permit to make the trip legal.

Probably the most important step to an

enjoyable backpacking trip is preparing yourself with the proper equipment. There are several places to shop for equipment in Marin, but as long as you're willing to spend an extra dollar or two, R.E.I. is the best choice. Their excellent customer service, especially for first-time customers, makes purchasing all the necessary supplies easy, and their wide selection

of brands allows you to find the items that fit you best.

Finally, you must pack food and leisure times, these two items will constantly be on your mind. There are a few good tips to know

when buying food; only buy non-perishable food, and when buying freeze-dried food, make sure to buy Mountain House brand. Buying the wrong brand can result in a miserable trip longings for french-fries and pizza. Furthermore, to pass those long nights sitting



around the camp, it's a good idea to take cards, a book, or a small musical instrument, such as the harmonica.

The key element in a backpacking trip is just to have a good time and maybe to get to know your backpacking partner better. Happy Trails!

Location	Description	Facilities
Point Reyes	Relatively flat terrain, Scenic views of forest and sea, Diverse biological life, and weather	Running Water, picnic tables, food lockers, toilets
Desolation Wilderness	Mountainous terrain sculpted by glacial activity, high altitude, views of lake Tahoe	Cool water from mountain springs and streams, no food lockers, no toilets
Yosemite	One of the most popular campsites in the U.S., great views, predictable summer weather	Snow melts, no luxuries

Seasonal Skankage

By Denise Nilan

Spring is finally here and the warmer weather allows San Marin students to shed those winter coats, and slip into something a little cooler, and a little more revealing. During these last few months of school the short shorts, tube tops, and tight tanks make their debut. But before ripping the most scandalous article of clothing from your closet know that it's probably not Mrs. Andersen approved. According to San Marin's Behavior Standards, "Dress should be appropriate so it does not distract from the learning environment." The code also states that, "Clothing that is too revealing or that exposes the midsection or underclothing is not appropriate, such as crop tops, see-through blouses, low cut tops of any type or short shorts/skirts. Clothing may not be too tight or too revealing. Etc." So all those thongs peeking from pants, and tube tops that resemble swimsuits are going to have to go.

So who is to judge what is "not appropriate?" That job has been stowed upon San Marin's trusty staff and campus supervisors. While some students feel constantly targeted by staff, those enforcing the rules often find students clothing ridiculous. It has been said that the staff searches for the three B's; boobs, belly and butt. Exposure of any of these body parts sends teachers and campus supervisors out like a SWAT team. While punishments are still chill, the warmer weather heats up the intolerance for the skanky dress wear. So while picking out that perfect spring outfit proceed with caution. Your peers aren't the only ones checking you out, your teachers are aware of your immodest wardrobe as well.

Fashion Design

By Alyssa Pomponio

To some people, clothing is just something they put on in the morning to cover up their naked body; to others, clothing is an art form. For those in the latter group, fashion design is a plausible career choice.

The fashion design field is very competitive, with only one in every 160,000 designers becoming "superstar designers". For those that do manage to beat the odds, like Betsey Johnson, Gucci, Versace, Prada, Coco Chanel, Marc Jacobs, and Ralph Lauren, among others, fashion design is a very lucrative field and an excellent way to dabble in drawing, sewing, pattern making, and personal creativity.

Most people find that the best foundation for a design career is to get a fine arts degree in fashion at a prestigious school like Parsons School of Design in New York and Paris, the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles and San Francisco, or the Royal College of Art in London. Besides adding credibility to your resumé, these schools offer classes in drawing, color composition, pattern making, draping, and cutting techniques. One of the most important advantages of design schools is that each is closely intertwined with the industry itself, offering a wide range of opportunities for up-and-coming designers.

Though design schools are a sensible choice, schools are not for everyone. People can still enter the industry by applying for internships at fashion houses and several different companies. Without formal training from a credible institute, it may be difficult to advance in the field, but with personal connections and raw talent it is not impossible.

Fashion designers need to know more than just how to design clothing; they must be familiar with the business aspect of the field. Many fashion schools are currently offering business classes in their curriculum because designers need to be aware of outside influences that affect the industry.

Once in the field, designers must be constantly aware of current trends and tastes while still remaining original. The only way to success is to put in long hours, exercise creativity, and express intelligence and understanding as the industry as a whole. For those seriously considering the career, here are some facts and figures according to various sources:

- *Number of people in profession: 35,000
- *Average hours per week: 55
- *Average starting salary: \$13,500

*Average salary after five years: \$35,000

*Average salary after ten to fifteen years: \$50,000

Aspirations of fashion design are not uncommon among teenagers, but it's important to maintain their individuality. Senior Andrew Wedge, however, is one student who has managed to make those dreams a reality.

Wedge was first introduced to the idea of fashion design at age 12 when he became a Giorgio Armani model. He has been working ever since, perfecting his designs and producing his own pieces of women's couture. Students may be surprised to know that the dresses Wedge designed for the Senior Fashion Show earlier this year were inspired by designers like Tom Ford for Gucci, Yves Saint Laurent, Donatella Versace, and Christian Dior.

Wedge plans to continue his career by attending a fashion institute like Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia or the Parson's School of Design in New York. He is still deciding whether to first attend a regular university and earn a degree before going to design school. After school, Wedge plans to find backers to start his own company, a luxury brand that specializes in women's accessories and clothing.

Wedge prides himself on his designs' individuality, and thus does not look for anyone else because he has specific images of what he wants in his designs. He is confident by the industry's competitive nature. "I know I have the talent. Statistics show that because that many people sell out - they mimic other designers' ideas and don't have their own." When designing, he doesn't look at anyone else's work. "I think I want the women to feel when in my dress and I take inspiration from nature and scenery." Though his designs are original, Wedge feels his work in similarity to designers like Tom Ford and Christian Dior.

With the fashion industry showing no sign of slowing down, thousands of designers and Wedge and other design-hopefuls to begin their careers.



Versaci? Armani? No, these are original designs by San Marin's own Andrew Wedge



Spring Fashion for Girls

By Shannon Silva and Allyson Walchli

Spring has sprung! The warm weather is upon us and it's time to dig out those flowered flip flops, revealing mini skirts, and vintage tees from the back of your closet. Run out to your nearest mall or dress up your sister's hand me downs with this spring's newest fashions.

- **Hip Hand Bags:** This spring, backpacks are out and bright handbags are in. Choose from cool animal prints, beaded ethnic designs, or denim. A fun and festive purse can add the final touch to any outfit.

- **Paradise Pants, Slinky Skirts, and Cropped Capris:** To complement your stylish purse, purchase some fancy pants trimmed in crochet, ribbon, scallops, or ruffles, they can be cropped, slim, long, or full depending on your favorite look. One of the most popular fabrics right now is shantaung, dupioni, or even shantique (the synthetic version, but no one can tell). This slubbed silk fabric makes everything from pants to dresses look crisp and lady like at the same time, not to mention it's a lighter fabric for those hot humid spring days. If skirts your style experiment with ruffles, embroidery, asymmetry, and fringe-the details are your choice and sometimes they can be combined for a great effect. Mini, knee, mid-calf, and ankle length styles abound, so pick on that flatters you.

- **Sassy Shoes:** Confused on a shoe choice for your ruffled capris or asymmetrical skirt? Consider mules, checks, high-heeled sandals, "toe ring" sandals, beaded, mirrored, checked and polka-dotted. You can never go wrong with simplicity, comfortable and functional, stick to your flip-flops, the sexier the better.

- **Bubbling Bracelets:** An inexpensive way to jazz up your spring wardrobe is sparkly bracelets. From turquoise bracelets to crystals to jacquard wrist cuffs. And remember you can use your elastic beaded bracelets as anklets to tie together your outfit. This season solids are out and, like the handbags, patterns and knockout prints are a must.

- **Peachy Prints:** Explore punchy tropical prints, sultry snakeskin, or horizontal stripes. Mix and match your clothes, there's no faster way to warm up your wardrobe than leaving the solids behind for a bright new print.

- **Scorching Sunglasses:** To top off your new look add a pair of awesome shades. Choose from aviators or small wire frames-or maybe go for a classic Hollywood glamour with black wraparounds.

With the help of these tips create your own original look; be daring and adventurous with your wardrobe. Spring, everyone's favorite season, is approaching quickly, have fun with your wardrobe and dress yourself to enjoy the sunny days until summer...swimsuit season.

Designers attract SM students

By Kristen D'Angelo and Sophie Orgish

There's no question that we all would like to have the unlimited funds of Nikki and Paris Hilton, but the truth is, we don't. Well, most of us don't, so it's inevitable that malls have become the hip hangout of choice for the majority of teenagers. With stores like Abercrombie and Fitch, Gap, Nordstrom, Express, and PacSun, teenagers have an array of awesome stores to choose from for cute, yet affordable, clothing.

Even so, more and more teens are falling victim to the allure of owning designer fashions. Louis Vuitton and Coach purses have become a familiar sighting on campus, along with the sterling silver Tiffany heart pendant and the über-stylish Seven jeans. Knockoffs or not, their popularity has risen due to the status associated with owning such items.

Ridiculous prices aside, designer clothing and accessories tend to be better made and are more durable than their cheaper counterparts. This is why people who are looking for long-lasting quality and unique styles are willing to splurge on their purchases. Also, designer clothing is priced according to the fit of the piece, because it often fits better, which is why when looking into investing into a classic little black dress or a pair of well-fitting jeans, women look to the more pricey stores. If you are only looking for a cute and trendy outfit to wear for a season, then the mall is definitely the place to go.

Spring Fashion for Guys

By Ben Calkins and Joe Mertel

It's hard for guys to write about fashion because we don't really know what we're talking about. We came up with a list of stores, brands, clothes, and typical styles. Some of the styles for this spring include: vintage, skater, surfer, and prep. This spring if your styles lean more towards the category vintage. Vintage clothing is purposely manufactured to look older or worn out, yet still fashionable. Vintage shoppers might want to stop by stores such as: Abercrombie and Fitch, American Eagle, Anchor Blue, and Aeropostal. You can usually find cargos (both pants and shorts), collard shirts, and button up shirts, sleeveless shirts, frayed pants, and the stores logo all over the T's. Even though the styles of the store change depending on the season, you can always find a selection of vintage wear. If vintage style isn't what you're shopping for, you might want to check your nearest Pacific Sun, Balboa Beach Company, Boardshorts, or Luckies Skate Shop to find that surfer or skater style. Pacific Sun has everything from hats to shirts to sandals. You can find many popular brands like Hurley, Split, I-path, DC, Volcom, Dragon, Billabong, and Vans. These stores have all of the brands and their latest styles to fit your skater needs. These shops are the perfect place to get your flip flops, mesh hats, skate shoes, hemp jewelry, logo shirts, and board shorts, all the necessities of the skater style. Another popular style you will find around San Marin is the "prep style". If you are one of the preppy dressers you would find clothes for you at Macy's, Nordstrom's, and Abercrombie and Fitch. Preppy dressers are usually found wearing K-Swiss shoes, button colored shirts, polo shirts, and kaki pants. So take our advice and head over to the stores with the brands that fit your style.

Splurge vs. Save

Little black dress
Splurge: BCBG by Max Azria
Save: Express

Go with everything white tee
Splurge: Calvin Klein
Save: Gap

Perfect fitting jeans:
Splurge: Miss Sixty
Save: Levi's

Cutest little handbag
Splurge: Dooney and Bourke, Louis Vuitton
Save: Guess?

Wear with prom dress shoes
Splurge: Jimmy Choo
Save: Chinese Laundry

Comfy yet cool tennis shoes
Splurge: Diesel
Save: Adidas

Support the Arts

By Alyssa Pomponio and Amber Shields

Though going to Northgate Theaters every weekend can be classified as supporting the arts, there are numerous other opportunities in the Bay Area to broaden your cultural horizons. Indulge your creative side by going to a poetry slam, checking out a local band, or dancing the night away.

Poetry Slam

Whether you are interested in reading your own poetry or watching others perform, this underground art form is quickly growing in popularity. If poetry discussions in English class are equivalent to nap time for you, don't worry, these original poems range in topics from sex to abortion to current events and are presented in a dramatic, yet contemporary, fashion. Poets win money and awards based not only on their words, but also their performance. Poets of all ages are welcome to perform their work, but if you feel a little apprehensive about baring your soul in front of others, you can also participate as a judge or an

active audience member. Even if you just come to watch, audience participation is key to creating the mood, so come prepared to show your enthusiasm.

www.calpoetryslam.com
www.daniland.com/slam
www.poetryflash.org
www.slamchannel.com
www.youthspeaks.org

Local Bands

With concert prices rising, cash-strapped teens often look to other venues to get their music fix. The Bay Area supports a large local band scene that puts on concerts almost every weekend, for prices often under ten dollars. This is a bargain deal considering numerous bands and raw talent are exhibited at each show.

This explosion of talent doesn't go unnoticed, and the Bay Area has birthed many successful bands that have gone on to have prominent international careers. Local discoveries that have experienced commercial success include AFI, Green Day, Papa Roach,

Primus, Metallica, The Donnas, Third Eye Blind, and Train. Other local favorites continue to gain popularity including Dexter Danger, Eleventeen, Hostility, K.G.B., Nuclear Rabbit, Placebo, Solemite, Tragedy Andy, and Tsunami Bomb.

If you want to check out these local bands in an intimate scene, there are many venues in the Bay Area to do so. The closest venues include the Phoenix Theater in Petaluma (where Sublime played their last concert and AFI got there start) and the Oasis in San Rafael which, though small, holds a number of star studded events.

If you are willing to make the drive, San Francisco and the East Bay offer a larger variety of venues. 924 Gilman Street in Berkeley and iMusicast in Oakland are the happening places in the East Bay. The latter offers a unique setting; with a venue that is a mix between a concert stage, a recording studio, a video soundstage, and a webcast studio, they are able to shoot the show as the bands play and stream the

concerts live on the web.

According to Rolling Stone magazine, the Bottom of the Hill is, "the best place to hear live music in San Francisco", featuring



local powerhouses seven nights a week. Other cool SF locations include The Fillmore, Slims, The Warfield, and a wide variety of restaurants and bars that feature live music. With all these great places to go, there's no excuse not to go out and support your local musicians.

www.thephoenixtheater.com
www.oasisevents.net
www.imusicast.com
www.924gilman.org
www.sfgate.com

Dancing

Now that you have the music, it's time to learn to swing those hips to the

rhythm. Latin dancing is the big craze right now. Though salsa and other Latin dances are popular now, there is a multicultural medley of dance styles that guarantee to suit any mood.

Dance Arts Studios in San Rafael offers a huge array of dance classes from tango to foxtrot to waltzes to swing. Not only are these classes fun, they are cheap too. Drop-in rates (no sign-ups, no hassle) are only \$8 for under eighteen and \$12 for adults; they also offer inexpensive five class and ten class deals. Group classes nightly, dance parties weekly, and private lessons are also available.

Allegro Ballroom in Emeryville, though farther away, offers similar classes every night of the week. Prices are \$10 per class, or \$7 if you are a member. They also have practice sessions and on Sundays they offer "Hot Salsa Nights Party" from 8:00 pm to 12:30 am. Grab a cute partner or go solo, either way you'll have a great time and learn the coolest new moves.

www.danceartsstudios.com
www.allegroballroom.com
www.salsacrazy.com/
sfbayarea

Witch fever invades San Marin

By Kristen D'Angelo

After last spring's successful production of *The Laramie Project*, the drama students have a lot of work ahead of them in order to top it. With an abundance of talented actors and dedicated crew, this spring's play, *The Crucible*, is sure to be a hit. Taking place in the late fifteenth century, *The Crucible* is a heavy drama showcases the fear that gripped Salem, Massachusetts during the Salem witch trials.

This captivating tale begins when a group of young girls go into the forest with the mysterious slave Tituba, played by Ally Mengarelli and, and dance and "cast spells" over the boys they love. They are caught by the Reverend Parris, Chris Gomez, and questioned by him about what they were doing out there when his daughter Betty Parris, Alison Greggor, falls into a coma-like state. Frightened at what may become of them for

partaking in such behavior, the girls follow the conniving Abigail Williams, Meg Paulson, in accusing innocent townspeople of conspiring with the devil. The accused include Elizabeth Proctor, Annie Rollison, who is the wife of John Proctor, Shane Rose, with whom Abigail had an affair with. Numerous trials ensue, in which many are convicted and sentenced to hanging. Alexis Beuscher, Jaimie Brandley, Melissa Corner, Kristen D'Angelo, Eli Furnas, Yan Gorman, Brandon Hoberg, Mike Mann, Ben Maxwell, Alex Randall, Madeline Stoddard, Danton Thompson and Andy Zabko also give great performances.

This is one show that will not disappoint you, so be sure to mark our calendar. Performances are April 30 - May 8, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30, and Sunday at 3:00. Tickets will be sold at the door.

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Novato local loans San Marin lighting equipment

By Sophie Orgish

Anyone who went to a performance of *West Side Story* this March may have noticed the outstanding lighting (the fact that I was the lighting director does not color that statement in the slightest). Much of the credit goes to Tom Hazlett, who generously lent San Marin his own personal lighting equipment as well as light fixtures that were sent straight from the Warfield Theater in San Francisco.

When Emily Gates, the head of the music department, first



thought about putting on the vivid and compelling *West Side Story* as the 2004 spring musical, she contacted longtime friend Parker Lee, who has directed plays here for six years. In turn, Lee turned the lighting arrangements over to Frank Sarubbi, the 11-year technical director of the musical theatre program, who investigated the possible installation of another set of

lights in the Student Center. Hazlett, an old friend, was willing to lend his time, effort, and equipment, and so began a long month of hard work and dedication by all involved in the lighting of the show.

Hazlett, whose daughter Jessica graduated two years ago from Novato High School, works at the Warfield and also keeps his own collection of lights, which he calls his "hobby that got out of hand." He has loaned his lighting fixtures to schools all over the Bay Area, and when he offered to let Mrs. Gates borrow 26 par cans (bringing the number of lights available for use to 46), 21 automatic color changers, a dimmer pack with 36 outlets,

Concert Corner

By Julia Capasso

Concert Corner's back and looking beefy again. Here are some bands for you fine people to check out. On April 9, take a jaunt to your favorite venue the Phoenix Theatre and be serenaded by the sweet sounds of **Nuclear Rabbit** and **Hostility**. Then, get hip and visit the Warfield on April 11 when **the Vines** and **Jet** (the best bands to come out of Australia since **Men At Work**) stop by. On April 16 and 17, the illustrious **David Bowie** will perform at the Berkeley Community Theater.

Metalheads: Make sure to check out the **Black Dahlia Murder** when they play with **Everytime I Die** at the Phoenix on April 17. **Love=Death** supports headliner **Time In Malta** at Bottom of the Hill on April 23- good band, with great guys in it too. The singer was in **Loose Change** along with Jade Puget, everyone's second favorite member of **AFI** (after Davey, of course.)

Now here's a show that's been anticipated by many for years: **Redemption 87**, Eric Ozenne (ex- **the Nerve Agents**) and Jade Puget's legendary Bay Area punk band, is finally (for real!) reuniting after a nearly decade long hiatus and endless rumors. They'll be playing with hardcore champions **Powerhouse** at the Pound on April 24- if you're really into this, you've probably already bought your tickets in advance. I hear kids are coming across the country to see this, so it's going to be packed. R87 will play the next night on the 25th at Gilman, which doesn't even sell tickets; plan on getting there a good hour and a half early if you really want to get in. It's a Sunday show, so it'll start at 5.

Air, an exceptionally talented French duo, will play the Paramount Theater on May 3, and **Death Cab for Cutie** will open for **Ben Kweller** on both May 3 and 4 at the Fillmore.

Lighting Terminology

- par can- the actual light fixture itself
- automatic color changer- a device that is put in front of a light to create different colors that are projected onstage; in this case, they can change automatically when plugged in
- dimmer pack- the power source into which the power cords are plugged in
- dimmer board- the equipment used to turn each individual light on from the lighting booth

and a \$5,000 computerized Colortran dimmerboard, she jumped at the opportunity. With this large amount of extra equipment, Sarubbi was able to create six overlapping, isolated areas on the stage, so that when all of the lights are turned on, there is an even wash of illumination. This effect, combined with the different colors available at the touch of a button, helped to create and balance the

different emotions associated with *West Side Story*.

Overall, the lighting was outstanding; unfortunately, all of the lighting equipment must be returned to Hazlett after the drama department puts on its upcoming production, *The Crucible*. All of the people involved in the musical send a great shout of thanks to Hazlett for making this production possible!

West Side Story: A Big-Time Performance

By Brad McCarter and Alex Randall

After two months of strenuous rehearsals and constant changes, the dedicated actors and actresses finally took *West Side Story* to the stage. Despite early apprehensions about the large number of actors necessary to put on this production, participation exceeded expectations as new faces stepped up from every grade. With stellar direction from Parker Lee, Jane Greene, and Emily Gates, the San Marin Musical Theatre troupe successfully brought Broadway to life.

West Side Story tells of the trials and tribulations between two teenage gangs, the Jets and the Sharks. Senior Drew Gasparini played Riff, the leader of the

Jets, while senior Eric Rivera played Bernardo, Riff's arch nemesis and leader of the Sharks. Amidst the two gangs clashing in rumble after rumble, two star-crossed lovers find each other despite their racial differences. Senior Mia Ernst and junior Genevieve Greene both portrayed the female lead role, Maria, opposite senior Brad McCarter as Tony, the modern-day Romeo. As Maria, sister of Bernardo, and Tony, best friend of Riff, fall in love, tension grows between the two gangs, leading to a climax that blew the audience away.

Because of the complex technical aspects of this production, Tom Hazlett generously donated his time

and lighting equipment to help create a more vibrant atmosphere for the show. Senior Jessica Rogers and sophomore Sophie Orgish led an extremely dedicated tech crew that made sure

everything ran smoothly.

Emily Gates, veteran music teacher and director here at San Marin, led the aspiring actors into murky waters as they took on the challenge that is *West Side*

Story. "I thought it was a fabulous production. I could not be happier or more proud of these kids for their dedication throughout these past two months."



Track and Field

By Amber Shields

The San Marin Track and Field Team is starting strong with a number of returning members, including two San Marin Track veterans coming back as coaches (**Lisa Bandner** and **Will Grayson**), and first time track athletes.

The boy's team has a record of 0-4, but their exciting, close finishes keep the spirit up. Last Friday against San Rafael, the team kept up until the end and was only defeated by a few points. The meet started with an exciting 4X100 race in which anchor runner senior **Leland Hansen** edged out the competition. Other runners of the team included junior **Scott van Hootegem**, senior **Andrew Savage**, and junior **Ian Walsh**. Junior **Garen Suen** finished the day

with a first in both the 110 hurdles and the 300 hurdles. The field events have been well covered throughout the season by junior **Jeff Baum** in the high jump and long jump and **Tyler Rushton** in the shot and discus.

The San Marin girl's team has an impressive record of 3-1, giving up only one win to Drake. Junior **Angie Pilacelli** has walked away with a first place finish in the pole vault every meet this season, including the all county season opener. Throwers **Meghan Faherty**, **Monica Blaine**, and **Bridget O'Connor** have led the girl throwers and continually contributed points to the team. **Christina Pelka** and **Whitney Stenberg** are the star long jumpers and **Amber**

Miller and **Jennie Combs** dominate the high jump. On the track sprinters **Ashley Peterson**, **Sara Moraes**, **Pilacelli**, and **Marie Buich** and distance runners **Brianna VanEpps** and **Carli O'Leary** continue to add strong and riveting performances.

The frosh-soph boy's team also has a record of 3-1. Members **Paul Himmelstein** and **Marty Cunnie** have both been noted on the MCAL top ten chart for their strong throws in both the discus and the shot. Throwers and runners of this team will add meaningful contributions to the team next year. The season is only halfway done, so there is still a lot for the team to grow stronger and faster and get ready for MCALs.

The Baseball Team

By Zack Kinyon

Rookies have come up big thus far in the Mustangs' varsity baseball campaign. Junior lefthander **Brian Gee** struck out four El Cerrito hitters Wednesday, March 3, earning the save in his team's first win of the 2004 preseason. "It feels like I've established a solid position on the pitching staff, and that feels good," says Gee. "It's nice to have a job, a role, something I'm expected to come in and do on a consistent basis." As of April 1, Gee has made two regular season appearances, picking up a save against San Rafael in one of them.

Sophomore **Chris Dittman** has hit well enough to earn himself a starting job in right field, and adds a promising young arm to the bullpen, as do juniors **Nic Banaugh** and **Casey Pughe**. "Chris [Dittman] has had a number of clutch hits already," says manager Mark Whitburn. Juniors **Todd Banta**, **Jason Barnecut**, **Paul McIntosh**, and sophomore **Matt Hoffmire** will each make a strong bid for playing time and should add a lot of punch to the offense.

The Mustangs have mounted another very good start, winning five of seven preseason games and posting a 2-1 MCAL standing as of April 1. Seniors **Colin Dietz** and **Eric Benson**, who will alternate as starting pitchers, have both shown signs of dominance on the mound and look poised to fill the shoes

left by last year's pitching duo of Darrell Fisherbaugh and Bud Norris.

Furthermore, former tennis star and senior **Blane Shields** adds quick feet at shortstop and yet another devastating presence on the mound, wielding a solid breaking ball and a low eighties fastball.

Though the offense will certainly need to adjust to a good deal of last year's power having left for college, the lineup arguably could prove as good or better than last year's. Led by centerfielder and leadoff hitter **Aron Bartee**, a core of seven returning seniors (**Joey Ratto**, **Sean McIntosh**,

Kenny Simmons, **Danny Robinson**, **Dietz**, **Benson**, and **Bartee**) should benefit tremendously from a year of experience and an NCS title under their belts. "It's a new year and we've got new players," says Whitburn. "It's just a different approach, and we have new goals and new aspirations... Everyone is working hard at practice. The team's work ethic is excellent. Everyone is working together and very supportive of one another." In lieu of exceptional home run power, a torrent of extra-base hits will fall in the gaps this year, and keep the scrappy Mustangs circling the bases.

Bump, Set, Spike

By Mike Mann

After a disappointing season last year, the San Marin Boys Varsity Volleyball team is back and stronger than ever. Losing only three players from last year's team, and with five returning starters and five young recruits, this team has the veteran and novice talent that could give the Mustangs, led by coach Jim Koblick, some victories. Along with last year's co-captains **Eric Mitchell** and MVP **Blake Vantrease**, **Jon Lenaburg** and Most Improved Player **Brian Morrison** round off the four seniors returning from last year. Sophomore **Mike Mann** will return in April for his second season

on the team. The five new freshmen bring a variety of skills to the team, from a tall blocker to quick back-row passers. **Carl Oser**, **Josh Boccacchio**, **Josh Garcia-Cotter**, **Bryant Demter**, and **Tony Sanguinetti** will be assets for this season as well as others to come.

With the passing from the freshmen, the height and power from the veterans, and the setting expertise of co-setters **Vantrease** and **Mann**, the Varsity Boys Volleyball team shows lots of potential. If they can come together, they can win the close matches they could not finish last year.

SM Tennis Full of Aces

By Alex Randall

Spring is here and the San Marin Boys Varsity tennis team is ready to storm the courts once again. Returning coach, English teacher **Ryan Berberian** recognizes the tough competition San Marin looks forward to facing this year.



When asked for his outlook on this season, **Berberian** replied, "Realistically, I think we're still up in the top three somewhere, and I'm not sure how we'll measure up to Redwood and Tamalpias. But who knows?" Last season, Redwood took the MCAL championship with Tam coming in a close second.

Coming off a 9-5 regular season record last year, the Mustangs are back with a new arsenal of weapons. Freshman **Russell Barry** has taken over the number three singles spot, as sophomore **Alex Randall** moves up to play number two. Senior **Zack Warren** still tops the singles list after an undefeated singles record last season. Other new faces on the team include senior

Chris Stein currently filling the fourth singles slot, while freshman **Sebastian Nguyen** and sophomore **Anton Auzans** add strength to the doubles roster.

In their first match of the year, the Mustangs trampled **Justin-Sienna**, winning eight out of nine matches. The victory was led by **Warren** with a 6-2, 6-0 route and **Barry** with a 6-3, 6-3 victory in singles. In a second match, the Mustangs hosted the

San Rafael Bulldogs and came out with a 8-1 victory. **Warren** once again smoked his opponent, this time with a score of 6-1, 6-0, and **Alex Randall** also cruised 6-1, 6-2. **Marin Catholic** proved to be a slight roadblock for the Mustangs as the match came down to the number one doubles match, which San Marin lost in a third-set super tiebreaker 10-6. The Mustangs lost the overall match 5-4.

The next week was full of tough matches for San Marin. In a match with **Redwood**, the Mustangs lost 6-3. The next match proved to be just as difficult as San Marin fell to **Tamalpias** in an 8-1 massacre.

The Mustangs are desperately trying to regain momentum, and it will take force to stop this racquet-wielding monster of a team from climbing the rankings.

Swimming

By Myra Perez and Kayla Schott-Bresler

A combination of experienced year-round swimmers, long-time summer league swimmers, and promising newcomers lay the foundation for a solid swimming season this year. Coach **Jim Larson**, a San Marin alumni and veteran coach, describes the team as "the largest San Marin swim team in years, and the team has shown more dedication than in past years."

The Mustangs' season officially started with a home meet against **Redwood**. The boys' team won by over fifty points. Although **Redwood's** relays were tough, San Marin guys came through and won the relays, picking up valuable points.

At the home meet against **Terra Linda** the Mustang girls lost by only

six points. These valuable points were lost because the Mustangs' do not have any divers. The Mustang girls finally came through and won when they swam against **San Rafael High School**.

With many double wins, sophomore **Chris Moghbel** has contributed valuable points for the boys' team. For the girls' team junior **Sarah Cochrane** has also picked up several double wins, and junior **Kayla Schott-Bresler** is undefeated thus far.

Swimmers are setting their sights at the MCAL (May 6th-8th) and NCS (May 14th-15th) meets. At every meet each swimmer swims two events, and relays and **Larson** explains that in close meets the fourth and fifth place finishes are crucial for the win.

Reaching for their Goals

By Holly Long

Frosh/Soph and Varsity girls' soccer teams have had promising starts to the season, both dominating Justin-Siena in their first league games. Frosh/Soph beat Justin-Siena 5-0, with three goals scored by **Casey Mokres** and two by **Kendall Joyce**. All goals were scored in the first half, and the team held on for a shut-out in the second half. The team moved into its second game, against San Rafael, and despite missing several players, the result was another win and shut-out. The score of 4-0 was reached by two goals each for **Lindley Schneider** and **Joyce** and a solid game by the defense.

Varsity had an even more impressive win against Justin-Siena in their first game, with the final score of 8-0. Three goals were scored by **Nicole Domecus**, and **Erin Greer**, **Kelly Fitzpatrick**, **Katherine Niehoff**, **Jackie Torvestad**, and **Lauren Candia** each scored once. Unfortunately, the team had only ten players to challenge San Rafael in its next game. The final score was a 2-1 loss, but senior **Courtney Dowdall** says, "The team came together and played really

well." The Mustangs' goal was scored by **Gina Zucconi**.

Although Frosh/Soph lost several sophomores that might have returned this year to different sports, schools, or for other reasons, coach Mike Carboni still maintains, "I'm expecting the same results as last year." Last year, the team landed second place in its league, and one loss, and the team hopes to do even better this season. Sophomore **Courtney Petersen** merely states, "I pray...that we win more than five games." Most team members are more optimistic, and the team is learning and improving every day.

Varsity this year is made up of five seniors, seven juniors, and two sophomores, and Torvestad believes, "We have the skill and potential to be really successful, it just depends on how quickly we can build chemistry with each other." Last year Varsity secured third place in its league, and this year, coach Jay Larson says, "I expect great things- I expect us to win MCAL."

So far both teams seem to be doing fairly well and strive to make this season even better than the last.

Boys' Golf Tees Off

By Brad McCarter

This spring brings fresh challenges for the boys golf team. With a new coach and one of last year's stellar players leaving San Marin to attend Marin Catholic, the team has joined together and is determined to make it a successful year.

The team has many new faces as well as a few returning veterans. Returning number one **Kyle Manzoni** and seniors **Loren Egide** and **Brad McCarter** lead varsity. New additions to the team include Swedish exchange student

Johan Backstrom, freshman **Rhett Carlsen**, and senior **Zach Bachmeier**.

With a 2-2 record, the players find that the competition is steep, but not insurmountable. Bob Lacy, geography teacher and coach, has faith that the team will rise to the challenge. "We've still got a ways to go, but we're beginning to shape up into a respectably competitive team," says Lacy. With the determination to win and a wealth of talented golfers, the boy's golf team is looking forward to a winning season.

Swinging for Another M.C.A.L. Title

By Alex Randall and Amber Shields

The San Marin Girls' Softball Team has kicked off the season with an impressive start of 8-0, including wins in their first three MCAL games. But the season is far from over as the team looks to repeat their MCAL victory and move onto NCS glory.

The season has opened with three exciting games, in which San Marin held the competition scoreless each time. In their game against San Rafael on March 29, the Mustangs edged out the Bulldogs with one run in the 10th inning. The

game ended with a score of 1-0. Junior **Kimi Williams** made the hit that let sophomore **Jenice Bartee** score the run that won the game. Pitcher **Lindsey Benson** held off the competition once again, as she gave up only three hits to the Bulldogs.

The team looks good and has the potential to go on to further glory. Senior **Jennie Gay** says, "Everyone on this team has something to contribute. We all back each other up and don't need to worry when we're out there playing, we just have fun."

ATHLETES OF THE ISSUE

Kim Puliafico



By Joe Mertel

Athletes like Kim Puliafico have found a new, unfamiliar sport to be interested in at San Marin: Lacrosse. (As Kim's second year playing) she is one of the better players on the San Marin girl's lacrosse team. Puliafico spoke about her reasons for beginning this sport, "my step sister played and some of my buddies convinced me. And it looked really fun." After losing their best player last year, Puliafico hopes that the team does as well as last year's MCAL win, especially since the team has many talented beginners.

Starting her freshman year playing softball, Puliafico decided to start playing lacrosse her sophomore year. From a little motivation from her friends and from watching her sister play in previous years, Puliafico was inspired. "It looked like fun," she said. Making the transition from one sport to another was easy for this natural. Although lacrosse closely resembles softball, lacrosse involves more aggression and physical activity. However, Puliafico was up for the challenge. With many returning players and many new additions, this year's girls' lacrosse is sure to be successful. Despite losing one of their best players last year, Puliafico remarks "I am not sure we will be as good as last year, but we'll see."

Leland Hansen



By Alyssa Pomponio

Many people are baffled by those who run just to run. Senior Leland Hansen, however, enjoys Track and Field because of the adrenaline rush he feels during each race, from the starting blocks to the final sprint before the finish line. He is looking forward to a good third and final year on the San Marin Track Team, and as an anchor member of the MCAL Top Ten 4 x 100 relay team and a team captain, this year is proving to be just that.

Hansen has proved himself a valuable asset to the team in past seasons. He has been a sprinter since 10th grade and a key component of the 4 x 100 and 4 x 400 relay teams. His talent took him to the North Coast Sectionals (NCS) both his sophomore and junior year, despite an injury that kept him out for part of last season. This season, Hansen is again competing in the 4 x 100 relay, along with junior Scott van Hootehem, senior Andrew Savage, and junior Ian Walsh. He is also running the 100 and 200 meter sprints. Hansen says, "Since I had an injury last year, I don't know what to expect this season. I'm just hoping for the best."

Though this season is just beginning, Hansen has stood out among the competition. With an impressive 11.47 second personal record for the 100 meter sprint (as of March 30) and determination, Hansen is showing no signs of slowing down. Track coach Lisa Kemp has nothing but praise for the athlete, "He is the hardest worker on the team and always has a positive, upbeat attitude. He has been a leader since he joined the team sophomore year."

Although Track is a more independently-driven sport, team captain Hansen still has high hopes for the team as a whole. "There is a lot of young talent for the boys and girls. I think a lot of guys have the potential to go to NCS this year. And the girls team is looking good...uh huh, very good."

10 Ways to Have Fun In the Sun

By Dina Rosenberg, Kayla Schott-Bresler, Paige Thelen

1. Splash Around: Spend a day at the beach; wear your swimsuit, grab a towel, and bring along some cold drinks. **DON'T FORGET SUN SCREEN!** If you would like to stay into the evening, BBQs are a fun stomach. After the sun disappears behind the dunes, s'mores! (But don't forget seatbelts and be safe.) It's a and take your time.

Beaches: Stinson beach, Drakes Beach, Limantour Beach, Kronkite Beach, McClures Beach, Hearts Desire Beach, Muir Beach- all of these are within an hour away!

2. A Day in the Life of a Tourist: We live near one of world so why not open your eyes and take advantage of offer. Drive across the Golden Gate Bridge or hop on the trip. Depending on what your goals are, the city presents San Francisco Center, Union Square, and Haight Street Alcatraz, Pier 39, San Francisco Museum of Modern interesting tourist spots. There are restaurants on every mood take a trip to Ghiradelli Square. Don't hesitate to around. Even though getting lost can be an adventure, we

3. Get Wet and Wild: What's better than gathering around a cool poolside on a hot summer day? Find that Have someone bring the food, while another supplies the are always fun, but watch out girls, don't get thrown in get on your partners shoulders, and fire up some chicken end of the day so jump in the hot tub to relax. Make your have some fun under the hot summer sun.

4. Get Starry-Eyed: Leave your earthly troubles behind heavens above. Escape the city lights and find a quiet and enjoy a clear night sky. If you want you can make stargazing into a romantic evening. Wish upon a shooting star; your wish just might come true! Or if you're not so into astronomy a trip to the Marin Headlands late at night will give you a beautiful lit-up glimpse of San Fran!

5. Par it Up: Eighteen holes of miniature golf is a competitive way to spice up a summer evening. Both Scandia and McGinnis Park are nearby and offer interesting courses fun for all ages. This cheap activity is good to do on an exclusive date or experience with a bunch of friends.

6. Feel the Need for Speed: Find your favorite lake, hop on a tube, strap on a board or some skis and crank up the gears. You can either chill on a boat or participate in some of these summer sports! Wakeboarding is easy to learn, water skiing is great exercise, and tubing will be one of the most exhilarating experiences you'll have all summer. If you don't have a boat, but want to get afloat take along some rafts and soak up the sun. Always apply sunscreen, wear sunglasses, and accept the fact that your hair will not look the same as it did in the morning.

7. Become One with Nature: Take advantage of our beautiful hills and take a walk on the wild side! During this time of year the ground is drying up and is excellent for hikes and adventures in the fields. Pack a picnic of delicious sandwiches and tasty treats while enjoying the amazing scenery and feeling the summer breeze.

Fun Facts

By Ben Calkins

In Cleveland, Ohio, it's illegal to catch mice without a hunting license.

The most sensitive finger is the forefinger.

If the population of China walked past you in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

It's illegal to drink beer out of a bucket while you're sitting on a curb in St. Louis.

Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

When Heinz ketchup leaves the bottle, it travels at a rate of 25 miles per year.

"I am." and "I do." are the shortest complete sentences in the English language.

Ten percent of the Russian government's income comes from the sale of vodka.

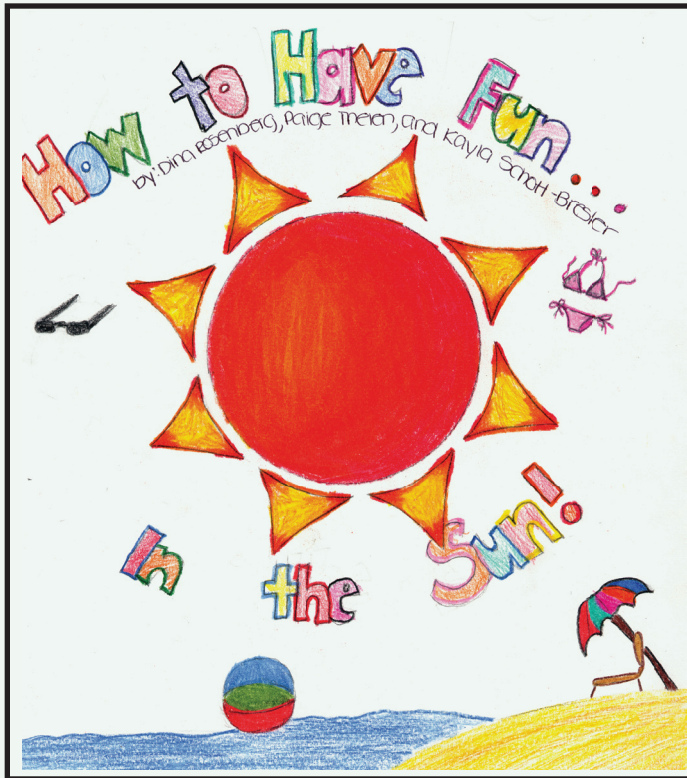
If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts. So in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them to mind their own pints and quarts and settle down. It's where we get the phrase "mind your P's and Q's."

The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog." uses every letter in the alphabet.

Vikings used the skulls of their enemies as drinking vessels.

The portrait of Abraham Lincoln on the penny shows him facing to the right while all other portraits of presidents on U.S. circulating coins face left.



and social way to fill up an empty why not build a bon fire and go for beautiful drive so enjoy the scenery

Dillon Beach, Bolinas Beach, Tennessee Cove, Rodeo Beach,

the most amazing cities in the *everything* San Francisco has to Larkspur Ferry to begin your day you with a variety of possibilities. are wonderful shopping sites. Art, and Chinatown are famous, corner, but if you are in a sweet jump on a bus or cable car to get suggest bringing a map just in case. everyone together and hanging out old stereo and turn up the volume. water balloons! Super-soakers the pool. Make some even teams, fights. You'll be pooped by the party unique and you'll be sure to

and take some time to enjoy the place to lie down on a blanket

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8. Pitch a Tent: If you are the outdoor type, pack up the car with matches, food, and sleeping bags: the bare necessities for a wonderful weekend of camping. Watch out for bears and raccoons, keep the snacks locked up and outside the tent. Remember some firewood and lighter fluid, but be careful there are often many fire hazards on campgrounds. Bring your favorite book and CDs, relax and enjoy the change of environment. If there is a pond or lake nearby take advantage and cool off in the warm afternoon. *Some interesting campgrounds: Olema Ranch Campground, KOA Campground, Lawson's Landing, Samuel P. Taylor State Park, Mount Tamalpais State Park, China Camp State Park.*

9. Soak Up the Sun: Ever woken up one spring or summer morning and been too tired to gather your energy and make something of the day? When times like these come along, grab a towel and a cold drink and lay out in the sun for a few hours; this is the perfect way to save your energy and, at the same time, get a tan! To protect your skin from serious burning, a light layer of sunscreen is suggested; no worries, the color will still show. Don't stay out too long, and remember to stay safe while having a relaxing and calming summer day.

10. Slippin' and Slidin': Here is an awesome way to get that roller coaster rush and stay cool. Pile in the car, bring shades, flip flops, towels, and get drenched at one of the water parks the bay area has to offer: Water World in Concord, Windsor Water Works in Windsor, and Raging Waters in Sacramento.

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