



Pony Express

Volume 35, Number 6 • San Marin High School, Novato, California • May 28, 2004

Mustang Memorials



Question Man: What movie best describes you and why?

Compiled by Denise Nilan



Senior Ted Hart:
The Truman Show because you can't prove it's not true.



Junior "Missy J":
Legally Blonde because, well, duh!



Sophomore Nate Willis:
Shaft...can ya dig it?



Sophomore Annie McIsaac:
Snow White because I'm waiting for my prince charming.



Freshman Kyle David:
The Brave Little Toaster because I like toast...



Mr. Spinrad:
Revenge of the Nerds because they have a chess score of 1751.

Letter to the Editor

In response to "Jesus Pizza: What a Hypocrisy", April edition.

Yes, I agree that San Marin's freshman closed-campus policy contains irregularities. But don't attack Jesus Pizza.

The weekly lunchtime event, hosted by All Saints Lutheran Church and frequented most often by San Marin freshman, has only positive intentions; in examining freshman off-campus policies, it should not be compared with local businesses.

In regards to sending students into "a possibly uncomfortable situation in a place of worship," All Saints makes every effort to make this a nondiscriminatory event. The Church, of which I am a member, considers it an event of *hospitality*. Pizza lunch has no hidden agendas concerning conversion; there is no prayer before everyone eats a practically free piece of pizza. In addition, pizza lunch is held in the Fellowship Hall of the Church, not the Worship Sanctuary. The Fellowship Hall is in fact never used for worship services, and many non-denominational groups, including Boy Scouts and Alcoholics Anonymous, rent it out every week.

The event is far from a "business operation." As previously stated, the Church considers it an act of hospitality. For \$2.00, students receive a slice of pizza, some salad, and unlimited soda. That cost pays only for the cost of their food; neither the church nor the people who serve the lunch make money. Similarly to San Marin, the Church is a non-profit organization, hardly a "business." And similarly to all non-profit organizations, there is little money available to "help the school monetarily." Should it really be compared with local businesses in terms of profit and school aid?

Lastly, even the name "Jesus Pizza" was not created by the church. The Church refers to it simply as "Pizza Lunch." As before stated, All Saints does not pursue any agendas during the event. The name was created by San Marin students; isn't that ironic?

Please reconsider next time you decide to attack a non-profit organization's hospitality events.

Thank you,
Sarah Davis

Become a Pony Patron and never miss an issue!

Send your name and mailing address with a contribution to San Marin High School Pony Express to San Marin High School, 15 San Marin Drive, Novato, CA 94945 and start receiving your Pony Express in the mail next month. All contributions are tax deductible.

The staff of the Pony Express appreciates the generous support of our patrons for 2003-2004:

Marcia & Don Gonzalez	Mark & Madeline Miller	Anna & Marvin Maurer	Rebecca Guthrie
David & Pam Pond	Natalie McIntosh	Brita Lacy	Holtze Family
Steve & Kim Piper	June & Bill Davis	Kele Gasparini	Heather Jacobson
Masafumi Kojima	Dan & Bonnie Kirpes	Martha & John Mouer	Holtze & Associates
Sockolov Family	Jeff & JoAnn Tuel	Todd Gilchrist	Tim & Debra Long
John & Colleen Crowley	Ingrid Probst	Susan & Terri Roca Bondanza	John & Teresa Pacchetti
Lynn DeArmit	Stacey Egide	Gingiss Group, Inc.	Frank Rebebo
DiStefano Family	Patti Boven	Conrad & Clenise Johnson	Frank Rosenbach
Robyn Moyer	Charles & Diana Bresler/Schott	Barbara & William Rotz	Judy Wong
Debbie & Rich Basile	SJ & K Kendall	Jon & Teresa Capasso	Judi & Vince Gramalia
Christina Crivello	David Jolene Graniss	Carol Steffenson	David & Andrea Oppenheimer
Chris & Suzanne Keller	Susan Kram	Al & Sandra Rosenberg	Amy & David Orgish
John & Diane Ratto	Parker & Kate Lee	Ed & Sarah Sangster	Dave & Jean Randall
Monique Coucaud	Ruth & Hossein Banejad	Bruce & Laurie McKay	Mary Kay Zirkie
Janice Blair	Mike & Lori George	O'Leary Family	Darryl & Sallina Yim
Stewart & Susan Halstead	Karen Rayner	Michele McDonough	Carolyn Germans
Neal & Kathy Hemmesy	Heather DiRuscio	Donna Reaser	Jan & Carol Meyer
Greg & Kim Ward	Benson Family	Monica Blaine	Nancy Rosell Jane Gianino
Al & Kathy Kovaleff	Paula & Phil Collins	DeConde Family	Apperson Family
Kent & Lisa Webber	Pam & Jack Duval	Terrence & Shirley Barday	Bill & Cathy Silva
Terry & James Mann	Shari Rathaus	Jeanne & Jeff Caperton	James & Catherine Benson
Russell Barry	William & Lynn	Karen & Ed Corral	Michele Cusack
Tim & Lisa Teague	Katie Kory	Valerie Coughlin	Robert Pollak
Winsor Family	Lorraine McLaughlin	Larry & Julie Dietz	Linda & Dennis Nilan
Matthewson Family	Gerald & Christine Johannessen	Margaret Faherty	Mike & Michele Misakian
Gwenn Walsh	Nancy & Henry Weber	Yolanda Figueroa	Jan & Teresa Dodsosn
Clarice Clark	Penny Aaseby	Holt & Jane Greene	Betty & George Nilan

This issue of the *Pony Express* was made entirely by the juniors and sophomores of San Marin's journalism class. The next issue of the *Pony Express* will be distributed on June 4th, produced by the seniors of our staff and will be written as a tribute to the graduating class of 2004.

Pony Express Staff

Editors-in-Chief Paige Lehman, Denise Nilan
Features Editors Julia Capasso, Dina Rosenberg
News Editors Eric Eisberg, Sophie Orgish
Sports Editor Myra Perez, Alex Randall
Layout Editors Michael Cusack, Clint Potter
Copy Editors Kristen D'Angelo, Holly Long
Business Managers Kayla Schott-Bresler
Artwork Shannon Silva
Advisor Jeanie Jacobson
Principal Loeta Andersen

Reporters

Joseph Mertel, Paige Thelen, Allyson Walchli

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.

San Marin Pony Express
15 San Marin Drive, Room 505
Novato, CA 94945
phone: (415) 898-2121
email: ponyexpress@smjournalism.net

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. Disagree with something you read in the *Pony Express*? Something you heard at school? Write a letter to the editors and start a dialogue. Remember the *Pony Express* is the voice of the San Marin student body.

Pumping Money, Not Gas

By Eric Eisberg

"It sucks." While this may be a little blunt, most drivers would wholeheartedly agree with this statement about the constantly rising price of gas, which has now exceeded more than \$2.20 per gallon in some areas. And here in Novato, we are among the most highly affected, paying some of the highest average prices in the continental United States. This, compounded by hilly terrain and high summer temperatures, both of which have a negative effect on the mileage a car gets, means that, aside from paying higher prices, you will be refilling your tank more than normal.

At San Marin, feelings among drivers run high, and remarks on the subject tend to be obscene. While many students don't pay for their own gas, those who do have

often complained of being badly cheated. Prices have started to make a financial impact, and teens with limited income have often found themselves more pressed for money than before.

A number of steps can be taken to reduce the amount you are spending on gas. These include:

1. Buy gas out of town, where prices can be several cents per gallon less than in Novato.
2. Keep up with your regular maintenance, change your oil and bring your car in for a tune-up.
3. Avoid unnecessary driving. Carpool if possible.
4. Reduce the number of little trips you make. A car consumes significantly more gas in the first half hour of operation.
5. Don't buy premium gas.

The increased mileage doesn't pay for itself, as many believe.

6. Don't drive in neutral down hills. This method, commonly used to conserve gas, is relatively ineffective and dangerous.

However, if one follow all of these steps, chances are you are still going to be badly burned by gas prices, and it will only get worse with the onset of the summer travel season. For those paying for their own gas, you face a long summer.



Feeling the Draft

By Eric Eisberg

In the 1860's, the United States began drafting male citizens into the Union army to help defeat the Confederates, and New York City was engulfed in chaos for several days as rioters took to the street. One hundred years later, draft dodging was one of the more drastic methods taken to protest U.S. involvement in the war in Vietnam. Today, with the situation in Iraq quickly worsening, government officials have begun seriously considering the reinstatement of the draft in order to relieve the current all-volunteer army after more than a year of service in Iraq. It would be a major political blunder for the Bush administration to even discuss the draft. If this country were to reinstate the draft, we would find ourselves as divided as ever, and in deep internal conflict. Even so, we must consider U.S. soldiers overseas and their desire to return home.

The primary argument against the

reinstatement is that it is simply not necessary. The United States has

435,000 troops deployed internationally, of which only about 137,000 are currently deployed in combat situations in Iraq and Afghanistan. By strategically redeploying these troops, the U.S. would be able to relieve the troops while maintaining a similarly sized force. It may, however, be necessary to maintain large numbers of troops in those areas, and pulling them out may not be an option. If this is the case, a draft may be necessary.

Also, a question that has long remained dormant must be raised again. Should, in the hypothetical draft, women be drafted? During Vietnam, this question wouldn't have even been considered, but women have made significant steps towards equality since then. It would be unfair for women not to be subjected to the draft; they shouldn't be granted the same rights as men without having to pay the same price men do. Even

if not enlisted into military service, women should be compelled into some form of government work.

Despite the rumblings, it would seem that the draft is unlikely to be reinstated. Such a move would be political suicide for whichever party made it, and would create some of the first significant civil unrest seen in the U.S. since the Vietnam era. However, if the withdrawal from Iraq goes badly, the chances of us seeing a draft in our lifetime will significantly increase. Even if one feels that the war was a prudent step on the part of the United States, reinstating the draft should be something we are all prepared for.

Student Elections: Behind the Scenes

by Sophie Orgish

How are student government officers *really* elected? Well, according to Stella Clark, head of the leadership class, there haven't been student elections "since [she's] been here." The reason for this, she says, is that there were not enough announcements concerning the elections, and so "only the leadership class ended up voting- it wasn't taken seriously." The students were supposed to vote in the English classes, but students reportedly did not take the elections seriously. This problem is beginning to be remedied, and this year there are posters up all over the school to announce the candidates for each government office. The Leadership class recently held a freshman and sophomore assembly in

which the candidates sat in a panel facing the students. The participants were then asked questions that helped the voters to better understand the people up for the position. Clark was also able to borrow actual voting booths, set up outside the gym, to cast the ballots.

Clark is also pushing for the social science and health teachers to approve a proposed student Senate, which will be tested next year. Ideally, all history and health classes will elect a senator and one alternate to represent their class in the Senate, which will also be made up of Link Crew leaders and the executive Student Council. "The Senate is replacing what

they previously had here," says Clark- namely, class representatives. Clark is hoping that the students will take this new idea seriously in a way that "class rep" never was. The Senators will vote on issues around school such as activities, themes for dances, and problems that the students want fixed, and will also be able to run for a position as a leadership representative. These reps will have full voting power in Leadership, which Clark hopes will attract more students to the new program.

The Senator will take proposed ideas from the Student Council back to their history class. The class will vote as a whole on the one they like best, and the Senator will take that vote back to the Senate. The Senate then makes the deciding vote on each issue. Clark also wants to start a weekly Leadership newsletter, which will be posted in each history class, to keep students informed of the issues around school so that they will be able to vote on each issue. The Senate will be run by the ASB vice president, soon-to-be senior Alissa Newberry, and each Senator will be expected to attend all monthly meetings. "If the student misses more than one meeting, they will be kicked off the Senate and the alternate will take their place," says Clark, "because we want kids to take this seriously. And plus, the meetings are only once a month."

With elections over and the results announced, we are now coming closer and closer to the summer months. When all of us come back next year, we hope to have a strong new leadership-based program running, which will help to unify the school and give students who are not necessarily in the Leadership class a chance to influence the important decisions around school.



ASB speeches from a student's perspective.

Watch it, Freshman!

by Denise Nilan

Looking from an upperclassman's perspective, it is amazing how easy it really is to identify those thirteen and fourteen year olds at our school. Although it's hard to admit, we have all been there, confused faces and everything. I am one of the few upperclassmen who are willing to reveal the true story of that horrifying first year of high school. From the brutal honesty of the upperclassmen to the hazing memories we all suppress, I survived what every high school student experiences: Freshman Year.

Before I had even stepped on this cow pasture we call San

Marin, I was an anxious, frightened, yet cocky eighth grader. Like everyone else, I had heard the rumors of how miserable freshman year is: how kids are thrown in trash cans, egged, water ballooned, and locked in the locker room cage. But with the superior attitude that all eighth graders have after graduation, I just assumed that this could not possibly happen to me.

Well, August was quite an awakening. After my summer swim, I found myself drowning in a sea of unfamiliar faces. No longer was I in a school with prepubescent boys, but in an environment with men, big manly men, with beards, tattoos and fast cars. And the

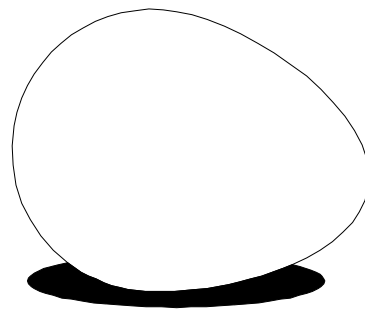
girls- the girls looked like they could get into bars, with their highlights, heels, and push-up bras. I felt somewhat cool in my Sketcher boots, L.e.i jeans, pink B.P. tank, and figured that although I may get lost, no one would be able to label me a freshman. Well, I was wrong. Walking in the typical freshman pose, with my head down, I slammed right into one of those intimidating, manly men. My head flicked up and I found myself staring directly at the most gorgeous guy I had ever seen and I knew immediately that had to be a godly senior. He was wrapped tightly in a green and gold letterman jacket, and my vocal chords were suddenly out

of order. Before I could stutter, "I'm sorry," I was shot down with a quick, "Watch it freshman!"

As harsh as my elders may have been, I made a swamp of mistakes that didn't make freshman year any easier. My error on the first Friday may have been the most devastating. I had survived a week of high school, so to celebrate, my friends and I decided to walk to Mary's Pizza after school, a classic freshman mistake. Our peaceful stroll was interrupted by the spatter of egg on pavement. Suddenly I was bombarded with that incredible edible egg. Though I wasn't hit or emotionally traumatized by the experience, I will never forget the vision

of eggs being catapulted through the air like snowballs.

Freshman year is that sole year of high school that is never remembered in full detail. Who really wants to reminisce about the time your face turned a horrid shade of red or the hazing that made you pee your pants. But the truth is that beneath the confidence of every senior, junior, and sophomore lies that tiny petrified freshman.



Summer of Sequels

by Dina Rosenberg and Holly Long

With the onslaught of summer movies soon to come, we can offer a little advice: stick to your favorites. Several sequels are opening, and if you enjoyed the original films, you can now see these stories continued. Here are our top three of the season:



Now Playing

Did you enjoy the magical story of a cursed princess and an ugly ogre who fell in love? Did you laugh during the hilarious scenes of the jocular donkey (Eddie Murphy), the three little pigs, and the seven dwarfs? Well, now you can do it all over again while watching *Shrek 2*, the sequel to one of America's favorite modern fairy tales, *Shrek*. Picking up right where the first movie ended, Princess Fiona (Cameron Diaz) and Shrek (Mike Myers) return home from their honeymoon, surprised to find out that they are invited to dinner with Fiona's parents. The problem is that her parents are unaware of the fact that their daughter is now an ogre. At the same time, a nosy fairy godmother is informed that Fiona and Shrek have been married, which conflicts with her original plan of Fiona marrying her son, Prince Charming. So the King, Fiona's father, hires Puss-in-Boots (Antonio Banderas), a sword fighting cat, to murder Shrek. Take a trip to the theaters to see what happens and if Shrek survives.



To be released June 4

Do not even pretend you are not excited about the new Harry Potter movie coming out, because no one is too cool to get caught up in the excitement of the wizardry world on screen. In *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) begins a third year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Previous years at Hogwarts brought no shortage of adventures to Harry and his pals Ron Weasley (Rupert Grint) and Hermione Granger (Emma Watson). You can expect the same entertainment when the menacing Sirius Black (Gary Oldman) escapes from the wizard prison, Azkaban, looking for Harry. With a new director, Alfonso Cuarón, the movie will be the shortest yet of the series, incorporating suspense as well. There have been many cast changes as well, including Sir Michael Gambon playing Professor Dumbledore. We dare you to escape our boring Muggle world and join Harry Potter in theaters to see if he will live through his third year at Hogwarts.



To be released June 30

For everyone who enjoyed watching Peter Parker (Tobey Maguire) cope with the responsibilities of his new identity as Spider-Man, the story continues for you in this Spider-Man sequel. As a new college student, Peter discovers that keeping his life as a web-swinging superhero hidden and under control is even more difficult than before. His relationships suffer greatly from it, as he cannot tell the truth to the ones he loves. Still tortured by his feelings for Mary Jane Watson (Kirsten Dunst), Peter is tempted to reveal all his secrets to her. His relationship with friend Harry Osborn (James Franco) is precarious as well; Harry hates Spider-Man for his involvement in his father's death, not knowing that the one he hates is Peter. But Peter has more substantial problems yet, as he must deal with a new villain, the multi-tentacled Dr. Otto Octavius (Alfred Molina). *Spider-Man 2* is sure to be full of action and special effects once again, while addressing conflicts from the previous movie.

Other Upcoming Sequels:

- *The Bourne Supremacy*- July 23
- *The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement*- August 13
- *Exorcist: The Beginning*- August 20 (prequel)

Show Choir Sings and Dances Its Way into Second

By Alex Randall

Ever wonder what a weekend full of singing, dancing, and midnight runs to Carl's Jr. would be like? Well, you can just ask any member of San Marin's show choir. Their 2004 trip to Redding, in central California, to compete in the 19th annual Redding Area Variety Entertainment Society (RAVES) Vocal Jazz and Show Choir Festival proved to be quite a success. In the competition itself, the San Marin group performed a "Mama Mia" medley along with a handful of other numbers, and captured an impressive second place among numerous groups from all over the state. The only ballad they performed, "So It Goes," amazed the judges. Some even mentioned to the students

that it was the most impressive performance they had heard in the entire festival. Along with the team awards, individual prizes were also awarded. Briana Kiler received a second-place award for a solo performance, and tech team Steve Kenyon and Eric Rivera won a scholarship for their technical work. And yet, the competition was only one part of the fun for these talented high school students.

Ultimately, the trip proved to be a fantastic success for the exception of a controversial dance judge, and as sophomore member Dan Saslow explains, "Show choir has proved once again that even a [faulty] judge can't stop the beat."

Academy: Not A Class For Slackers

by Paige Lehman

Located just above the Student Center, the Academy building can seem worlds away once inside. Academy, a government funded alternative learning program, offers students a chance to learn using group work, technology, and hands-on projects. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are instructed in English, history, and technology; sophomores also have an additional science class. Students are selected by application; once they are in the program they will be expected to discipline themselves and work hard.

The Academy program is often stereotyped as a class for slackers, and at times it is not hard to see where this perception comes from. Teachers give students deadlines, but it is up to the students to get the work in on time. Class time can be used in any way, whether it is working on a project, doing other homework, or sleeping. However, projects must be completed



Students in Academy do the majority of their work on computers.

on time, no exceptions. "It's up to you to make your own schedule," says junior Shane Rose. In this way, Academy is more like college-level courses in that teachers do not check up on students to see if they are using their time wisely. Junior Eliza Vosburg explains, "Despite rumors, Academy isn't a slacker class, it just has a different style of learning." Many students like this method of teaching, as it forces them to be more responsible

Sieto de Mayo

By Julia Capasso

This year marked a new tradition for San Marin: the celebration of "sieto" de Mayo. Anyone familiar with the Spanish language knows that "sieto" is not a word. It's really the meshing of the Spanish words for five and seven, "cinco" and "siete." Since the celebrated Mexican-American holiday of Cinco de Mayo fell on a Wednesday this year, the Foreign Language department (headed by co-chairs Sra. Pelka and Sra. Walwyn) decided to hold the celebration on Friday. And what a celebration it was.

"This year was different," says Pelka, "because the food services couldn't make the food. All of the Spanish classes contributed." Spanish 1 classes concocted delectable *postre* (dessert), while Spanish 2 provided homemade nachos. Spanish 3 classes



Students and staff enjoy dancing to traditional Mexican music.

quenched our thirst with different flavors of the Mexican soda *Jarritos*. The guacamole made by Spanish 4 perfectly complemented the delicious enchiladas generously provided by La Hacienda.

What would a Cinco de Mayo celebration be without music? The mariachi group, Los Caporales, who has played at San Marin's Cinco de Mayo celebrations since 2000, serenaded an attentive audience. As lunch progressed, students

began to dance along to the music, and soon a large circle of clapping, smiling, and dancing people formed. "There's something about the live mariachi," Pelka says. "A little food, a little music, a little dancing, and it doesn't matter whether it's Cinco de Mayo or Siete, it's just a San Marin tradition." Pelka hopes that next year local papers like the Novato Advance and the Marin I.J., or even district office administrators, will join the fiesta and see how we celebrate our tradition.

projects. There's a lot of freedom in Academy, but at the same time a lot of responsibility," says Rachel Pater, a junior and first-year Academy student. For second and third-year students, part of the fun of the class is teaching first-year students about

technology. Students pass on most of the tech information from year to year.

It would be fair to say that Academy often updates old, tired curriculum. Tradition rules in much of the San Marin curriculum, and Academy seeks to teach students in new ways that will keep them interested. For example, an Academy English class recently had a guest teacher teach a unit on poetry. History

students learned about the Vietnam War by examining interviews of both veterans and conscientious objectors of the war. Academy students have required reading and write essays just as other students do, but the difference is in how each assignment is approached. There is also more flexibility in Academy. Science students are looking into virtual dissection, which isn't an option in a regular biology class.

Not all Academy students are happy with the program, of course. Some were placed there by their parents rather than their own will, others just found that they prefer a regular class schedule. However, the majority of students will admit that they have learned something new in Academy, whether it's analyzing poetry or editing video footage. Academy continues to stand as an alternative to regular learning and a program that attempts to mold to each student to help them succeed.

THE LANDMARKS OF SAN MARIN

1



1. Ashley Louis Vaughn:
 •Bench dedicated to her in the front office
 •Former San Marin student
 •Accomplished swimmer
 •Struck and killed while walking along train tracks with her friends in 2000

12



12. Vernon "Lefty" Gomez
 •b. Nov 26, 1908 in Rodeo, CA
 •Hall of Fame pitcher for New York Yankees
 •Overall 189-102 record and a 3.34 ERA
 •d. Feb. 17, 1989 of congestive heart failure

11



11. Jerry Mead:
 •Mead Field
 •Head of sports boosters in 1976
 •Changed location of home games from Novato to San Marin
 •Raised money for snack shack and bleachers

10



10. Paul K. Sloan
 •Born 7/30/75
 •Class of 1993
 •Outstanding student and an athlete (football) at Brown University
 •Was working for an investment firm when plane hit the second tower on 9/11

9



9. John R. "Jack" Keohane
 •41 years old
 •Class of 1978
 •Described as, "[Having] a Cheshire-cat smile and a constant Irish twinkle in his eyes."
 •Victim of 9/11
 •Escaped towers but died because of falling debris

2a



2b



2c



2. Paul Ferreboeuf
 •Head of English Department
 •Boys Varsity Basketball coach for 17 years
 •Brought first Varsity Basketball Championship to San Marin
 •Died in car crash in 2000



8



8. Hank Moroski
 •San Marin's first principal
 •Cal Poly Graduate
 •Four-year starter on Cal Poly Basketball team
 •Helped start San Marin in 1967 and served as principal until the late 80's
 •Currently lives in Novato with his wife JoAnn and has 5 children and 7 grandchildren.

7



7. Gary Gates:
 •Gary Gates Softball Field
 •Was community-oriented and supported many school programs
 •Husband of Mrs. Gates, music teacher
 •Beloved girls softball coach
 •Cancer took his life

3



3. Scott Alan Deeming
 •Class of 1993
 •Played football
 •Died in a boating accident while scuba diving
 •Raced at Sears Point and after his death his number, 900, was retired

4a



4b



4. Albert J. Berti, Jr.:
 •San Marin's girls' basketball and soccer coach
 •Started computer program at San Marin
 •Killed in car crash in 1988 on the Petaluma bridge

5



5. David A. McInerney
 •Class of '90
 •Died serving as part of the Navy's Underwater Construction team in 1992

6



6. Ginger Williams
 •Class of '77
 •Died in car crash in her senior year

Varsity or the City

By Kayla Schoff-Bresler and Myra Perez.

Most of the time an athlete can compete on both a high school and club team, but it is necessary to sacrifice dedication and commitment to one team in order to pursue goals that they may have on the other team. Based on the coaches' understanding of the problem and the player's ability to communicate with their coaches about possible solutions, there may be individual ways to resolve this conflict.

Club sports are private teams that are usually not affiliated with a particular school. They often require more dedication, and some seem to be at a significantly higher level. Lesser known high school

sports, such as tennis, swimming, and water polo, need club teams to help players excel and improve. On the other hand, popular high school sports, like baseball and football, have less serious club teams because the players receive the necessary training and competition through their high school programs.

Recognition is an important incentive for many athletes, and both high school sports and club sports provide opportunity for advancement. The sport an athlete chooses to participate in dictates whether his club or high school team is a main priority.

What's going to happen to the Journalism class?

By Kristen D'Angelo

After the scandal surrounding the journalism class last year, students are pondering whether or not there will be a recurrence. With all the budget cuts taking place last spring, it was decided by the district that electives such as drama and journalism would be axed unless they had a certain number of applicants. Interest in the

journalism class had been declining, and it was inevitable that it would be put on the chopping block. Yet, the students who bring you the Pony Express every month decided that they would have the last say, and spent their whole summer attending school board meetings

lobbying to get their class back. Their hard work paid off, and less than a week before school went back in session, the class was reinstated with a new teacher.

The outlook for next year is once again dark. As of right now, all electives, including journalism, are going to be cut. Yet, many parents and students are fighting this decision, and with the help of School Fuel, there is hope that these classes will still be offered when we return in August.

Advice to anyone who enjoys reading the paper: sign up for the class. The more interest there is in the paper and the class, the longer San Marin will be able to offer a journalism program. If you care about maintaining student choice, you are strongly encouraged to get out

there and fight for the elective that you had hoped to take next year. Not only are San Marin's electives enjoyable, but some are also UC credited courses. The district is doing a disservice to the students by cutting the few courses that cater to the student's interests.

	CLUB	HIGH SCHOOL	DESCRIPTION OF CLUB TEAM
SOCCER Jackie Torvestad	"There's more discipline, commitment, money, work ethic, competition, and there are higher expectations."	"It's a short season and there isn't a lot of time to build chemistry, but you get to represent your school and it's a lot of fun."	There are many different levels of club soccer, most of which require tryouts. These levels range from local to national teams.
BASKETBALL Anthony Gonzalez	"It's only for those who are really good and are trying to get recognized and is more focused on the individual. These players also seem to be playing more for themselves than for the team."	"There's more dedication with high school. You play in front of your friends and represent your school who you don't want to let down, which creates more pressure."	Teams are extremely difficult to make and are composed of the top players from around the Bay Area. They practice and compete just like any other team but are at a much higher level.
SWIMMING Sarah Cochran	"More intensity, commitment, dedication, and you travel a lot more."	"There are more meets and it gives us more opportunities to compete, but often causes conflict with club practices. It's a nice luxury that it does not cost any money."	No tryouts are necessary for a club swim team, but it is usually composed of high-level and experienced swimmers.
WATER POLO Paul Lillie	"Club is much more serious. We travel a lot and play a wider variety of teams."	"It is a lot less competitive but is fun because you play against the kids from your club team who are on different high school teams."	There are a variety of age groups and within each age group there are different levels, but all levels can play club polo!
TENNIS Jessica Ruth	"More intensity, more conditioning outside of practice, more time, and requires practicing on the weekends."	"It's fun because tennis is usually an individual sport and in high school you get to be a part of a team."	There aren't really teams. It's more individual with private coaches and is very expensive. It is easier to improve because of individual attention.
VOLLEYBALL Paige Thelen	"Focuses more on fundamentals and knowledge of the game. The players are really serious but the team only competes in tournaments, not regular games."	"Each practice is taken a day at a time with a greater emphasis on upcoming games."	There are tryouts for teams and there are different ability levels. The cost is fairly high.

Chart provides only some examples of the conflict between club and high school sports.



Worldwide Cultures Shared at San Marin

By Dina Rosenburg and Paige Thelen

Could you see yourself going to school in a different country? This year students from Sweden, Holland and Brazil had the courage to do just that here at San Marin. As young Californians, we are portrayed internationally as being tan, blonde, famous, water-sport pros, and arrogant. We don't always realize that we often tend to ignore world events, creating a social bubble around ourselves. Since this isolationism is growing, it is important that we participate in international exchange programs. These educational organizations allow foreign students to create their own impressions of American teenagers and truly experience our American schools and communities.

After interviewing our exchange students, we learned a lot about how Americans are portrayed around the world. Johan Backstrom, a senior from Sweden, explained that his country's opinion of the Americans was based on our government and our perceived lifestyle. From another perspective, senior Stephanie Hoogenboom, from Holland, explained, "I thought [Americans] would be like movie stars, rich and famous." Senior Caio Pinheiro, who transferred here from Brazil, had a similar opinion, but also characterized Americans as spoiled with too much money. All of the students agreed that after truly experiencing life in the United States, their

outlook on our lifestyle has completely transformed.

"I thought that my dad didn't have much money, even though in Brazil I had two maids and a driver," said Caio, "but I soon realized I was kind of spoiled myself." Not only did these students change their opinion on our culture, but they underwent personal transformations as well.

"We had to force ourselves to become more open and social. As an exchange student you have to do that, but I feel it helped me as a person overall," confessed Caio.

"I don't feel like I've changed at all. I think I'm the same person, but I guess I'll find out when I get home and see all my friends again," explained Johan. All three of these teenagers had to make large sacrifices, but in the end they all believed these alterations in their personalities were inspiring and definitely worth the trip.

Upon arrival in California, these students expected endless sun and hot weather. Even though they were surprised at the amount of rainfall we received this winter, overall they were pretty satisfied.

"It was so gorgeous, and everyone was so friendly and warm, I felt very welcome," explained Hoogenboom. Caio stated that before he came he felt Californians "got money easy," and did not have to work hard to live utopian lives. His opinion rapidly changed,



Exchange students, Johan Backstrom and Stephanie Hoogenboom, say "Adjö and "Tot Ziens."

Concert Corner

By Julia Capasso

The time has come once again to spend a hot, sweaty day in the beautiful outdoors, suffer in long lines to use sauna-like Porta Potties, and pay inordinate amounts of money for bottled water. Yes, the summer music festival season is here, and all you young punks' favorites are back. Last year's reigning favorite **BFD** is back for more at the Shoreline, along with returning juggernauts **Vans Warped Tour**, **Lollapalooza**, and **Ozzfest**. Appealing to a different crowd is the **Kate Wolf Memorial Festival**, a folk festival celebrating the life of legendary folk artist Kate Wolf. Regardless of which you choose to go to, remember to stay hydrated-heatstroke is no fun. Make good music choices over summer, kids.

Summer Music Festival Preview:

BFD (June 11th): Celebrate the end of school and go to *Live 105's* musical extravaganza, with performances by **New Found Glory**, **the Strokes**, **Bad Religion**, **The Killers**, **Death Cab for Cutie**, **the Yeah Yeah Yeahs**, **the Beastie Boys**, **Yellowcard**, and more at the Shoreline Amphitheater in Mountain View.



Kate Wolf Memorial Festival (June 25-27): Remember to put some flowers in your hair when you go to this folk music extravaganza. **Joan Baez**, **the Banana Slug String Band**, **The Waybacks**, **Joel Rafael Band**, and **Wavy Gravy** will all make appearances during this three-day festival. Kids can be dropped off at the various arts and crafts and face-painting booths, and you can choose from organic sandwiches, gyros, barbecue chicken, Indian pancakes, and more for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Laytonville.

Vans Warped Tour (July 3): This year will mark the 10th anniversary of the legendary Vans Warped Tour. **New Found Glory**, **Coheed and Cambria**, **Taking Back Sunday**, **Flogging Molly**, **Good Charlotte**, and the **All American Rejects** will come to San Francisco. Pier 30/32.

Lollapalooza (July 17th and 18th): Boasting headliners like **Morrissey**, **Modest Mouse**, **Black Rebel Motorcycle Club**, and **Sonic Youth**, this year's long traveling alternative music festival has been extended to two days, and promises to be well worth the hefty ticket price. Shoreline Amphitheater.

Ozzfest (July 29): Featuring the **Prince of Darkness** himself, **Slayer**, **Judas Priest**, **Hatebreed**, **Bleeding Through**, **Every Time I Die**, **Atreyu**, and **Throwdown** at the Shoreline Amphitheater.

and he saw that "almost everyone works and has to put in long hours for their luxuries. Johan felt that parents here are much more strict than in Sweden, but nevertheless, he is very appreciative of all that his host-family has done for him.

Living in our own little "bubbles," we don't always consider the different cultures and traditions around us. Inviting students from other countries into our San Marin community has opened our minds to new ideas and perspectives. We want to thank all the exchange students who studied at San Marin for the 2003-2004 school year: You were unbelievably brave to have made this commitment.

San Marin Celebrates Water

Awareness Day

by Paige Lehman

Continuing his quest to help San Marin students lead healthy lifestyles, P.E. teacher David Bedar introduced "Water Awareness Day" to San Marin on May 19. Teenagers often overlook drinking water, an essential step to good health. Bedar hoped to bring awareness to this issue with the day, which featured lunchtime activities relating to water. The North Marin Water district participated in the event, handing out fliers and offering information on Novato's water supply. Just twenty percent of Novato's water actually comes from Stafford Lake;

the rest is taken from the Russian River.

In addition to the information at hand, students could also participate in an estimate of how many gallons of water are used by San Marin each day. Free water was given out to all students who pledged to not drink soda for the day. "I thought for a first time it was terrific- we had over 350 students sign up, we had front page articles, and it made people think about drinking water." Says Bedar. Bedar also hopes that Water Awareness Day will become a tradition at San Marin.

MIWOK
DRIVING SCHOOL

DRIVER EDUCATION CLASSES
DRIVER TRAINING

CALL 897-9011
FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO ENROLL

Paul Eisenberg, Owner - Operator

Racking • Cabinets • Climate Control

ARTISTIC WINE CELLARS
Custom Design • Fabrication

4286 Redwood Hwy.
San Rafael, CA 94903
(415) 492-1450 Fax (415) 492-8684
www.artisticcellars.com

Patrick Wallen
Owner
Lic# 797057

2051 Novato Blvd. • Novato, Ca. 94947

Tagliaferri's
Delicatessen & Cafe

Phone: (415) 897-9677 • Fax: (415) 897-3208

Girls' Soccer Kickin' It

By Holly Long

The Varsity girls' soccer team finished the season in third place this year, and both Varsity and Frosh/Soph teams beat hometown rival Novato.

Varsity, with a record of 10-2-2, has also made MCAL this year. The Mustangs dominated Novato with a 2-0 shut-out: the first goal was scored by junior **Nicole Needham** from a cross by senior **Katherine Niehoff**, and senior **Gina Zucconi** scored the second.

Another impressive win was against previously undefeated Drake, in a 2-1 victory. The Mustangs scored from a penalty kick by junior **Meagan McCray** and a goal by senior **Sarah Meier**, who scored from an assist by junior **Jackie Torvestad**. "Not only are we winning, but we have a great group of girls and the season's been a lot of fun!" says junior **Lindsay Walsh**.

Girls' Softball Brings the Heat

By Shannon Silva & Ben Calkins

Once again the San Marin Varsity girls' softball team has been successful in MCALs. The season's end is approaching, and the girls are looking to steal the MCAL title and storm their way through NCS.

With senior captains **Katie Distefano** and **Jennie Gay** leading the way, the Mustangs continue to be a serious threat in the league. Freshman **Kyra Toquinto**, sophomore **Janice Bartee**, and junior **Kimi Williams** all hold their heads high as they continue their winning tradition which has captured the 'stangs two consecutive NCS titles.

The most influential player in San Marin's successful history

Frosh/Soph ended the year with a record of 8-5-1. Coach Mike Carboni says about the season, "Our level of play has increased, but unfortunately our results have been inconsistent." The season had a promising start with two wins, but the team went into a slump that accounted for three losses and a tie. This streak ended with a 3-1 victory against Novato. Sophomore Casey Mokres scored two goals in this game and one header goal came from freshman **Kendall Joyce**. Frosh/Soph also beat Drake 1-0, with the game-winning goal being scored by sophomore **Trelasa Baratta**. Unfortunately, they were unable to win the last two games against Marin Catholic and Redwood, but the team had a successful year nonetheless.

has been Jennie Gay. After four long, productive years, hardworking captain Gay hit the first home run ever in Gary Gates Field. Her hit sailed out into right field towards the scoreboard, and as she rounded third her teammates waited at home to congratulate her. Jennie's accomplishment will be remembered with a plaque near where the ball landed. Despite the departure of Gay, San Marin hopes to continue their success in years to come.



Juniors **Lindsay Walsh** and **Lauren Candia** practice one-on-one.

San Marin Bats Stay Hot

By Eric Eisberg

The Mustangs have just completed another excellent regular season and managed to be ranked 15th in the entire Bay Area. The team played extremely well, with excellent pitching by senior **Colin Dietz** and junior **Brian Gee**, supplemented by excellent offensive power from **Aaron Bartee**, **Joey Ratto** and **Chris Dittman**. The Mustangs managed an excellent 17-7-1 overall record and an 8-6 MCAL record. One superb game was the 9-2 rout of Terra Linda, where **Nic Banaugh** struck out three in the final two innings and **Eric Benson** hit a two-run double. The team

was also victorious in the prestigious Jim Duoane tournament.

The mustangs qualified for the NCS tournament for the seventh consecutive season. Last year, the team won the NCS tournament in a dramatic game at Network Associates Coliseum and is looking to defend their title.

Head coach Mark Whitburn had nothing but positive comments about his team and their success this season. "It's a good group of guys who always come to play and give 110 percent at every practice." That hard work certainly paid off for the Mustangs this year.



Eric Benson throws some heat

Golf Team Up to Par

By Joe Mertel and Alex Randall

As the spring sports season finishes, so ends a successful year for the San Marin Varsity boys' golf teams. With an 8-6 record, the Varsity squad ended its season with an NCS appearance. Seniors **Kyle Manzoni** and **Brad McCarter** proved to be consistent low-scorers for the team, while **Loren Egide** and **Rhett Carlsen** took on the roles of inspirational leaders. On the J.V. squad, **Pat Graham**, **Aaron Bae**, **Jeff Yen**, **Kevin Pottoroff**, and **Will Warren** carried the team throughout the year. The 2004 season was one of great success for the Mustangs, and despite the loss of many seniors, the San Marin squad looks forward to another great season next year.

La-Crossing Over Obstacles

By Julia Capasso

The San Marin girls' lacrosse team ended a successful season with a record of 7-5 and finished in an impressive fourth place in MCALs. Since it was only their second year, the placement is quite an achievement for this young team. Half of the players were new to the sport, but quickly excelled. Standout sophomores **Julie Kern** and **Paige Thelen** exhibited skills usually seen in much more experienced players. Defense was held together by junior goalie **Kim Puliafico**, while senior **Karli Jayne** lead the offense with numerous goals. As for next year, the girls are enthusiastic and determined to improve their game even more. "I plan on going to lacrosse camp this summer. Hopefully we can win MCALs next year," says junior **Lisa Neal**. With such strong returning players, an MCAL win is definitely within reach.

Staying on Track, San Marin Moves On

By Clint Potter



Sophomores **Alison Greggor** and **Briana Van Epps** get off to a great start in the 1600 meter race

Yet another season has passed for the San Marin track and field team. Through the season, the teams managed to overcome many obstacles, including injured players and poor track conditions, to end their seasons with reasonable success. The Varsity boys team, despite

ending their season with a disappointing 2-7 record, defeated Novato in their final meet. Their win was largely due to the success of the relay teams. Standouts among the team are sprinters **Leland Hansen**, sprinting an 11.9 second 100 meter dash, **Jeff Baum** who jumped

5'2" in the high jump, and **Andrew Savage** who ran the 110 hurdles in 18.4 seconds. The girls' team finished their season with a decent 5-4 record. The extremely well conditioned girls team had outstanding performances in running events with **Ashley Peterson**, who ran the 300

Team Falls, Warren Soars

By Alex Randall

Well, that's all, tennis fans. The season's over, and the top four teams are moving on to the MCAL playoffs. Unfortunately, the San Marin Boys Varsity tennis

last week of the regular season.

San Marin, in their first of four remaining matches, quickly disposed of San Rafael. The Mustangs then found themselves approaching



Senior **Zack Warren** watches on as teammates **Matt Mauer** and **Chris Stein** finish up a close match.

team is not included in the elite group continuing into the postseason. After a strong battle for a playoff bid, the Mustangs could not hold strong as they fell from a tie for 3rd and ended in 5th place in the

matches against three of the top MCAL teams: Branson, M.C., and last, Redwood. A win in any of these matches would almost clinch a Mustang appearance in the playoffs. In their first two contests,

hurdles in 52.6, **Angela Phan**; who cleared 7' in pole vault, and **Megan Faherty**, who threw 80' 11.5" in the discus.

After the regular season, San Marin stood ready to compete in the MCAL track meet. Over the two day period, San Marin proved it could contend with some of the best. However, despite many close races and field events, only seven athletes qualified for NCS. Arguably one of the most exciting events during the meet was the girls' 4x400 relay, (**Marie Buich**, **Sara Moraes**, **Natalie Graham**, **Asheley Peterson**, and backup **Briana Van Epps**) in which San Marin managed to work their way up from fifth to finish in second. Other qualifiers included **Jeff Baum** (high jump), **Megan Faherty** (Shotput), and **Allison Gregor** (1600M).

We'd like to thank all those who have made the track and field team possible: **Lisa Kemp**, **Will Grason**, **Mike Cunnie**, **Lisa Banner** and the whole team. Thank you.

Zack Warren, in his last ever MCAL individual tournament, cake-walked through the number one singles tourney and represented MCAL with **Gorjan Kovacevic** from Redwood at the North Coast Section tournament. Zack, in his first loss of the season, fell to Alameda's **Daniel Elefant** in the semis. The team would like to thank all

Caps Off to the Swim Team

By Myra Perez

At the 2004 swimming season approached an end, both the boys' and girls' teams finished 5th overall in MCALs. Although the girls' team only emerged victorious in 4 of 9 meets, they had many strong individual swimmers. Juniors **Sarah Cochrane** and **Kayla Schott-Bresler** racked in many points in the 200 IM and 100 Fly, and the 100 Breast and 500 Free, respectively. Both swimmers also contributed to the well-built 200 IM relay along with **Myra Perez** and sophomore **Leilani Gilpin**.

The boys' team had a satisfactory season, winning 5 of 9 meets. Sophomore **Chris Moghbel** and freshman **Doug Williams** led the team with their numerous wins and contribution to the relays.

Recently, the Mustangs sent five swimmers to MCAL Finals and two swimmers to NCS. Junior **Meg Crowley** and freshman **Doug Williams** represented the team at the NCS meet in Walnut Creek. **Crowley** qualified in her 100 Breast and **Williams** in his 200 I.M and 100 Breast.

our senior teammates for a great season and wishes them luck in their future pursuits.

Oooh... Oooh... Uh-Oh!

Emergency Contraception can prevent pregnancy up to 3 days after unprotected sex. Confidential and free-to-low cost.

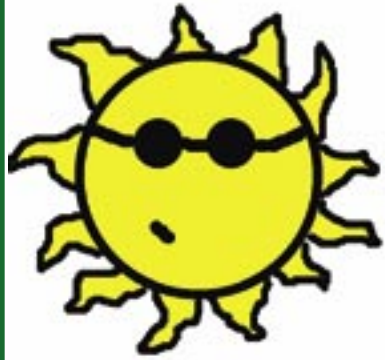
Call 1-800-967-PLAN

www.ppeg.org

Planned Parenthood Golden Gate
HAYWARD • OAKLAND • REDWOOD CITY • ROHNERT PARK •
SAN FRANCISCO • SAN MATEO • SAN RAFAEL

Summer Music Mix

By Denise Nilan and Shannon Silva



Summer is here and along with it comes great classic music that is a necessity while lying out on the beach. What is a hot day baking in the sun without a little sunscreen and bumping music by the Beach Boys? So get out those iPods and start (legally) downloading some of our awesome songs made for life under the sun.

- Beach Boys- "California Girls"
- LFO- "Summer Girls"
- The Ataris- "The Boys of Summer"
- Grease Soundtrack- "Summer Lovin'"

- Sublime- "Summertime"
- Sheryl Crow- "Soak up the Sun"
- Tim McGraw- "B-B-Q Stain"
- 311- "Summer of Love"
- Sugar Ray- "Under the Sun"
- The Beatles- "Here Comes the Sun"
- 311- "Amber"
- Phantom Planet- "California"
- Dobbie Brothers- "Black Water"
- Bryan Adams- "Summer of '69"
- Guns n' Roses- "Paradise City"
- Jimmy Buffet- "Pina Colada Song"
- Steve Miller Band- "The Joker"
- Oar- "Black Rock"
- Bob Marley- "Jammin'"
- Red Hot Chili Peppers- "Californication"
- White Snake- "Here I Go Again"
- Blind Melon- "No Rain"
- Alice Cooper- "School's Out For Summer"



Straight From the Horse's Mouth: A Little Gossip From Around the Stable

By Denise Nilan and Shannon Silva

- Ben Calkins receives his third speeding ticket...trial dates are to be announced.
- Abercrombie and Fitch opens in Santa Rosa, freshmen girls swarm.
- Lillian Nickleson contracts rare inflammatory disease from boyfriend Sammy Murdoch...doctors say the pink eye will clear soon.
- High winds flare up girls' skirts.
- The Spanish class broke the French class at the annual soccer match, literally; French student Angie Pilicelli broke her leg.
- Football coach Chris Augusto is starving for more players to complete his fall teams, see Mrs. Taggard for more information.
- Girls preparing for prom fry at Novato Tanning.

Fun Facts

By Ben Calkins

- If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days you would have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.
- If you farted consistently for 6 years and 9 months, enough gas is produced to create the energy of an atomic bomb.
- The human heart creates enough pressure when it pumps out to the body to squirt blood 30 feet.
- Banging your head against a wall uses 150 calories an hour.
- The flea can jump 350 times its body length. For a human, that would be equivalent to jumping the length of a football field.
- The catfish has over 27,000 taste buds.
- Some lions mate over 50 times a day.
- Right-handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left-handed people.
- A cat's urine glows under a black light.
- It takes about 20 seconds for a red blood cell to circle the whole body.
- Ten tons of space dust falls on the Earth every day.
- There are more than 1,000 chemicals in a cup of coffee.
- On average, a 4-year-old child asks 437 questions a day.
- Termites eat wood twice as fast when listening to heavy metal music.
- The cockroach has a high resistance to radiation and is the creature most likely to survive a nuclear war.
- The Guinness Book of World Records holds the record for being the book most stolen from public libraries.
- Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.
- A pack-a-day smoker will lose approximately 2 teeth every 10 yrs.

www.driversed.com

DriversEd.com

24x7 course access ... interactive flash videos ... chat support

Study at home on your computer and get a Drivers Ed Certificate of Completion necessary to obtain a Learner's Permit and Driver's License

Our online course fulfills the California DMV requirements for your drivers education. Take the course 24x7 online.

log on to www.DriversEd.com

For more info go to www.driversed.com and get 10% off tuition with CHPA1 discount code