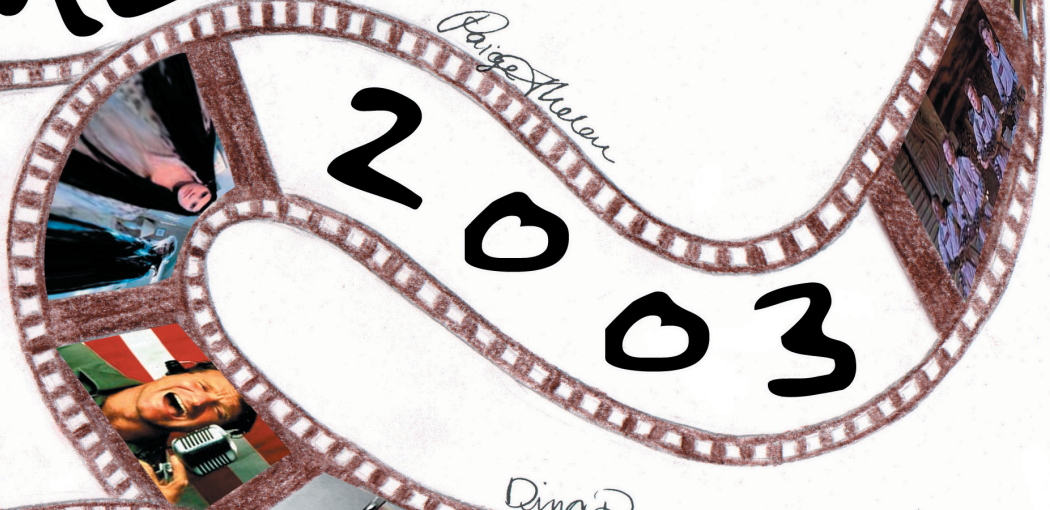
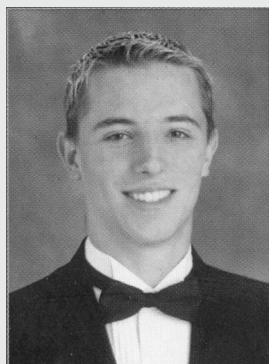




Pony Express

Volume 35, Number 1 • San Marin High School, Novato, California • October 10, 2003





In loving memory of
Drake Cain
Class of 2001

Letter From The Pony Express

Up until a week before the start of the 2003/2004 school year, the fate of the journalism class at San Marin was still up in the air. On August 19, the Tuesday before school started, it was announced that, thanks to another generous contribution from the Emergency Education Fund (EEF), journalism would be reinstated. The first thing that our newly reinstated class would like to say is "thank you" to the parents, staff, students, and the EEF for fighting all summer for this program and for keeping alive this important institution of student press.

But in all the "controversy" and "scandals" surrounding the reinstatement of this class, I think part of the goals of this paper and class have been trampled in the mud, and we would

like to resurrect these values that sometimes seem to be overlooked. As a class, our commitment is to the freedom of speech for students. This has been the main goal of our fight to save this class, and it still is our goal. If the class hadn't been reinstated, the committed students who have made this paper what it is would still have fought for this freedom, whether through an independent paper, website, or other form of media. And as political nonsense continues to surround this paper, I am happy to say that our main goal at the *Pony Express* is still to offer a voice to student opinions.

I know we have a lot to work through this year, but I think as this past summer has displayed, we can do it. Thank you, everyone, for your continuing support.

Prop 54: A Step In The Wrong Direction?

By Paige Lehman

With all the recent bombardment of recall news about the various candidates for governor, the other issues of the recall election have often been ignored. The postponement of the election is just more reason to bring to light this potentially dangerous proposition. This proposition would affect our daily life, yet most young people have never even heard of it.

Proposition 54, also known as the "Racial Privacy Initiative" seeks to prohibit the state from classifying any individual by "race, ethnicity, color, or national origin in the operation of public education, public contracting, or public employment". While this may sound beneficial, it could actually stop the state from acquiring vital information for medical studies and law enforcement by making it illegal to classify race.

California is certainly a diverse place; as the 2000 Census revealed, 30.5% of the population belongs to a minority race. The idea of California as a sort of racial "melting pot" has long been discussed. The problem with this idea is that "melting" implies the assimilation of a culture to blend with another. Proposition 54 carries the

same idea. Our society is not yet tolerant enough to be rid of our prejudices just because the government dictates we are all the same race. Making race virtually nonexistent in the eyes of the state won't stop racism; rather, it will just make it harder to prosecute. Proposition 54 chooses to ignore existing racial tensions and inequalities, and forces everyone to do the same. We aren't a colorblind society, and no law can change that.

This issue may seem far removed from student's lives; however, we will be greatly affected by it. School information about race and ethnicity, while assumed exempt from the proposition, will only be available to a certain extent. While California does not have any affirmative action programs, it still keeps a student's race on file. By taking this information away, teachers will have no right to be culturally sensitive towards any particular student. Those students with different cultural customs may find the school is no longer able to tolerate their needs. Educators will know which racial groups are not meeting their academic standards, but they won't be able to ask why or delve into the

problem. This creates quite a frustrating predicament for educators, especially those dealing with a large number of under-achieving students. Prop 54 will only widen the education gap between white and minority students, which is what it claims it will do away completely with.

It is also interesting to note that most of the endorsers of prop 54 are wealthy private citizens. The list of opponents is a much more wide-ranging group, including such organizations as the American Cancer Society and the NAACP. In addition, both the Democratic and Republican gubernatorial candidates, Cruz Bustamante and Arnold Schwarzenegger, oppose this proposition.

Privacy is greatly valued in American society. However, this "Racial Privacy Initiative" is really not about privacy at all. It's about the obstruction of important information. When it comes to race, we need to make social changes rather than laws. We need to defeat this ridiculous proposition. Its passage will throw us backwards towards becoming a less-informed, less-efficient state.

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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.
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.

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.

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Annual Scheduling Problems: Is There Hope For The Future?

By Amber Shields

Once again, San Marin students started the year off in long lines outside of the counseling office instead of in class. Many students were frustrated because they weren't signed up for classes they needed or were put in unwanted classes. Senior Aaron Barte, said, "Counselors were trying to force kids into unwanted classes. Kids should be able to choose what classes they take." This never ending San Marin problem was even worse this year with only two counselors -- San Marin had to go down from three to two counselors because of budgeting cuts -- and a master schedule that was continually changing up to the start of the school year.

Even during the third week of school, San Marin was making massive changes. Throughout this week, students were called out of class to get a new schedule. Sophomore Alison Greggor, was called down to the office and told to change her history and science class. "It was really annoying, because I had my schedule worked out and then I had to change everything." Though she said changing her science class wasn't too bad, the switch to a new history class wasn't as smooth. "I had the same history teacher but he had to start all over because we had so many students. We had to re-do lessons and re-take tests."

Counselor Frederick

Colunga, said the incident that prompted the massive changes during the middle of September was the opening of seven new classes. "Teachers are only allowed to have so many students in a school day; so, we had to move classes with too many kids. The changes were about adjusting classes so that the teacher's contracts were followed." Colunga said that scheduling changes were even harder to do this year, because the number of counselors had dropped from three to two, leaving each counselor in charge of about 550 students. Colunga said that many of the schedule problems arose from personal problems; students had signed up to take electives and then decided they didn't want that class, or they were trying to get out of school after 5th period. "A lot of students sign up for classes and then change their minds. If they signed up for the classes they are sure they wanted to take, then it would be a lot simpler."

Changing classes is no simple task. The counselors have to check the master schedule to make sure that the class can fit the student; then, they have to check the student's transcript to make sure that the student is eligible for the class, or to see if they can afford to drop a class while still meeting graduation requirements. While Colunga thinks that sending out the schedules

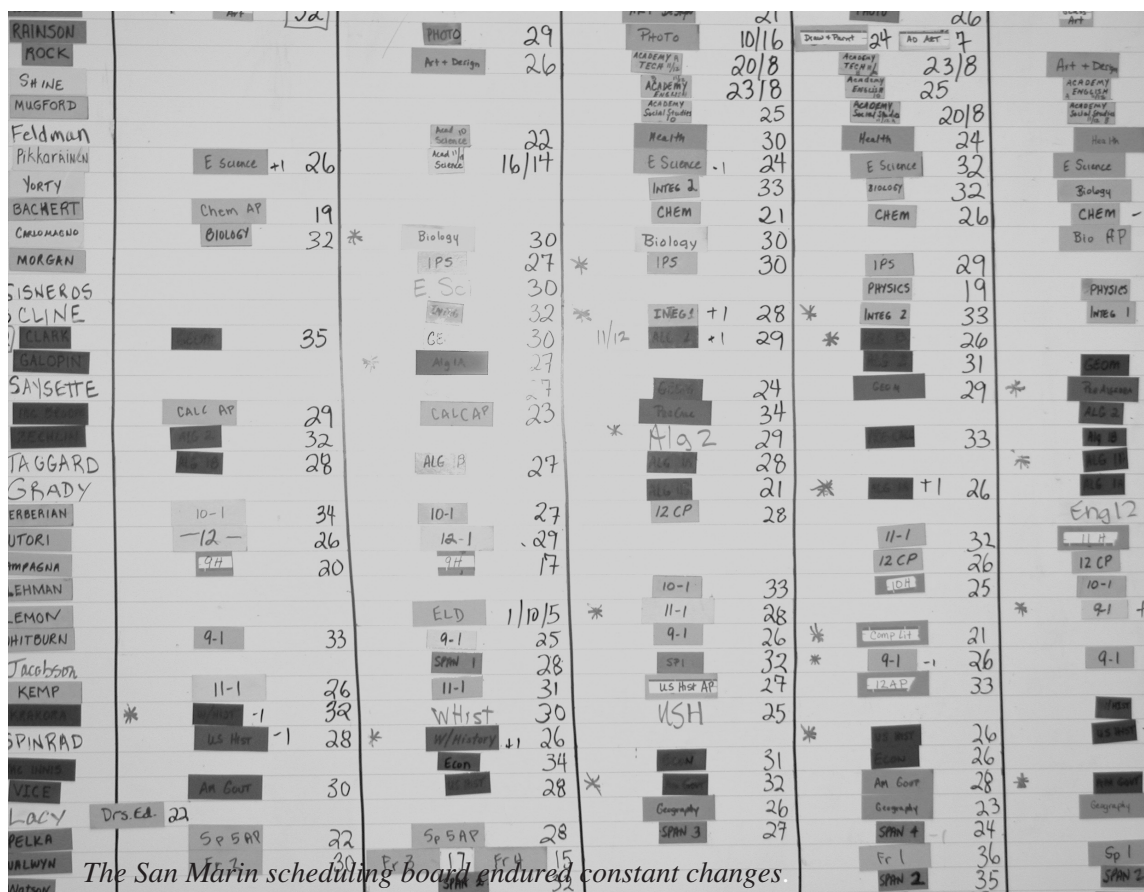
before school starts is a good idea, he says that it is not his decision, but an administrative one. "I'm the last guy on the totem pole, I'm just following orders."

Not all public high school students started the school year off in a last-minute change whirlwind. In fact, several schools have found positive solutions to this annual scheduling dilemma. Students at Marin Catholic get their schedules a week or two before school starts. They can then use this time to re-arrange their schedules so that all their classes are correct before the school year begins. Once

school starts, only emergency changes to student's schedules can be made. Gianna Colla, a senior at Marin Catholic, says that, "The system works pretty well and for the most part, schedule conflicts are resolved before school starts. The only major problem is that a lot of people are on vacation when they get the schedules and by the time they get back it's too late to change their classes."

In order to have the schedules sent out a week before school, Vice Principal Toni Beal, said that the counselors would have to come in an extra week earlier. The counselors already come

in two weeks before school starts to do the scheduling, which is started in June. This would mean that they would have to re-arrange all the counselor's hours, because the district only allows them to work ten days outside of the school year. San Marin would have to decide, as a school, to change, talk to Novato High, which is supposed to have practices similar to San Marin, and then request the change to the Board. Though it is possible, it would take a large effort on the part of many people, but it would pay off in all the years to come.



Pepper Spray Explosion

By Eric Eisberg, Clinton Potter, and Alex Randall

Pepper spray, an irritant commonly used in self-defense, has become more and more abundant among teens, even at San Marin. On Friday, September 12, 2003, pepper spray gas was discharged in Kenneth Feldman's fourth period health class. The students close to the accident were ordered by their teacher to go to the bathroom to wash their eyes out and to drink water. The paramedics were summoned, but thankfully, no one's condition was serious enough to warrant medical assistance.

When asked for comment, the freshman girl

who had been carrying the pepper spray explained that she had been reaching into her backpack and accidentally pushed the button that released the pepper spray. At this point, it diffused throughout the classroom. Feldman remarked that he "saw the two people next to her stand up, and then the back row, when [he] heard someone say 'pepper spray.'"

The girl who inadvertently started the disturbance stated that she carried the spray solely for protection. The district is still considering the option of expulsion for carrying a weapon on school grounds.

While some may think that this may be too harsh of a punishment, others contend that pepper spray is a weapon that should never be possessed at school. Junior Sarah Davis, says, "It's another unnecessary precaution people take to make themselves feel safe in our fear-based society. The chances that it'll go off and cause chaos seem more likely than actually having to use it." Other students who carry pepper spray stated that they keep it in their car and find no reason to carry it on school grounds.

While arguments

can be made for and against carrying pepper spray, it brings up an important question: do students feel safe in school? If not, steps must be taken to insure their comfort. If they do feel safe,

one must ask themselves why they find the need to carry pepper spray. Either way this incident sheds light on the overpowering fear that influences students to carry defensive protection.

Pony Classifieds

Are you looking to sell or advertise your services to the school community? Are you a student who needs a tutor or a tutor looking to help students? Why not use the San Marin Pony Express Classifieds? This year, the Pony Express will be devoting a section of the school newspaper to classifieds for students and parents alike to advertise everything from cars for sale to babysitting to tutoring. If you are interested in putting an ad in the paper, contact us at business@smjournalism.com.

Rally Fiasco: Booing, A Rite Of Passage

By Brad McCarter

On Friday, September 12, 2003, San Marin students were outraged when the administration cancelled a pep rally after the students refused to stop booing. Booing at pep rallies has become tradition at San Marin. But students and

Just before the rally was about to begin, the junior class began the chant of "Go Home Freshman", a standard ritual at rallies. However, the administration did not want this potentially hurtful tradition to continue.

Leadership advisor, Stella Clark, stepped to the front and asked the students not to boo. When the students responded with more booing, Principal Loeta Andersen threatened to dismiss students who kept booing. Yet, few students heeded the warning.

At this, Andersen began dismissing the juniors. The seniors

responded with their own chanting until they, too, were dismissed. Needless to say, the seniors were not happy to be dismissed from their first pep rally as seniors. The administration canceled the rally on account of the students' disobedience. The senior class, outraged by these actions, staged an impromptu protest following the rally's cancellation out on the football field. After words

were exchanged, students and administrators agreed to have another rally the following week.

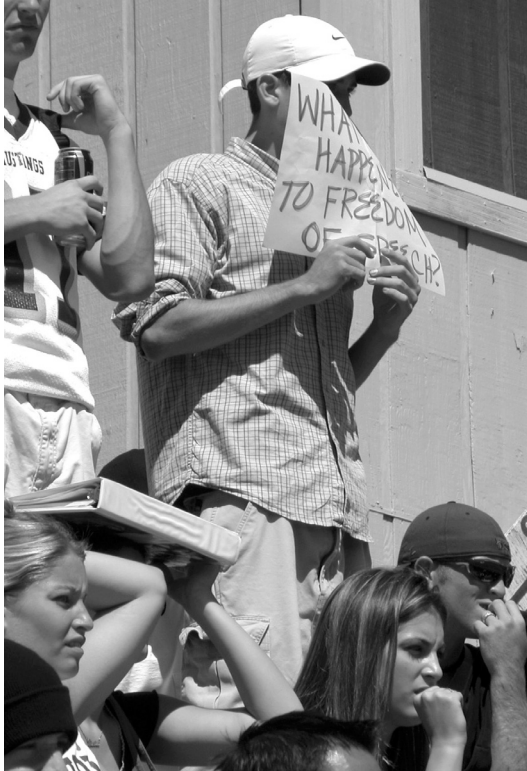
San Marin students have very strong feelings about the rally. Many feel the administration acted unjustly in canceling the rally. "I felt the decision to cancel the rally was uncalled for. They tried to stop one of the few traditions we have," says senior, Matt Milano. "Unfortunately, it has only diminished school spirit." Most freshmen feel that the booing does not make them feel uncomfortable. Freshman Robin Caddell says, "I thought the booing was awesome. Boo

all you want. I mean, I even booed myself."

The administration believes that the tradition of booing and chanting should be changed to something that better reflects the attitude of the students and the campus environment. "We are not trying to be unreasonable. We feel it is our responsibility, not only to the students but also

to the San Marin community and its reputation, to create and maintain a more positive environment here at San Marin," said assistant principal, Toni Beal.

While students think the administration acted irrationally, the administration feels it was necessary to exert their authority in an effort to maintain the stability of student interaction. Even though it was a tumultuous day at San Marin, many feel an understanding has arisen in the aftermath, and both sides agree that the rally fiasco has brought the classes closer together.



administrators differ in their views of what this pastime represents and the effects it has on the students.

As the students filed into the gymnasium for the first pep rally of the year, there was a great deal of anticipation in the air. Students were excited to be back in school and supporting their fellow athletes. Administrators were anxious about how the freshman would react to their first rally.

Work and the City

By Abby Yim

Teenagers and summer. These two words seem to emit a feeling of warm sun, cold drinks, and the well-rested feeling that comes from sleeping in until 11:00am. Visions of tan and happy people relaxing on the beach spring to mind. Although I would of been more than happy to latch on to that stereotype, this summer I entered a whole new world, somewhat unfamiliar and a little scary to most high school students- the office place.

After a few shopping sprees that threatened to put me in debt for the duration of my teenage years, I ventured out to the financial district of San Francisco to make some money.

The first week of my assistant job in an insurance company is all a blur consisting of a tour of the copy and fax machine area, a thorough run down of the computer applications, and the decorating of my 3x3 cubicle that I called home for two months. Yes, the movies honestly depict the office vibe, right down to the panic I felt while hoping that I didn't break the copy machine while changing the ink cartridge.

Even though the copy machine can be a menacing adversary in an assistant's daily routine, it

paled in comparison with my initiation process to the public transportation system. Being an authentic suburbanite, I've always counted on the easy, expected reliability of knowing someone with a car and the resources to drive me around. Although it is a proven fact that some city dwellers do have a license, amazingly they never make use of it. Bart, Muni (San Francisco's bus system), and walking are the favored modes of transportation for workers.

I was given cross streets, bus numbers and the correct change for Muni and told to walk three blocks up, past five street names, hang a right, walk two blocks, make another left, and then another right to reach my Grandmother's apartment, where I stayed while working in the city. After taking several wrong turns, possibly the wrong bus, and walking for what felt like hours I reached my destination. It was funny the first time but at 6:45 in the morning when I was praying not to be late for my second day of work, the tardy bus and bad sense of direction lost all of their amusing qualities.

Suburbia has always been the cushy comfort zone I call home. The occasional jaunt to the city had always

been exciting but short lived. I knew of a few restaurants and "untouristy" places, but I had nowhere near a full knowledge of how much variety San Francisco had to offer, until I was able to have a little taste of working and living there.

In any given week, I'd eat everything from authentic, Huananise food in Chinatown to carnitas tacos in the Mission to pasta in North Beach, all of which were in easy distance from either the apartment or office. The accessibility of everything made driving anywhere seem completely unreasonable.

After many trials and errors, I discovered which bus went where, decoded some cross streets and by the end of my two months was able to proudly give a lost tourist directions. Working even proved to be a pleasant experience. I got a taste of the real-life office environment, gained experience in a field and the paycheck at the end of every two weeks always put a smile on my face. So next summer while trying to figure out what to do with all that free time, try working in San Francisco, a refreshing break from the suburbs.

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Mi Viaje A España

Por Jaime Lummis

As I boarded my plane and watched foggy San Francisco slowly fade into the distance, I had definite second thoughts about my summer plans. Maybe my friends were right; maybe I was crazy. Spain is on an entirely different continent, one of foreign people and foreign ways. What if I got lost? What if I got hurt and I couldn't communicate with anyone? What if everyone hated me because I was a "stupid American?" These and many other questions were running through my head during my 17-hour (not including layovers) flight. As soon as I landed, though, I snapped back to my senses. What could have I been thinking? An entire four weeks without parents or chaperones in a country where I am considered an adult? What could be more fun for the summer before my senior year!?!?

When I arrived at my dorm room in a university in Malaga, Spain, I knew that I was in for the time of my life. I was hoping to escape the whole blonde bombshell, California stereotype; unfortunately, as I was quick to learn, everybody knows where California is and everybody has seen *Bay Watch*. As a blonde lifeguard from California I was never able to fully escape that

stereotype, but it served its purpose as a conversation starter.

Besides the "California chica" names, the remainder of the trip proved to be well worth the 17 hours of travel. I met some fantastic people, saw some breath-taking sites, partied hard, as well as learned a lot of Spanish.

I strongly recommend that everyone take a trip similar to mine before they graduate from high school. It is a wonderful, growing



experience that prepares you for what is to come in your lifetime. I developed important life skills such as living on my own (buying food, doing laundry, and budgeting), introducing myself to strangers, and getting myself safely around a foreign country.

While this experience was more fun than I ever thought possible, there are certain precautions that one needs to take if embarking on such a trip. After spending a

month on my own, I feel that I am qualified to give you some insider tips on How to Survive in Spain:

* Be careful when it comes to boys/girls. As a girl (especially one from California), you are going to turn heads wherever you go. Everyone will be more than happy to help you, but more often than not they will expect something in return...

* Smile (when appropriate). I hate to break it to everyone, but as Americans, we are not the most popular people in the world right now. A simple smile makes you not only approachable, but lets people know that not all Americans are greedy, power hungry people.

* Be prepared to adapt. Spain is not like our affluent Marin County.

If you are not willing to adapt to a different type of lifestyle (such as eating a huge lunch at three o'clock and then a small dinner at 11 o'clock), then I suggest that you stay at home.

* Get enough sleep because you are going to be up all night. Part of the ambiance of Spain (and Europe in general) is the nightlife. Nothing gets started until at least 1 o'clock in the morning! The entire country comes to live at night and you will NEVER be short on things to do and see. If you can't stay up late, work on it. Even infants can be seen wide awake in little restaurants and bars (with their parents in tow) into the wee hours of the morning.

If this sounds like your kind of trip but you don't think that there is any way that your parents will ever let you go, don't worry. My parents, who are notorious for being strict allowed me to go. I suggest that you start taking an interest in Spanish now and begin working on your parents today. If you have any questions on how to talk your parents into such an excursion, I'd be more than happy to answer them. Summer is only eight months away and Spain is waiting for you. And for those of you that don't speak Spanish, there is always the rest of Europe to explore!



Senior Reva Birnbaum in Intibuca, Honduras

Amigos Forever

By Marie Buich and Reva Birnbaum

Ever wonder what it would be like to join a group of young volunteers across the nation and live in a foreign country on your own over summer break? If yes, then Amigos is an unique opportunity for you. Amigos is a nationwide organization that searches for a diverse group of students to travel to Latin American countries each summer to "live and learn" the Spanish language, culture, and form lifelong friendships with the natives. Five determined San Marin students took this challenge last summer, broadened their horizons, and came back with wonderful stories to tell.

Seniors, Reva Birnbaum, Leland Hansen, Katelyn Johnson, Amber Miller, and Amber Shields all took part in this program last summer, traveling to Honduras, Nicaragua, and Paraguay. For Birnbaum, this was her second summer in Latin America. In the following story, Birnbaum explains this culturally enriching experience.

I have spent two amazing summers participating in a program called Amigos de las Americas. I have been one of over 800 volunteers from all over the US going to seven different Latin American countries. I went to southwestern Honduras my first year. The second year I went to northwestern Nicaragua.

In Honduras I lived with my partner, Nora, from Minnesota, my host parents, and two host sisters. Our town, Santa Catarina, had about 300 families, but we only worked with about thirty of those families. We worked on building water storage tanks, planting gardens, and were even able to organize

a trash pickup and build a few trash cans. That year I learned how to speak Spanish and became a much more independent person. I came home feeling like I could do anything after having lived without electricity or even a bedroom door for eight weeks.

In El Comejen, Nicaragua, a 300-person town, I had electricity for most of the time (it went out sporadically). This past year I was more of a supervisor. I lived part of the time with a family with three kids, and spent the rest of the eight weeks living with Ana, Gonzalo, and seven of their fourteen kids. Since I wasn't doing much physical work I got to know the majority of the people really well. I became a functioning part of my house and town. The relationships that I built are what I will remember forever.

The cultural exchange and the relationships between the locals and the volunteers are really what make Amigos a successful program.

The determined Amigos devoted the majority of their summers to experiencing lifestyles entirely new to them, lifestyles that contrasted greatly with their American lives they are accustomed to. Hansen says, "It was one of the hardest things I've ever done- physically, mentally, and emotionally... putting myself to any challenge now is that much easier." Each of the volunteers reflects upon the journey as being an extremely educational experience, not only on the subject of mastering the Spanish language, but on a social and personal level as well.

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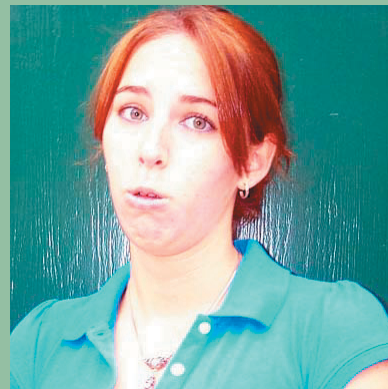
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Homecoming Cantidates

If you could take any San Marin teacher to homecoming, who would you take and why?



Vanessa Miner: Mr. Whitburn, so he won't feel so bad about his hair getting... well... a little thin.



Leland Hanson: Señora. I like my dates like I like my cigars.



Bridget O'Connor: Mr. McBroom because he sweeps me off my feet.



Drew Gasparini: Ms. Gates so we can make sweet music together....oh my god did I just say that?



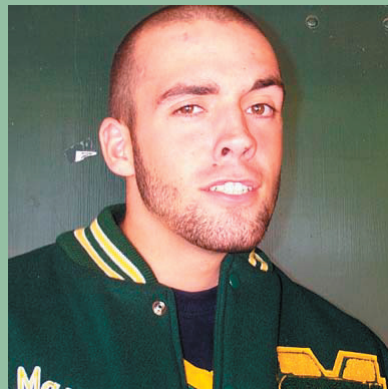
Marie Buich: Mr. Bedar because he's tall, dark, and handsome.



Zach Warren: Ms. Pik because she loves rocks.



Ashley Larkin: Mr. Hu, mmkay?



Brian Tuel: Señora, because her flamenco is second to none.



Gina Zucconi: Ms. Bachert because we've got chemistry.



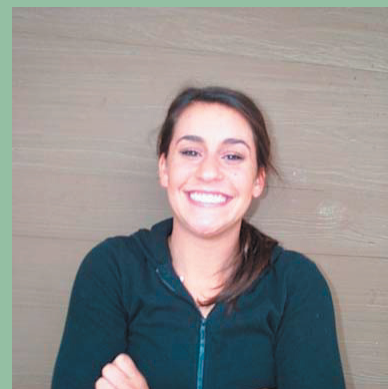
Black Vantrease: Ms. Kemp because she's got great endurance.



Whitney Lee: Mr. Whitburn so I can challenge him to a dance off and show him how good I really am.



Brad McCarter: Ms. Walwyn. You know what they say about the French.



Katherine Neihoff: Mr. Vice. After all those years in Panama, he MUST know some dance moves.



Jean-Denis Ncho Ogie: Mrs. Pelka because she's the second hottest Pelka to Becky.



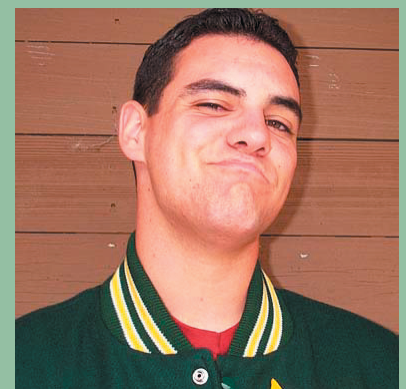
Jennifer Walker: Mr. Barbarian because I get lost in his deep emerald eyes.



Justin Graniss: Ms. Saysette, fo sho.



Jaimie Sarubbi: Mr. Bedar because he was the first guy to teach me how to dance.



Kenny Simmons: Mr. Sisneros so we can juggle the ladies together.



Jenny Gay: Mr. Rilla so he can take me down the quarter mile in the Nova.



Aron Bartee: Ms. Kemp because we have been together for three years.



Christina Pelka: Mr. Scarce because he can teach me how to party like it's 1899.



Loren Egide: Ms. Saysette because she's always eyeing me in the halls.

Homecoming Do's and Dont's According to SM Seniors

Compiled by Alyssa Pomponio

Do...

- ...get a lot of sleep the night before
- ...have all reservations ready at least a week before
- ...go with someone who knows how to dance
- ...wear something you can move in
- ...take your shoes off at the dance
- ...kick it with your limo driver all night long
- ...come fashionable late
- ...make your curfew later so you can go somewhere after the dance

Don't...

- ...spill food on your clothes
- ...go with someone you've never talked to before because it's never fun
- ...ditch your date at the dance
- ...wear something where your booty hangs out
- ...stay for the whole dance – stay to see the king get crowned and then bounce
- ...buy your dress at Macy's – someone else will have it
- ...eat too much because you have to dance later
- ...attempt to be someone you're not (like Britney Spears)

Scope Out Your Horoscope

By Denise Nilan and Paige Thelen

Ever wish you could glimpse into the future? Are you anxious about school or a love problem? Well then you have flipped to the page to answer all your questions. With pop quizzes and Homecoming romances filling our campus, a little perspective on the future is defiantly needed.

- **Libra (9/23-10/22)** Happy Birthday Libras! This month your birthday candles set the spotlight on you! With all this attention, don't forget about your friends and other relationships. Your studies are also important, especially this year, but allow yourself to work more on solo projects to demonstrate your artistic talents. Pushing yourself could have great rewards in the future.
- **Scorpio (10/23-11/21)** High tempers need to be controlled this month, because problems may arise, and unreliable sources are put to the test. Get serious about your goals and push yourself to go that extra mile. Teamwork and compromise will expand your personal boundaries and you will be thrilled. Love may crawl out of the dark after the 9th, just in time for homecoming!
- **Sagittarius (11/22-12/21)** Be alert before the 22nd because challenging situations lie ahead, but keep your secrets to yourself. The unmotivated people you hang out with might bring you down, so surround yourself with positivity and a new relationship might evolve. Your true ambitions will lead the way for your love life.
- **Capricorn (12/22-1/19)** Take the risks you've always wanted to with strong spirit, these risks will take you further than you think. Your heart leads you this month so be prepared for a romantic surprise from Venus. Your strong heart will help you be a strong leader, but don't forget that sometimes there needs to be a team effort, but be prepared to learn a lesson or two about love. You'll be stronger by November.
- **Aquarius (1/20-2/18)** Your work load goes full throttle, but control yourself and stay collect. This is the month to expand your friendships beyond your crew and give invitations for new relationships and friends. With new people in your life, it might be a good time to organize and get focused on your priorities. Expect romance in the form of a gift in the near future.
- **Pisces (2/19-3/20)** Quick decisions force you to give your heart to someone else, but for the first time you'll be able to analyze this situations well. This month also brings you a great deal of energy and willingness to take a challenge so use these qualities for the best. Avoid trouble, because it could lead you to places of seclusion.
- **Aries (3/21-4/19)** Do you feel like having an adventure? Your infectious enthusiasm and playfu spirit put you on top of the world. Energetic Mars directs all of your attention to romance, fun, and entertainment. Use this month to become aware of your creative potential and to get to know yourself better. Your personal security will attract the opposite sex, and there is a possibility of someone becoming interested in you.
- **Taurus (4/20-5/20)** Try to relax, and everyone will love the peaceful new you. Get your work done early and you'll be pleased with the time you have for fun. By the end of the month, you will completely ready to get back to work and focus on your future plans. Be bold and keep your options open and your mind wide for a new homecoming fling.
- **Gemini (5/21-6/21)** Fast- talking Mercury, your ruling, coasts into your sign, giving you loads of confidence in both your relationships and your school work. Tempers flare and intense feelings surface to a very close "friend," creating sizzling fireworks and emotional scenes. It will cool off by the end of the month, when Mars stops messing with your love vibes.
- **Cancer (6/22-7/22)** Ruled by the moon, your sensitivity makes you the friend others can count on. You have the power to charm, creating a warm, tranquil environment. Even though you may be feeling shy, take chances and don't be afraid to hog the spotlight. Homecoming will be sweet, especially with that person that you have had your eye on.
- **Leo (7/23-8/22)** Love may make you a little crazy this month, but don't let it distract you from your schoolwork. Try to acheive your goals with others of the same interest and keep the partying to the minimum. Just be sure not to change too dramatically, your friends would be heartbroken to lose the old you entirely.
- **Virgo- (8/23-9/22)** Out in front. This month your leadership skills are stronger than usual. So much so, that you should put yourself into situations where you can take a greater leadership role. Your love will push you into a serious relationship with someone that could be your true match. This love can be found in unexpected places, so keep looking.

Can't get enough? Check out the web for more information and details about your sign:
www.astrology.com and www.astrocenter.com

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Welcome Freshmen!

By Alyssa Pomponio

Sixty-eight San Marin upper classmen gathered in the Hank Moroski Gym, on August 19, to welcome the incoming freshman class. Math and leadership teacher Stella Clark headed the Link Crew program this year.

activities, went on a school tour, opened their lockers, and received their schedules.

In addition to the group activities, there was also an opening and closing assembly run by professional Link Crew facilitator, Mary

knew everyone, but we still had to do the games. I'm glad I went because it was the first time I saw my friends in a while." Ho did find it helpful that they were shown their lockers. However, she wishes they had gotten their schedules before the tour. "I had to go back and find all my classes before school started."

During the tour, several Link groups competed in a costume contest. The link leaders took the costumes very seriously because they were competing for free yearbooks. Faculty members on-campus at orientation judged the costumes. The tourist group won first place and the train won second, winning free yearbooks for seniors Dino Mariorello, Sarah Meier, Whitney Stenberg and junior Garen Suen. The Horsey Poo-Poo Patrol won third.

This year, Clark plans to extend Link Crew beyond Freshman Orientation. "Throughout the year, we will be having fundraisers so the link leaders and freshmen can stay in touch. There is the Powderpuff game, BBQs, tailgate parties, and other things. It is really important that the leaders call their groups with important information and tell them about school events and the fundraisers." Spillane thinks the calls are very useful, as "it helps me know what's going on." Others, like Ho, have yet to be contacted by their leaders

As this year's group of Link Crew leaders and freshmen continues to work together, Clark diligently takes notes to improve the program for next year.

Beth Campbell. Campbell was hired so Clark could really focus on the training of the link leaders, not the assembly.

Clark wanted to ease the fears of the incoming freshman and "create more camaraderie" on campus. She feels the freshman responded very well to the orientation. Freshman Brendan Spillane agrees with Clark, "I'm glad I went [to orientation] because it helped people get to know each other. Also, I know a senior now."

Freshman Michelle Ho said, "I guess it was fun because our link crew leaders were nice. I thought some of the activities were boring. People in my group already



Clark agreed to take control of the program after it shifted between faculty members. Clark explains, "I wanted to do Link Crew because I want to raise the spirit at San Marin. I believe the way to start that is with the freshman and senior classes. I was especially excited to start this year because the senior class is the best that I've seen in a long time."

The summer program consisted of two training days and the actual orientation. At orientation, the freshmen were split into groups of about ten, with two or three link leaders per group. Once in their groups, the freshman and seniors became acquainted through different

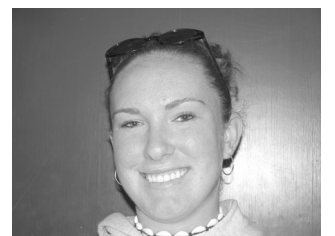
Words From Your ASB President...

Hi I'm Sunny Banihashemi and I'm the student body president for the 2003-2004 school year. For those of you who have already been a Mustang, you've probably noticed that our school spirit hasn't exactly been great in the past, but this year is going to be different. To start off, the leadership class has teamed up with various students and the administration to create a student store. The store is a place to buy Mustang merchandise, dance tickets, or to have any of your questions answered. We also have more fundraisers and student events planned for this year. I must say that out of all of my years being in leadership at San Marin, this year we have the most motivated class with wonderful ideas, an awesome teacher, and a large number of students who want to get involved in their school's activities! If anyone has any questions or suggestions, please feel free to come to me or anyone in leadership. So with that, I want to welcome all of the new students to San Marin and hope that everyone has a great, fun-filled year! (Especially the seniors!!!)

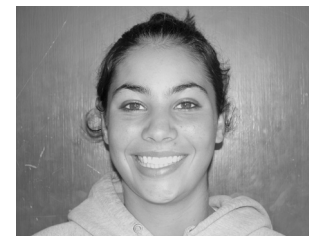
ASB Student Class Presidents



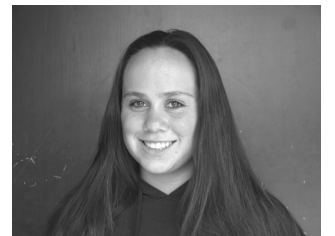
2004 – Jennie Gay "Let's make this year the best and most memorable!"



2005 – Alissa Newberry "I hope the school can come together and have more spirit to make for a great year!"



2006 – Jennie DiStefano "I'm really looking forward to serving my fellow sophomores!"



2007 – Allie Ruegiers "I'm really excited for a fun year."

ASP
Treasurer – Signy Toquinto
Secretary – Courtney Dowdall
Vice President – Vanessa Miner

2007
Vice President – Joey Pacini
Secretary – Becky Fernandez
Treasurer – Christina Crivello

2005
Vice President – Megan Pacchetti
Secretary – Courtney Coughlin
Treasurer – Ashley Colclough

2006
Vice President – Victoria Setting
Secretary – Catherine Bennett
Treasurer – Kavon Banejad

What do you hope to achieve this year and what are the biggest problems at San Marin?

2005

- Anthony Gonzalez**
Get everyone involved
New truancy rule
- Krista Walker**
More spirit
Lack of counselors
- Casey Pughe**
More democracy
Student parking behind school
- Elena Miller**
More comfortable for everyone
Class sizes
- Stefanie Nevin**
More lunch activities
New truancy rule

2006

- Annie Lowe**
More people involved
Lack of teachers
- Lauren Dumont**
Involve everyone
Not enough cute boys
- Maria Baum**
Get obscure groups recognized
Lunch is too short
- Jackie Kendall**
More spirit
New truancy rule
- Scott Menasco**
Make all events fun
Bad food
- Janice Bartee**
Improvements on school grounds
Lunch is too short

2007

- Shalini McMurdo**
More spirit
Not enough participation
- Ryan Kovarik**
All classes getting along
Lack of spirit
- Mallory Petty**
Better rallies
Freshman not being allowed to go off campus
- Jennie Macaluso**
More dances
Uneven pavement
- Jenna Blair**
More school activities
Uneven pavement

Senior Officers

What are you most excited for this year?

- Jessica Rogers (Rally Commissioner) – Safe Grad Night.
- Myriah Swinehart (Vice President) – The Powder Puff Game
- Amanda Bautista (Secretary) – The Fashion Show
- Katie DiStefano (Representative) – The Fashion Show
- Vanessa Miner (ASB Vice President) – The Disneyland Trip
- Courtney Dowdall (ASP Secretary) – Prom
- Natalia Bennett (Representative) – Prom
- Aron Bartee (Treasure) – Decorating before dances
- Ted Hart (Representative) – Football season

'Anything Goes' This Fall

By Kevin Kahn

The San Marin Music Department has a tough job to follow last spring's smash success musical *My Fair Lady*, but this fall, they are coming back with an amazing production of *Anything Goes*, a musical by Cole Porter. This comedy features an array of talented actors, singers, dancers, and musicians. The cast has an abundance of returning juniors and seniors, and also features many new freshman who give a new, fresh aspect to our fabulous music department.

The musical is a love story interspersed with light humor. It takes place on a ship, where nightclub singer, Reno, played by seniors Mia Ernst and Whitney Lee, has fallen in love with Eyvlin, played by senior Alex Saslow. However, he just

happens to be Hope's fiance, played by junior, Brianna Kiler and senior, Megan McDuffie. A love chain ensues between the main characters, and we see love sparks fly across the stage. In addition to an amazing orchestra section playing the tunes from behind the curtains, *Anything Goes* is

sure to be a fabulous musical that all SM students must see!

You can see this great show October 30th, 31st, November 1st, and 2nd at the Student Center. Tickets can be bought at the front office or through any music student.



Senior Whitney Lee leads a dance number at a rehearsal of one of the choreographed scenes.

The Triumphant Return of Lollapalooza

By Zack Kinyon

The much-heralded revival of the Lollapalooza tour stomped through the Bay Area this summer as droves of rock and roll fans flocked to the Shoreline Amphitheatre on August 19th, including myself and a couple of comrades. Headlining the brigade was Jane's Addiction, who capped the evening off with their legendary hit "Jane Says." However, the three outfits I was most excited to see were Incubus, A Perfect Circle, and Audioslave.

A Perfect Circle, who drew a number of Tool fans (lots of Tool shirts in the crowd), treated the audience to a few songs off of their as-of-then forthcoming Thirteenth Step, including the single "Weak and Powerless." Vocalist Maynard James Keenan, who had the crowd at "hi", cracked a few jokes and acknowledged the significant number of current Lollapalooza musicians with previous experience on the tour under their belts. He cited, among others, himself (as the front man of Tool), Jane's Addiction, and "Chris Cornell and the gentlemen from Rage" who now comprise Audioslave. The band showed a calm mastery over its songs; The vocals, instrumentation and

balance were dead on, which is, of course, not necessarily a given at a live performance. However, the choral background vocals were left off of The Hollow, which was a bit of a disappointment. All in all, A Perfect Circle would be more enjoyable to see at night than in the afternoon. Still, Keenan's voice was at least as physically powerful as it is on the recordings. The band closed, predictably, with a thunderous rendition of Judith, their major hit from 1999's Mer de Noms.

Following A Perfect Circle's finish, a few of the fans made their way over to the "Just BeCause" tent encampment, where Audioslave guitarist Tom Morello met fans and signed autographs at his Axis of Justice organization tent. I got to shake Tom's hand and bought an Axis of Justice poster to have him sign (no band merchandise allowed!). He commented that he liked my Rage Against the Machine shirt, calling it a "handsome t-shirt." The Axis tent gave out information on issues like corporate sweatshops and political prisoners, and displayed inspiring posters around its perimeter of the likes of Ghandi, Che Guevara, and Caesar Chavez.

Surrounding tents dealt heavily with environmental and animal rights issues, women's rights and racism, and my cronies and I even registered to vote at a Rock the Vote booth.

While the sun began to set, Southern California's Incubus took charge, easing the crowd into the experience with "Warning" and drawing from their diverse catalogue throughout a 50-minute set. The band showed off its new bass player, Ben Kenney (formerly of The Roots), who has permanently replaced the departed Dirk Lance. Kenney commanded the old songs impressively, rotating stylistically between a pick and his fingers, and adding back-up vocals to the climactic shout-chorus of a brand new Incubus song (title not known).

The show may have peaked early with Audioslave. The combination of the nighttime air, and that restless curiosity which always accompanies something new and strange (this is their first year on tour), made for a bombastic introduction. The crowd's anticipation was prolonged as Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Our Land" (most likely a Tom Morello instigation) rattled

Concert Corner

By Julia Capasso

Well, kids, it's that time of year again. The freedom of summer is just a fleeting memory, and all you can see ahead of you is school, work, school, and more work. Have no fear: Concert Corner is here to save you.

Check out some good old-fashioned hardcore at The Phoenix on October 10th when **Sick of it All** rolls into town. Or, for \$45 more, you could see **Aerosmith, Kiss, and Saliva** at the Shoreline on the same night. **Marilyn Manson** is also dropping by the Greek Theater in Berkeley.

If you're not going to homecoming, The Warfield hosts **Queens of the Stone Age** and **the Distillers** on the 11th. On the 12th, hip-hop/soul artists **Soulive** and **Me'Shel Ndegeocello** are playing the Fillmore.

I'm sure all you **Saves the Day** and **Taking Back Sunday** fans are already counting the days until their show on October 17 at the Warfield; it should be a great show. **Red Hot Chili Peppers** are playing at the Arco Arena on October 18.

The increasingly popular **Nuclear Rabbit** will play at The Phoenix on October 24- there's been a lot of buzz about this band lately, so I recommend checking them out for yourself.

Hitting the Pound S.F. on October 29 are **Give Up the Ghost** and **The Bled**. I highly recommend this show- Give Up the Ghost is insanely good, and I've heard very good things about The Bled.

Local favorites **Tiger Army** will be playing with headliner **Rancid** at the Warfield on November 6; if you haven't seen Tiger Army live yet, I recommend you check them out. Plus, Rancid's playing- what else can a young hoodlum ask for? You could see **Something Corporate** at California State University on the same night.

Go have fun, kids.

over the speakers, seconds before the men of Audioslave exploded into "Exploder." Singer Chris Cornell showed a lot of vigor for an aging grunge pioneer, handling strictly vocals and leaving the rhythm and noise to Tim, Tom, and Brad. Drummer Brad Wilk faced the back of the stage with his kit, and added an aesthetic dynamic to the live show that is somewhat lacking on the band's debut record. Perhaps the sweetest moment of the night was when Maynard Keenan joined Chris Cornell onstage to play an acoustic cover of Elvis

Costello's "Peace Love and Understanding," a song which Cornell described as "appropriate for the time."

Drinks, shirts, and even the tickets were over-priced, and cell-phone sponsors ran rampant with "send text messages for a chance to go backstage" gimmicks. Despite of some of the crass commercialism pervading Lollapalooza, this particular tune displayed a real camaraderie which is unique to a summer-long multi-band tour, and made the event more than worthwhile.

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Mustangs Moving to Win

By William Chais

The Mustangs have started their season off with a bang. Holding the Sonoma Dragons to just two first downs on offense, and 99 total offensive yards, they won 19-6 in their September 13 game. While the San Marin offense had 224 yards on offense, **Ted Hart** had two interceptions, one returned for an 82-yard touchdown. A negative time of the game was lineman **Robert Chernoff** spraining his neck and shoulder.

While they started off with a win, they still had to face Justin Siena, a tough opponent that the Mustangs have not fared well against before. The Mustangs did not have their best offensive showing, after **David Selchau** turned over the ball several times, lacking sufficient protection from the offensive line. While things were not appearing to be holding together, Hart again held his team together with strong play and heart, making several key receptions. After losing 6-0, the team realized

that one of their biggest problems was their rushing game. With **Mark Wright**, **Joe Schneider** and **Alonzo Hardy** as their running backs, they finished with sixty-two total rushing yards combined with the total from the Sonoma game. They felt it was time for a change.

The Mustangs decided that a key change, prior to facing their next opponent, Lincoln High, would be to move **Justin Graniss** to tailback. Graniss finished the game with 102 rushing yards, combining his with the other tailbacks' effort for a team total of 240 rushing yards after their first three games. Another key position move was Brian Tuel being shifted to tight end. With these changes, the visiting Mustangs defeated the Lincoln team 21-0.



After starting the season off with a 2-1 record, it is apparent the Mustangs have an obviously strong defense, and when Chernoff is able to return, it should make them even stronger. Their offense can be very powerful as well. As long as the Mustangs stray away from injuries, stick to what

has been working for them, and recognize and analyze the dilemmas they face, they should be able to continue their success and be a force in the MCAL.

High Hopes For JV

By Paige Thelen

The fall semester has arrived, bringing volleyball with it! The San Marin Girls' Junior Varsity volleyball team this year consists of three freshman and nine sophomores, five of whom are returning from last year. The experienced coach, Francine Cunnie, expects an impressive performance from the girls this year. "I've got a strong group of five returning players, and I'm looking for big offensive plays from **Maria Baum** and my three setters, **Dana Sockolov**, **Lauren Dumont**, and **Amanda Morrow**." As for the team's defense, look for **Liz Maurer** and **Zoe Miller**. Coach Cunnie also explained that she is "hoping for contributions from a couple of [her] new sophomores, **Jenice Barteo** and **Paige Thelen** as well." During their two scrimmages at Novato High early in the season, the Mustangs and Hornets finished with a tie, both winning a match consisting of three games. Hopefully the Mustangs will carry out a successful season, with support from parents and students at their games. Let's Go Mustang Volleyball!

JV Rocky Start

By Clinton Potter

The 2003 football season has arrived, and the J.V. football team has gotten off to a rocky start with a 0-2 record. Initially troubled by a last minute replacement of the coaching staff, the team has struggled to organize itself. The new staff includes defensive coordinator Mike Webb, offensive coordinator Dan Larkin, and line coach Brian Walsh, a former San Marin Athlete. When asked for comment, Coach Larkin said the first two games, "were two tough losses. We went up against the two best teams we'll see all year, but

we should be able to come off those losses and win some games." Hurting after the second game, the line took a huge loss against Justin Siena with the injury of **Colin Donlevy** and **Mark Schneider**.

Major offensive and defense players to look for this season are **Mike Depew**, running back and middle linebacker, and **J.J. Miller** at tight end and defensive end. Other notable players are the veteran linemen **Paul Himmelstein**, **Nick Basile**, and **Mark Schneider**.

Tennis Time

By Dina Rosenberg

Starting the new tennis season, the girl's team has welcomed a new coach, Ryan Berberian, English and Yearbook teacher at San Marin. Unfortunately, the majority of the team last year was made up of seniors, but "we believe we can fill those shoes," explains Berberian. "This will be a learning experience for me. With one sub and only thirteen players, everyone will have to step

up." With five new veterans and about eight new faces, hopefully, the team will come and work together. "I believe the strong players this year will be **Jessica Ruth**, **Dina Rosenberg**, and **Jenny Slawson**," says Berberian, "and I think that they will be great leaders." Now, with the knowledge that we have an awesome team, come out and support our players!

Bump...Set...Spike

By Marie Buich

The San Marin Girls' Varsity Volleyball team has come back, strong and determined to regain its high status amongst other competitive volleyball teams throughout the county. After a rough season last year, the girls are pumped and more anxious than ever to get to the top. Senior captain **Christina Pelka** comments, "Last year we weren't respected because of our stats, but this year we're much stronger and are determined to regain that respect."

The girls were already victorious at a volleyball

tournament in Rohnert Park at the start of the season, and have placed first in the bronze division at a recent tournament at Novato High School. Although they lost to San Rafael, they're definitely off to a great start, and we can only expect to see many more victories throughout the season.

The Mustangs hope their marvelous improvement on the court will appeal to more fans and persuade them to go watch and cheer the team on at home games at our gym.

Girls Tee Off

By Amber Shields and Abby Yim

Golf isn't just a Grandpa's sport anymore. The ladies of the San Marin Golf team have proved that they are more than qualified to be on the links with the rest of the players. They have had a successful start and have some strong players supporting the team. The top three have made their mark throughout the greens of Marin. Senior, **Rachel Oppenheimer** holds the first position, while **Allison Green** is in second and **Vicki**

Setting is ranked third.

Already into the league season, San Marin has beat Redwood and Terra Linda (due to a forfeit), but they lost to Marin Catholic on an extremely tough, and windy, nine holes. Oppenheimer has returned as a top league contender and has won all three matches. She is looking to be number one in the league this year. She says, "We have a lot of fun and there is a lot of talent out there."

Running For Glory

By Amber Shields

This year the San Marin Boy's Cross-Country Team is starting out strong with a full team, and after last year, when the boys didn't even have a full team, they have nowhere to go but up. The team is full of raw talent, as it only has two returning members, and the future looks promising. Junior **Kyle Wideman** looks as if he will be leading the rest of the boys. Wideman finished ninth individually at the opening race at Stinson Beach with a time of 11:16. He again led the team two weeks later on September 24 at the Cowchip Classic held at Stafford Lake. He ran the varsity boys three mile race with a time of 18:32. Following close behind was senior **Andrew Marcus** with a time of 19:23 and senior **Ryan Pedigo** with a time of 24:26, both of who look promising for this season. All in all the boys look to have a great season ahead.

The girl's team has a solid core returning, which they demonstrated at the opening race at Stinson

Beach. The first girl's team, made up of **Alison Greggor**, **Briana Van Epps**, **Carli O'Leary**, **Lauren Candia**, and **Courtney Dowdall**, all of which are returning members, won first place against a large field of MCAL competitors. Greggor began the race with an awesome kick, running the fastest leg for the team and the eighth fastest time for the 1.6 mile race with a time of 12:22. Two weeks later, and without lead runner Greggor who was out due to an injured hamstring, San Marin girls proved the strength of their core with a ninth place team finish in the Cowchip Classic. The Cowchip was a large individual race with 61 teams and a wide variety of talent. Van Epps finished 24th with a time of 21:08, followed by O'Leary, and senior **Danielle Deshazo**. Van Epps thinks the future is bright for the girls, "I think our team has a lot of potential and if we keep working hard I think we'll do well."

Splash into Season

By Myra Perez

The Lady 'Stangs' water polo team jump started their season with an outstanding victory over Justin-Siena. Senior **Melanie McCollum**, with seven goals, and junior **Myra Perez**, with eight, were the lead scorers of the game. Senior **Jamie Lummis** and juniors **Meg Crowley**, **Kayla Schott-Bresler**, and **Sarah Cochrane** pulled together to shut down Justin-Siena's offense. Other great plays were made by sophomores **Leilani Gilpin** and **Stacy Boven**. Goalie, senior **Lindsey Arnheiter**, contributed many remarkable saves which, contributed to the win.

Unfortunately, the Lady Mustangs lost their momentum, which resulted in a loss to Redwood. The game was well summed

up by the words of Schott-Bresler who said, "even though the score didn't show it, our team played to the best of our ability and we really hung in there when it got tough." Goals were scored by Perez, McCollum and Boven.

The boys began their season with a bang as they defeated Redwood 9-6. Junior **Matt Petty** lead the team with seven goals followed by sophomores **Paul Lillie** and goalie **Max McDonald**, each with one. Solid defense was played by sophomores **Ben Sangster**, **Chris Moghbel**, and **Andrew McKay**. McDonald commented, "I'm surprised that we're pulling together and playing well even with the loss of our four seniors last year." The team expects a promising and succesful season this year.

Kicking It Up A Notch

By Andy Ong and Geoff Slaughter

The boys' varsity soccer team kicked off their MCAL season with a win against Justin-Siena. /durig the game senor captain **Jeff Russell** delivered an extraordinary goal. Other goals included **Ciro Goncalves's** wonderous chip over the goalie, along with a grea show by sophomore forward **Jesse Mendoza**. The following game against San Rafael had a 5-1 victory. Once again, Russell came through scoring two goals. Highlights

of that game include **Ian Walsh's** two assists, **Misa Ramirez's** two goals, and finally "lil Mikey's" (**Mike Endoso**) goal. Goalkeeper **Connor O'Reilly**, who kept the defense organized, also had a spectacular save.

Finally, it looks like the boys Varsity soccer team is ready to win a championship."We finally have a team instead of a group of individuals," says sophomore **Andy Ong**.

Goal!!!!!!!

By Joe Mertel and Denise Nilan

The Junior Varsity boys' soccer team is looking forward to a winning season with the help of their new coach, **Tighe O'Sullivan**. O'Sullivan comes to San Marin with 10 years of coaching experience with Marin Catholic's varsity soccer team. The competition will be formidable as San Marin will have to overcome the obstacles posed by Terra Linda, Marin Catholic, and Drake High. "We are willing to step up and take on the competition," said the optimistic O'Sullivan. **Brian Martinez** is the center midfielder for San Marin and according to his coach, is also a very influential player. The young team includes six freshmen, and

as a sophomore, Martinez helps lead the team. "We have a good team and I think we can have a good season," said Martinez. He scored two of the four goals for San Marin in the Justin Sienna game and has made a major impact on the team's offensive attack. Defensively, goalie **Richie Roboli** denied Justin Sienna any goals with the help of freshman sweeper **Nick George**. **Stefan Auzans**, another powerful freshman on the team, also contributed to the victory with his great ball handling skills and effort. Overall, this year's, San Marin Junior Varsity soccer team looks like they are going to have an exciting and victorious season.

Athletes Don't Need To Take P.E.

By Kayla Schott-Bresler

Would you be upset if someone told you that you spent over three hundred unnecessary hours in a physical education class? I have been told numerous times by San Marin counselors and physical education teachers that P.E. is a state requirement. No exceptions. Well, it appears there is an exception. The 2003 California Code of Education states in code 51242 that "The governing board of a school district may exempt any four-year or senior high school pupil from attending courses of physical education, if the pupil is engaged in a regular school-sponsored interscholastic athletic program carried on wholly or partially after school hours." To put it simply, if you play a school sport, by law, you can be exempted from taking P.E. Right now there are close to six hundred (over fifty percent of the student body) athletes at San Marin who are required by the district to take two years of P.E., because without it these people would not be allowed to graduate.

In a typical P.E. class, the average student spends his time barely mobile, carelessly hitting volleyballs out of bounds across a damaged net. Furthermore, I doubt that walking around the field imagining it is a golf course burns many calories. We are required to do national fitness testing three times a year. A main part of this fitness testing is weight lifting. At no time other than during this testing do we practice strenuous weight lifting. When we are encouraged to lift the most weight possible without any prior practice our muscles are put at great risk. There have been instances in physical education classes at San Marin where unfit students have harmed themselves by participating in these tests. Though the physical education instructors are dedicated and knowledgeable, they cannot gather the necessary respect from serious student-athletes which they would need to help them improve.

The San Marin physical education program initially encourages students to enroll in interscholastic

athletics. If they encourage us to excel in sports, then why does P.E. often interfere with student's extracurricular athletics? One San Marin student had ten rigorous extracurricular sports practices per week and on top of that was required to do P.E. This student was often accused of being lazy when he was unable to put his best effort forth during class and did not even receive an A in P.E. During the year many competitive athletes ask to take a day off from P.E. because they have an important game, match, performance, or meet that day. In my experience, the physical education department often becomes resentful when asked to comply, and are therefore unaccommodating. It is obvious that these outside activities are much more physically demanding than a fifty minute P.E. class, yet this tedious requirement has not yet been removed.

The main rational argument for physical education is that it develops life-long healthy fitness habits. In P.E. class there is a high emphasis on lifetime fitness, but I do not think that this aspect of P.E. is as effective as it is intended to be. I am confident that if a study was done it would show that the vast majority of the people who are still exercising in their late forties are those who participated in interscholastic, extracurricular athletics while they were in high school, not forced to sit through years of P.E.

I believe that a closely monitored program which eliminates any physical education obligation for varsity student-athletes could be developed. By creating such a program the school would in part be repaying its athletes for the status they have awarded it. Students involved in an equal or greater amount of athletic activity that they would achieve in a physical education class should be exempt from taking this course. Junior, Signy Toquinto, a three-season San Marin athlete suggests, "Because many athletes spend their after school time practicing they could use the class time to keep

up with their homework." A study hall could help athletes manage their work and time, which might then trigger their improvement in school and athletics. Many administrators would say that students should not be involved in extracurricular activities if they cannot already manage their school work. However, studies show that student athletes involved in more than fifteen hours of extracurricular sports per week develop better study habits, and therefore receive better grades than they would if they were not participating in these sports. I believe this elimination of P.E. for athletes would increase participation in school sports and over time drastically help the school athletic teams because this exemption would be motivation to get involved. School board members and school administrators need to look at the bigger picture and realize what would actually benefit these student-athletes.

There are many San Marin students who participate in extracurricular athletics. They are all well aware of this physical education situation, and I have heard multiple complaints regarding it. Though it would be extremely difficult to absolve us of this obligation, if we, as a student body, united to help future San Marin students, we could accomplish this goal. There is a proposal circulating regarding new physical education requirements, so this is the time to fight for what is just. Many of us do not need to take P.E. and it is ridiculous that the school district requires us to do so, even though the state does not. At the top of the personal fitness records in P.E. it says, "Be fit and healthy by being active on a regular basis." For those students who participate in outside sports, I have one question to ask you: If you were not required to take physical education for the past two years, would you not still have been active on a regular basis? If that is the goal, then we can achieve it without P.E.

A Decade of Music Ultimate 80's Movies

Rock

By Julia Capasso

Remember Whitesnake? No? How about Night Ranger? Warrant? Well, no wonder; the 80's produced some of the most forgettable rock bands in history. Though a lot of 80's rock 'n roll went in one ear and out the other, the decade spawned some of the greatest bands in rock and punk; bands with such longevity that they still have fans today, twenty years later.

The 80's started off with a bang, with releases from seminal punk bands like the Ramones and the Clash, producing such recognizable tunes as "The KKK Took My Baby Away" and "Train in Vain," respectively. Two years later in 1982, the Clash rode high on mainstream rock charts with "Rock the Casbah" and "Should I Stay or Should I Go." The Ramones continued cranking out albums consistently throughout the decade. Ozzy Osbourne's classic "Crazy Train" was also released in 1980.

The Misfits took punk to a whole new level. With their unique brand of horror-punk, they took the underground by storm, and are still incredibly influential to bands today. Formed in the late 70's, they released several records until the mid-80's, when singer Glenn Danzig left the band and started a solo career.

Of course, no account of 80's bands would be complete without mentioning U2. The young Irish rockers released records all throughout the 80's, producing hits such as "New Year's Day," and "With or Without You."

Then came the hair and glam bands: Motley Crue, Jon Bon Jovi, Poison, Cinderella, Twisted Sister, and infinitely more. Hair bands were fun loving and, well, hairy. What would the music scene be today without "We're Not Gonna Take It" and "Girls, Girls, Girls"? Certainly much more depressing; imagine having to listen to the Smiths instead! The Smiths were an English band, fronted by the ever-woeful Steven Morrissey and guitar genius, Johnny Marr. Though often accused of being a depressing band, the Smiths actually produced

many poppy, upbeat sounding tracks (as long as you didn't read the lyrics.)

Later in the 80's, the Cure produced hit after hit, apparently once they started using a synthesizer. Duran Duran, recently honored with a lifetime achievement award from MTV, graced the charts with "Rio" and "Hungry Like the Wolf." Madness brought the ska all throughout the 80's, and New Order achieved commercial success with "Blue Monday" and "Bizarre Love Triangle." Guns n' Roses released "Appetite for Destruction" in 1987, and quickly became one of the most popular rock bands of the late 80's-90's.

Sorting through all the trash produced in the 80's, the truly great 80's rock bands stand out from the rest. Why listen to pop queen Tiffany's sweet, sugary bubblegum tunes when you can blast "Livin' On a Prayer" by Bon Jovi in your car stereo instead?

Pop

By Denise Nilan

Madonna, Vanilla Ice, and Stevie Wonder. If these names are not familiar, you've head banged to Gun n' Roses too hard. These are the names that created the Eighties. The epic tales of Madonna and Michael Jackson began with songs like *Material Girl* and *Thriller*, in this totally tubular decade. Their upbeat tunes played well on the boom box along side of Paula Abdul, Whitney Houston, Janet Jackson, Tiffany, The Police, Duran Duran and Cyndi Lauper. Other pop idols of the decade included Vanilla Ice and M.C. Hammer. The two not only had noticeable music and moves, but also created the popularity of the white rapper and the hammer pants. For the make-out songs of the Eighties, Bon Jovi, Stevie Wonder, and Lionel Richie made a great love tape mix. To check out these gnarly hits, moon walk your way on over to your local record

By Alyssa Pomponio and Abby Yim

Although any one of the students at San Marin will agree that the eighties produced the best people, it also produced some great flicks. In honor of our "80's movies" themed Homecoming, we invite you to remember some awesome quotes from some of the most radical cinema. Because there are so many to choose from, here are a few of our favorites that really capture the decade.

In no particular order:

Sixteen Candles

- 1) Samantha: "I can't believe my grandmother felt me up!"
- 2) Jake: "Did she come here with you?" Farmer Ted: "No but if its alright with my dad she's coming home with me."

The Breakfast Club

- 1) John Bender: "Does Barry Manilow know that you raid his wardrobe?"
- 2) Richard Vernon: "Don't mess with the bull, young man. You'll get the horns."
- 3) Andrew: "What do you need a fake I.D. for?" Brian: "So I can vote!"

Ferris Bueller's Day Off

- 1) [A baseball game is on television.] Ed Rooney: "What's the score?" Pizza Joint Owner: "Nothin' to nothin'." Ed Rooney: [not really listening] "Who's winning?" Pizza Joint Owner: "The Bears."
- 2) Cameron: "The 1961 Ferrari 250GT California. Less than a hundred were made. My father spent three years restoring this car. It is his love, it is his passion." Ferris: "It is his fault he didn't lock the garage."

The Goonies

- 1) Clarke "Mouth" Devereux: "You call this water?" Mama Fratelli: "It's wet, ain't it? Drink it!"
- 2) Stefanie "Stef" Steinbrenner: "This is ridiculous. It's crazy. I feel like I'm babysitting, except I'm not getting paid."

Say Anything

- 1) Lloyd Dobler: "I gave her my heart, she gave me a pen."
- 2) Diane Court: "Don't be a guy, the world is full of guys, be a man."

Back to the Future

- 1) Biff Tannen: "I have your car towed all the way to your house and all you've got for me is LIGHT beer?"
- 2) [Marty learns the consequences of tampering with the past.] Marty McFly: "Sounds pretty heavy." Dr. Emmet Brown: "Weight has nothing to do with it."
- 3) Biff Tannen: "Why don't you make like a tree and get the hell out of here?"

Top Gun

- 1) Maverick: "She's lost that loving feeling." Goose: "No, no she hasn't." Maverick: "Oh, yes she has." Goose: "I hate it when she does that."
- 2) Maverick: "I feel the need..." Goose: "...the need for speed!"

Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure

- 1) History Teacher: "Who was Joan of Arc?" Ted: "Noah's wife?"
- 2) [Delivering a history report.] Ox: "Everything is different, but the same... things are more modern than before... bigger, and yet smaller... it's computers... San Dimas High School football rules!"

Caddyshack

- 1) Ty Webb: "You're rather attractive for a beautiful girl with a great body."

Airplane

- 1) Steve McCrosky: "This fog is getting thicker!" Johnny: "And Leon is getting laaaaaarrrrrger!"

After reading our quick run down of the classic film quotes of the 80's, we hope that you feel perfectly prepared for Homecoming. Have a rad time!



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