



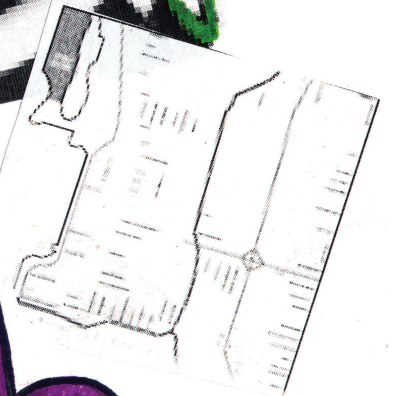
Pony Express

Volume 37, Number 1 • San Marin High School, Novato, California • October 1, 2004

HOMECOMING



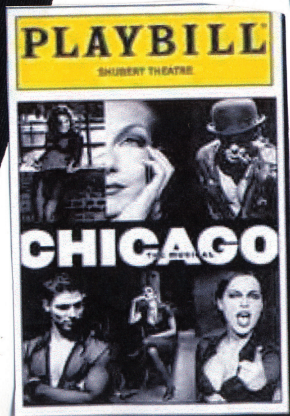
Jazz



CHICAGO



Late Night Performance
8:00
October 2



Letter from the Editors

by Paige Lehman & Denise Nilan



Dear Students and Patrons,

That wonderful time of year is upon us. And with the new school year, we begin the process of bringing the San Marin community their newspaper. Many agonizing hours have been spent writing and producing the *Pony Express* by our elite staff. We have tried to incorporate our innovated ideas with the standard *Pony Express* style. The new staff this year has been essential in uniting San Marin's variety of interests. At the *Pony Express* we are always open to suggestions and criticism and we hope to receive as much student feedback as possible. We want to remind students that this is their paper, and they should not hesitate to contact us if there is anything confusing, offensive, interesting, etc in the paper.

We have to express our gratitude towards Mrs. Shine, our new advisor. She has been wonderfully patient with our developing paper and has added a new perspective as well. We also owe a huge thank you to Michael Cusack, who is responsible for almost the entire layout. Without his computer genius skills we wouldn't be able to produce this paper. And, of course, we thank our patrons for their continued subscription to our publication. Most of all, we thank Ms. Andersen for her continued support and advice. Without the help of all these people we would not be able to continue the tradition of the *Pony Express*.

We look forward to providing the news and views of San Marin for the 2004-2005 school year.

Sincerely,
Pony Express
Editors-in-Chiefs

Denise Nilan Paige Lehman

Stem Cell Research

by Beth Sekishiro

Michael J. Fox could be back on TV again, living his dream. You, or a loved one, could be forever free of the curse of diabetes. Superman could walk again – all thanks to stem cells.

Stem cells are undifferentiated cells, meaning that they have no special task to perform in the body (e.g. liver cells, blood cells, etc.). Scientists are currently researching ways to “program” the cells so that they are specialized.

Stem cells have already proven to be a near-miraculous boon to medical science. In Germany, stem cells were instrumental in a procedure doctors used to grow a new jaw in the back of a man who lost his original jaw to cancer. These stem cells were taken from the man's bone marrow. Procedures using adult stem cells are generally accepted by scientists and the public.

However, the potential feats of adult stem cells pale in comparison to those of embryonic stem cells – stem cells obtained from human embryos. These cells have a better ability to replicate in lab dishes, producing an enormous supply of stem cells for researchers to work with, while adult stem cells will not proliferate for very long. Embryonic stem cells can become any kind of cell, whereas adult stem cells will only become a kind of cell from the area of the body

from which they were taken. Scientists are enthusiastic about the immense promise of embryonic stem cell research. “It is not too unrealistic to say that this research has the potential to revolutionize the practice of medicine and improve the quality and length of life,” says Harold Varmus, the director of the National Institutes of Health at the time embryonic stem cell research got started.

In some cases, researchers hope to study embryos left over from fertilization clinics. Couples who have trouble conceiving a child sometimes go to clinics where their eggs and sperm are combined in a laboratory. Fertility specialists like to create several embryos – usually between 3-5 – and implant 2 or 3 in the woman. The remaining embryos are then frozen. These are the embryos that scientists want to study and experiment upon. Other scientists wish to create embryos for the sole purpose of research. In the process of their research, all embryos are destroyed.

Embryonic stem cell research has many opponents. Many have ethical reservations about the creation of embryos for the sole purpose of destroying them, believing that these 5-7-day-old blastocysts are human life. They claim that



not only does this research exploit them, denying them dignity, but that it is also murder. Sophomore Valeria Cuba says, “I think it's bad. Everything about killing is bad.” Opponents of embryonic stem cell research contend that embryos are no less human life than newborn babies (or adults, for that matter), having undergone no magnificent physiological transformation during birth that bestows human status upon them – that they received human status at conception, when the sperm and eggs first met to create their unique DNA codes. But with scientists across the nation certain that cures for some of the most common – and most debilitating – diseases lie within stem cell projects, do the ends justify the means? “I think that if the embryo is going to be aborted anyway, then the embryo should be used for good,” opines junior Jessica Bousquette. As the nation becomes deeply embroiled in this ethical conflict, every informed opinion counts.

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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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Seniors Unjustly Suspended

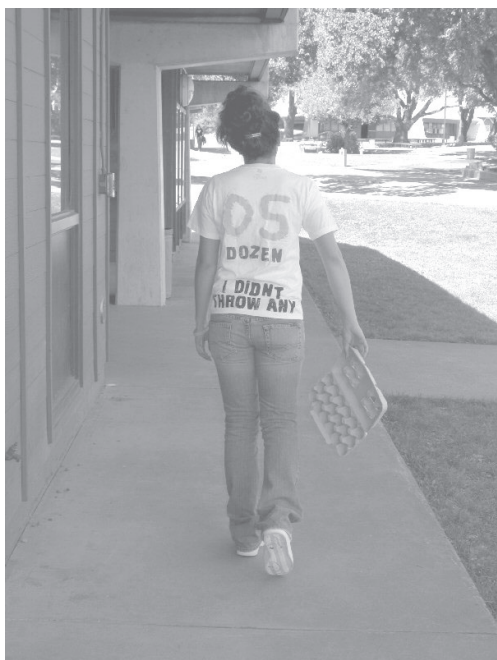
by Denise Nilan

On August 30, 2004, while San Marin students filed into classrooms with their new binders and number two pencils, four seniors remained nuzzled in their beds. Not because of an extreme case of senioritis or the simple malfunction of an alarm clock, but because they were suspended. These four anonymous seniors were given one to three day suspensions for the possession of eggs.

Freshman hazing has long been a tradition at San Marin. The class of 2005 was subjected to hazing in their first year; many argue that it is part of the high school experience. The administration begs to differ, and is attempting to fight egging with a new no-tolerance policy. However, the circumstances surrounding the four students' suspension raise questions about this policy.

On August 21st, the day of the freshman

and was greeted by an officer. With the motor still running the officer opened the back passenger's door and spotted the eggs placed



directly at the bottom of her feet. The officer then withdrew the eggs, walked to front passenger's side and took the eggs nearest to him as well. After the removal of the eggs the driver finally located her I.D and asked the obvious question as to why she was

consent, the five were released until Gerhardt was able to discuss the situation with Principal Andersen.

When asked about the suspension Mrs. Andersen was unable to comment, only stating that there are individual cases and reasons for everyone's suspension. Mrs. Andersen also made her avid approval of the new zero-tolerance policy very apparent. The new policy states that there are grounds for suspension even under what seems to be intent to haze. Actual hazing usually results in a suspension of five-days.

The four seniors' suspension is still a confusing case. Three of the students were suspended for the first three days of school, while one student (at whose feet the eggs were found) slid by with a mere one day suspension for what seems to be the same crime. Of course, Mrs. Andersen could not discuss the peculiar circumstances surrounding the suspensions, but it has left a general question among students and parents. "I have no idea why I only got one day and everyone else got three," stated the student with the one-day suspension. It is rumored that because of this student's notorious athleticism and family connections to the faculty, she was spared two days.

Since August 21st the foursome have realized there is more that comes with their suspension than just three extra days of summer. Their suspension has become a permanent mark on their transcripts, something that may alter college decisions. They also missed the irreplaceable first few days of senior year. All consequences for a crime that wasn't even committed. No eggs were thrown.



The four seniors wished to have their identities concealed.

orientation, a San Marin senior was driving to school to pick up her brother with three friends in tow. Ready to go home, she pulled out and was immediately waved over by two officers parked in front of the school. Unaware of any crime she may have committed, she pulled onto campus

pulled over. Apparently the officer pulled the driver over for a seatbelt violation, a ticket she never received.

The officer then got the students' names and escorted all five of the students to the front office to talk with Mr. Rich Gerhardt. After questioning all of the students, without parental



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Election 2004

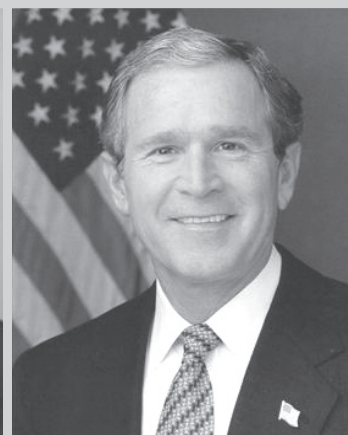
by Paige Lehman & Marco Perez

Lately, the 2004 presidential election has become somewhat of a fad. With MTV's "Choose or Lose" campaign and P.Diddy's "Vote or die" slogan, the 18-24 age demographic has been bombarded with a message: vote. Why all the commotion over a mostly apathetic generation? Statistics have shown that in the 2000 election, this group would have made all the difference in the outcome had they voted. And so, the effort to mobilize young adults to the polls has begun. The question is, are young people being urged to vote, or are they being told for whom to vote? Even if you won't be eligible to vote in November, this election has everything to do with you and the community in which you live.

The 2000 presidential election is remembered for the ballot controversy in Florida. The exact number of votes for Democratic candidate Al Gore and Republican candidate George W. Bush was unclear as Florida voters demanded a recount. The Supreme Court ended up basically voting Bush as president. Later, it was pointed out that if young eligible voters had cast a vote, Gore would have been the likely winner. The idea that this demographic could drastically alter an election appealed to many

people, particularly liberal organizations. While Bush and Gore alienated potential new voters by continually debating such issues as healthcare and foreign policy, this year both candidates have made an effort to court younger voters. Kerry made special appearances on MTV News and the Daily Show, both news programs widely watched by teens and young adults. President Bush's daughters made a rare public appearance at the Republican National Convention, undoubtedly a move to relate to the apolitical majority of youth.

It is now up to young voters to decide whether or not they will be moved by all these efforts. If you are one of the many youth that still isn't planning to vote, consider this: by not voting, you are implying that you don't care about how the nation will be run in the next four years. By not voting, you are saying that you don't care about education, healthcare, and welfare. If this is fine by you, then by all means, don't vote. But those who are still conflicted about how to vote in this upcoming election, pay attention and get informed. Whether you vote for a candidate because you agree with them on the war against terrorism or because Puffy supports them, it's still a vote. And it's your vote.



Voting Requirements

- Be at least 18 years of age by the day of the election (November 2)
- Be a U.S. citizen
- Registered at least 15 days before the election
- Not in prison or on parole for a felony

Where to Register

- Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
- All city or clerks offices
- Public libraries
- Post offices
- 1-800-345-VOTE

College of Marin: Satan's Summer School

by Denise Nilan

Over the years, my typical summer day has usually begun at around 11:30 A.M. when I stagger out of bed only to find myself sleeping again on a beach towel later that day. Unfortunately, this summer was completely different. On the very first Monday of summer, I found myself rising to the familiar sound of an alarm clock and glaring at the horrible numbers 5:30 AM. Yes, it is true; I, Denise Nilan, elected to go to College of Marin for a frickin' three hour and forty-five minute math class Monday through Thursday mornings.

It wasn't the worst experience of my life (I didn't break my nose this time), but it was definitely a close second. I left my house at around 6:00 AM to try to beat the traffic, which, of course, never seemed to work. I fought off sleep for about an hour while the carpool lane rushed by next to me. By the time I cruised into the empty College of Marin parking lot, I was already exhausted from my journey, and my learning experience hadn't even begun. At 7:00 I started my homework, or, more honestly put, I began copying my homework from the back of the book. Once my paper looked as if I had a legitimate amount of work, I stopped. I then used the remaining moments to cram myself into a comfortable position and sleep. Unfortunately, every morning, without fail, my two perky junior friends, Alex Randall and Eric Eisberg, would shake my car and disturb my slumber. Already irritated, I would crank down my window and discuss the wonderful events of their last psychology class. I would

College of Marin: High School Intellect's Haven

by Alex Randall & Eric Eisberg

What high school student in his or her right mind would take college classes during the summer? Well, we would. And that's exactly how we spent our mornings for the first month-and-a-half of vacation. Waking up at 6:00 A.M. (yes, it's true, that hour actually exists) every Monday-Thursday, we met near the highway to carpool down to the College of Marin campus at Kentfield for our Introduction to Psychology class.

While others high school students might have been sleeping in or hanging out at the beach, we toiled away in an air-conditioned classroom in Kentfield. Why did we do it? Well, though this might sound absurd, this Psychology class taught us a lot about ourselves, as well as others. Aside from learning about the structure and the functions of the human brain, we also learned about the way people think. Besides, we were able to get a huge college prerequisite out of the way.

Alex, the usually (cough cough) responsible student, got his first taste of a college all-nighter when he put off homework supposed

to be completed over the course of two weeks until the evening before it was due. He then was working on three essays and two hundred incredibly complex multiple choice questions until four o'clock in the morning, woke up at six, and proceeded to his class on two hours of sleep. To top it off, the next morning, a Tuesday, he slept through his alarm, woke up at 11:30 A.M., realized he had slept through class, and rushed to work, where he was supposed to be at 11:45.

Eric, the usually not-so-responsible student, was able to complete his assignments before 10:00 P.M. Ironic, isn't it?

Lastly, our psychology class was structured differently than your average high school course. Tardies were of no importance. The professor did not seem to care whether anyone frequented the class, as long as they had paid for it. Also, he didn't mind having students bring guests with them. For example, Paul Himmelstein tagged along with us one bright and early Monday morning, and found the class entertaining, despite its lack of intellectual

stimulation. Also, time management was key for success. Homework was assigned every two weeks, and there was no in-class work or tests given. The quizzes were take-home, and consisted of anywhere between 117-162 multiple-choice questions.

Unlike many other students who attended

summer school at COM, our experience was a profoundly positive one. Not only did we learn an immense amount about human behavior, which we plan to employ to evil effect, we definitely also solidified our reputations as two of the biggest nerds (especially Eric) that San Marin has ever seen.



also disguise my shame, and ask my intellectual duo a few math questions.

At 8:00, I stumbled

the hot Heath Ledger look-a-like to my left. It is hard to admit, but the majority of my hours at College of



into class with thrashed hair, puffy eyes, and a scratch of paper that consisted of none of my own work. I pretty much spaced out for the rest of the day, my attention divided between the pathetically slow clock and

single lesson. Many hours of my day were consumed by trying to discover celebrity look-a-likes in my class. For instance, I temporarily sat near a Nicole Richie wannabe. Everyday, about forty-five minutes after class had started, Bianca strolled in as if straight from *The Simple Life* decked out in Christian Dior shades, Juicy Couture clothing, Ugg boots, and the essential Louis Vuitton. If I wasn't staring dazed at my classmates or the teacher, I was text messaging my friends or playing Block Dude on my calculator. I never did anything beneficial with my time, not even a crossword puzzle.

I know I could have put more effort into my pricey college experience (books, gas, and enrollment), but summer was unbelievably distracting. I should have been memorizing equations and mastering calculations instead of letting my time slide through my fingers and disappear forever. As astonishing as it is, I somehow passed the class. It's truly amazing how college works. All the students functioned on caffeine and nicotine, and none seemed to do much more work than I did. Despite my painful, yet brief encounter with college life, it is something I anxiously anticipate.

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Viva España

by Paige Thelen and Dina Rosenberg

Over the summer, twenty-two students from San Marin were offered the opportunity to travel across the Atlantic to visit the extraordinary country of España. Led by three outstanding teachers, Señoritas Pelka, Watson, and Lowrie, the students made their way from Madrid to El Costa del Sol in just one week, visiting many other historical sites along the way.

As for sightseeing, everyone felt some of the tours were a little overkill, but the nightlife definitely paid off. Finally reaching Madrid after six hours of layovers, fifteen girls from the group experienced a memorable visit to La Plaza Mayor to get their first taste of Spanish culture. The students found it intriguing that the girls had no trouble being admitted to clubs, while, on the other hand, the boys had a harder time. "It was frustrating moving from club to club, trying to be admitted, while the chicas were able to casually walk

into any bar. But when we all found a club that would let all of us in, we had the time of our lives," explains senior Charlie Drummond-Hay, one of the five boys in the group. In an attempt to lose the tour guide, the group ironically lost Mark Meier on the subway in the middle of the night. With an abundant amount of American "girly" screams, the tunnel echoed with high-pitched terror, causing all heads to turn. Luckily, Mark was smart enough to board the next train, and he was reunited with the group shortly afterwards. That is one of the many memories that no one will ever forget. With morning headaches, 110 degree heat, and a constantly unbearable tour guide, the students sluggishly dragged themselves south from Madrid to the Coast – not to imply that the adventure was not a blast, because it was.

After spending time recovering from the extensive journey across the ocean, three days were spent touring

in and around Madrid, including the small towns of Toledo, Segovia, and an enormous cross perched on the famous Valley of the Fallen. Following an amazing three nights in Madrid, San Marin Spanish students piled into the tour bus, where they would spend six hours making their way down to Seville, with a short stop in Cordoba.

Once settled in the beautiful city of Seville, students were offered the chance to attend a flamenco dancing performance, and later a traditional bull fight. Señora Pelka recalls, "For both the bull fight and the flamenco show we wanted to truly experience the myth and what it was really about. We realized in life you are sometimes the bull or the fighter, the prey or



the predator. And during the flamenco show, it was entertaining to observe the performers coming alive and portraying their characters through expressive, passionate, powerful dance." Everyone was so exhausted that they preferred to spend their time relaxing by the pool, which was located on the roof of the hotel, with a mind-blowing view of the city skyline. Upon departing from Seville, the students

embarked on an excursion to Granada, the home of the Alhambra Palace, one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

Last but not least, they arrived in the resort town of Fuengirola, on the southern coast of Spain bordering the Mediterranean Sea. The students spent their time sunbathing on the beach, swimming in the warm Mediterranean waters, and shopping in stores containing fashionable exotic apparel.

An American in Paris

by Kristen D'Angelo

It was only five days into my summer, and I was boarding a plane, about to embark on the trip of a lifetime. Since I began taking French my freshman year, I had looked forward to completing my second year of the course in order to accompany my class on the trip to Paris and London. Now, as I settled into my seat, looking forward to sleeping most of the twelve-hour flight, I couldn't believe the time had actually come. As excited as I was, I also had some reservations. I was no stranger to the horror stories about how rude the French were, getting lost, or money getting stolen, or arriving and completely forgetting everything I had learned.

As our plane landed at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, I was anxious to get off and begin experiencing the French culture. Unfortunately, the first sign I saw as we walked down the corridor was in English – so much for that. We passed through customs and finally met our tour leader, Marie, who was not only the coolest person, but had an awesome accent as well, a combination of

French and British. We were then ushered off to what I was the most hesitant about, our sleeping quarters. The Hotel Cecile was quaint and cute-looking from the outside, but inside was a different experience. It wasn't necessarily dirty, but it wasn't quite what I was used to; still, it was part of the experience; though, I could have done without the hand-held showerhead. For the next seven days, we toured everything from Versailles, Giverney, various chateaux, and, of course, the Eiffel Tower, which is absolutely incredible at

night. Much to Ms. Walwyn and my classmates' amusement, I found plenty of time to perfect the art of Parisian shopping, though my mom wasn't too thrilled when she received the credit card bill.

The culture was such a different experience. There's no drinking age – at least, it's not enforced – so it's not unusual to see

someone our age walking into a store and being able to buy alcohol. Their breakfast was something that I couldn't get used to though; it consisted of a croissant and a glass of orange juice. A half-hour later, I was hungry.

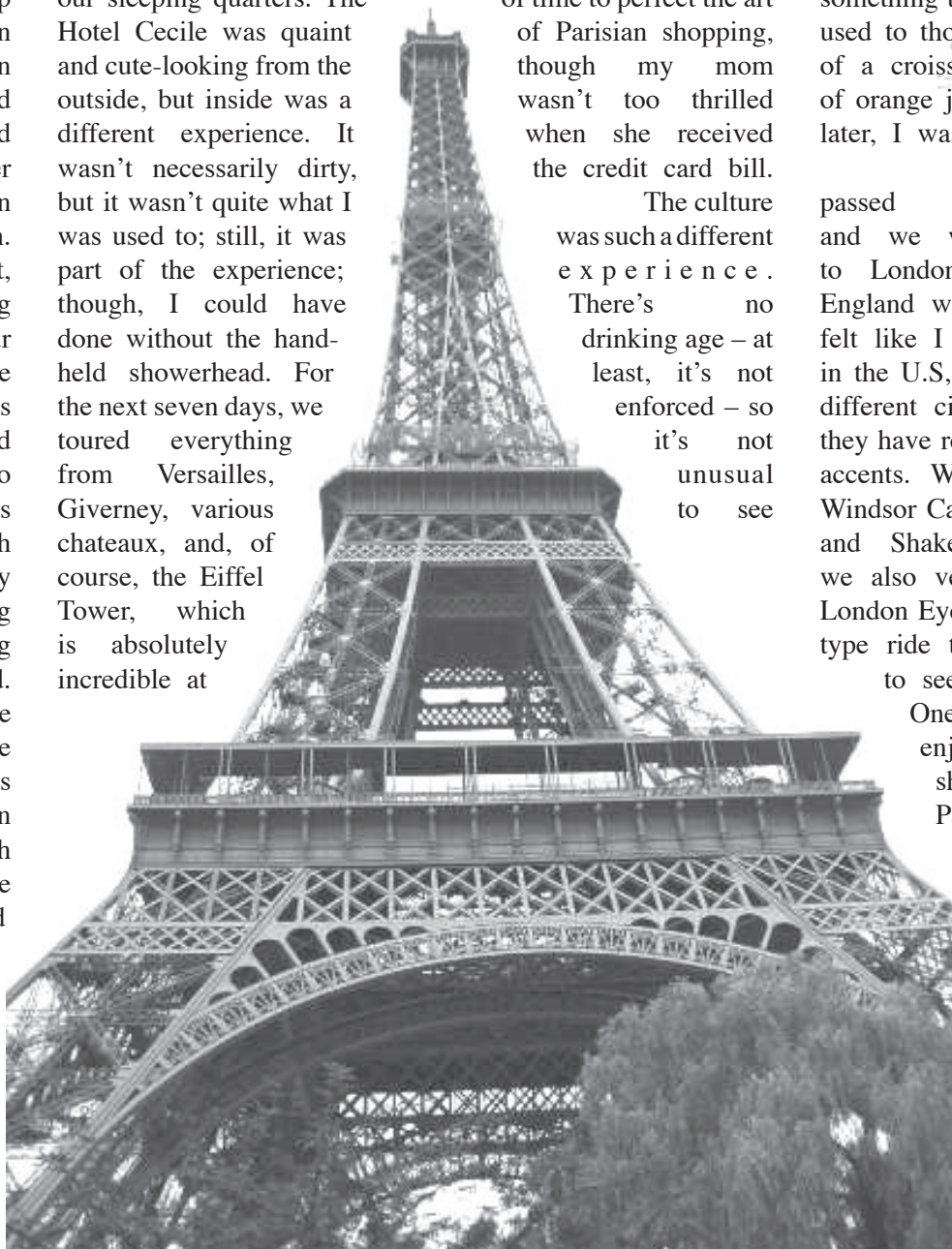
Yet, time passed quickly and we were off to London. While England was fun, I felt like I was still in the U.S, just in a different city where they have really cool accents. We visited Windsor Castle, Stonehenge, and Shakespeare's house; we also ventured onto the London Eye, a Ferris wheel-type ride that enables you to see the entire city.

One thing I greatly enjoyed was the shopping. I loved Paris, but I loved the shopping in London. I practically lived down at Oxford Circus, one of the best places to shop in London. If the Paris bill was bad, I

thought my mom was headed for cardiac arrest when she got the bill for London.

Traveling to Europe was an amazing experience I will never forget. Not only did I spend two weeks in two

different foreign cities, but I spent it with an awesome group of people. If anything, it made me more independent. Being a suburban child, I didn't know the first thing about public transportation, yet I was able to master the Metro (Paris's version of the subway), and the Tube (London's version). One day I plan to return to Paris because of how much I fell in love with the city. The people are so kind, especially if you attempt to communicate with them in their language, and I never felt unsafe. This summer definitely provided me with a lifetime of memories, not to mention some pretty interesting, though unprintable, stories.



Ask The Candidates

Collected by Katrina Richards, Dina Rosenberg and Paige Thelen



If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?

Nina Tran - A liger, It's pretty much my favorite animal. It's like a lion and a tiger mixed... bred for its skills in magic.



Shane Rose - A three legged dog, 'cause what's not to love?



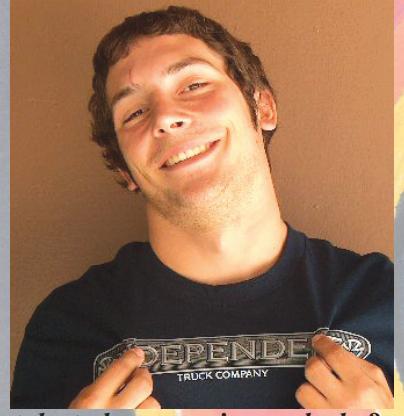
If you take a celebrity to homecoming, who would it be and why?

Bonnie Lummis - R. Kelly... 'cause I heard I am his type...
Geoff Slaughter - Oprah Winfrey, because I find her wait, maybe that's is not such a intellectually stimulating good idea.



What lower classmen would you take to homecoming and why?

Krista Walker - Will Rushton, because he's the only King I need.
Tyler Rushton - Marisa Houlihan, because she's fresh meat.



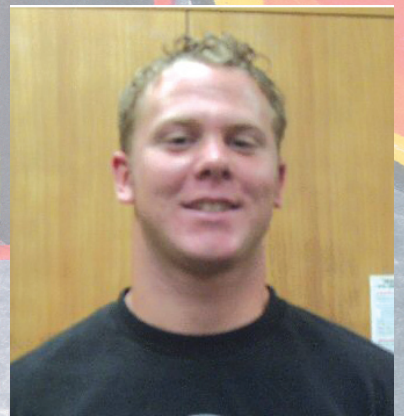
What electronic device could you not live without?

Elena Miller - Hello!! My vibrator ... in my cell phone!!
Ian Walsh - My light saber that I got from Don Lu, because it's the biggest one on the block.



If you could be king or queen of any country, what country would it be and why?

Signy Toquinto - England, so I could finally marry William.
Casey Pughe - Australia, so I could lay back on the beach and enjoy the Aussie ladies.



If you could be any kitchen appliance, what would it be and why?

Junior Class Princess and Prince



Angela Olmanson - An espresso maker, so I would never run out of steam.

Sophomore Class Duchess and Duke



Maddie Holtze - A blender, so I could break the ice...

Freshman Class Lady and Lord



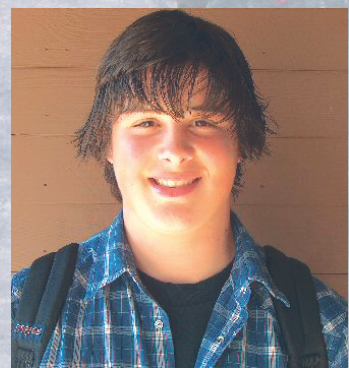
Kacie Gasparini - A refrigerator, so I could hold all the good food.



Nathan Ely - A spatula, so I could flip pancakes day and night.



Vinny Pacchetti - Pepper shaker, so I could spice things up.



Kasey Correnti - A toaster, so I could heat things up to a crisp.

HOMECOMING



What makes up the perfect man/woman?

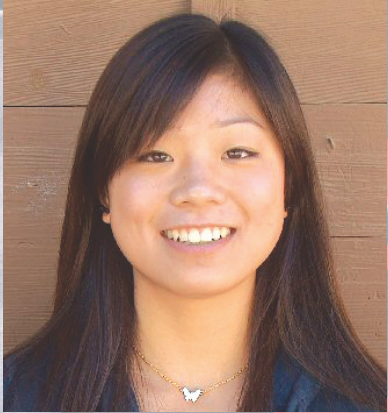
Lindsay Walsh - Well I am always in the kitchen, so I need someone with a hardy appetite.

Chris Susoeff - A good cook.

If you were stranded on island with one person, who would you want that one person to be and why?

Courtney Coughlin - Definitely Rudy, I think he'd look hot in a loin cloth.

Charlie Drummond-Hay - I would want it to be Loeta, because she's impermeable to harsh weather.



If you could be any TV character who would you be and why?

Ashley Ng - I would be Patrick from "Spongebob Squarepants" because he's a star.

Anthony Gonzales - La Catrina...enough said.

If you could bring any teacher to homecoming who would it be and why?

Carli O'Leary - Is it too late to get a guest pass for Kinane?

Casey Kasten - Lisa Kemp, because she's been running through my mind all day.



If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?

Michelle Rayner - A fat llama named Tina, because she's a fat lard!

Eric Estes - A duck-billed platypus, because it's the only poisonous mammal in the world.

Dance Steps:

Charleston

- On beat 1, move left foot straight back, taking most of the weight.
- On beat 2, put weight on the right foot.
- On beat 3, kick left foot forward, keeping weight on right foot.
- On beat 4, step forward with and put weight on the left foot.
- On beat 5, kick right foot forward.
- On beat 6, lift the right foot.
- On beat 7, kick the right foot back and to the side.
- On beat 8, step back on the right foot, and get ready to start again.

St. Louis Shag

This dance, like the Charleston, has 8-count patterns with partners dancing mostly next to each other. The names of the steps are: Triple step (or kick), Kick Hop, Step Stomp, Rock Step. It is done very quickly and the basic counts are:

- On beat 1 and 2, step on left foot, step on right foot, step forward on left foot (so the two counts are actually a triplet).
- On beat 3, keep your weight on the left foot and bounce on the left leg followed by a right foot kick from the knee.
- On Beat 4, bounce again on the left leg, the right foot goes towards the left leg, somewhere between the ankle and knee.
- On beat 5, step on the right foot and let your weight move onto it.
- On beat 6, stomp the left foot but keep your weight off of it.
- On beat 7, rock forward.
- On beat 8, rock back.

So now that you're savvy enough for the Savoy, grab your partner, hit the wood, and start cookin' all the way to Homecoming.



Dancing for Dummies

by Katt Knecht and Alex Randall

Your Pimpin' is so shine, you cook that wood like you were in Hellzapoppin! If you understand this, you're either old, or hip to our jivetalk. Throughout the 1920s, Big Bands (large traveling orchestras) thrived and swing was the music of the decade, paving the way for various new and innovative dances. So if you're caught with two left feet while your partner is busy Lindy-Hoppin', here's the skinny on some lingo sure to take you back to the Savoy Ballroom.

The dance of the era was called the Lindy Hop, which became the origin of the swing dances soon to develop. A person who loved to do this dance was known as a Lindy Hopper. Dancing was also calling "jumpin'," and if you were jumpin' to fast music, you were "cookin'." If there was a short break in the music where you stopped moving, it was known as a "freeze." The Lindy Hop could involve many different moves, which were known as "shine steps" because whoever performed them was sure to stand out, or "shine" on the dance floor, which they dubbed as the "wood." These shine steps included the Waterfall, the Kick Butt Jump, and one known as Pimpin', along with numerous others. This dance eventually came to be known as the Jitterbug, and was featured in a movie called "Hellzapoppin'."

But if just talking like a dancer straight from the 20s isn't enough for you, here are some dances that will have you looking like you know what you're doing.

Flapper Fashion

by Paige Thelen

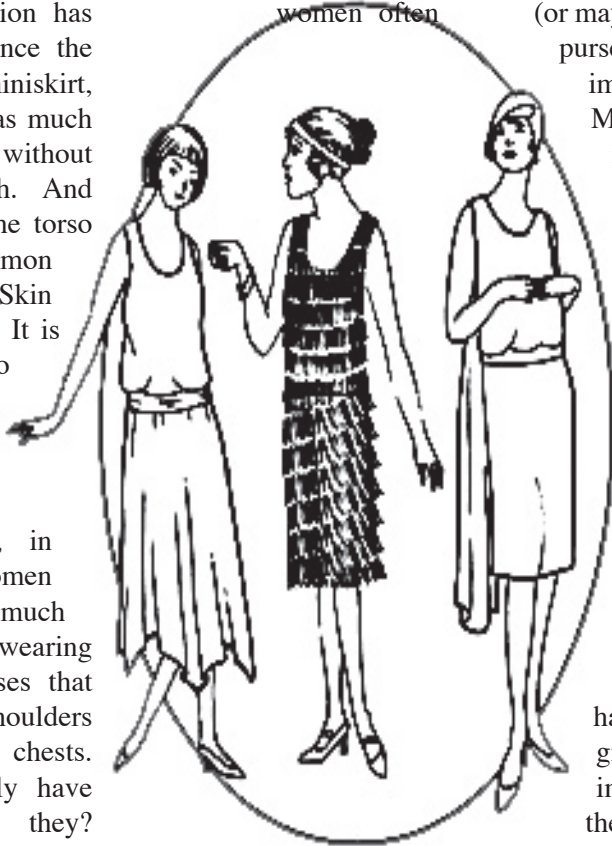
When I walk around the San Marin campus, I notice some of the crazy things that people wear. From showing as much skin as possible to showing no skin at all, fashion has certainly changed since the *Chicago* era. The miniskirt, for example, shows as much of the legs as it can without revealing too much. And “crop tops” reveal the torso with the very common belly button ring. Skin is in, or so it seems. It is really hard for me to imagine that years ago, a boyish figure on a girl was hot. What?!

Believe it or not, in the 1920's, the women hid their figure as much as they could by wearing tubular shaped dresses that widened their shoulders and flattened their chests. Wow, times certainly have changed, haven't they?

In 1926, the flapper fashion was everywhere. Women with short sleek hair, a shapeless shift dress, and a shorter-than-usual hemline walked the streets, fashionably smoking their cigarettes on a long cigarette holder. This flapper style flourished in the middle class, but the upper class as well. Women of fortune were seen wearing the flapper dresses; however, at night they still wore their elaborately stitched silk garments to maintain their “sophistication.”

The skirts of this era are often remembered as short and skimpy, when in fact the coat and dress lengths were

actually calf length and quite long for most of the decade. This was also the only time evening dresses were short in line with day dress lengths. Under evening gowns, women often



wore stockings. Supposedly, stockings with patterns, such as embroidery snakes twisting up the ankles, were hot! Ooh la la!

Today, in the liberal society that we live, hair length does not matter. This cannot be said for the 1920's, when short, bobbed hair was very in and almost a necessity. However, most women owned a few cloche hats that tightly fitted around the head. Foreheads were very unfashionable, so they did what they could to conceal them.

Despite many of the differences that exist between

the fashion in the 1920's and the fashion today, there are a couple similarities. For example, designers are in. I can walk down the street and spot several knock-off (or maybe real) Louis Vuitton purses, and jeans trying to imitate the Seven For All Mankind logo. If you really pay attention to it, designer fashion is everywhere. This was also true in the 1920's, when Coco Chanel created clothing designs that have come to be the epitome of 20's style. She was also the originator of the LBD- that little black dress. So even though times really have changed and the girlish figure is back in style (thankfully), there are a few ways in which our fashion society today can relate to the era *Chicago* portrays.

Athletes Exempt from PE!

by Geoff Elsmore

Although over 50 percent of the student body is involved in a school-sponsored sport, they are still required to participate in over 300 hours worth of P.E. According to the 2003 California Code of Education, code 51242, “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 said pupil is engaged in a regular school-sponsored interscholastic athletic program carried on wholly or partially after school hours.” The NUSD school board passed this bill just recently, which will take effect beginning in the 2005-2006 school year. Basically, all the students who play a school sport are officially exempt from physical education. Students participating in school sports are practicing

on average 5 days a week and in extreme cases practice up to 4 hours on a school day. A combination of a rigorous sports schedule on top of the required P.E. course is overwhelming and puts more physical stress on students than should be. Furthermore, a primary goal of the PE course is to teach each student how to live a healthy lifestyle and to better understand the mechanics of health. However, the recently added course Health, taken by freshman, and Biology teach the same things. PE is redundant, and a student who plays a sport could use that class period to take another academic course or to get their schoolwork done, as the practice schedules of these activities can be quite rigorous and time-consuming. And with more time for schoolwork come better grades and more time for sports

1920's Fashion Timeline

1923-1924 - Handkerchief hemlines in floating fabrics

1925 - Skirts rose to 14-16 inches from the ground, making the shorter hemline we associate with the flapper era

1926 - Skirts were at their shortest. The whole leg as far as the kneecap showed

1929 - Uneven hems and asymmetrical skirt hemlines. Longer sheer overskirts and semi-sheer-top skirts were worn over shorter lining

Xboxania

by Clint Potter & Pat Deshazo

With the start of a new school year most students are plagued with work and extracurricular activity, leaving virtually no time for what is really important – video games. However, there has never been a better time to play video games because Microsoft's Xbox is rolling out an armada of top-notch games this 2004/2005 school year, some of which that can't go without mention.

Obviously, one of the most awaited sequels of all times had to be mentioned – yes, Halo 2, and for good reason. Promising to top *Halo: Combat Evolved* in almost every

aspect of game play, *Halo 2* has been pushed to the edge of gaming technology. Juiced-up graphics, fully destructible and -interactive environments, and awesome A.I. are just the tip of the iceberg. Furthermore, Master Chief duking it out with the Covenant on the home planet of Earth with a new line of weapons and vehicles. And if that already wasn't enough, *Halo 2* will now have online play on top of improved multiplayer action. If there was ever a video game to get excited about *Halo 2* is the one; besides, there are

only so many times you can beat *Halo* on Legendary. Another promising



game is the recently released *Fable*. Taking over four years to complete there was no lack of attention

and care put into this game. Going where no RPG has gone before, *Fable* gives the player almost complete control over how the game is played. The detail is amazing and seemingly endless; you can marry and then commit insurance fraud or you can settle down, marry, and have kids. Probably the most enjoyable aspect of the game is the choice between good and evil. By choosing the good side you are loved by all and a halo floats atop your head, but by choosing

the evil path people run from you and horns sprout from your head. However, the main plot of this game is relatively short – maybe 15 hours – but this can be extended greatly if you do all the other side quests. Still, this game deserves to be bought by you!

For all those owners of Xbox, this is your time to make fun of your friends for buying a PS2 or Game Cube, because Xbox is about to cast a huge shadow over the other two systems. The cost of all these games is also a problem in its own, but this article wasn't written for that – so figure it out on your own. But remember just keep on playin'.

Jamie Cullum's *Twentysomething*

by Dan Saslow

It is no surprise that the mentions of cocaine within the lyrics of a song induce a 24 year old artist to respond with interjections of sniffs – the only surprise is the fact that he does such snorting while performing the popular Sinatra standard “I Get a Kick Out of You.”

Jamie Cullum, a British prodigy of vocal jazz and piano, released a new album this year entitled *Twentysomething*. The young musician is backed by jazz veterans Sebastian De Krom and Jeff Gascoyne and is currently touring with his group throughout the United Kingdom and the United States. The album opens with one of its best, “These Are The Years,” a catchy mid-tempo pop and jazz hybrid, which displays Cullum’s mastery of piano and voice technique. The following song, the title track, features an improvisational flurry of notes as Cullum solos over a speedy jazz swing. The album continues to Jimi Hendrix’s “Wind Cries Mary,” and then reaches “All At Sea,” a Cullum original that establishes a

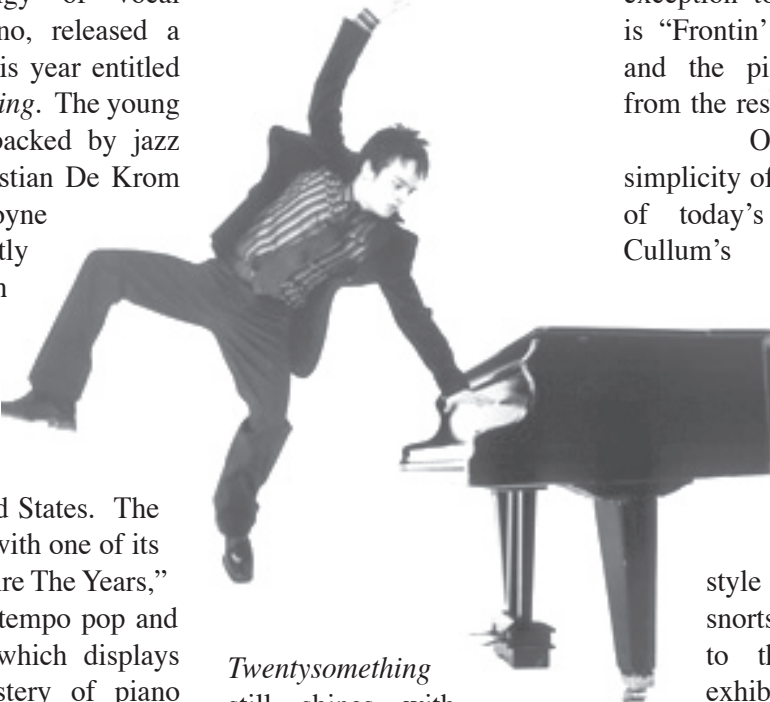
mellow mood continuing throughout the majority of the album. Exceptions to this include “I Get a Kick Out of You” and a dissonant but funky rendition of “I Could Have Danced All Night.”

Although the amount of relaxation music seems to overpower the high energy grooves,

In this album, you will hear much more warmth and crispness in the sound than in most other productions, as the main engineer decided to record Cullum’s music entirely with analog equipment. Other than its excellent quality in recording, the mixing and mastering is done expertly, where the only exception to its consistency is “Frontin’,” as the vocals and the piano tone differ from the rest of the material.

Opposed to the simplicity of a large majority of today’s music, Jamie Cullum’s music tackles a higher level of complexity in chord texture and playing technique.

His unique style of screams, snorts, and kicks to the piano truly exhibit his musical potential through *Twentysomething*’s extraordinary lineup of tracks. Cullum’s performance on this album provides concrete indication of future prominence in the contemporary jazz-pop scene, his popularity continuing to grow throughout the world.



Twentysomething still shines with incredible musicality, surpassing the majority of modern productions. One of the unique aspects of this album is the manner in which it was recorded. Most of music today is recorded and mixed digitally, mainly due to its clarity and reliability.

Chicago: Not Just Another Musical

by Dina Rosenburg

As most of you already know, the 2002 movie *Chicago* was a major success and became very popular among the American public. Originally, the *Chicago* story line was produced by *Chicago Tribune* reporter Maurine Watkins, who hoped to capture the true-life murder trials of two women in 1924. Watkins’ non-musical Broadway play opened in New York in December of 1926. Forty-nine years later, Bob Fosse was granted rights to the story and eventually, with the help of various producers and directors, completed and published a musical version in 1975. Even though the reviews were not spectacular, the production remained popular for many decades.

As this infamous storyline continued to draw attention and interest, the idea to produce a film

portraying the same basic plot as the 1975 musical was confronted. Casting



began to take place, sets were beginning to be designed, and almost every aspect of the modern movie was falling into place. Finally, the contemporary film was released in 2002, sweeping

away the majority of the Grammys that year as well.

The movie’s central characters are Roxie Hart (Renee Zellweger), Velma Kelly (Catherine Zeta-Jones), and Billy Flynn (Richard Gere), all adding high energy and “razzle dazzle” to the production. Roxie is a modest housewife who possesses a lifelong dream of becoming a celebrity on the stage, while Velma Kelly is a greedy chorus girl who dreams of greater fame than she already has. Both of these women find themselves in the Cook County jail on “Murderers’ Row,” struggling with the system and their destiny. Roxie realized that the man with whom she was having an affair was a fraud and took her anger out on him with two gun shots. Velma had come across her sister and husband in bed together, and

Concert Corner

by Briana McVay and Katrina Richards

- Saturday, Oct. 2: **Eisley** and **Snow Patrol** at The Fillmore (\$17.50, show at 9PM)
- Monday, Oct. 4: **Jaime Cullum** at The Fillmore (\$20, show at 8PM)
- Tuesday, Oct. 5: **Letter Kills**, **Lostprophets**, **My Chemical Romance**, and **Story of the Year** at The Warfield (\$19.50, show at 7PM)
- Friday, Oct. 8: **Switchfoot**, **The Format**, and **Honorary Title** at The Warfield (\$20, show at 7PM)
- Sunday, Oct. 10: **Against Me!** and **The Blood Brothers** at The Great American Music Hall (\$11, show at 8PM)
- Tuesday, Oct. 12: **Fall Out Boy**, **Matchbox Romance**, **Taking Back Sunday**, and **The Sleeping** at The Warfield (\$18.50, show at 7PM)
- Thursday, Oct. 14-Nov. 7: **The San Francisco Jazz Festival** at Union Square (starts at 12PM)
- Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 16 and 17: **Reeve Oliver**, **The Matches**, **The Starting Line**, and **Yellowcard** at The Warfield (\$22.50, show at 7PM)
- Tuesday, Oct. 19: **Catch 22** at The Bottom of the Hill (\$10, show at 7PM)
- The **Used** at The Grand Ballroom at Regency Center (price and show time to be announced)
- Thursday, Oct. 21: **The Misfits** at The Pound SF (\$18, show at 8:30PM)



violently eliminated them as well. Once Velma and Roxie luckily become represented by the “must have lawyer” Billy Flynn, who had never lost a case, they immediately become obsessed with fame. Their competition for the public spotlight intensifies, as they try to swing the media in their favor for the trial which will determine their future.

Catherine Zeta-Jones exudes fantastic energy and captures the “stuck-up” character of Velma extremely well, as

Renee Zellweger draws the camera’s attention and embodies the role of Roxie with sparkle and glamour. Richard Gere charms audiences with his known charisma and humor through his exuberant character, Billy. With the combination of illustrative and impacting dance scenes, awesome music compositions, and the incredible cast, this modern production of *Chicago* became a huge success and effectively represented the dramatic original play as well.



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Varsity Football Tackles a New Season

by Paul Himmelstein

As everyone knows, with the start of the school year comes football season, San Marin's biggest athletic moneymaker. After losing the 2nd round play-off game to cross-town rival Novato, our Mustangs are seeking revenge as they prepare to start the 2004 season. With the '02 season's Co-champ Freshmen team now on Varsity, and the returners from last year, this promises to be a glorious year for Mustang Football.

"The mental mistakes have to disappear. They hurt our offense last year; it can't happen again," says head coach **Chris Augusto**. With Brock Bacon no longer playing, junior **Jeremy Shaver** has stepped up to lead the offense as Quarterback. With **Keith Renner** and **Mike DePew** in the backfield, **J.J. Miller**

at tight end, and senior **Anthony Gonzalez** at wide receiver, the Mustangs have many able bodies to place the ball. But you need protection to move the ball, and the big boys on the O-line, including **Marty Cunnie**, **Paul Himmelstein**, **Chris Susoff**, and **Greg Mercurio**, will help ensure that happens.

But what good is an offense without a defense to get the ball back quickly? Augusto says, "We have a lot of talent on our defense, we just have to come together as one unit." Spearheading the defense this year will be All-League returners **Casey Pughe**, **Anthony Gonzalez**, and **Tyler Rushton**. Key returning players this year on the defense will be **Kristian Correnti**, **Johnny Costa**, and **Jacob Kaplan**.

It will not be an easy year for the Mustangs,



Varsity football players Nic Banaugh and Chris Knowles prep for a victory with a pre-game massage.

with many other power house teams stacked with returning players as well. Even with the largest starting O-line in MCAL (averaging

220 pounds per player), our Mustangs are going to have to fight through many adversaries to reach 1st place. But the team seems

pretty confident, and Augusto declares, "The spirit is there; we just need to realize that we are one team. With that, no one can beat us."

Not Just a Dip in the Pool...

by Ben Sangster

Waterpolo is not a sport for people who can't take a punch in the face and keep going. San Marin's boys waterpolo team features a tough crew of students including **Matt Petty**, **Max McDonald**, and **Andrew McKay**. The girls team features returning seniors **Meg Crowley** and **Myra Perez** and junior **Leilani Gilpin**. San Marin's waterpolo teams are going to have to fight for their victories, though; San Marin does not have a home pool. The NHS pool, which has been the home of the Mustang's teams in the past, is being repaired, and due to delays in the construction work, the pool was not ready at the beginning of the year. San Marin, therefore, has been using the pool located in the Meridian Sports Club Rolling Hills, which the Club generously donated to the teams. The team hopes to be back in their home pool by

the end of September, but junior **Paul Lillie** said that he believes that the lack of a home pool is not going to be a major obstacle. "San Marin's Mens team will do great things this year with the return of five juniors and [team captain] Matt Petty," says Lillie. Unfortunately, the Lady Mustangs lost five of their starting seven players from last year and are at a disadvantage. Despite these detrimental circumstances, the Mustangs will fight onwards to victory.



Kickin' It Up

by Yuekai Sun

The Boys Varsity Soccer team started practice in late August under the baking sun. This year, the competition is formidable: Branson and Marin Catholic have traditionally fielded strong teams. In addition to the challenges posed by the

Bulls and the Wildcats, the team is also looking to avenge last year's defeat at the hands of San Rafael in the opening round of the MCAL play-offs.

The team has a dedicated core of seniors including midfielder **Geoff Slaughter**, sweeper **Ian Walsh** and winger **Andy**

Tennis, Anyone?

by Alex Randall

Autumn has arrived, and though the temperature is dropping, the San Marin Girls Varsity Tennis team is looking forward to a hot season. Despite the loss of a powerful top singles player from last year, the team has acquired much new freshmen talent. This group includes newcomers **Ayla Potter** and **Camille Mixter**, both of whom will play in top singles positions. Along with this wave of first-years, the team is also led into the vast midst of competition by a new coach, **Jay Potter**, who has coached many of the team members at Rolling Hills Club, has taken the reigns and is excited about a potentially successful year. When asked about his outlook on the season, he said, "Very positive. I think it's going to be a good year, [and] much improved over last year. I think the team has a

great chance to make at least the top four in MCALs."

In their two preseason matches, the Mustangs thoroughly



Freshman Camille Mixter pounds a forehand during practice.

trounced both Petaluma High and Maria Carillo. San Marin then kicked off its MCAL season with consecutive trappings of San Rafael and Terra Linda. In the match

against the Lady Bulldogs, the team won 6-3, with junior **Dina Rosenberg** and freshman **Camille Mixter** winning in singles along with many of their teammates. The Lady Mustangs then beat down TL 7-2, with Potter winning 6-2, 6-2 in the number one singles slot and the senior pair of **Julie Seavey** and **Alicia Miranda** triumphed 6-1, 6-0 in their number three doubles match. The following week, San Marin blew past rival Novato, beating down the Lady Hornets 7-1 with every singles player winning her match. The Lady Mustangs then ran into a roadblock in the form of Drake, dropping four out of six singles matches in a 6-3 loss. Despite this stumble, the girls will soon regain their balance and continue their run for a top spot in MCALs.

Ong. Other talented players include goalkeeper **Taylor Jones**, forward **Jesse Mendoza** and defender **Stephan Auzans**. Coach **Mike Carbone**, himself a San Marin soccer player, has high hopes for this year's team.

The team had its first test against a talented

and well-organized Tamalpais team. Although the game ended in a two-nil loss for the Mustangs, Carbone commented that the Mustangs held up well against a strong team. It was the first preseason game for the Mustangs and the players were still building their trust

for each other. This preseason game provided important experience for the players and helped the players develop team spirit. The team is looking forward to a promising season this year.

Cross Country Gallops for Glory

by Mandy Jacobs

After a successful season last year, the cross-country team is expected to do even better this year. The team has a new coach, **Craig Stern**, who is planning to lead the team into victory. There are fifteen girls, including returning athletes **Carli O'Leary**, **Briana Van Epps**, and **Alison Greggor**. A new talent has also joined the team – **Madison Stenberg**, a freshmen, is expected to do well, with the inspiration of her sister, recent SM graduate **Whitney Stenberg**. There

are ten boys, including **Pat Graham** and newcomer senior **Casey Kaston**.

Craig Stern is a very enthusiastic new coach. He is excited and having a great time coaching. He seems to know much about running techniques and ways to prevent injuries. He also has different ways for the team to practice and have fun at the same time. Poker running is an example of the new types of practices. Each player runs around a loop in a trail, and each time they pass they

Ready to run: Juniors Briana Van Epps, Dana Socolov, and Maria Baum, along with sophomore Madison Stenberg and senior Carli O'Leary pose for a shot before their meet at the Lowell Invite.



Photo courtesy of Craig J. Stern

get a card. The one with the best card wins. The winner then gets a prize.

It's been a hot season so far but the team has been going strong despite the heat. "It's been tough working in the heat, but we're really pulling through," says Van Epps. They run about two to six miles a day, which will hopefully help the

team beat their competition. Competitors include the **Carter** twins from Novato, **Caitlyn Calvelli** from Drake, and **Amanda Stewart** from

Redwood. Despite the competition, the team is going strong, and San Marin has high expectations for them.

Setting Up a New Season

by Nic Banaugh and Allyson Walchli

The San Marin girls' volleyball team seems to be off to a successful start this

Veterans to volleyball but new additions to the varsity squad, Liz Mauer and Paige Thelen,

contribute to a successful season." Remarked Mauer. There are six new additions to this year's squad, including Makenzie Arnold, a sophomore from Texas. Arnold played for her school on varsity and will be a key player in the upcoming season. Junior Amanda Morrow is also a fresh face on the varsity squad this year and looks forward to a victorious year. However, a successful season would not be possible without a great coach to help motivate. This year Tim Hawkins will be leading the pack to a winning year. Freshman Danielle DeLong, a player from the freshmen squad, remarks that she believes this year will be "fun and looks forward to playing with this group of girls." With a team full of talent and incentive, the Mustangs' appear to have a chance at going all the way to the top!



Juniors Jenice Bartee and Paige Thelen dive after the ball.

season. Although they lost their first game on Wednesday against St. Vincent's, the girls are energetic and enthusiastic about the upcoming season.

are glad to be part of the team and are thrilled to play with their new teammates. "The girls have worked hard all summer and we hope it

High Hopes for JV Football

by James Gramalia

The Junior Varsity Football team started its

season off right with wins in both of their pre-season

scrimmages on September 3. The team's defense prevailed in the two wins, holding Petaluma to 7 points, and shutting out Montgomery. In their first regular season game, they tied Sonoma valley, 13-13 in a defensive struggle. They went into their second game pumped up, and battled back from a six point deficit in the fourth quarter to win on a last minute touchdown pass. Team captain and starting running back **Vince Ross** said, "We killed Petaluma and Montgomery in our



Swinging Away

by Allyson Walchli

The San Marin girls golf team has already proven to be tough competition for their rivals in the MCAL field. The first match was on Wednesday, September 8 against the Drake Pirates. The Mustangs walked away with a victory. With twelve girls on the squad, only the top six players are eligible to compete against other schools. This year there are six additions to the varsity team and six returning players. Rob Manzoni turned the job of head coach over to Bob Lacy, who was welcomed with excitement and appreciation. Lacy comments on the year ahead, "I've coached the boys team and I am looking forward to coaching the girls. It will be different, but a good change. I'm glad I can spend my after school time with my students while on the golf

course. Although Manzoni resigned as head coach, the girls are grateful to have him as an assistant coach. The Mustangs have worked hard and are ready to challenge this year's competitors. Junior Allison Greene, a



Senior Krista Walker takes her swings at the driving range.

returning player, has shown to be a tough contender in the past. This year she will hold rank as number one and compete with many other talented golfers. Although there is only a varsity team, the girls possess a high level of talent and motivation, which will help them to win matches and have a chance at MCALs.

pre-season scrimmages, and we're going to be really good this year."

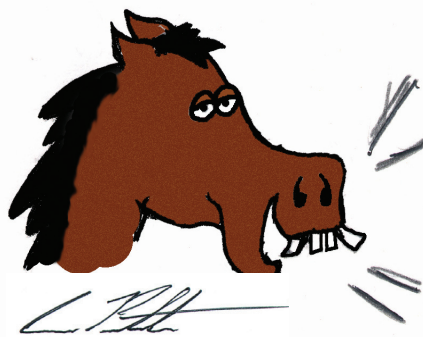
With many newcomers to the J.V. squad, including quarterback **Anthony Lelis**, **Vince Ross**, **Kory Cook**, **Jimmy Puccinelli**, **Kory Cook**, and expertise of coach **Pat Gardner** their offense looks to be unstoppable. The

players have the Novato game on their minds, hoping to fix what happened freshman year, a 35-7 loss, and gain back the respect they deserve. With the added confidence from their scrimmages, the J.V. football team hopes to be one of the top teams in MCAL this season.

Fun Facts

by Joe Mertel

- Animals that lay eggs don't have belly buttons
- Beavers can hold their breath for 45 minutes under water
- Texas is the only state that permits residents to cast absentee ballots from space
- The only food that does not spoil is honey
- A cockroach will live nine days without its head before it starves to death.
- The eye makes movements 50 times every second
- The smallest county in America is New York County, better known as Manhattan
- You have to play ping-pong for 12 hours to lose 1 pound
- Slugs have 4 noses
- The city of Los Angeles has three times more automobiles than people
- Before mercury, brandy was used to fill thermometers
- The average bed is home to over 6 billion dust mites
- Humans and dolphins are the only species that have sex for pleasure
- Swimming pools in the U.S. contain enough water to cover San Francisco
- Americans spend more than \$630 million a year on golf balls
- *Hawaii is the only U.S. state never to report a temperature of zero degrees F or below
- Hawaii is also the only state with only one school district
- The speed limit in NYC was 8 MPH in 1895



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

By Denise Nilan

- The new campus becomes haven for skateboarders.
- Mark Meier puts down a whopping \$135.00 for the first parking space in the annual senior parking space auction.
- Brock Bacon is officially dismissed from the football team.
- The mature class of 2003 serves revenge on the class of 2005 by chalking the hill '03 before they head back to college.
- Sophomore class develops a witty slogan, "Make '07 up yours."
- San Marin welcomes back Reese Holtze after his junior year hiatus at Marin Catholic.
- Chris Knowles also rejoins the Mustangs after a year in New York.
- John Kerry and George Bush debates threaten to tear friendships.
- On 9/15/04 Target received a bomb threat and called in a dog from Vallejo to investigate.
- Elena Miller gets "let go" from Baskin Robbins.
- Chipper freshmen Madison Steinberg runs in her sister's footsteps, as she continues her sister Whitney's cross country legacy.
- Frisbees become obsolete with '04 gone.
- Freshmen girls gawk over Ian Walsh.
- San Marin girls fight over whether Abercrombie and Fitch clothes make a person 'best dressed.'
- Journalism class stays at school until after dark to finish this paper.

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

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