

Calvo wins Eleventh Straight Match

By Jennifer Wake

At the recent San Diego Invitational, sophomore Marah Calvo gave the Gaels their second point against the 40th ranked University of Pennsylvania

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Saint Mary's sophomore Marah Calvo

Quakers as she won her 11th straight match. Since coming to Saint Mary's, Calvo

supporting her all along the way. "My mother played league tennis in Puerto Rico

Tennis Federation (ITF) results were in the singles semi-finals in both the 2004 El Paso Youth Tennis Centre ITF Tournament and the 2004 Copa International Britania in Mexico. In doubles, she won the 2004 El Paso Youth Tennis Centre ITF Tournament and reached the semifinals at the Chandra Rubin American ITF Junior Circuit in Fort Worth.

At the Invitational, Calvo won her singles match 6-2, 6-2, and also improved to 6-1 in doubles competition when she and Erin Young won their match against the Quakers.

A recent transfer student from Indiana University, Calvo attributes her success to her new environment at Saint Mary's. "[Head coach] Lisa Alipaz and the team create an atmosphere that allows me to feel relaxed and confident about my game," she said. "I enjoy the intensity and high competition level involved in singles play, and the fact that college tennis is a team sport, but we each compete individually in singles."

Nienke Strijbis also won her singles match in straight sets, winning 6-3, 6-4, while Aude Lambert, the reigning WCC Player of the Month, has now won nine of her last 11 matches.

The Gaels went into last week's matches 10-1 on the season.

Men's Golf Captures USF Triumph Team Title

SMC's Mike McRae Takes Home Tournament Individual Medal

By Jennifer Wake

When playing college golf, individual success is great, but when the team wins, says junior Mike McRae, it's everything. Last week, when McRae posted a final

rounds of 70-70-69 at the par-71, 7,077-yard Pauma Valley course. The score of 209 marked the lowest 54-hole score for McRae and the seventh lowest total in

was a great achievement. It should help us advance in the future."

McRae entered the final round tied for third place at 2-under par, and entered the final three

holes of the event two shots behind Wisconsin's Pat Duffy. After Duffy bogeyed the 16th, McRae went on to eagle the par-5 17th, and birdied the par-4 18th hole to win the tournament by two shots over Duffy and Darin Hall of San Diego.

"The fact that it's a team sport means when you win, everyone shares in it. That's what's different because it's such an individual sport," said McRae. "The team is a bunch of young guys; we help each other out. One of the freshmen shot a 66



Photo by Rich Davi

round 69 at 2-under par, taking home medalist honors for the first time in his career, his first thought was how it helped the team.

"It was a great experience because it was my first college win, but it was even better to have the whole team win," he said.

The Saint Mary's men's golf team captured the title at the USF Triumph, played March 13 at the Pauma Valley Country Club, outside of San Diego. The Gaels took the title with a one-over-par 283-290-280 performance.

Saint Mary's entered the final round of the tournament with a one-stroke lead over 29th ranked Wisconsin. The Gaels came out blazing in the final round and pulled away by an additional 12 strokes. Notre Dame posted a final round score of 285 (+1) and finished second, 10 shots behind the Saint Mary's squad, whose three-day total of 853 was just one over par.

Saint Mary's history.

"The coach has been a huge influence on my game," said McRae. "When you're in college golf, it's all about the teams you beat. We had great competitors and it

that day, which is incredible."

So what did McRae do to celebrate the victory?

"I wrote a paper on Henry David Thoreau," he said.

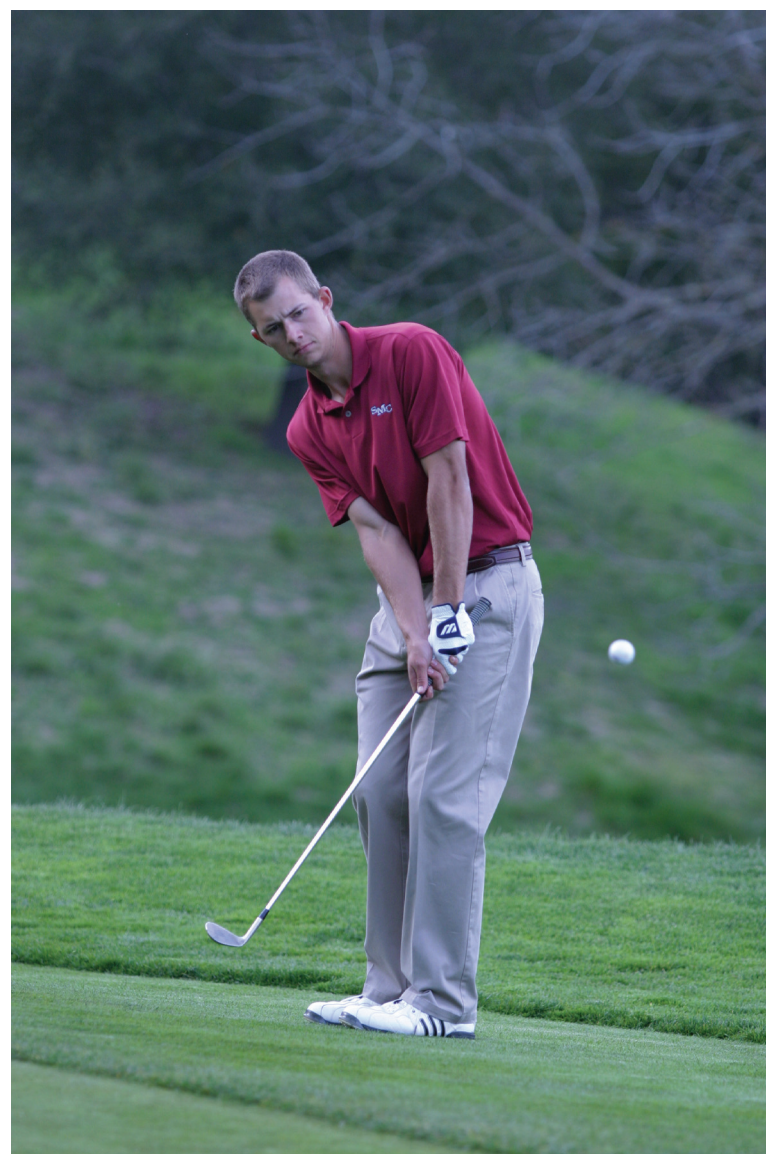


Photo by Rich Davi

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