

SMC Rugby Continues Winning Ways

Submitted by Tony Samaniego



Luke Sauser fights through a Sac State tackle on one of its long standing rivals Sacramento State on Feb. 16. The match-up has always proved to be a tough game, but this year the Sac State team is in a rebuilding year and has a new coach.

The Gaels scored their first try in the first three minutes of the first half. The offense for the Gaels looked great. Michael Haley, team captain, and Tim Maupin scored twice.

Also finding the try zone was Kelly Harris, Luke Napier and freshmen Dylan Audsley. SMC had a 45-0 at half time. Saint Mary's kept

the tempo fast in the second half as they added another 38 points to end the game 83-0.

The Gaels B side also looked sharp as they finished the day with an 85-12 victory over the Hornets.

Returning to the field Feb. 23, the Gaels dominated UCSB. SMC went into half with a 28-3 lead. In the second half, the Gaels continued to roll to a 66-3 win.

The Gaels meet a powerhouse in Penn State at 3 p.m. March 1 at SMC. They travel to face Santa Clara on March 2.

Photo Mike Geib

Swimmers "Go the Distance"

Submitted by Richard Jacobberger



Don Tatzin and Susan Skilton

Photo provided

Susan Skilton (54) and Don Tatzin (60) completed the 2012 United States Masters Swimming "Go The Distance" event. Nearly 3,500 registered USMS swimmers from all over the country participated in event. Skilton swam 701.45 miles. She finished 11th in her age group (50-54); and 88th overall.

Tatzin swam 1,524.33 miles. He finished first in his age group (60-64); and third overall. Tatzin was one of only four swimmers who completed over 1,500 miles.

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U13 Girls Soccer Team is Top Ten

Submitted by Linda Sosa



Photo provided

The U13 girls' California Magic Soccer Club team is now ranked in the top ten in Northern California according to gotsoccer.com. After winning the prestigious Mustang Winter Turf Classic, the Magic jumped into the top ten.

"We are extremely excited about the future," said head coach and technical director

Haris Obic when asked about the rankings. "It means we are recognized as a premier club with the ability to produce competitive players and teams, but we are not done yet."

In the past year, the Magic is 14-2 in tournament play, has brought home three championships in four tournaments, and has outscored their opponents 45-16.

Lamorinda United Win U12 Title

Submitted by Andrei K. Uyehara



Photo provided

From left, bottom row: Nick Catalanello, John Campo, Jose Carra, Amado Uyehara, Keoni Vuong, Conor Roemer; middle row: Kyle Parnell, Oscar Perez, Christopher Rogers, Luke Campo, Jonathan Gong, Alvin Sanchez, Coach Stefan Clemens; back row: Bernard Adri, Kent Barbir, Alejandro Cardines; not pictured: Charlie McIntyre, Lucas Allen.

Lamorinda United U12 Navy boys' team, coached by Stefan Clemens, put an exclamation point on their 2012-2013 season by defeating Mustang Alianza in the NorCal Premier State Cup Silver 1 Division. The Feb. 16 win earned the boys the title.

The boys dominated each of their three opponents and scored a total of 15 goals to 3. They beat De Anza Force 4-1 in the quarter-finals, Inter Rage Academy 6-0 in the semi-finals, and Mustang 5-2 for the championship.

DFAL Wrestling Results

Submitted by Kirsten Correll

Miramonte played host to the DFAL wrestling meet on Saturday, Feb. 16. Campolindo finished in fifth place,

while Miramonte and Acalanes finished sixth and seventh, respectively.

Lamorinda Thrills in Girls NCS Soccer Tourney

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Bridget Coleman

Photo Andy Scheck

The second round of the playoffs produced a classic Lamorinda rematch when Acalanes traveled to Campolindo on Feb. 16.

The Cougars struck first with a goal from junior midfielder Emily Orwig early in the match, and they never looked back from there. Following two more goals and several saves from senior goalkeeper Sophie Leksan, Campolindo eliminated the Dons with a 3-0 victory.

"Campolindo is an aggressive defensive team that applies great pressure," Acalanes head coach Tom Ginocchio said. "They don't have any weaknesses and they have great confidence in their abilities."

Although the loss was an unfortunate end to the season, Ginocchio was still appreciative of his team's effort.

"I felt we were capable of more this year, but I was still proud of many elements of our team's season," he said. "I saw great improvement from many of the girls throughout the season and they never gave up no matter the adversity."

The Cougars' next opponent was sixth-seeded Piedmont (17-5-2) in the semifinals on Feb. 20, and the game added even more theatrics to the already exhilarating playoffs.

After an early 1-1 tie, neither team scored in the rest regulation, forcing the game into overtime. Following two scoreless extra periods, the Highlanders eventually secured the victory by defeating Campolindo in another penalty-kick shootout, 3-1.

Campolindo head coach Ernesto Silva was disappointed after the loss, but proud of his girls and optimistic for the future of his young team.

"Sometimes things don't go your way, but all you can do is be proud," he said. "We had one of the most successful seasons this school has ever had, and we will learn from an emotional experience like this and work even harder in the future."

Piedmont fell to Bishop O'Dowd (26-2-0) in the championship game on Feb 23. It was the Dragons' second consecutive NCS Division II title.