

Saint Mary's Off to Strong Start Despite Loss

By Michael Sakoda



Lauren Nicholson scored a game-high 23 points for the Gaels.

The Saint Mary's women's basketball team faltered over the weekend amidst one of their hottest starts in recent memory. The Gaels started this year 11-5 (4-1 WCC), and they're striving to grow together.

The Gaels, who went 23-10 (11-7 WCC) last season and reached the second round of the Women's NIT, had won four straight games before an 88-86 loss to Pacific on Jan. 10.

"Everyone is stepping up this

year," said junior guard Lauren Nicholson, who has been named WCC Player of the Week twice this season. "We've had a couple of tough losses, but we've definitely shown we have potential."

The game started out with back-and-forth scoring, but Pacific took a 42-36 halftime lead behind tough defense and great outside shooting.

In the second half, Saint Mary's trailed 38-48 with 16:06 to play, but

they fought back, getting to the basket and the free throw line to spark a 13-3 run to tie the game at 51 all.

With 8:53 left, freshman guard Carly Turner grabbed a rebound and ran the length of the court to score, giving SMC a 62-60 edge — the Gaels' first lead since their 4-2 lead at the start of the game.

But Pacific center Kendall Kenyon came on late, scoring 19 of her team-high 21 in the second half and overtime, including the game tying basket at the end of regulation.

Nicholson, who scored a game-high 23 points, had two looks to tie the game at the end of overtime, but the ball just wouldn't drop.

"We missed some shots today, missed some free throws," said Saint Mary's head coach Paul Thomas. "We ran a little set we've worked on all week, and did a good job of executing it, but we did a poor job defending. We didn't make them do something different, and that's how you lose."

The Tigers showed off their range, knocking down 12 three-pointers to the Gaels' one, while scoring 20 points off of the Gaels' 21 turnovers, which ultimately gave them the edge and an 88-86 win. It was the Gaels' seventh game decided by two points or less this season, and the first one they lost.

Shannon Mauldin scored 19 to go



Shannon Mauldin had 19 points and five assists.

Photos Tod Fierner

with five assists and three steals to pace the Gaels.

With 13 games left to go in the regular season, Saint Mary's looks to finish strong.

"I think we can definitely win the WCC, even with that loss (to Pacific), we showed that we can beat that team,

any team," said Nicholson. "It's a very up and down conference. Anyone can beat anyone, and we're very capable of being the champions at the end."

The Gaels will look to start their next winning streak tomorrow at San Diego.

Magic Take First

Submitted by Greg Davis



After the California Magic U11 boys' team went undefeated in Gold Division of NorCal Fall Soccer League, they won the NorCal State Cup in the Platinum Division 3 on Dec. 7.

"I am so proud of these boys as they have

progressed with a culture that we nurture at Cal Magic. The boys played with a lot of heart all season and I am very proud of what they have accomplished," said coach Jasko Begovic.

Preseason Victory

Submitted by Martha White



The Campolindo junior varsity basketball team won the 2014 JV Mission San Jose Basketball Tournament on Dec. 23. Front row, from left: Jessica Sanchez, Jessalyn Simon-Parker, Emma VanDeWyngaerde; back row: Kate Miles, Danielle Rhoda, coach Matt Kirby, Grace Mcguire, Ellen White and Kalli King

Clean Sweep

Submitted by Michelle Clancy



St. Monica's fourth grade girls' team won the MVP Holiday Tournament on Dec. 28, going 3-0 for the tournament. Front row, from left: Annie Coane, Samantha Brouhard, Shayne Clancy; back row: coach Jinky Garcia, Allie Cummins, Ava Garcia, Kylie Williams, Camille Yabu, and coach Stephanie Williams

Mats Win Holiday Tourney

Submitted by Meg Foley



Front row, from left: Chase Callister, Henry Marken, Fraser Burch, Andrew Logan, Tyler Zwahlen, Bryce Radlow, Paul Bakshi, Liam Glenn, ball boy Nicolai Bell and ball boy Kenny Kostermans; back row: coach Terry Juergens, Benjamin Kao, Jimmy Foley, Spencer Lang, Asim Khan, coach James Bell, and Ryan Ford

Undeterred by the holiday break, the Miramonte freshman basketball team won a tournament on Dec. 29. They beat American Canyon, Antioch, and then host Napa High

School in the championship game. Andrew Logan received the MVP award for the championship game, and Tyler Zwahlen received an MVP award for the entire tournament.

St. P's Undefeated in Tourney

Submitted by Jon Zuber



The St. Perpetua fourth grade American team went 3-0 with a thrilling come-from-behind victory over St. Joan of Arc to make it to the finals

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