

SMC Soccer Heads to Sweet Sixteen

By Caitlin Graveson



Riley Hanley
 Saint Mary's men's soccer team defeated #7 UC Irvine to advance to the NCAA Tournament Sweet Sixteen. In the late Sunday game, sophomore forward Justin Howard headed in the winning goal

back to tie the game in the 84th minute.

Neither team scored in the first overtime, but Howard finally found the net and the win in the second overtime, to take the game 2-1.

Senior goalie Doug Herrick made five saves and allowed one goal.

On Friday, November 17 Saint Mary's defeated #25 CSU Bakersfield 1-0 to reach the second round against UCI. It was the first NCAA Tournament win for the Gaels and only their second appearance, the first coming in 2009. It was also the Gaels 11th shutout of the season.

The Gaels will take on Brown in the Sweet Sixteen on November 27; at press time, details have yet to be announced. This is Brown's second consecutive NCAA Sweet Sixteen appearance. They defeated defending national champion #9 St. John's to reach the match.

The program has been recognized for their success by the WCC. Head coach Adam Cooper was named the WCC Coach of the Year. Agustin Cazarez was named to the All-WCC First Team. Second Team honors went to Malcolm Alugas, Jose Cabeza, Julian Godinez and Herrick. Justin Grider and Trevor Newquist were named WCC Honorable Mentions. Hanley was named to the All-Freshman team.

Photo Tod Fierner

in 103rd minute, in double overtime, to give the Gaels a 2-1 win.

Saint Mary's got on the board first as freshman midfielder Riley Hanley scored in the 58th minute. With under 10 minutes to play, UCI answered

Orinda Aquatics Coach Travels to Swaziland

Submitted by Julie Carlson



Photo provided

Don Heidary, co-head coach of Orinda Aquatics, recently returned from a trip to Swaziland where he presented a coaching clinic to local swim coaches and parents in conjunction with the American Swimming Coaches Association. Over 25

coaches and parents attended the clinic.

During his visit, he was able to attend a swim meet.

"The meet was one of the most endearing and precious experiences I have enjoyed as a coach. It was an early season relay meet and included the elementary schools. The meet had no timers, no officials, no "stars," only a few streamlines, but more spirit than I have seen in my thirty-five year career," Heidary said, "It was powerful and refreshing and a stark reminder of the pure joy that can and should exist in sports - at all levels."

Acalanes Sophomore is Golf MVP

Submitted by Valeska Schultz



Photo provided

Acalanes Sophomore Elizabeth Schultz won the 2011 DFAL Golf Championship and was named the DFAL's Most Valuable Player. On October 17, Schultz shot a 75, eight strokes ahead of the second place finisher. Schultz shot a 74 to place second in the North Coast Sectional Qualifier on Monday, October 25 at Franklin Canyon Golf Course in Hercules.

Campolindo Volleyball Falls in NCS Semifinals

By Alex Kozela



Annie Shurtz (14) led the Cougars in kills this season Photo Doug Kohen

A year after winning the state title, Campolindo's girls' volleyball team has been ousted from the NCS Division III playoffs. The Cougars lost to Albany 3-1 last Wednesday, November 16 in the semifinals.

The Cougars (20-11) started out strong, winning an energetic first set 25-21, but Albany (32-6) slowly but steadily gained control of the match. Albany took the next three sets in a row, 25-14, 25-19, and 25-17, to seal a berth in the final against Drake.

"I just think we didn't find the consistency we needed for this match," Campolindo head coach Scott Bishop said after the game. "The girls really worked hard and put a lot of effort into training for this part of the season, and, hey, any given night anybody can win

and you've got to bring your best game."

Bishop was quick to point out the strengths of Albany's team, led by Kariana Castanon-Hill (13 kills, six block assists) and McKenzie Giblin (31 assists).

"They are a really athletic team, they did a great job blocking tonight, and they have enough ball control to use their middles and their outsides, so they did a great job tonight," Bishop said.

Despite the loss, Bishop was proud of how far the team progressed. The state champion team had seven players who were seniors.

"I don't think anyone was expecting much at all of us this year, so this has been a really good season. As a whole, I really loved the way our team improved over the

course of the season, and as far as performance and expectations we are way ahead of where I thought we were going to be," said Bishop.

Cougars' junior outside hitter Annie Shurtz, who led the team in kills this season, echoed her coach's sentiments.

"We accomplished so much [this season]," she said. "I remember at the beginning of the season, people were saying this was our rebuilding year, but we stepped it up and showed them that we were a good team and we went far, so much farther than I expected."

The Cougars defeated Petaluma, 3-0, in the first round of the playoffs to advance to the semifinals. Local rivals Miramonte also had a spot in the playoffs but fell in the first round, losing 3-1 to Sonoma Valley.

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