



SAN MARINO HIGH SCHOOL TITAN SHIELD

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June 8, 2007

Tennis Captures CIF Crown

By Matthew Guichard
Senior Managing Editor

As the members of the San Marino Boys' Varsity Tennis team accepted their CIF Division II Champions plaque after a triumphant 13-5 victory over #2 Diamond Bar at the Claremont Club on Wednesday, May 30, the team realized how far it had come and the magnitude of its achievement.

It had been seven years since SMHS last won a CIF title, but glory for the Titans could not have been sweeter, as the squad's ten seniors received the proper send-off in their final match.

"It's one of those highlights in everybody's life; we're just thrilled with this," remarked elated Head Coach John Kuramoto.

All year long, the phrase "keep your eye on the prize" was the sentiment of the tennis team, which had enormous expectations to live up to coming into this campaign.

With over a week to prepare for the Final, San Marino had plenty of time to make adjustments from its encounter with Diamond Bar earlier this season.

As all six first-round matches opened up simultaneously, a large San Marino contingency, including Principal Loren

(Continued on page 15)



Courtesy of Amol Koldhekar

ASB Sends Off '06-'07 with Luau

By Casey Luu
Senior Opinion Editor

Throughout this week, June 4 to June 8, ASB held many activities for students to participate in as part of Water Week. The festivities will conclude with the annual Luau and LCD (Last Chance Dance) today.

During Water Week, students competed in numerous water-related games. In the activities, ASB selected a participant from each grade to represent their grade. On Monday, Sophomore Jonathan Fang won in the ice-water chugging contest during break. On Tuesday, Senior Vince Wu won the Bob for H₂O Balloons, while Senior Clifford Sutrisno won the Water Target at lunch. The freshmen and senior classes won the sweatshirt dunk and wet contest on Wednesday. Although Thursday's water spraying quiz and water dodgeball have already occurred, the results were unavailable at press time.

Today's schedule is similar to a minimum day schedule; however, it is closed campus until 2:30 p.m. Students may go to the softball field to participate in the many activities set up for Luau Day.

For the event, ASB will

(Continued on page 2)

Seniors Cream Juniors in Powderpuff Game



Senior Leslie La sprints down the sideline en route to a 20-12 victory over the juniors in the annual Powderpuff Football game. Patrick Chan//TITAN SHIELD

By Connie Chen
Features Editor

The senior girls faced off against the junior girls in the annual Powderpuff Football game on Monday, June 4, at Titan Memorial Stadium. The senior team won by a score of 20-12.

Starting at 3:30 p.m., the game lasted about one and a half hours.

"It was an open event," stated ASB ICC President Senior Jessica Wang. "It was just an [informal] event; ASB made no profit from it."

(Continued on page 3)

Dancetra Concludes Run at Neher Auditorium

By Maddy Wojdak
Spectrum Editor

The SMHS Dance Department hosted its annual Dancetra performance in the Neher Auditorium on May 31, June 1, and June 2.

According to Dance Instructor Ms. Bonnie Hanson, the show opened on Thursday night to a "surprisingly" large audience.

"We really didn't do much in terms of publicity, so I was pleasantly surprised about [the attendance]," commented Ms. Hanson.

However, Ms. Hanson had to interrupt the Thursday night performance when some boys

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Dance Company opened Act I of Dancetra with a performance set to "Henrietta" by The Fratellis.

Jon Wong//TITAN SHIELD

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Art Exhibit to 'Open Your Eyes'



One of the suitcases made by a Fundamentals of Art student portrays the items of two Geishas in early eighteenth century Japan. *Jon Wong/TITAN SHIELD*

By Yuan-Yuan Lin
Assistant News Editor

The SMHS Art Department presented "Open Your Eyes," a man's inhumanity to others art exhibit, from May 29 to June 1 in the Claire Crowley Art Gallery.

Student Curators Senior Amir Ahmad, and Sophomores Christopher DuMont, Anna Kim, and Roxanne Ramirez designed and organized the exhibit in the

gallery.

Art Teacher Mrs. Deborah Hart first created this event in the early 90's.

"It is important for us [as] human beings to learn from the powerful mistakes that we have made in the past," explained Mrs. Hart.

Mrs. Hart believes that if she can reach out to one person, and if that one person reaches out to someone else, there is the promise

that the "atrocities and inhumanity could at least be addressed in a hopeful way." According to her, even one person has the ability to make a difference.

Mrs. Hart chose projects that were accurate, sensitive, and respectful to human beings to be displayed in the gallery.

Students from Mrs. Hart's Fundamentals of Art classes made the projects for the gallery. The exhibit took approximately two weeks to complete.

To prepare for the event, Mrs. Hart introduced the concepts of narrative art to her students. Prior to the research process, the students had to choose an event based on these criteria: the event must have actually taken place, a number of people must have been affected, and it could never be justified.

According to Mrs. Hart, the students needed to have an in-depth knowledge of their events

in order to have a powerful "suitcase."

Following the research process, the students then proceeded to create these "suitcases," which represented the identities of imaginary victims during the events.

"The suitcases needed to make the viewers feel what the victim had felt during the event, because if someone could walk in the victim's shoes, then [he or she] would be less likely to inflict pain on somebody else," explained Mrs. Hart.

According to Mrs. Hart, the objective of the project was to touch the viewer's hearts and to create awareness among the student population of SMHS.

Mrs. Hart concluded, "It takes one person to [create an atrocity], but it also takes only one person to stop it. You can stop the inhumanity by not turning away—open your eyes."

Dance Department Showcases Dancetra

(Continued from page 1)

continuously shouted different girls' names during one of the dances.

"It wasn't that it was horrible. It was just inappropriate and I felt in the middle of it that I needed to say something. In between two dances, I asked them to stop and they did," Mrs. Hanson said.

The department performed 23 dances. The first act consisted of "Henrietta" by The Fratellis, "Unwritten" by Natasha Bedingfield, "Proper Education (Club Remix)" by Eric Prydz vs. Floyd, "Because We Can" by Fatboy Slim, "Satisfaction" by Britney Spears, "Tiny Dancer" by Elton John, "Run For Cover" by Missy Elliot, "Find A New Way" by Young Love, "Strange and Beautiful" by Aqualung, "Put The Needle On It" by Danni Minogue, and "Keep Giving Your Love To Me" by Beyoncé. The second act included "Cell Block Tango"

from Chicago, "Dreamgirls" from Dreamgirls, "Hide and Seek" by Imogen Heap, "Ain't Nothing Wrong With That" by Robert Randolph, "Up, Up, Up" by Ani DiFranco, "My Story" by Various Artists, "Daft Punk" by Daft Punk, "Jungle Fever" by Various Artists, "Smack It Out" by Various Artists, "In the Waiting Line" by Zero 7, and "Flashdance" by Irene Cara.

"Cell Block Tango" included the Intermediate/Advanced Class and six Dance Company members in the performance. This was the only dance in Dancetra to combine more than one class.

Ms. Hanson explained, "It was something we threw together at the last minute, but [was] probably one of the strongest dances in the show."

When commenting on the Dance Company's performance, Mrs. Hanson said, "Honestly, I think they were flawless. This is one of the best companies we've had in years."

ASB Hosts Water Week



Senior Royce Stuteville and Freshmen Emerick Varga, Joseph Forgatch and Stephen Yortsos sprint to grab water balloons. *Kevin Lin/TITAN SHIELD*

(Continued from page 1)

provide many activities and music. Students may also buy food from Burger Continental for \$5. ASB ICC President Senior Jessica Wang stated, "I think the Luau will go well because the weather has finally been cooperating with us this week."

Tonight from 8 to 11 p.m., ASB will host LCD in the Breezeway and Architectural

Rally Point.

Shane claimed, "There will be a big surprise, so everyone should come."

Although the cost for the dance amounted to \$550, admission is free. ASB hopes to have at least 200 students attend this end-of-the-year event.

ASB School Relations Commissioner Senior Stephanie Yao concluded, "We encourage students to come since this will be the last time the seniors participate

Our Opportunity to Clarify

In our last issue, distributed on Friday, May 25, *Titan Shield* reported on several topics of interest: "Oops"

—The Division IV track meet was at Carpenteria, not Cerritos.

"Track Ends Season in CIF Prelims"

—The Track team only competed against one, not "several" Division IV School in the regular season.

"Singing, Acting, and Shining on Stage"

—Features Editor Connie Chen accidentally credited herself for the article instead of Assistant Opinion Editor Kimberly Nguyen.

CLUB BRIEFS

Interact

SMHS Interact collected donations from students during their English classes to fundraise for UNICEF (The United Nations Children's Fund) last Friday.

UNICEF works with clubs around the world to donate money and other necessities to children in impoverished communities. This year, the Power of Ten, created by Interact members in Washington, decided to fundraise to help kids suffering from AIDS in Africa. To spread the word, the ten club members sent DVDs and information to Interact clubs around the nation.

Interact President Senior Serena Luong stated, "The Power of Ten is making schools aware of the cause and has already made \$2,000."

After all the donations had been collected, Interact raised a total of \$426 from the event.

—Casey Luu//Senior Opinion Editor

Key Club

In an effort to raise money for the March of Dimes Foundation, an organization which helps save the lives of premature babies, Key Club sold "Kiss-a-Senior Goodbye" grams from Tuesday, May 29, to Wednesday, June 6.

According to Co-President the grams "were selling slowly at first." In the end however, Key Club sold all 200 grams.

The grams, which were in the shape of lips, cost 50 cents each and came with three Hershey's Kisses.

"It's a really nice way for people to say goodbye to the seniors, so I'm glad they sold so well," commented Pamela.

In total, Key Club raised about \$80 from the grams.

—Angeline Luong//Senior Features Editor

Red Cross

The SMHS Red Cross Club (RCC) held its last blood drive of the year on Wednesday, May 30, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

Students over 17 years of age and 110 pounds could either make an appointment or walk-in to donate.

Two teachers, Mrs. Jeanette Gessel and Mr. Jon Imamura, also gave blood.

In total, the Red Cross collected 70 pints of blood from 64 people. Of all the participants, 58 gave one pint of blood, while the other six donated two pints through the ALYX machine, which only collects red-blood cells and plasma and replaces the liquid lost with saline solution.

Though the turnout did not meet the club's expectations, RCC President Junior Annette Cheng "was really happy to see a lot of first-time donors."

—Brandon Shiao//Associate Editor of Copy

Prometheans 2007

Amir Ahmad

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Eveline Chu

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Amol Koldhekar

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Michelle Lee

Kami Lennox

Joseph Li

Millie Liao

Sabrina Liao

Diane Liu

Pierre Liu

Rachel Louie

Catherine Lushbough

Katarina Mayers

Isabelle Miranda

Soshian Sarrafpour

Jessica Wang

Aileen Weiss

Heather Wong

Yvonne Ying

Seniors Beat Juniors in Powderpuff Game

(Continued from page 1)

ASB had been planning for this event since the beginning of the year, but started putting everything together about a month ago.

When the idea was brought up, ASB Athletics Commissioner Senior Kirk Pastre offered to ask several of the senior and junior boys on the SMHS Varsity football team to see if they were interested in coaching the girls.

In previous years, Varsity Football Head Coach D.R. Moreland and Assistant Coach Andrew Gayl coached the game, but the members of the football team “were always sort of interested in Powderpuff just because it involved football,” explained Jessica. In the end, Seniors Matt Forgatch, Patrick McGowan, Jonathan Ni, Kirk Pastre, and Alex Varga

volunteered to coach the senior team while Juniors Will Barbour, Rob Peterson, David Ramirez, John Trawick, and Alden Weiss agreed to coach the junior girls.

With approximately 50 girls signing up to play in total, the student coaches agreed to take this game “more seriously than in previous years,” commented Jessica.

For three weeks, the girls practiced twice a week and went over plays and positions.

As a result from the lack of experience in football, Powderpuff Football had modified rules for the game. The girls played on a smaller field and with flags. The football was also smaller.

“The girls [were] very quick learners. All the coaches [were] very impressed,” concluded Matt.



Junior Nicole Chan attempts to pull Senior Sabrina Liao's flag as she makes a run during the annual Powderpuff Football Game.

Patrick Chan//TITAN SHIELD

Math Team Dominates in League

By Katie Wu
Opinion Editor

For the third year in a row, the SMHS Math Team placed first overall in the Bay Math League on Wednesday, May 23.

At the fourth and final meet of the year, 23 members of the team participated in three of five events apiece at South High School in Torrance. All students took a series of 10-minute individual exams before school teams entered the team round. The five individual categories included 9th grade Surface Area and Volume, 10th grade Matrices and Determinants, 11th grade Series and Sequences, 12th grade Area and Volume, and Research Vector Spaces.

In sorting the winning categories, judges ranked participants according to grade level. Out of the 9th graders, Freshman Roger Sheu ended up first with a perfect score of 30. In the 10th grade, Sophomores Jack Tseng and Katie Wu recieved

second with scores of 27, while Sophomore Supriya Kumar attained third place with 25 points. Juniors Daniel Kiang, Grace Kim, and Pamela Hung each placed in their category, with a first place score of 30, a second place score of 25, and a third place score of 24, respectively. In the 12th grade test, Seniors Fady El-Gabalawy and Soshian Sarrafpour won with perfect papers.

After combining the individual scores of the primary team with the points from the team round, San Marino emerged victorious with a total score of 289 at this meet.

Prior to announcing the winning teams, the judges tallied both individual and team scores from the entire year. Katie placed first in the sophomore category with an overall score of 105; out of the juniors, Daniel won second with 107 points, and Pamela attained third with 106; In addition, Seniors Joseph Li and Soshian placed first and third with 114 and 110 points,

respectively. Collectively, the SMHS Math Team garnered a total of 1,110 points, putting it in first place – 35 points ahead of its year-long rival, North Hollywood, with a total of 1,075.

“This is the first time we’ve gotten three wins in a row,” relayed Math Team Coach Dr. Tom Armbruster. “The last time this happened was in the 1980’s, so obviously, we are very euphoric about this.”

However, prior to the San Marino victory, errors in scoring complicated placement in two of the meets.

When evaluating the scores for Pamela, miscalculations led to an input of a score six points less than her actual total. However, before the final tally, proctors caught and properly corrected the previous mistakes.

“We’re going to have fun [next year],” believes Dr. Armbruster. “Who knows if we’re going to win, and even if we don’t, it shouldn’t be a burden on our part.”

Choir Sings Farewell



The San Marino Chamber Choir performs “War Song” by Shin-ichiro Ikebe during its performance at the Christian Science Church on Sunday, June 3. Twenty-two members will be graduating this Wednesday. Sharon Huang//TITAN SHIELD

By Jocelyn Liang
Assistant Features Editor

The San Marino Chamber Choir (SMCC) performed its annual Farewell Concert on Sunday, June 3, at the Christian Science Church from 3 to 5:30 p.m.

The SMCC sang “Sfogava con le Stelle” by Claudio Monteverdi, “Kondalilla” by Stephen Leek, “Hear My Prayer, O Lord” by Henry Purcell/Sven-David Sandström, “Psalm 96” by Merrill Bradshaw, “There is No Rose” by Gary Garcia, “This Marriage” by Eric Whitacre, and “War Song” by Shin-ichiro Ikebe. The group also sang “William Tell Overture” by Gioacchino Rossini, “Sing Me to Heaven” by Daniel Gawthrop, “Fare Thee Well Love” and “A Red, Red Rose” by James Quitman Mulholland, “For Good” by Stephen Schwartz, and “Not to Say Goodbye” by Michael Weston.

Several of these songs had special meaning to the group. The SMCC sang “Fair Thee Well Love” at the request of the composer, James Mulholland, when he heard the SMCC sing in

Miami. Choir sings “A Red, Red Rose” every year at the Farewell Concert and during this piece, former Chamber members join the current choir on stage.

Some of the seniors performed songs dedicated to Chamber Choir. Seniors Soprano Melissa Li and Tenor Pierre Liu, sang “I’m Leaving On a Jet Plane” by John Denver. Pierre played the guitar, and both of them sang. Later, Pierre accompanied Alto Seniors Maribel Colorado and Heather Wong, and Soprano Senior Elene Perry as they sang a song for Mr. Cheung. Another performance by the six-year SMCC members followed. Soprano Seniors Katrina Beshears, Sarah Cheung, Jennifer Kellogg, Michelle Leong, Kimberly Pan, and Elene Perry, along with Alto Seniors Lindsay Jenkins and Katarina Mayers, sang “To Sir, With Love” with Senior Jean Liu as the piano accompanist.

Aside from singing, some seniors provided reflections on the many years they had participated in SMCC. Katrina, Sarah, Michelle, Kimberly, Katarina, Heather, and Alto Seniors Monica Torres and

Amanda Zia gave speeches about their experiences in the SMCC.

Following tradition, Mr. Cheung also announced the new SMCC members. Next year, Sopranos Freshmen Kelly Mar and Katie Salzborg, Sophomores Supriya Kumar, Jennifer Wang, and Annelise Yang, and Juniors Vivian Chen, Pheobe Hwang, and Amber Lee; Altos Eighth Grader Michelle Chee, Freshmen Alysha Chagany, Greg Kellogg, and Cheryl Yeung, Sophomores June Lee and Reina Tan, and Junior Cami Thatcher will join the SMCC next year. In addition, Tenor/Basses Freshman Chris Warren, Sophomore Gary Ching, and Juniors Peter Chiang, Thomas Chou, Michael Hsieh, and Mark Steadman will also be added.

Freshman Andrew Lu will serve as the piano accompanist for the 2007-2008 school year.

To Mr. Cheung, the concert brought back many memories. However, he believes the times that touch him the most were when the “kids [would start to sing] by themselves. It’s the random performances that are my favorite.”

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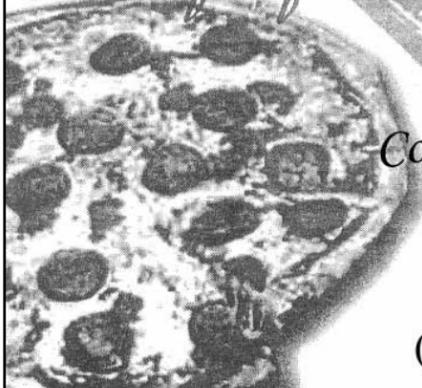
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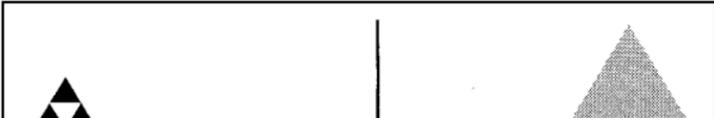
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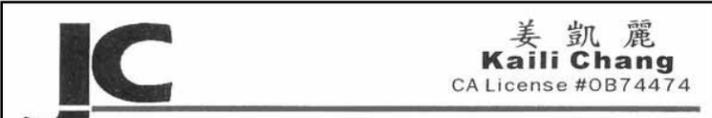
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MOVING ON TO RETIREMENT

By Jocelyn Liang
Assistant Features Editor

After spending 26 years in San Marino, and 40 years in the field of education, San Marino Superintendent Mr. Jack Rose is now choosing to retire from his job. A familiar face in education for many years, Mr. Rose will never forget his love for what he does.

With regards to his passion, Mr. Rose believes that he has always been in education and state

that, he "has never not taught." He first started as a teacher at Glendale High School, where he taught for 13 years. There, he met his friend, Dr. Jay Richards, who eventually became assistant principal at SMHS. Dr. Richards encouraged Mr. Rose to get an administrative credential. Upon taking his advice Mr. Rose remembered he "fell into working in San Marino. I didn't decide it, it just happened."

In 1981, a position at Huntington Middle School opened up, and Mr. Rose took the job. After

teaching at HMS, Mr. Rose decided to apply for the job of Assistant Principal of Instruction at SMHS. Because of his success as an assistant principal, he later became the principal. His friend, Dr. Richards, then became superintendent, so Mr. Rose decided to start working in the district office as well. Then, in 1997, the superintendent spot opened up once again, and Mr. Rose became the new superintendent of San Marino.

During his years as superintendent, Mr. Rose oversaw the renovations of the new schools and choosing teachers. He is most proud of "our ability to get our schools rebuilt with the money we had in a timely fashion." Mr. Rose is also proud of San Marino for being the number one school district in Southern California, but does not take credit for it. As superintendent, Mr. Rose interviews every teacher to see if he or she is qualified to work in San Marino schools. "In my ten years, I think I have done a good job selecting the people, but the academics are due to students and all their hard work and the teachers that push students. I am proud of that, but I certainly can't take credit for that," reflected Mr. Rose.

After working for 10 years as the superintendent, Mr. Rose

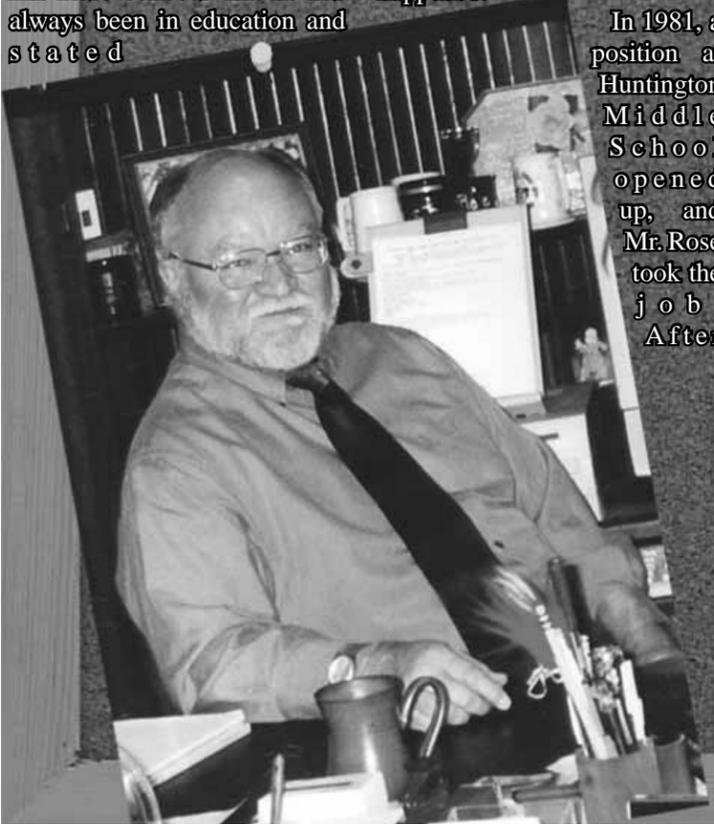
felt the need to retire. His initial thoughts of retirement came to him last year, when he acted as "principal - for - a day" in the absence of Principal Mr. Loren Kleinrock and Assistant Principals Mr. Steve Gasca and

grandson. In fact, over spring break, he already traveled to Sicily, Italy, and plans to visit Alaska in the coming summer. In the near future, Mr. Rose hopes to have the opportunity to cruise in the Mediterranean around Greece or Istanbul.

Despite his ambitions to travel, Mr. Rose expressed his love for San Marino by saying, "I'm comfortable here. I love the community, I love the people. Great kids, good parents, what more can you ask for?" However, he feels that San Marino's biggest flaw is the competition.

To him, everyone overemphasizes academics. Mr. Rose expressed that "it shouldn't be that way. What students are most concerned about is grades, not about the learning." He hopes that this trend will change in the future.

However, Mr. Rose's biggest wish is for the students of San Marino to understand that "there is a good college for everybody." Restating what he said in his graduation speech last year, he hopes that everyone will "be happy with their jobs and follow their hearts because that's what is important."



Ms. Mary Johnson. It was then when it "dawned on [him] that it was exactly 20 years ago that [he] became the high school principal, and also that none of [the current high school students] were born. That's a heck of a realization," explained Mr. Rose. After that day, he started thinking more about what he wanted to do and where he wanted to go.

Eventually, Mr. Rose came to the conclusion that "it was about time to retire." However, retiring, to him, is not defined by just staying at home and resting. Instead, Mr. Rose wants to travel, play with his classic car, and spend more time with his

ATTENTION SAN MARINO SENIORS

SUMMER WORK

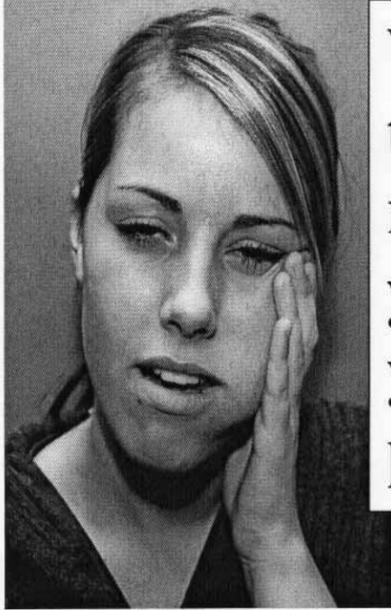
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farewell

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YOU

ms. conklin



Ms. Jessie Conklin will be leaving SMHS to finish up her teaching credentials and to play more music with her band.

ms. morgan



After six years of counseling SMHS students, Counselor Ms. Kara Morgan has decided to move to Connecticut to be closer to "extended family... and close friends who wanted [her] to move there."

mrs. stein-ross



English teacher Mrs. Katharine Stein-Ross will continue teaching next year at Renaissance Art Academy in Eagle Rock, founded by her former USC professor, where her husband currently teaches.

mrs. gardner



After 12 years of teaching SMHS students, Math teacher Mrs. Glenda Gardner is retiring from teaching to free up time for her family, including a recently-born grandchild. She also plans to take art classes in hopes of finding a hidden "artistic" talent.

mr. rodriguez



Speech and Debate Coach Mr. JJ Rodriguez will coach the Loyola Marymount University Debate team next year but says that his return to SMHS is a "distinct possibility."

mr. mooney



Science teacher and volleyball coach Mr. Scott Mooney will take a yearlong leave of absence from SMHS to teach English in Vietnam on behalf of the English Language Institute/China.

mr. gasca



Assistant Principal of Activities and Discipline Mr. Steve Gasca will assume the position of District Coordinator International Baccalaureate at another school district closer to home. While his new job will present a much more convenient daily commute, Mr. Gasca believes "nothing will ever compare to SMHS."

ms. albrecht



Mrs. Marcia Albrecht will wind up her 27-year teaching career this June to sit back and relax. With her extra time, she hopes to pursue hobbies such as golf and help plan her son's wedding. However, Mrs. Albrecht may not leave SMHS permanently as she may substitute in the future.

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AP Physics C-E/M	5	SATII Physics	780
AP Physics C-MECH	5	SAT	2370

2007 B. Zhu

AP Chemistry	5	SAT II Chemistry	800
AP Calculus BC	5	SATII MathIIC	800
AP Physics C-E/M	5	SATII Physics	800
AP Physics C-MECH	5	SAT	2230

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Session IV: July 30th ~ August 9th (M,T,W,Th)

Session V: August 13th ~ August 23rd (M,T,W,Th)

EPISODE 10

PREVIOUSLY...
 LILY ISN'T TOO HAPPY ABOUT BEN'S NEW GIRLFRIEND STEPHANIE AND GOES TO A POOL PARTY AND, AS PLANNED, PUSHES BEN INTO THE POOL FOR REVENGE. RIGHT AFTER, THOUGH, SHE ALSO GETS PUSHED INTO THE POOL BY STEPHANIE.

THAT NIGHT...
 I HEARD IT WAS YUJI I REMEMBER SEEING HIM. HE WAS FILMING THE PARTY. I THINK LILY INVITED YUJI.

LATER IN THE DAY...
 LILY, I THINK WE'RE IN A BIT OF TROUBLE. BEN & STEPH ARE REALLY MAD!

AT YUJI'S HOUSE
 WHAT SCRIPT?

COMIC STRIP DIALOGUE:
 "HEE HEE"
 "DID YOU SEE THE POOL PARTY CLIP ON MYSPACE? HILARIOUS!"
 "YEAH! BEN IS ALL DRENCHED BUT WHO UPLOADED THE CLIP?"
 "I KNOW IT'S YOU!"
 "YUJI! YOU BETTER DELETE THAT CLIP OR YOU'LL BE IN BIG TROUBLE LATER!"
 "HO-HOLD IT."
 "DAMMIT! NOW I REMEMBER. HE WAS THERE ALL THE TIME!"
 "LET'S DO A SCREEN TEST. CAN YOU COME TO MY HOUSE? I HAVE A STUDIO SET HERE."
 "OK, I'LL MAKE SURE TO DO THAT, BUT YOU NEED TO HELP ME OUT FIRST. I'M MAKING A FILM. CAN YOU BE IN IT?"
 "BE ON FILM? SURE! I'LL COME OVER NOW!"
 "I'M SO EXCITED!"
 "SO WHERE IS THE SCRIPT?"
 "YUJI!!!"

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Titan Shield,

We are writing this letter in regards to your "Titan Shield: unshielded" editorial printed in the April 27, 2007 edition of the Titan Shield. This editorial portrayed that the ASB elections "are a popularity contest". We as the ASB feel that the editorial failed to provide dual coverage on the elections and as a result, placed a negative image on the elections, the ASB, and the candidates. From our standpoint, this editorial can potentially discourage students and future candidates from participating in the election process.

We acknowledge the problem of popularity in the election process. However, this problem is rooted within the mindset of the students who vote. In order to try to influence the students to vote for the most qualified candidate, ASB has tried to take measures in minimizing popularity as part of the elections. Not long ago, elections were done in homeroom where every student had to vote. In trying to eliminate those who carelessly vote, or just vote for friends, we made the elections open polling, where one would have to take their time and energy to vote for someone he wants. Furthermore, ASB has taken additional measures this year in trying to increase the legitimacy of the speeches. We placed guidelines for each candidate to have qualifications for their position. We placed guidelines for each candidate to have qualifications for their position. However, we did not want to place a rigid structure because we believe the literary vehicles which they incorporate help convey their personality while maintaining attention and earning the vote.

In conclusion, we feel that rather than focusing on the innate element of popularity, the focus would have been better placed on the efforts of ASB over the years in trying to minimize its impact. In doing this, the students will not only have been informed on how popularity distorts the election, but also how ASB has tried to lessen its weight on the results. We can not change the mindset of people nor tell them how to vote. ASB is open to any interviews and suggestions to how we can improve the election process. We greatly appreciate the attention Titan Shield has brought upon this subject. We hope that we can work together in helping the students become aware of how their votes make a difference in the election process.

Sincerely,
SMHS ASB '06-'07

The column in question appeared in the April 27, 2007 issue of Titan Shield. "Titan Shield: Unshielded" is an established column, not an editorial, and as such, is not under the same constraints as an editorial to present "dual coverage," or both sides, of any given issue.

The article was meant to be humorous; though Titan Shield retains its free press rights, we regret any discomfort this article may have caused anyone.

- Titan Shield

Censorship Guards Against Offense

By Leo Zhu
Senior Opinion Editor

Dictatorship. Authoritarianism. Totalitarianism. As used in today's societies, censorship typically stirs up images of the USSR during Stalin's reign or of Germany when Hitler was in charge – violent, dangerous times when no person was safe from condemnation from the government. However, these stereotypical images are not entirely representative of censorship. By restricting information, censorship can shield the public from offensive materials.

To the majority of U.S. citizens, censorship has a negative connotation. After all, according to the Bill of Rights, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." Censorship is thus claimed to be illegal; however, to a certain extent, it still does

chance to reach them. So, while many people would argue that the Bill of Rights protects the right to freedom of speech, even the U.S. government does not always follow this law. Censorship is a common tool used to suppress materials that are offensive to the general public. By creating a more comfortable and livable environment, censorship shields people from discriminating mediums, such as pornography. If pornography were made available to everyone, it would foster anti-social attitudes and behavior. In addition, statistical studies by sociologists Murray Straus and Larry Baron (University of New Hampshire) found that rape rates are highest in states that have high sales of sex magazines and lax enforcement of pornography laws" (http://www.leaderu.com/orgs/probe/docs/porno.html).

chance to reach them. So, while many people would argue that the Bill of Rights protects the right to freedom of speech, even the U.S. government does not always follow this law.

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For more everyday activities, censorship helps to warn people of potentially offensive content. The Motion Picture Association of America [MPAA] film rating system is widely accepted system of rating movies. While it does restrict a person's ability to watch any movie that he/she wants to, it does so for a positive purpose. Many stations are also beginning to implement similar television and radio censorship programs. TV Parental Guidelines, a TV content rating system put into effect in the U.S. during early 1995 was designed "to give parents more information about the content and age-appropriateness of TV programs" (http://www.tvguidelines.org/default.asp).

Although they do censor certain popular programs, these systems help protect viewers. Censorship is a vital tool essential to the well being of a state. Although deemed unlawful by the Bill of Rights, censorship still exists within our country; it helps protect society from the evils of offensive materials.



Interview Suppressed," *International Herald Tribune*). The Deputy Secretary of State and Senior National Security Council officials stated that showing the interview would be "tantamount to granting a platform to terrorists." They then told the station to kill the story. While this interview certainly would have interested many viewers, it never had a

Undergraduate Colleges Matter Little

By Kimberly Nguyen
Assistant Opinion Editor

Parents often encourage their teenagers to study hard so that they will be accepted into elite undergraduate colleges. In general, expectations have risen substantially in the last decade because the prospects of being accepted into a prestigious college are lower, and GPAs and SAT scores have increased. (http://www.usc.edu/usnews/stories/13796.html). But the reality is that getting into a high-ranking college is not quite as important as some believe.

"Today almost everyone seems to assume that the critical moment in young people's lives is finding out which colleges have accepted them," stated Greg Easterbrook, contributing editor of *The Atlantic* (http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200410/easterbrook).

Admission to a top school is imagined to be the key to success, and rejection is thought of as a large setback in one's life. Such stress and disappointment are unfortunately unavoidable in the current environment. However, attending a prestigious college does not necessarily guarantee success. If students simply attend an elite undergraduate institution, but do not enjoy their major or

actively apply themselves, then they will not be pleased throughout their college years.

Each year, a certain number of exceptional students are presented a chance to attend an elite college, but every so often, these accomplished students reject

these offers and attend

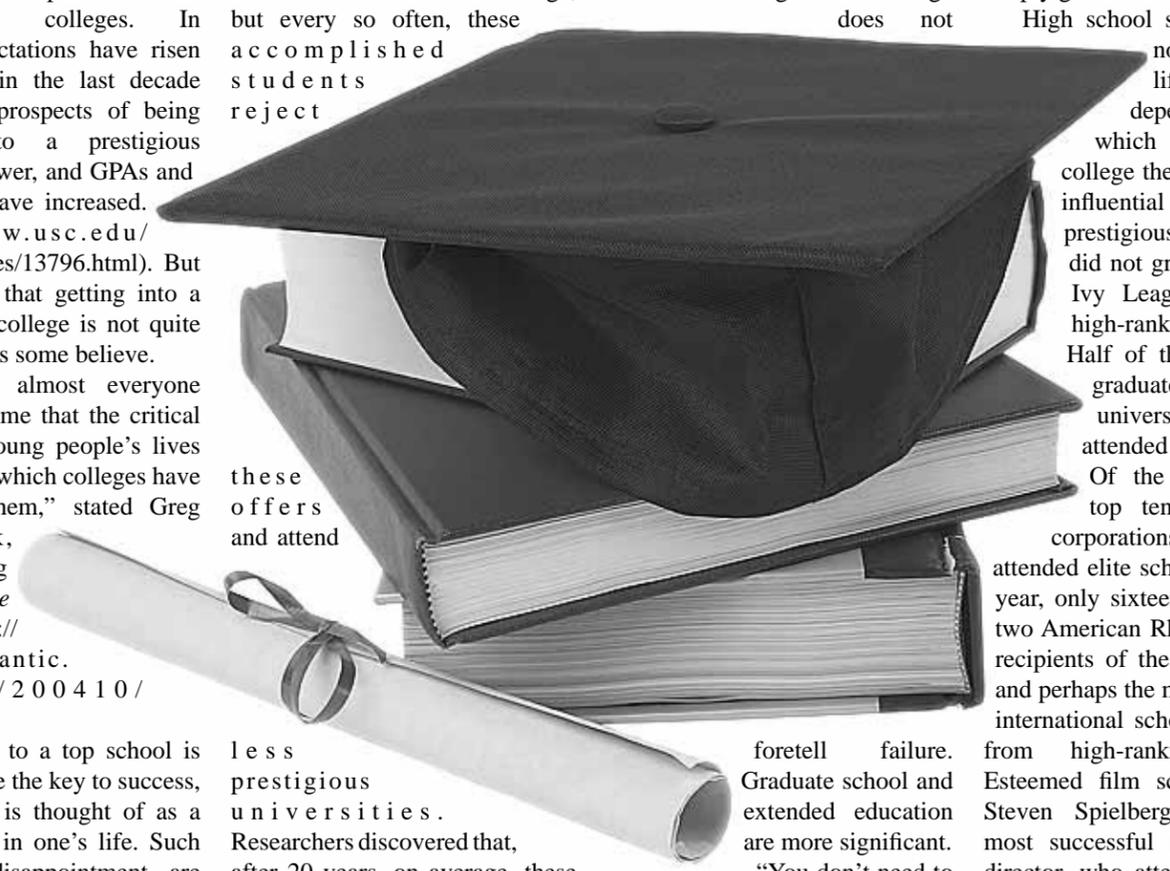
less prestigious universities. Researchers discovered that, after 20 years, on average, these individuals had the same income as the graduates of high-ranking colleges (http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200410/easterbrook). The prestige of a college will not always guarantee prosperity. It is simply the students' performance

and dedication that determine their future accomplishments. Although graduating from a top-notch college may affect a person's initial job offers, attending a mediocre undergraduate college does not

foretell failure. Graduate school and extended education are more significant. "You don't need to go to those schools to lead a good life or be a leader. You can succeed by going to any school," remarked Marilee Jones, admissions director at MIT, graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Indeed, continuing onto college

is more crucial than choosing which college to attend. It is not absolutely essential to receive one's degree from an Ivy League school, but it is important to simply graduate with a degree.

High school students should not feel like their life is completely dependent on which undergraduate college they attend. Many influential citizens and prestigious job-holders did not graduate from an Ivy League or another high-ranked college. Half of the U.S. Senate graduated from public universities, and many attended state colleges. Of the CEOs of the top ten Fortune 500 corporations, only four attended elite schools. Also, this year, only sixteen of the thirty-two American Rhodes Scholars, recipients of the world's oldest and perhaps the most prestigious international scholarship, hailed from high-ranking colleges. Esteemed film schools rejected Steven Spielberg, the world's most successful motion picture director, who attended Cal State Long Beach. Students should maintain academic discipline and simply focus more on their commitment and performance in life. In the end, that is what will lead to a more satisfying and successful future.



Congratulations Seniors; good luck to you all! I Love you all -Mrs. F.



B.M., M.M., The Juilliard School
D.M.A., University Of Maryland

Elizabeth Shin-I Su

Cellist

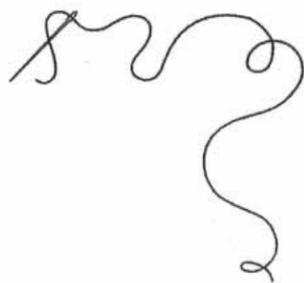


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Titan Shield

UNSHIELDED

Czech chemist Otto Wichterle created an invention that now afflicts up to 38 million people in the U.S. An invention so horrifying with its 0.5-inch diameter that it creates the illusion that $1+2=8$, "bear" is spelled "beer," and that Shaq is a huge slam-dunking blob.

Some prefer to call the device a "contact," but I'd rather think of them as mini death stars repeatedly attacking your eyes the moment a speck of dust comes within three inches of your face.

These horrible little contraptions have been harassing my eyes since I was in third grade. That's right. Third grade. Imagine a tiny little 9-year old trying to shove a tiny piece of plastic in her eye. Every time she got close, she'd let go of her eyelids and blink before getting the dratted disc in. This process continued for about an hour or so until her brother had to pin her down while her sister shoved the darn things in.

Not only do I have contacts, I have rigid gas permeable lenses, or "hard lenses." These contacts freak me out every time I have to worry whether they will suddenly bombard my eyes with unrelenting pains while I'm driving or attack in the middle of my SAT's. Just picture it: five minutes left and I've still got a passage to go on Critical Reading and BAM, those little devils attack. Instead of using my last five minutes reading, I'm writhing in pain and tears are leaking out of one eye, spilling all over my answer sheet. There goes 3 hours and 25 minutes of work all lost in those last five minutes. Fortunately, that's just a very probable hypothetical incident.

Not only do contact-users have to worry about the spontaneous pangs of agony, but there's also the problem of losing them. Seriously, the moment they're lost, they're impossible to find. During volleyball one summer, I got hit on the head in the middle of a game by the ball and, low and behold, my left contact popped right out on the court. The play had to stop and everyone got down on their knees and search for the tiny, ever so slightly blue-tinted contact. Lucky for me, we found it near one of the poles.

Yet another incident in my contact-losing adventures was one morning when I was putting on my contacts and I accidentally dropped my right contact somewhere on the bathroom counter. I searched everywhere, but the little thing had disappeared. Finally, I settled with wearing glasses to school and got new contacts about a week later. Maybe two months later, I was cleaning my bathroom and noticed how odd it was that my Bath & Body Cucumber Melon soap had spilled a drop in an absolutely perfect round circle and how that little circle didn't have the little blue beads like the rest of the soap. Rather than the gooey feeling I was expecting, it turned out to be hard. It took me a while to put things together, but I finally realized that it was the contact I had lost so long ago. Stupid, stupid, stupid.

So just learn this from my experience: contacts suck. Really, really suck.

—Peony Khoo // Managing Editor

Iron Chef: Marshmallow Style

Everyone is familiar with the popular Food Channel series *Iron Chef*—an intense culinary competition in which top chefs from around the world prepare dishes featuring a specific ingredient within a tough time limit. However, these ingredients tend to be commonplace, and, let us face it—repetitive. And so, as an alternative, tonight's special will feature the marshmallow concoction composed of corn syrup, beaten egg whites, gum Arabic, gelatin, and additional flavorings in a very unique set of pallet-stimulating dishes

—Katie Wu//Opinion Editor

1. **Marshmallow soup.** Add a few handfuls of fluff to a boiling pot of chicken broth and stir until evenly distributed. It sounds revolting and probably is.

2. **Marshmallow sandwich.** Toast a few marshmallows, and pack them between a couple slices of bread, along with some crumbled graham crackers, honey, peanut butter, and chocolate syrup. It will rot your teeth and increase your risk of contracting risky diseases such as arteriosclerosis. Yum!

3. **Stuffed marshmallows.** Gouge open a few jumbo marshmallows and plug them full of snowy-white poultry fat. Mash them shut again, and put them back in the bag.

4. **Mini marshmallows.** Buy those packages of hot chocolate that come with the mini-marshmallows, and remove those with just the marshmallows. Eat them as they are or mix them with ice cream or any other dessert.

5. **Marshmallow gum.** You only get about a third of the chewing time, but at least you do not have to worry about that swallow-the-gum-and-damage-your-digestive-organs risk.

6. **Marshmallow smoothie.** Blend up a few packages, and add some ice, berries, and maybe ice cream or frozen yogurt. The end result will be a really, really, really thick shake. It may be tough to get up the straw, but at least it will build lung capacity.

7. **Marshmallow skewers.** Hard-boil a dozen or so marshmallows and string them up on a few chopsticks.

Your kitchenware might not survive the ordeal, but at least you can die knowing you have seen melting gelatin.

8. **Marshmallow tri-tip.** Once you get past the fact that the marshmallow plant lacks the bottom sirloin more common in, you know, cows. How hard is it to cut them into triangle-shaped pieces?

9. **Marshmallow pizza.** Use any type of sturdy carbohydrate for the crust [graham crackers, toast, dough, etc.]. Coat it with chocolate syrup, honey, or peanut butter, and marshmallows and any other topping that suits your fancy. Maybe fruit, maybe candy. Very messy, and very much resembling what vomit would look like if Willy Wonka threw up. Just close your eyes and eat it fast. The real challenge is to keep it down.

10. **Marshmallow surprise.** Take ten evenly sized jumbo marshmallows, and halve them lengthwise. Spread a thin, even layer of ketchup over the flat side of each half, and sprinkle saffron on top. Bake for 12 minutes at 300 degrees, then cover over with plastic. Allow to cool, then coat with a generous layer of tuna salad. Add grated parmesan cheese [optional], and throw it away. More of a time killer than anything else.

So, maybe I have effectively put you off eating a marshmallow ever again. But if not, please give the above suggestions a try. That is, if you truly are as bored as I dared to assume.

Your Guide To Summer

What do you call 11 weeks of unrestricted freedom, all-day snooze-fests, and clothing so revealing that can only be seen in a PG-13 movie? SUMMER! But even 11 weeks of pure fun can get boring. So, too keep your summer from becoming too tedious, Spectrum offers you some exciting events to look forward to.

—Maddy Wojdak // Spectrum Editor

JUNE

The Police
June 20, 21, 22

The Police are coming! No, not the fuzz, the band! Just imagine: Sting and Stewart, are back together, making beautiful music... *sigh* Its the 80s all over again. Get your tickets online before they sell out. Unless you dont like the Police. Then you probably shouldnt.

1408
June 22

Just imagine: sitting in a dark cold theater, watching John Cusack and Samuel L. Jackson fight off evil spirit-like things in a haunted hotel room. *1408* is just a basic horror movie, based on a short story by Steven King. And in case you didnt notice, $1+4+0+8=13$. Gasp!

Snoop Dogg
June 25

Snoop Dogg is in da HOUSE! Yeaah! Well, you get the point. So get your crew together and go see him at the House of Blues in Anaheim on June 25.

JULY

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
July 13

Little Harry and his pals are back in *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*. An angry Harry sulks around the castle fighting the new Defense Against the Dark Arts teacher and eventually the Death Eaters. Embrace your inner geek, dress up as your favorite character, and go see it at midnight. You know you want to... (Just dont forget to bring your wand & glasses!)

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows
July 21

Harry Potter again? I guess its just a magical summer... Harry returns in the final installment of the series, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. Will Harry die? Is Snape good or evil? Do Crumple-horned Snorcacks really exist? I DON'T KNOW! But never fear, all questions will be answered in this final book. You'll be able to get it pretty much anywhere.

AUGUST

I Want To Be A Soap Star
August 14

The Soap Channel's favorite reality TV show is back: A group of people compete to get a part on a soap opera. I mean soap operas on their own are hilarious. Add reality and you've got a first class show.

High School Musical 2
August 17

I know what you're thinking: "Oh my God, not another sequel..." But this sequel holds a special place in many peoples hearts. You can even enjoy it with your little sister. Imagine two straight hours with Sharpay, Gabriella, Troy, and Ryan! Um... maybe you should watch it in two parts...

Band Camp
August 20–24

"One time, at band camp..." Well, you create your own ending to the sentence when you band geeks go. A full week of musical wonder with your bestest band buddies. What could be better?

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Tennis Trounces Diamond Bar, 13-5

(Continued from page 1)

Kleinrock and several students, filed into the viewing areas to support the Titans.

On court, Senior #1 Singles Evan Jurgensen, after jumping ahead to a 30-0, fell down a break in his first match against Diamond Bar's Sophomore #1 Singles Victor Chien.

"I was really nervous for my first match. I've never been that nervous before. It was a weird feeling," Evan said.

After Victor held service, Evan found himself in a 0-2 hole.

However, he began to find his rhythm, with a love game for 2-1.

At 2-3, Evan earned triple break point after his opponent double faulted and eventually leveled the score 3-3, with both players now on serve.

Victor quickly struck back though, with a 0-30 advantage in the following game, but Evan fought back to deuce.

The points went back and forth with both players firing powerful shots in a brilliantly played game.

Ultimately, Evan came from behind to go up 4-3.

The match seemed destined for a tiebreak with Victor on serve at 4-5, but Evan broke serve once again, much to the delight of the largely San Marino-partisan crowd.

Stated Evan, "[Victor] played well. Even though I played him before, it took me a while to figure out his game and then once I figured his game, I attacked his weaknesses and my nerves started to work out a bit."

On the other courts, the #1 Doubles team of Senior Albert Chu and Sophomore Nick Chang recorded a 6-2 win in what turned out to be a dominant day for San

Marino's doubles teams.

The focus soon shifted to #2 Doubles Seniors Brian Lee and Jon Tran, who forced a tiebreak and eventually prevailed 7-6 (4).

The #3 Doubles team comprised of Seniors Andre Law and Eddie Mizuno recorded a narrow 7-6 (3) win too.

However, #2 Singles Sophomore Daniel Weingarten, who held match point with a 5-4 advantage on serve, lost the set's final four games to drop his match.

"Keep your eye on the prize."

- Coach Kuramoto

#3 Singles Simon Zhang also lost, 0-6, in replacement of regular Sophomore Garry Wu for the match.

A 4-2 score-line after the first round meant San Marino only needed half of the remaining twelve matches to clinch the title.

In his second match, Evan cruised to a 6-0 win over Diamond Bar's #2 Singles, while Nick and Albert won 6-2.

Brian and Jon were victorious as well, winning 6-3, and Andre and Eddie scored a victory in their match.

Despite Simon's second loss, 2-6, to Diamond Bar's #2 Singles, the Titans held an 8-3 advantage.

In the day's most inspiring performance, Daniel Weingarten edged out Diamond Bar's #1 in a tie break 7-6 (7) to put his team one win away from the championship.

Up 5-2, Daniel lost the following three games to take the

match to 5-5 when he started to cramp up. Daniel overcame the pain, though, to win the tiebreak.

"At six, the ref told me I should stop because he told me I was in no condition to play but I got through it and it felt really good," said Daniel.

By the completion of the second round of matches, the Titans were on the cusp of a championship with a 9-3 lead, and it became a matter of whether Evan or Nick and Albert would clinch the title.

Eventually, it was Albert who smashed home a shot at 5-3 for the championship win.

Stated Albert, "It was pretty unreal because as soon as I hit it, I kind of lost myself in the moment for a good couple of minutes and then I regained it and shook their hands. But I never had that feeling before."

With the title in hand, San Marino celebrated its victory as it waited for the trophy presentation following the match. The final score would be 13-5.

"We expected a tough match and that was exactly what it was right from the start. We were ready to play," assessed Coach Kuramoto.

He continued, "If you notice, a lot of matches we had early leads like 5-2, and suddenly we find ourselves at 5-4, and then we find ourselves 5 all, so a lot of matches were very close matches where we had early leads but these are a very determined bunch from Diamond Bar that compete very well."

In addition to winning the title, the Titans' doubles teams swept 9-0, a rare feat in a Championship final.

Albert commented on the Doubles teams' performances, "It's amazing. It just shows the strength of our doubles sections.



Senior #1 Singles **Evan Jurgensen** gets into position to fire his forehand during the CIF Finals Match. *Jon Wong/TITAN SHIELD*

I'm really proud of the players."

Despite losing ten seniors, including all but one of the doubles players and Evan, who will be playing his tennis at College of the Desert for a year before potentially transferring, San Marino will have two talented incoming freshmen, one of whom is a nationally ranked player.

"We're really looking forward

to next year and rebuilding the team, working with new players, and continuing the tradition of successful tennis in San Marino."

Nonetheless, Coach Kuramoto still wants to enjoy the glory of this year's championship.

He concluded, "It is very gratifying to have our ten seniors go in the record book with a division title this year."



Senior #1 Doubles **Albert Chu** waits for his partner, Sophomore **Nick Chang**, to begin the point during the CIF Final against the Diamond Bar Brahmas on May 30. *Emma Quan/TITAN SHIELD*

San Marino Boys' Tennis Scorecard vs. Diamond Bar

CIF Division II Finals
May 30, 2007

Singles	#1 DB	#2 DB	#3 DB
#1 Evan Jurgensen	6-4	6-2	6-0
#2 Daniel Weingarten	7-6 (7)	5-7	Retired
#3 Simon Zhang	1-6	2-6	0-6

Doubles	#1 DB	#2 DB	#3 DB
#1 Albert Chu & Nick Chang	6-2	6-2	6-3
#2 Brian Lee & Jon Tran	7-5	7-6 (4)	6-3
#3 Andre Law & Eddie Mizuno	6-4	6-4	7-6 (3)

