



SPORTS MEDICINE CENTER FOR YOUNG ATHLETES

OAKLAND
(510) 428-3558

SAN FRANCISCO
(415) 353-2808

SAN RAMON
(925) 979-3450

WALNUT CREEK
(925) 979-3430



Gael's Baseball Earns First Trip to NCAA Tournament

By Karl Buscheck



Corbin Burnes

Photos Tod Fierner

The Saint Mary's baseball team hammered Gonzaga 13-4 on May 28 at Banner Island Ballpark in Stockton to claim its first ever West Coast Conference Tournament championship and clinch its first ever trip to the NCAA playoffs. "It's a lot of fun," said Eric Valenzuela – the WCC Coach of the Year – whose Gaels own a 33-23 record overall and an 18-9 mark in conference play." These guys

are deserving of everything they're given. They work hard and have put us in a position where we're fighting to get to (the CollegeWorld Series in) Omaha."

In the title game – as the Gaels beat the No. 3 seed Gonzaga for a second day in a row – first baseman Jackson Thoreson collected a three-run homer in the second inning. Second baseman Zack Kirtley went 4-for-5 and drove in a pair

of runs on his way to being named the tournament MVP.

In the opener on May 26, the Gaels topped the No. 4 seed Pepperdine 8-7 thanks to an 11th-inning walk-off single to left field by Kirtley.

"He's one of the best second basemen in the country," Valenzuela said of the sophomore. "He's going to go play in the Cape Cod League this summer and they've also called me from Team USA asking about him. So, he's as high profile of a guy around as there is."

Kirtley only had the chance to strike the decisive hit because of the power of junior Nate Nolan. The catcher connected on a pair of game-tying home runs – first in the eighth and then in the 10th.

A day later, the Gaels clubbed Gonzaga 13-4. Third baseman Anthony Villa gave Saint Mary's an immediate advantage, connecting on a 2-run shot in the top of the first. In the sixth, designated hitter Ian McLoughlin hit a grand slam as part of a six-run frame for the Gaels.

Even before arriving at the conference championship, the Gaels, who led the WCC with nine play-

ers on the All-Academic team, had enjoyed a record breaking season.

"It's history," Valenzuela said after his squad earned a share of the WCC regular season title. "There's lot of tradition [here] with lots of major leaguers and there was a Hall of Famer in there. The tradition of Saint Mary's Baseball goes way back. I mean, 100 years. So, the tradition of it is great. To be the first team to win a conference championship is unbelievable. And to be part of that with this group is special."

The title capped a dramatic rise for the program during Valenzuela's first three years in charge in Moraga. In 2015, the Gaels pushed beyond the .500 mark and this season the team surpassed the 30-win plateau for the first time in 25 years.

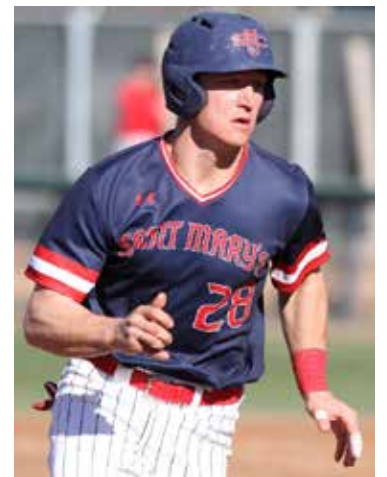
"I don't think our guys are just happy to be here. I think our guys want more," Valenzuela said. "I think that's what's expected with our program and within our program is that we work hard and we want to keep on climbing."

No player better embodies the upward trajectory of the program than junior ace Corbin Burnes.

"Being our Friday guy and pitching against some of the Friday guys in this conference, who are some of the best pitchers in the country, he's been phenomenal," Valenzuela said.

While the postseason beckons first, Burnes figures to be one of the most highly sought-after starting pitchers when the MLB draft rolls around on June 9.

"He's a great leader. His stuff is electric," Valenzuela said. "He's going to be a high draft pick – possible first rounder. First or second rounder – for sure. He's a major leaguer."



Nate Nolan

LMYA's Team Miramar Beach Volleyball Takes Home Title

Submitted by Gina Hageboeck



Team Miramar Beach Defeated Miami 2-1 to Clinch the fifth Grade Championship.

The LMYA fifth grade girls volleyball season culminated with a competitive, exciting match. After losing the first game 25-12 to Miami, team Miramar Beach came back to win the second game 25-15, leading to the climactic third game championship win, posting a score of 15-10.

Top row from left: Catherine Judson, Lucy Gellman, coach Michael Wiseman, Georgia Winkles, Kea Yoshinaka, Nora Macarewich. Bottom row from left: Hanna Hageboeck, Sierra Lashinsky, Madeline Kearney, Olivia Wiseman

Photo provided

Bay Area Blitz Third Grade Basketball Team is Undefeated

Submitted by Rhodora del Rosario



From left: Top Row - Mark Del Rosario, Sadie Suppiger, Abigail Williams, Shayna Chan, Campbell Evans, Julia Ferguson, Addison Ames, Brian Frechman; bottom row- Julissa Islas, Jada Dorst, Ella Del Rosario, and Nataile Frechman.

Photo provided

The Bay Area Blitz, a Lafayette-based third grade girls basketball team, won the Spring Season Championship Title On Sunday, May 22, 2016. The team went undefeated in the 2016 MVP Flight basketball league this season. The Blitz is coached by Brian Frechman and Mark Del Rosario.

Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified

Music Lessons

Summertime Jam Bands!

Team up with friends
Details-call Robbie Dunbar
Piano/guitar all levels
I travel to your home.
M. A. Music Composition
925-323-9706
robbiednbr@gmail.com

Fun Piano Lessons
Learn your favorite song! I teach Certificate of Merit. BM & MM in Piano. Lessons in your home.
925-984-8322. lynnf253@gmail.com

Guitar Lessons

Lamorinda Guitar Lessons
Folk, Rock, Blues & Jazz
Serving Lamorinda since 1980
925-933-3111
www.lamorindaguitarlessons.com
jackskridgeguitar@gmail.com

Plots

Single cemetery plot at Oakmont Cemetery in Garden of Serenity, \$4500. Transfer fee (\$403) negotiable. SINGLE PLOTS NO LONGER SOLD AT OAKMONT CEMETERY; double plots now are \$14,500+. Call Bill 925-451-8211.

House Cleaning

www.totalclean.biz
Serving Lamorinda since 1985. Insured and bonded 376-1004.

Care Giving

Private Duty Geriatric care that will exceed your expectations. We can specialize a Care Management plan for your loved one.
Call Sarah today on 925-565-8274

Pet Care

Animal lover will care for your pet in your home while you're away. References upon request.
Wendy 925-325-9476

Help Wanted

ORINDA McCaulou's Full Time & Part Time Sales Associates. Employee discount. Free parking. No nights. Friendly atmosphere. Paid time off policy. Apply in person 250 Village Square.

Graze Moraga is hiring kitchen line and cashier positions. Email resume to ted@grazemoraga.com

Insurance

Totalintegrityinsurance.com
20+yr Lamorinda resident. My independent insurance brokerage is here to serve you. Over 100 top carriers = great pricing and coverage for Biz Gen Liability, W Comp, Homes, Auto, Life. **Call Henry at (925) 247-4356** OE90108

Windows & Gutters

Reliable Window Cleaning
Friendliness & remarkable results. Windows, Gutters, Pressure Washing. **(925) 254-7622**
ReliableWindowService.com

Weed Cutting

Weed cutting for fire regulations. AZ landscaping
(925)584-2996

Construction

Jacob Spilsbury - General Contractor
American owned and operated
Renovation • Remodeling • Home Repair
Big & Small Jobs • Bonded & Insured
Lic # 898775 **925-825-5201**

Concept Builders

Remodeling, Home Repair & New Construction
Bonded & Insured. License no. 842563
(925) 283-8122, Cell: (925) 768-4983

Handyman

Rusty Nails Handyman Service
Repair • Restore • Revamp
Call Rusty- (925) 890-1581

Ramon's Home Improvement Services.
Repairs. No job to small.
(925)348-3375. Lic. #973746

Tree Service

East Bay Tree Service.
377-8733. Fine pruning, large tree removal, stump grinding
License #805794

Tree & brush removal.
Poison Oak removal. 376-1995, Licensed, insured & bonded

Rototilling

Ken's Rototilling
• 4 W/D Tractors
• Hillside Weed Cutting
• Mowing • Discing • Rototilling
Free estimates! 925-938-9836
licensed, bonded & insured. CA#667491
www.kensrototilling.com

Plumbing



WE HOP TO IT!
(925) 377-6600
LeapFrogPlumbing.com