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Jack Miller scoring a touchdown



Quarterback Sully Bailey

Photos Olivia DeBoy

Acalanes heads to state playoffs; Mats come up short

By Jon Kingdon

Playing in the North Coast Championship game is nothing new for Acalanes head coach Floyd Burnsed, having won five North Coast Championships when he was coaching at Miramonte. However, with Friday's win over Escalon 49-14 it will be the first state championship game for Acalanes and Burnsed since state championship games weren't played back then. The Dons will be playing Birmingham High School (Lake Balboa) at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 9 at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo.

Time of possession in a football game can be a very telling or deceptive statistic. In Friday's game, go with deception. Escalon had the ball for 41 minutes

and 17 seconds and Acalanes had it for 6:43. The Don averaged 13.3 yards for each of their 27 plays. Escalon ran 75 plays and averaged 5.12 yards. There were no punts in the game.

Acalanes quarterback Sully Bailey had a complete game. He was 9 for 14 for 204 yards with one touchdown pass to Paul Kuhner, caught a 37-yard pass from Jake Boselli and ran five times for 31 yards and three touchdowns. Jack Miller had 8 carries for 87 yards, running for one score.

"Their defense had holes in it and we just had to find it and we knew our athletes could outrun them and we would have those big plays and that was the

key to this game," Bailey said. "I'm grateful to my coaches because they trust me with the ball, and they allow me to do what I can to show my athleticism."

Escalon ran for 262 yards and threw for 118 yards but missed converting on four fourth down plays and threw two interceptions for touchdowns, one each by Trevor Rogers and Deonte Littlejohn. After an early long, time-consuming drive, Rogers, who along with Kuhner is on the Don's 4x100 relay team, made his interception and blew by the Escalon tacklers for 86 yards and the game's first score, putting Acalanes up 7-0.

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NEW LISTING - OPEN THIS WEEKEND

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SMC holds Winter Fest to kick off the holidays

By Vera Kochan



Photo Vera Kochan

SMC students try their hand at ice skating during the Dec. 1 Winter Fest.

Saint Mary's College held their first, and hopefully annual, Winter Fest on the campus's Chapel Lawn. Sponsored by the board of trustees, the Dec. 1 event allowed students the chance to experience some holi-

day fun before finals.

SMC Assistant Director of Residential Experience Fiona Corner and her committee planned a multi-faceted evening that had something for everybody. The long line at the Coffee Cart was proof enough that the chill in the air needed thawing; T-shirts with the Winter Fest logo were given away to the first 90 takers; and craft tables were set up for students to either decorate stockings, make do-it-yourself snow globes, or ornaments.

CILSA (Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action) sponsored the Giving Tree booth for anyone wishing to make donations, and the Petting Zoo offered students the chance to climb into an enclosed area and cuddle with goats, rabbits, pigs, chickens and a llama.

Besides food trucks and popcorn, there were booths that spoke to the sweet tooth that no holiday celebration should be without. Cookie decorating offered immediate gratification, while The Candy Bar (where one could scoop chocolate and other treats into a small-sized popcorn container) was perfect for those who like their candy to-go.

A professional photo booth gave students the op-

portunity to pose alone, or with friends, for a picture while wearing an assortment of winter-themed props in front of a backdrop of seasonal images.

The Areté Singers Network, dressed in Victorian garb, sang holiday songs in the midst of two Christmas trees that lit up in gold promptly at 5 p.m. to exclamations of delight from the crowd.

But, the "piece de resistance" (say it with a French accent) at Winter Fest was the ice skating rink set up directly in front of the Chapel. Ice skates were provided, and nearly half of the students who laced them on couldn't skate, but gave it the old college try. Many hugged the perimeter fence as friends who could skate acted as coaches with encouraging words and steadying hands to catch their buddies should they lose balance. A few couldn't slow down and crashed into the barriers, and there were those whose bottoms hit the ice after failed attempts to stay upright.

SMC's Winter Fest did so much more than give the students a break from their studies. It allowed them to be kids again, even if in their case it wasn't all that long ago.

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