

# The Round Table

## Brophy, No Reminders Needed

By Gabriel Polanco

It's around 4 o'clock on a hot August afternoon and the football team is getting a water break. The girls who help out with refilling the water have on school spirit shirts. But one stands out; it reads "Beat Brophy" plain and simple. All the football players look at it intensely and the same message goes through their mind, "this is it."

This is the year we will beat Brophy. As part of the Varsity football team, I know the fire that roars in our gut and the angst we have for THE GAME on September 10, 2010. We want it.

The only question we hear this year is, "Are you going to beat Brophy?" and I can assure you, if there was any a team to do it, it will be this team. Brophy may have been the king of last decade in the rivalry that's been going on for over 50 years! Now this is our decade.

I can assure you, it does make a difference when the stands are full on our side and when you chant and cheer. So come out because we can do it alone, but it'd be a lot more fun if you guys were there to rush the field when the clock hits double 0's.

The Round Table went around campus to ask students and faculty members what their opinions were about the rivalry and what their expectations were for the game.

We ran into Father Bolding, a Brophy alumnus, and he stated, "My loyalties

lie completely with St. Mary's."

After that, we stopped by a table full of football players at lunch and interviewed them. Josh Stevens (11) said "Without a doubt in my mind I know we're going to smash them. They're trying to look down on us and that's their mistake."

Mario Martinez (11), the team's safety, said "We, our class of 2012, beat them every year and our seniors make us a lot better. They may have a good team, but we're just better!"

Jay Lopez (11) added "Yea, it's going to be a great game and I expect our stands to be filled and hyped."

Beau Kitson (11) put it in a simple sentence "The streak ends this year!"

The best quote, in this writer's opinion, comes from #15 Davie Roland, in which he said it in 8 short words "Put in work, get dub, and we out."

We also stopped by to talk to a man who had seen the rivalry for countless years now. Coach Alcocer, the school's all around sports man, noted that "the rivalry over the years has gotten a lot mellow, to my dislike. Way different from the 70's and 80's with all the pre-game trash talk and the pranks amongst the fans. As players, we could never do or say anything because Coach Farrell would not stand for that, but our fans just really got into it and after 16 years of pure dominance they had good reason to."

And on his expectations for this year's game, Coach Alcocer continued



Colton Krolak

The football team is preparing for the Brophy game

on, "Well I haven't got a good enough look at you guys to know how great you guys can be and I also don't know much about this year's Brophy team, but I do know that they're young but they have good enough coaching to get them over that fact. For a fact I know

that when the time comes, it's going to be one great game!"

On September 10, 2010, you'll see the old St. Mary's revived.

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## What's next for SB 1070?

By: Alyssa Lopez

We hear it every day on the news. We see it in the newspaper. So "controversial" is the perfect word for what is going on with SB 1070.

The purpose of the law requires officials to comply and assist in the enforcement of immigration laws. If the authorities suspect that employers are hiring illegal immigrants, then the county attorneys have the right to subpoena in any investigations. The law specifies it's prohibited for trespassing of illegal immigrants, picking up a day laborer in a roadway if it impedes the flow of traffic, and transporting, harboring or concealing illegal

immigrants.

It is required for the person's immigration status to be verified, and if found illegal, they can face deportation.

Many parts of the law have been blocked. For example, an officer can't make a rational attempt to determine the immigration status of a person stopped, detained or arrested if there's suspicion they are in the country illegally.

Before the blocking of some of the sections, there were many limitations. It has been assumed that Governor Jan Brewer's next step would be appealing the decision.

Many people don't agree with SB 1070 while other people favor the fact that something needs to be done.

Most people don't know that the 14th Amendment is still being argued whether

or not it should be changed. The 14th Amendment is the definition of a citizen in this country. So, the change in the 14th Amendment would be denying citizenship to the U.S. born children to illegal immigrants. This would mean that even if you were born here, but your parents weren't, then you would be denied citizenship.

The birthright bill is still unknown if it could possibly be made into a law.

Many people around the U.S. say "Shame on Arizona", but actually we aren't the first state to establish such strict immigration laws.

With SB 1070 being changed and the issue with birthright, it is clear that there is tension, and immigration laws are getting stricter.



"I think it is very inhumane to ask anyone for their papers. That is one of the reasons I don't like SB 1070." - Mireya Lopez (Junior)



"It isn't racist. Every country has laws when it comes to their borders and America is the same way. It seems very constitutional to me." -Ashlyn Ziolk & Katelynne Lespron (Juniors)



## Rosa Valencia:

### A Legacy to Remember

By: Colton Krolak

Many knew Rosa Valencia. Some may have known of her condition with cancer, but many may did not. If you were one of these people who did not know about Rosa's cancer, but saw her on campus, you would have never known, Rosa Valencia assumed, or dreamt the idea that there was anything even potentially wrong with her.



This was Rosa though, seldom to talk about herself unless specifically asked. Every time I saw her, she would always smile, just days after receiving Chemotherapy, and say, "Hello mijo, how are you today?" Even though, she was sick—fatally—she always found time to ask me how I was.

Why, when she had so many things to talk about in



Colton Krolak

### Rosa Valencia smiles for the camera in a yearbook picture

her life, would she ask me how I was? Of course, I would ask her how she was and the usual response was good or o.k. At the worst, she would say, not too well. It was incredible to me how there was no negativity in a woman who had been dealt such a bad card in her life.

When Rosa was in Hospice, and the Saint Mary's community of teachers was there to see her, she asked for the upcoming year's schedule. Even though she knew that she would leave this world soon, she still wanted to see the schedule because she loved Saint Mary's so much and

wanted this school to be in good shape when she left. Saint Mary's itself is Rosa Valencia's legacy. We must try our best not to let her down.

## Mr. Drogo: In Memoriam

By: Gabriel Palanco

I met William Drogo my first day of school as a freshman. I was fumbling my books into his classroom, a little late for 4th period, and expecting an earful from a drill sergeant-

type teacher. Instead I heard a soft "Can I help you with that?" That's exactly who Mr. Drogo was, a soft spoken, loving man who cared for his students, his family, and his beloved New York Giants.

Many Students and Fac-

ulty members had great and touching words to say. Mrs. Clarke, the school Librarian, described him as "an honorable man, who had a great sense of humor, and seemed to have a very stable outlook on education."

We also talked to Mrs. Vietri and this is what she had to say: "Mr. Drogo was a very generous man who was diverse in his abilities, teaching Pre-Algebra, French, and Theology. He'd like to have a lot of fun. He had a good life and was just happy all the time. Even on his last day here with us on earth, he enjoyed a baseball game with his favorite, the New York Mets." As any New Yorker would say, he did it his way.

The passing of Mr.

**"That's exactly who Mr. Drogo was, a soft spoken, loving man who cared for his students, his family, and his beloved New York Giants."**

-Gabriel Polanco (Senior)  
Drogo is a terrible loss to the St. Mary's community, but I'm sure Mr. Drogo is watching over us in his New York Giants jersey smiling down.

The Round Table would like to give special thanks to junior David Gonzales for his performance tribute to Mr. Drogo and Rosa Valencia at the opening assembly of UKnighted Week.



Colton Krolak

Mr. Drogo smiles his usual sweet smile for a yearbook picture a few years ago

# Feature

## Serve the Lord with Gladness

By: Nathan Glen

Over the summer, a bright face joined the Valley of the Sun. Bishop Eduardo Alanis Nevares became the first auxiliary bishop in the history of the Diocese of Phoenix. He was ordained a bishop on July 19 at St.

Thomas Aquinas before thousands of faithful.

Bishop Nevares, who was appointed to the position by the Pope, took on as his motto the quote "Serve the Lord with Gladness",

which is a Bible verse from the book of Psalms. The first Hispanic bishop for the Diocese, Bishop Nevares stated, "I will help Bishop Olmsted. He has asked especially that I animate the Hispanic community and raise up men and women to the priesthood and religious life."

Our new bishop, however, has not always been a part of Phoenix. Prior to his elevation to the office of Bishop, he served as the vice rector for the Pontifical College Josephinum, the college that many seminarians from the Diocese of Phoenix attend.

"He's a very spiritual man," commented seminarian Kevin Grimditch, a 2010 graduate of Josephinum, who was even spiritually directed by Bishop Nevares. "So many times I'd find him in the chapel praying. You can tell his relationship is very strong with the Lord, and it's very inspirational."

"So many times I'd find him in the chapel praying. You can tell his relationship is very strong with the Lord, and it's very inspirational."

-Kevin Grimditch

The auxiliary bishop was born in Houston, Texas as the last of five children, the only one of his siblings born in America.

He served for years as a priest in Texas parishes, and left the Diocese of Tyler to become the auxiliary bishop of Phoenix.

His ordination mass was attended by more than 20 bishops, as well as Cardinal Mahoney of the Diocese of Los Angeles. The ordaining bishops were Bishop Olmsted from Phoenix, as well as Bishop Michael Sheehan of the Diocese of Santa Fe (the archdiocese the Diocese of Phoenix is under), as well as Bishop Alvaro Corrada del Rio, SJ from Bishop Nevares' home diocese.



J.D. Long-Garria/CATHOLIC SUN

Bishop Eduardo Alanis Nevares

## Mosque on Ground Zero Causes Outrage

By: Nathan Glenn

Many Americans have been upset by plans to build an Islamic mosque two blocks from Ground Zero. The wounds of 9/11 are still fresh in the hearts of Americans, and so the thought of a place of worship for the group that perpetrated the act of terrorism (even if it was by extremists), is just adding insult to injury.

The building that is planned to be inhabited by the mosque used to be Burlington Coat factory. It was closed when the roof collapsed on 9/11, because a piece of landing gear from one of the planes struck the building.

While many Americans acknowledge that it is the Muslim people's right under the first amendment to practice their religion wherever they desire, they also agree that building it so close to a tragic national monument is insensitive and in poor taste.

Some Saint Mary's students shared their opinion of the subject. Nick Yahraus commented, "It's not politically correct, but

they are protected by separation of church and state."

Matt Merrell countered with, "That's like the Nazis building an appreciation building next to Auschwitz."

Some looked to President Obama to make a statement about the mosque, as a kind of final judgment on the subject. However, his remarks have only caused more debate because of their politically correct nature. "As a citizen, and as president, I believe that Muslims have the same right to practice their religion as anyone else in this country," the President remarked.

Not afraid of controversy, the Imam of the planned mosque quipped, "It was almost obvious that something like this had to arise from the ashes of 9/11. In some way, this has the hand of the divine written over it. It's almost as if God wanted to be involved." He seeks to use the mosque as a venue to encourage inter-religious understanding.

## We Are Crazy for Caffeine



By: David McGlothlin

"Caffeine addiction" is now included with other addictions. They proclaim people who drink caffeine products throughout their day can become addicted. Their addiction can become so bad that if they do not get their caffeine fixes throughout the day, they will experience withdrawals. People from NBA All-Stars to little kids, from teachers to CEOs all admit they are addicted to their daily caffeine fix. There are all kinds of products on that market today that will give people the caffeine rush.

People who drink caffeine from when they wake up to the end of their day can experience withdrawals. For example, NBA All-Star Caron Butler can be considered a "Mountain Dewaholic". Butler said he used to drink at least six 12 ounce bottles of Mountain Dew every day. He says it is an addic-

tion and without his Mountain Dew he wouldn't be able to play in games, train, or do other daily activities. Butler stopped drinking this summer to try and kick his addiction. "I lost 11 pounds this summer by giving up Mountain Dew," Butler reported on a yahoo blog.

Saint Mary's Mr. Jenkins admits to having the same addiction. He sips on his carbonated caffeine goodness all day every day.

Senior Colton Krolak has his own caffeine addiction. He orders a "grande decaf mocha frapacino" every morning before school. He estimates that he spends about \$2000 a year on his daily coffee from Starbucks.

Caffeine products are becoming more and more popular but is this caffeine craze an addiction?

## Following the Call of Christ

### SM welcomes new Dominican Sister

By: Ana Giorlando

One of our new teachers here at St. Mary's is a wonderful woman named, Sister Peter Mary Campagna. Sr. Peter Mary was born in Seoul, South Korea, but grew up in Oregon after she was adopted at the age of three months.

Something that I think is very interesting is finding out why some people follow the call of Christ. "I had everything in college - good family, good friends, good grades - but I wasn't happy. I saw that the Sisters had given up everything for God and were filled with a joy greater than anything I had ever seen. I wanted that happiness, found only in God," said Sr. Peter Mary.

It is so fascinating how we make plans and create dreams for ourselves, but sometimes God has a completely different plan for us in the end. "Since the time I can remember, I wanted to be a pediatrician, just like my dad. I had no real idea of what a Sister was until I was in my junior or senior year of high school, so that

definitely was not on my radar," said Sr. Peter Mary.

"I am a member of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist from Ann Arbor, Michigan same as Sr. Mary Magdalene and Sr. John Paul, who was here the last few years," said Sr. Peter Mary. A regular day of school for us students consists of classes, homework, and an extracurricular activity or two. A regular day in the order consists of prayer, attending classes, or teaching.

When I think of Sisters in their convents, I used to believe that praying and teaching was all that they did! But, what I learned from Sr. Peter Mary is that Sisters can have hobbies and pastimes too. "Oh yes, I love to spend time with my Sisters doing pretty much anything. On my own, I have a special love for playing the cello - it is my ultimate stress-reliever, besides the fact that it sounds beautiful. The instrument, not my playing," said Sr. Peter Mary. "I think I'd have to go with

Tupac his name backwards (caput) is Latin for head like we speak about Christ as caput (head) of the Church there must be some significance there yes, I am a nerd," answered Sr. Peter Mary when asked our Round Table signature question.

I definitely had to ask Sr. Peter Mary which saint she most admires. "Saint Francis Xavier is one of my absolute favorite saints. He was from Spain but offered everything he had to God and spent the last ten years of his life as a missionary in India and Japan. I definitely admire his love of God and others," answered Sr. Peter Mary.

I know for a fact that Sr. Peter Mary is definitely somebody that I want to get to know a whole lot better! She has a creative insight to different situations and is very strong in her faith with God. So, if you ever see Sr. Peter Mary, make sure you go out of your way to welcome this spectacular Sister!



Colton Krolak

Sister Peter Mary Campagna

## Mr. Letteer: Master of Arabia

### How he solves a problem like Maria

By: Nathan Glen

This school year, a sunflower in the garden of St. Mary's blossomed fully into a hawk that has spread its wings gloriously. You may be asking, "How can someone morph from a sunflower to a hawk?" Mr. Letteer can. He raises Arabian horses. Nothing is impossible for him. He eats impossible for breakfast. And it tastes delicious.

To start, Mr. Letteer has three adult children, Ashley, Kevin, and Brad. He has also been married to his wife,

Judith, for forty years, and is teaching British Literature as well as serving as the year-book moderator.

While he has just begun his first year at Saint Mary's, Mr. Letteer has been teaching for 25 years and also has spent time as an editor and National Archive librarian. But, he's "still a humble guy".

When asked his first thoughts on SM, he commented, "It's a very clean campus. It's small enough, and is friendly. It's very dif-

ferent from my experience in public schools." He has no allergies, and his favorite hobbies are raising purebred dogs and horseback riding.

When asked about his musical preference, Letteer remarked that he enjoys the classical piano composer Rachmaninov. However, he also admitted that he had a conversation with Ozzy Osborne when he ran into him at Caesar's Palace (Sorry, Caesar didn't really live there).

He also stated that John Lennon lived in the same apartment complex as his grandmother, and so he rode in an elevator with him. Yes, Mr. Letteer has had his fair share of celebrity run-ins. All he's missing is the Pope. Oh wait, he met him too.

He said that if he had the choice, he would rather be a grizzly bear, and that his vacation spot is Northern California. Interestingly, grizzly bears live in Northern California. I have a theory that in a past life, Mr. Letteer was a grizzly bear. So far, it's unconfirmed, but spread the word and if it sticks, it's true.



Nathan Glenn

Mr. Letteer posing for the camera

Finally, when asked whether he preferred Biggie or Tupac, he replied that he had no use for either. However, he quickly added his own thoughts on whether Tupac is alive, saying, "No. He's sitting on his mom's bookshelf in a little box in Brooklyn." He quickly insisted, "I know that for a

fact."

So truly, Mr. Letteer is probably the most interesting teacher here. Sure, he doesn't have the Trotti moustache or the Simtion "secret spy"-ness, but when you've got G-status like Letteer, it's hard to not cheer. Sorry, had to rhyme.



Colton Krolak

The one and only Mr. Meyers

## His name is Mr. Meyers not "Mayers"

By: Alyssa Lopez

At first glance Mr. Meyers might look like any other U.S. Government teacher. Many of you might be saying, "Wait who is Mr. Meyers anyways?" He's a new teacher at St. Mary's.

Grant Meyers has been teaching for eight years. He's known that he would be a Government teacher because even in high school, history was his best subject.

"I wanted to be a Government teacher because I think it's interesting," said Meyers, "I think it is

important to know what is going on with our country and government."

As kids we all imagine what our dream job would be.

"My dream job would be a UPS driver. I have always thought it was cool to just drive around all day," Meyers said.

He may be the new teacher at St. Mary's, but I wouldn't underestimate him. The first day of school he was handing out summonses left and right for dress code violations.

Mr. Meyers isn't just a serious guy.

He has a comical side to him. When asked what his last meal would be before he died, without hesitation, he said, "It would have to be my mom's buffalo wings".

For any senior who has Mr. Meyers as a teacher, he has mentioned that he doesn't like too much music and most movies make him fall asleep. He did admit a few that can peak his interest. "My favorite movies would be Tin Cup, Hoosiers, and The Original Batman," said Meyers. "I listen to Brad Paisley, George Strait, and Joe Nichols."

When he was asked the Round Table's signature question, Biggie or Tupac? Mr. Meyers laughed "Tupac."

# From Freshmen to Seniors



## Tyrone Avriett

"I would be Superman. He is always willing to fight for what he believes."

### Uncovering New Faces of Our Many Freshmen

By: Ana Giorlando

At first look, Tyrone Avriett, a freshman here at St. Mary's, might look like one intimidating dude, but in truth, Tyrone is a very kind and sensitive being, whom I honestly just wanted to hug when I finally got to know him.

Now, I'm sure that we all have found our first day of high school to be pretty intimidating. We may have even had embarrassing moments that we probably never want to speak of again!

"I walked into the girl's P.E. class," says Avriett when I asked him if anything embarrassing happened to him on his first day of school.

Tyrone is on the freshmen football team and plans on playing basketball later on this year. "My dream job is to become a high school coach," says Avriett. "I want to be a football coach."

When it comes to choosing the high school you want to attend, and more importantly, choosing your college, we all have our own accounts to take into consideration. For Tyrone, he wants to go to Ohio State. Why you ask? "Because of football," answers Avriett.

When asked the Round Table's signature question, "Biggie or Tupac?" Avriett chose Biggie.

When I asked Tyrone which superhero he wanted to be and why, I did not get the kind of answer I expected. Usually when asked this question, a person will answer it by saying, 'Chuck Norris! I mean, who wouldn't want to be Chuck Norris? He has power over the universe!'

"I would be Superman. He is always willing to fight for what he believes," answered Avriett. I think that his reasoning for choosing this certain superhero only proves that Tyrone Avriett is a very noble man. So, make sure when you see this awe-inspiring student, that you give him a warm welcome to our St. Mary's family.



## Alex Valdez

"My mom cried when she watched Toy Story 3."

### Let's Take a Walk Down Sophomore Hall

By: Ana Giorlando

As a sagacious teacher once told me, sophomore is a word derived from the Greek words sophos, meaning "wise" and moros, meaning "fool". What a perfect fit for students who are in their second year of high school!

So, who is the sophomore that I want you to meet? Well, that sophomore just happens to be a guy named Alex Valdez. Alex is a student who is very involved with St. Mary's. "Just clubs. Last year I was in Earth, Art, and Drama Club," answered Valdez when asked about extracurricular activities.

Speaking of being involved with school, Alex also has family who attend St. Mary's alongside him. "A freshman. Her name is Destiny. She is my cousin. Plus, a junior named Jose Lopez, who is also my cousin," said Valdez.

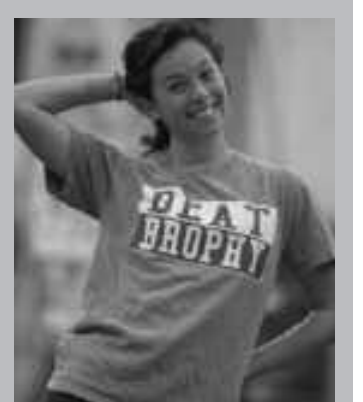
Interviewing Alex was a lot of fun, because we are actually pretty good friends from Acting class last

year! When I thought of how we both enjoy acting and movies, I figured I should ask Alex which actor he would want to play in his likeness if ever a movie should come out about the life of Alex Valdez. "Johnny Depp," answered Valdez.

I am a diehard Disney fan, so while we were on the topic of movies I just had to ask Alex what his favorite Disney movie is. "Toy Story," said Valdez. "My mom cried when she watched Toy Story 3." I have a feeling that a lot of parents cried watching this movie Alex! I know my mom did!

Getting to know Alex Valdez has been a great experience for me. Learning something new about people can be pretty special when you find that you have things in common with them, such as Alex's favorite vacation spot is California! "I just tour places and go to the beach," said Valdez. Plus, when asked our Round Table signature question, Alex chose Tupac over Biggie.

You never know when you might have something in common with someone that is close to you. So, I encourage you to use this new school year to take time to get to know people like Alex Valdez, because you never know what might be in store!



By: Gabbie Garrison

### Do You Know the "Melody?"

Most of us know Melody Diaz-Cruz, who is a junior Lady Knight, but for those who don't I bet you have seen her around with her bubbly and cheerful attitude. You have most likely seen her in the assemblies and cheering alongside of football and basketball teams.

Melody is definitely a stand out cheerleader, she has been cheering for eleven years and she has been on varsity since her freshman year. Along with cheerleading, Melody has played softball and basketball.

Melody's family is well represented at Saint Mary's. Melody is the oldest of five and three of her siblings go here: Johnny is a junior, Chelcie is a sophomore, and Brandon is a freshman. Even with two brothers and one sister here, there are two more future Knights waiting to come. The last Knight of her family is her father who is the freshmen coach.

When asked about an ideal date Melody responded, "An ideal date for me would be a nice dinner and a funny movie." Melody has a fun loving character. She states that if she could be in any movie she would star in any of the "Twilight" movies so she can meet the actor Taylor Lautner.

As a junior knight Melody reflects on her future years. Melody said, "I plan to go to a four year college, get married and get a good job!" It seems like she has all her goals and plans for the future already set.

If asked where in the world you would want to go, most people would say Bahamas or New York, but Melody's answer was a little too shocking. Her answer was "Iraq"... but no, she was joking. "Melody then stated the truth was she would want to go to Hawaii. Aloha!

For the most controversial question of the month, "Biggie or Tupac?" Melody answered sharply, "Biggie!"



## The Real Nicole Villa

By: Ronald Byers

Nicole Villa is known for being the quiet cheerleader on the squad. When asked

what her hobbies consist of she replied, "I enjoy cheering and tanning." (Due to her lack of color).

In her spare time she just enjoys hanging out with her friends and going to parties. She is an old senior, because her birthday is in October and she will be 18. Her two favorite teachers are Sister Mary Magdalene and Coach Lopez. They pretty much make her day.

She is the youngest of three children with one brother and one sister. She doesn't like being the youngest. "It's as if I get treated the worst and get all the hand-me-downs from my sister," said Nicole. She later added, "But, I really can't complain."

The best question of this interview was "Taylor Lautner or Ronald Byers (12)?" She quickly responded saying, "This is kind of a hard one, because Ronny is kind of a sweetheart and a real gentleman, but Taylor Lautner is the finest thing to walk the earth."

Her favorite memories from high school were junior year Theology that she shared with Ariel Armendariz (12) and, yours truly, Ronald Byers (12) because there was never a dull moment when we were together.

When asked the question "Tupac or Biggie?" Nicole said, "Biggie definitely." She then started to sing, "I love it when you call me Big Poppa."

# Cross Country is Making a Comeback

By: Colton Krolak

The Cross Country team has long been looked at without much respect. But, fear not, fellow running fans, there is a light at the end of this dreary tunnel. Our Cross Country team has been practicing extremely



Andrew Tovar leads the pack on a Wednesday practice

hard the past few weeks in the sweltering heat. Arizona is proof that man can live on the surface of the sun, and now the Cross Country team has proven that man, and two women, can now

run on the surface of the sun

This intense training has hopefully helped the squad to be adequately prepared for the long trek ahead of them. Before being able to compete in a meet, each individual has to be able to run three miles. Perhaps the best runner on the team, Andrew Tovar, can run three miles in 17 minutes and 21 seconds. He has tied the school record and he is hoping to break it this upcoming season.

Mr. Durkee, one of the coaches of the St. Mary's Cross Country team, stated, "Our major achievement that we hope to accomplish is to send three to four kids from our team to the state meet this year." This would be a huge accomplishment considering the competi-



Colton Krolak

The Cross Country team is practicing for their upcoming meet.

tion that is involved in getting into the state tournament in any sport.

Unfortunately for the team, they need five girls in order to get a team score for the girls' team, but they only have two (However they may still be able to win the meet as individuals. It just won't count toward the team score). That is why when The Round Table asked Mr. Durkee about whether he would take in new members, even though the

season has already begun, he said, "All the time. We are one of the few teams that allow late people to join, especially girls." Mr. Durkee also told The Round Table that they are looking for underclassmen, especially freshmen, to come run and represent St. Mary's High School.

Raeanna Osorio, a junior at St. Mary's and third year runner on the Cross Country team, stated, "It's intimidating your first day of prac-

tice."

Mr. Durkee followed up, "But we're very patient and we will work with you." Don't let the three mile run fool you. No one has not been able to run three miles by the end of the season. It is not even necessary to be able to run three miles at the end of the season. As Mr. Durkee put it plainly, "There are no cuts."

# Coach Cruz Returns to Freshmen Football

By: Gabriel Polanco

Coach John Cruz, the head freshmen football coach, is in his 3rd year of coaching here at St. Mary's, 17 years overall. He has 4 children attending St. Mary's, 2 juniors Johnny Cruz, Melody Diaz-Cruz, 1 sophomore Chelcie Cruz, and a freshman Brandon Diaz-Cruz. He has a tough job that is

often overlooked; he molds the naïve freshmen boys into young upstanding men in just about three months! He took time out to talk to The Round Table after his freshmen team valiantly scrimmaged with the Junior Varsity on Aug. 24 at Monterey Park.

Three years ago, when he first came to St. Mary's, his expectations were high. He expected to teach "The St. Mary's Football way of Tradition,

Heart, and Discipline." And on that first practice of the football season his players soaked it all in and the outcome was a perfect 9-0 season. Out of his 3 years here at St. Mary's his first year was his favorite because "I brought my son in and I already knew about 12 kids, so I had a lot of people that I knew on the football team. It made more of a family environment and therefore it made everyday fun and exciting because I knew basically everyone personally from the get go and not just from day one."

In comparison of his 2008 freshmen team to this year's 2010 freshmen team he had this to say: "Our first year we had about 40-45 players on that team and this year there's about 23-25 players, so it's a little bit more challenging substituting and giving kids more breaks due to the fact there's more two-way players."

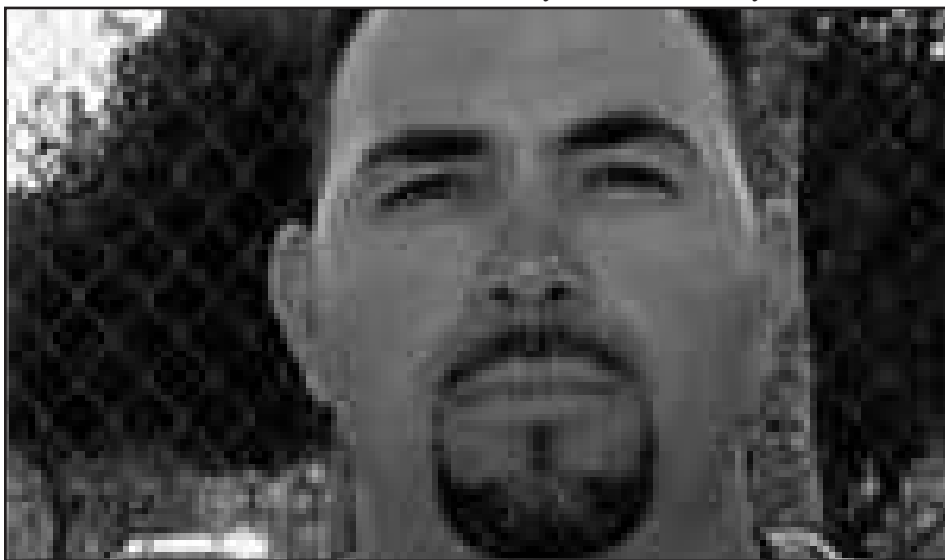
There couldn't be a better person to be under those circumstances than Coach Cruz in this writer's opinion. He also speaks on the challenges of the season and how this year's team should look; he also added, "Our toughest opponent will definitely be

**"Our toughest opponent will definitely be Brophy. I think if we can get Brophy in game 2, then we have a good chance of running the table and going undefeated..."**

*-Coach Cruz*

Brophy. I think if we can get Brophy in game 2, then we have a good chance of running the table and going undefeated, but we have to take it one game at a time and make sure we handle our business right out of the gate against Sandra Day O'Connor."

And the final question was if he had to choose between Tupac and Biggie, without hesitation, he chose Tupac. On if he is still alive he said, "Him, Biggie, Elvis, and Michael are dead. Not on some island in the Bahamas." At least he doesn't think he's on a counter in Brooklyn (see teacher spotlight: Mr. Letteer).



smknightsfootball.org

Coach Cruz - Freshmen Football Head Coach

# What would Ronny Do?

If I could redo freshman year...

By: Ronny Byers

If I could redo freshman year I would most likely play football “again” (cough, cough). Those were the hardest 3 days of

**“I would most likely play football “again” (cough, cough). Those were the hardest 3 days of my life. And I would try to be, overall, more athletic.”**

-Ronny Byers (Senior)

my life. And I would try to be, overall, more athletic.

But the most important I think, would have to be to improve my study habits. I have been able to keep a solid GPA, but if I had instilled good study habits, it could have been better.

Most likely I would try to attend the sporting events more often. I feel as if I missed out on a big part of the whole St. Mary’s experience. But one thing that I wouldn’t

change is being a social butterfly. I like the fact that a lot of people know my name. It makes me feel loved.

One thing that I think everybody should do is to not be so sheltered and explore different opportunities, such as trying a sport that you would never think of or joining a club. Because in the end, you could end up making life-long friends.



Colton Krolak

Ronny Byers tackles the hard questions on all our minds.

## Colton's Corner

### Welcome Freshmen to our Home

By: Colton Krolak



Nathaniel Glenn

Colton Krolak, a true patriot

Saint Mary's freshmen, the notorious group on campus every year. Each fall, the upper classmen take the freshmen class with a grain of salt, knowing that they know absolutely nothing yet about life or about SM. Around the time of 3rd quarter, the upper classmen start to realize that these new students, to our surprise, have become our close friends.

All of the upperclassmen remember their freshman year, and many remember how clueless and ignorant of the world around them they were. Many felt small and insecure, so the upperclassmen should be reminded that the new freshmen feel the same way.

It's ok though, they're in

high school now, and they are trying to fit in to a completely different lifestyle than they did in elementary school. They were leaders there, but now, remember, they are still at the bottom of the totem pole, at the bottom of the food chain, and at the bottom of some other cliché that I cannot think of.

However, there are several freshmen who believe that they are already at the top and that they are above the rules that SM puts out for them. Well, they're not and they must learn this if they truly want to be a Knight. Saint Mary's has its perks, but we must

take the good along with the discipline.

This means the freshmen are not entirely to blame though. The upperclassmen set a bad example for the young freshmen. They look to us to find out what they are supposed to do, and sometimes that is the worst thing that they could do. We need to set a good example and try to understand the new freshmen.

Welcome freshmen to our humble abode, our second home. You are Saint Mary's Knights now—don't let anyone tell you different. Once a Knight, always a Knight.

## The Pros and Cons of school schedules

By: Gabrielle Garrison

Many high school students differ in the type of schedule they have. The two most popular types of scheduling are the traditional schedule and block schedule. The traditional schedule is the type of schedule that we have at St. Mary's.

The block schedule is popular in public schools. The block schedule is where students have four classes each semester and the semester

a traditional schedule can get kind of hectic with homework, especially with dual enrollment classes.

“I believe the block schedule will be much easier than the traditional schedule because you don't have to worry about taking the class next semester, you just get it out of the way. Also you have time to do your homework in class, which is essential to me.”

-Alyssa Lopez (Senior)

Block schedules

allow for students to get out early or have late start during their senior year because they have eight credits each year instead of seven. I know plenty of seniors, especially, would love to have this schedule because who would want to be at school when they can be at home?

The students at St. Mary's have many different views on which schedule is better and which one they rather have.

“I would rather have a traditional schedule because I have a lot of friends who have block schedule and they get bored easily. A traditional schedule allows me to know my classes are forty-five minutes and I know what to expect,” said Senior Alyssa Lopez.

Senior Ana Giorlando knows from experience that

I'm all for the block schedule I would love the chance to get out early or have late start as a senior. Also I like the idea of being able to have more class time to do homework and only have two to three core classes each semester.

# THE ROUND TABLE STAFF



"I will dance until my legs give out and sing my heart out." - Alyssa Lopez



"If all the world's my stage, then where's my spotlight?" - Ana Giorlando



"I like bears....panda bears!" -Gabbie Garrison



"The snozzberries taste like snozzberries!" - Nathaniel Glenn



"Why? Why not?" -Gabe Polanco



"Where's my bagel...Gabe's Stomach." - Colton Krolak



Ronny Byers



David McGlothlin



The statue of Mary covered with flowers after Seniors had the pleasure of honoring our Mother