Saint Mary's women's basketball season starts strong

www.lamorindaweekly.com

By Jon Kingdon



Jasmine Forcadilla

ead Coach Paul Thomas, senior starter is averaging 13.5 Holland (Burlingame) and guard entering into his 12th sea-points per game and is second on Emily Codding (Santa Rosa) to a a composite record of 215-137.

So far this season, the Gaels with a 10-5 record, have proven if nothing else, an entertaining Thomas: "I like this team. We have great character and characters. It is an enjoyable team to be Beck: "She is the team's undisaround. They're all good people"

This is a balanced team experiential wise. The team starts one senior, two juniors, one sopho- has shown constant improvement overs. The Gaels have been avmore and one freshman, along with another freshman coming ing, averaging 14.4 points per a number that Thomas agrees is off the bench.

Like the men's basketteam's leading scorer, averaging when we have not played well." 14.5 points per game. Guard Stel-

son at Saint Mary's, has compiled the team in assists. Sophomore guard, Jasmine Forcadilla (Australia) is averaging 8.6 points per game. Thomas has consistently recruited players from the South collection of players for Coach Pacific. He cites "their experience in international basketball."

> Thomas has come to rely on puted leader but it also helps that there are no egos on our team."

Sydney Raggio (San Bruno) and is second on the team in scoreraging 19.0 turnovers per game, game.

ball team at Saint Mary's, the consistency overall. According problem: "If the team commits women's team is represented by to Thomas: "We have to care two turnovers in a row in pracplayers from Australia and New what we put out on the floor. We Zealand. Sophomore Forward have had good and bad games. have yet to see a difference in the Megan McKay (Australia) is the There have been long stretches

high standard: "We are expecting our freshmen to mature quickly and will not allow them to use their being freshmen as an excuse." Holland is averaging 7.0 points per game and is tied with third on the team in assists. Coming off the bench, Codding is av-

Photos Tod Fierner

eraging 4.3 points per game. If there has been bugagoo for the Gaels, it has been their propensity for committing turnan area that needs improvement This is a team that needs more and he is trying to address the tice, everybody runs. However. I games."

Thomas is, however, very Thomas is holding his two pleased with the aggressiveness

and eight more rebounds per game than their opponents which pleases Thomas: "We are a powerful team and this speaks to how we play defense and how aggressive we are getting to the basket."

Thomas has made good use of his bench, going nine and 10 deep in most games in preparation for the upcoming league games. It has been a real opand see how well they work to- Jan. 20.

eraging nine more free throws gether but "I won't be going to the bench as much when league play begins."

Saint Mary's opened their league season with a loss to Loyola Marymount but has responded with three straight wins over Brigham Young 57-49, Pacific 70-69 and the University of San Diego 75-53. The Gaels will now play four straight home games versus Santa Clara on Jan. portunity for Thomas to utilize 11, Pepperdine on Jan. 13, Gonvarious combinations of players zaga on Jan. 18 and Pacific on



Stella Beck

Submit stories to sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com

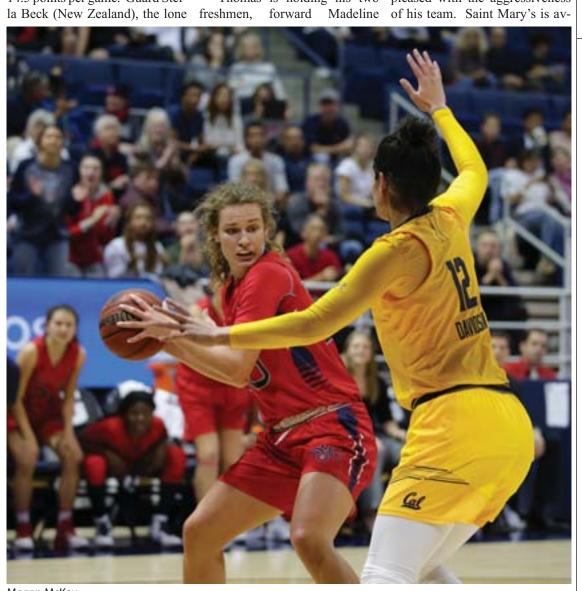
(we prefer to receive your original photo file, minimum size: 200 dpi and 1200 pixels wide)

LIVIYA

SPRING SPORTS

Registration Open

January 10th-20th



Teeball Kindergarten Coed

Softball 1st - 8th Grade Girls



Volleyball 4th - 8th Grade Girls

Baseball

2nd - 6th Grade Boys

All skill levels welcome!

www.lmyasports.com

Megan McKay