



The Gael Review

The Official Newsletter Of Saint Mary's Baseball



Valenzuela's Corner

The Saint Mary's baseball program has been hard at work on the field for several weeks as it prepares for the 2015 season. Having completed five weeks of small group work that focused on individual development, the Gaels are now in the middle of full team fall practice that lasts through the majority of November.

The team has also begun intersquads, which will be played every Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday for the remainder of the fall. All intersquads and practices are open to the public.

Over the last few weeks, the baseball program has also been involved in a few community service activities. On Sept. 27, the Gaels visited the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility in Byron. Coaches and players brought baseball equipment and ran a clinic for the adolescents living there. The Gaels also spent a day boxing at the Community Youth Center in Concord.

If you want to follow the Gaels on the road, the team will travel to West Coast Conference foe Pacific on Nov. 1 to play a fall game. First pitch is slated for 1 p.m.

Saint Mary's Baseball Great Calls It A Career

With one of his former teams, the Kansas City Royals, playing for the biggest prize in baseball, Mark Teahen watches from his home in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Saint Mary's baseball's all-time leader in career batting average hung up his spikes recently, bringing an end to one of the most productive pro baseball careers by any former Gael. A career .264 hitter in seven major league seasons, Teahen spent five seasons as a Royal at the front end of his time in the majors and played in 676 games for the franchise before spending time with the White Sox and Blue Jays.

So yes, he's got a rooting interest in this year's World Series.

"There are so many people affiliated with the Royals and that work throughout the organization from when I was there," Teahen said. "It's neat to cheer for them."

Retirement doesn't mean rest for Teahen. In fact, he might be even busier now than ever before. Together with his wife Lauren, Teahen now has his attention focused on hosting his annual Driving Out Domestic Violence: All Star Evening and Celebrity Golf Invitational on Nov. 6-7 in Scottsdale. The Teahens are hosting the event for the fourth year to raise money for Chrysalis, an Arizona non-profit that provides crisis shelter, transitional housing, outpatient counseling, offender treatment, victim advocacy and lay-legal support for victims of domestic violence.

The Teahen family is also set to welcome a new addition with their second child due in January. And, the pair has designs on starting their own business, a wine bar, in the Scottsdale area as well. So, while the decision to retire certainly wasn't an easy one, life after baseball should offer plenty to look forward to.

"I was in Spring Training with the Giants and once I got released there, it got to the point where I wasn't going to get another shot with another club," Teahen said. "We were more used to thriving in what we did and it was just time to move on to the next thing."

That next step certainly includes keeping an eye on his alma mater. Teahen played for Saint Mary's head coach Eric Valenzuela when Valenzuela was an assistant in 2002 and he's optimistic about the future of Gaels baseball under its new regime.

"He definitely wanted to re-connect us to the program and make sure it was something we could be proud of as alumni," Teahen said. "Basketball started to turn it around in the time I was there and I think having Eric there will help get us in that direction."





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Scrimmage Schedule Provides Look At Newest Gaels

An offseason filled with competition for the Saint Mary's baseball team got going on Oct. 10 when the Gaels began official fall practice and fans will have plenty of opportunities to see the new squad with 21 intersquad scrimmages scheduled throughout October and November.

All intersquads are open to the public and all will be played at the home of the Gaels, Louis Guisto Field. The fall concludes with the annual Red and Navy World Series on Nov. 20-22. Here is the fall schedule, as announced by head coach Eric Valenzuela.

Oct. 10 - Fall practice begins
Oct. 14 - 3:30 p.m.
Oct. 17 - 3:30 p.m.
Oct. 18 - 1 p.m.
Oct. 19 - 1 p.m.
Oct. 21 - 3 p.m.
Oct. 24 - 3 p.m.
Oct. 25 - noon
Oct. 26 - noon
Oct. 28 - 3 p.m.

Nov. 2 - noon
Nov. 4 - 3 p.m.
Nov. 7 - 3 p.m.
Nov. 8 - 1 p.m.
Nov. 9 - noon
Nov. 11 - 3 p.m.
Nov. 14 - 3 p.m.
Nov. 15 - noon
Nov. 16 - noon

Nov. 20/21 - Red and Navy World Series - 3 p.m.
Nov. 22 - Red and Navy World Series - 1:30 p.m.

Gael of the Month



Collin Ferguson
Senior, 1B (Santa Cruz, Calif.)

Having had an opportunity to start his professional career this summer, Ferguson instead returned to Moraga to put the cap on an already productive college career. The left-handed first baseman has already made a mark this fall, providing leadership for a young team. He returns to SMC on the heels of a tremendous summer playing for the San Luis Obispo Blues. Ferguson led the team with a .365 batting average and also collected 14 doubles, a triple and two home runs in just 96 at-bats. He also slugged a team-high .594.

Stadium Update



On Sept. 1, 2013 construction began on the new Joseph L. Alioto Recreation Center that will be housed right next to the new baseball stadium. The rec center is part of the SMC athletics and recreation corridor.