

JUNÍPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL
A Catholic College Preparatory

Traditions

The Brotherhood Continues . . .

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SUMMER 2007





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Traditions

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High School*
Phone 650.345.8207
Fax 650.573.6638

PRINCIPAL
Lars Lund
llund@serrahs.com

**DIRECTOR OF
DEVELOPMENT AND
ALUMNI RELATIONS**
Russ Bertetta '67
rbertetta@serrahs.com

**DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC RELATIONS**
Michelle Wilkinson
mwilkinson@serrahs.com

CIRCULATION
Moya Goddard
mgoddard@serrahs.com

This publication is designed and edited
by Public Relations Director
Michelle Wilkinson

Photo Credits:
Admissions Director Randy Vogel
Athletic Director Kevin Donahue
Pat Johnson, Photographer
Prestige Portraits by Lifetouch





FROM THE CHAIR OF THE ADVISORY BOARD OF REGENTS MRS. KATHY LAVEZZO

Dear Alumni and Friends of Serra,

I am honored to be this year's Chairperson of the Advisory Board of Regents and I look forward to meeting and working with many of you! We have just completed our second year of the board and it has quickly developed into a body that is making significant contributions towards Serra's advancement.

The board will be starting off the school year at a fast pace. We are looking forward to our first-ever board retreat in August where we will not only have the opportunity to meet our newest board members, but also -- as a team -- we will outline our goals for the year, ensuring Serra continues to stand tall as a premier educational institution, forming young men of faith, wisdom and service.

In addition to attending the board retreat and four board meetings during the year, each board member is responsible for membership on a standing committee. These working committees, with representation from key Serra Administrators, play a large part in the success of Serra High School.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE (newly formed): Assists in establishing a curriculum for Serra for the 21st century.

ADMISSIONS AND MARKETING COMMITTEE: Provides input/guidance on admissions and marketing efforts.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: Provides advice/assistance regarding the appearance, maintenance and long term capital improvement of the existing facility.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Assists Serra in meeting or exceeding all of the school's long term fundraising and development goals.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Ensures the school remains financially sound, meets its financial goals and practices good short- and long-term financial management.

PHASE II CORE TEAM: Provides guidance on the upcoming capital campaign and Phase II of Serra's Master Plan.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE: Identifies short and long-term strategic issues/challenges that set the vision for Serra's progress over the next three to five years.

I want to thank all the members of the Advisory Board of Regents who have already offered so generously of their time and talents. I look forward to a successful year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Lavezzo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathy Lavezzo
Chair, Advisory Board of Regents

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MR. LARS LUND



Dear Alumni and Friends of Serra:

The 2006-2007 school year was one for the ages, as evidenced by the following:

- Record applications and student body enrollment for the fourth consecutive year;
- Our seniors earned over \$3.5 million in scholarships and were accepted to all of the UC and CSU campuses, the major Catholic universities nationwide, the Ivy League and the United States Naval Academy;
- Our seniors provided over 34,000 hours of service to the local community;
- As usual, our honors students displayed strong performance on the Advanced Placement Exams earning passage rates well above the national average and matching and exceeding the rates of our competitors;
- Our Men's Chorus earned their second consecutive "Unanimous Superior Rating" at CMEA Chorus Festival;
- Once again, our students performed before sold out audiences in two major productions - *"The Miracle Worker"* and *"Bye, Bye Birdie"*;
- Varsity league championships in football, wrestling, golf and baseball;
- Two of our varsity crew members, Patrick Williams '08 and Chris Chang '09 earned two spots on the four-man boat that will represent the United States at an international competition in China in August.

I am also happy to report that we are in the final planning stages for Phase II of our capital campaign in support of the construction of new facilities dedicated to the fine arts, music, our aquatic program, and the Academic Resource Center. Look for more information in this regard in the next edition of TRADITIONS.

Finally, it has become customary in this the graduation edition of Traditions to share with you excerpts from my remarks at the graduation ceremony. This year is no exception and the following are heartfelt words of congratulations I conveyed to the Class of 2007 at their graduation ceremony:

"One of the many highlights of the last four years was your production of 'Les Miserables.' At the very end of the musical, which covered the range of human existence, the protagonists sang the following words: 'To love another person is to see the face of God.' For me, this captures a very important truth -- namely, that the core of our life here at Serra is love. Parents and guardians love their sons and make great sacrifices to send them here. Our well-educated and incredibly talented teachers work tirelessly out of love for and dedication to their students. Finally, you seniors here today, as well as the rest of your classmates have created a brotherhood here at Serra in which all students can grow into men of faith, wisdom and service.

So it is good for us to celebrate this wonderful community and the accomplishments of the Class of 2007. At the same time, we know you are ready to move on to even greater achievements. Your class has made a wonderful difference for the good at Serra. We will miss each of you more than you can ever know, for it is in each one of you that we have seen the loving face of God."

On behalf our students, I want thank you for your support of Serra!

Sincerely,

Lars Lund
Principal

U.S. History Students honored by visit from a true **AMERICAN HERO**



Mr. Carey, Mr. Dugoni & several U.S. History students with Les Williams



Les Williams
America's First Black Bomber Pilot

Just days before Memorial Day 2007, students from Mr. Carey's ('93), Mr. Clifford's ('89) and Mr. Dugoni's ('89) U.S. History classes were honored by the presence of an American hero, Mr. Leslie "Les" Williams, who spoke to over 180 students in the school auditorium. Les Williams is a decorated officer of the Tuskegee Airmen, the all African American World War II fighter squadron.

The Tuskegee Airmen were dedicated, determined young men who enlisted to become America's first black military airmen, at a time when there were many people who thought that black men lacked intelligence, skill, courage and patriotism. They came from every section of the country, with large numbers coming from New York City, Washington, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia and Detroit. Each one possessed a strong personal desire to serve the United States of America at the best of his ability.

A native of San Mateo and graduate of San Mateo High, Les shared his inspirational life story of breaking through the color barrier, being a bomber squadron escort in the European Theatre, to his recent trip to Washington, D.C. where he received the Congressional Gold Medal from President Bush. Congresswoman Eshoo's website stated that previous recipients of the award include George Washington, the Wright Brothers, Thomas Edison, Jesse Owens, Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela and Pope John Paul II.

While combating discrimination and injustice at home, Les and hundreds of other African American men stepped up to fight with distinction. He told the students with great pride that not one bomber was lost while the "red tails" were the escorts. He also spoke about how he persevered while a trainee in Alabama. Les said that the white officers, mostly from the South, signed up because it was a fast way to move up the ranks. He added that they didn't care much for the troops in their charge and used offensive language like the "N" word, taunting them and hoping they'd fight back so they could kick them out. The trainees put up with the abuse so that they could one day fly.

Les also shared the story of a white general who gave him the break of his life. While serving as a storekeeper at parties for dignitaries at the Kaiser Shipyard, the general noticed his hard work and asked if he wanted to do something other than serving people at parties. Williams responded that he wanted to go to Tuskegee to learn how to fly. The next thing he knew he was on a train bound for the Alabama training facility and went on to become America's first black bomber pilot who flew scores of training missions across the country.

For many of the students present, Les helped history come alive.

Alumni Father/Son Mass **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

Mark your calendar for Friday morning, September 7th, for Serra's 5th Annual Alumni Father/Son Mass. In a relatively short time, this event has become a very special way to start the school year. This year's senior class features twenty-one second and third generation Padres, so the Mass will be a special way to kick-off their senior year. If you are a Grand Padre (grandfather of current student), we encourage you to attend with your grandson as well. A special mailing will go out to all of our alumni dads and grandfathers in August.

Mothers' Auxiliary Fashion Show **Serra Illustrated**



L to R: Ryan O'bedin '08, Kevin Daniele '08, Andy Seckler '07, Matt Calderon '08



2006-2007 Mothers' Auxiliary President Sheri Garibaldi



Fashion Show Co-Chairs Isabella Lanza & Sarita Ahern



Dann Gevana '07, Molly Zimmerman (Mercy), Tyler Anthony '07



Serra Theology Teacher Ed Taylor & Notre Dame High School President Rita Gleason

This year's Mothers' Auxiliary Fashion Show **Serra Illustrated** was certainly an "*illustration*" of how dedicated and talented our volunteer moms and students can be . . . what an absolutely professional and entertaining show it was!

Co-chairs Isabella Lanza and Sarita Ahern, as well as countless volunteers from the Mothers' Auxiliary, made the show one of the most successful in Serra's history. Nearly 600 guests enjoyed a delicious luncheon and were treated to a lively show at the San Francisco Marriott Hotel in Burlingame. Models included Serra, Notre Dame and Mercy High School students, as well as faculty and parents from Serra.



JV Basketball Coach Tim Kennedy



Nader Ramezanbeigi '07



David Bertoldi '07



Jenny Slotnick NDB '07 & Steve Sweeney '07



Brad Satterwhite '07 & mom Keri



Connor English '07 & mom Rhoda



Jason Whitney '07 & mom Lori



"FAB FOUR" COVER PHOTO SHOT BY LONG-TIME SERRA FRIEND & SUPPORTER

Traditions "Fab Four" issue created quite a stir in the halls of Serra, as well as among thousands of alums who were taken back to their days as a Padre. As a matter of fact, our "Padre" e-mail box was full of messages from alums recalling memorable stories over the past thirty years (See "A Tribute to the Fab Four" by [Jonathan Green '89](#) on page 24.) The front and inside photo shots were taken by long-time friend of Serra and popular Bay Area photographer Pat Johnson.

Originally from Cleveland, Johnson has been a successful photographer in the Bay Area for over 30 years. His principle area of achievement has been in music, sports and entertainment-related photography. Pat's subjects all feel his passion and his Cleveland sense of humor, which helps him to win over the toughest of characters.

"You have to be kind of crazy to be in this business," says Johnson. "Every day, every shoot, every situation is different, with a different set of challenges. You have to work to be creative."

Johnson moved to the Bay Area in 1972 because it was a "cool scene." In 1974 he took his camera to a Santana concert at Winterland where he snapped guitarist Neil Schon from a then-unknown band that opened the show -- playing its first concert ever. The band was Journey. Johnson liked the photo. The guitarist for Santana liked it. Journey's Schon really liked it.

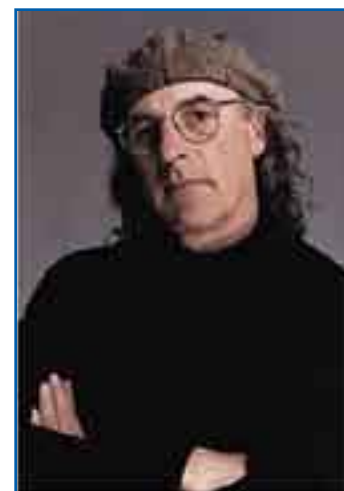
Over thirty years later, the same photographer has a collection of portraits of subjects including David Bowie, James Brown, The Rolling Stones, Tupac Shakur and Grace Slick. Though Johnson became one of the top rock photographers in San Francisco, he always remained an avid Browns fan and when Cleveland received the new Browns franchise, Johnson put together a 24x36-inch photographic collage of Browns memorabilia and sent it off to the new management as a present.

"Six months later, my cell phone rang. It was people from the new organization saying they loved the collage and could I do three other collages with different memorabilia," Johnson recalls.

Today each of the 148 luxury loges in Cleveland Stadium has one of Johnson's four collages hanging on the wall. When the Cleveland Indians hired Pat Johnson to create the cover of their 1993 media guide, it was a dream come true for the Bay Area shutterbug and Cleveland expatriate. His love in life is Cleveland Indians baseball, and his collection of Tribe memorabilia is so extensive that he was able to provide much of the stuff in the cover shot.

Johnson's collages have gained immense popularity. In addition to creating several for Serra that are featured in both our main office and development office, he also shoots covers for several Bay Area teams including the Sharks, 49ers and Giants. Johnson likens his collages to a puzzle.

"The big items," he says, "are a focal point at first, but two weeks later, you'll find other things hidden in there." It's sort of like one of those "Where's Waldo?" cartoons in which you're challenged to find the intrepid traveler amongst a maze of activity.



The above collages of Serra memorabilia were created by Bay Area photographer Pat Johnson. They are displayed on the walls in the Main Office and Development Office.

Annual Benefit Auction

Mark your Calendars for November 10, 2007

You can help by donating needed items, such as:

Gift certificates for trips, restaurants, sporting events;
Home and garden items;
Tennis or golf arrangements at your favorite club;
Lend us your vacation homes;
Donate frequent flyer miles;
Bed and breakfast packages, golf, ski packages, and timeshares;
Dinner and theatre tickets in San Francisco;
Spa certificates;
Sporting goods & instruction;
Professional services;
Wine



*"I left my heart in
San Francisco"*

Call the Development Office at 650.573.9935 for more information!

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"Fund A Dream" Scholarship Luncheon

This year's "Fund A Dream" luncheon was a fantastic success, providing a huge financial boost for Serra's tuition assistance program. During the program, Alumni & Development Director Russ Bertetta took the opportunity to read aloud a letter he received from [Martin Morzynski '94](#). Martin wrote about the importance of the tuition assistance that his family received which allowed him to attend Serra. His outstanding record at Serra earned him admission to Stanford University and then on to a very promising career. Martin shared that none of this would have been possible without the financial help Serra provided him.

Keynote Speaker and alum [John Lescroart '96](#) (New York Times best-selling author) spoke of how his senior English teacher, Fr. Robert Stadler, helped develop and refine his writing skills and how he still utilizes Fr. Stadler's demanding regimen in his writing career today. Lescroart suggested three things to remember on the path to success . . . know your tools; empathy; and dedication.

Due to the generosity of underwriters, table sponsors and guests, the luncheon raised over \$102,840.00, which goes directly to our tuition assistance program and allows us to increase the scholarship grants for next year.

Together we can help make a young man's dream come true!



Keynote Speaker John Lescroart '96



Fund A Dream Chair Sharon Dooley & Mr. Peterson

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS



🎵 *Tri-School Spring Music Concert* 🎵



Katarina Lustenberger
NDB '07



Pictured L to R: Alex Jordan, Robert Monk, Brendan Quirk, Brad Satterwhite



Brendan Quirk '07



Alex Jordan '08



Ben Wohlford '07



Serra's Mens' Chorus

Graduating Seniors VPA Tech Crew

L to R: Jonny Hayward, Sterling Sullivan, Michael Dougherty



Tri-School Productions Invades Broadway By the Bay

When San Mateo's community theater company BROADWAY BY THE BAY announced that they would be staging Disney's *"Beauty and the Beast"* this summer, the award-winning program naturally attracted a few members of Tri-School Productions, our own critically acclaimed program. Having been the first amateur company in the Bay Area to stage "Beauty" in the Spring of 2005, there was definitely some "buzz" about the chance to be involved. Despite enormous odds with over 80 people of all ages auditioning for a cast of thirty-two, two of whom would be paid professional actors, Tri-School made a tremendous showing placing six members in the show, including two leads.



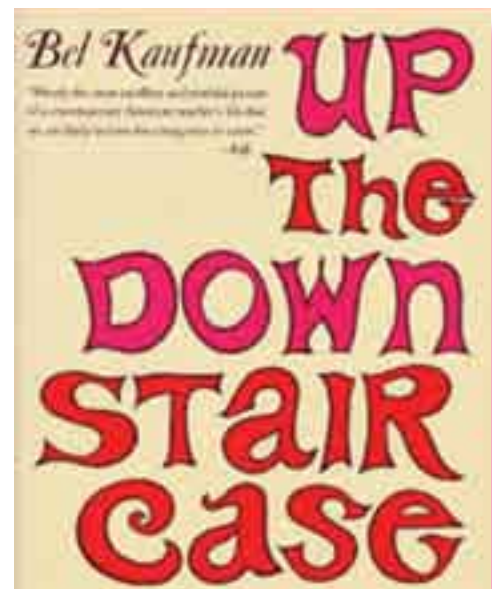
Pictured on Opening Night from L to R: Alex Jordan '08 (ensemble), Brendan Quirk '07 (ensemble), Troy Talmadge '06 (ensemble), Dan Demers '01 (Maurice) and current director of the Tri-School Fall shows, Gennine Harrington (Babette) director of eleven Tri-School musicals including *"Beauty and the Beast,"* and Brad Satterwhite '07 (ensemble).

Congratulations to All!!

Don't Miss This Year's Fall Play!

Bel Kaufman's poignant comedy about an idealistic first-year teacher in a tough, New York City high school.

**Performances:
October 25, 26, 27
& November 2, 3**



Seniors Get Real with Social Justice Projects

by Laura Ramey, Senior Theology Teacher

Graduating seniors are not only leaving home and Serra High School, they are beginning the hero's journey. They face their first choice of answering the call to adventure or refusing the call. In Serra's Theology Department, a rite of passage has developed over the last few years which is aimed at setting our young men on the journey of trials and obstacles that a hero faces. This rite is known as the Social Justice Project. The mentors, guides, or spiritual helpers are Mr. Gary Meegan and Mrs. Laura Ramey. More than simply teachers, they encourage the seniors to explore issues that grab them at a visceral level – issues that make them shout “This is wrong! I want to fix it!” The project begins with background reading.

Seniors [Dante Ciardi](#) and [Kyle Hutchison](#) read Barbara Ehrenreich's book, *Nickel and Dimed: Not Getting By in America.* Their project examined what it is like to live on minimum wage.

Injustice is made more tangible through narrative – the story of someone suffering from the injustice. [Kevin Sibucan](#) and [Marcus Tong](#) chose to write their narrative on a fisherman living on the shores of Lake Chad. Their project examined the effects of global warming. The oft underplayed principles of Catholic social teaching are revealed as the students write their faith component.

[Sibucan](#) writes, “The Hebrew people were aware that their resources were limited and that land could be overworked. In the same fashion, industry overtakes the environment with greenhouse emissions. Those who suffer the most are the poor and vulnerable, namely, those living near Lake Chad, who rely on what little they have... Catholics are called to help and comfort those who are suffering. The authority of the Church speaks loudly in support of action to clean the environment.”

Seniors are pushed out of their comfort zones when devising an action plan and engaging in actions that address their issue. [Aria Afjei](#), [Kaivon Talai](#) and [Aaron Chhokar](#) developed an action plan to address the issue of women's rights in the Middle East. They wrote letters to their elected officials, created an informative pamphlet for classmates and sought information from the Berkeley Center of Middle Eastern Studies. [Patrick Wandro](#) and [Marcus Brehmer](#) hosted a screening of the docudrama *The Road to Guantanamo.*

Discomfort also comes when conducting an interview with either a person who is working to solve justice problems or one who is suffering. [Joe Nave](#) and [Charles Magat](#) looked at the problem of youth gangs and interviewed an ex-gang member. Joe says, “...the interview impacted me more than anything I will read or see in a documentary. This person sitting in front of me was a true example of someone who had lived a hard life. Hearing about the violence and the hate within his household truly made me feel for him. I will never forget what he has told me and the remorse he had on his face while he opened up to us...”

[Brian Hutchinson](#) and [Tony Kasaris](#) interviewed the general manager of the Ox Mountain Sanitary Landfill as they learned about how landfills affect the communities around them.

The Social Justice Projects make use of the artistic talents of seniors as they also design a public service ad to bring attention to their project. Finally, the students include a lengthy reflection on what they have learned. [Brian Harty](#), who did his project on corporate America, reflects, “When corporations and companies advertise to the public, they don't care what the effects on the public might be. By doing this, the companies take away part of our dignity as human beings. This...impacted me quite a lot because I realized how much a person's dignity should be respected, and realized just how little some corporations and companies did this.”

[Donnie Dal Broi](#), whose project exhibited amazing growth, reflects, “Through this project I have learned that we, as Americans, take many things for granted and never realize that we are blessed to live in this country. It disturbs me to know that people are dropping out of school and are doing drugs in the street when they have a chance to go to college and live a happy life, but choose not to. Immigrants dream of living in the United States only to raise money for their family and be stable enough to put food on the table. While immigrants are dying to make this possible, we are taking our opportunities in America for granted.”

With a surprise twist reminiscent of the parables of Jesus, we remember that Donnie was seriously injured in an automobile accident last year. The car that hit him was driven by an undocumented immigrant who fled the scene. Donnie started out full of rage; however, when he interviewed a co-worker, who was another undocumented immigrant, Donnie gained a deeper understanding of the plight and fear that may have led to the driver running away.

Serra grads carry this work forward. [Sam Walsh '05](#) taught last summer in an inner city school (refer to article on next page) and is teaching literacy and AIDS education in a South African township this summer. [Mark Cunanan '05](#) has taken on advocacy for Filipino-American veterans, working to get them their full veterans' benefits. Mark came back to Serra last year and guest-lectured in the Social Justice Class. [Matt Senekeremian '06](#) put in time working in the office of San Francisco's mayor Gavin Newsom. The stories go on and on. A rite of passage? We think so.



Nine Weeks for Childhood

Urban Project Reflection by Sam Walsh '05

In high school, I could absorb the facts of cellular respiration or the poetry of John Donne, but the Documents of Vatican II or the ideals of Augustine were oddly unintelligible to me. For 4 years, I sat in theology -- upon chairs designed to be uncomfortable -- a master of gazing at a speck on the wall so as to dodge the barrage of religion I thought my head needn't bother with. Projects and tests were exchanged for good grades, the only antidote to satisfy the ephemeral desire for a high GPA. At the time, the grades hardly justified the hours of class. Senior year Theology culminated in a Social Justice project, an assignment designed to raise our blood and stir our hearts. Yet all my heart could be stirred toward was graduation, so I settled for what seemed a less than strenuous topic: an introduction to the injustices of the American education system. Like theology, my required eighty hours of community service at Serra were completed in a less than ecstatic manner. Upon entering college, I was told that over 65% of students complete some form of service; I doubted I would be included in that number. As my first year at Harvard came to a close, I scrambled for a summer job. I happened upon a program that ran student-organized summer schools in the greater Boston area for underprivileged children. Naïve of both the exact meaning of "underprivileged" and the difficulty associated with teaching, I applied. During the interview process, we were asked to apply to one of the ten camps that the program offered. Looking at each, I could hardly tell the difference, so I went with the first that took my application. I received a position.



Sam Walsh '05 with Keylatch Camp kids on an outing at the Boston Harbor. Sam will be a Junior at Harvard University in the Fall, where he will continue to row on the Men's Lightweight Crew Team.

My choice was Keylatch, a camp whose name originates from the term "latch-key kid," referring to children who return home from school to empty homes. The job description stated that I would provide three hours of lessons in the morning, followed by three hours of field trips in the afternoon. After two weeks of vacation, I returned to receive a crash-course in elementary school teaching. Our theory-based preparation did little for the first day of school as my children just stared at me. I could swear my culture-shock was palpable. As a white, middle-class college student, there were immeasurable barriers between me and my kids. Where I was white, my students were black or Puerto Rican. I grew up in a small town in the S.F. Bay Area; my students lived in a housing development in Boston. I had attended some of the best schools in the country; my students attended understaffed and under funded "schools." The ubiquitous knot in my throat only began to loosen when I saw that those barriers were of my own creation -- seven year olds only concern with socioeconomic factors revolved around iPods and cell phones. Yet as little as they thought of whom I was and how I lived my life, I was fully conscious of how they lived.

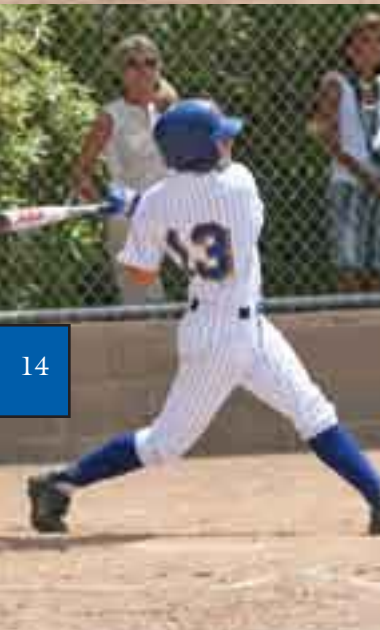
The world of my students is filled with government breakfasts and lunches, public transportation, and parents with hard jobs and long hours. Their home life is one where they come to camp having experienced anything the night before, but often also a home life filled with unbridled love. When a child would not speak to me for the first few hours of the day, it wasn't because they were shy, but because something made them truly sad or scared. But when a child came to camp overflowing with joy, they would not stop until even the oldest student knew why.

My students' parents knew that in the world they lived education was currency. That didn't mean that my students were any more willing to learn than other seven-year olds. After a day with them, it became clear to me that the three students who had been admitted to charter schools had an immense advantage over the other seven that went to Boston Public Schools. The three that went to a charter school could read, write, and do multiplication. The seven that attended public school had trouble writing their name, sounding out words, and doing addition with numbers larger than two or three -- let alone subtraction. They all came from the same area, but three had the benefit of what I came to see as a fully functioning system. It was in these moments that I saw much of what I had studied the year before in my social justice project. The inequality was profound. The injustice blatant. My ability to make a change terrifyingly minimal. When alone pondering my students' future, statistics would play through my head. What are their chances of graduating high school, going to college, going to jail? And yet what I heard when I was with them was laughter and life.

Not a single day went by when I didn't wish to be somewhere else, to be a reclusive college student holing himself up in a dusty library. My trial by fire left me exhausted and terrified that my life-long dream to be a teacher was but a flight of fancy. Often days would end with the negatives outweighing the positives. Fist fights would interrupt our time on the playground. Foul language would embarrass me on the train to the museum. And yet when I ran into someone I knew with ten kids in tow, I would show them off as if they were my own. Somehow we grew on each other so that I knew when a fight was about to happen, or they were setting me up to look the fool. Likewise, they learned when I was serious or just teasing them and how to sit through a story I clearly enjoyed reading to them but they thought was dumb.

Of the blessings I received while teaching, the most tangible came in the form of a sixteen-year old. Each teacher was aided by a high school student that lived in the neighborhood. Together Evelyn and I tried a half dozen ways to teach the same ten spelling words each week. When our attempts to get them to spell "poem" or "cloud" would go unsubstantiated for weeks on end, Evelyn simply smiled and broke out shaving cream -- insisting they would have to learn it if they smeared the words on their desks. Whatever praise I could give Evelyn falls short of what she deserves.

The most difficult thing to admit as the final weeks approached was that my nine weeks had barely even smoothed their paths but for a few inches. However, at the end of my time with them, I could see part of what they needed to level their entire path. Far more, far more than text books or school funding, their lives need to be filled with encouraging and positive people. People that do not shout and scream. People that do not laugh in their faces. People who want them to succeed. It isn't so much my hope that they will put the "e" in "poem" between the "o" and "m" next year, but that maybe Naomi will be able to speak to her teacher instead of sitting too terrified to speak to anyone; maybe Nick won't get in so many fights; maybe Phoenix will be more confident and realize what an amazing girl she is. All of it was worthwhile, all of it was difficult. As my students left me with a hug, they also left me with one of the most haunting questions of my life: "Are you coming back next summer?"



PADRE BASEBALL

Another WCAL varsity championship, a clean sweep for the entire Serra baseball program and career win number 500 for Coach Pete Jensen highlighted a remarkable season for Serra's baseball program. Jensen's Padres finished with a 25-6 record (12-2 in league play) to earn a West Catholic Athletic League championship, along with a ranking of first in the state at various times during the season.

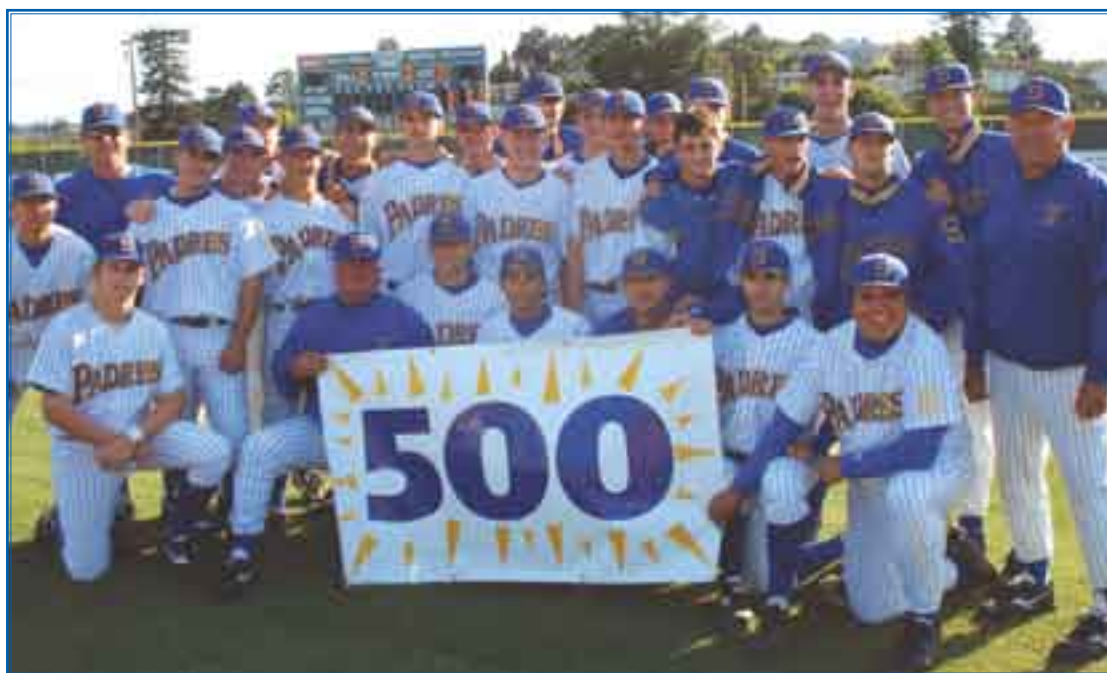
Number 500 for Jensen was a memorable event. The milestone victory came at Frisella Field on a Friday afternoon before a sizeable and enthusiastic crowd as Jensen's Padres picked up a 5-0 win over long time rival St. Francis. [Ryan Allgrove '08](#), whose uncle [Mike Roza '84](#) pitched on Jensen's first team in 1984, spun a four hitter to earn the win. In Jensen's 23 years of coaching at Serra, he has an overall winning percentage of .755 and he has led his team to twelve WCAL championships, three Central Coast Section championships and two state titles. This year's WCAL title was the fifth in the past seven years for the Padres.

This year's team featured both phenomenal hitting and superb pitching. A team batting average of .368 put the 2007 team into the Padre record books for best team batting average in school history.

Senior hurler [Marcus Pointer](#) finished off his final season as a Padre going 10-2 with a 2.72 ERA. Junior pitcher Allgrove was 4-1 with five saves and an ERA of 1.72, while also providing solid support at shortstop and a .407 batting average when he wasn't pitching. Offensive punch was provided by junior center fielder [Ryan Palermo '08](#) with a .446 average and 38 RBI and hot-hitting third basemen [Tony Renda '09](#) with a .413 average and 27 RBI. They each established a new WCAL record for most doubles in a league season with 12. Steady hitting and clutch fielding infielder [Taylor Heon '07](#) batted an impressive .414 while driving in 27 runs and proving to be the Padres' most consistent player. Jensen's Padres were also led by catcher [Brad Stirling '08](#) who was one of the top catchers in the area and designated hitter [Chris Vargas '07](#) who drove in 27 runs while batting .365.

Those Padres receiving WCAL First Team All-League recognition included seniors [Heon](#), [Pointer](#) and [Vargas](#), along with juniors Stirling, Allgrove and Palermo. Sophomore Renda also made first team. Senior [Anthony Armanino](#) was named to the second team while junior [Zack Edgington](#) received Honorable Mention. The Padres beat Milpitas 7-0 in the opening round of CCS competition but fell short of their final goal of a CCS title as they were defeated by Santa Teresa 9-7.

With Coach Chris Houle's junior varsity team and Coach Tom Monaghan's freshman squad both capturing WCAL championships and some key members of the varsity club returning next year, the future for Padres baseball continues to show promise.



Padre Baseball Celebrates 500 Wins for Varsity Coach Pete Jensen

PADRE SWIMMING

This year's Padre swim team achieved considerable success. Under the superb coaching of Bob Greene and Leffie Crawford, several swimmers in the WCAL trials qualified for a second swim in the finals. Led by Aaron Chhokar, Nick Poggetti, Chris Yarrington and Nick Zakula, the Padres finished in 2nd place at CCS in the 200 free relay to earn All-American status with a time of 1:26.95. The Padre season was aided by the addition of two exceptional freshmen, Masa Otto and Niko Velázquez, who both qualified for CCS in multiple events. Seniors Chhokar and Poggetti both made it to the finals in the 100-yard freestyle, while Ryan McEnery swam the 200 free and 100 backstroke. The 200 yard medley relay team of John Sims, Zaklua, Yarrington and Chhokar finished fifth over all and made an All-American Consideration time of 1:39.00. A 7th place overall finish in the Central Coast Section finals capped off a fine season for the Padre swimmers.



2007 Blanket Award Winner Nick Poggetti '07

PADRE LACROSSE



Danny Kidwell '08



Danny Lucido '07



Nick Sfarzo '09

In its inaugural season, Serra's lacrosse team proved to be quite respectable. Finishing with a better than expected record of 8-7, varsity lacrosse qualified for the PAL playoffs.

The Padres season was highlighted by two strong one goal victories against Sacred Heart Prep, the second of which was the clincher for them making the playoffs. A defining moment early in the season was the comeback victory over Leland where the Padres rallied from four down at the half with Danny Lucido scoring the deciding goal with eighteen seconds left for a 6-5 victory.

During the year, Serra was led on offense by senior midfielder Lucido, junior attacker Dan Kidwell, as well as sophomore attacker Harrison Morgan. Senior Travis Haynes, junior John Dutto and sophomore David Bahktiari anchored the defense. Much of the team's success can be credited to goalie Nick Sfarzo who was named co-MVP along with Lucido. Coach Juddson Taube's Padres look to improve next spring on their 2007 campaign as they will have many strong players coming back including Kidwell, Morgan, Dutto, and Bahktiari. In addition, the Padres will have Zach Moore, Jack Butler, Ryan Donato, Trenton Spencer and Colin Morgan returning.

PADRE TRACK

The Serra track team's season came to a close with the varsity team finishing in fifth place at the WCAL League Finals.

Serra runners [Oran Arms](#) and [Chuck Stimson](#) were individual league champions in the 1600 and 800 meter races, respectively. They advanced to CCS Trials at San Jose City College where they both qualified for CCS Finals. Joining them in qualifying for the finals were the 4x100 relay team (second place at WCAL finals), which included [Robert Belvini](#), [DeLeon Eskridge](#), [Rick Rosario](#), and [Matt Sevelo](#).

Senior [Jeffrey Grogan](#) placed third in the 800 meter race at WCAL finals. Eskridge, who was second in the 100 meter WCAL race, also moved on to the CCS finals.



2006-07 Blanket AWARD Winners

CROSS COUNTRY
FOOTBALL
WATER POLO
BASKETBALL
SOCCER
WRESTLING
CREW
BASEBALL
GOLF
LACROSSE
SWIMMING
TENNIS
TRACK
VOLLEYBALL

Oran Arms
Tiuke Tuipulotu
Nick Poggetti
Phoenix O'Rourke
Eric Angell
Andrew Guttas
Alex Pan
Taylor Heon
Matt Hovan
Danny Lucido & Nick Sfarzo
Nick Poggetti
Spencer Talmadge
Chuck Stimson
Ryan Stagnaro

PADRE GOLF



Many thought that after Serra lost some key golfers, including Stanford bound [Jordan Cox '06](#), that the Serra golf team would be forced to rebuild. But with the return of sophomore [Alex Duvivier](#) and the rise of seniors [Matt Hovan](#) and [Andrew Tilton](#), the Padres were on their way to another outstanding season. After establishing themselves as a force to be reckoned with, starting the league season at 8-0, the Padres suffered their first loss to Archbishop Mitty, falling by four strokes.

However, with a sound line-up of [Hovan](#), [Tilton](#), [Duvivier](#), [Kaivon Talai](#), [C.J. Nunez](#), and [Billy Paras](#), the Padres streaked to the WCAL Championship with a round robin record of 13-1, defeating contenders Bellarmine and Mitty. [Dominic De Martini](#) and [Peter Day](#) also contributed to a successful season. One outstanding individual achievement stands out during the season.

In a nine-hole league match against St. Francis, [Hovan](#) led the Padres to a victory recording a remarkable five under par 30. The coaches from both teams praised Hovan, as neither could remember ever seeing a better round during league competition.



[Matt Hovan '07](#)

After capturing the WCAL title, the Padres traveled to Eagle Ridge Golf Club for the WCAL Tournament. With tough conditions and an even tougher golf course, the Padres battled to stay on top, and triumphed over Mitty in a Back 9 score card Playoff to earn the WCAL Tournament Championship and the outright WCAL Title. After being assured a spot in the CCS qualifying round, Hovan and Tilton were each named First Team All WCAL, based on tournament and league matches.

CCS qualifying proved to be more of a challenge to the Padres than expected, as the Padres qualified on the number led by Duvivier with a 76, joining seven other teams in a battle for the title of the best of CCS. Shooting a 385, the Padres missed by 5 shots at a chance to advance to the NorCal Championships. At CCS, the Padres were led by Duvivier, with a 75, closely followed by Tilton and Hovan with dual 76's. During their remarkable season, the Padres captured the prestigious De La Salle tournament, led by Tilton, who carded a 71 and earned the third place individual award, and Duvivier with a 75.



[Andrew Tilton '07](#)

Varsity Golf Coach Joe Hession Named Golf Coach of the Year

Varsity golf coach Joe Hession was selected as the California Coaches Association's Golf Coach of the Year for 2007. The award provides deserved recognition for Joe's coaching excellence, professional contributions of time, service, as well as dedication to his profession and athletics. Coach Hession received his award at the Coaches Hall of Fame dinner at the Orange County Hilton in June.

Under Coach Hession's leadership, the Serra varsity golf teams have won four WCAL championships, four CCS titles, and finished 3rd in the state in both 2005 and 2006.





PADRE VOLLEYBALL

The volleyball team finished in the middle of the competitive WCAL this year. Led by senior outside hitter [Ryan Stagnaro](#), a first team All-WCAL selection, the Padre squad showed flashes of brilliance by winning the San Francisco Invitational and finishing eighth in the Los Gatos Invitational, probably the toughest tournament in CCS. Junior middle blocker [Andrew Cullins](#) was spectacular in only his first year playing volleyball and received honorable mention for his consistent contributions. Senior [Jason Dunn](#) provided the Padres with leadership from the setter position, while earning honorable mention as well.



PADRE TENNIS



Serra's tennis team continued to show improvement throughout the season with sophomores Spencer Talmadge and Ray Worley leading the way. They both made the semifinals of the WCAL tournament in May, finishing the season off strongly. Senior Max Gilula played the third singles spot capping the year with a win over SI. At number four, junior J.R. Ferrer finished with a winning record along with number five, sophomore Roger Tran. Juniors Nick Ferdon and Ryan Obedin had key victories throughout the season while first time varsity players Eric Shreve and Jordan Domanico also contributed. Talmadge (15-3 overall) earned 1st team all league while Worley (16-4 overall) earned 2nd team all league honors. Coach Tom Stone looks forward to continued improvement next year.



Serra Crew

The Serra Crew Team had a successful 2006-07 season. Travelling up and down the West coast, they medaled in a number of events. In November, they competed in Seattle at the Frostbite Regatta and did well with two gold, two silver and two bronze medals. In April, they competed in the Long Beach Invitational where they took home one gold and two silvers. Wrapping up the year at the Southwest Regional Junior Championships in Sacramento, Serra Crew made it to six grand finals and medaled in four of them coming home with a Men's JV 8 silver; Men's 3V 8 silver; Men's JV 4 silver and Men's Frosh 4 bronze. The Men's Varsity 4 and Men's Lightweight 8 placed 5th in their grand final. All rowers did very well and showed their true Serra Padre Pride!



Mens' JV 8 - Silver at Southwest Regional Junior Championship

Summer News for Serra Crew: Coach Cassandra Cunningham proudly announced that ten Serra crew athletes competed at the U.S. Club National Championships in Camden, New Jersey in July. [Beau Ramsey '08](#), [Jeremy Lazzara '08](#), [Brandon Cooper '08](#) and [Billy Scherba '08](#) represented Penn A.C. Rowing Association in Philadelphia; [Cameron Zokaei '08](#) and [Aaron Gonzales '09](#) represented Southeast Junior Rowing Camp in Chattanooga; [Zach Felise '09](#), [Chris Chang '09](#) and [Patrick Williams '08](#)

represented the Jr. Men's National Team Development Camp in Seattle and [Anthony Heimuli '07](#) represented Northwest Jr. Development Camp in Seattle. This is the largest number of rowers that Serra Crew has had competing at this event since Coach Cunningham took over the reigns of the program five years ago.

Four Padres medaled at Club Nationals including [Lazzara](#) who bronzed in the Men's Jr. 8; [Scherba](#) and [Ramsey](#) took silver in the Men's Intermediate Lightweight 8, [Ramsey](#) also bronzed in the Men's Senior Lightweight 4 and [Felise](#) bronzed in the Men's Junior 2. This was the first time that Serra rowers medaled in four different



[Beau Ramsey '08](#), [Jeremy Lazzara '08](#), [Billy Scherba '08](#), [Brandon Cooper '08](#) categories at this National event. It was very exciting in Camden!

The four Padres from the Penn A.C. Rowing Association will be heading to the Royal Canadian Henley Regatta in August. This event has been taking place for 125 years and we are proud of our Serra Rowers for being part of such a tradition.

Coxswain [Chris DelZompo '09](#) also worked hard this summer at Marin Rowing Development Camp, as did numerous freshmen who attended camps across the country. Recent graduate [Anthony Heimuli '07](#) will be attending the University of Washington in the fall, where he will tryout for the number one ranked Crew Team in the Country.



[Anthony Heimuli '07](#) [Aaron Gonzales '09](#)
[Zach Felise '09](#), [Cameron Zokaei '08](#)

Serra Rowers Selected to represent U.S in 2007 Junior World Rowing Championship

Serra rowers [Pat Williams '08](#) and [Chris Chang '09](#) were selected to represent the U.S. at the 2007 Junior World Rowing Championships in Beijing from August 8-11. The Serra rowers were part of the Jr. Men's National Team Development Camp in Seattle, which started out with twenty-eight athletes nationally. Three Serra Padres made the final twelve to compete in Camden, New Jersey. Out of these final twelve, four were selected to represent the United States in Beijing. Coach Cunningham was proud to announce that two of the selections were Padres Williams and Chang. This is truly a historical moment for Serra Crew! . . . more details in the next issue of Traditions.



Representing U.S. in 2007 Junior World Rowing Championship (L to R:) [Chris Chang '09](#), [Chris Gear](#) (Virginia), [Pat Williams '08](#), [Cameron Klotz](#) (St. Louis)



Class Valedictorian KEVIN SIBUCAN '07

Graduation Class of '07

Junipero Serra High School's Class of 2007 graduated during the school's 61st commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 2, 2007 at St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco. Presiding over the ceremony was Reverend James W. Livingstone, and graduation diplomas were awarded by Assistant Principal Keith Strange and conferred by Principal Lars Lund.

Class Valedictorian [Kevin Sibucan](#) spoke to his fellow classmates about how fast their high school years went and encouraged them to continue their "childlike curiosity and exploration of the world." The following are excerpts from Kevin's valedictory address:

“We gather here to celebrate a great milestone in our lives. Four difficult years, filled with sweat, tears, and maybe even some blood, culminate this moment. We should be proud of our accomplishments. But this is not the only reason we are here. We gather today to say farewell to each other as Padres. Moments like these are rare so don't let them slip away.

“ We have learned to work together to face the challenges preparing us for the future. I think we are ready for the world. The question remains: “Is the world ready for us?” ”

Kevin Sibucan '07

It's hard to believe that we are standing here, draped in royal blue and capped with a mortarboard. I remember freshman orientation when I heard that these years at Serra High School would go by quickly. I scoffed at this. But I stand here, corrected, reflecting on where that time went. Those seconds, those hours, those grains through the hourglass went to learning, to making friends, to having fun.

We are a diverse class, filled with over two hundred characters who can't be defined in words. Some of us were more concerned with academics; some of us were more concerned with performing on stage; some of us were more concerned with achievements on the field. Despite this wide dispersion of interests, one thing held us together, our curiosity for the world.



As children, we loved to explore the world. Yet, we all can remember those adults in our lives who tried to contain this drive. Remember that saying from kindergarten? “Curiosity killed the cat?” Thankfully, our teachers are subversive in this manner. They encouraged us to be like that cat. They taught us not to be afraid. They sparked our interest by exposing us to new worlds: worlds filled with eccentric historical figures, worlds smaller than the head of a pin, worlds of numbers and lines, worlds limited only by the imagination. They have given us a taste, and now curiosity drives our hunger for more. Let us take this curiosity into the world and do some good with it. As we progress into adulthood, let this aspect of childhood curiosity never slip through our fingers.



Our time at Serra clearly made all of us stronger individuals. We learned life skills just by living with each other. We found support networks to handle stresses. We refined our ability to make and maintain relationships. We have learned to work together to face the challenges, preparing us for the future.

I think we are ready for the world. The question remains: “Is the world ready for us?” ”



JUNIPERO SERRA GRADUATION AWARDS

2007 MEDAL WINNERS



Activity Medal

MICHAEL DOUGHERTY & JONATHAN HAYWARD, ex aequo



Mathematics Medal

MAXIM GILULA



Social Studies & English Medal

KEVIN SUBUCAO



Foreign Language Medal

MARCUS BREHMER



Science Medal

ANDY SUN



Dramatic Arts Medal

PATRICK NIEMEYER



Music Medal

BRENDAN QUIRK



Shea Sportsmanship Medal

RAYMOND BALDONADO & BRIAN HAMMEL, ex aequo



Service Medal

TYLER ANTHONY



Campus Ministry Medal

STERLING SULLIVAN



Theology Medal

JEFFREY GROGAN



Visual Arts Medal

ANDREW DIGGINS & WILLIAM PARAS, ex aequo



Junípero Serra High School Class of 2007

CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES TO OUR NEWEST **SERRA** ALUMNI



Alvin Joseph Abad
Aria Afjei
Nicolas Alejandro
George Anezinos
Eric Angell
Tyler Anthony
Anthony Armanino
Ryan Baker
Raymond Baldonado
John Ballas
Jordan Bauer
Jonathan Becker
Robert Belvini
Cody Beratlis
Nicholas Bertetta
David Bertoldi
Redjellan Besona
Fielding Bohlken
Michael Borg
Ryan Borg
Matthew Boschetto
Kevin Brazil
Marcus Brehmer
Matthew Brickley
Robert Broderick
William Bryant, Jr.
Raymund Bueno
Mario Busalacchi
Gavin Callies
James Calonico
Renato Campos
John Carrara
Derek Carthy
Nathan Cham
Aaron Chhokar
Matthew Christman
Dante Ciardi
John Cole
John Cowley
Mark Craig
Khiry Crawford
Blake Cwieka
Carlo Dacanay
Eric Dacorro

Donald DalBroi
Gregory Dalli
Peter Day
John Deghi
Christopher Del Rosario
Gary DeMartini
Vance DeMartini
Sean Dennehy
Christian Diego
Andrew Diggins
Steven Doty
Michael Dougherty
Miljenko Dugandzic
Christopher Dunleavy
Jason Dunn
Cameron Ehring
Connor English
Steven Erickson
Matthew Faina
Adam Ferreira
Domenic Finocchiario
Jeffrey Flaherty
Clark Fleming
Tanner Fornesi
Ryan Fox
Patrick Geddes
Jeffrey Georgette
Dann Gevana
Andrew Gillis
Maxim Gilula
Christopher Goll
Samuel Gozun
Andrew Gregg
Charlie Griffin
Jeffrey Grogan
Charles Guttas
Morgan Hallquist
Brian Hammel
Christopher Hanley
Sean Hart
Brian Harty
Travis Haynes
Jonathan Hayward
Anthony Heimuli

Taylor Heon
Matthew Hovan
Brian Hutchinson
Kyle Hutchison
Antonios Kasaris
Padraic Kennedy-Caldwell
Alex Kwok
James LeClair
David Lee
Jonathan Lee
Giancarlo Leonio
James Leyden
Nathan Lien
Timothy Lopez
Kenneth Lorber
Ryan Loughlin
David Lovre-Fiame
Daniel Lucido
Adrian Madlambayan
Charles Magat
Cameron Maharaj
S. M. Jafar Mahmood
Patrick Maier
Scott Mantegani
Tom Jeffrey Mariano
Juan Bosco Martinez
Nimer Massis
Kevin Mathew
Matthew McBride
Robert McCarthy
Shane McCracken
Ryan McEnery
Alexander McIsaac
Kyle McLoughlin
Eric Mees
Stephen Melnicki
Andres Mendez
Richard Mirowski
Robert Monk
John Moxley
Liam Murphy
Thomas Murphy
Dominic Mutto
Joseph Nave

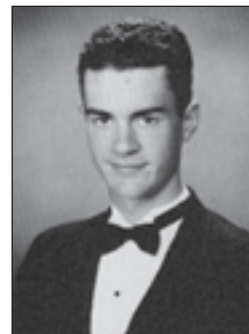
Anirudh Nayak
Patrick Niemeyer
Conrado Nunez III
Nicholas Oeser
Phoenix O'Rourke
Vincent Osorio
Jason Pabon
Robert Palmieri
Alexander Pan
Andrew Pappas
William Paras
Maxwell Paris
Rupen B Patel
Joseph Pearson
Kyle Pemberton
Saulo Picazo
Thomas Poeschl, III
Nicholas Poggetti
Marcus Pointer
Louis Poletti
William Poletti
Brendan Quirk
Nader Ramezanbeigi
Matthew Rankin
Colton Rauenbuehler
Justin-Jude Rayala
John Rice, IV
Kyle Riego De Dios
Kyle Robertson
Dustin Romero
Nicholas Rossi
Joshua Rufino II
Jeremiah Ruidera
Anthony Ruth
George Saade
Dominic San Filippo
Arnold San Jose
Brad Satterwhite
Jacob Scheierling
Andreas Seckler
Kevin Sibucan
Maximilian Siekierski
Luis Sierra
Keith Simonetti

John Sims, III
Stevie Spina
Ryan Stagnaro
Daniel Stark
Dion Starr, Jr.
Garren Staubli
Charles Stimson
Bryan Stitt
Michael Stone
Sterling Sullivan
Andy Sun
Stephen Sweeney
Jawad Sweidan
George Tabet
Kaivon Talai
Richard Tan
Christiansen Tatola
Alan Terranova
Jeffrey Thomas
Andrew Tilton
Marcus Tong
Christopher Tronoff
Jacob Trueb
Nicholas Tuipulotu
Ryan Tung
William Urich
Christopher Vargas
Kevin Vielbaum
Mitchell Vogl
Patrick Wandro
Jason Whitney
Nicholas Willard
Kyle Winningham
William Winters
Michael Wise
Paul Wisecarver
Benjamin Wohlford
Gary Woods
Tobias Wulff
Justin Vincent Yap
Aarash Zakeri
Nicholas Zakula
Jonathan Zamora

CAPTAIN JOHN RUTHERFORD IV '97



Alum [John Rutherford IV '97](#) is now Captain John Rutherford of the United States Marine Corps. Captain Rutherford is currently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan as a naval aviator flying a FA-18 Hornet off USS John Stennis' aircraft carrier with Marine strike fighter squadron VMFA323.



After graduating from Serra, John spent the summer at the Olympic training center in Colorado Springs as a cyclist. He became a national cycling champion shortly thereafter.

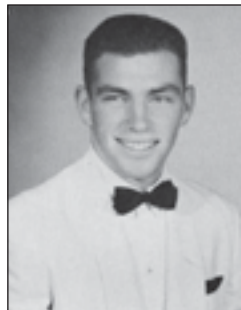
John also attended and received his BA in Foreign International studies from UC Davis and graduated Summa Cum Laude. During two summers between college, he attended officer candidate school, where he became an officer in the U.S. Marine Corp and has been through extensive flight training ever since. John's stateside home is in San Diego with his wife Mara.

Traditions MAGAZINE

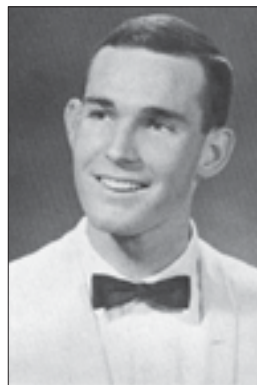
A Padre Connection



Robert Beltramo '65



Bill Killilea '56



Kevin Belton '65



Terry Belton '60

Whoops! Wrong Mug Shot

Remember the article featured in Spring '07 TRADITIONS about alums [Kevin Belton '65](#) and [Bill Killilea '56](#) reconnecting after almost 30 years living in the same town of South Bend? Well . . . another connection was made when Kevin's older brother [Terry Belton '60](#) called to advise us that the graduation mug shot of Kevin was actually that of [Robert Beltramo '65](#). It's nice to know that the Padre "brotherhood" of looking out for one another still continues!



Heagy '06 Makin' a Splash for Kingsmen Water Polo

[Matthew Heagy '06](#) led the Cal Lutheran University Kingsmen Water Polo team to a 3rd place league finish last season, the best in school history! Heagy was a unanimous selection to the 2006 Men's Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCAIC) All League Water Polo Team as a freshman. In addition, he received national recognition as a two-meter player by being named Second Team All American. During the season, Heagy led the conference scoring 31 goals and also set a CLU record scoring 7 goals in one game. This also earned Heagy SCIAC Athlete of the Week and CLU MVP Honors.

"ALUMNI MEMORIES" CLASSIC MOMENTS FROM PADRES PAST

A TRIBUTE TO THE FAB FOUR by Jonathan Green '89



I received the latest edition of Traditions yesterday afternoon and I felt compelled to write to all of you after reading your profiles. Over the years, my experiences at Serra have garnered benefits that were both expected and unexpected. The obvious benefits of a great education and a sense of community and school spirit have always been elements that I have been grateful for. Now that I am approaching my 20-year mark since graduation, I have noticed different elements that have provided unexpected benefits -- and the four gentlemen on the cover have played a big role in that.

Mr. Anthony: Math - the one word is filled with irony for me. I never liked it. Yet, the love of my life is a mathematician by trade! She runs her very own company that writes and edits math textbooks for high schools and colleges. So, I have to tell you that you found a way to bring elements of real world applications to a subject that I just never liked. Although it was not my strongest subject, I knew the importance of its applications and because of your approach, it allowed me to focus better and find ways to apply it. I look back now and thank you for that! Without your ability to relate math to everyday life, I would have avoided the subject all together. It is now a major part of what I do everyday.

**"Over the years,
my experiences at
Serra have garnered
benefits that were
both expected and
unexpected."**

Jonathan Greene '89

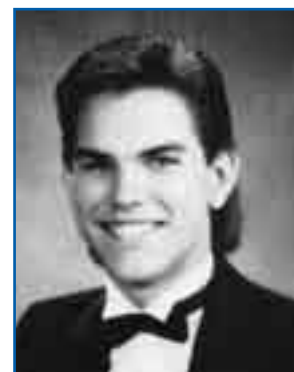
Mr. Bertetta: I am a huge history buff and I try to find ways to insert historical facts and concepts into my development plans for my teams. I remember that I actually looked forward to your class with anticipation of what we would learn. Not just because I loved the subject, but because the whole concept of understanding people and events from years ago seemed exciting to you. I think it is fair to say that you were excited about pretty much everything! That same enthusiasm for history and life in general has been something that I get made fun of quite regularly. Energy and enthusiasm turn things from good to great and your example of that was always present. Thank you for being a great "life" example.

Mr. Solari: As my career has progressed, it has become more apparent to me that your approach had a long term affect on me. From my first management position, to now being an executive level employee, your methods for teaching and building loyalty became a part of how I work with my teams. I remember your class being a class that no one ever dared to even think about cheating in. Not because we were afraid of the immanent meeting with T-Mac in his office, but it was more out of a sense of not wanting to disappoint you. You found a balance between pushing us, supporting us, and still relating to all of us on a human level. We looked forward to working hard as much as we looked forward to "story days." The irony hit me when my own teams encouraged me to take a break from the stress of corporate day-to-day minutiae, and they want to just tell stories and talk about life. Following your same approach has allowed me to create high performing teams and has clearly helped me move up through the ranks quickly in my career . . . and I cannot pass up mentioning my own affinity for Hawaiian

shirts! So, thank you for your impact and your leadership by example. It has had a profound affect on me!

Mr. Jordan: Being in band, both jazz and orchestra, was a great passion of mine. Yet, hindsight shows me how much I missed. Playing the saxophone came very natural for me, so I rarely spent additional time at home practicing. Yet, I came to realize years later that I missed so much of what you tried to teach us. It hit me once as I was driving across South Dakota on a road trip to see western history and some of the great landmarks of the U.S. "A Night in Tunisia" came on the jazz station I was listening to via satellite. I had not heard that song since we played it in jazz band. At that very moment, I realized that I had never *really* heard it before. Unfortunately, my approach to playing the saxophone in high school was not much different than Malmsteen's approach to guitar. I knew I could play any set of notes you put in front of me, no matter how difficult, or how fast. When I heard that song that day, I knew that I really never knew how to play it. To make one note really sing, or to take a single phrase and fill it with emotion was never my focus. But you still taught us that, no matter how bull headed we were. Your approach stuck with me, even after all these years. I find myself re-learning chords, scales and the like from scratch. That is a good thing because I am playing in a band again and it is all new again. But I am there this time. I care about tone more than speed. I care about feel more than chops (although chops are still important!) and I learned all that from you a long time ago. I am a fan of all music now. Music fills our house everyday. My wife is a singer and my daughters are learning both guitar and piano. We have that same joy for music that you had everyday in band practice. Looking back, I have no idea how you pulled together that many attitudes and different levels of talent to make us a pretty darn good band. You taught us to love all music and not just what our friends liked. Your impact has been tremendous, and many of my fondest memories of those years relate to band, rehearsals, and my friends that came with that. So, thank you for those experiences and creating such a fruitful environment that has stuck with me to this very day. What you taught me has never been more relevant than it is today.

Principal Lund: As former students, we do not share these types of accolades enough. Sometimes it takes life experience and maturity to look back at things objectively. These four teachers had a big impact on me. Some of that impact was not realized immediately, but it was there nonetheless. I can now see that all four, as well as yourself, have something in common. Approach. Your styles of teaching were different and your personalities were different. It was your ability to focus on the class and the individuals with patience, compassion, and the right amount of discipline that makes you successful as teachers and as mentors. I am honored to have the responsibility to lead over a thousand employees everyday, but it is with the foundation that you have all set with me that I have the confidence and approach to be the right type of example, and hopefully mentor. My humility grows with each year, as I realize the responsibility to teach others what I know is an honor and not just a job duty. Thank you all for being great examples in both strength and humility, as you are all tremendous examples of what teachers should be. ☺



Jonathan Green '89
Director at Verizon Wireless

Alumni are invited to submit their special Padre memories to be included in this regular feature of Traditions.

Please submit your "Classic Serra Moment" by email to: mwilkinson@serrahs.com or mail to: Junípero Serra High School
451 West 20th Avenue ♦ San Mateo, CA ♦ 94403 ♦ Attention: Michelle Wilkinson, Director of Public Relations

JUNIPERO SERRA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

20th
annual

ANOTHER SMASH HIT!



"A Flight" Championship Group

L to R: Russ Bertetta '67, Chris Pedersen '89, Mark Hartley, Pat Shaughnessey & Brian Ronan



One hundred fifty-two golfers hit the links at the Peninsula Golf & Country Club under perfect conditions on June 25th for the 20th Anniversary edition of the Serra Golf Classic.

Once again, competition for the championship trophy was fierce as several teams fired low scores. The foursome of [Chris Pedersen '89](#), Mark Hartley, Pat Shaughnessey and Brian Ronan (after several years of nearly winning) captured the "A Flight" championship. Alumni dad Steve McLaughlin, [Chris McLaughlin '94](#), Scott and Ken Davis won the "B Flight" title. [John Crosby '70](#), [Tom Fanucchi '73](#), [John Meyersieck '73](#), and Bruce Bulkin took home the "Senior Flight" trophy. Highlights of the day included holes-in-one by [Dan O'Leary '79](#) on the 12th hole and Amadeo Arnal on the 15th.

Special thanks go to all of our MVP Sponsors: ECCOgen Cards (who once again sponsored the popular "Cigar and Shot Bar," Walsh Wireless, Signature Properties, The [Brian Morton '83 Family](#), Handlery Hotels, Linhares & Olwell, Nibbi Brothers Construction, The Plastering Industry Bureau, and Ward-Tek Construction.

Thanks also goes to the forty-three tee sponsors (a tournament record) who helped make this 20th Anniversary tournament such a huge success. This year's tournament brought in a record \$53,000* for the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund making this our best tournament to date!

"HOLE IN ONE" WINNERS!

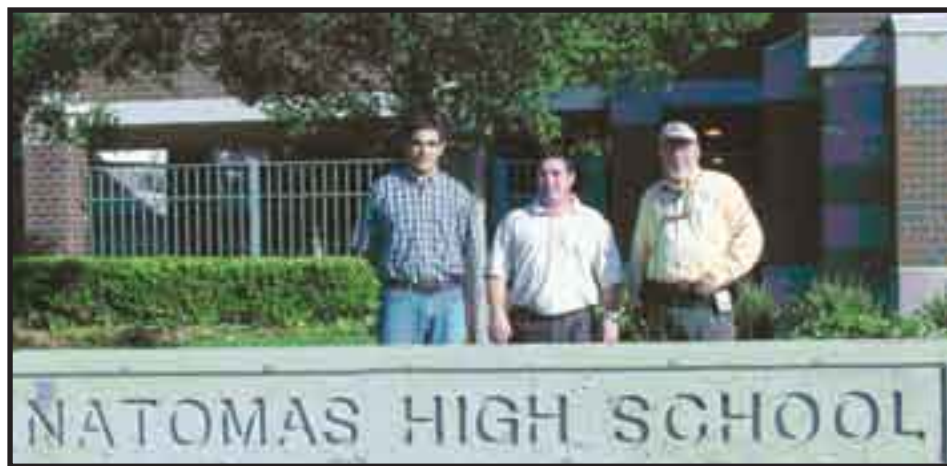


Dan O'Leary '79



Amadeo Arnal

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JUNE 25, 2008 FOR THE 21ST ANNUAL SERRA GOLF CLASSIC



(Pictured from L to R: Dan Frisella '95, Anthony Agrella '83 & Terry Pearman '65)

“In Via” brings Serra Alums together!

The Serra “brotherhood” has made its way to Natomas High School in Sacramento where Padre alums Terry Pearman '65, Anthony Agrella '83 and Dan Frisella '95 all work together. Although their graduation years span three decades, they share a common Padre bond. Pearman is the school's Vice Principal; Agrella is an English Instructor and Frisella is a Resource Specialist.

Andrew Kochevar '03 Drains Sonoma State Record!



Andrew Kochevar '03 drained a Sonoma State record with nine three-pointers in nine attempts to lead Sonoma State to a 75-53 win over Cal State L.A. at Seawolf Gym. Andrew scored a career-high 32 points and was 11 for 12 from the field on a nearly perfect night!

Steeplechase Not an “Obstacle” for Alum Delaurenti '04

Mike Delaurenti '04 recently broke Santa Clara University's 5000-meter and 3000-meter steeplechase record in addition to running an outstanding 3 minutes 58 seconds in the 1500-meter race. “Delaurenti boasts the Broncos' top 5000-meter time, running the race in 14 minutes 46.41 seconds to place second at the Johnny Mathis Invitational. He also recorded another second place finish at the Steve Scott Invitational, running a school record 9 minutes 19.88 seconds in the steeplechase, just 13 seconds shy of he NCAA regional standard.”

*excerpts taken from
“The Santa Clara” newspaper*



All “Dunn”



Jason Dunn's graduation in June as a member of the Class of 2007 completed quite a Serra tradition for the Dunn family. Jason's father, two brothers, his uncle Mike '67, his mother and his sister *all* also attended Serra. You might wonder how that could happen. Jason's Dad, Pat, is a 1974 Serra graduate. He and his wife Anne's three boys (Ed '02, Brian '06 and Jason) all followed in the footsteps of their father. A Mercy student, Anne, attended Don Pershing's physics class at Serra in 1973, where she met her future husband Pat. Jason's sister Emily attended Randy Vogel's honors algebra class as an eighth grade student while at St. Gregory's. Vogel, algebra teacher and Admissions Director, also has quite a connection with the Dunn family. He taught Pat during the 1972-73 school year in Algebra 2/Trig, Brian and Jason as eighth grade algebra students and Emily who will be beginning her junior year at Mercy-Burlingame.

Pictured is Vogel with his former students (L to R) Emily, Jason, Brian and Pat. Ed (not pictured) was the only member of the family who managed to miss Vogel's algebra class. When asked who the best math student in the family was, Vogel just smiled and said, “You'd be surprised.”

SYME TIME

Scott Syme Jr. '06 has certainly been busy during his freshman year at the University of Arizona in Tucson. During his first semester, following his passion for performing, Syme landed a job as an intern at a NBC news station working the teleprompters and writing up scripts for the anchors to read.

"It was like working on the set of 'Anchorman,' Syme said.

Syme also joined an Improv Troupe called "Comedy Corner," which performs every Friday night on the college campus.

"It is the oldest college comedy troupe in the nation," said Syme. "I had to audition for this group with twenty-five other people and they only took three; luckily, I was one of the three!"



Scott Syme, Jr. '06 with NBC Eyewitness News Anchor Dara Demi

All of the sketches are written by the improv troupe and Syme says "They are very funny . . . better than SNL sometimes." The troupe performed in Los Angeles and the leading ladies from "The Office" were in the audience, as well as many other improv actors. They also performed on the ASU Campus and ended the year as headliners for a popular show called S.I.C.K Fest with over 300 guests in attendance.

Syme also appeared on a television show that premiered on the History Channel called 'Man, Moment Machine' or M3. "I was a GI soldier who got slapped by General Patton," Syme said. The episode was called, 'Patton and the Desperate Tank Attack.' "My audition was fairly challenging because I didn't know what they were looking for. I had to read a lot of different scripts and answer weird questions like 'Could I ride a horse?'"

"I would like to personally thank Mr. Meegan for all of his support and help by teaching me the skills of improv," Syme said. "My future plans are to move to Chicago after college and try to work the improv scene there and do real estate on the side."

Former Padre Classmates Inducted into San Diego State University's Hall of Fame

Former alums [Tony Severance](#) and [Steve Forster](#) (Class of '83) were honored as members of the 1987 San Diego State Rugby team which was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame.

Most Hall of Fame inductees are great individuals; however, San Diego State University showed enlightened appreciation for a group effort by inducting the entire team that won the 1987 National Collegiate Rugby Championship and boasted a team record of 79-6-1. The induction ceremony was held at the San Diego State University Hall of Fame and presented by the Wise Foundation.

Prior inductees, including Olympians, NFL greats, and representatives of a score of sports were among the 350 attending the induction ceremony. The team was also recognized at halftime during a Saturday night football game, where 42 out of 50 former rugby players were there to celebrate.

The City of San Diego also declared November 18th San Diego State University Rugby National Championship Day.



Former Padre Classmates
Tony Severance '83 (L) & Steve Forster '83 (R)

FIRE FIGHTIN' PADRES WORKING TOGETHER IN SAN FRANCISCO

Three Padre Alums share in another type of "brotherhood" as they provide fire and emergency services for the City & County of San Francisco.

Working together at Station 44 in Visitation Valley are [Mike Walsh '73](#), [Brandon Cormack '80](#), and [Bryan Hendon '81](#). The picture to the right was taken after a 10-acre grass fire in McLaren Park back in May.



Pictured L to R:
San Francisco Fire Department Engine 44 Crew Members
Brendan Cormack '80, Bryan Hendon '81 & Mike Walsh '73

Baseball Alums Face Off



Game one pitchers for the San Jose Spartans vs Sacramento Hornets baseball series back in April were Padre alums [Scott Sobczak '05](#) (SJSU) vs. [Al Orozco '03](#) (CSUS).

Wondering who the third guy is? He's another Padre alum, [Chris Pert '02](#), who happens to be the Game Operations Coordinator and Sports Information Assistant for San Jose State Athletics.



Tommy Poeschl '07 Movin' Around *Country*



Tommy Poeschl '07 has been on an unexpected roller coaster ride since graduating from Serra in June. While enjoying summer vacation before heading off to college, Tommy decided to enter a radio station contest in hopes of winning six free tickets to Great America. Well, not only did Tommy win the tickets, he landed a job with the Bay Area's popular new country music radio station 95.7 "The Wolf."

Within just a few minutes of winning the tickets, Tommy heard DJ "Tic Tac" promoting an intern position for the show. Tommy immediately called back and said, "I just won the Great America tickets and you need me! I'm your man for the intern job."

Tommy was invited to be interviewed at the station the following evening and was immediately hired and on the air that same night! His call name was originally "Tommy Poe," but Tic-Tac liked "Tommy P" better. He continued on the air every night from 7:00-midnight as "Tommy P the Prize Man," taking calls on the air and going out on location with the station van broadcasting from locations around the bay area.

To make this roller coast ride even more exciting, Tommy was offered a very generous paid internship, all expenses paid, to travel around the country with DJ Tic-Tac who recently left 95.7 for a show on MX Radio. Tommy would travel on two very luxurious, decked out radio buses, while working on getting college credit for the year on radio. As of this writing, plans have not been finalized and if it doesn't pan out, Tomy will begin Chico State in late August where he will study construction management.

THE FATHER SERRA SOCIETY

The Father Serra Society has been established to recognize and honor those individuals who have acted to provide support in order to ensure the future of Serra High School. It honors those who make provisions for Serra High School through bequests of wills or trusts, life income gifts, retirement plans, life insurance policies or other planned giving vehicles. From time to time, the school holds special events to honor Father Serra Society members. The school publicly recognizes and honors those names, which are listed below, as founding members of the Father Serra Society. Some members have wished to remain anonymous and the school respects their wishes.

The generosity of the following Founding Members of the Father Serra Society is gratefully appreciated:

ANONYMOUS '63	MR. JERRY DRISCOLL '49 (RIP)	MR. AND MRS. STEPHEN McLAUGHLIN
MR. AND MRS. JACK ALLAIN '53	MRS. ELLEN EINARSSON	MR. JIM OAKES '58
MR. AND MRS. BART ARAUJO '61	MRS. ELEANOR FIGONI (RIP)	MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL PETERSON
MR. AND MRS. WALTER BANKOVITCH, SR.	MR. BOB GRASSILLI '66	MR. KEVIN RAGAN (RIP)
MRS. LAVERGNE BARRETT	MR. ED KELLER '47	MR. BEN REICHMUTH '53
MR. AND MRS. RUSS BERTETTA '67	MS. KATHY LAVEZZO	MR. AND MRS. FERENCZ SIPOS (RIP)
MR. AND MRS. TONY CRISAFI '69 RIP	MR. AND MRS. DENNIS LUCEY '58	MR. RANDY VOGEL
MRS. NANCY DESMEDT	MR. AND MRS. LARS LUND	MR. AND MRS. DAVID WHITNEY
MR. AND MRS. STEVE DIFU '60	MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL MCGINLEY	MRS. CLAIRE CAREY WILLARD

If you have already made Serra High School part of your estate plans and are not listed above, or if you would like to learn more about Serra's Planned Giving Program, please contact Russ Bertetta at (650)573-9935 or by e-mail to : RBERTETTA@SERRAHS.COM

Homecoming & Reunion Gala 2007

Our 2007 Annual Homecoming celebration will take place on the weekend of October 5th & 6th. Activities will kickoff with our annual Alumni Association barbecue on Friday night before the football game against perennial power Valley Christian. Following the game **ALL** alumni are invited to attend a no-host cocktail party at the Elks Lodge on 20th Avenue. This is always a great event that you won't want to miss.

The classes of 1957, '67, '77, '82, '87, and '97 will celebrate their anniversary reunions the following evening, October 6th, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City. Plans are still being formulated for some additional class events and more specific information will be mailed in August. **The Reunion Gala is another event you need to put on your "must do" list!**

Serra's first graduating class, the **Class of 1947**, will have a special 60-year reunion as part of the annual 50-Year Club luncheon on Friday, December 14th. This year's luncheon will be held at the "original" Serra on Columbia Drive and Alameda. More information on this very special event will be coming in the fall. All grads from the classes of 1947 through 1957 are invited to this event. Please direct any questions to RBERTETTA@SERRAHS.COM.

SAVE THE DATES!

HOMECOMING 2007

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2007

Junípero Serra Award & Alumni Award of Merit Presentations

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2007

Homecoming Football Game vs. Valley Christian

7:00 p.m. - Freitas Field

Alumni Association Barbecue

Tour of the School

No-Host Cocktail Party at the Elks Lodge following the game.

Reunion Gala

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2007

Classes of '57, '67, '77, '82, '87, '97

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Foster City

JUNIPERO SERRA AWARD &

ALUMNI AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Junípero Serra Award

BOB GRASSILLI '66

Sub-committees of the Alumni Board of Directors met earlier this year to discuss nominees for the 2007 Junípero Serra Award and the Alumni Award of Merit. After considerable discussion, the Junípero Serra Award, which has been given annually since 1982 to an alumnus who "exemplifies through his life the ideals, goals and objectives of Catholic education as taught at Junípero Serra High School" will be presented to Bob Grassilli, Class of 1966.

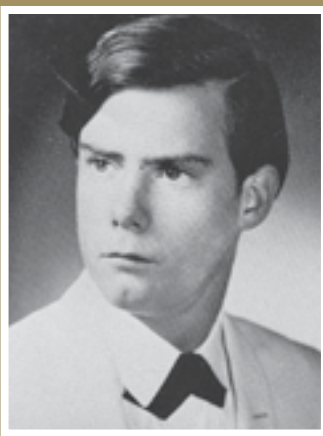
The Alumni Award of Merit was established in 2002 to honor alumni who have made outstanding accomplishments in their professional fields and have brought honor and distinction to Junípero Serra High School. The "class" of 2007 will be the third group to receive this prestigious award. This year's honorees are: Maurice Hannigan '59 (Public Service), Michael Shrieve '67 (Arts and Letters), Clyde Beffa '63 (Business) and Dr. Bruce Adornato '64 (Science and Technology).

The awards will be presented at a student body assembly on Thursday, October 4 beginning at 10 a.m. Alumni interested in attending the awards ceremony should contact the Alumni Office at (650) 573-9935.

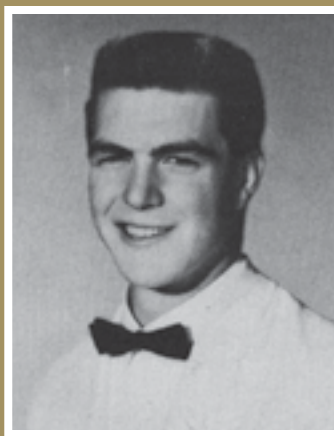
A full story detailing the accomplishments of all of this year's recipients will be published in the next edition of Traditions.

*Public Service*

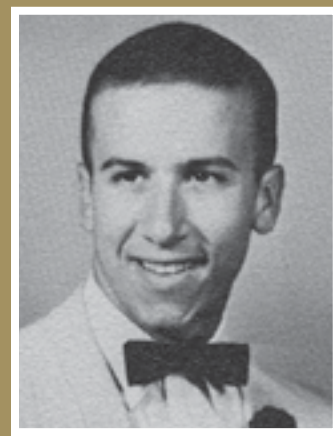
MAURICE HANNIGAN '59

Arts & Letters

MICHAEL SHRIEVE '67

Science & Technology

BRUCE ADORNATO '64

Business

CLYDE BEFFA '63



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Kevin Belton '65 Awarded Grant to "Follow in Footsteps of Fray Junípero Serra"

Alum [Kevin Belton '65](#) was recently awarded a Lilly Foundation Teacher Creativity Grant to "Follow in the Footsteps of Fray Junípero Serra." The Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program, which began in 1987, is a program for Indiana's public, private and parochial school teachers and principals. It is one of the longest-standing programs of Lilly Endowment, Inc., an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937. The program supports creative projects that are both personally renewing and intellectually revitalizing, and applicants are encouraged to demonstrate how their proposed projects will affect their students' engagement in the learning process.

While a teacher at John Adams High School in South Bend, Indiana, Belton submitted his proposal to follow the path of 18th century Franciscan priest, Father Junípero Serra, through Mexico, Baja California and California -- visiting 21 missions in California. Kevin e-mailed Alumni Director and former classmate [Russ Bertetta '67](#) with the following:

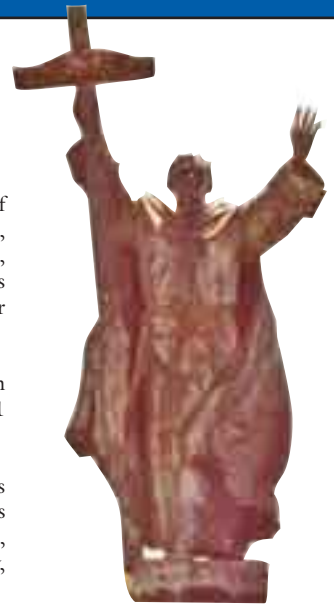
"Today I write you from Acapulco. I finished my Serra travels and am wrapping up my days in Mexico with a few days on the beach with my son Brendan. I have spent the summer visiting the missions, meeting with Franciscan historians and I have been so inspired. I began in Veracruz, where Serra first arrived, then drove (he walked) his route to Cholula, where I met with a Franciscan friar, who oversees the Franciscan National Library and had the most wonderful interview, all recorded, and was oriented to the Mexican portion of Serra's life.

After visiting the historic sites of Cholula (oldest continuing city in the Americas) and Puebla, we stopped at the pyramids of Teotihuacan, then headed north to the "hidden treasures of the missions," the "Cinco Caras de Dios," Serra's first missions in the Sierra Gorda. They are amazing, with the most detailed Baroque style facades, but reached only by the most nail-biting curving roads and in the most remote area. The highlight of this part of the trip was spending a day with a little peasant man, Miguel Fernandez, and his family at his small "casucha," a poor place on the side of a mountain with no indoor plumbing. He approached Bren and I at the mission and asked us if we knew about "Padre Miracles," a Capuchin from Spain who was passing through Tilaco and ended up staying for forty years until his death last year. Fr. Miracles changed the life of the people of this little village, turned their muddy roads into highways, brought electricity, hope and mostly spiritual strength to a town without a priest for twenty-five years. This man walked in his sandals all the way from this mission across Mexico and up the California coast and back again, following Serra's journeys on foot . . . 4,000 miles!

Miguel held out his hand for me to touch and told me, 'Esta mano toco la mano de nuestro Padre Miracles' (You are touching the hand that touched the hand of Fr. Miracles) He lovingly showed us the grave of this holy man in the sanctuary of the church and the confessional which is now something of a shrine. Wow! This little holy man invited us to his home and fed us and I can say that I have rarely had such a transforming experience.

I also visited the Colegio de San Fernando in Mexico City (now just a church and museum) where Serra and all the Orders of Friars Minor (OFM) missionaries studied and prepared for the missions. I visited most of the California missions, interviewed some friars who also knew Padre Miracles and are very knowledgeable of Serra's life, and went to some important spots in Baja, California. I even had the opportunity to celebrate 'Founders' Day' at Mission Carmel on Fr. Serra's birthday. Amazingly, a woman there heard me speaking after Mass and approached me saying she knew me from my voice. Turned out to be a lady by the name of Susie Betz. She and her brothers went to St. Matthew's and her brothers [Colonel '61](#) and [Charlie '64](#) went through St. Matt's and Serra with my brothers and me! A summer of many miracles!"

Kevin will be returning to California in the fall to begin teaching at Justin Siena High School in Napa.



Darren Lindeman, Herb Lindemann '51 with Bishop Emeritus Quinn

ANOTHER SERRA CONNECTION . .

Bishop Emeritus Francis Quinn of the Sacramento Diocese, and former Serra English teacher from 1947-49, recently confirmed a young man by the name of Darren Lindemann at the Holy Spirit Church in Fairfield. Darren is the grandson of Serra Alum [Herb Lindemann '51](#) who just happens to be one of Bishop Quinn's former students. Herb's daughter, Mary, was previously confirmed by Bishop Quinn when he was Auxiliary Bishop in San Francisco in 1978.

'57

It's your 50-year reunion! Look for more news in upcoming mailings and save the date of **October 6, 2007!**

'60

Ken Stinson has been appointed to chairman of the Girls and Boys Town National board. Father Flannigan's Girls and Boys Town is a leader in the treatment and care of abused, abandoned and neglected children. Ken has been an Omaha business leader for many years working as chairman of Kiewit & Sons' Inc.

'66

Tim Cleary proudly announces the birth of his new baby granddaughter, Gabriella Marie Gonzales.

'67

It's your 40-year reunion! Look for more news in upcoming mailings and save the date of **October 6, 2007!**

'69

Roger Lanzini retired recently after 30 years with Lanzini & Sons Liturgical Contractors. He currently resides in Somerset, California on an 11-acre horse ranch. Roger just finished his third book which is about the great clipper ship race of 1851.

'77

It's your 30-year reunion! Look for more news in upcoming mailings and save the date of **October 6, 2007!**

'82

It's your 25-year reunion! Look for more news in upcoming mailings and save the date of **October 6, 2007!**

'83

Daniel Jacobson currently resides in London and runs a media promotions company which specializes in global promotions for the film industry. Daniel has two sons, ages 19 and 17.

'86

Scott Igoe is the musical producer for the Jimmy Kimmel Show.

'87

It's your 20-year reunion! Look for more news in upcoming mailings and save the date of **October 6, 2007!**

Jason Conley and his wife Robin celebrate the birth of their son Gunner on June 18th.

'89

Martin Gruner '89 married Kelly Pelletiere on July 2, 2006 at Rockefeller Chapel at the University of Chicago.

'90

Sean Fansler and his wife Jara are proud to announce the birth of their second son, Logan, born on March 11th. Logan joins his big brother Bryan.

Steve Blandino and his wife Debi welcomed their son Ryan Joseph on March 9th. Steve and his family currently live in Minneapolis where he is a partner in a financial planning firm.

'91

Mike Tognotti was recently appointed as Vice President of Worldwide Sales and Marketing for Aushon BioSystems based in Burlington, MA. Mike will oversee worldwide sales and marketing functions.

'93

Keala Keannania recently received the PAL Officer of the Year Award at the 2007 San Mateo PAL Awards and Recognition dinner.

Paul Lausten married Gretchen Thomsen (NDB '95) on July 7th. Wedding party participants included: **Sean Fatooh '94**, **Mark Dillon '94**, **George Milionis '93** and **Matt McMichael '93**. On hand to celebrate were **Geoff Tuck '94**, **Silvio Lopez '92** and **Andrew Nissen '92!** Paul graduated from Davis with a BS in Environmental Design and currently works for the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. His new bride Gretchen also graduated from Davis with a BS in Environmental Biology and Management.

Brian Sheppard was recently accepted to the prestigious University of the Pacific Arthur A Dugoni School of Denistry.

'95

Dan Lorber and his wife Raffaella welcomed a baby daughter Daniella Elise on march 25, 2007.

'97

It's your 10-year reunion! Look for more news in upcoming mailings and save the date of **October 6, 2007!**



KEEP US POSTED!

Your fellow Padres want to know what you've been up to! If you've recently graduated, married, just celebrated the birth of a new baby, started a new job, retired, or just have something you'd like to share, please let us know! Send Alumni News to:
Serra High School Alumni & Development Office ■ 451 West 20th Avenue ■ San Mateo ■ CA 94403 or e-mail: mwilkinson@serrahs.com



In Memoriam



Gary Branch '73, brother of John '64 passed away on February 14th.

Adelaide "Addie" Keller, mother of William '66, Robert '68 and Barry '74, passed away on June 2nd.

Mary Louise Ferrari, wife of Andrew '49 and mother of John '80, passed away on May 17th.

Gerald Kennedy '55 passed away on May 26th.

Michael Folan, grandfather of Kevin '09 and Jacob '11, passed away on May 17th.

Jerry Rohrbach, brother of Jim '66, passed away on February 20th.

Rey Gomez, former Serra Board member (97-98) and father to Andrew '96 and Alex '99, passed away on June 8th.

Ron Venditti, father of Steve '77 and Dave '80, passed away on May 3rd.

Marie Giusti, mother of George '71 and grandmother of Stephen '02, passed away on April 30th.

Thomas Wertz '58 (class valedictorian) passed away on May 14th.

Rest in Peace

THE FATHER SERRA HERITAGE SOCIETY

Serra High School is the jewel of San Mateo County. In order to retain this special position, we must continue to meet the needs of our students and the community we serve. One of our pressing needs is to ensure that all the families who want a Serra education for their sons can realize that dream. The best way to do that is to significantly increase our endowment fund so the "jewel" that is Serra High School will live in perpetuity for future generations of Padres.

Since 1944 Junípero Serra has attracted the support and interest of generous visionaries - men and women - who value our mission of educating "Men of Faith, Wisdom and Service," leaders who make a difference for the good in the lives of others. Our alumni have proven to be such men and have made a difference not only on the local, national and international stages, but more importantly with their friends and families.

Our benefactors have demonstrated their commitment to this mission by including Serra in their estate plans, thereby helping to ensure its future. The Father Serra Heritage Society was created to recognize these visionaries and to continue the close relationship they have established with Serra.

If you have an interest in learning how you can become a member of the Father Serra Heritage Society and help to ensure the education of a future Padre, please contact Mike Peterson at (650) 345-0150 or by email to: mpeterson@serrahs.com.



Joseph Fegan '63 (right) poses with Father Stephen Boes (left), Executive Director of Girls & Boys Town

JOSEPH FEGAN '63 JOINS THE SEMINARY

After having been retired for many years, Joseph Fegan '63 is pursuing his late vocation to the priesthood. Joe studied philosophy for two years at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park and this summer has been enrolled in the Institute for Priestly Formation, an Ignatian Spirituality program, at Creighton University in Omaha. The program teaches priests and seminarians the methods of spiritual introspection and discernment according to principles laid out by St. Ignatius Loyola.

"It is the best thing I have ever done in my life," wrote Joseph in a recent email.

On July 7th, the IPF seminarians and priests were honored guests of the Serra International organization, Omaha and West Omaha branches, at Fr. Edward J. Flanagan's Girls and Boys Town. Joe took this opportunity to share in a photo Fr. Stephen Boes, Executive Director, Girls & Boys Town. "We stand framing a likeness of Blessed Junípero Serra," Joe wrote.

Girls and Boys Town, the original Father Flanagan's Boys' Home, is a leader in the treatment and care of abused, abandoned and neglected girls and boys. Throughout its nearly 90-year history, the nonprofit, nonsectarian organization has provided children with a safe, caring, loving environment where they gain confidence to get better and learn skills to become productive citizens.

Serra International has a mission of promoting vocations to the priesthood. The organization is composed of enlightened, prayerful lay people whose loving support is treasured by seminarians.

DO YOU WANT TO HELP SERRA?

Read below about
a new law that can
help YOU help US!

Are you
over
70 ½?

Do you
have an
IRA?

It's been said that with age comes wisdom. Now you can use that wisdom to make a charitable gift to Serra High School and satisfy the minimum distribution requirements on your Individual Retirement Account ("IRA").

Up until **December 31, 2007**, if a donor is over age 70 ½, he can transfer up to \$100,000 directly from his IRA to a charity such as Junípero Serra High School -- without first having to include the IRA withdrawal on his income taxes. In the past, any donor who wanted to withdraw money from an IRA to make a charitable contribution would have to include the IRA withdrawal on his income tax return. A donor would then be entitled to a charitable deduction for the gift to the charity. However, in some circumstances, the charitable deduction did not entirely offset the amount of the IRA withdrawal that was required to be included on the donor's income tax return, thereby causing the donor to pay income taxes. The new law solves this problem.

As long as the IRA withdrawal is sent directly from the custodian of the IRA to the charity (not from the donor to the charity), the gift satisfies the donor's minimum distribution requirement and is not required to be included on the donor's income tax return . . . AND benefits the donor's favorite charity. What this law amounts to is a tax-free IRA withdrawal which can benefit Serra.

"We are really excited about this new law. It can really help some of our benefactors help Serra by making a very tax-effective gift," said Director of Development and Alumni Relations Russ Bertetta '67.

LOG ON TO SERRA'S WEBSITE &
RECONNECT WITH PADRE ALUMS

WWW.SERRAHS.COM

Hundreds of Padre Alums have already registered with Serra's new Online Alumni Community and have begun reconnecting with old classmates.

Your log-in ID is the number located directly above your name on the address label of this edition of Traditions. That's all you need to begin catching up with your Padre pals. Just follow these four easy steps:

1. Log on to www.serrahs.com
2. Click on [Alumni](#)
3. Click on [Online Alumni Community](#)
4. Click on [Register Here](#). You will need to enter your last name, choose your class, and enter your Log-In ID.



ALUMNI CALENDAR 2007-2008

DATE	EVENT
August 2007	
24	Alumni Football Day
28	Alumni Board Meeting
September 2007	
7	Alumni Father Son Mass (Serra Chapel)
October 2007	
4	Junípero Serra & Alumni Achievement Awards
5	Alumni Homecoming Football Game
6	Reunion Gala 2007 @ Crowne Plaza, Foster City
	Classes of '57, '67, '77, '82, '87, '97
November 2007	
21	Alumni Basketball Game
22	Alumni Water Polo Game
23	Alumni Soccer Game
26, 27, & 28	Alumni Phon-A-Thon
December 2007	
14	Alumni 50-year Club Luncheon, San Mateo Marriott
June 2008	
23	Alumni Golf Tournament @ Peninsula Golf & Country Club
	Alumni Baseball Day (TBA)

FOR INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE EVENTS, PLEASE CONTACT:
ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR RUSS BERTETTA
@ (650) 573-9935 x 130
OR EMAIL: RBERTETTA@SERRAHS.COM



Baby Boy Gunner Conley
(Jason '87 & Robin Conley)



All Padre Baptism (Pictured L to R: Father Ted Shipp
(Baptismal Priest & former Serra Teacher), Tim Baldocchi '80,
Steve "Shoe" Schumacher '80, Tim Maquire '80 (Father),
Gian Leo Maquire (Son & Future Serra Padre),
Dave Collins '80 & JR Ferrer '08 (Cousin)



Bryan Fansler with little brother Logan
(Sean '90 & Jara Fansler)



Head Football Coach Patrick Walsh
with son William



Gabrielle "Gabby" Marie Gonzales
(Proud Grandpa is Tim Cleary '66)



Steve '90 & Debi Blandino
with son Ryan Joseph



Paul Lausten '93 & Gretchen Thomsen Wedding
Top row L to R: Geoff Tuck '94, Matt McMichael '93,
Paul Lausten '93, Gretchen Lausten NDB '95,
George Milionis '93, Andy Nissen '93; 2nd row L to R:
Sean Fatooh '94, Silvio Lopez '92, Mark Dillon '94;
on the floor is Dan Dillon '59 (Dillons are unrelated!)



Frosh Crew Coach Jon McDougall
with daughter Giorgia



Martin Gruner '89 & Kelly Pelletiere Wedding
Pictured L to R: Ike Issacson, Christian Clifford '89,
Martin Gruner '89, Larry Gruner '85, Erik Halterman '89



Back L to R: Sean Bartlett '04, Rob Martins '04,
Seamus Bartlett '03'
Front L to R: Tim Dees '83, Rocky Capella '73,
Liam Grosshauser '08, Ivan Hrga '91



Quite a Padre Wedding!
William Christian Clifford '89 (Groom) & Iris Llavanos (Bride)
L to R: Steve Washington '88 (groomsman), Steve Hansen '89,
Kevin Carey '93, Patrick Walsh, Chris Pedersen '89 (best man),
Dan Murray '88, Martin Gruner '89, Bobby Pedersen '91,
Christian & Iris, Jim Clifford '80, Mark Clifford '83, Steve Clifford '85,
Andrew Clifford '99, Erik Halterman '89 & Paul Clifford '83
(Other Padre quests not pictured included Joel Ferando '90
& Doug Hansen '04)

Padre Family Photo Album



E-mail your pictures to:
mwilkinson@serrabs.com



JUNIPERO
SERRA
HIGH SCHOOL

451 West 20th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403-1385
(650) 345-8207
Fax (650) 573-6638
www.serrahs.com
Return Service requested

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