

JUNÍPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL

Traditions

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 2
WINTER 2008

SERRA
HONORS

*Michael
Peterson*





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Traditions

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

Dear Alumni and Friends of Serra,

The Junípero Serra High School Advisory Board of Regents has been extremely busy! We are working with Serra's administration in many exciting areas, including: a new admissions marketing effort, the creation of a 21st Century board academic committee, pre-planning for the Phase II capital campaign and building project — we're in conceptual design with our architect, annual and long-range budgeting, and exploring a new governance model at Serra.

Specifically, we have named an Ad Hoc Governance Committee to look at the President-Principal model of governance for Serra High School. Presently, the role of the high school principal who serves as head of school has become increasingly complex. The principal is called upon to be the school's spiritual and instructional leader, chief advancement and financial officer, and has direct oversight over school safety, human resources, facilities management and capital improvements. In this model, the principal is also responsible for maintaining effective communication with all internal and external constituencies: students, faculty, staff, parents, alumni, alumni parents, benefactors and the civic and business communities.

The President-Principal model has emerged as an effective governance structure for Catholic high schools. In 2003-04, sixty-six percent of all independent and religious community-sponsored high schools had the principal-president model of governance and thirty-one percent of diocesan and parochial high schools had the principal-president model; these amounts have increased since that time.

Briefly, the roles can be described as follows:

The president is the exterior face of the school. The president looks at the "big picture" and is responsible for financial management, public relations/communications, major fundraising, enrollment management/admissions marketing, facilities assessment/improvement and strategic planning for the future of the school. The president oversees policy formation and ensures the implementation of the Catholic mission and vision of the school. He or she ensures that the school's core values are lived. In support of this effort, the president works extensively with the school's board on long-term planning in regards to its advancement.

Although the principal also serves as a key exterior face of the school, given the public nature of the role, his/her primary focus is the interior functioning of the school. The principal of the school is the instructional leader, who oversees the day-to-day operations of the school and is accountable to the president for such. Besides on-going improvements to academic, spiritual and extra-curricular programs, the principal has primary responsibility for school safety, is responsible for student management, communication with students, faculty and staff. An additional and important task of the principal is providing for the professional development of faculty and staff.

Serra is in a very strong position — in terms of daily operations, academic and extracurricular quality, enrollment, and faculty and staff. With the creation and rapid maturation of its advisory Board of Regents, the school is poised to address its long-term strategic advancement. The Ad Hoc Governance Committee will continue to evaluate the adoption of a President-Principal governance model, which will allow Serra to continue its on-going school improvement efforts and to provide for its long term spiritual, financial and institutional growth. I will continue to keep you informed of our progress.

Sincerely,

Kathy Lavezzo
Chair, Advisory Board of Regents

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MR. LARS LUND



Dear Alumni and Friends of Serra:

As we move forward with ongoing school improvement efforts, we never want to lose sight of the fact that, since 1944, a young person who enters Serra as a freshman will graduate as a man of “Faith, Wisdom and Service.”

MEN OF FAITH

In a world torn by strife that too often finds its source in religious conflict, Serra continues to be a school that is grounded in the Catholic faith. Guided in the Gospel of Jesus — a gospel of love, mercy and justice — we want our students to see the presence of God in all men and women of good will. Rooted in Word and Sacrament, all program areas at Serra seek to deepen in our students the knowledge of God’s presence in their lives and to assist them in discerning God’s unique call to each of them. That said, we continue to welcome students of many faiths and we celebrate the fact that Padres come in all creeds, cultures and economic backgrounds. In our community, Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists live in community with one another, seeking common ground and peacefully working through conflicts and misunderstandings.

MEN OF WISDOM

Serra is and always will be a Catholic college-preparatory. Our academic mission is to prepare students not only for the rigors of college, but also for the rigors of life-long learning. Our students will live out their lives well into the latter part of this century, in which social and economic life will be increasingly complex and competitive. They will be tomorrow’s leaders in business, government, journalism, technology, medicine, law, education, ministry, the arts and sciences. The skills we give them now will help them to be productive citizens who will contribute to the common good, not only locally but globally. It is not enough that our students have mastered course content across all academic areas; they also need wisdom to apply this knowledge to new situations, to create new knowledge and to find solutions to problems inconceivable by previous generations.

MEN OF SERVICE

I frequently say to our students that all the faith and wisdom in the world won’t amount to “*a hill of beans*” unless each of them is serving others: “Each of you has God-given talents and abilities and each of you are called to use this to make a difference for the good in the lives of others!” Such service begins at Serra. At a recent assembly, we honored students who have doubled, tripled and quadrupled (and more!) the service hours required for graduation. Applying faith and wisdom to service is at the core of a Serra education — and this has been borne out by countless alumni who have made just such a difference for the good in all walks of life.

Serra simply could not do this without the support of alumni, alumni parents and friends. Thank you for all you do for Serra. Enjoy this special edition of TRADITIONS in which we celebrate the 30th anniversary of a true man of “Faith, Wisdom and Service,” Mike Peterson!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Lars Lund". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Lars Lund
Principal



Clay Mallory '09

Cookie TUESDAY Celebrates its 10th Year!



Brendan Sabean '10

If you were to visit Serra's campus somewhere between 9:45 and 10:20 a.m. on a Tuesday, you might get the impression that something "big" was going on. Perhaps Tom Brady was on campus. Perhaps the Archbishop provided the students with an additional day off! Perhaps . . . a thousand young hungry "boys" were getting ready to delight in nothing other than a freshly-baked cookie! As crazy as it may seem, for the past ten years, thousands of students, faculty and staff members have embraced "Cookie Tuesday." In fact, many 8th graders have chosen to schedule their "shadow" visit on a Tuesday because the "cookie day" experience is well-known throughout grammar school circles. The following comments were taken directly from an admissions application recently.

"I love cookies. On my shadow day, the Serra cafeteria served some of the best cookies I've ever had. Cookies are just a small part of Serra High School, though."

Laurie Brazil, the owner of LLB Enterprises who runs Serra's cafeteria, says she begins baking at 5:45 a.m. and doesn't stop for almost four hours. Her father, Bob Fava, is also up bright and early to help get prepared for the 15 minutes it takes to see the almost 2,000 cookies disappear. Going rate . . . 3 cookies for \$1.00 or 4 cookies and a milk for \$2.00.

"They just melt in your mouth," says freshman [Francis Lynch](#) as he takes a big gulp of his milk.

"I go to sleep early on Monday nights and dream about Cookie Tuesday, adds junior [Sammy Runco](#).

Sophomore [Benjamin Geller](#) claims "They take the edge off!"

It may only be a rumor, but some students have been known to bribe their teachers to dismiss them before the bell rings in order to avoid the "cookie line," which is by far the longest line of the week.

Ten years ago, when Laurie's mom Shirley Fava worked in the cafeteria under the direction of Jean Kniffin and Eileen Houle, the staff baked approximately two to three hundred cookies. "We are now up to close to 2,000 cookies," said Laurie recently. "That still isn't enough, but we had to set some sort of limit."

"It's organized chaos," says Algebra teacher and Varsity Soccer Coach Jeff Panos, who just happened to be the teacher supervising on the Tuesday that these pictures were taken.



Zack Turner '09



Danny DeAlba '09



Sophomores Michael Tauskey & Jake Moore



Nick Carrera '09 & Hitalo Nava '08



Sophomores Ryan Tana, Lorenzo Castillo & Tyrell Boralato



Padre Pairs! Can you find a match?

Serra's student body currently consists of nine sets of twins (one set missing from photo)! Do you think you can spot our mixed-up Padre duos?

Find out how you matched up on page 16!

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Fathers' Club Members Bring Order to Halls of Serra

Fourteen members of the Fathers' Club brought order to the halls of Serra High School during the fall when they removed and chronologically re-hung all of our alumni graduation pictures!

Without their leadership, expertise, and extraordinary volunteer service, this important job would never have been completed. Their hard work will allow all who walk the halls of Junípero Serra High School the opportunity to view our proud Padre graduates in proper sequence.



Thank you!

INTRODUCING OUR 2007 JUNIPERO SERRA AWARD WINNER & ALUMNI AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENTS



Pictured from L to R:
Maury Hannigan '59 (Public Service), Bob Grassilli '66 (Junipero Serra Award),
Clyde Beffa '63 (Business), Michael Shrieve '67 (Arts & Letters);
Missing from photo Bruce Adornato '64 (Science & Technology)

JUNIPERO SERRA AWARD WINNER - BOB GRASSILLI '66

Bob Grassilli '66 was presented with the Junípero Serra Award during the Annual Alumni Awards Assembly held in Serra's packed gym full of close to 1,000 young Padres. The Junípero Serra Award is presented to an alumnus who best exemplifies through his life the mission of Serra High School.

When the Serra Alumni Association began looking at candidates for the 2007 Junípero Serra Award, they knew they wanted alum Bob Grassilli to be considered. They also knew that they couldn't ask Bob to submit a list of his accomplishments because he is far too modest of a man. So, instead, they asked some of his closest friends -- all of whom had great things to say.

Bob is not only a successful businessman, he is a man whose concern for his community is paramount -- a person who has truly made a difference in the lives of others. Bob has involved himself in a wide variety of community concerns, serving as the Director of the Carl & Celia Berta Gellert Foundation, on the Board of Directors for Samaritan House (the agency that has helped thousands in our own community), been involved with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the University of San Francisco Board of Regents, St. Anthony's Dining Room, the Sisters of Mercy and Mercy High School, in addition to serving as a member of the San Carlos City Council.

Always remaining loyal to his alma mater, Grassilli continues to support Serra High School as well. He was an original member of the Development Board for Phase I of Serra's Capital Campaign and was crucial to its success. Currently, Bob serves as a key member of Serra's Fund-A-Dream Scholarship luncheon program. Serra, USF and Mercy are all major elements of Bob's past and all have benefited from his support and commitment.

[continued on next page](#)

Bob Grassilli '66 continued from previous page

"There's an old baseball saying that goes back to the 1940's that says 'nice guys finish last,' said Russ Bertetta during his introduction at the awards assembly. "I've known Bob for 40 plus years and he is truly a nice guy. For all of us who know him, he will never finish last; he is a winner."

When Grassilli addressed the student body, he started by saying that he was quite humbled to have been selected.

"As I was reviewing the past recipients of this award, I noticed quite an array of different men," Grassilli said. "There were priests, businessmen, community leaders, elected officials, educators - all leaders in their own way. But the common thread among them was giving back to the community both as a person and as a Christian."

He went on to talk about how our society and Serra High School, in particular, has evolved since he graduated some 41 years ago.

"We have discovered our diversity; we are not all the same, nor do we come from the same backgrounds. Recognizing that people are different is a good thing."

Bob spoke about the fact that the teaching of Christian values at Serra continues to be a part of each day. "It does not have to be a special course to be present," he said. "I know it might not seem like it at times, but the people you come in contact with here at Serra will be some of the best people that you will ever know in your life."

Bob told his young Padre brothers to cherish the friendships they make during their four years at Serra and to look for mentors in their life.

"The first was my dad who taught me the value of hard work to accomplish your goals," he said. "Don't expect anything to be given to you -- work for it yourself; it is way more satisfying. He taught me the value of my word and my name. Give your word sparingly, but always keep it. Respect and honor are far better than glory."

Another mentor Bob spoke about was John Kelly, one of his former teachers at Serra. "He taught me kindness and caring and to help those in need -- share what you can, make a difference."

In closing, Bob offered these words:

"I encourage all of you to be open to the experience of the Word of God, participate in both the secular and Christian community, love those close to you and never forget the Lord has a plan for each of us. It may not seem too clear now as you navigate through the labyrinth of tests, dating, dealing with parents, etc., but it is out there. Don't give up. Each of you can achieve great personal satisfaction and happiness."

"I encourage all of you to be open to the experience of the Word of God, participate in both the secular and Christian community, love those close to you and never forget the Lord has a plan for each of us."

**– Bob Grassilli '66
2007 Junipero Serra
Award Winner**



2007 ALUMNI AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENTS

Arts & Letters
BUSINESS Public Affairs
Science & Technology

Serra honored four of its most outstanding alumni in its Third bi-annual Alumni Award of Merit assembly held in October. One recipient in each category (arts and letters, business, public affairs and science and technology) were acknowledged.

ARTS & LETTERS - MICHAEL SHRIEVE '67

Michael Shrieve '67 received one of the awards designated for Serra graduates in the field of arts and letters. During Shrieve's introduction, Russ Bertetta brought the student body back a number of years when live music played by "real bands" was quite common.

"School dances, teen club dances, even our parish club meetings featured bands trying to 'get a break,' Bertetta said. "I can remember one night going to a St. Pius teen club dance with a bunch of friends to see and hear a *new* group. I think they were called 'Morning Glory' -- who supposedly had the hottest drummer in the area. That drummer was Michael Shrieve and he did not disappoint."

When Shrieve was only sixteen, he got up the nerve to go to the Fillmore Auditorium and ask the great guitarist Mike Bloomfield if he could sit in with him, Steven Stills and Al Kooper (the famous Super Session group) on the drums. To his surprise, they said yes and he spent the night jamming away -- living out a dream. Shortly after graduating from Serra, he had a lucky meeting with Santana in a local studio where he ended up jamming with them and, by the end of the night, he was their new drummer. A year later, Santana and Michael were one of the most exciting groups of the famous Woodstock festival and were on their way to being one of the most successful, popular and creative bands in the world.

Life after Santana continued to provide many new and creative challenges. Michael's recording credits include the masters of popular and avant-garde music -- Mick Jagger



VPA Director Jay Jordan with Michael Shrieve '67 (original drummer for Santana)

continued on next page 10

ALUMNI AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENTS

Michael Shrieve - continued from page 9

and the Rolling Stones, George Harrison, Pete Townshend, Steve Winwood, and jazz musicians like Freddie Hubbard and John McLaughlin just to name a few.

Over the course of his career, Michael Shrieve has written, produced and played on albums that have sold millions of copies worldwide. He also composes music for film and television. Michael Shrieve was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1998 and in 2005 he received the Guitar Center's first annual "Lifetime Achievement Award."

When Michael accepted his award and addressed the student body, it was clear that he continues to remain passionate about his work.

"It doesn't matter if you play music or are just a fan of music, you can't deny that music moves us in ways we don't even know need to be awakened," he said. "Music prompts us to respond with open-heartedness instead of judgment. It ushers us to a higher place from where we can see beyond distraction to what is true and good and lasting. If musicians accept this responsibility, they can change the world."

BUSINESS - CLYDE BEFFA '63

In the business world, Clyde Beffa '63 was honored. When choosing a recipient for the award for Business, the committee doesn't necessarily look for the guy who has made the most money or the one who has the *biggest* job; they look for someone who has worked hard, experienced some trial and error and has set a standard for excellence in their careers. Clyde Beffa, a graduate from UC Davis with a degree in agricultural economics, is such a man.

Clyde started his career as a dairy farmer and ended up as an international wine expert. By 1975, Clyde had said farewell to the dairy business to trade one beverage for another, joining his long-time friend Todd Zucker in the retail wine and spirits business. By the early 80's, they began to specialize in premium wines, advertised nationally, and developed a mailing list that today numbers over 60,000 subscribers. The business evolved once again several years later specializing in *super* premium wines from around the world. They had found their niche and the business was set to take off. Clyde became the resident expert on French wine and continues to travel to France on a regular basis. His international reputation earned him the European Wine Ambassador's Award in 2001.

Even with all of Clyde's success, however, he has still found time to be a great patron of Serra High School. He was a prime mover of the construction of the original Frisella Baseball Field in the early 1980's and was a major figure in assisting with Phase I of Serra's Capital Campaign.

Clyde proudly accepted his award with honor, but said that somehow he was not sure he deserved it.

"After all, my job description at K&L Wine Merchants is to travel around the world, taste some of the best wines, visit some of the finest wineries and chateaux and, of course, to have some very good meals along the way . . . tough work, huh?!", he said with a smile.

For those who wondered about the name K&L, it's quite simple. Clyde's wife is Kay and Todd's wife is Linda.

Clyde referred to a radio commercial that he had heard recently saying that, "A wise man once said that if you love your job, you won't have to work a day in your life."

"So true for me," Clyde told the student body.

"Through the years, I have received tremendous support from my family," said Clyde. "My wife, Kay, and our children Kerri and Clyde, III (aka [Trey '92](#)) have been there for me through these past 31 years offering me good advice and, occasionally, some well-deserved constructive criticisms."

Clyde told the student body that he, too, sat in the Serra bleachers many years ago not knowing just what lay ahead for him. He had no idea what he wanted to do for a career, but he did know that he wanted to go to college.

"I would have to say the most important reason why we are still going strong is that we work hard and we found our niche. I believe you need to find your niche -- your place at school and in your careers and pursue it," Clyde offered. "My Serra education laid a strong foundation for me both for my college years and in my careers and it will do the same for you if you just let it. Enjoy your brief stay here and take advantage of everything Serra has to offer -- the faculty, the classes, the activities, the camaraderie."

Clyde concluded his address with "BEAT Valley Christian," which they did (32 to 22).



K & L Wine Merchants - A Family Business
The Zuckers & The Beffas

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - MAURY HANNIGAN '59



Standing out in the area of Public Affairs is [Maury Hannigan '59](#) and the timing of his reward could not have meant more. A couple of weeks prior to the assembly, one of Serra's maintenance workers, Gary Walter, was involved in a terrible automobile accident on Highway 35 south of 92. The car he was driving turned over several times and plummeted 150 feet into a ravine. For three hours, Gary hung upside down waiting to be rescued. If it were not for his seat belt, Gary might not be here today.

This story relates to Maury Hannigan because as former commissioner of the CHP, one of his greatest accomplishments was helping to get the comprehensive California seat belt law passed by the State Legislature. This law saves over a thousand lives a year in California alone. The motorcycle helmet law is another life-saving law that Hannigan helped get passed.

After graduating from Serra in 1959, Maury earned his BA from Golden Gate University and joined the Highway Patrol in 1964. His 31-year career saw him rise from a field patrol officer up through the ranks until he was appointed Commissioner of the CHP -- the largest single law-enforcement agency in the state. His impact on our state and its citizens is incalculable.

Maury addressed the study body stating that he was deeply appreciative of the honor given him. He modestly added that his accomplishments were the results of the collective efforts of many. Maury then shared some rather startling statistics.

"As we reached the mid 1980's, California was managing to kill an average of 5,000 people a year in traffic collisions," Maury said. "In 1989, the year I was appointed the CHP's Commissioner, we reached a tragic all time toll of 5,500 traffic deaths - more than five times the current student body of Serra High.

At that time, California had what is known as a "secondary" safety belt statute. This meant that drivers and passengers were required to use safety belts, but an officer could only enforce the law if the vehicle was stopped for another violation.

"So the law had no teeth, resulting in low belt usage and an intolerable California highway death toll," Hannigan said.

In order to change the situation, the CHP and local law enforcement needed to convince the State's Legislature to enact a "primary" belt law, which would allow officers to make stops for a safety belt violation alone. However, the Legislature was reluctant to do so.

"We needed to quantify the actual number of deaths caused by the lack of belt usage in the State and demonstrate the societal cost of that carnage," Hannigan said.

To obtain that data, in 1990 and 1991 each CHP investigation of a fatal traffic collision included a conclusion as to whether the lack of belt usage caused the deaths due to ejection or secondary impact within the vehicle. In 1990 that number totaled over 1,200 deaths in CHP jurisdiction alone and in 1991 it reached 1,500. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

estimates that each traffic death cost society \$2.3 million dollars. So, aside from the senseless human tragedy involved, the cost to California for these deaths could no longer be ignored.

Armed with that data, Hannigan promised the then Speaker of the Assembly Willie Brown and the Senate Transportation Committee Chair Quentin Kopp that 500 lives a year would be saved if they would give law enforcement a primary belt law. They supported the legislation, it passed, and Governor Pete Wilson signed it into law. The "primary" law went into effect January 1, 1993, and safety belt usage immediately increased with usage today at over 92% -- resulting in saving 1,000 to 1,200 lives annually.

"My role in the endeavor was having the privilege of helping to orchestrate the effort, and the capabilities that assisted me in that role stem from my years at Serra where self discipline and collective achievement were mainstays in our day-to-day curriculum; and for that, which we know as the Serra traditions, I will always be indebted."

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY BRUCE ADORNATO '64

Although unable to attend the assembly, [Bruce Adornato '64](#) was acknowledged in the category of science and technology. Adornato practices Internal Medicine and Neurology and has a long history with Stanford University. He joined the clinical faculty in 1978 and currently serves as deputy chief of the Department of Neurology. In 1986, Adornato co-founded the first accredited sleep clinic in San Francisco at California Pacific Medical Center and oversaw its sale to Stanford in 1996.

The following are some excerpts from the letter that Bruce wrote, which was read at the awards assembly:

"Believe it or not, but a week doesn't go by that I don't reach back into my Serra days and find something useful. Just two weeks ago, the obituary I wrote for my uncle ended with a phrase from the *Aeneid*, the epic poem we translated for two long years in Fr. John Kelly's Latin Class. Last week, I was analyzing a neurological injury using some $f=ma$ (force equal mass x acceleration) calculations I learned in 3rd year physics from Fr. Dave Stronck. And, thank you Fr. Zoph for drilling us everyday for years with nightly homework memorization of 10 new words from "Word Power," a little series of books that at least made me sound educated.

Much of what I've ever learned and found useful, I discovered in my 4 years on West 20th Avenue. The facts I learned, the vocabulary, the physics and chemistry, and the writing skills allowed me to qualify at UC Santa Barbara and, after four years there, be selected to be in the first class at UC San Diego School of Medicine where I received my MD in 1972. Attending Serra and having the exposure to a good education did not guarantee any of this was going to happen to me. There was something else I learned at Serra which is intangible and difficult to specify. It was a work ethic, a discipline, a satisfaction in knowledge, maybe a fear of the priest's wrath (I was only 5' 4" tall at the time). There was the knowledge that my parents were paying money to send me somewhere special in a time when most kids went to public schools. There was a pride in being a Serra man. To this day, I am in contact with many of my classmates. In fact, our class of '64 still gets together each year on the first Friday in December to stay in touch and celebrate our good fortune in being Serra High School graduates."

Bruce ended with this advice to his fellow Padres. "Be enthusiastic about learning new things. Stay out of trouble. Set your sights high. Don't be afraid to be smart. And don't let your dog eat your homework."

SERRA HONORS ALUMNI VETERANS MEN OF SERVICE



Opening Prayer & Blessing of Plaques
CDR (Rev.) Michael C. Barber, U.S.N.,
S.J. Regimental Chaplain, 23d Marines



Special Address to the Assembly
General Richard Reich '61
U.S.A.R., Ret.

Nearly two years ago (Feb 2006), [Christian Clifford '89](#) (USN MS3-SS), a member of our Theology and Social Studies Departments, spoke with Michael Peterson about the idea of recognizing Serra graduates who served in the military. Christian was moved by the superb memorial completed by Ms. Dee Eva and friends for the Sequoia High School alumni who lost their lives in war. In January 2007, the Serra alumni community was canvassed via the internet and in March 2007 the word was put out again by including a piece in *TRADITIONS*. Christian invited his U.S. History and Theology students to ask neighbors and relatives who are Serra graduates if they had served and also used the alumni directory (with the help of his father) to send individual e-mails and letters to those noted being military.

The names submitted, over 240 to date, show a community of select graduates who have served our country honorably and, in many cases, heroically, in the areas of strategic, tactical, service, training and administrative operations. They are soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, guardsmen, and coastguardsmen. Some Padre brothers have remembered their classmates who are now deceased by submitting their names to the project, reminding us of the truth behind the saying, "Once a Padre, always a Padre!"

On Tuesday, November 20, during our Thanksgiving Liturgy Service, Serra honored those Padre brothers who have served. Five beautiful commemorative plaques bearing the names of our men of service were unveiled and blessed by CDR (Rev.) Michael C. Barber, U.S.N., S.J. Regimental Chaplain, 23d Marines. A special address to the student body was presented by alum and retired General Richard Reich '61 U.S.A.R.

Christian Clifford took the opportunity to thank all of those who helped him with the project including Principal Lars Lund, Russ Bertetta and Michael Peterson and the staff of the Alumni and Development Office, Michelle Wilkinson, Kyle Lierk and the Campus Ministry staff, and all of the students who helped get the word out. He also had these words to say . . .

"Currently there are 62 alumni, that I am aware of, serving around the world. Many are away from their families this holiday season, serving in distant lands from the North and South Korean border, Afghanistan, Iraq, to at sea on the world's oceans. Today is about giving thanks for the many forms of service that Padres do, but being a man or woman of service in the military takes a different type of person. He or she learns the value of the Constitution firsthand. His or her sacrifices are many. By its very nature, the military man or woman's life is restricted. Sacrifice is not something one talks about, it is shown everyday. I remember missing Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day with family and friends because I was at sea. I remember shipmates missing the births of their children. I recall having to miss Mass because priests are not assigned to submarines. I remember hearing who won the Super bowl a week after it took place. We didn't even have a medical doctor on the boat. I remember the smell of fresh air for the first time after 75 days at sea. But I consider myself one of the lucky ones, because I wasn't getting shot at. This project was bittersweet, however. In the process I came across the names of seven grads who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country, their lives."

A moment of silence was taken to remember the following Padres who are not with us today and not forgotten by their fellow Padre brothers.

[Capt. Steven Begehr '85](#) USMC, KIS 9/18/95

[SGT John Raymond Driscoll III '57](#) ARMY KIA 7/04/69

[1st Lt. Stephen Scott '72](#) USMC, KIS 2/13/80

[LTJG James Patrick Shea '58](#) NAVY KIA, 4/20/65

[PFC Philip Jeremiah Smith '63](#) USMC, KIA, 2/03/67

[SPC Richard Alden Vinal '63](#) ARMY, KIA, 4/15/67

[PFC James Matthew Wandro '68](#) USMC, KIA, 6/11/69

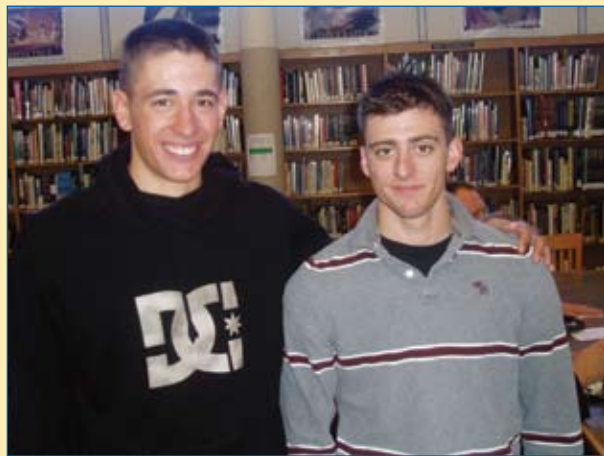


Clifford Brothers (Pictured L to R: Mark Clifford '83 USMC, Andrew Clifford '99 USMC, Christian Clifford '89 USN, and Paul Clifford '83 USMC)

MEN OF FAITH WISDOM & SERVICE



Matt Vidosh '83 USMC, Paul Clifford '83 USMC, Mark Clifford '83 USMC, Brian Bell '83 USMC and Greg Montes '84 USMC



Busalacchi Brothers (Mario '07 & Dominic '05)
LCpl Dominic Busalacchi recently returned from a seven-month tour in Iraq. He is currently taking engineering classes at San Jose State University. Not pictured is their oldest brother Frank Busalacchi '03 USMC, who was commissioned as a second lieutenant on Sept 9th.

Attention Alumni Veterans . . . If you missed this year's deadline to have your name included on our Wall of Honor, you may still submit your information. Each year, we will add more names to our Wall of Honor plaques. Log on to www.serrahs.com and click on "Alumni Wall of Honor" in our Alumni Section, or simply mail your information to Serra High School to the attention of Christian Clifford.



Italo Peruzzaro '57 US Army, Mike Peterson, Ed Sawicky '64 US Army



Brent Rockwell '08, Uncle Dennis Terry '63 (Navy), Cindy Rockwell, Michael Rockwell '06



Michael Grogan with son Greg '11

Padre Dad Returns Home Safely from Deployment in Iraq

Mr. Michael Grogan, father of Jeffrey '07 and Greg '11, recently returned from an almost full year deployment in Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq. Since the beginning of the school year in August, Greg has offered a prayer intention for his father during the daily prayer requests in his 1st period Theology class. When Greg announced that his father was returning home, the class decided that it would be nice to meet Mr. Grogan and welcome him home, not to mention thank him for the service he provided to his country. On Monday, December 3, Mr. Ed Taylor and his first period Theology class were honored to have Mr. Grogan spend the period with them. Mr. Grogan spoke about his experiences and answered questions. This was followed by a small reception when the students presented Mr. Grogan with a Serra Padre t-shirt. Mr. T. and his class would like to thank Mr. Grogan for taking the time to visit the classroom. It was nice putting a face on the man for whom they had been praying.

For School and Country

by Andrew Comstock '10



On Tuesday, October 16, 2007, I was privileged to attend the 33rd Global Conference of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce in Manila. My name is Andrew Comstock. I am 15 years old and a sophomore at Serra High School.

I earned the right to attend this conference in the Philippines by volunteering at Seton Medical Center. I started volunteering at Seton Medical Center in late 2005. At that time, I was the youngest volunteer at Seton Hospital at the age of 13. Through Seton Medical Center, I accessed volunteer opportunities at the Daly City Colma Chamber of Commerce and the Daly City Police Activities League. I have truly enjoyed my volunteer experiences in Daly City.

Daly City is one of the few west-coast cities that have an Asian majority in its population, and the majority of that demographic is Filipino. From volunteering at these places I was invited to volunteer and attend this prestigious conference in the Philippines along with several members of the Daly City-Colma Chamber of Commerce. In all I earned 84 hours of volunteer time in 2006. Many of them were secondary to my meeting, making contacts and negotiating with other delegates of the conference. I not only met with Filipino business leaders and ambassadors, but also with representatives from all over the entire world.

The plane ride to the Philippines is 13 hours long. It gives you plenty of time to think. Even though I would be away for 10 days, I took pride in the fact that I would be representing both my school and my country. I dreamt of the possible adventures in Manila, Hong Kong and Macau.

Our first night in the Philippines we were honored at a dinner hosted by Philippine Ambassador to America, Mr.



Former President of the Philippines, His Excellency Fidel Ramos, Andrew Comstock '10 and Andrew's father, Jim Comstock

Albert Del Rosario. The Ambassador turned out to be a very nice man and in the next ten days I would be a guest at his house, and at the famous Manila Polo Club, where he liked to relax. After ten days, he started to call me his nephew. We spent three days in Manila and then it was off to Hong Kong.

There is a saying about Hong Kong, "If New York is the city that never sleeps, then Hong Kong is the city that never blinks." This is the truest sentiment about the city that I have ever heard. Hong Kong is the biggest city that I have ever been in. It is busy, busy, busy. Everything

stays lit up at night and we never went anywhere where we didn't hear the sounds of people and construction.

Our party got a chance to take a hydrofoil ferry over Hong Kong bay to Macau. Macau is a mixture of cultures. It is Chinese in every way, but it still retains its rich history as a Portuguese colony, and finally it is a lot like Las Vegas. Giant American Casinos dominate the landscape. The symbol of Macau is the ruins of St. Paul's Church, an old and beautiful Portuguese mission. Macau, to me, is a perfect blend of Eastern and Western Culture in a vibrant, thriving city. And now, I can say that the farthest east that I have ever traveled is to St. Paul's Church in Macau.

"What impressed me the most was the warmth and kindness of the Filipino people. What disheartened me the most was the tremendous poverty."

Drew Comstock '10

Three days later our council traveled back to Manila for the conference. I happened to be the youngest delegate to both the conference and to sit in the foreign delegates section. I was truly privileged to meet the American Ambassador to the Philippines, Mrs. Kristie Kenney; a woman who I felt exemplified what a positive effect America has on countries that would otherwise struggle in poverty. She shared many stories about the Philippines and she is a strong supporter of American Philippine trade and commerce.

In addition, I had two long conversations with Mrs. Judy Reinke, Trade Counselor of the American Embassy. She not only had brilliant ideas on creating more mutually profitable trade between America and the Philippines, but also had plans to put them into action. She is a very strong believer in people-to-people visits and the need for free trade to flow between both countries.

On the third day of the conference, we were guests at a speech by President Gloria Arroyo. While her speech was focused on recent political instabilities and not trade and commerce,



she stood out as a strong leader and a charismatic speaker as well. After her speech, we were privileged to spend an afternoon with former President of the Philippines, Fidel Ramos at the Ramos Foundation for Peace and Development. Past President Ramos is a very interesting, sociable person. He talked to us about the need for continued support of the Philippines by America and the mutual benefits to be gained by trade and commerce. I spent the most interesting afternoon of my life talking with this distinguished leader on current events in the world. I found out that he is a West Point graduate who has a very strong commitment to democracy.

Counting the return from our excursion to Hong Kong, this is my third visit to the Republic of the Philippines. What impressed me most was the warmth and kindness of the Filipino people. What disheartened me the most was the tremendous poverty. People live and work in unimaginable conditions, conditions that I can't even compare to life in America. Visiting this conference broadened my perspective and it inspires me to work hard in my own community and the global community to rid the world of poverty.



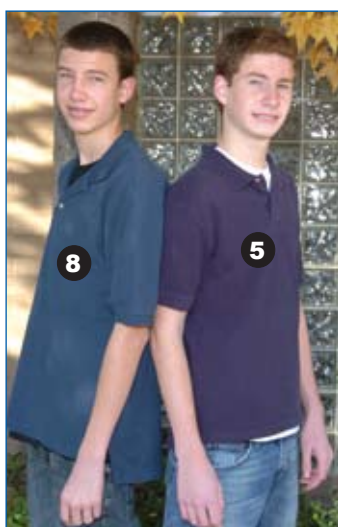
Jim and Andrew Comstock '10 in front of St. Paul's Church, Macau, China

Padre Pairs!

How did you match up?



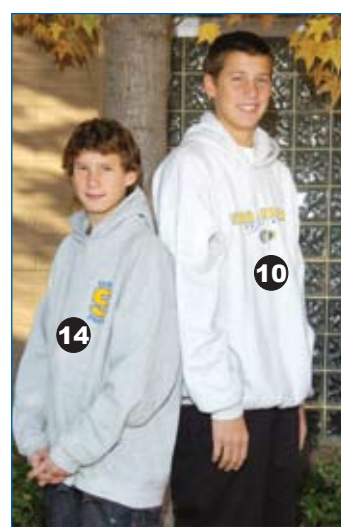
Jonathan & Alexander Cervantes



Andrew & Colin Reid



Frank & Danny Cohen



David & Mitchell Regina



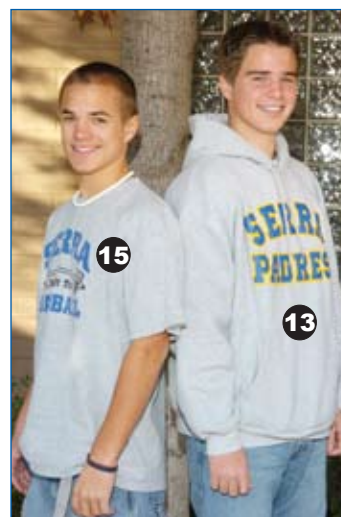
Ben & Peter Dowden



Michael & Max Rulon-Miller



Matthew & Bryan Nichol



Mark & Michael Timko

Sophomore Bradley 'Junípero' Bottoms

Bradley Bottoms '10 smiles for the camera in this confirmation photo with his sponsor, Ena Rico Brand. Ena is the grandmother to [Dustin Romero '07](#), [Devin Romero '09](#) and [Christian Seul '11](#). Bradley chose the confirmation name of Junípero in honor of the spirit of Fr. Junípero Serra and the sense of brotherhood he's come to know and value as a member of the Serra community. His confirmation was held on September 9, 2007 at Church of the Good Shepherd in Pacifica and celebrated by Bishop Ignatius Wang. Fellow Serra Padres receiving their confirmation were sophomores [John Fruehe](#), [Bryan Gomes](#), [Brendan Hart](#) and [Joshua Scerri](#).



"Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle"

It's hard not to see the similarities between being a Serra Padre and being an Eagle Scout. Just like graduation day for a Padre, the Eagle Scout Court of Honor is a very personal event in both the life of an Eagle and that of his family and friends. The similarities, however, do not end there. The lifetime commitments made by a Padre mirror those of an Eagle -- commitments of both honor and responsibility and acceptance of both a "Charge" and a Challenge." Just as we say, "*Once a Padre, Always A Padre,*" the title of Eagle Scout is held for life, thus giving rise to the phrase "*Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle.*"

Several notable Americans have attained this highest rank in scouting, including former President Gerald Ford, Astronaut James Lovell, Actor Jimmy Stewart and former Senator Bill Bradley. Current members of the Serra faculty who have earned their Eagle include Jeff Panos, Michael Peterson, Rob Solari and Ralph Stark -- while current students [Michael Henry Tauskey '10](#) and the Worthge brothers ([Jonathan '08](#) and [Shane '09](#)) have recently joined the ranks of current students and Padre alums who have also earned the rank of Eagle.

Just as we ask our graduating seniors to be "Men of Faith, Wisdom and Service," so does the "Charge" of an Eagle Scout . . .

"As an Eagle Scout (*Serra Padre*) you have assumed a solemn obligation to do your duty to God, to country, to your fellow Scouts (*Padres*) and to mankind. You are here to make the future greater. Be a leader, but lead only towards the best. I charge you to be among those who dedicate their skills and ability to the common good. Build America on the solid foundations of clean living, honest work, unselfish citizenship and reverence for God."



Michael Henry Tauskey '10 and Johnathan Worthge '08 climb Half Dome while on a troop outing this past summer. A total of six Serra scouts and one Serra staff member (Assistant Track Coach and Troop 41 Scoutmaster Walt Worthge) were also on the outing.



Sophomore Corey Sullivan (son of faculty member Tom Sullivan) represented the Bay Area at the 21st World Scout Jamboree held in Chelmsford, England this past summer. Along with fellow members of Boy Scout Troop 416, Corey joined over 40,000 scouts who shared in adventures, international friendships, and personal growth. Celebrating the centennial year of the founding of the scouting movement, the jamboree theme was "One World, One Promise."

ATTENTION PADRE EAGLES!

We are in the process of accumulating names of all Padre "Eagles." If you are an Eagle or currently a scout working towards your Eagle, please let us know. Log on to Serra's website at www.serrahs.com and click on the "Alumni" section to complete our online form or e-mail mwilkinson@serrahs.com.

Serra Supports A Very Special Toy Box



Pictured above with Santa getting the toys ready for delivery are freshmen Michael DeLuna, Giancarlo Gavidia, Tony Fahy and Greg Grogan

For the ninth consecutive year, Serra High School students have collected toys and donations to benefit "A Very Special Toy Box," a non-profit program which supplies hospitals with toys for children undergoing cancer treatments. The program was established by Nancy Torres nearly thirty years ago and currently assists eleven hospitals equipped with pediatric oncology units treating children with cancer. Throughout the year, her efforts provide support for children with cancer who, after receiving bone marrow, chemo, radiation and spinal treatments, can unlock the toy box and choose a new toy. Instrumental in this year's Serra toy collection were the theology classes of Ed Taylor and the algebra classes of Bruce Anthony and Randy Vogel. Art teacher Peg Farrell supported Nancy's

toy box with a generous cash donation from the proceeds of her classes' Winter Art Show. Interact President [Hanna Malak '08](#) was joined by fellow students on a shopping spree using student donated money to shop for additional toys to make this year's toy drive the most successful ever.

Serra Faculty . . . More than just great teachers

Serra Faculty Members Take On Alcatraz Swim



Serra faculty members Tom Sullivan, Will McCarthy and Eric Plett

by Faculty Member Eric Plett

The Alcatraz swim was and is great. The water was a frigid 58°F, but the views are incredible -- the Bay Bridge and Treasure Island on your left and the Golden Gate on your right. The waves and cold are challenging, even when wearing a wet suit. For many, it's a life goal. What other chance do you get to swim from "The Rock" to Aquatic Park? Every time I drive over the Golden Gate Bridge, I take a quick peak out to Alcatraz and imagine myself swimming in. From that vantage point it looks like a long way from the rock in to safety!

This was my second Alcatraz swim -- both times with Serra faculty. The first

time (2001), I swam the 1.5 mile distance with Will McCarthy and Ted Morton. Of the three of us, I was the first one finished with a disappointing time of 45 minutes. Willis had trouble standing after being in the icy water for over an hour! He was treated for hypothermia in the first aid tent after the event -- trying to raise his body temperature.

We were much better prepared in 2007 under the guidance of first-timer Tom Sullivan. Tom had us very prepared. We trained in the spring three to four times a week in Serra's pool. We even went to swim in Aquatic Park two days prior for a "dry" run, trying out our wet suits. It was good for me because I realized that I had better borrow a hood from triathlete and colleague, Mary Dowden.

I was very excited to go 41 minutes this time and owe a lot of it to Tom. Willis improved his previous time by 15 minutes dropping down to a 45 minute finish! It was Tom's first time and even though he was well prepared, he was a little overwhelmed with it all -- swallowing water early on, then completing the swim in 53 minutes. Willis and I, with our previous experience, were much more businesslike about it all knowing what we were up against.

We all finished alive and well, vowing to conquer the Bay again next spring - June 2008!

My BOSTON MARATHON EXPERIENCE

By Mark Goyette

As I was lying awake at 2 a.m. listening to the sideways rain pound the windows of our hotel room, I couldn't help but think that this wasn't the way I had envisioned my Boston Marathon experience. It was April 16, 2007. If not the culmination of a running career, certainly this was a landmark event and I had hoped for better conditions. I was mentally reviewing the checklist of gear that I would need for about the twentieth time and finally decided to get up and make some tea. I looked out the window and surveyed the Charles River below. Whitecaps marked the surface and even in the dark I could see the spray being blown off the river by the 50 mph gusts.

The Nor'easter that had begun to blow in on Saturday was in full force. Being a lifelong California resident, I had gone on line to look up some information about Nor'easters. I wasn't comforted. There had even been some discussion about canceling the race for only the second time in the 111-year history of the event. For now, I had about three hours to ponder my race strategy before it was time to eat breakfast. Being only my second marathon, I was going to have to rely on my many experiences running shorter distances.

I thought of my first Cross Country and Track coach, Fred Pearson, at Camino School who instructed us with firmness and compassion and drove home the idea that during a race you have the responsibility to try and pass the person in front of you. I thought of the many ways that Jim Myers, my coach at El Dorado High School, motivated us and pushed us and made the sport of running fun. Finally, I thought of John Pappa, my Cross Country coach at UC Davis. He was a football star at Cal in the early 1950's and understood high-level competition and how to mold the minds and shape the spirits of athletes. From each of these men, I borrowed liberally to form my own career as a coach here at Junipero Serra High School and now at Our Lady of Angels School in Burlingame. To these coaches and to these schools I felt a responsibility to run well. I also hoped to gain a bit of karma from any or all parts of my running past.

Finally, it was time to get up, get dressed, eat, and meet the charter bus at 7 a.m. that would take us to the starting line in the little hamlet of Hopkinton, Massachusetts. Hopkinton is directly west of Boston, which means the race runs due east the entire way, into the teeth of those Nor'easter winds. The winds were so strong that some of the many buses headed to Hopkinton that morning were pulling off of the highway to wait for better conditions. One of the old bards on our bus who was running his 26th consecutive Boston Marathon mused, "best case scenario, the rain stops; worst case scenario, hypothermia and death." He wasn't smiling.

Once at Hopkinton High School which was the staging area for the race, all of the usual pre-race rituals were out of the question. I tried to go for a quick warm-up jog and got soaked. Back on the bus, I sat down and tried to think clearly about what to wear. This was going to be critical and I told myself not to be influenced by others. Everyone responds to the cold differently, and I needed to make the right choices for me. The difficult part is planning for 3-4 hours out in the weather. A runner's needs at the end of a marathon might be much different than their needs at the beginning. People on our bus were getting very tense and making some bad decisions regarding what to wear. My plan was to stay as dry as possible before the race, and then go with the minimum amount of clothing that I thought would prevent hypothermia. This meant sacrificing my warm-up plan, which I had never done in all my years of racing.

Finally, it was 9:30 a.m., half an hour before race time, and time to get into the "corrals" or starting areas. These are set up according to qualifying times. What this meant for all the runners was half an hour of standing in the rain, trying to jog in place to stay warm. The disposable rain gear was coming in handy. At 10 a.m. the starting gun went off and everyone was glad to finally be running. This was it. I was finally running the Boston Marathon!

A few moments of the race stand out. After five miles, the rain began to let up and I remember thinking, "please let this be the end of the storm." It was still cold and windy and I was far too wet, but at least no more rain. The small New England towns along the course look like each could be on a postcard. Ashland, Framingham, Natick, and Wellesley were all picturesque and the fact that I noticed them during a race says much about their charm. Did I mention Wellesley? The traditional halfway point where the women of Wellesley College come out in force to cheer on the runners in a way only the Wellesley Women could. Cheers! This was a great boost to my spirits and carried me for the next couple of miles. At sixteen miles I approached the famed "heartbreak hill" which is actually a series of hills ending near the 21 mile mark. It was here that I began to realize that my race was not going to end as I had planned.



Serra faculty member Mark Goyette

AROUND THE HALLS

My Boston Marathon Experience by Mark Goyette
continued from page 19

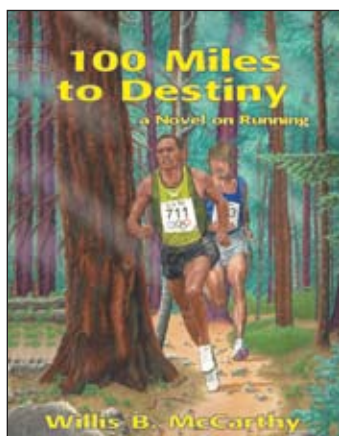
I charged the first hill and convinced myself that I felt fine and that my legs felt good and my feet felt bouncy. This was a lie, but the mind is a powerful tool. The next small rise I took with authority, but I was paying a steep price. In reality I felt overheated and my legs felt wobbly. At the aid station near the 18-mile mark, I slowed almost to a stop, drank Gatorade, poured two cups of water on my head and reached for my Advil in the small pocket of my shorts. Gone. I must have spilled them somehow. I surged back onto the course and caught the runners I had just been with. The steepest and longest hill starts just after the 19-mile marker. I started up this hill and knew it was over. I would struggle the rest of the way.

At 22 miles, I looked up and saw my good friend and training partner Joe Dito having an equally bad day. I made a pathetic surge to catch up to him and we ran the last four miles together trying to make some sense of the day. This was fate and a blessing. I had averaged 44 miles a week in training since July 1st and much of it was with Joe. It was only fitting that we got to finish together. The crowds along the course were huge and very supportive. This I will never forget. My wife Anne and our three children, Emma, Aidan, and Eoin were there to cheer me on at the finish. 3:42:03. Not what I had wanted and yet, for once I was trying to enjoy the experience. Mostly, I am proud of the time and the training and the dedication that gave me a chance to take part in the world's oldest and most famous marathon. I hope to come back someday.



Training partner Joe Dito &
Serra faculty member Mark Goyette
finishing the Boston Marathon

A PERSONAL QUEST FOR SERRA TEACHER WILL MCCARTHY



Serra chemistry teacher and cross country coach Will McCarthy has a great story to tell – a story of passion, a story of the human spirit. So he says in the opening of his preface in his self-published work of fiction, “*100 Miles to Destiny, a Novel on Running*.” McCarthy writes, “In the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred eighty-four, three hundred seventy men and women assembled at the base of Squaw Valley near Lake Tahoe to participate in an inaugural 100 Mile Endurance Run World Championship. I was one of the participants. The 1984 race, the eighth edition of the Western States Trail Run, spawned the idea of this novel.”

An avid runner for twenty-five years, Coach McCarthy has run races of half mile track runs to 100 mile endurance runs and, after concluding his running career in 2000, he took up writing. Taking creative writing classes at the College of San Mateo, plus working part time on the novel for six years between his commitments of parenting, teaching and coaching, he completed the novel last summer.

The book's setting is the Western States Trail, a trail Will is quite familiar with since he has run this particular race four times. The time is the 1984 Olympics hosted by the city of Los Angeles, and athletes have arrived at Squaw Valley to compete in an inaugural event. The reader has the opportunity to experience the Western States Trail through an international cast of characters. McCarthy elaborates, “Character development was my most formidable task as I attempted to capture the essence of a nationality within an athlete running in an endurance run with a global audience. My intent was to take the reader not only to the trail, but also to the 1984 Olympics with all the details of an international competition. No question, the book represents the grandest undertaking of my life.”

McCarthy tried to find a suitable publisher or literary agent for three years with little success. “The few offers I received were from publishing or literary agencies that had inflated images of themselves and poor reputations to match when I made further inquiries,” McCarthy said. “Since I could not let this project die, I made the difficult decision to self-publish. There are so many obstacles and costs to self-publishing a novel and I’m still learning as I proceed.”

Twenty-two years ago in a small cottage near Moncrivello, Italia, Will McCarthy sat at an antique wooden table and began writing notes about an Olympic 100 mile endurance run on the Western States Trail. Despite not pursuing his goal of writing the novel for fifteen years, thoughts and ideas continued to percolate until ultimately, he began his personal quest to bring the book to print. Now he has accomplished that and from early reports of readers he has indeed written a story of passion and spirit.

Will concludes, “I think we all have a story to tell – this one happens to be mine.”

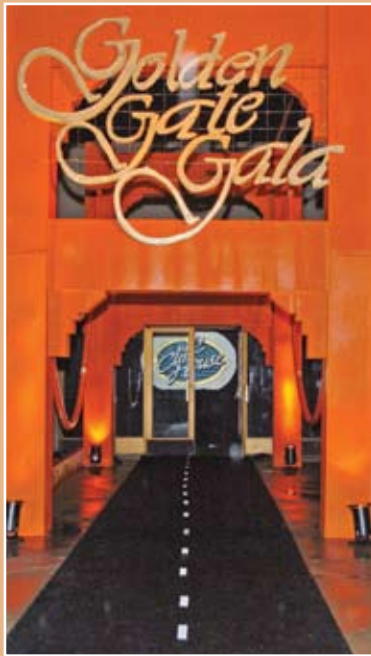
For more information or to purchase a copy of the paperback,
you may contact Mr. McCarthy at Serra or view his website at:
WWW.100MILESTODESTINY.COM

2007 ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION

Serra's Annual Benefit Auction, a "Golden Gate Gala," was one of our most successful fund raising events in Serra history. Due to the tremendous amount of generosity and the hard work of countless dedicated volunteers, we were able to net over \$250,000!

For the second year in a row our dedicated co-chairs Angi DiPaola, Jackie Cooper, Kathy Flynn and Theresa Stoye worked thier magic to transform Serra High School into the "City by the Bay" and provide hundreds of guests with a golden night to remember!

Thanks to the following leadership volunteers for all of their hard work and support: Caroline Bottoms, Margaret Brummer, Pam Butler, Sue Calderon, Leanne Ciardi, Joan Dentler, Lana Greco, Marisa Henze, Barb Maciel, Diane Mazzoni, Linda McCollum, Tami Mey, Joe Raccanello, Fran Raccanello, Scott Regina, Janine Regina, Kris Robinson, Cindy Rockwell, Barbara Sabean, Alexa Smith, Richard Smith, Rebecca Smith, Robin Strombom, Tonette Timko, Jim Toomey, Jeanne Urich and Jane Zoucha.



Please accept our sincere apologies if we have mistakenly omitted any names.

SERRA'S 2007 IN VIA AWARD PRESENTED TO *The "Dooleys"*



Junípero Serra's 2007 In Via Award was a bit out of the ordinary this year, but that's only because the recipients of the award are quite *extraordinary*!

The In Via Award is typically presented to "a non-alumnus who, through word and deed, has given Christian example and has shown on-going support for Serra High School."

However, when the selection committee sorted through an impressive list of candidates, all four of the Dooley's names kept coming up over and over again . . . and as Michael Peterson pointed out during his presentation of the award, "it is very difficult to separate Bob Dooley from John Dooley or Bob Dooley from Sharon or John from Lorraine."

In addition, when the committee began looking at all that these four individuals have unselfishly done over the years, it is virtually impossible to say that one did something without the support of the other.

Thank you "Dooley" family for your incredible volunteer service, continued support and commitment to Serra High School and Catholic Education.

Pictured from L to R:

Principal Lars Lund, John & Lorraine Dooley, Sharon & Bob Dooley, Mike Peterson



SERRA HONORS

Michael Peterson CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

A Colleague Reflects on Michael Peterson's Thirty Years by RANDY VOGEL

It was nearly thirty years ago when I first met Michael Peterson. It was a Saturday morning in the spring of 1978 when we chatted over breakfast at the San Mateo Lyons Restaurant. Mike had just been appointed principal of Junipero Serra High School and the outgoing principal had asked me to meet with Mike to interview him for a feature story in the upcoming parent/alumni newsletter that would introduce him to the Serra community.

At the age of 35, Mike was finishing up his duties as Riordan High School's Assistant Principal, before beginning his 25-year tenure as the first lay Principal of Junipero Serra High School. During Mike's thirty years at the school, both the world and Serra High School have changed dramatically.

Five presidents served our country over Mike's tenure as principal, four Popes led the Catholic Church and the San Francisco 49ers won five Super Bowls. World headlines included the fall of the Berlin Wall, the 9-11 attacks on the U.S., the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, the breakup of the Soviet Union, the capture of Saddam Hussein, the Chernobyl Nuclear accident, the war in Iraq, establishment of the World Wide Web, the Loma Prieta earthquake, the creation of the International Space Station, the tragedy at Columbine, and a Starbucks on every corner.

During these years, we saw the evolution of names and words that had never before been a regular part of our vocabulary, such as e-mail, hanging chads, roll over minutes, iPod, bling-bling, DVDs, Blackberry, Xbox, PacBell Park, Netflix, Survivor's Tribal Council, ESPN, global warming, eBay and hybrid cars. During Peterson's years at Serra, a U.S. Presidential election was decided 35 days after the polls closed, gas prices jumped from .67 cents a gallon to nearly \$4, and Serra grad Tom Brady '95 led the New England Patriots to three Super Bowl wins. It truly is a different world we face today in so many ways.

While at Serra, Peterson has seen more than 6,000 students graduate, worked with over 300 faculty and staff members and has been instrumental in numerous changes in both the school's programs and the physical plant. As principal, he led the efforts to bring computers into the school when computers were a mystery to most people, oversaw the remodeling of the classroom wing, science labs and chapel, directed an up-grade of the athletic facilities, managed the construction of the facility which currently houses the Development, Public Relations and Admission Offices, and added the sports of crew, volleyball and wrestling to Serra's Athletic programs.

In thirty years, there have not been too many Serra events that Mike Peterson has not attended. He is ever present in support of

students and parents in their activities. Mike's enthusiastic dedication to the Serra family is exceeded only by his dedication to and love for his own family. He and his wife Joey, who has taught math at Notre Dame, Belmont for twenty-five years, are the proud grandparents of two-year old Caitlin, and six-month old Hailey, the children of their daughter Kristen (Notre Dame Belmont '92) and her husband Chris Degnan. Their son Carl, a '93 Serra grad, recently became engaged to Heather Dowling.

One of Mike's more enjoyable tasks has been to serve for 20 years as the moderator of Serra's

Fathers' Club, assisting them with the Spring Pot of Gold Raffle (formally known as the Cadillac Raffle), the "Rebuilding Together Program," various weekend service projects throughout both the school and the community, providing dinners for the faculty before evening parent nights, supporting parent socials and fundraising functions and serving as ushers for graduation.

Prior to his hiring at Serra, Mike quickly rose through the education ranks following his graduation from Iona College in New Rochelle, New York. The Chicago native obtained his MA in religious education from Seattle University in 1972 and his Masters in Educational Administration from San Francisco State University in 1976. He



Michael Peterson Family

Pictured from L to R: granddaughter Caitlin, son-in-law Chris Degnan, daughter Kristen (NDB '92), Michael Peterson, wife Joey with granddaughter Hailey, future daughter-in-law Heather Dowling, son Carl '93

began his teaching career in 1964 at Power Memorial Academy in New York, where he served as the Latin Department Chairman for three years. In 1967 he moved to Cantwell High School in Montebello, CA, where he taught Theology and Latin and also served as department chairman. During the 1971-72 school year he was department chairman and Latin teacher at St. Laurence High School in Oaklawn, Illinois. Prior to joining Serra, Mike spent six years at Riordan High School in San Francisco, first as a teacher and then in 1974-1978 as the Assistant Principal.

I never imagined I would be working for the next thirty years with the man I met that spring day in 1978 and that he would become one of my closest friends. As a principal he was always willing to listen, respected others and their ideas, reached out to all segments of the community and truly worked to make Serra a better place. He was

caring, dedicated and tireless as a principal and as a man he is honest, loyal, selfless and compassionate. One teacher commented, "Mike has a leadership style that recognizes the talents of others", while another added, "He has been the heart of Serra for nearly thirty years."

Over the past thirty years Mike Peterson has helped me personally to grow as a professional Catholic educator and has been an extremely supportive friend and colleague. I value his friendship and guidance and sincerely appreciate all he has done for Junipero Serra High School and for me as an individual

Today, Mike Peterson continues to serve the school as Director of Planned Giving and shares his expertise to assist in the school's capital campaign. He still serves as moderator of the Fathers' Club -- a task he enjoys probably as much as the fathers enjoy having him around.

The Best of "Neighbors"

During the 25 years Michael Peterson was Principal at Serra, a wonderful friendship developed with the neighbors at the Carey School (an independent grammar school located directly behind Serra's campus on the "Alameda"). In a recent telephone interview with Clare Carey Willard, one of the daughters of the founders of the Carey School, we asked her to comment on the relationship.

"I believe our friendship with Serra High School and Michael Peterson, in particular, has remained so strong because we have always been committed to the same thing . . . getting young people out into the world to do the good things that God wants them to do," Clare said.

The history of the Carey School dates back to 1928 when Mary Carey, a former teacher, and her husband James T. Carey, a businessman, founded a small pre-school for their two daughters, Mary Therese and Clare. A pioneer in her day, Mrs. Carey believed in early childhood education during a time when pre-school was virtually unheard of and very few schools even had kindergarten.

By the time her oldest daughter, Mary T., was ready for 1st grade, Mrs. Carey became appalled at how reading was being taught in public schools. Specifically, children were instructed to read by sight and memorization alone. The problem, of course, was that if a student came across a word they didn't recognize, they couldn't read it. Mrs. Carey wanted to combine both the sight approach with phonetics in order to teach students to read, as well as to spell. So, rather than send her daughter off to public school, Mrs. Carey decided to add a 1st grade class to her small pre-school. As attendance grew and the children progressed, so did the Carey School. One by one, more grades were added and eventually both daughters graduated from 8th grade at the school their parents had founded. The sisters went on to attend Mercy High School and, upon college graduation, returned to the Carey School to become teachers.

Mary T. and Clare met Michael Peterson when he became Serra's Principal in 1978, and Clare says that he has been a great neighbor and friend ever since.

"Michael has never wavered in his support of the Carey School," Clare said. "We used Serra's track field for our special sport's day; we used the auditorium for musicals and graduation; the classrooms



Clare Carey Willard & Michael Peterson

for costume changes, and Serra even allowed us to use their backdrops and stage settings. I am very grateful for the kind generosity of Mike Peterson and the other administrators. We will be forever thankful to them for making our lives so much easier."

Clare went on to describe the "Friendship Gate" that was created so that the Serra boys could retrieve the playground balls that mysteriously kept finding their way onto Serra's campus. "The 'older' Serra boys were quite popular with the 8th grade girls," Clare said.

In 1989 Mary T. and Clare retired, passing the reins of the Carey tradition to their new Headmaster, Robert Simpson, and the Board of Trustees. Michael Peterson and Clare still continue to remain friends, however, enjoying an occasional lunch or community get together. Clare also

looks forward to Michael's fishing trips because it's not uncommon for him to stop by and deliver a fresh "catch."

Clare ended her interview saying that she was happy to share a bit of the history of her parents' school, but that the true story is not about the Carey School or Serra. "It's about the faculty, staff, parents and students that make up the school," she said. "It's about an amazing man and friend of mine named Michael Peterson who I would like to congratulate and recognize for his 30 years of dedicated service. He is a strong administrator and most importantly a remarkable teacher, which in my opinion is the highest accolade I can give anyone . . . the title of teacher." And then, she shared the following story.

Several years ago, a young boy was asked by his father what he wanted to be when he grew up.

"A teacher," he proudly replied.

"A teacher? questioned his father. "Do you know that teachers don't get paid very much? How about a doctor or a lawyer, or perhaps a scientist?"

"No, I still really want to be a teacher, said the boy. "Any ways, dad, did you know that if you didn't have teachers, you wouldn't have any of those other people?"



Scholarship Named in Honor of Michael Peterson

At a Serra basketball game at Mitty a few years back, Serra dad, David Whitney, and Principal Lars Lund had a conversation. David mentioned how pleased he and his wife, Lori, were with the education their sons were experiencing at Serra. As parents they were heartened by the fact that Serra not only provides a great academic program, but that teachers and staff are primarily committed to the students “total education”— heart, mind and character. David also mentioned the wonderful sense of community evident at Serra among parents, alumni, faculty and students. He indicated that he and Lori wanted to help Serra in a special way.

As time went on, the Whitney family has helped Serra in a number of special ways. First of all, they sent two wonderful young men to Serra who have distinguished themselves in the classroom, in the arena of athletic competition and as Padres who live our school’s mission. A few years back, Lori became a member of our Board of Regents and has played an invaluable role with our Planned Giving efforts. David has been an enthusiastic supporter of our baseball, basketball and wrestling programs. Last year, they indicated that they wanted to do even more for Serra and asked Principal Lund what he felt the school’s most urgent need was.

Principal Lars Lund, Lori Whitney, David Whitney, Michael Peterson

Serra who have distinguished themselves in the classroom, in the arena of athletic competition and as Padres who live our school’s mission. A few years back, Lori became a member of our Board of Regents and has played an invaluable role with our Planned Giving efforts. David has been an enthusiastic supporter of our baseball, basketball and wrestling programs. Last year, they indicated that they wanted to do even more for Serra and asked Principal Lund what he felt the school’s most urgent need was.

“My immediate response was financial aid,” Lars said.

Each year, 20% of Serra students receive financial assistance. In response to \$2.3 million in requests, this year Serra awarded \$1 million in financial aid to deserving families. In anticipation of future increases in financial aid requests, we have redoubled our efforts to fund financial aid. Most notably, our Alumni Phon-A-Thon, the annual Fund-A-Dream Luncheon, and the annual Alumni Golf Tournament have added significant funds to this effort. Additionally, our newly established Planned Giving program will be a key component in this effort. To date, thirty individuals have remembered Serra in their wills -- the proceeds of which will increase our endowment in support of financial aid. To this end, David and Lori Whitney generously donated \$25,000 to establish the C. Michael Peterson Endowed Scholarship Fund.

“This is in honor of my predecessor who served as our principal from 1978 to 2003 and is now doing a fantastic job heading up our Planned Giving effort,” said Lars. “The annual interest from this fund will be applied to our financial aid program. Mike Peterson’s faithful service exemplifies the best Serra has to offer, and I am very proud of the fact that his name is attached to this important effort. I urge all members of the Serra Community -- especially alumni and alumni parents -- to support this worthy cause!”

“Finally, I want to personally thank David and Lori Whitney for their dedicated service to Junipero Serra High School,” Lars said.

Up Close & Personal with Michael Peterson

Tell us a bit about your childhood. “I grew up on the South side of Chicago and attended public elementary school. I enjoyed going camping with the scouts and to camp in the summer. I have one brother, George, who is three years younger than me. He lives outside Chicago with his wife, daughter and son.”

Where did you go to High School / College? “I attended Leo High School, taught by the Irish Christian Brothers, which is the same order that teaches at Palma High School in Salinas. I earned my BA from Iona College, my MA in religious education from Seattle University and another MA from San Francisco State University in Educational Administration. Lifetime California Credential.”

What were some of your first jobs? “Delivering papers, cutting lawns, ushering at baseball games (White Sox and Cubs), football games (Chicago Bears and Chicago Cardinals), as well as Black Hawk hockey games, car shows, trade shows, operas and ballets!! I worked three summers for Boy Scout Camps in upstate Michigan for the Chicago Council managing the dining hall for 300 campers for one summer and as director of the aquatic program for another summer.”

Who is a significant person you looked up to in your life? “My father, my scout master and junior English teacher.”

How about some of your personal favorites? Color? “Blue”; Food? “Salmon”; Dessert? Pecan pie with vanilla ice cream.”; Ice Cream Flavor? “Pecan.”; Book? “Seven Storey Mountain by Thomas Merton”; Movie? “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid”; Sport? “Baseball”;

Places to Visit: “Greece and Alaska”

What are your hobbies? “Playing with grandchildren, Caitlin and Hailey, and fishing/camping with friends in the Eastern Sierras.”

Why did you decide to work at Serra? “When I applied for the job as principal, I had already taught at four different schools for 14 years. I believe in Catholic Schools, what they stand for and what they represent, and I thought I could bring something to the family and community of Serra and help it to become an even better school than it already was.

What do you like most about working for Serra? “I love the sense of family and community that I have experienced ever since I first came here in 1978. I have been blessed by meeting and working with so many outstanding people these past 30 years, whether they are students, their parents, alumni, faculty and staff, or just friends of Serra. When I came to Serra, it was almost automatic that our family would become part of the Serra family, whether that was my wife, Joey, who attended almost as many activities as I did throughout the years, our daughter, Kristen, who probably attended almost as many student events as the Serra students and who wanted us to go coed at one time so she could attend Serra, and our son, Carl ’93, who grew up in Serra’s gym and fields even before he went to grammar school. In fact, when Joey taught one class during my first or second year at Serra, Carl was babysat by two seniors throughout the year in my office -- Greg Quigley ’80, presently Principal of College of San Mateo Middle College High School and Michael Callagy ’80, presently Deputy Police Chief of San Mateo Police Department.”

The Faces of Serra's Campus Ministry Team



Paul Casey
Liturgical Coordinator



Patrick Cody
Summer Immersion
Coordinator



Rick Boesen
Retreat Coordinator



Kim Bohnert
Tri-School Ministry
Coordinator



Eric Morin
Christian Service Coordinator

What Happened to the Wall?

by Kyle Lierk, Director of Campus Ministry

Those Serra students who have been bold enough to cross the threshold of the Campus Ministry office this year have noticed something quite different from years past. A commonly heard exclamation has been, "What happened to the wall?!" While not nearly as dramatic as the destruction of the wall between East and West Berlin in 1989, the demolition of the wall that divided the Campus Ministry office during the summer of 2007 has received its own share of attention. Rather than feeling liberated, some students have expressed feelings of loss. They no longer have their own corner of the world complete with couches and bereft of adults.

In his poem, "Mending Wall," Robert Frost ponders the need for a stone wall that separates him from his neighbor. "Something there is that doesn't love a wall, that wants it down," reads one of the most powerful lines of the poem. The words challenge the tradition that has always called for an artificial separation between lands and people. Jesus Christ does the same when, in John's Gospel, he rises from the dinner table where his followers are seated. He proceeds to wash their feet—a task of the day reserved only for the lowliest servant of the house. In this simple act, Jesus models a servant leadership that brings people together. He punctuates his actions with that profound command, "As I have done for you, you should also do." (JN 13:15)

These words are sledgehammers, destroying walls of arrogance, pride, or entitlement between groups of people in the human family. It is upon the rubble of this destruction that Jesus prepares to take his place on the cross and, through his resurrection, become the bridge across the divide—to stand as a doorway in the wall between heaven and earth. We in Campus Ministry have accepted Jesus' challenge to become servant leaders as our primary mission at Serra High School and to form the students to do the same.

Already this year, students have engaged in some serious "demolition" work themselves. A group of 15 seniors chose to go on an optional overnight retreat at a high ropes course in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Using the experience of believing in themselves and each other while dangling 60 feet off the ground in redwood trees, they talked about the challenges they face as seniors: getting into their first choice college; encountering death for the first time through the loss of a friend or family member; struggling to claim their own independence. Another group of students who make up the Big Brother program raised over \$6,000 and a plethora of non-perishable food items for 22 families through Serra's Adopt-A-Family program. They selflessly climbed over the wall that society constructs between the "haves" and the "have-nots." Even our liturgies at Serra tear down walls. Responding to the Church's call that the faithful are to be "full, active, conscious" participants in the Mass, students willingly fill ministries ranging from serving at the altar to preparing and delivering a student reflection on the Gospel to practicing and leading prayer with music as a student band.

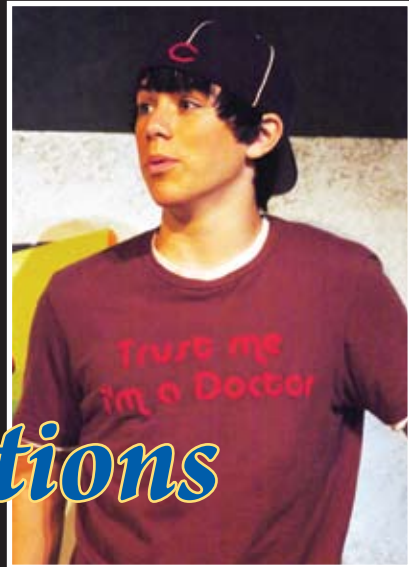
The wall has come down! While we honor the change this has caused, we also celebrate the possibilities it provides. May Jesus continue to put the sledgehammer in our hands and the words in our hearts, "As I have done for you, you should also do" so that all of us can come together in a mission to serve one another. It is in this act that the door cracks open ever so slightly, and we get a glimpse of the splendor of heaven on earth.

We in Campus Ministry have accepted Jesus' challenge to become servant leaders as our primary mission at Serra High School and to form the students to do the same.

Kyle Lierk, Director of
Campus Ministry

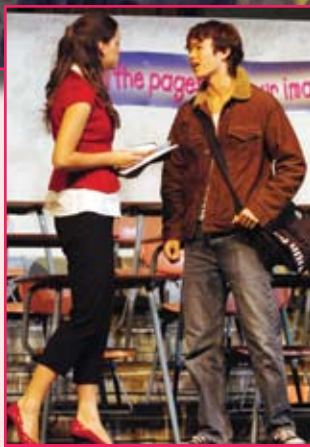
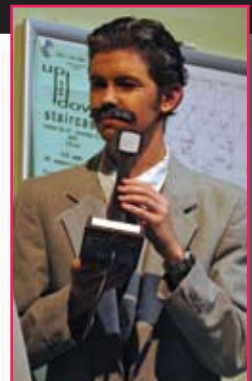
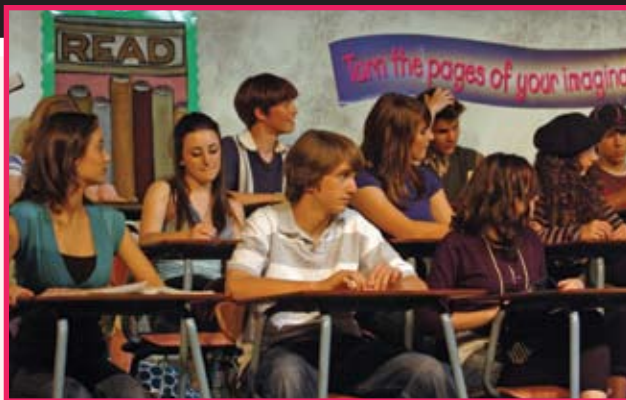
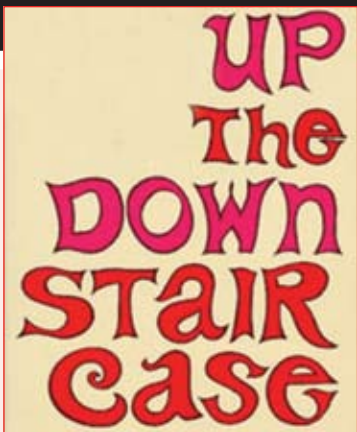


Kyle Lierk
Director of Campus Ministry



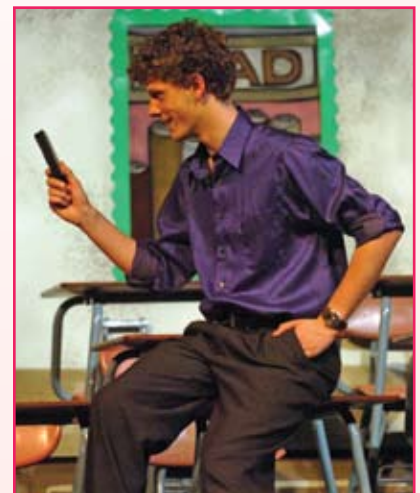
Tri School Productions

Mercy ☆ Notre Dame ☆ Serra



Tri-School Productions (Mercy ☆ Notre Dame ☆ Serra) packed Serra's Gellert Auditorium during each of their Fall performances of *"Up the Down Staircase."*

Originally a semi-autobiographical best-selling novel by author Bel Kaufman, *"Up the Down Staircase"* tells the story of an idealistic young college graduate, Sylvia Barrett, who becomes an English teacher hoping to share her love of classic literature and writing with her students. However, her idealism is challenged by her overbearing colleagues and spirited students who inhabit Calvin Coolidge High School, a fictitious New York city high school.



"Up the Down Staircase" was first staged at Serra in 1985 under the direction of Fr. Joe Bravo. During that production, Michael (Eddie) Trucco '87 made his star debut as Joe Ferone. Trucco has gone on to become a star on television and in film.



“Up the Down Staircase” **Cast**

Dr. Maxwell Clark..... Alex Jordan (S)
 Sylvia Barrett..... Hannah Ruwe (NDB)
 Beatrice Schachter..... Jessica Malekos-Smith (M)
 Paul Barringer..... Alex Maggi (S)
 J.J. McCabe..... Addison Goss (S)
 Ellla Friedenberg..... Lindsay Saier (NDB)
 Frances Egan..... Samantha Gatt (NDB)
 Charlotte Wolf..... Claire Neubert (NDB)
 Samuel Bester..... Eric Foard (S)
 Sadie Finch..... Sarah Hegarty (NDB)
 Lou Martin..... Lucas Gust (S)
 Lennie Neumark..... Joey Dal Broi (S)
 Carole Blanca..... Katherine Russell (NDB)
 Alice Blake..... Amanda Downing (M)
 Vivian Paine..... Cristina Barraza (M)
 Rusty O'Brien..... Peter Morrow (S)
 Linda Rosen..... Stephany Swenson (NDB)
 Jose Rodriguez..... James Giusti (S)
 Carrie Blaine..... Hannah Lehr (M)
 Harry Kagan..... Owen McInnis (S)
 Jill Norris..... Kristen Schulz (NDB)
 Rachel Gordon..... Anna Rivers (NDB)
 Elizabeth Ellis..... Gina Calabese (M)
 Charles Arrons..... Chris Issel (S)
 Edward Williams..... Corey Sullivan (S)
 Joe Ferone..... Jon Nowakowski (S)
 Helen Arbuzzi..... Angela Picone (M)
 Francine Gardner..... Amy Kuhn (M)
 Katherine Wolzow..... Jenise Lynae Spiteri (M)
 Ellen..... Emma Jepsen (M)

Director - Dan Demers '01

Production Manager - Tom Sullivan '81

Senior Brian McKee - One of Four Winners in Peninsula Youth Symphony Concerto Competition

Brian McKee '08, a four-year member of the Serra Symphonic Band, was honored recently by being selected as one of four winners in the Peninsula Youth Symphony Concerto Competition. Each year, the highly regarded and internationally recognized local orchestra, holds open auditions for its members to compete for coveted featured solos during their spring and summer concerts. Brian McKee, a bassoonist with impeccable technique and gorgeous tone quality was one of four winners out of 75 applicants. Brian will be performing the Mozart Bassoon Concerto in Bb, K191 at a PYO concert this Spring.

Alumni VPA NEWS!

Ryan Svendsen '06, a UCLA sophomore music major, got the thrill of a lifetime when a friend of his in charge of the UCLA Contemporary Jazz Ensemble asked him to play with Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter. It was at a benefit concert for the International Committee Artists for Peace (ICAP), an organization where Hancock, Shorter and Carols Santana serve as members of the Board of Directors.



Jazz Musician Herbie Hancock
and Ryan Svendsen '06

Ryan commented, “It felt amazing to play with jazz legends and to make a difference in the world at the same time. All tickets sales went towards an organization for world peace while providing people with once in a life time live music. Both Wayne Shorter and Herbie played with the great Miles Davis quintet, as well as numerous other legends and it was such an honor to share the stage with them. It was an experience I will never forget.”

MICHAEL TRUCCO '88 TO STAR IN NBC PILOT “MAN OF YOUR DREAMS”



Michael Trucco '88

As a freedom fighter (recently revealed Cylon Sam Anders on “Battlestar Galactica,”) Michael Trucco hasn’t had too many laugh-out-loud moments. Nonetheless, NBC and Conan O’Brien think he has the chops to lead a comedy pilot. Trucco has taken the lead role in “Man of Your Dreams,” a pilot about a cad who puts his skills to use in helping women find romance.

The pilot is slated to go into production soon after the writers’ strike ends, whenever that may be. In the meantime Trucco will continue working on the final season of “Battlestar Galactica,” which is scheduled to air in April.

Trucco does have some comedy credits on his resume, having guest-starred on “Joey” and “Sabrina, the Teenage Witch.” His credits also include “One Tree Hill” and the feature film “Next.”

excerpts taken from tv.zap2it.com

PADRE FOOTBALL

The 2007 Padre football squad blazed to a second place finish in the always tough WCAL. They finished strong by winning their last three league games over SI, Mitty and undefeated Bellarmine, ending the season with a 7-4 record (4-2 in league play) under Coach Patrick Walsh.

The Padres, facing one of the toughest schedules in all of California, started off strong with a dominating win over Fresno Area league champs Buchanan (41-7) behind the running of [Tiuke Tuipulotu](#), [DeLeon Eskridge](#) and [Cody Jackson](#). They traveled next to Concord to face national powerhouse and state champion De La Salle, where the Padres couldn't pull out a win -- although they did score the second most points De La Salle surrendered all year in a 40-22 loss.

Bouncing back from the disappointing defeat, Serra manhandled defending Nevada state champs McQueen High School of Reno with the help from running back Eskridge, who provided four touchdowns, scoring in four different ways (passing, rushing, receiving and punt return). After the big win over McQueen, the Padres set numerous records against Gilroy in their last preseason game. The Serra running attack against TCAL champion and CCS finalist Gilroy set a school rushing record with 498 yards, led by strong running from Tuipulotu who gained 152 yards, Eskridge (110), Jackson (95) (4 touchdowns) and [JP Hurrell](#) (79) in their 52-31 victory. The Padres finished their powerful pre-season schedule with a 3-1 record ready to begin WCAL play.

Serra began their league play against rival St. Francis and, despite the always strong rushing by the Padres, they were not able to convert their long drives into touchdowns leaving the door open for the Lancers to complete a heartbreaking 13-10 upset. With an 0-1 start to the WCAL season, the Padres came firing back at the homecoming night game against Valley Christian, where Walsh's crew shut down the Warriors 39-22 led by Eskridge's 190 yards rushing. A

mistake filled, frustrating 20-3 loss to Riordan was followed by a tough week of practice. The Padres came fully prepared to take on the rest of their WCAL opponents with vengeance.

The Padres traveled to SI where what seemed to be a one man wrecking crew named junior [Jared Braun](#), making his first start at fullback, rushed for 211 yards and three scores to lead Serra to a 25-13 win. Gaining momentum from the SI win, the Padres took on Mitty who couldn't stop the Padre offense. The defense stepped up its game shutting down Mitty's high powered attack to lead the team to a 35-14 victory paced by Eskridge's 173 rushing yards and three touchdowns.

Coming into the final game of the season, Serra took on undefeated and league champion Bellarmine for Senior Day at Jesse Freitas Field where arguably one of the most exciting finishes in Serra football history took place.

After a first quarter touchdown by senior [Tyler Tuiasosopo](#), the game remained stagnant until late in the second quarter when Bellarmine scored to tie. Bellarmine began the second half with a score to move ahead 14-7, but the Padres responded in the fourth quarter to close the gap on a [Greg Guttas](#) field goal making it 14-10. After a Bell turnover, the Padres scored on a Tiuke Tuipulotu run to make it 17-14 with 1:31 left on the game clock. As the packed crowd of Padre faithful cheered the fortunate turn of events, the momentum again shifted when the Bells quickly marched down the field in three plays to go back ahead 20-17 with only 49 seconds left in the game! But



Coach Walsh and the Padres still had something left as they picked up a couple key first downs on passes from Jackson to Eskridge that led them to the 4 yard-line with 14 seconds left. Tuipulotu then pounded into the end zone for a score to put the game in the victory column for the Padres and end Bellarmine's perfect season.

The Padres drew the powerful Bells once again in the first game of the CCS Open Division Playoffs, where another extremely hard fought contest cumulated in a 20-19 Bellarmine win ending the Padres dream of a CCS title. Despite the loss, the Padres produced a very successful season making huge strides and proving once again that Serra is a powerful and elite high school football program. The Padres had strong rushing performances by Eskridge with 832 yards and eight TD's (also two punt return TD's), quarterback Jackson with 909 rushing yards and 14 TD's (490 pass yards and four TD's), Tuipulotu for 624 yards and four TD's and [Braun](#) for 434 yards and four TD's accumulating over 3,451 total rushing yards on the season -- second best in school history. [Andrew Cullins](#) led the receiving attack with 304 receiving yards and three TD's. Senior linebacker [Sean Sabean](#) was a force on defense leading the team in tackles with 51 total tackles. Other dominant defenders included Tuipulotu with 40.5 total tackles, [Marquise Jones-Carr](#) with 39 and UC Berkeley bound [Hurrell](#) who had 36.5. Junior defensive end [Doug Caldwell](#), who had 34.5 total tackles, led the team with 4.5 sacks. [Pat West](#) (27 total tackles) and Matt Calderon each had three of Serra's twelve interceptions. The Padre defense set a new record for the Coach Walsh era of 29 turnovers recovered to the previous 28 in 2003.

Tuipulotu, Hurrell, Jackson, Eskridge, Cullins and Sabean earned First team All-WCAL honors, while second team honors went to Caldwell, [Andrew Bakhtiari](#) and [Kris Hart](#).



JV FOOTBALL

The JV Football team, second in league with a record of 4-2, finished with two strong wins against Mitty and the Bells. Coach Perry Carter's team had a lot of talent and worked hard. Players contributing to the team's success included [Matt Vinal](#), a two-way starter at quarterback and strong safety and [Jamal Shouman](#), a two way starter at fullback and linebacker. [Stephen Favetti](#) and [Paul Bevilaqua](#) were the anchors of the offensive and defensive line, while [Don Andre Clark III](#) was an offensive threat as a receiver or wing and as a special teams returner. [Eric Tuipoluto](#) and [Joey Lopez](#) were consistent players on both sides of the football. Coach Carter feels that they will definitely help out as varsity players next year.

FROSH FOOTBALL

The Serra Frosh Football team (5-1 in league and 6-2 overall) finished a spectacular season with a thrashing of previously undefeated Bellarmine 48-7 to earn the WCAL freshman title under first year head Coach Eric Morin. [Alex Bravo](#) (team MVP), [Robert Herrera](#) (Most Valuable Offensive Back) and [Andy McAlindon](#) (Offensive MVP) on offense led the Padres over the Bells as they scored 41 of Serra's 48 points, while [Johnny Maurino](#) (Defensive MVP), [Michael Tatola](#) (Iron Man Award Winner) and [Ryan Simpson](#) (Most Valuable Defensive Back) led the defense. [Juan Rodriguez](#) (Most Improved Player) had an interception that he returned to the house to help seal the deal and clinch the first WCAL frosh title for Serra since 1986. Others earning end of season awards and contributing to the championship performance include Most Valuable Offensive Lineman [Cameron Ciano](#), Most Valuable Defensive Lineman [Evan Aguilar](#), Most Valuable Receiver [John Vincent](#), Most Inspirational Player [Evan Williams](#) and Special Teams Award Winner [Parker Toms](#). The Padres' future continues to look bright.

Thanks to [Benny Robbins '09](#) and [Parker Toms '11](#) who contributed to this story.



PADRE Cross Country

Serra's Varsity cross-country team ended its 2007 season at the CCS Championships held at Crystal Springs. The Padres missed qualifying for the State Championships by one spot, as they finished third in CCS. Senior [Oran Arms](#) ran a time of 16:03 to pace the team. Arms was the only Padre to earn First-Team All WCAL honors.

Seniors [Dominic Chelini](#) and [Spencer McLeod](#), along with juniors [Mitch Council](#), [David Motamed](#) and [Kevin Corley](#), all ran personal best times at the CCS meet.

The JV team finished third in WCAL. Several runners broke the elusive 18-minute barrier. The JV team was led by [Sam Schneider](#), [Andrew Schwenk](#) and [Kyle Costanzo](#).

Special congratulations to the sophomore team who took the WCAL championship, edging out St. Francis. The Padres were led to victory by [Andrew Gaddis](#), freshman standout [Daniel Colom](#) and [Brandon Norwood](#).

The freshman team finished third in WCAL with several runners making huge improvements in their times at the WCAL III meet. [Ford Milligan](#), [Andrew Menzel](#) and [Tommy Pastorino](#) all improved greatly to run impressive times at the Crystal Springs course.

Thanks to Oran Arms '08 and Sam Schneider '09 who contributed to this story.



PADRE Water Polo



Another WCAL water polo season proved to be tough as the Padres finished .500 in league, 13-14 overall. The team's strength and determination showed as Serra constantly faced top ranked teams from all around the Bay Area. Much of this squad's success can be attributed to top scoring threats Travis Greco, who lead the team with 68 goals, Zak Chierici (62 goals) and Danny Marchette (32 goals) along with superb defense from 2-meter defensive player Connor Toomey and goalie Lucas Ottoboni who blocked close to 200 shots. Scott Morton also contributed with hard nosed play in the hole set.

Greco was this season's MVP while Toomey was named Most Improved and Morton receiving the Coaches Award.

Named to First Team All-WCAL was Greco while Chierici and Ottoboni were named Second Team All-WCAL. Greco was also honored as he was named to Second Team All-CCS.

Coach Bob Greene was honored by the Central Coast Section and his peers by being named CCS 2007 Honor Coach for Water Polo.

Thanks to Connor Toomey '08 who contributed to this story.





Douglas Li '99 & Alison Huber NDB '99
NDB Junior/Senior Prom

Training, the endurance-training division of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, to honor the memory of a friend who he says, "is the catalyst for all of his physical pursuits."

Growing up in Redwood City, Alison Huber attended Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, graduating from Notre Dame Belmont in 1999. A tenacious athlete and great friend, she constantly challenged those around her to be better and tougher in all aspects of life. In 2000, while playing lacrosse for St. Mary's Moraga, Alison was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. She subsequently underwent chemotherapy and beat the disease. Shortly thereafter, she was diagnosed with leukemia and began treatment at Stanford Hospital. Not able to fully recover from the stress of the previous treatments, Alison passed away in 2001. She is survived by her parents Rose and Ed, and her brother Kevin '02.

Doug has dedicated his training and the 2008 season to the memory of a great friend who lost the battle to leukemia. In doing so, he hopes to improve the lives of those living with blood cancers and to fund the search for the cure. Unfortunately, Doug's story is not unique. There are currently an estimated 786,000 people living with blood cancers in the United States. Additionally, approximately every five minutes, someone is diagnosed with a blood cancer and every ten minutes, another dies. Doug and the IronTeams of the San Francisco Bay Area want to raise over one million dollars in the next few months to help in the fight against Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Hodgkin's.

You are invited to help Doug, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and those affected by blood cancers. Your donations are 100% tax deductible and 75% of every dollar goes to the cause. Visit the links on the right and feel free to contact Doug if there is a loved one that you would like added to the list of honorees.

Honoring the Memory One Mile at a Time

In August of 2008, Douglas Li '99 will be participating in an Ironman -- one of the most challenging single-day endurance triathlons. The Ironman is comprised of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike, and a marathon distance 26.2-mile run, a total of 140.6 miles.

After completing the Chicago Marathon for a second time in 2007, Doug decided that it was time to focus his efforts on the bigger picture.

"In Chicago, I saw my buddy Tim Borland, who I helped train for the A-T Cure Tour, made up of 63 marathons in 63 consecutive days and thought if he can run 63 in 63, surely I can do something to give back."

This past October, Doug joined the North Bay IronTeam and Team in



<http://www.active.com/donate/tntgsf/douglasli>
<http://fe-mancampaignironteam208.blogspot.com>



Douglas Li '99 in training for Ironman

Padre Alums Celebrate Wedding in Carmel



Pictured L to R: David Miller '84, Greg Montes '84, John Miller '86 and best man Richard Miller '84.

Padre alums take a moment to smile for the camera during [Greg Montes '84](#) wedding reception last summer. Greg married Gabriela Rodriguez on September 15th in Carmel at the San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo Mission. The mission is also the National Shrine of Blessed Junípero Serra and his burial place.

"This is the first marriage for both of us and boy are we glad we waited," wrote Greg. "God has a plan for us all."

Greg says that he met the Miller brothers in his freshman year homeroom and they have been the best of friends ever since.



*Can you guess
the year of
this
Freshman
Retreat?*



[Brian Bennett '51](#) shared a bit of Serra history with us by mailing in two pictures from his freshmen retreat back in May of 1948. The retreat was held at the Pink Horse Ranch, once a day-trip picnic destination spot located off Moody Road in the Los Altos Hills. Prior to that, it was a working dairy known as Toyon Farm.

The smiling faculty member in both pictures is none other than retired Sacramento Bishop and former Serra English teacher Emeritus Francis A. Quinn.

Alumni Family Wins Best Light Show

For the second year in a row, alumni parents Joe & Diane Masetti have won the "Best Light Show" award for the City of San Carlos.

"Joe built many of the decorations himself using wire, plywood, a good drill and careful planning," Diane said. "The shooting star is one of my favorites, along with the red nose on the reindeer."

In addition to being a former Serra Madre, Diane worked at Serra from 1988 through 2001 as the executive assistant to then Principal Michael Peterson and President Father Stephen Howell.



Home of alumni family Joe & Diane Masetti

Alumni sons [Joseph, Jr. '87](#) and [James '91](#) currently live in the Bay Area and were able to enjoy the festive lights over the holidays. Joe, Jr. is the Northern CA Account Manager for Kellogg's Snacks and Jim is an attorney/partner for Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP.

Reunion Gala '07

Serra's Homecoming Weekend began on Friday, October 5th, where members from the Class of '57 were invited to tour Serra's new facilities and enjoy an Alumni Association barbecue. Following the football game against Valley Christian, fellow alums gathered for a cocktail party at the San Mateo Elks Lodge.



The 2007 Reunion Gala was held on Saturday, October 6th at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza in Foster City. The classes of '57, '67, '77, '82, '87 and '97 reunited for a night of reminiscing, dinner, and dancing.

Golden Diplomas were presented to the Class of '57 as they became the newest members of Serra's 50-Year Club.



'57 Classmates Douglas MacDonell & ' Grover Cady



Members of the 1977 football team get "set" for the reunion party!



Alums from the Class of '82



'77 alums Dave Rosaia, Frank Fano & Mike Giotinis



'87 alums William Maroun, Joseph Leach & David Philpott



'67 alums Bob Rodgers, Mike Lescroart & Dave Ranney



Douglas MacDonell '57, Guest, Jack O'Neil '57



82 Alums Patrick McTaggart, Bobby McKercher & Mike Shanks



Kristen & Dean Carboni('87) & Scott & Barbara Taylor ('87)



'67 Alums Gerry Bundy, Mike Chantelopup, Jack Keehan & Bruce Wood



'57 Alums Doug Thom, Jim Ryan & Angelo Colombo

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2008

Reunion Gala '08

Classes of 58, 68, 78, 83, 88, 98

Foster City Crowne Plaza



'78 Alums Enjoy an Annual Tradition

"Once a year, members from the class of 1978 try to get together with Fr. Howell to catch up on things," wrote Greg Fava, who sent in the picture on the right to be shared in TRADITIONS.

Pictured at table from the left are:

Dennis Capovilla, Rich Giannini, Louis Larrate, Fr. Howell, Mark Geenen, Luano Nomellini, Greg Fava, Tim Lautze

Serra Alum Peter Barsocchini '70 writes screenplay for "HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL"



Scene from "High School Musical" (Screenplay by Peter Barsocchini '70)

When alum Peter Barsocchini '70 wrote a screenplay several years ago for his ten-year old daughter, Gabrielle, and her classmates, he never dreamt it would eventually create a billion dollar franchise for Disney cable! However, that's exactly what the Emmy Award-winning smash-hit movie "High School Musical" did.

Barsocchini began his professional writing career while a student here at Serra. He wrote more than 300 columns about popular music for the San Mateo Times and worked as a freelance reporter for the Associated Press and the Examiner. As a young journalist (he told the editors he was age 18, though he was only 16), he spent weekends backstage at the legendary Fillmore West, covering artists such as Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, The Grateful Dead, the Kinks, and Elton John.

Upon graduating from UC Santa Cruz with a degree in creative writing, Barsocchini was hired by the Merv Griffin Company as an interviewer. In 1979, he became the producer and twice received an Emmy -- being the youngest talk-show producer ever to receive the award. He was also the ghostwriter for Griffin's autobiography, which became a national best seller.

Barsocchini's work also includes two primetime specials, "Secrets Women Never Share," and "Secrets Men Never Share," as well as a special at The White House featuring President Ronald Reagan and Mrs. Reagan, where he was granted access to the first family's private living quarters. His first novel "Ghost" was published in the late 1980's with the screen rights being purchased by Paramount Pictures. His action thriller screenplay "Drop Zone" was produced by Paramount and starred Wesley Snipes. Barsocchini also wrote the novel adaptation of "Mission Impossible," a book that was a best seller in thirteen countries.

Kevin Mullin '88 Follows in his Father's Footsteps

A family tradition is born in South San Francisco with Kevin Mullin '88 being elected to the City Council in 2007. Kevin's father Gene Mullin, a CA State Assembly member for the 19th District, also served as a South City Council member -- two of which he served as Mayor.

Kevin is also the President & CEO of KM2 Communications, a multimedia production and communications firm based in So. San Francisco. With an extensive background in public affairs, Kevin has served as district director to State Senator Jackie Speier and previously as a district legislative aide for two CA State Assembly members. He was the campaign manager and is currently political director for his father, State Assembly Member Gene Mullin. Kevin also serves as Vice-Chair of the Workforce Investment Board of SM County and sits on the Board of Directors for the So. San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, the Peninsula Coalition, and North Peninsula Neighborhood Services Center. In addition, he hosts PenTV Community News, a daily public affairs program seen on Peninsula TV Channel 26 throughout San Mateo County.

Kevin holds a B.A. in Communications from USF and a master's degree in public administration (M.P.A.) from SF State. He also completed an executive education seminar program at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government entitled, "Leadership for the 21st Century."



Kevin Mullin '88



Mike Callagy '80, SM Police Department Deputy Chief

Mike Callagy '80 was promoted to Deputy Chief of the San Mateo Police Department in August.

Mike joined the San Mateo Police Department straight out of college and rose through the ranks, becoming a captain in 1999.

In his position as Deputy Chief, Mike will provide both strategic direction and planning. He will be responsible for reviewing and analyzing current programs, procedures and activities to ensure efficient and effective use of resources and delivery of service.

Vincent "Jeff" Foster '78, known professionally as V.J. Foster is the Associate Artistic Director of The Actors' Gang, a theater ensemble that he and others (including Academy Award winner Tim Robbins) co-founded in 1982 during Jeff's undergraduate studies at UCLA.



VJ FOSTER IN JARHEAD

The theatre group is currently on a U.S. tour with a world premiere adaptation of George Orwell's 1984. They have also performed at the Hong Kong International Arts Festival, the Melbourne Festival of the Arts, and in Athens, Greece. Jeff has also performed in other Actors' Gang productions off-Broadway in New York, in London and at the Edinburgh International Festival.

Film and television are also part of Jeff's career with credits including the popular series *24*, *Cold Case*, *NCIS*, and *The Shield* and such films as *Million Dollar Baby*, *Flags of Our Fathers*, *Jarhead*, *The Insider*, and *The Shawshank Redemption*. Most recently, Jeff had a part in the new Halle Berry film, *Things We Lost in the Fire* and he is currently working for Steven Spielberg on *Indian Jones IV*.

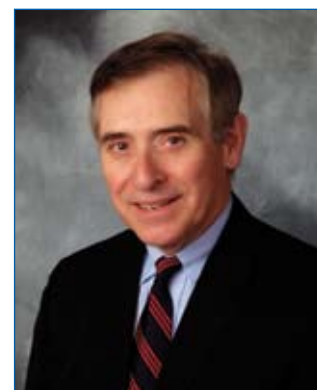
Jeff and his wife, Lindsley Allen (actor, choreographer and former co-creator of "The Pussycat Dolls") live in Valley Glen, California. In a recent email to Serra, Jeff wrote, "I am proud of my connection to Serra and its great traditions, proud of the accomplishments of my fellow alumni, and happy to be part of the Serra family."

Russell Magnaghi's '61 latest book, "Cornish in Michigan" was published in July by Michigan State University Press. This is the 17th book that Russell has written and published since 1972.

"It was Father Zoph's English class that got me on the road to writing," Russ writes in a recent letter to Serra.

Currently the head of the History Department at Northern Michigan University, Magnaghi also recently completed a three-week pilgrimage to Scandinavia, where he studied Catholic art and architecture prior to the Reformation. His research was the basis for a lecture series to be presented to his parish, St. Peter Cathedral in Marquette.

Some alums from the 60's might remember Russ' mother, Grace, who volunteered on several committees to raise money for Serra as well as Our Lady of Angels parish in Burlingame. At 96, Grace is living in Marquette and still goes to the gym daily!



Russell Magnaghi's '61



Thomas A (Tad) DeWree '78

Thomas A. (Tad) DeWree '78 has been named to a two-year term on the College of Communication Advisory Council at the University of Texas at Austin. Members of the Council have included Walter Cronkite (Former CBS Anchor), Jeff Cohen (Publisher Houston Chronicle), Dan Rather (Former CBS Anchor), James Moroney (Publisher, Dallas Morning News) and Mark Morrison (Retired managing editor, BusinessWeek).

Tad DeWree is also the founder of Thinking, Inc, a Dallas-based management consulting, marketing and corporate branding firm, with over \$1 billion in client growth since 1995. Thinking, Inc has been responsible for launching numerous national companies and private ventures including television series productions.

In the last two years, Tad has launched Thinking HD, a High Definition Broadcast production studio and DigitalAssets.com, an online storage site for digital marketing materials management. Tad previously spent ten years in New York as a Clio award-winning creative for Canon, Burger King, American Airlines and other Fortune 100 companies. Tad, his wife Marianne and daughter Caroline, live in Dallas. His oldest daughter, Madeline, is currently pursuing her degree at UT.

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

[www.SERRAHS.COM](http://www.serrahs.com)

1. Log on to www.serrahs.com
2. Click on [Alumni](#)
3. Click on [Online Alumni Community](#)
4. Click on [Register Here](#).
5. Enter your last name, class and Log-in ID.



If you do not know your Log-in ID, please call the Development Office at (650) 573-9935 or email mwilkinson@serrahs.com

“It was 40 years ago today...”
The John Catalano Concert Series



The 60's were a rich time in Serra's musical history. Music Director John Catalano was very progressive and promoted a wide variety of musical genres, from the Concert Orchestra, to the first Dance Bands, a Dixieland Band, a Banjo Band, a Mandolin Band, an Acoustic Guitar group, a Folk Group, a Marching Band, and even provided a rehearsal room for a Serra student rock band known as “The Midnighters”! It was an era which left fond memories in the minds of the many students who participated in and attended the concerts during those years.

In the Fall of '07, Mike Germano, IT Systems Administrator at Serra, converted several Serra concert tapes from the late 60's (including a '68 concert) from reel-to-reel to CDs. The concerts were recorded by his brother, Gary Germano '70 on Gary's Monacor 7" reel-to-reel mono tape recorder while he was a student AV technician running the auditorium sound and lighting at Serra. Gary treasured the concert tapes and kept them safely stored for the many years since his graduation. The recordings represent a wide variety of music, including dialogue by John Catalano and student director Phil Garay '68. They have lasted very well -- considering they are now 40 years old -- and have been transferred directly to CD from the original analog 7" reel-to-reel tapes (not digitally re-mastered).

Our goal is to have the concerts properly identified (year, spring, fall, etc), duplicate the CDs, and then make them available for purchase to our Alumni. The net proceeds will go towards a tribute to John Catalano on future Serra Music facilities in honor of his dedication to Serra's diverse music program.

As 2008 will be the 40th anniversary of the 1968 concerts, Jay Jordan, Serra's Music Director for the past 30 years, is considering a tribute to the Serra bands of that era in his Spring 2008 concert. Below is a partial list of the songs from the various tapes. We are looking to identify what year and which concerts the songs were from, as well as the names of the band members. [If you can help with any information, please contact Michelle Wilkinson in the Serra Development Office at 650-573-9935 ext. 184 or email: \[mwilkinson@serrahs.com\]\(mailto:mwilkinson@serrahs.com\).](#)

CONCERT TAPE “A”: Banjos: Whispering/Ain't She Sweet Darktown Strutters Ball/ Robert E Lee; Phil Garay: Tico Tico Midnighters: Cold Rain and Snow; Harlem Nocture

CONCERT TAPE “B”: Solo performance: The 59th Street Bridge Song, Try To Remember; Orchestra: Red Red Robin Goes Bob Bob Bobbin Along; Mandolins: Medley-Laura's Theme (Somewhere My Love) – O Sole Mio-Mexican Hat Dance; Acoustic Guitars: Misty; Mike Curotto/Scott Morris: Drum solos

CONCERT TAPE “C”: Banjo Band - Medly: California Here I come – By Bye Blues – All the World is Waiting for the Sunrise; Yes, We have No Bananas - My Gal Sal - If you New Suzie; Acoustic Guitars: Never On A Sunday; SomeNight – I Will Wait For You - SpanishFlea; Mandolin band: Sorento – Arividerci Roma

CONCERT TAPE “D”: Folk Group: Scarborough Affair; 1812 Overture



Serra Music Director John Catalano 1967



Acoustic Guitars 1968



1968 Dixieland Band



1968 - First Dance Band



ANNUAL ALUMNI SPORTS

More than 100 alumni athletes came back to participate in this year's Annual Alumni Games, which included the basketball double-header, water polo and soccer match ups.

The varsity basketball team defeated the alumni 74-62. The Padres were paced by senior [Stephen Lumpkins](#) with 30 points and the alumni by [Paul Shamieh '02](#) with 23. In the early, game which featured the older alumni against the junior varsity, the alumni came out on top by a score of 44-41.



The varsity soccer team edged the Padre Alumni 3-2, with over 45 players returning to the campus for the annual contest. The alumni

took the early lead 1-0 off a nice combination play with as many as five alums rushing the goal. Early in the second half, they increased their lead to 2-0 as they knocked home a loose ball in the penalty box. The varsity finally scored in the 60th minute with a 20-yard strike from the top of the penalty box from senior defender [Oliver McElhone](#). Ollie struck again about 7 minutes later off a long throw from sophomore [Luca Ponti](#). The alumni began to tire and the varsity team was able to find plenty of space in the last ten minutes to complete the comeback. With four minutes to play, a counter attack led by [Nick Kobayashi](#), [Danny Browning '08](#) and [McElhone](#), culminated with a pass put to the feet of senior captain Andrew Carillo who made one move to his right to beat a defender and then slotted the ball home for the winning goal.





Nominate an Outstanding Padre for SERRA'S 2008 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME



The Hall of Fame Committee is accepting nominations for Serra's 2008 Athletic Hall of Fame. Initiated in 1990, the Athletic Hall of Fame is a joint venture of the Junipero Serra High School Athletic Department and the Serra Alumni Association. The Hall of Fame exists to honor graduates who, during their years at Serra, exhibited outstanding athletic achievement or who attained outstanding success at the collegiate or professional levels. The Hall of Fame also recognizes the contributions of others (coaches, teachers, parents) who, through their tireless efforts, have contributed to the excellence of the Serra athletics program. The Hall of Fame induction dinner is held every other year during Homecoming Week.

Nominations should be sent to the attention of Athletic Director Kevin Donahue at Serra High School or by e-mail to KDONAHUE@SERRAHS.COM. Please include a brief statement as to why you feel the person you are nominating should be considered.

AN UNEXPECTED TURN OF EVENTS FOR ALEX DINI '06

With high school behind him and dreams of a degree in business, Alex Dini '06 was just finishing up a successful first semester at the University of Arizona when his life suddenly turned upside down. In an e-mail to U.S. History teacher, Kevin Carey, Alex informed him that he had a brain tumor.

"Around Thanksgiving time, I started getting these nasty symptoms of constant fatigue, vertigo, and terrible headaches, Alex wrote. "Two weeks later, I went home still suffering from these questionable symptoms."

Alex saw eight doctors, all of whom told him that his symptoms were most likely caused by stress. Finally, as a precautionary measure, one of the doctors scheduled Alex for an MRI.

"They found a brain tumor the size of a golf ball in my cerebellum," Alex wrote. "So, I went through all that *nonsense*. Luckily, we live by arguably the best hospital in the world . . . Stanford."



After surgery to remove the tumor, Alex temporarily lost his speech, his balance and suffered from weakness in his right arm. His recovery which included rigorous physical, occupational and speech therapy lasted nine months.

"Thankfully, no one can tell I ever had surgery," Alex concluded. "I am a new, changed person. Having experienced physical therapy as a patient was so amazing that I've switched my major from business marketing to physiology. My ultimate goal is to major in Kinesiology."

Alex is currently a sophomore at UA, where he volunteers at a local hospital in their inpatient and outpatient rehab clinics. He plans to transfer to either Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, or Indiana University, all of whom offer great kinesiology programs.

"I am the luckiest person on earth to have been given a second chance," Alex said.

THE FATHER SERRA HERITAGE 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
JANET & FRANK ABBOTT, JR.
MR. AND MRS. JACK ALLAIN '53
MR. AND MRS. BART ARAUJO '61
MR. AND MRS. WALTER BANKOVITCH, SR.
MRS. LAVERNE BARRETT
MR. AND MRS. RUSS BERTETTA '67
MR. AND MRS. TONY CRISAFI '69 RIP
MRS. NANCY DESMEDT
MR. AND MRS. STEVE DIFU '60
MR. JERRY DRISCOLL '49 (RIP)
MRS. ELLEN EINARSSON
MRS. ELEANOR FIGONI (RIP)
MR. BOB GRASSILLI '66

MR. ED KELLER '47
MS. KATHY LAVEZZO
MR. AND MRS. DENNIS LUCEY '58
MR. AND MRS. LARS LUND
MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL MCGINLEY
MR. AND MRS. STEPHEN McLAUGHLIN
MR. JIM OAKES '58
MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL PETERSON
MR. KEVIN RAGAN (RIP)
MR. BEN REICHMUTH '53
MR. AND MRS. FERENCZ SIPOS (RIP)
MR. RANDY VOGEL
MR. AND MRS. DAVID WHITNEY
MRS. CLARE 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 Mike Peterson at (650) 345-0150 or e-mail: MPETERSON@SERRAHS.COM

'58

Your 50-year reunion is just around the corner! Look for more news in upcoming mailings.

'61

[Russell Magnaghi](#) just published his 17th book titled "Cornish in Michigan." Russ writes that it was Father Zoph's English class that got him on the road to writing. (More about Russ on page 36)

'64

[James Geary](#) and his wife, Gail, have been living in Granite Bay since 1979. They have a daughter, Meghan, who lives in Washington with her husband and their grandson, Mason.

'65

[Edward Ritner](#) is currently living in Brentwood and works in San Francisco. He has two grandchildren and one on the way.

'66

[Jim Rohrbach](#) and his wife, Cheri, became grandparents for the first time to Olivia Jane Love, born on April 27th. Jim is starting his fourth year as Technology Coordinator at St. Nicholas Catholic School in Los Altos. His wife, Cheri, is the Extended Care Director at St. Raymond's Catholic School in Menlo Park.

'68

Your 40-year reunion is just around the corner! Look for more news in upcoming mailings.

'69

[Michael Coffey](#) retired from the United States Air Force Reserve in October '07.

'75

[Mike Ficher](#) lives in Bend, Oregon with his wife, Tina, and their son, Cameron (10). Mike is a financial analyst with Edge Wireless, a program director at 106.7 KPOV, a television and voice personality for local radio, as well as a freelance writer. When not coaching baseball, Mike is also a member of local improv and sketch comedy troupes and the city's Vision Corps.

[Steve Maggi](#) is currently employed with Evergreen Freedom Foundation in Olympia, Washington. Steve earned his B.A. from Golden Gate University and his M.P.A. (Public Administration) from USC. Along with many members of his class, Steve recently celebrated his 50th Birthday!

'78

Your 30-year reunion is just around the corner! Look for more news in upcoming mailings.

[Thomas \(Tad\) DeWree](#) has been named to a two-year term on the College of Communication Advisory Council at the University of Texas at Austin. (More about Tad on page 34)

[Vincent "Jeff" Foster](#) currently lives in Valley Glen, CA where he makes his living as an actor. (More about Vincent on page 36)

'80

[Mike Callagy](#) was promoted to deputy chief of the San Mateo Police Department in August 2007. (More about Mike on page 36)

'83

Your 25-year reunion is just around the corner! Look for more news in upcoming mailings.

'86

[George Husack](#) is the Associate Head Coach for the men's tennis program at the University of Illinois. Illinois reached the NCAA finals last year and is ranked among the Top Five Men's tennis programs in the country.

[Peter Martin](#) married Jessica Carolo at his home in Napa on September 22, 2007. His brothers [Tevis '74](#) and [David '82](#) were groomsmen.

'87

[Patrick Leland](#) lives in San Mateo with his wife, Corinne, and their 2-year old son, Jake. Patrick owns an Allstate insurance agency in Palo Alto. His brother [Mike '85](#) also helps with the agency and customers include [Bryan Conneely '88](#) and [Patrick Earley '90](#).

'88

Your 20-year reunion is just around the corner! Look for more news in upcoming mailings.

'89

[Rod O. Burns](#) and his wife, Jill, welcomed their second baby boy, Johnny, in November.

'91

[Jim Masetti](#) and his wife, Susan, welcomed a new daughter, Lauryn Welsh Masetti, on August 7th. Her sister, Kathryn Forrest, was excited to have a little sister born one week before her third birthday

'96

[Brian Affrunti](#) and his wife, Gina, are the proud parents of twin boys, Chase and Blake, born July 5th.

[Brandon Melconian](#) and his wife, Kara, welcomed Kyleigh Jamae on July 6th. Kyleigh joins her big sister Kenadee.

KEEP US POSTED!



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

'97

Jack Gunther and his wife Ashley are the proud new parents of a son, Thurston Cannon (TJ), born on September 12th. Jack also recently celebrated the completion of his Master's degree in Management from NDNU in May 2007.

Brian Houle and his wife, Meagan, celebrated the birth of a baby girl, Madison Shea, born on September 18th. Madison weighed 6 lbs 10 oz.

Michael Madigan married Melissa Frost on September 29th in Carmel.

Andrew Rius graduated from UC Davis in 2002 with a BS in microbiology and a BA in comparative literature. Since then, he's been living in Madison, Wisconsin working on his PhD in history and science. He spends most of his time these days teaching, working as a personal trainer and writing.

'98

Your 10-year reunion is just around the corner! Look for more news in upcoming mailings.

'01

Chris Williams is part of a new on-line start-up company called BookRenter.com. The company offers tens of thousands of titles for rent and currently markets to college students.

Dennis Wu has been working for New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson's presidential campaign over the past year. In August, Dennis started his first year at University of Notre Dame Law School. He commented, *"If everything goes as planned, I should be graduating in May 2010."*

'02

Paul Comaroto and Anika Sasche received the sacrament of marriage at Our Lady of Angels Parish on October 7th. Paul, a graduate of Dartmouth, has recently been accepted into the Air Force officer training school. Paul met Anika, originally from Germany, while studying in Germany in 2005. Best man for the wedding was Brian Poggetti '02.

'07

Nick Poggetti freshman at Santa Clara University was named to the All-Freshman Water polo team for the 2007 season. Poggetti played in 24 of the 26 season games and was one of two freshman who scored in double figures.



In Memoriam



Marco Bet, father of Claudio '74 and grandfather to Anthony '06 and Andrew '08 passed away on December 20th.

Gary Branch '73 passed away on February 14, 2006.

Victor Buttignol '56, brother of Mario '53, passed away on October 7th.

Karen Callicotte, mother of Matthew '98 and Michael '04, passed away on August 28th.

Andrew John Damonte '78 passed away on September 22nd.

Ray Garban, father of Jim '67 and Rich '75, passed away on October 5th.

Neil Johndrow '78, father of Dan '66, Joe '72 and grandfather of Matt '94 and Nick '98 passed away on September 15th.

Tom LeClerc '58, brother of Gary '62, passed away on September 27th.

Richard Linehan '52 passed away in August.

Gladys Scherba, mother of Vince '72 and Serra staff member Maryann O'Leary and grandmother to Brian Philip '92, Kevin Philip '98, Chris O'Leary '03 and Anthony Fahey '11 passed away on September 12th.

Margaret Shypertt, mother of Jim '53 and grandmother of Greg '82 passed away on August 25th.

Jay Singh '05 passed away on October 7th.

William George Van Beckum '63, brother of Bryant '74, passed away December 5th.

Ione Flora Van Beckum, mother of the late William '63 and Bryant '74, passed away on November 11th.

Christopher Wehr '67 passed away on June 20, 2006.

Jack Welpott, father of Serra staff member, Jan Daniele and grandfather to Nick Daniele '05 and Kevin Daniele '08 passed away on November 24th..

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 e-mail to: mpeterson@serrahs.com.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Fund A Dream Scholarship Luncheon

Keynote Speaker:

Hall of Famer & Serra Alum
LYNN SWANN '70

For more information, log on to
www.serrahs.com

OR

e-mail: mgoddard@serrahs.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

JUNE 23, 2008

JUNIPERO SERRA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S

21st annual 
SERRA GOLF CLASSIC
Peninsula Golf & Country Club

PLEASE ACCEPT OUR APOLOGIES
FOR THE FOLLOWING ERRORS/OMISSIONS
IN OUR 2006-2007 ANNUAL REPORT

ERROR:

Consecutive Years of Alumni Giving:
Joseph Hartmann '53 (3 years)

OMISSIONS:

The Father Serra Heritage Society
Anonymous Donor (Alumni Parent)

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12, 2008

HALL OF FAME DINNER

Foster City Crowne Plaza

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2008

Reunion Gala

Classes of 58, 68, 78, 83, 88, 98

Foster City Crowne Plaza

SEND US YOUR
FAMILY PHOTOS!

If you would like to share your family
photos with us, we would be glad to
include them in our TRADITIONS
"Padre Family Photo Album"

You may send printed photos or digital

images to:

JUNIPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL

Development Office

451 West 20th Avenue

San Mateo, CA 94403

Attention:

Michelle Wilkinson

Director of Public Relations

or e-mail mwilkinson@serrahs.com

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Cut Along Dotted Line



FREE ALUMNI COUPON!

GOOD FOR 1 FREE
ADMISSION TO A
SERRA HOME
BASKETBALL GAME

RESTRICTIONS:

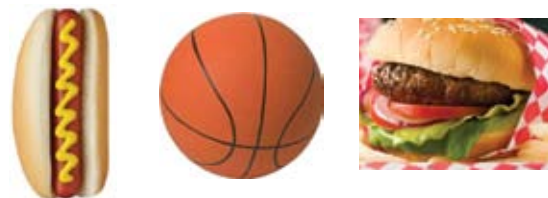
COUPON MUST BE USED BY A SERRA ALUM

DOES NOT INCLUDE:

SI (JUNGLE GAME) OR MITTY GAME



Cut Along Dotted Line



FREE ALUMNI COUPON!

GOOD FOR 1 FREE
FOOD ITEM AT A
SERRA HOME
BASKETBALL GAME

RESTRICTIONS:

COUPON MUST BE USED BY A SERRA ALUM





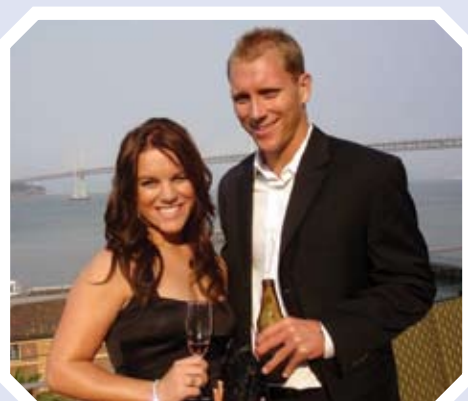
Dylan Gagnon (Brenley Gagnon '88)



Chase & Blake Affrunti (Brian Affrunti '96)



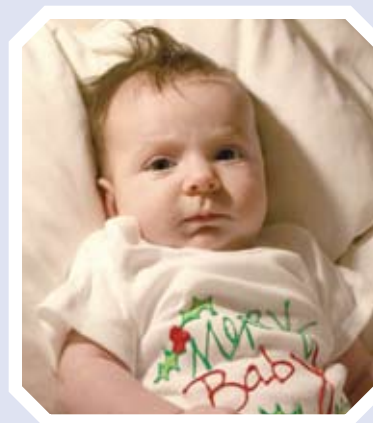
Sade, Jonathan (JT) & Bobby James (RJ) Minkey (Hank Minkey '83)



Paul McManus '02 & Sister Stephanie (NDB '03)



Gavin Baugh '91 & bride Kelly



Madison Shea Houle (Brian Houle '97)



Olivia Jane Love (Granddaughter of Jim Rohrback '66)



John Benetti '99 & fiancé Jackie



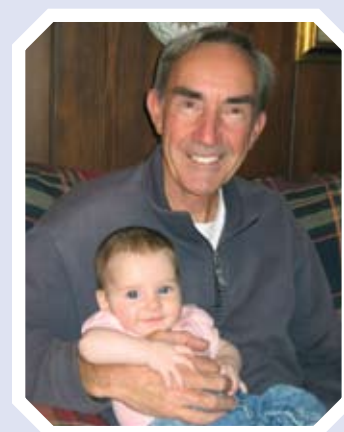
Richard '84 & Michelle Miller with sons' (L to R) Kaige, Saxton & Austin (along with, Baby Miller #4 due in May '2008)



Garrett & Erica Goddard (Grandchildren of Serra staff member Moya Goddard)



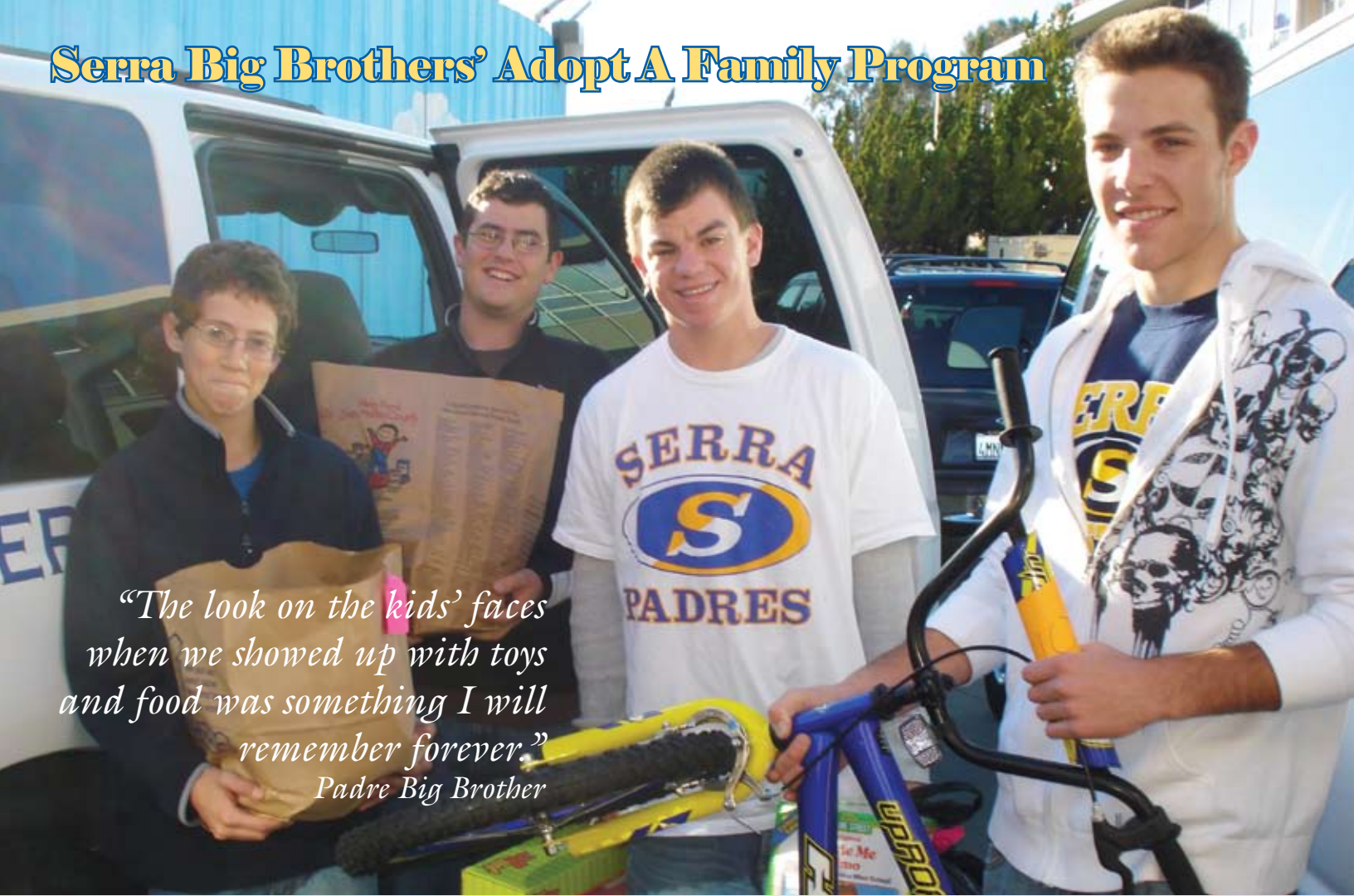
Little Chase Roza with father Mike '84



Serra faculty member Keith Stapleton with granddaughter Lauren Sofia. Uncle Brad Stapleton '97 is Lauren's Godfather.

Padre Family Photo Album

Serra Big Brothers' Adopt A Family Program



*"The look on the kids' faces
when we showed up with toys
and food was something I will
remember forever."
Padre Big Brother*

The Serra Big Brothers' Adopt-A-Family holiday program provided food, clothing, household supplies and gifts for twenty-two local families who had applied for assistance thru Catholic Worker House. Students donated over \$6000 in their homerooms and thru additional fund raisers to purchase a variety of items to meet the specific needs of each family. Sixteen members of the Big Brothers participated in the deliveries to the families just before Christmas. Pictured above loading the Serra vans with food and gifts are: Marty Koenigs '11, Danny Galver '08, Bob Marshall '09 and Kevin Casteck '08.

Junipero Serra High School

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www.serrahs.com
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