

JUNIPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL

Traditions

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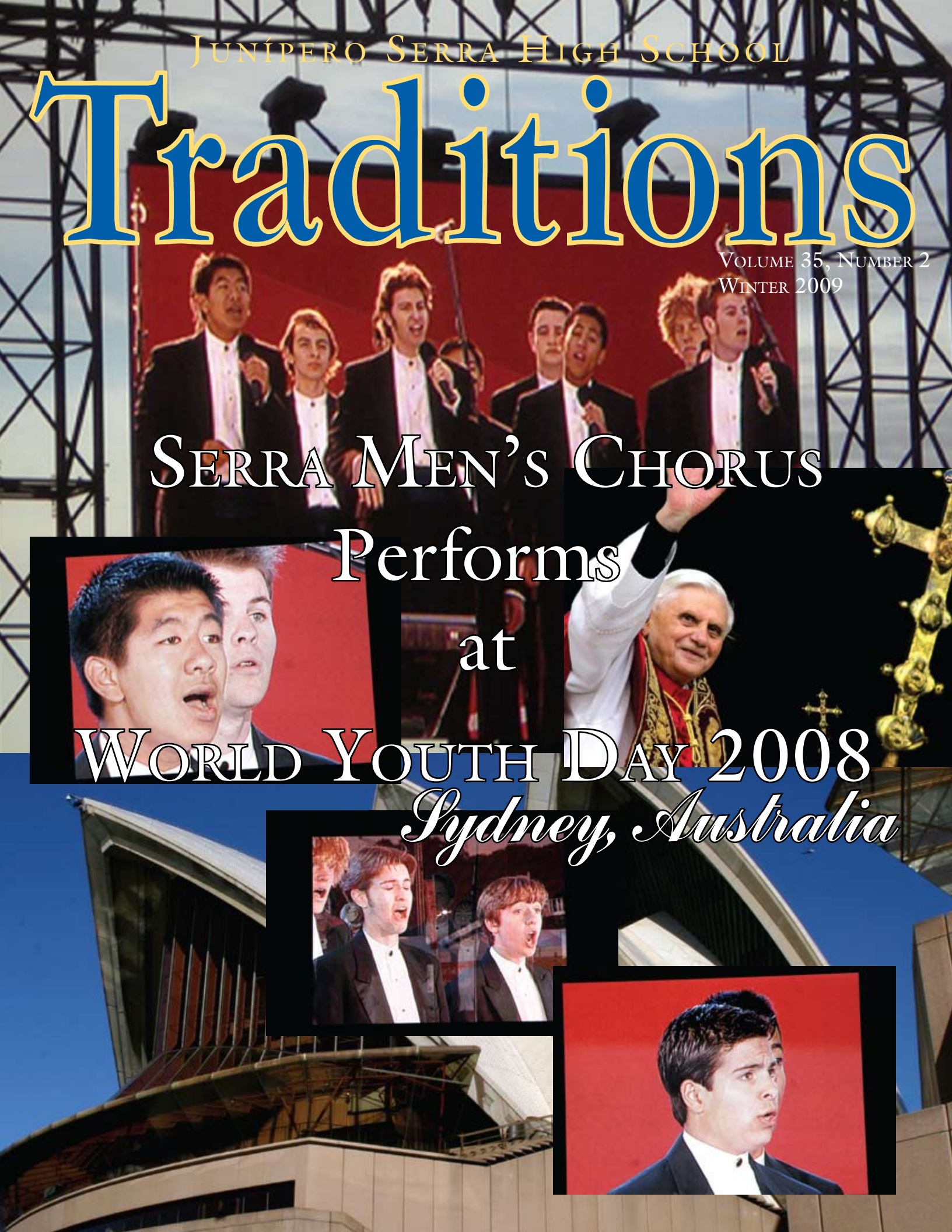
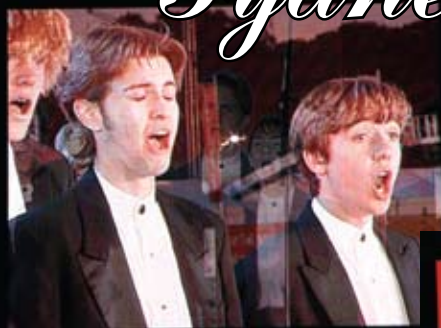
SERRA MEN'S CHORUS

Performs

at

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2008

Sydney, Australia





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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,

I am honored to have served as the Chairperson of the Advisory Board of Regents for the past two years. We are blessed to have such a hard working and talented board that is making significant contributions towards Serra's advancement. We will continue to strive to ensure our actions keep Serra standing tall as a premier educational institution, forming young men of faith, wisdom and service.

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

In particular, I want to express special thanks to the members of the board's Strategic Planning Committee. They have done a fantastic job reviewing and providing input to successive drafts of the Self-Study report the school is writing in preparation for the March 2009 WASC accreditation visit. The fruit of this effort will be an Action Plan that will strategically plan Serra's future growth. Members of this committee are:

James Fox (Serra, 1960), San Mateo County District Attorney

Angelo Siracusa (Serra, 1947), Former Executive Director, Association of Bay Area Governments

Fr. David Ghiorso, Pastor, St. Charles Parish

Larree Renda, Executive Vice President, Safeway Corporation (current parent)

Mike Murphy, President, the Bodega Group (alumni parent and current grandparent)

I want to thank all the members of the Advisory Board of Regents who offer so generously their time and talents. I look forward to working with the entire Board in meeting the aggressive goals which we have set this year.

Sincerely,

Kathy Lavezzo
Chair, Advisory Board of Regents

FROM THE PRESIDENT

MR. LARS LUND



Dear Alumni and Friends of Serra,

As the calendar turns from 2008 to 2009, our nation faces tremendous challenges: The economic prospects for 2009 look very dim, and the situation on the world stage is not much better. That said, our nation will draw from its deep wellsprings of talent, diversity, wisdom and experience to face these challenges head-on and without fear.

At times like these we truly appreciate the contribution Catholic schools make to the common good. In their 1972 vision statement for Catholic Schools, *To Teach as Jesus Did*, the words of the Catholic bishops of the United States ring prophetic today:

Proclaiming the Gospel is a perennial joy for the Church of Jesus Christ. Rarely, if ever, has it been more pressing a need, more urgent a duty, and more ennobling a vocation than it is in these times when humankind stands poised between unprecedented fulfillment and equally unprecedented calamity...Through education the Church seeks to prepare its members to proclaim the Good News and to translate this proclamation into action.

At Serra we take these words to heart. Across the curriculum we challenge our students to look at current events—local, state, and national—with a critical eye. We encourage rational discourse and learned debate on a wide variety of issues students face as teenagers in their lives, as well as issues that we all face in the global village. As a Catholic school, teaching and learning at Serra is accomplished in the context of the Gospel and our Catholic faith. The dignity of the human person is the beginning and ultimate goal of all our conversations and activities.

Never has this work been more important.

As you read through this edition of *Traditions*, you will be gratified to see that Serra's programs are thriving and expanding in wonderful ways. Despite these tough times, we are not shrinking from our mission to educate Men of Faith, Wisdom and Service. In the pages that follow, you will see that today's Padres, like their alumni brothers, are leaders making a difference for the good in the lives of others.

Your support is vital to Serra's mission. On behalf of our students thank you for your gift of time, talent, treasure and prayers for this great school.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lars Lund'.

Lars Lund
President

AP Teachers Making A Difference



Pictured L to R (Back Row) Renan Pineda (AP Spanish), Kevin Carey (AP US History), Keith Strange (Assistant Principal Academics), Tom Sullivan (AP English Literature), Eric Plett (AP Physics), Patrick Dugan (AP Government); (Front Row) Rita Leung (Dean of Studies), Liz Keate (AP Computer Science), Sheila Scafina (AP Calculus A-B and B-C), Keith Stapleton (AP English Language) Missing from photo: Vivian Byun (AP Biology) and Sean Dugoni (AP US History)

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Congratulations to all of our Advanced Placement teachers for their continued hard work and dedication. Last spring, 293 students took AP exams and earned an 81.6% passage rate, which is far above state and national pass rates—as well as that of our other local Catholic high schools. In addition, we received notice from the College Board that we have a total of 48 Advanced Placement Scholars. These students received passing grades of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams. Eight of these students are AP Scholars with Honor for receiving an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. Fifteen students are AP Scholars with Distinction for receiving an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP exams and grades of 3 or higher on five or more exams.

The ability of our students to master rigorous AP courses is both a testament to the quality of education at Serra and the extraordinary effort and preparation on the part of our teachers and our students. Successful AP students are prepared to enter college, while earning credit or advanced standing at most of the nation's colleges and universities. Our teachers inspire, teach and prepare our young men not only for higher education, but for life.

Jordie Littell '09 Conquers Triathlon



Senior [Jordan Littell](#) recently participated in the Silverman 2008 Half Iron Man Distance Triathlon, which is said by many to be the world's most grueling triathlon. Although it was his first triathlon, Jordie did tremendously well—placing first in his age group. More than 300 competitors participated in this year's event, which was held at the Green Valley Ranch in Las Vegas. The competition consisted of a 1.2 mile swim, followed by a 56 mile bike ride and a 13 mile run. Jordie's overall time, 6 hours and 11 minutes, placed him in the upper quartile of all participants in the event.

Following the event Littell stated, "It was exhausting, but I felt a great sense of accomplishment. I was extremely exhilarated and happy with my performance."

Jordie was cheered on by his parents, Judy and Bill, his sister Jacie, his aunts, uncles and several cousins. As the youngest athlete to participate in the event, Jordie received special attention as he was interviewed by several reporters and his story appeared on national news.

For Jordie, the Silverman is only the start of his career as a triathlete. He plans to run a marathon soon, participate in the Escape From Alcatraz Triathlon and hopes to eventually participate at the Iron Man Championship in Kona, Hawaii.

The Tradition *continues*

Thirteen freshmen whose fathers are also Serra Padres are part of this year's capacity enrollment.

Serra currently has a total of fifty-three alumni sons in the student body. In addition, there are two freshmen whose grandfathers graduated from Serra, and a total of ten students who are third generation Padres.

The 2008-2009 school year began with a freshman class of 259.



Back (L to R): Ryan Dunleavy (Kevin '80), Trevor Healy (Tim '78), Charles Gould (Charles '73), Brian Clifford (Jim '81), Sean Collins (Mike '78), C.J. Scheley (P. Chris '79), Dominic Cirigliano (Tim '79). Front (L to R) Stephen Grosey (John '79), Luke Longinotti (Ron '72), Patrick Brinzo (Joe '73), Shawn Kramer (Brian '81), Ernesto Garcia (David '81), Joe Uccelli (George '66).



Mentor Michael Worry, CEO of Nuvation Research Corp & President of CM Robotics (a winning combat robot team), leads a brainstorming session with the Serra Robotics Team. In the foreground is the robot chassis and a game piece for the 2009 FIRST competition.

Bechtold and is mentored by Serra faculty members Liz Keate, Greg Gump and Michael Patterson. The real force behind the team, however, is a group of young engineers from a South Bay electrical engineering design firm called Nuvation. The CEO of Nuvation, Michael Worry, is so completely committed to encouraging the engineering aspirations of the young men from Serra that he and six of his colleagues are working nights and long weekend days to help the Padre-botters become design specialists. The team has six weeks to ship their contraption for review by the game challenge judges before the FIRST Regional Competition kick-off starts up at San Jose State, March 13-15. The team has been meeting since October and includes about thirty seriously committed Padres who are on the mechanical, electrical, software, game strategy, and marketing teams. Besides the technical engineering and shop skills of robot design, the team is learning great project management skills as the Padre-botters try to bring in their vehicle on time.

While the Padres have every intention of winning an award their first time in competition, the incredibly generous contribution of Michael Worry and his band of brilliant engineers has already been a big win for Serra. The mission of the national organization FIRST is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills. Furthermore, the inspiration to be innovative is also meant to foster well-rounded life skills including self-confidence, communication, and leadership. As a rookie team, the challenge the Padres will face is to establish a level of competence and competitiveness in a very short period of time. The goals the Serra team has set for themselves this year are ambitious—to compete at the national finals as an invited “alliance partner” of another excellent team, by demonstrating strong fundamental skills in regional qualifiers, and to win the Rookie All Star award. With our experienced Nuvation mentors and strong support from the Serra community, the men of Serra are gearing for success on a pretty slick national stage!

SERRA ROBOTICS TEAM GEARS UP TO DRIVE ON LUNAR REGOLITH

On January 3rd, the new Serra Robotics Team geared up for its inaugural season, when the 18th Annual FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) delivered, via nationwide satellite media feed, this year's robotics challenge. The challenge will be to compete in a ball game in an arena against other wheeled robotic vehicles developed in high schools all across America. The robots must travel on an almost frictionless surface, while robots and other human competitors attempt to score points by launching balls into the trailer each opponent must pull. The tractionless surface design of the arena commemorates the 40th anniversary of the NASA lunar landing. The lunar surface has about one-sixth the gravity of the Earth's and so, NASA engineers had to design the lunar module to function on that greatly reduced friction surface of regolith, much like our young Serra engineers are designing their robot to function now on the arenas simulated regolith.

The Padre team was recently founded by junior [Nolan McPeck](#). The real force behind the team, however, is a group of young engineers from a South Bay electrical engineering design firm called Nuvation. The CEO of Nuvation, Michael Worry, is so completely committed to encouraging the engineering aspirations of the young men from Serra that he and six of his colleagues are working nights and long weekend days to help the Padre-botters become design specialists. The team has six weeks to ship their contraption for review by the game challenge judges before the FIRST Regional Competition kick-off starts up at San Jose State, March 13-15. The team has been meeting since October and includes about thirty seriously committed Padres who are on the mechanical, electrical, software, game strategy, and marketing teams. Besides the technical engineering and shop skills of robot design, the team is learning great project management skills as the Padre-botters try to bring in their vehicle on time.

“During my high school years, I learned it is important and part of my responsibility to give back to the community, and there is no community that I care more about than Serra High School.”

Mark Vorsatz '72

2008 JUNIPERO SERRA AWARD WINNER MARK VORSATZ '72

Mark Vorsatz '72 was presented with the 2008 Junipero Serra Award during the school's first Mass of the year held in early September. The ceremony took place in the gym, packed full of close to 1,000 young men, faculty and staff members, and Vorsatz' family members.

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The Junipero Serra Award is presented to an alumnus who best exemplifies through his life the mission of Serra High School. To this end, President Lars Lund spoke about the many contributions and positive impact Mark Vorsatz has made on the local community. As founder and CEO of Wealth and Tax Advisory Services (WTAS), Vorsatz works with clients on income tax and estate planning strategies, as well as preserving wealth. Recognizing the importance of donor education, he has lectured extensively on estate planning, taught in the graduate tax program at Golden Gate University, and lectures regularly at Hastings College of Law in San Francisco.

Encouraging clients to consider investing in the community is rewarding to Vorsatz. It's a win-win situation with the client receiving a charitable donation and the community benefiting as well. Many of his clients receive no greater satisfaction than seeing the direct benefit of their charitable dollars at work in the community.

Humbled by his award, Mark praised his teachers who educated and helped guide him through his four years at Serra.

“This is not just a school; it is a culture,” Vorsatz added. “I learned respect, tolerance, discipline, integrity and how to treat other people. I learned it is important and part of my responsibility to give back to the community and there is no community that I care more about than Serra High School.”

Returning to Serra to preside over the Mass was Padre alum and San Francisco Auxiliary Bishop William Justice '60. Bishop Justice shared with the students that his class was the first to walk the halls on the 20th Avenue campus. He also spoke about the great Padre spirit he recalled during his days at Serra.

“I remember the Bellarmine rallies when John Horgan '60 was Rally Commissioner,” Bishop Justice recalled. “Everyone in the gym would be very, very quiet—then the Captain of the football team would walk out with a prune and a sledge hammer.”



Pictured from L to R: Liz Vorsatz, Mark Vorsatz '72, Bishop William Justice '60, Blair Vorsatz, Tory Vorsatz

2009 National Merit Scholarship Commended Students

Eleven Serra Padres have been named Commended Students in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended students place among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who enter the competition by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

“Recognition of academically talented students and the key role played by schools in their development is essential to the pursuit of educational excellence in our nation,” commented a spokesperson for NMSC. “The young people named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding academic potential by their strong performance in this highly competitive program. We hope that this recognition will enhance their educational opportunities and that they will continue to diligently pursue their professional goals.”



Pictured L to R (Back Row): Brett McCollum, Peter Whitney, Ian Tolle, Nick Terry, Patrick Bowler; (Front Row): Samuel Schneider, Kyle Costanzo, Roger Tran, Kevin Corely, David Motamed, Christian Sautter

A Tortoise In Residence

by Sherman

Each year, Serra sees a quarter of its students (the seniors) swapped for a new batch of freshmen. Often, there's even a new face or two in the faculty at the dawn of each new term. One member of the Serra community, however, has been a constant for the past 25 years—a track record few can boast. You're probably wondering, “Who is the stalwart?” It's me, fondly known as Sherman, a South American Red-footed Tortoise. I am a relatively young 60 years of age and expect to easily reach 100 and outlive most of my colleagues here at Serra.

A quarter century ago, a student found me near death in his neighborhood. He brought me to the Science Department Chairman Rob Solari, who nursed me back to health with a 6-month regimen of antibiotics and the introduction of a healthy diet. Because I am from the environs surrounding the equator, I can't survive in the cold; I live in the science lab in a climate-controlled terrarium during the cooler winter months and putter around in the Solari family backyard during the summer months. Ask

Mrs. Solari and she will tell you I am her favorite gardening companion. Have you ever seen a tortoise blush? I hear that's what I did when Mr. Solari said, ‘He has quite the personality and loves our biology teacher, Ms. Bohnert.’



Pictured with Sherman from Lt R: Fadi Totah, Jesse Clay, Anthony Totah

I have met countless students over the years including my good friend, current senior Eric Foard. I heard him talking as he led a tour group of eighth grade families through the biology lab during Open House saying, “Sherman is among the Serra community's most well known members, ranking up there with Tom Brady and Barry Bonds...or at least with Mr. Stapleton. Every student for the past 25 years knows who he is! That's thousands of people! If one thing's for certain, it's that Sherman

will have the tortoise demographic at Serra covered for many years to come.”

Boy, with that kind of praise, it makes me feel incredibly blessed to be part of the Serra community.



My Summer Abroad

by Luca Ponti '10

This past summer, I traveled almost 3,500 miles to the small island of Hispaniola (lying between the islands of Cuba to the west, and Puerto Rico to the east) as a volunteer with Amigos De Las Americas. Amigos is a non-profit organization that sends young people abroad to empower youth leaders, advance community development and strengthen multicultural understanding. Volunteers are sent to countries such as Costa Rica, Paraguay, Mexico and my personal favorite, the Dominican Republic, where I resided for eight weeks.

My experience as a volunteer was invigorating and entertaining, but it was also challenging and required a ton of adapting on my part. I was placed in a small community called Sabana Alta in the province of San Juan. I was blessed to live in a small, relatively nice house with my host mom and dad, a nineteen-year old host brother and a six year-old host sister. They are the nicest people in the entire world. They took in a sixteen-year old American and stuffed him full of mangoes, yucca, rice and beans. It is truly amazing how welcoming and generous Dominicans are. They went out of their way to make all of the volunteers as happy and comfortable as possible.

I had an American partner in my community that I had never met before arriving in the Dominican Republic. We were completely disconnected from the States, as well as any other adult Americans unless there was an emergency. My partner, John, was a sixteen-year old from Denver. At first, both of us thought that this summer would be a long one due to our differences, but that soon changed. The minute we sat down and started talking, we found out we weren't as different as we first expected. We instantly became best friends. We became inseparable and quickly became one of Amigos' most successful volunteers.

Of course, my trip was not all fun and games. My partner and I had to run "campamentos," little day camps for the young children in our community. These camps are extremely important because they instill organization in the lives of young kids in which organization is unfamiliar. Aside from the camps, we worked with the local baseball team. We ran training sessions with the kids to help them work on fundamentals and held fund raisers throughout our city to earn money for baseball jerseys.

One of the most memorable moments on my trip was when we had the opportunity to pass out the new jerseys to our young baseball team. The kids were so excited; it made me feel like I was on top of the world. All the hard work I put in, along with the struggle of the language barrier, finally paid off. The whole baseball team sprinted from the town's center (a half mile) to the baseball field, yelling and screaming with excitement. When the team rushed onto the animal covered field (their natural lawn moving system), I felt overwhelmed. I had never seen kids so excited in my life; it was incredible.

"My trip was a life changing experience. I got the opportunity to become part of a truly amazing culture and live the incredible life of a Dominican. It also opened my eyes to see how lucky and fortunate we are."

Luca Ponti '10



Members of “Billy the Kid” (L to R) Owen McInnis ‘10, Robert Boscacci, Dante Bertana ‘10 and Johnny Villar ‘10

“Billy the Kid” Grows Up

Four teenage boys from San Mateo suburbia are tasting the beginnings of musical success — and what a sweet taste it is.

Three-and-a-half years ago, “Billy the Kid” started out as a few seventh graders having fun. Today, while fun is still first priority, the high school juniors’ accomplishments have translated into their first full-length album, *Nefarious Evildoings*.

“We didn’t think it would last more than a few months,” vocalist Johnny Villar ‘10 beamed beneath his striped fedora hat, speaking of the pop-punk-rock band itself. After years of playing shows at several battle of the bands competitions, local venues and even the 2008 San Mateo County Fair, however, “Billy the Kid” has grown up.

“We’re finally starting to make revenue from CDs and shows,” said guitarist Robert Boscacci, “so we can start paying off our parents.”

Drummer Dante Bertana, bassist Owen McInnis, Boscacci and Villar have been buds since kindergarten. Like the famous teenage outlaw who supplied the band’s name, the members of “Billy the Kid” have taken a few risks to get noticed.

At their first battle of the bands in Hayward, the group learned the

pleasure of performing. A gig at an elementary school that started with one 6-year-old fan turned into waves of excited, screaming children.

One show at Castilleja, the all-girls high school in Palo Alto, holds a special place in the band’s performance memory. “They invited us to their dance a week later,” said Villar of the highly satisfying event.

The boys are thankful for the support of their families. “We owe everything to our parents,” Villar said.

“Billy the Kid” identifies their music sound with the likes of the Jonas Brothers and Green Day. The band’s amusing sense of humor surfaces throughout *Nefarious Evildoings*. The all-original songs praise everything from video game nerds to pirates fighting ninjas.

The album’s uplifting tunes and genuine lyrics were inspired by true events. When the band started working on the album a year ago, Villar and Boscacci would walk around their neighborhood and the Hillsdale Shopping Center on weekends, jotting down lyrics as they went.

During the fall, “Billy the Kid” plays nearly one show a week. Check out the band and their upcoming performances at www.myspace.com/btktheband.

2008 Annual Benefit Auction



L to R: Special Events Coordinator Theresa Stoye, Elvis, Co-chairs Robin Strombom and Joan Dentler

The 2008 Annual Benefit Auction “Viva Las Vegas” was certainly a *jackpot* of an evening with the big winners being the young men who attend Serra High School. Special Events Coordinator Theresa Stoye led the way, along with dedicated co-chairs Joan Dentler and Robin Strombom and their entourage of volunteers. Together, they all worked their magic transforming Serra High School into a city of bright lights and shining stars. Thanks to the tremendous generosity and hard work of parents, alumni and friends of Serra, we raised over \$160,000.



Padre Rockers of the 60's to Judge SERRA BATTLE OF THE BANDS 2009



For the past four years, Serra has hosted a “Battle of the Bands” competition for student musicians who play in a band . . . AND are ready for the challenge.

Student Activities Coordinator Patti Ferretti decided to make this year’s event even more exciting by commemorating our Serra “rockers of the 60’s”. The panel of judges will include pioneer Padre rockers from the Class of 1968 [Tony deAlcuaz](#), [Mike Curotto](#), and [Mike Curotto](#)—all who have performed professionally.

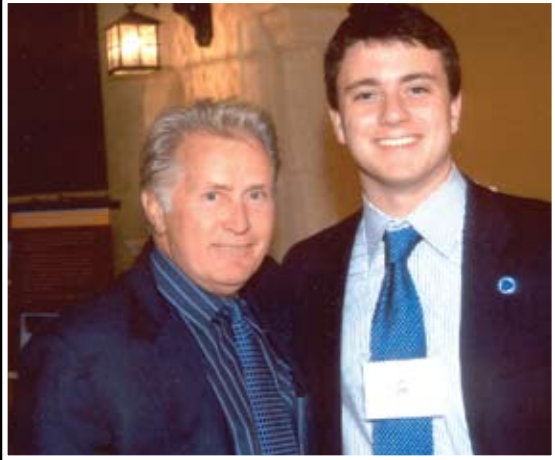
Each band who competes will be requested ahead of time to make at least one of the songs they perform a cover from the 1960’s in whatever style they would like.

The competition will be held on Saturday, April 4 at 1:00pm in Serra’s Gellert Auditorium. Admission is **FREE** to any Padre **alum** who wishes to attend.

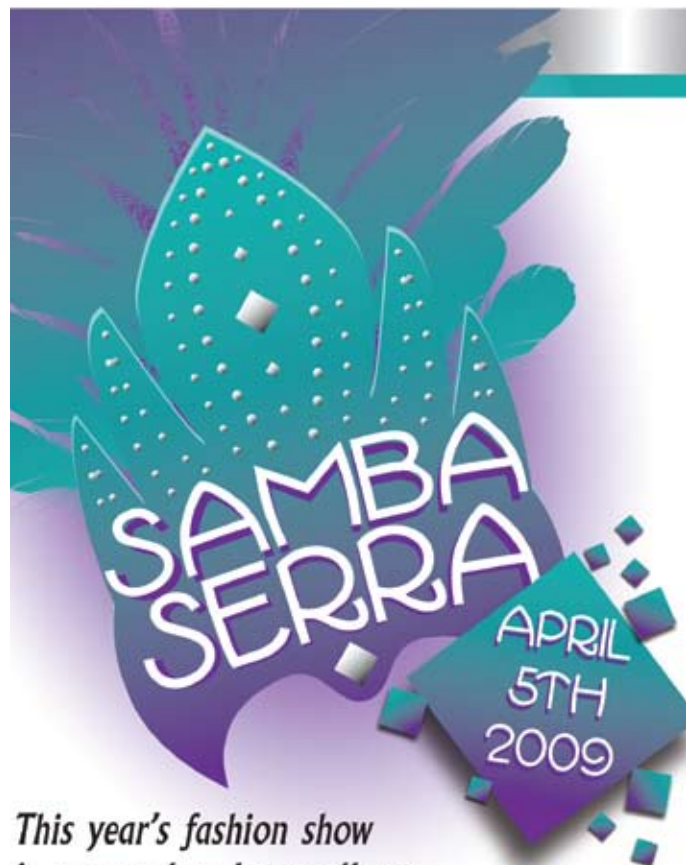
“Humanitarian Heroes”

Starring

Martin Sheen & Andrew Comstock '10



Junior Andrew Comstock was invited to attend a charity benefit reception last October, where he met Award Winning Actor and Humanitarian Martin Sheen. The benefit reception was sponsored by a local charity known as the “Shelter Network,” whose mission is committed to providing housing and support services for bay area homeless families. The network is currently working with over 7,000 homeless individuals in San Mateo County. Sheen was the keynote speaker for the benefit, which was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Burlingame. Andrew, also a humanitarian, continues to volunteer countless hours at Seton Medical Center, as well as several other charitable organizations. Andrew also has the distinguished title of being the youngest ambassador for the Daly City-Colma Chamber of Commerce.



*This year's fashion show
is expected to be a sell out.*

So mark your calendars now!

*Please watch your mailboxes for further information in 2009.
If you are an alumnus, please be sure to register with the Padre Online
Alumni Community, so that you will receive information via e-mail.
Visit Serra's website at www.serrahs.com and click on "Alumni."*

2008 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Rob Leary '82
Baseball &
Football

Bob Kane '60
Baseball &
Football

Gabe Esposto '95
Swimming &
Water Polo

Ian Loveseth '70
Swimming,
Water Polo,
Special Category
(Rugby)

Jim Walsh '75
Baseball,
Basketball,
Football,
Track & Field

Jim Monahan
Special
Category
(Coaching)

Sean McGee '91
Basketball

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The Serra High School Athletic Department, in conjunction with the Serra Alumni Association, held its 2008 Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Banquet on September 12th at the Crowne Plaza in Foster City. The ceremony was an evening of humility, gratitude, motivation and plenty of laughs as the award recipients reminisced about memorable moments of their days at Serra.

Athletic Director Kevin Donahue continued his traditional role as Master of Ceremonies by introducing the seven new outstanding Hall of Fame members. The Athletic Hall of Fame exists to honor graduates who, during their years at Serra, exhibited extraordinary 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 athletic program.



JIM MONAHAN ~ Special Category

Jim Monahan has touched the lives of student-athletes from the moment he walked on the campus in 1959 until his retirement in 1998. Jim was an outstanding teacher who took on the role of preparing young Padres for the future. He was a longtime freshman coach in football. He created a sense of pride and enthusiasm in his players, as well as the basic fundamentals of the sport. He did a great job of preparing his players for the next level. Success at the freshman level is not measured by wins or losses, but how prepared the athletes are to move on to the next level. Jim excelled in this area. He created a passion in his players for the sport and a sound foundation of fundamentals. In 1976, his freshman team was undefeated. Jim's coaching was not limited to football. He became the head soccer coach in 1978 and won the WCAL title in 1980. The 1980 team were CCS Region I Champions and ended up third place in the section. Jim also led the freshman B basketball team to an undefeated season in 1974. Jim Monahan dedicated his life to the students of Junípero Serra High School. He was an outstanding teacher both in the classroom and on the field. He had a tremendous impact on his students and prepared them not only for the field of athletic competition, but also prepared them for life.

BOB KANE '60 ~ Baseball, Football

Bob Kane was an outstanding two-sport athlete in baseball and football for the Padres from 1958-1960. Bob was the starting quarterback for the football team and the starting right fielder for the baseball team. Bob's football accomplishments earned him many honors, including First Team All-San Mateo County in both his junior and senior years, Second Team All-CAL as a junior and First Team All-CAL as a senior. Kane is in the Serra record books as fourth best in most career passing yards (1,973), fourth in most career completions (148), fourth in most passes attempted (300) in a career, and fifth in most touchdowns in a career (17). Bob also has the third longest pass play teaming up with Bob Garratt for 87 yards against Mission in 1958. As a senior, Bob Kane was named by his teammates as Most Valuable Player. Following his career at Serra, Bob Kane accepted a football scholarship to Marquette University. When Marquette dropped football in 1960, Bob transferred to San Jose State. On the baseball field, Kane was a member of championship teams both his junior and senior years. He started in right field for Padre baseball teams that were 39-12-3 overall and 20-4-1 in the Catholic Athletic League during a two year period.

IAN LOVESETH '70 ~ Swimming, Special Category

Ian Loveseth was a three-year varsity swimmer and a key member of the Padre championship squads during those years. He is also being inducted in a "special category" for his accomplishments in rugby after his swimming career ended. Ian set a WCAL record in the 100 yard freestyle in 1970 with a mark of 48.8. He was also a member of the record breaking 400 meter relay team which also set a WCAL record with a time of 3:19.6. The 400 meter relay team won the WCAL and they were crowned champions of the Central Coast Section. In the sectional championship they defeated then national power Santa Clara who had several Olympians on the roster. Loveseth earned All-American recognition for his efforts as a senior.

ROB LEARY '82 ~ Baseball, Football

Rob Leary started Serra as a quarterback on the football team and a catcher on the baseball team. His contributions went beyond his accomplishments on the field; he was also a leader and highly respected among his teammates. Baseball is where Rob excelled. During his junior year, he was the starting designated hitter, earning All-WCAL honors. As a senior, he was the starting catcher on a team that went 24-7 and named All-WCAL. Other post season honors included All San Mateo County & Honorable Mention All Northern California. Recognizing his outstanding leadership qualities, Rob was honored by his teammates by being named the recipient of the Dan Frisella Award. Moving on to CSM, Rob earned All Golden Gate Conference recognition as a catcher. He received a scholarship to play baseball at Louisiana State, where he was the starting catcher for the Tigers earning All SEC honors. He led his team to its first College World Series appearance in 15 years garnering All-Regional recognition. His teammates elected him captain during his senior year. Rob was drafted by the Montreal Expos in 1986 and worked his way up the ranks reaching the AAA level, one step away from the majors. Leary finished his playing career as a player coach for the Rockford Expos of the Midwest League. In 1996, he was voted into the Rockford Athletic Hall of Fame. The qualities that Rob showed as a player coach paved the way for his move into a career of coaching, scouting and teaching the game that he loved. In his 20 years of professional baseball, Rob has earned three World Series rings, with his last two being with the storied franchise of the Boston Red Sox.

SEAN MCGEE '91 ~ Basketball

Sean McGee's accomplishments in basketball cannot be summed up by statistics, awards and recognitions alone. Sean was the key to the success of the varsity basketball teams of 1989-90 and 1990-91. Sean not only excelled on the court with his skills, but it was his leadership and competitiveness that set him apart. Coach John Grosey calls Sean "A winner, plain and simple — His leadership, tenacity, work effort and ability to motivate his teammates to become better were the reasons Serra was successful on the court." During Sean's junior year, the varsity team finished second in the WCAL while being picked to finish last. As a senior, the team won the WCAL Round Robin. The 1991 team went on to become the first Serra basketball team to win a Central Coast Championship and the first Serra team to win a Northern California game. Once again, it was Sean's leadership that paved the way. Sean was Honorable Mention as a junior and a Second Team All WCAL selection as a senior. McGee holds all of the school's assist records. He has a single game record of 16, a season record of 158 and a career record of 260. He was also named First Team All-county, Second Team All Peninsula and Third Team All Metro as a senior. He was also Co-Most Valuable Player for basketball for the 1990-1991 season.

JIM WALSH '75 ~ Baseball, Basketball, Football, Track

Jim Walsh was an outstanding all-around athlete at Serra, lettering in four varsity sports — an accomplishment that few are able to achieve. He was a two-year letterman in football. During his career, he rushed for 1,268 yards placing him 10th on the all time list. His single season total of 931 yards places Jim 5th in the record books. He was a work horse in the backfield, carrying the ball 240 times in his two-year career. Jim was named First Team San Mateo County & Honorable Mention All-CCS. He also had an outstanding track career for the Padres. Walsh was WCAL Champion in the 220 yard sprint and a member of the WCAL Champion 4x110 relay team in '74. He was San Mateo City Meet Champion in the 100, 220 and 4x100 relay. The 4x100 relay team set what was then a school record with a time of 43.6. Jim also played varsity baseball and basketball, being named basketball's Most Inspirational Player his senior year. He started his collegiate football career at UC Riverside, where he was conference leader in kick off returns, averaging 23.8 yards per return. He was named UC Riverside Rookie of the Year in '75 as member of the CCAA Championship team. UC Riverside dropped football after his rookie season and Jim transferred to CSM, where he continued his career in football & track. He earned All GGC honors and was voted Most Inspirational Player by his teammates in '77. After CSM, Walsh enrolled at San Jose State and was a two-year letterman in football. He made Second Team All-PCAA, led the team in receptions with 46, was team leader in carries, 5.6 per game, and rushed for over 200 yds in a single game. In 1980 Jim Walsh signed with the Buffalo Bills and finished his career with the Seattle Seahawks in 1981.

GABE ESPOSTO '95 ~ Water Polo, Swimming

Gabe Esposto is arguably the greatest water polo player the Padres have ever produced. His exploits in the pool catapulted him into the collegiate ranks, where he became a standout for the University of Pacific. As a two-year starter for the Padres, Gabe was a key to Serra's reaching the Central Coast Section's Division I championship games in 1993 and 1994. Gabe was Second Team All-WCAL as a junior, while leading the team in assists and was second in scoring. He was also named Honorable Mention All-CCS. As a senior, he set a school record for most career goals (278), while being named the team's Most Valuable Player and captain. He was named First Team All-WCAL, Second Team All-CCS and Fifth Team All-American. The summer prior to beginning his collegiate career at the University of Pacific, Gabe played for the Stanford Water Polo Club. Once again, he was named team captain and led the club to a second place finish in the 1995 U.S. National Junior Olympic Championships. At UOP, Gabe became the starting hole-set during his sophomore year. As a junior, he was the leading scorer until an injury cut his season short. During his senior year, he was named team captain and led the team in scoring with 43 goals. Gabe was tenth in the league in scoring, first in percentage on goal, and first in assists. He was named all conference and became the third water polo player in UOP history to be named All-American.



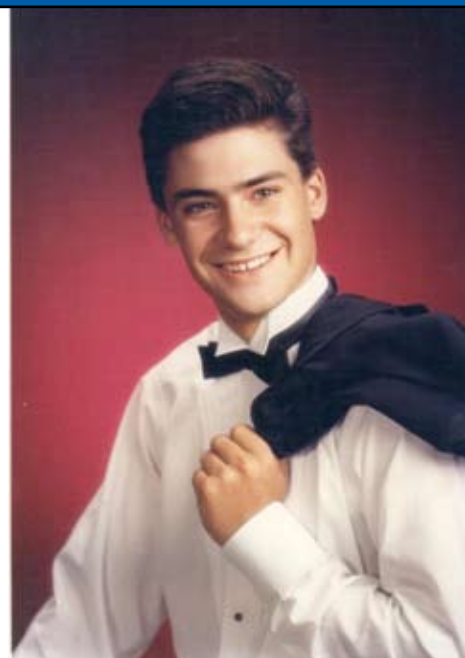
Remembering Casey Turturici '91

His Spirit of Giving Lives On

by Michelle Wilkinson

For a parent, the agony of losing a child at any age is unparalleled. There is no age or point in time that makes it any easier. It is an event that is totally contrary to the natural order we expect life to follow. The heartbreaking loss carries with it the loss of the future, the hopes, dreams and potential that can never be fulfilled.

baseball team and wanted more than anything to be a varsity starter. One afternoon, as Casey got out of his car after returning home from practice, he could hear the words of John Fogerty blasting from the inside of his house. His father had purchased Fogerty's 1985 hit, "Put me in Coach; I'm ready to play" as a way to inspire him—what is exactly what it did.



Casey Turturici '91 passed away on Memorial Day 1996, after a courageous five-year battle with cancer. Casey grew up in San Carlos with his older brother [Matt '88](#) (currently a San Mateo Fire Captain) and young stepsister Dena Presotto (NDB '97). He attended St. Charles Elementary School and played Little League baseball, where many of his long-term friendships began. As a matter of fact, according to childhood friend and Padre alum [Mike Wolger '91](#), several *future* Padres are featured in an eighth grade "All-Star Baseball" video he still has in his possession. Star players included [Casey](#), [Gavin Baugh](#), [Matt Bazzani](#), [Troy Dooley](#) and perhaps more.

It was during these formative years that Casey started thinking about attending high school at Serra. But it wasn't until he witnessed a WCAL Championship game and watched his idol [Tim McKercher '84](#) play catcher, however, that Casey knew he was destined to be a Padre. Several of Casey's classmates from St. Charles joined him at Serra, while others went on to St. Francis High School in Mountain View. Casey made it a point, though, to maintain his relationship with friends from both schools.

Although Casey struggled with his studies at times, he enjoyed his days as a Padre and embraced the "brotherhood" completely. He worked hard in order to make the cut on Coach Jensen's

I met Casey's father [Mike Turturici '63](#) (aka Mr. "T") days before the Thanksgiving holiday this past November. He had been invited back to Serra by former Principal Mike Peterson, who had set up a meeting to discuss the generous donation his foundation has made to Serra's Academic Resource Center. Also present at the meeting were former '91 classmates [Gavin Baugh](#) and [John Crowe](#), as well as communications assistant Pam Robbins.

Although it has been over a decade since Casey has been gone, it was difficult for his father to hold back his tears as he spoke about his beloved son. Happiness and sadness co-existed in the same moment as Mr. Turturici described how Casey had a way of "lighting up a room and how people would simply gravitate towards him wherever he would go." He spoke about his contagious smile and fun-loving personality that allowed him to make friends easily with everyone he came in contact with. Not only did he love to laugh, but he truly cared about others—especially his family.

Gavin and John's comments about their friend mirrored those of Mr. Turturici. "Casey was a great person and he just got along with everybody," said Gavin.

Upon graduation from Serra, Casey moved to Chico to attend school, but it wasn't long before his lymphoma was diagnosed. That was also around the time that golf began to play an important part in Casey's life. According to his sister Dena, Casey was a natural athlete and "golf was very therapeutic for him."

As Casey's cancer treatments progressed, he eventually returned home to the Bay Area. He worked as a golf-pro at San Jose Municipal, where he provided group lessons. During his therapy sessions at Stanford, he would sneak off to the golf course almost every day to play the same four holes, sometimes twice.

Shortly after Casey passed away, family and friends organized the *Casey Turturici Memorial Golf Tournament*. This year will mark its 13th year and although the theme, format and prizes change from year to year, the true theme, "Friends Getting Together With Friends" remains the same. Many long-time friends and supporters refer to it more fondly as "The Bug" tournament," after Casey's nickname and the tournament's official logo.



'91 Classmates Jim Masetti, Gavin Baugh and Casey Turturici



Casey received his nickname from his father, who called him "scooter bug" as a baby because he would crawl backwards all the time. Eventually, it was shortened to "bug," "buggy," or just "The Bug."

Past organizers of the tournament include many former Padre classmates, as well as Casey's high school girlfriend Trina "Burns" Dean, who remains close to the family and continues to play an integral role in its success. Family and friends take to the greens each year from all over the Bay Area and from as far away as Connecticut. Participants have more than doubled in size since the first tournament held at San Jose Muni (Labor Day 1996) to its current home at Poplar Creek. At the 10th Anniversary of the tournament, the entire Serra baseball team was in attendance. This very special day each year serves not only as a warm reminder of Casey's life, but as a wonderful way to stay connected to the many people whose lives Casey has touched.

The tournament also keeps alive Casey's spirit of giving back. Proceeds raised each year continue to benefit the local community. The foundation has offered assistance to a young man, out of insurance, with his cancer bills. A donation has been made to DeAnza College's new state-of-the-art planetarium, which is ranked as one of the two finest in the U.S. Another year, they supported the Menlo-Atherton campus radio station. Recently, Mr. "T" informed me that they will be sending some help to another individual without insurance who requires surgery to remove a tumor.

"It's really amazing what a group of people can do by getting together and enjoying each other's company, having a lot of laughs and kicking in a few bucks," said Turturici.

The decision to support Serra's Academic Resource Center was made after Mr. "T" learned about the program and its mission from Michael Peterson. The success of the ARC has helped students with learning differences become successful learners and develop the tools necessary to succeed in college.

"Casey really could have used such a program when he attended Serra," said Turturici. "I know that his four years could have been more enjoyable had he been provided a mentor and accommodations to help him out. The students today are very fortunate to have this great program."



Trina "Burns" Dean



Gavin Baugh '91, Mike Peterson, Mike Turturici '63, John Crowe '91



Serra alums get together for "The Padre Whisper" at the Casey Turturici Memorial Golf Tournament



Al Bianchini, Mike Wolger '91, Joe Desenger



Peggy Turturi and Dena Presotto



'Bob Vock '87, Andy Cost '88, Tim Burke and Matt Turturici '88

For more information on this year's tournament to be held on Sunday, September 13, email Mr. "T" at: mike1369@mac.com.



Participants from Serra and Notre Dame (Belmont) at the gate of Fort Benning in Columbus, Georgia. Serra participants include Eric Morin, Liz Keate, Brian McAtee, John Hawkins, Max Kaindl, Bernard Lee, Campus Minister Kyle Lierk, Patrick Cody, and Sr. Celeste Nuttman.

“Presenté!” Working for Justice

by Kyle Lierk, Campus Minister

This season of Christmas is one that allows us to deliberately stop for a moment in the midst of schedules and meetings, practices and homework, fights and forgiveness to recognize the power of our God. God’s love for us manifests itself in flesh and bone in the coming of Jesus into the world. Among many things, the mission of Jesus was to establish peace on our earth. It is not unusual to see this message even in the most secular of places like the mall — a cut-out sparkling script of a window display that reads “Peace on Earth.”

What is this peace that Jesus embodied? In the biblical sense, it is shalom or “right relationship.” It is about more than just affording people their rights as human beings made in the image and likeness of God; it is about working to heal brokenness in the human relationship.

Pope Paul VI made this blatantly clear in his Day of Peace message on January 1, 1972 when he re-configured the words of the prophet Isaiah (Is 32:17) and said, “If you want Peace, work for Justice.” True and lasting peace comes when we do the hard work of living in and bringing about healthy relationships, especially when there is a history of oppression in those relationships.

Four students and five adults from Serra did this very work during the weekend of November 21-23. They traveled with an equally-sized group from Notre Dame (Belmont) to Fort Benning in Columbus, Georgia. Joining with 20,000 others, many of whom were high school and college students, this group learned, dialogued, and prayed about the formerly named School of the Americas (now called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation). This school has a history of involvement with training Latin American soldiers who have been indicted on human rights abuses in Central and South America, including the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero in El Salvador in 1980.

The weekend was comprised of a teach-in (complete with workshops), a protest, and a vigil to remember those killed by S.O.A. graduates. Perhaps the best description of the weekend experience comes in the words of some of the students who participated. They are written in the form of a guided meditation which invites the reader to put themselves in the scene being described.

“You hear stories of how inhumane the working conditions are in third world countries . . . Then you listen to this man who has been there and has seen it first hand . . . He tells you that the people working can’t even have three full meals a day with the wages they receive. They tell you of the excuses the corporations put out to keep selling their \$300 sneakers when it only takes \$20 to make . . . You realize the things you spend your money on doesn’t go to the workers, but to the leaders of these corporations.”

(Bernard Lee ‘09)

“Mass starts, the mass of thousands of people start singing and humming . . . Your heart is filled with the love of strangers; your spirit is overflowing with the power of Christ; your ears are being serenaded by the voice of a thousand; your eyes are being bombarded with light and with the faces of those around, the smiles glistening . . . You feel happy . . . Happy . . . You’re curious; you have never felt this feeling before, so pure, so true, the love of Christ has finally come upon you. It is as if all these thousands of people lay hands on you and it literally worked . . . the holy spirit was in you and you feel it filling up your lungs, heart, mind, arms, legs, stomach; you feel it all.”

(Max Kaindl ‘09)

“You stand and face down the gate [of Fort Benning] . . . After a meditative moment, you turn around and proceed back with your group . . . A few feet, so many yards, maybe miles, and possibly equator-length spans pass as you walk silently back . . . You sit down on the concrete with the group, and stare back at the fence . . . It is its own impenetrable world that you just exited . . . An electric thrill races down your body as you realize you just participated in what may have been the most consequential, meaningful gathering of your life . . . You stand up, distancing yourself from the heady stupor you were in . . . There’s still work to be done.”

(John Hawkins ‘10)

As we watch the window displays in the mall hastily replace “Peace on Earth” with “Happy Valentine’s Day,” let us be less quick to forget the message of peace that Jesus shares with us. “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (JN 20:21) We are each called to bring about peace by working for justice, even when the Christmas decorations are put away.

Students also visited the Martin Luther King National Historic Center, where they stood on the front steps of King’s childhood home.

“Visiting his house was powerful because it really humanized him. I felt as if I was right there with him, like he wasn’t just some great, grand figure who had liberated a whole people. He was a human just like me; he was a kid that sabotaged his piano in order to get out of playing, a kid that never cleaned his room, and a kid that had to do work and go to school.”

Max Kaindl

Pictured L to R: Max Kaindl, John Hawkins, Bernard Lee and Brian McAtee



From the words of a true Serra Padre Senior Alex Pineda

... spoken at the first Mass of the Year (the Mass of the Holy Spirit)

In this Scripture from the Gospel of Luke, we see Jesus called by God to relieve the pain of the suffering. He tells the people of Nazareth that the Spirit of the Lord is with him because he was “anointed” by God. God chose him. God chose him to heal the sick. To help the poor. To free the enslaved. Jesus did not wake up one day and say to himself, “I think I am going to be the Messiah today.” God laid a path out before him and Jesus chose to walk that path. Jesus chose to accept his responsibility. This piece of scripture is about accepting the responsibility that God puts before you. In Jesus’ case, he chose to free the oppressed, bring sight to the blind, bring happiness to the poor and bring liberty to the captives. That was his responsibility; that was his choice.

As I tried to apply this passage to my life, I thought to myself, “How could I begin to compare my responsibilities to those of Jesus?” Then I realized that I shouldn’t be comparing myself to Jesus, but learning from his example. At the start of my senior year, I can already see the path that lies ahead — it is not an easy one. I have to deal with classes (three of which are AP), a job, college applications, the SAT II and the school newspaper — not to mention I want to spend time with my girlfriend, hang out with my friends, and spend time with my family. When I read this piece of scripture, however, I understood how I am to do all of that. These are my responsibilities; this is my path. I must take on each one, as Jesus did. I must assume this undertaking. God has laid out this path for me because he has chosen me to do well in this world; God has destined me for great things. I know this for the same reason you should all know this: I go to Serra. Serra is the place where the foundation is laid for greatness.



As men of Faith, we must recognize God’s call to us; we must recognize when he lays a path in front of us. We must also realize, as Jesus did, that we are not alone in walking that path. The Holy Spirit is there to guide us, and grant us strength, grant us fortitude. It is one thing to have fortitude—everyone in this room has it—but it is quite another to use it. We must use that strength in order to assume our undertakings; use it during those late night essays, the long study sessions, and the mountains of homework. Freshmen, Mr. Taylor told you that you are not Padres just because you wear the sweatshirt. To become true Padres, it takes fortitude. Sophomores, you are now role models for your freshmen brothers; it takes fortitude to take on such a responsibility. Juniors, it takes strength to get through one of your hardest years. And my fellow Seniors, it takes fortitude to be the men God calls us to be. Men of Faith, Wisdom and Service. Leaders of our community and eventual leaders of our world. Thank you and may God Bless You.

Serra Big Brothers Adopt Families



Under the guidance of Co-Presidents [Sammy Runco](#) and [J. P. Rastrullo](#) and moderators Kyle Lierk and Kim Bohnert, Big Brothers spent a Saturday morning in early December shopping for twenty Adopt-A-Families. Approximately 30 juniors and seniors were assigned a family, provided a gift wish list (including clothes sizes), and a budget. The group, along with Serra staff volunteers, completed the shopping with the assistance of store personnel and then delivered the gifts to the Serra Chapel. These gifts, along with food donations, household supplies and clothing, were sorted and packed and delivered the following week to 20 Adopt-A-Families in the San Mateo area.

The Serra Big Brothers have held pizza and Jamba Juice sales every Friday during the first semester, relied on donations and used proceeds from a student council dance to raise money to help these struggling families. Runco was involved in five of the home deliveries and told a story about one of his visits commenting, “It’s cool to see the looks on the faces of the family members when we drop off their food and gifts. We knocked on one door where the mother was so excited to see us and so grateful. Her little boy, who must have been three or four, came running to the door and was smiling, laughing and shouting when we gave him a football and a basketball.” Runco concluded, “It was really an amazing feeling to be able to help these families.”

Serra’s Big Brothers number about seventy, some of whom were involved in the preparation and shopping, while others helped out with the delivery. The Big Brothers also serve the school during Freshmen Orientation, providing a variety of activities to help incoming freshmen acclimate themselves to Serra and to feel welcome.

STUDENTS SERVE AT SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

San Carlos' Second Harvest Food Bank is a popular stop for members of the Serra Community. The Serra Fathers' Club regularly sends groups of dads and students to help out. In recent months, small groups of students have donated their time on an individual basis at the center. Prior to the Thanksgiving holiday, a group of eighteen students joined faculty members Mike Peterson, Randy Vogel and Pam Robbins to volunteer at the food bank to help sort and package food to be distributed to San Mateo County families during the holiday season. The group worked for an evening sorting food, bagging fruit and making boxes for the hungry of San Mateo County. Along with volunteers from Sacred Heart Prep and Carlmont High Schools, as well as a couple of local organizations, the Serra group sorted more than eight tons of food and packaged several thousand oranges that evening. The students were eager to give of their time to assist others in their community, especially during the holidays.

Many of the students working that evening expressed thanks for all their blessings and realized how fortunate they are. Sophomore [Matt Silvestri](#), who has helped at the food bank in the past, summed up these feelings commenting, "When you realize how many people living in your community don't have some of the basic things that we take for granted, you are happy to do what ever you can to help make their lives better." He added, "It makes me feel good inside to know that I'm helping a good cause."

Vogel noted, "Assisting at a non-profit agency such as Second Harvest Food Bank does make a significant impact on many of those who help and, as a result, it often motivates each of us to consider additional opportunities to help others at a future time."



Matt Silvestri '11, Nick Totagrande '11, Tim Boudreau '12, Peter Torre '11

Serra Students Help Fill Toy Boxes

For the tenth consecutive year, Serra students 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. This year's drive had a special twist. Theology teacher Ed Taylor instituted a raffle, with the winner getting to shave off Mr. Taylor's goatee. He also promised that if more than \$1000 was collected from the raffle, the winner would also have the privilege of shaving Mr. T's head.

The raffle drive was extremely successful, netting more than \$1200. Besides the raffle, additional donations from students, faculty and parents added another \$850 to the total. Art teachers Peg Farrell and Sr. Celeste supported Nancy's toy box with a generous cash donation from the proceeds of the Winter Art Show.

On the Friday before finals, the main lobby was packed to witness



Nancy Torres and "Santa's Helpers"

raffle winner [Andrew Buckley](#) '10 "Snip the Goatee off Mr. T." Andrew also won a five pound Hershey Bar from Mr. T.

The "Toy Box" program was established by Nancy Torres thirty years ago when her husband built the first toy box, which was placed in the oncology ward at Kaiser Hospital in Redwood City. Mrs. Torres currently serves twelve hospitals, eight in Northern California, all equipped with pediatric oncology units treating children with cancer. Following each treatment, children can unlock the toy box and select a new toy. Motivated partly by losing her father to cancer many years ago and by her love for children, Nancy quietly operates "A Very Special Toy Box" out of her Redwood City home.

Executive Council member [Zack Alspaugh](#) and sophomore [Eddie Velado](#) assisted Mr. T in shopping for toys and found the experience rewarding. "I liked helping out," commented Alspaugh. "I am glad we can do something to make a difference in the lives of others." Additional toys this year were collected through Mr. T's theology classes and the math classes of Bruce Anthony and Randy Vogel.



Mr. "T" and Andrew Buckley '10

A Standing “O” at the Sydney Opera House

Serra’s Men Chorus Performs at World Youth Day 2008

by J. Jordan

We can live together. It was 4:30 a.m. on what was soon to be our third morning in Sydney, and I awoke with the chorus of a song running through my head. Fumbling for a pencil and paper in the unfamiliar hotel room, I jotted down the lyrics before trying to get a little more sleep. This promised to be another exciting day as we were scheduled to rehearse with Geoff Bullock, the composer of the three songs we would be singing at the Evening Vigil. At present though, my only thought was “have I heard this song before?”

It was hard to imagine that over a year had passed since the flyer from Heritage Festivals inviting performing groups to be part of World Youth Day 2008 in Sydney, Australia came across my desk. Heritage, one of the most respected names in the huge industry known as “performance travel,” typically invites groups to compete in their festivals at “destination” cities all over the world, including Sydney. This event was different, though. Instead of competing, participating groups would be part of World Youth Day events, including those attended by Pope Benedict XVI. I had not been aware of World Youth Day prior to this opportunity, but I came to learn that World Youth Day was established by Pope John Paul II in 1986 as an annual event to reach out to young people—and that it had grown into the largest gathering of Catholic youth in the world (4 million people attended WYD, Manila in 1995). Representatives from Heritage were told by WYD organizers in Sydney that they expected at least 400,000 people to attend, making it potentially the largest public gathering in Australian history, bigger even than the 2000 Olympics. I also heard from Serra’s Assistant-Principal of Student Services Marybeth Ortiz, who had attended WYD in Denver in 1993, that for her it was a once-in-a-lifetime, transformative experience.

At the time I received the Heritage flyer, the Serra Men’s Chorus was basking in the glow of their second consecutive “Unanimous Superior” rating at the California Music Educators Association festival. From the first mention of the trip, there was great interest from the chorus members

and, most importantly, an enthusiastic pledge of support from the administration and the chorus parents. As the details of the trip itinerary evolved over the ensuing months, it looked like it was going to be quite an experience: a performance in the world-famous Sydney Opera House and two performances at WYD, one at the Evening Vigil the night before Pope Benedict celebrated Mass, the other at the conclusion of WYD.

The trip got off to a rocky start with a flight delay—not a couple of hours, but an entire day! This meant that we were going to miss the opening ceremonies for WYD and that we would be doing the Opera House performance the day we arrived, jet lagged or not.

Upon arrival at 6:30 a.m. Sydney time, Qantas did their best to get us through Customs quickly by assigning personal customs agents to our group of fourteen students and seven adults. We were then whisked straight to the Opera House for a 7:30 a.m. sound check. We missed it by minutes as the venue, the main concert hall, had to be set up for a WYD Catechesis (think “retreat rally”). Oh well.

After a sneak peak at the stage, we departed for our hotel in Macquarie, about twenty minutes outside Sydney. Then,

following a quick shower and rest, it was back to the Opera House for the performance. Flashing their newly acquired backstage security passes, the chorus was visibly excited as we were escorted to dressing rooms that have been occupied by some of the most famous musicians in the world. As we were being ushered to the stage of the concert hall, the largest venue in the massive Opera House complex, we had no idea how many people, if any, would be there to hear us. When the chorus walked out on stage, they were greeted by whoops and hollers and thunderous applause from nearly 2,000 teenagers from all over the world – and we hadn’t even sung a note yet! We later learned that WYD participants were being referred to as “pilgrims” and the ones on hand for our 30-minute set were the most incredible audience we could have hoped for,



“Flashing their newly acquired backstage security passes, the chorus was visibly excited as we were escorted to dressing rooms that have been occupied by some of the most famous musicians in the world.”
J. Jordan



respectfully listening to every song and going wild at the end of each one. When we finished, we received a lengthy standing ovation. As the boys left the stage, one of the chaperones noticed that they were literally shaking with excitement. Throughout the rest of our week in Sydney, pilgrims who recognized our tour jackets would point and yell “Opera House, Opera House!” The day ended at a restaurant on the harbor where many of the boys ordered seared kangaroo. It was hard to imagine that the best was yet to come.

The next two days were spent enjoying some of the planned WYD activities and rehearsing. We spent the second morning at the Sydney Entertainment Centre for our own Catechesis. Imagine a venue the size of H.P. Pavilion, three-quarters full of WYD pilgrims, singing, chanting, waving their country’s flag, listening to the Word of God, and, more than anything else, enjoying being there. I looked around the venue and, holding back tears, thought, “this is the world, right here, these young people proving that we can live together.”

For the Pope’s arrival later that day, we were stationed at a large park called “The Domain,” watching his arrival by boat in the harbor on giant video screens. He would eventually drive by in the Pope Mobile less than twenty feet from where we were standing. In the meantime, with the park full of pilgrims, there was singing, dancing and waving of flags. We met people from as close to home as San Jose and as far away as Qatar, China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Italy, England, Ireland, Germany, South Africa, Spain, France, Puerto Rico and many from New Zealand and Australia.

I had never heard of Geoff Bullock. In the weeks leading up to our departure, we were informed that, along with the Notre Dame (Belmont) Chorus, we would be part of a larger chorus that would be accompanying him on three of his songs. As the details of the performance came together, Jackie Love and Margaret Ulrich, two well-known Australian pop singers, were added to the bill. The songs, “The Great Southland (of the Holy Spirit),” “This Kingdom,” and “The Power of Your Love” were all well-crafted praise songs and the choirs embraced them—especially “The Power of Your Love.” During the bus ride from the airport to the Opera House the morning we arrived, I was informed that there was no “larger chorus.” The Serra Men’s Chorus and the Notre Dame Chorus would be the only two American choirs performing at the Vigil ceremony. Darn, I wish we’d practiced the songs a bit more!

The third day was spent rehearsing, in the morning with Geoff Bullock, and in the afternoon with the full “cast.” Our set now included two solo songs each by Jackie Love and Margaret Ulrich, the Notre Dame Chorus doing “Media Vita” and the Serra Men’s Chorus singing

“Come to the Music” (our festival opener), and our combined choirs accompanying Geoff Bullock on his songs. “The Power of Your Love” was selected to be the finale and would include Love and Ulrich singing lead, Bullock at the piano, violinist Glenn Rhodes, and the combined choruses singing backup. It was great fun collaborating on the musical arrangements that were, more or less, being created on the spot. Geoff Bullock turned out to be one of the kindest people I’ve met, not to mention a fantastic songwriter.

We spent the evening at Barangaroo, WYD central, a huge abandoned wharf at Darling Harbor, watching the beautifully produced Stations of the Cross. Using live actors, live and canned music and narration, and theatrical lighting the Stations were presented at fourteen stops along Darling Harbor and broadcast to video screens and speakers covering all of the harbor and Barangaroo. It was one of the most spiritual moments of the trip followed by one of the most memorable.

When the event ended, we faced a 30-minute walk back to the bus. As we hurried along in the brisk night (it was winter in Sydney) the boys began to sing “Doo Wah Diddy Diddy,” “The Lion Sleeps Tonight,” and any number of “oldies.” Gradually the entire throng near us, who were also hustling to their destinations, joined in. Before long the Serra “pied pipers” had attracted quite a bit of attention and, when they reached the bridge that crosses Darling Harbor, they were asked to stop and sing one of their own songs. Naturally they obliged, much to the consternation of the police officer whose job it was to keep everyone moving. Mary McInnis, our head chaperone, gently cajoled him into letting them finish the number. Throughout this entire escapade, I was but a bemused bystander, neither instigating nor quashing the proceedings.

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“I looked around the venue and, holding back tears, thought, ‘this is the world—right here—these young people proving that we can live together.’”

J. Jordan





Finally, the day of the “big gig” arrived. WYD itineraries typically include a pilgrimage walk and an evening vigil, after which pilgrims spend the night camping out until the Papal Mass the following morning. In Sydney these events were to take place at the Royal Randwick Racecourse (renamed “Southern Cross Precinct” for WYD), a plush horse race track outside of the city. At great expense (the prized horses had to be relocated for the week) the racetrack was converted into a massive, outdoor venue, complete with a gigantic, multi-tiered stage with full-scale concert lighting and sound, and enough jumbo video screens and sound towers so that one could see and hear everything no matter where they were. We arrived early in the morning for a sound check and immediately got a taste of the level of security employed whenever the Pope is in the vicinity. Bags were searched and scanned, as were individuals, and everyone in our group had to sport security passes that allowed us to be within 100 meters of the Pope. From the stage, we could see the earliest-arriving pilgrims, who had walked an average of 10 kilometers, way off in the distance, in the venue but nearly a quarter of a mile away!

Both choruses were assigned a conference room to use as our dressing area on the University of New South Wales campus, adjacent to Royal Randwick Racecourse. Though we were not scheduled to perform for several hours, we really had no choice but to stay there as the entire area was steadily filling with pilgrims and it would have been impossible to leave and come back. After lunch the Men’s Chorus napped on the floor of the conference room, lying with their heads together in a circle in a sign of unity, another unexpected special moment. When we finally moved out, our entire entourage, choruses, chaperones and Heritage personnel, was escorted back stage, moving through several security checkpoints where everyone had to show their passes for clearance. As we approached the racecourse from a hill behind the stage, we got our first glimpse of the crowd, which had grown to an estimated 350,000 pilgrims. It was overwhelming. While we waited to go on we watched the Matt Maher Band, a great Christian Rock band from Mesa, Arizona, on the JumboTron. The Notre Dame girls seemed particularly smitten with the lead guitar player and were thrilled when he, and the rest of the band, hung with us during the set change for our performance.

It was twilight when the Men’s Chorus hit the stage. Standing in the cool evening breeze, they didn’t appear nervous in the least, even though they were looking out on the largest audience any of us had ever seen. To be honest, it was hard to feel connected to the listeners because there were so many of them and they were so far away, again due to the restrictions in place for the Pope. But all of us remember the last note of our song. As the chorus sang a hearty “Alleluia,” we heard the note being passed from one sound tower to another across the expanse of the racetrack, at least eight repeats in all. The rest of the set went smoothly. I’ll always remember the look of pure elation on the faces of the Notre Dame and Serra chorus members as I conducted the “Power of Your Love” finale. When we finished, we had to play “hurry up and wait” at the security checkpoints as we

made our exit because Pope Benedict was on his way. Though we didn’t sing with him seated on his chair on the stage, we were sure he heard our collective message of devotion. During the bus ride to dinner, another special moment occurred as the still-excited chorus serenaded Leslie, our incredible Heritage guide, with a rousing version of Queen’s “Bohemian Rhapsody,” complete with vocal harmony and simulated guitar solos. The bus driver did his part by adding flashing light effects at the appropriate moments.

Our second performance on the Randwick stage was scheduled for later the next day, as part of the post Papal Mass entertainment. When we dropped off our formal wear at the UNSW dressing room, we discovered that we were sharing the area with the clergy who would be on stage with Pope Benedict, a group of three hundred or so Bishops and Cardinals from all over the world. Before going to the Mass, the chorus members had a great time chatting with them and we could tell that they were as excited as we were. We attended as much of the Mass as we could before having to report back to the dressing room to prepare for our performance. The threat of rain kept Taz, our other Heritage representative, on the phone constantly with the stage manager who was making alterations to the program as necessary. While we were waiting backstage, pilgrims learned that the next WYD would be held in Madrid; not two hours earlier, we had been talking with the Archbishop of Madrid who, obviously, knew he was to host the colossal event but was outwardly calm and friendly.

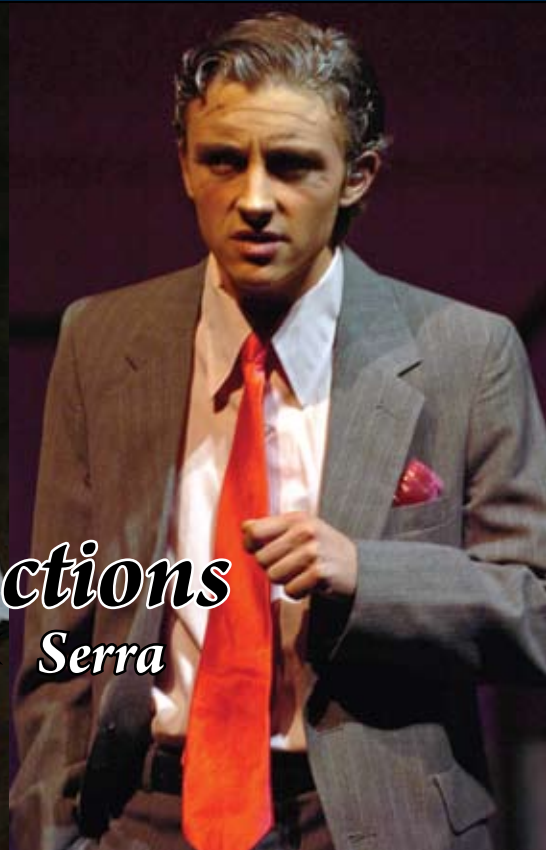
Our performance went well, but the venue was largely deserted as most of the emotionally and physically spent pilgrims had departed. Nevertheless, the Serra and Notre Dame Choruses will always be able to accurately claim that they closed WYD SYD 2008.

The remainder of the trip consisted of sightseeing experiences, a full day in Sydney and three days in Cairns in the tropical north of Queensland. There were many adventures including a harrowing sailboat ride to the Great Barrier Reef in stormy seas and a tram ride above the rainforest. Though we had no performances scheduled for this leg of the trip, the Chorus did an impromptu set at Tjapukai Aboriginal Park at the request of the wonderful indigenous performers.

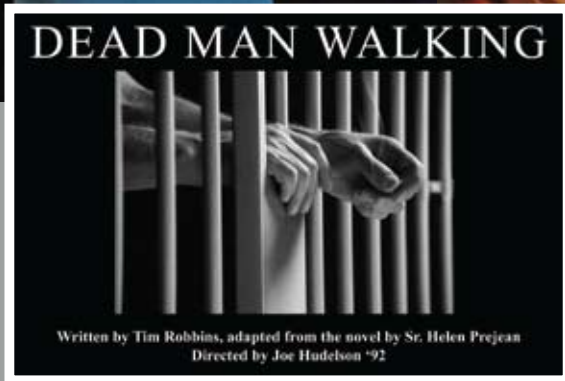
As we said goodbye to Australia the next day by singing “Homeward Bound” in the airport, we all felt that we had accumulated enough memories for a lifetime. And, as for the mysterious song with the chorus that woke me from my sleep, it eventually came to life as a tribute to the pilgrims of World Youth Day, Sydney who showed the world that, if we just look to the example of our children, we can, indeed, live together peacefully.

Epilogue

Special mention must be made of the countless alumni, faculty, friends and staff who made donations to our “*Singing Our Way to Sydney*” fund raising campaign. It was especially great to hear from the many music alumni from years ago. A heartfelt “thank-you” to all.



Tri School Productions Mercy ★ Notre Dame ★ Serra



Tri-School Productions (Mercy Notre Dame Serra) once again packed Serra's Gellert Auditorium during their Fall performances of "Dead Man Walking."

This stirring adaptation of the book by Sister Helen Prejean was written by Tim Robbins, the well-known Hollywood actor and director, who also wrote and directed the film that earned a Best Actress Oscar for Susan Sarandon.

The play follows Sister Helen through her emotional journey as she gives council to death row inmate Matt Poncelet, discovering in the process facts and fallacies about the death penalty and, ultimately, the spiritual path that has been laid out for her.

The cast of twenty-five students from the three schools starred Notre Dame junior Hannah Ruwe as Sister Helen and Serra senior [Tyler Gilliam](#) as Matt Poncelet.

Shortly following their last performance, the cast, crew, and directorial staff received a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet the real Sister Helen Prejean. Sister Helen was in the Bay Area as a guest speaker for the College of San Mateo's President's Lecture Series. She was more than generous with her time and good wishes as the entire group had the chance to meet with her at a reception following her speech.

Cast

Sister Helen Prejean.....	Hannah Ruwe (NDB)
Sister Marie Augusta Neal.....	Samantha Gatt (NDB)
Mirabeau, Reporter #1, Herbie, Troy.....	James Giusti (S)
Luis Montoya, Warden Hartman, Reporter #4	Jon Nowakowski (S)
Matt Poncelet.....	Tyler Gilliam (S)
Guard, Mitch, Ensemble.....	Kyle Polland (S)
Female Guard, Radio Voice, Ensemble.....	Jade Garcia (NDB)
Chaplain Farley, Man #1.....	Peter Morrow (S)
Guard.....	Ben Nowakowski (S)
Sister Colleen.....	Katherine Russell (NDB)
Hilton Barber.....	Eric Foard (S)
Reporter #3, Woman #3, Ensemble.....	Amy Kuhn (M)
Purvis Slade.....	Corey Sullivan (S)
Reporter #2, Man #2, Sgt. Belliveau, Ensemble	
Lucille Poncelet.....	Logan Carter (M)
Guy Gilardi, Asst. D.A.....	Gabe Marx (S)
Clyde Percy.....	Kyle Morrissey (S)
Marybeth Percy.....	Sara Hegarty (NDB)
Earl Delacroix, Man #3.....	Lucas Gust (S)
Mrs. Delacroix.....	Gina Calabrese (M)
Woman #1, Voice, Ensemble, Walter Delacroix	Joseph Twomey (S)
Hope Percy.....	Barbara Del Castello (M)
Mother of Sister Helen.....	Maddy Williams (M)
Woman #2, Nurse, Ensemble, Emily Percy.....	Stephany Swenson (NDB)
Machine Operator, Ensemble, Governor Fredericks ...	Jenise Lynae Spiteri (M)
Jenny, Woman #4, Trapp, Vitello, Guard.....	Owen McInnis (S)

Director: Joe Hudelson '92, Technical Director: Jon Hayward '07, Technical Assistant: Bob Sullivan, Costume Design: Barbara Braeutigam, Properties, Hair & Make-up: Juliane Sullivan, Production Manager: Tom Sullivan '81, Artistic Director: J.Jordan

PADRE FOOTBALL

VARSITY

The '08 football program provided a year of excitement for the Padre faithful. Coach Walsh's team entered the season with several returning impact starters, including quarterback **Cody Jackson**, **Doug Caldwell**, **Joey Chesio**, **Pat West**, **Mark Baker**, **Greg Biddle** and **Andy De Luca**. Juniors **Matt Vinal**, **Adonis Smith**, **Don Andre Clark** and **Paul Bevilacqua** were immediate play makers as well.

The Padres faced one of the toughest schedules in the area, as they opened their season in early September against Westmont. Serra showed big play potential and star power winning decisively 56-0. Field general and quarterback Jackson showed what he and the Padres were capable of on offense as he ran for three touchdowns and completed a 68 yard pass to Clark for another score. Clark added a 65 yard scoring run to boost the total.

Next, they faced national powerhouse De La Salle in what turned out to be one of the most heart breaking losses in years. The Padres were up by a single point late in the fourth quarter after a De La Salle touchdown and only awaited the game-tying extra point to get the ball back and make a final offensive march for a win. However, after a bad snap on the extra point, the De La Salle PAT holder dashed for the corner of the end zone for a surprising two-point conversion to put the Spartans on top by one — giving them the needed momentum to ensure the 29-28 win.

After the painful loss to the then third ranked team in the nation, Serra went on the road making the long drive to Reno to face perennial power McQueen High School. The Padres fought hard, but the size and power of McQueen proved to be too much for the Padres, losing 24-7 to the eventual Nevada State Champions.

Serra opened WCAL play against a strong Valley Christian team. Once again, Serra could not finish late and had another heart breaking loss, 23-21. The Padres' fortunes were looking gloomy. With a 1-3 record and six more games left in a very tough WCAL league season, there were questions if the 2008 Padres would be the powerhouse they had hoped to be. It was at this time that the true Padres emerged.

On a Friday night in early October, Sacred Heart Cathedral traveled to Freitas Field for Serra's Homecoming game under the lights. Serra came out with resolve and intensity and shut down SHC's Cal bound running back Desarte Yarnway, surging to a convincing 41-14 win. The Padres set a school record for most total yards with 570.

The Padres then faced long time rival St. Francis where Serra's defense dominated the Lancers. The Serra offense did its part as well, leading the Padres to a 35-3 win—the greatest margin of victory ever against St. Francis. Braun ran for two touchdowns and defensive back Vinal



grabbed a fumble and ran it 43 yards to the end zone highlighting the Padre scoring. Caldwell, DeAlba and Chesio all played an outstanding game defensively.

Now, 2-1 in WCAL play and solidly in second place, the Padres traveled to San Jose City College to face first place and undefeated Bellarmine who were ranked third in California and number one in Northern California. Serra walked onto the field with intensity, determination and the confidence necessary to win the game. In one of the most memorable games in school history, the Padres played to their potential and handed Bellarmine their first and only loss of the season. It was truly an emotional and hard fought team victory. Jackson rushed for three TDs; workhorse Braun picked up 122 yards on 24 carries; Smith ran for 73 yards and Biddle caught six passes. The offensive line of **David Bakhtiari**, **Bevilacqua**, **DeLuca**, **Vince Stewart** and **Baker**, along with tight end **Patrick Bowler**, were sensational. With the solid 31-23 win over the Bells, Serra was in a tie for first and had their WCAL fate in their own hands needing to win their last three games to claim the title.

With a huge amount of momentum built up, the Padres hosted St. Ignatius the following Saturday afternoon in the pouring rain. Despite the strong running attack of SI, the Padres came out with a 28-13 win, with three touchdowns by Jackson and one by Braun. **Zack Alsbaugh** caught a key 26-yard pass for a first down to provide the Padres with momentum during a critical part of the game. Leading tacklers for the defense were DeAlba, Caldwell and **Nick Ertola**.

On Serra's traditional "Senior Day," the Padres faced rival Riordan and pulled out a decisive 34-7 win to bring them to within one game of a WCAL title. Smith ran for two touchdowns, while Braun found the end zone three times in the second half.

The last game of league play came against last place Archbishop Mitty who, despite their record, were a serious threat. With great preparation

With a 1-3 record and six more games left in a very tough WCAL league season, there were questions if the 2008 Padres would be the powerhouse they had hoped to be.

It was at this time that the true Padres emerged.





and solid play, however, the Padres closed with a 6-1 league record and took home their share of the WCAL title with a 33-14 win. Clark and Braun each scored a pair of touchdowns.

Serra entered CCS play as the seventh seed against the number two seed, Gilroy, who boasted one of the most prolific offenses in Northern California. The game started out in Gilroy's favor, as they went into half time with a 14-3 lead. It was then that the Padres woke up and rose to the challenge scoring 42 unanswered points in a second half explosion to demolish Gilroy's hopes of a CCS title. The Serra offense gained a total of 521 yards, with 352 of the yards coming on the ground, ending the game with a 45-14 victory.

The following week, Serra traveled to San Jose City College once again to face number three seed Bellarmine in the semi-finals. Bellarmine came out to play an outstanding game unfortunately ending Serra's season with a 24-7 victory.

The 2008 Padre team added several entries to the record books. The total of 336 points scored is second most in school history; the 52 touchdowns is also second most, while the 4,119 total offensive yards gained was third best in school history. Jackson and Guttas both made the career list of top-ten leading scorers with Jackson finishing with 186 points for third place and Guttas 151 points for sixth place. Guttas took over the career lead in most extra points with 127. Jackson broke into the top five of several career passing categories, including most yards (2488), most attempts (336), most completions (182) and most touchdowns (22). Jackson's (2315 yards) and Braun's (1448 yards) career rushing totals placed them third and ninth respectively in Serra history. Jackson, who was named 2008 Player of the Year by the "Daily News Group," finished with 31 career touchdowns, one behind career leader [DeLeon Eskridge '07](#) who completed an outstanding freshmen year at University of Minnesota.

Serra had many of its players honored as All-League members. Jackson, Braun, Biddle, Chesio, Vinal, Chris Miller, Caldwell and Baker were all awarded first team All-WCAL honors. Smith, De Alba and De Luca were named Second Team All-League and Clark, West and Bakhtiari were awarded honorable mention. Jackson earned Quarterback of the Year honors for the second time and Greg Guttas received Kicker of the Year honors for the third time.



JUNIOR VARSITY

The JV football team ended the year with three straight victories including one over the eventual league champ St. Ignatius. The Padres approached the game each week with heart and determination and did their best to excel in playing the sport that they love. This team grew and improved as the year passed and this was evident in the excitement of the games. They built a strong foundation to carry with them to the varsity squad next year. Several members of the team contributed to the success.

The offensive line went both ways as either defensive linemen or linebackers, including [Michael Tatola](#), [Ben Parodi](#), [Zack Swinney](#), [Cameron Ciano](#) and [Kyle Rudolph](#). They were helped at the skill positions by quarterback [Andy McAlindon](#) and offensive standouts [Scott Simpson](#), [Juan Rodriguez](#) and [Mark Peruzzaro](#).

FRESHMEN

The 2008 freshmen football team finished off an outstanding season with a 6-2 record (6-1 in the WCAL). The young powerhouse team was not daunted by the significant amount of injuries, scoring a total of 252 points over the season. [Antonio Freschet](#) (Team MVP) led the offense with 11 touchdown runs, while [Erich Wilson](#) (Most Valuable Offensive Back) showed his intensity with nine touchdowns of his own. [Matt Falk](#) threw for eight touchdowns over the course of the season to receivers [Collin Theroux](#) and [Stephen Grosey](#). Kicker [Travis Roberts](#) never missed a PAT all season. The Padres scored an average of more than 30 points a game, a shocking statistic for a freshmen team. Head Coach Eric Morin and Coaches Brian Callahan and Ray Baldonado, combined to perfect the offensive machine.

Defensively the Padres proved their excellence week after week. Credit goes to Coach Jason Hardee for developing the brick-walled defense that will lead the Padres in future WCAL seasons. [Joey Erdie](#) (Defensive MVP) lead the defense at safety with an average of six tackles a game. [Bradley Northnagel](#), [Daniel Gavan](#), [Darren Sabean](#), [Terrence LeGrande](#) and [Tim Glauninger](#) continuously stopped runs at the line, intimidating the opponents' running game. The Padres finished the season with a 49-0 shut out over Archbishop Mitty, and allowed only an average of 16 points a game. They're looking forward to competing for the WCAL championship next season.

Other freshmen honored with year end awards included [Livai Holani](#) (Most Valuable Defensive Back), [Luke Longinotti](#) (Most Valuable Offensive Lineman), [Marty De Alba](#) (Most Inspirational), [Brian Clifford](#) (Most Improved), [Sabean](#) (Iron Man Award) and [Northnagel](#) (Most Valuable Defensive Lineman).



PADRE WATER POLO

The Padre water polo players were hopeful as fall rolled around—the year bringing with it yet another interesting three-month season. Over the course of those three months, the Pads battled against some of the toughest teams from throughout Northern California in league games, scrimmages and tournaments. This year's team finished fourth in the always tough WCAL with an impressive .500 season and a record of 3-3 in league, while going 13-15 overall.

The Padres then went on to play very competitively in both the WCAL playoffs, as well as in CCS. Head coach Bob Greene credited the team's success to the group effort that was put forth by the players and the unity that they showed day in and day out. The team was guided this year by senior captains [Zac Chierici](#), [Danny Marchette](#) and [Ben Faoro](#) who led the team in goals and assists. Chierici finished with 109 goals on the



season, giving him a total of 171 career goals and ninth place overall on Serra's all-time scoring list. Defensively, the team was led by junior goalie [Matt Pritchett](#), who finished the year with a record 276 saves. Pritchett was aided by Faoro and junior [Quinn Curl](#) who collectively led the team in steals.

In addition to finishing fourth in both the WCAL and in CCS Division I, the Padres also received several post-season individual awards. Chierici was named to First Team All-WCAL and First Team All-CCS. He was also named this year's MVP for Coach Greene's squad.

Pritchett and Faoro were named Second Team All-WCAL, and Pritchett was also honored with Second Team All-CCS while Faoro received an Honorable-Mention.

Both the freshman and frosh-soph teams competed well this season, as they developed their knowledge and skills of the game. The frosh-soph was led by MVP [Jake Folan](#) and goalie [Alex Simon](#). At the frosh level [Con O'Leary](#) and [Kyle Baker](#) show a lot of promise for upcoming seasons. Padre water polo has a bright future at Serra High.

Thanks to, [Marty De Alba '12](#), [Matt Falk '12](#), [Matt Garcia '09](#), [Matt Pritchett '10](#), [Benny Robbins '09](#) and [Sam Schneider '09](#) for contributing to our Padre Bench fall sports articles.

PADRE CROSS COUNTRY

The Padre cross country team completed the fall season in a strong fashion with a fourth place finish in the WCAL followed by a fourth place finish at the Division I CCS meet at Toro Park in Salinas. This year's Padre harriers were led by senior Mitchell Council. Sophomore Daniel Colom made the move up to varsity for the last two races of the season and finished first for the team at the CCS meet. Seniors Kyle Costanzo and Sam Schneider as well as juniors Brandon Norwood and Andrew Gattis were also very consistent scoring members for this year's team.

At the Junior Varsity level, Seniors Kevin Corley and Chris Navarro lead their team to a second place at the WCAL finals while Ford Milligan, Stephan Sester and Andrew Menzel lead the sophomore team to second place in their division at the league finals. Freshman Carstenn Stann, who had ran with the sophomore team for a majority of the season, lead the freshmen runners to a second place title with freshman standouts Avery Turzanski and Patrick Hagmann also contributing to a fine season.



WORLEY WINS TOURNEY

Serra senior Ray Worley recently won the Santa Cruz Tennis Academy Junior Open Tournament held at Cabrillo College. He defeated Brooks Baldinger of San Jose 3-6, 6-2 & 10-1 (tiebreaker) in the finals after downing John Michael Hansen and Kyle Miller in earlier rounds. The San Mateo resident's national ranking rose from 477 to 416 with the tourney win.

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PADRE ATHLETES TO PLAY COLLEGE BALL

Four student athletes signed National Letters of Intent during a press conference held on campus in November. Three Padre baseball players have received scholarships to play at the Division I level next year—Tony Renda (Cal), Tim Quiery (SJS) and Danny Chavez (USF). The fourth Padre to sign was tennis player Spencer Talmadge who accepted a scholarship to the University of Notre Dame.



(Back Row L to R:) Tom Stone (Varsity Tennis Coach), Mr. & Mrs. Chavez, Mr. & Mrs. Renda, Pete Jensen (Varsity Baseball Coach), Ms. Cozza; (Front Row L to R:) Seniors Spencer Talmadge, Dan Chavez, Tony Renda and Tim Quiery

Serra senior football player Greg Guttas has given a verbal commitment to play at Columbia University next year. Guttas was selected as the WCAL Kicker of the Year for three consecutive seasons.

"He was one of our defensive stars," stated Coach Walsh. "Over the past three years, his booming his kickoffs into or out of the end zone took away any chance an opponent had of a long game changing return."



Greg Guttas '09
WCAL Kicker of the Year

Serra Welcomes

Alumni Director

Bob Greene '85



This past fall, Serra proudly announced its new Alumni Director, Padre alum **Bob Greene '85**. Born and raised in San Mateo, Bob attended Serra where he participated in both water polo and swimming. After graduation from college at Chico State University, he began his coaching career at Aragon High School and quickly established himself as one of the top water polo coaches in Northern California. Bob took over the reigns of the Padres in 2005 and quickly worked his magic by taking the Padres to the semi-finals of the Division I CCS Playoffs.

“The past four months as Alumni Director has been more fulfilling than I could have ever imagined. All of the fall events were well attended, and the spirit of the Serra community shined through, making me even more proud to be a Padre.

We started the year off with the Father & Son Breakfast, followed by homecoming weekend (featuring the Alumni BBQ), bi-annual Hall of Fame dinner and the class reunions, which had a packed house at the Crowne Plaza.

The Thanksgiving holidays were celebrated with the alumni sports week, where hundreds of fans and alumni participated and reconnected with friends and family. A special treat was the 50-Year (plus) Luncheon held at the original site of Serra (now St. Bartholomew's Church), where close to fifty alums shared their memories of Serra life.

Looking forward to the rest of the year, we are working on the implementation of the Class Rep system intended to facilitate communications and drive attendance for upcoming events. In progress are plans for Career Day in March and the Alumni Golf Tournament scheduled for June. For both events, we have some exciting alumni presence planned and are excited about their success. We hope to see as many of you as possible at future events and encourage anyone who wants to get involved to contact me.”

GO PADRES!

Bob Greene
bgreene@serrahs.com

CLASS REPS NEEDED!

We are looking for class reps to help us stay connected, organize reunions and plan special events.

If you are interested in helping out with your class, please contact Alumni Director Bob Greene at (650) 573-9935 ext. 191 or e-mail: bgreene@serrahs.com.

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

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

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

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

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

SERRA'S MOST WANTED! LOST ALUMNI!

We are searching for Padre alums whom we have lost track of for one reason or another. If you know the whereabouts of any of the lost alums listed below, please provide us with current contact information by calling Alumni Director Bob Greene at (650) 573-9935 ext. 191 or sending an e-mail to bgreene@serrahs.com.

'49 Al DaDalt	'64 Richard Hessel	'74 Paul Botelho	'84 Roy Fraties
'49 Charles Galea	'64 Stephen Hjelt	'74 Robert Brown	'84 Rodolfo Gardey
'49 Richard Mondon	'64 R. Terry Hudkins	'74 Blaise Buckle	'84 Arthur Gates
'49 John O'Connor	'64 Bruce Jobson	'74 Daniel Bues	'84 James Larrison
'49 Anthony Ramos	'64 Robert Loomis	'74 John Burgos	'84 Robert Lewis
'49 Stuardo Sinibaldi	'64 Lawrence Lynch	'74 Edward Cassidy	'84 Kevin Lyons
'49 John Spellman	'64 James Mackey	'74 Edward Day	'84 Matthew McCloskey
	'64 Timothy McBreen	'74 Robert Drake	'84 Timothy McEnany
'54 Charles Dilling	'64 Melvin Menegaux	'74 Gregory Elvander	'84 Daniel McNamara
'54 James Donahue	'64 Richard Millang	'74 Thomas Gadd	'84 David Miller
'54 John Durrant	'64 Stephan Mulready	'74 Donald Gile	'84 Richard Moffat
'54 Robert Ebner	'64 Lawrence Pischoff	'74 David Hanson	'84 Jeffery Nolan
'54 James Feeley	'64 John Roberts	'74 Richard Holman	'84 Miguel Ongpin
'54 Jack Peterson	'64 William Roberts	'74 Ronald Jackson	'84 Christipher Paterson
'54 Pierre Renault	'64 John Ryan	'74 Richard King	'84 Scott Rolen
'54 Patrick Stalker	'64 Terry Sullivan	'74 Stephen Lipinski	'84 Anthony Sailus
	'64 Daniel Sullivan	'74 Darrell Little	'84 Michael Stevens
'59 Charles Allen	'64 Jeffrey Tone	'74 Richard Maldonado	'84 Christopher Stone
'59 Steven Bencich	'64 John Trotter	'74 Daniel McElligott	'84 Mark Stoscher
'59 Terrence Broyer	'64 Victor Walsh	'74 Thomas Mihalyi	'84 Michael Vellandi
'59 James Carr	'64 David Wilkinson	'74 Stephen Murphy	
'59 Geoffrey Clark	'64 Raymond Wootan	'74 Steven Palladino	'89 Ernesto Baxley
'59 Gary Clarke		'74 Kelly Parker	'89 Brian Coldrick
'59 Bruce Crowley	'69 Neil Christal	'74 Ivan Rossi	'89 Robert Corpuz
'59 David Culver	'69 Kirk Dilbeck	'74 S. Sappingfield	'89 Carlos Cosenza
'59 Daniel Dillon	'69 Thomas Donatoni	'74 Michael St Clair	'89 Robert Crowe
'59 Francis Gray	'69 Stephen Farbizio	'74 David Tamura	'89 Brian Dempsey
'59 Gerald Griffin	'69 Stephen Fegan	'74 William Teich	'89 Paul Ferro
'59 Richard Heslin	'69 Tom Finkemeier	'74 Walter Topper	'89 Carlo Galutera
'59 Alexander Holis	'69 David Fort	'74 Bryant Van Beckum	'89 Antonio Gillette
'59 William Houlihan	'69 Eugene Gisla	'74 Robert Von Husen	'89 Erick Herrmann
'59 Charles Lane	'69 Michael Hoelting	'74 Peter Wisnom	'89 Michael Higashi
'59 Carl Maiorino	'69 Mark Kusmirek		'89 John Kousoulakis
'59 Phillip Martinez	'69 Emmett Lescroart	'79 Thomas Beach	'89 Michael Lane
'59 Brian Massolo	'69 Louis Lovisco	'79 Gregory Gogna	'89 Alfred Leon
'59 Emile Oliver	'69 Lewis Mason	'79 Thomas Gorman	'89 Albino Marsetti
'59 Michael Ponte	'69 Howard Mattson	'79 Dwight Kleine	'89 Tim McNamara
'59 Henry Prevost	'69 Neil Miller	'79 Frank Martin	'89 Antonio Montalban
'59 Jack Rich	'69 Larry Miller	'79 Michael Meffert	'89 John Nelson
'59 James Rodrigues	'69 William Molkenbuhr	'79 Eric Nelson	'89 Jason Pitts
'59 David Schimberg	'69 Anthony Monteverde	'79 Peter Oakley	'89 Jason Stamps
'59 John Schoonmaker	'69 Jeffrey Murray	'79 Richard Romero	'89 Leonel Tingin
'59 Owen Smith	'69 Frank O'Sullivan	'79 Kevin Rutz	
'59 John Sylvester	'69 David Padilla	'79 Brian Tuite	'99 Payam Abolmoluki
'59 Louis Zirelli	'69 Michael Pehrson	'79 Miguel Vizcarra	'99 Ryan Chen
	'69 Rick Revetria	'79 Frederick Xuereb	'99 Jovan Clemons
'64 Valdemar Ansaldi	'69 William Roby		'99 Brandon Houston
'64 Hugh Barrett	'69 Kevin Shrieve	'84 George Aguilar	'99 John Ignacio
'64 Kenneth Beal	'69 Daniel Swain	'84 Martin Aguilar	'99 Vishal Karingada
'64 William Bready	'69 Gary Timmons	'84 Edward Blandino	'99 Varaga Nazarian
'64 Richard Corsetti	'69 James Utigard	'84 Todd Bohaboy	'99 James Patt
'64 Alfred Digby	'69 Vincent Williams	'84 Herbert Brandt	'99 Augustine Sanchez
'64 Pasquale Fiore	'69 Robert Yates	'84 Kevin Buchecker	'99 Shuji Setsu
'64 Patrick Frank		'84 Juan Corton	'99 James Walters
'64 Thomas Green	'74 Pedro Aguilar	'84 Shon Dormoy	'99 Alexander Zernitsky
'64 Charles Haasis	'74 Stephen Barrett	'84 Michael Dougherty	



Behind the Scenes at the Beijing Olympics

by Randy Vogel

Known by some Serra classmates and teachers as the ultimate sports fanatic and by others as the “life of the class,” [Scott Phelps](#) ‘98 ascent as a freelance sports producer, editor and cameraman should not surprise anyone. The journey traveled by this creative and daring Padre alum has brought him to the center stage of some of the world’s top sporting events, including the 2008 Olympics.

As a freelance producer, Scott was hired by NBC to work on a variety of Olympic segments in Beijing with host Julia Mancuso, a gold medalist in downhill skiing from the 2006 Olympics in Turin, Italy.

Scott, along with Willie Ebersol, son of NBC Sports Chairman Dick Ebersol, served as Julia’s writers, editors, producers and cameramen. Together, they worked on some “out of the ordinary” segments aimed at experiencing the summer games through the eyes of a Winter Olympian. They covered life in Beijing and the surrounding area from culture to food to sights, followed and interviewed Olympic athletes and elicited the views and opinions of fans on a variety of topics.

In each piece, Phelps tries to “create a story and paint a picture for the audience.” Emotions are an important part of his stories and Phelps feels you can mix laughter and poignancy in putting together a successful piece.

Scott also produced a daily blog while in China, originally designed to for friends and family. It turned into more than that, as it received numerous unexpected hits and became a popular website covering everything from his arrival and set up in Beijing to behind the scenes at the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. He provided photos, video and stories featuring intriguing interactions at the events and with athletes.

One particular segment was a feature story on how many events Julia could cover in a day. Scott stated, “We went to nine events including Michael Phelps’ Olympic/World record 400 meter medley.

The events started at 9 a.m. with Handball, Phelps’ gold at 10 a.m., then Archery, Field Hockey, Badminton, Gymnastics, Diving, Beach Volleyball, and, finally, USA vs. China Men’s Basketball which started at 10 p.m. Unbelievable! We battled thunder, lightning and rain all day, but what an incredible experience.”

Early in the Olympics they did a piece with the beach volleyball team and Gold Medalists Kerry Walsh and Misty May. Another day they shot a piece at the Great Wall before launching themselves on a down hill toboggan ride to add some laughs to the segment.



Pictured L to R: Volleyball Gold Medalist Kerri Walsh, Serra alum Scott Phelps ‘98, Audio Producer Michael Kimball, Volleyball Gold Medalist Misty May & host Julia Mancuso (2006 Downhill Skiing Gold Medalist)

At the tennis venue, Scott had an especially eventful day. “Our first event of the night was the Men’s bronze medal tennis match between James Blake and Novak Djokovic. Djokovic won in a tiebreaker and

then it got crazy. He threw his tennis racquet into the crowd and some how I came up with it. UNBELIEVABLE!! I must have taken 40+ pictures with numerous Serbian and Chinese fans who wanted to hold it. A Serbian guy offered me \$3,000 Euros (\$5,000 US) for the racquet, but I turned him down. I play tennis with my father-in-law on occasion so I won't have to borrow his racket anymore. Our final event of the day was the Men's 100m final. Without any exaggeration, (I have the pictures to prove it), we sat in the front row, 10 yards behind the finish line. Everyone has said it is the fastest 10 seconds in sports and it is."

Other segments included meeting Gold Medalist wrestler Rulon Gardner (who taught Julia how to wrestle) and the Beijing Water Park where gold medalist Cullen Jones taught Julia how to swim. Afterwards Scott and one of his crew members, Mike, took some time for a little fun "taking part in a few water activities with Mike and I winning the first ever 'Summer Tandem Luge' event."

Near the end of the Olympics, Scott's blog carried a photo and caption under the headline "Phelps Meets Phelps." Scott and fourteen-time gold medal winner Michael Phelps met for an interview at the NBC executive offices. Scott commented, "Great guy. What a busy few weeks he has ahead of him."

Scott called his work at the Olympics "a once in a life time experience." "Being able to work with sports on a global level was especially exciting," he added.

Scott Phelps has enjoyed a multitude of experiences in the media and communications field since earning his degree from UC Santa Barbara in 2002. Following graduation from college, Scott landed a job with ESPN's "Rome Is Burning," a sports conversation and opinion show. He worked with the quick-witted and sometimes abrasive host Jim Rome as a camera and editing specialist. He shot, edited and produced segments on the Patriots' Tom Brady '95 and Rodney Harrison, along with the A's Eric Byrnes. This gave him additional credibility in the industry and resulted in a job at "ESPN Hollywood" as a segment director, producing interviews on Hollywood and sports celebrities including Justin Timberlake, The Grateful Dead, Kobe Bryant, LeBron James and Serena Williams.

After the cancellation of "ESPN Hollywood," Scott decided to freelance as a cameraman, editor and producer launching his own production company SMPTV. This brought him to elite sporting events and venues throughout the world, earning jobs with Major League Baseball, NBC Sports and the NFL Network. He covered and produced pieces on the 2005 World Series between the White Sox and Astros, the 2006 US Open at Winged Foot Golf Club and the ESPY Awards. In August of 2006, Scott began a stint with the NFL Network which culminated in working on the network coverage of Super Bowl XLII. He edited numerous pieces for the network, including a one-on-one interview with two-time Super Bowl MVP Tom Brady '95. After that, NBC hired his production company and Scott was off to work the Beijing Olympic Games.

While at Serra, Scott, along with classmate Chris Murphy '98, created a popular sports/humor column for the Serra Friar called the "One Minute Clinic." A take off on Serra baseball Coach Pete



14-time Olympic Gold Medalist Michael Phelps
with Serra Alum Scott Phelps '98

Jensen's "Coaching Tips," a series of spots that ran on the local cable Fox sports television station, Phelps and Murphy would feature photos in their column of notable members of the Serra community with "one foot on the bucket." It was an amusing take-off on Jensen's television clips, where he used a bucket to assist in balance during his instruction of pitching techniques. Among those honored in the Friar with "one foot on the bucket" were the venerable Rev. John Zoph (Serra teacher and librarian from 1944-1999), local newspaper sportswriters such as the late Merv Harris of the Examiner and the San Mateo Times' Michelle Nolan, along with Pete Jensen and his wife Robin.

Another shot featured a gorilla, of all things, with his foot on the bucket! It can now be said that Scott was one of those

responsible for quietly orchestrating one of the greatest Senior pranks of all time at Serra....anyone remember a story about a gorilla at a rally?

His columns would usually create some lively discussion and could be considered, in part, the groundwork for his current journalistic adventures. Phelps credits Serra for helping him in a lot of ways to get where he is today.

"Much of what I do now involves communication and dealing with people, commented Phelps. "Serra provided me with support and a great foundation for college and beyond."

Bold and never bashful during his days at Serra, Scott was known to have snuck onto the Colorado Rockies team bus after a Giants game, make his way into Dodger Stadium ticket-less (working his way down to the dugout area using the media elevator), and get into the owners booth to visit with actor Rob Schneider at an Anaheim Angels game. These were all long before he earned any legitimate sport credentials, those magical passes that gain you entrance almost anywhere at a sporting event.

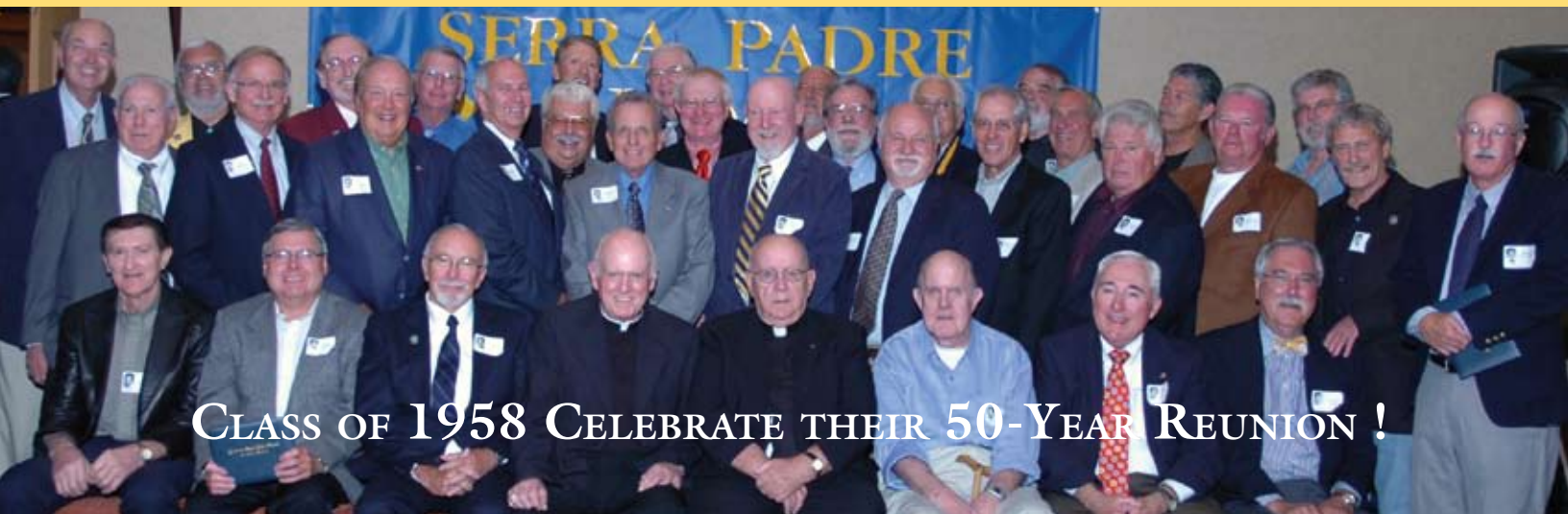
Scott and his wife Helena recently moved from So. California back to the Bay Area, which they now plan to call home. And yes, when Scott and Helena (Boje) were married in August 2005, Scott sent along a wedding photo to Serra of 1998 Padre classmates Matt Callicotte, Chris Murphy, Steve Mooney and himself with their "foot on the bucket" (Traditions: Volume 32 Number 1 Winter 2006).

It is certain that we will continue to hear from freelance producer Scott Phelps on a regular basis. As Executive Producer of his own company, Scott's ultimate goal is to produce his own shows for sale to network television. No question, Scott Phelps enjoys life and he plans to continue to pursue his passion of sports. Those interested in taking a look at some of Scott's sports adventures over the past few years, both through photos and video, are invited to check out his website at smptv.com.



Pictured L to R: Michael Kimball (audio),
Scott Phelps '98, Willie Ebersol (producer)

HOMECOMING 2008



CLASS OF 1958 CELEBRATE THEIR 50-YEAR REUNION !

Homecoming Week was a fun-filled series of events commencing on Wednesday, September 10th, with the Junípero Serra Award Mass and ceremony. This year's award was presented to [Mark Vorsatz](#) from the [Class of 1972](#) (more on pg. 8) On Friday, September 12th, Serra held its Athletic Hall of Fame Induction ceremony at the San Mateo Elks Lodge, where eight new members joined the ranks of standout Padre athletes (full story on pg. 14).

The homecoming football game vs. De La Salle took place on Saturday afternoon September 13th, followed later that same evening with the 2008 Reunion Gala at the Crowne Plaza in Foster City. Alums from the classes of '47 & '48, '58, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88 and '98 reunited for a night of reminiscing, dinner, and dancing. Golden Diplomas were presented to the Class of '58, as they became the newest members of Serra's 50-Year Club.



Class of 1968



Class of 1973



Class of 1978



Class of 1983

A REUNION CELEBRATION SPANNING THE DECADES



Class of 1998 Padres Omar Gonzalez and Ricky Lechleitner
Celebrate their 10-Year Reunion



Class of 1958 Padres Joseph Fedrigo and Joe Cosgrave
Celebrate their 50-Year Reunion!



CLASS OF 1988 CELEBRATE THEIR 20-YEAR REUNION



Archbishop Francis T. Hurley (former Serra faculty member (1954-57) and retired Archbishop of Anchorage) was presented with a check in his honor in the amount of \$20,000, representing the establishment of a new scholarship fund established in his name. Padre alum [Dennis Lucey '58](#) played an integral role in setting up the fund, along with several classmates and friends of Serra.



What a great turn out for Serra's 50-Year Club Celebration Luncheon held on Friday December 12th at St. Bartholomew's (the original site of Serra). Our distinguished group of Padre alums enjoyed lunch together and spent time renewing friendships and refreshing old memories of their high school days at Serra.

50-Year Club Padre guests included: **Class of '47:** George Mutto; **Class of '48:** Rev. Daniel Cardelli (first alum to be ordained), Gene Giannotti, Dan Miller, William Murphy, Clement Schablaske; **Class of '49:** Dr. David Stronck; **Class of '50:** William Campbell; **Class of '51:** Robert Ughe, Robert Sheehan; **Class of '52:** George Andreini, James O'Donnell; **Class of '53:** William Aston, Mario Buttignol, Donald Casella, Richard Iori, Henry Maher, Thomas Nelson, Bernard Reichmuth; **Class of '54:** Fred Bertetta, James Danielski, Len Fregosi, Michael Laramie, Donald Rojas; **Class of '55:** Robert Kidwell, James Prickitt; **Class of '56:** Rich Bona, Robert Eppler, Stuart MacKenzie; **Class of '57:** Ed Trucco, Jr, Martin McCormick, Italo Peruzzaro, James Roberts, William Tuck; **Class of '58:** Dr. Robert Birdi, Lawrence Cardon, Crisanto Castro, Patrick Kopp, John Sheehan, Carl Welte



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Men of Service

An alumni update from Ben Bowman '00 1LT, Aviatino, U.S. Army

I am currently in Afghanistan based out of Bagram Air Base, which is about 25 miles north of Kabul at 5000 ft. and surrounded by gigantic mountains. I arrived on May 1st and am scheduled to depart in mid-February with my unit, B Company 1-126th Aviation (part of the California Army National Guard based out of Stockton). I am the acting Commander of our CH-47D "Chinook" Company, comprised of about 65 air crew members and 60 maintenance personnel. Normally, I am a flight platoon leader. My daily duties include mission planning, sync meetings, fixing personnel issues, and flying as an Aircraft Commander. The missions we fly in northeastern Afghanistan are mostly comprised of "Ring Routes," in which we fly two Chinooks in formation to different Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) providing rotary-wing resupply and personnel movement. Much of this country is inaccessible except by dirt roads, so virtually everything that goes anywhere is moved by helicopters — primarily Chinooks since we can carry over 32 people or 14,000 pounds of cargo and have over 10,000 horsepower between the two rotor systems. The average mission lasts about seven hours, but I have flown a couple 9.5 hours missions, which makes for an amazingly long day in the cramped cockpit. While flying, we have to wear a bullet-proof vest, underneath our survival vests, making about 30 pounds of bullets and equipment just on the front of the chest.

Other than ring routes, we fly VIPs around, conduct air assaults and do countless external load (sling load) operations. Since May, I have met and flown a few celebrities and politicians including the First Lady of the U.S., Hamid Karzai (President of Afghanistan who prefers to only fly on Chinooks), St. Louis Rams cheerleaders, Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders, Milo Ventimiglia (from the show *Heroes*), Osi Umenyiora (NY Giants), Roger Goddell (NFL Commissioner), Drew Brees (N.O. Saints QB), American Idols, Jack Lengyel (former Marshall coach), General Louis Antonetti (Commander of California Army National Guard) and many others. But, like I said, the normal Ground FOB day consists of flying to places you've been to many times before and supplying the soldiers with "Beans and Bullets." The guys who are not so close to a major hub, like Bagram, are the ones who really have it the toughest, especially to the south where

the elevations range from 7,000 to 9,500 ft. above sea level. We fly long and difficult missions during all conditions, including wearing night vision goggles in order to keep the ground soldiers fully mission capable.

I've compiled over 350 combat flight hours over the past six months with over three months remaining and love every minute I am in the air working with my crew to get the mission accomplished. I started flying airplanes my senior year at Serra out of San Carlos Airport and continued flying at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, where I earned a commercial flight certificate and my Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautical Science and minors in Aviation Weather and Defense Studies. I left there as a Second Lieutenant and moved back to northern California prior to flight school. After flight school and before deployment, I flew the Chinook to air shows in Sacramento and San Carlos (a very neat experience to fly at an air show in my hometown), training with Navy Seals in Nevada, paratroops with Special Forces, British Royal Marines in the Sierra Nevadas, and fighting fires with a 2,000 gallon water bucket in the summer of 2007. When we return, I am scheduled to be a Chinook instructor pilot and work at the Stockton Army Aviation Support Facility as a Federal Technician.

While I was home on Rest and Recuperation Leave (R&R), I was able to meet up with my Serra buddies and even go to the wedding of a fellow Padre [Keenen Hird '00](#). I am still very good friends with just about all of the same guys I was with back at Serra, and cherish the times we spent together back then. ”



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"His education at Serra prepared him well for the Academy," wrote John's mother Ann. "I just returned from visiting him and am very proud of whom he has become."

John Minahan '08 was sworn in to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis in August



Nathan Woodside '96 recently returned from his third deployment to Iraq, serving the last seven months as an embedded military advisor to an Iraqi Army infantry brigade in the Al Anbar province. His small team of Marines, Navy corpsmen and interpreters was responsible for training, mentoring and advising over 2000 Iraqi soldiers.

"Our Military Transition Team (MiTT) enjoyed countless dust storms, mounted patrols, and lamb feasts with our Iraqi counterparts," wrote Nathan in an alumni e-mail update.

(L) Captain Nathan Woodside, USMC '96 with (R) Iraqi brigade commander Colonel Hamut





The 2008 ALUMNI GAMES

More than 100 alums participated in this year's Annual Alumni Games, with fans and supporters packing the stands at all events. This year's games included basketball, water polo, soccer and crew.

BASKETBALL

JV 49 – Alumni 45: Alumni scoring leaders included [Paul Ferrari '76](#) with 16 points and [Blair Calhoun '79](#) with 11 points. Varsity 73 – Alumni 62: Alumni scoring leaders included Paul Shamieh '02 with 21 points and Eric Farrell '06 with 10 points.

SOCCER

The varsity soccer game ended in a tie. The competition was fierce with the alums taking an early 2-0 lead. Varsity came back strong to take a 3-2 lead. In the last five minutes of the game, the alumni scored the tying goal. Goal scorers for the varsity team were [Nick Carrara](#), [Andrew Lucha](#) and [Mason Martinez](#).

WATER POLO

There were twenty-seven alums in their Speedos playing some good water polo on Thanksgiving morning. Alums [Nick Poggetti '06](#) and [Matt Heagy '05](#) put on a great show for everyone in attendance. [Spencer Healy '05](#) had double figure blocks to pace the odd year alums to defeat the even year alums 16-13. [Brian Bell '83](#) scored his first and only goal in the third period and proved that after 25 years he's still got it!

CREW

The Crew team took to the waters in their eight-man boats and did some competing of their own. Four boats would race on the chilly Friday morning waters to see who would come out on top. In the third and final race, the alumni showed that they are kings of the water. Some of our rowing alumni standouts were [Billy Scherba '07](#), [Sam Walsh '05](#), [Bryce Welsh '06](#) and [Matt Horn '08](#), just to name a few.

'08 Alums Malak and Dutto Join Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes



[Hanna Malak](#) in front of the Rosary Basilica in Lourdes

Shortly after graduation, '08 classmates [Hanna Malak](#) and [John Dutto](#) embarked on a ten-day youth pilgrimage to Lourdes sponsored by the Order of Malta. Their time abroad consisted of both service and worship.

Service for the two Padres meant either lending their hands at the train station assisting the elderly and handicapped or working in the Piscines. The piscines are the pools of Lourdes where pilgrims come to bathe in the waters from the Grotto and pray to be healed.

"The work was physically and emotionally demanding, yet very rewarding," added Hanna. We worshipped often, had Mass every day, went to confession and, in the evenings, took part in a candlelight procession."

The young men also participated in the Taize Prayer, where music and many different languages are used to reflect both the international and ecumenical nature of the community. The prayer serves as a reminder that we are all part of one, universal Church of Christ.

"This was one of the best experiences I have ever had," said Hanna. "I had so much fun meeting new people and

being able to help those in need. This trip helped remind me of how lucky I am to be blessed with great health. Seeing how hopeful the muladas (sick) were in Lourdes strengthened my faith."



[Malak](#) and [Dutto](#) at train station in Lourdes

Serra alum and television actor **Michael Trucco '88**, whose latest appearances consists of a guest stint on *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* and his current role as Samuel Anders on *Battlestar Galactica*, appeared on the 11th installment of the *Big Bang Theory*'s sophomore season, entitled "The Bath Item Gift Hypothesis." According to *Entertainment Weekly*, Trucco played Leonard's (Johnny Galecki) partner on a project and one of the youngest MacArthur Genius Grant winners ever.



Trucco is also known for his recurring roles on *One Tree Hill* as Cooper Lee, *Pensacola: Wings of Gold* as Lt. Tucker "Spoon" Henry, and on *Beverly Hills 90210* as Josh Hunter. Following his guest stint on *The Big Bang Theory*, Trucco will be gracing a TV feature called "Man of Your Dreams," which is directed by Jason Ensler. In addition, Trucco will be reprising his role as Samuel Anders in *Battlestar Galactica: "The Plan,"* the TV movie that is expected to air in June 2009.

The fact that Michael is doing well in his acting career is secondary, however, to his physical well being. As some of you may have read, in December 2007, Michael and a buddy were taking an easy Sunday-morning drive on Malibu's Pacific Coast Highway when their Ferrari 360 skidded on a curve, rolled up an embankment, flipped into the air and slammed to the pavement upside down. Trucco, who was in the passenger seat, suffered a broken neck but managed to pull himself out of the car, stand upright and get away from the wreckage. He was airlifted to UCLA Medical Center, where — after six hours of spinal surgery — doctors pronounced him a "freak of nature."

"They just shook their heads and said, 'This doesn't make sense,' recalls Trucco, whose vertebrae damage was likened to Christopher Reeve's. "I was told only one in a hundred people can walk away from an accident like that. I easily could have died or ended up a paraplegic. I'm the luckiest guy alive."



Stephen Twomey '69 is constantly being asked the same question when he is out socializing a guide dog in training: "But how can you give the dog back after being with her for so long?" His answer is quick: "Yes, it is heartbreaking. But when I present the dog to the visually impaired partner, I am reminded of how that dog is going to completely transform that person's life into one of independence they have never enjoyed before."

For the past six years, Stephen has been a raiser for Guide Dogs for the Blind in San Rafael. Volunteer raisers like him pick up a puppy at two months old and return them to the school about thirteen months later. Stephen's primary role is to nurture the puppy in a safe and clean environment, and to introduce the puppy to the world around them through a process called socialization. The puppies are exposed to all the potential sights, smells, noises, and distractions they may face with a visually impaired partner.

Stephen is currently raising "Skittle," a female yellow Labrador. He has raised three other dogs — Tricia (working as a guide in Southern California), Suzie (an ambassador dog for Guide Dogs for the Blind), and Dasha (a breeder for Guide Dogs). Stephen plans to continue as a volunteer raiser for many years to come.



Chris Sfarzo '91 has taken his musical talents in a different direction and decided to follow his dream of writing and recording Christian music. Former drummer for the Bay Area Rock Band, "Liquid," Chris has always enjoyed writing and composing music that touch the heart and soul. He has written and recorded songs with his parents (also song writers) for many years. Their family song, "In A Child's Eyes," was performed in Washington DC for Missing Children's Day.

Chris' most recent song "I've Crossed The Bridge" has received great reviews. The lyrics about victory and accomplishment were written by Chris and his good friend Robert Alexander. Featured on vocals and guitar is Robert Berry, best know for his work with Keith Emerson of Ambrosia and most recently with the Greg Kihn band. The song is featured in an Olympic Tribute video, which Chris also produced. Chris' work is available on iTunes and Amazon.

Bryan Bishop '96 in "Millionaire" Hot Seat



Padre alum **Bryan Bishop '96** walked away with \$100,000 after appearing on the popular television game show "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" Bryan started in the "hot seat" on Friday, December 5th, where he made it up to the \$16,000 question by using his "Phone A Friend" lifeline. He continued as a holdover contestant on the following Monday's show, where he started by looking at the \$25,000 question with three lifelines left.

Bryan used his "Ask The Audience" lifeline on the \$25,000 question, which the audience answered correctly for him. Unsure of the answer to the \$50,000 question, Bryan decided to use his "Ask The Expert" lifeline. Bryan connected with "Expert," Pat Kiernan (morning news anchor for NY1 in New York City), who was able to lead Bryan to the correct answer.

For the \$100,000 question, Bryan used his "Double Dip" lifeline. The question was the following: When filled to capacity for a game, what college's football stadium temporarily becomes the third largest "city" in its state? A: University of Nebraska, B: University of Wisconsin, C: University of Alabama, D: University of Tennessee." He only needed one guess, however, as his first guess "A" was correct!

Out of lifelines and unsure of the answer to the \$250,000 question, Bryan decided to walk away with the guaranteed \$100,000.

Bryan currently lives in Los Angeles and works as one of Adam Carolla's sidekicks on the syndicated radio program "The Adam Carolla Show." Bryan loves his job and is affectionately known as "Bald Bryan" on the air. Just two days after receiving word that he was going to appear on "Millionaire," Bryan proposed to his girlfriend Christie. He said that if he won big on "Millionaire," he would pay for his upcoming wedding, finance his dad's dream of opening a BBQ restaurant and put a down payment on a house.



Bryan Bishop '96 in the "hot seat" on 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire?'



Tim West, Jr. '98
Chosen to Compete at Mavericks

Tim West, Jr. '98 has been selected to compete in the world-famous Mavericks surf competition scheduled to be held anywhere from Jan. 1 to March 31. He will be competing along with 24 contest competitors — the "who's who" of the big wave surf world. Although the surf contest has always included locals from Pacifica, San Francisco and Santa Cruz, Tim and veteran Mavericks surfer Ion Banner are the only two who live on the Midcoast.

"When you're local, you get a little more respect than the average Joe coming in from elsewhere. I don't know them, but they want to shake our hands," said Tim.

Contest Director Jeff Clark believes the season looks promising, as there has already been some major swells roll through Half Moon Bay. Once the green light has been given, the chosen group will have 24 hours to make the trek from their homes around the globe to the world-famous big wave break a half-mile offshore of Pillar

Point Harbor. It remains to be seen, however, whether the merciless wipeouts and hours of training Tim received in the jaws of the Mavericks swell will give him an edge over foreign competitors, many of whom will be coming from Brazil, South Africa and Hawaii. Tim's love for surfing has also taken him to Australia, Central America, Baja and Indonesia. At Serra, Tim was a three-year member of the crew team and, of course, he was also a member of the Surf Club. After graduation, Tim apprenticed with National Automatic Sprinkler Industry and completed his apprenticeship to become a journeyman fire sprinkler fitter. The surfers will be competing for \$75,000 in prize money and the event will be broadcast live over the internet in front of millions of viewers.



Keys to Success

Spencer Blank '06 is continuing to pursue his musical career at the University of Oregon, where he is studying classical piano performance with a minor in classical voice. He spent the previous two years at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

During the summer of '07, Spencer was the Assistant Music Director for Broadway By The Bay's Conservatory and played with Ohlone College Summerfest, Peninsula Youth Theatre. During the 2007-08 school year, he was the

conductor of OperAlterna — a new, alternative opera company — in their premiere production of Henry Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas." He was also a vocal coach for the Opera and Musical Theatre Divisions of the CUA School of Music. Last summer, Spencer went to the Brevard Music Center in North Carolina and worked with "big-wigs" in the music world such as Yo-Yo Ma and Keith Lockhart (the conductor of the Boston Pops). He is currently the Assistant Conductor and Intern for the Eugene Opera and a vocal coach for U.O. Opera Theatre.





Shane Wehr '86 San Francisco Bar Pilot

Shane Wehr '86, who has worked in the maritime industry since graduating from Serra, was recently promoted to the San Francisco Bar Pilots Association.

For more than a century, the San Francisco Bar Pilots have ensured the safe and efficient movement of the largest vessels that traverse the San Francisco Bay and adjacent bays and tributaries, including Monterey Bay. Their services are essential to the flow of goods between the bay and the world, moving more than 9,000 vessels a year. Despite narrow channels and rivers, shallow shoals and sand bars, shifting currents and tides, the San Francisco Bar Pilots possess the expertise necessary to move seagoing vessels in one of the most dangerous pilotage areas in the country.

Joining Shane in his promotion are his wife Susan, daughters Nicole 4, Natalie 3, and brother Grant '87.



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FINANCE MAJOR ADAM MARKOVICH '06 "EARNING" HIS WAY THROUGH COLLEGE

Adam Markovich '06 was recently awarded the first annual Rudy R. Miller Business-Finance Scholarship at Arizona State University.

Rudy R. Miller, Chairman, President and CEO of the affiliated group of Miller entities, established the scholarship to express his firm's support of ASU, in particular the W.P. Carey School of Business, and to encourage and recognize academic excellence in outstanding students. The scholarship is based on merit and will be awarded annually to a Junior or Senior pursuing a degree in Finance or Business Administration.

"We are extremely pleased to award our first annual scholarship to Adam Markovich," said Mr. Miller at a presentation luncheon held at their corporate headquarters in Scottsdale. "We were impressed with Adam's academic achievements, as well his strong interest and background in the financial and investment markets. We feel honored to provide Adam a financial reward that will assist him in this pursuit and we look forward to following Adam as he progresses throughout his career."

"Serra helped prepare Adam for the strong academic success he is having as a finance major at ASU's Carey Business School," added Adam's proud father Peter.



Dr. Jeffrey Coles (Chair of Finance Dept. & Professor of Finance ASU), Adam Markovich '06, Rudy R. Miller (Chairman, President and CEO - Miller Group)



GROOM JOSH BERTA '98 & PADRE GROOMSMEN

Josh Berta '98 married Tara DeCrisoferi on August 2nd in Redwood Shores. Josh's groomsmen included several Padres. Pictured from L to R: Jake Azevedo, Brian Reardon '98, Eddie Montague (attended Serra 1994-1997), Mike Balestreri '97, Ryan Melconian '98, Josh Berta '98 (groom), Chris Scrogings '98 (Best Man) Greg Hoffert, Christopher Nettles, Michael Andreacchi and Jason Mostasisa.



THE POWER OF A PADRE

Nick Galletta '03 is currently the World Champion Power Lifter for his weight class after competing at the World Association of Benchers and Deadlifters International (WABDL) Championship held in Las Vegas in November. Nick won his class by benching **556.5 pounds** and is still the California State Record Holder. The WABDL is an association of lifters who enjoy competing in the single-lift bench press and deadlift on state, national, and international levels. They are a drug-free organization and all meets are drug-tested. Picture above with Nick are proud parents, Carol and Joe. "I no longer have any *power* over him." Carol commented jokingly. "Good thing I nagged a lot when he was little."

FOUR DECADES OF PADRES ATTEND KLOBUCHAR WEDDING

Michael Klobuchar '90 aka "Coach K" of the Serra Wrestling team married Georgette Dakis (NDB '92) on October 7, 2007 at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Belmont. Coach K is the nephew of Gail Defoe, former admissions secretary at Serra.

Four decades of Padres were in attendance, including Best Man John Klobuchar '86, groomsmen James Defoe '87, Chris Waizenegger '89, Kip Taylor '90, John Defoe '91.

Other Padre guests included Andrew King '90, Garrett Torres '08, and Chris Harrington '76. Padre wrestling coaches in attendance were Paul Bristow (former coach), Dan Vogl, Harold Lorber, Bob Marshall and Steve Hemuili.



Klobuchar '90 & Dakis Wedding

Pictured L to R: Chris Harrington '76, Dan Vogl (coach), Garrett Torres '08, Steve Hemuili (coach), Harold Lorber (coach), Paul Bristow (coach), John Defoe '91, Chris Waizenegger '89, John Klobuchar '86, Georgette Dakis (NDB '92), Michael "Coach K" Klobuchar '90, Bob Marshall (coach), Andrew King '90, James Defoe '97 and Kip Taylor '90.



'49

Your 60-year reunion is just around the corner! Look for more news in upcoming mailings.

'59

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

'62

Alfred T. Bowen was in town several months ago and stopped by to visit high school alma mater. He resides in Leavenworth, Kansas and is currently enjoying retirement with his wife Frances. Together they have five children and five grandchildren.

'69

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

'73

Tim Walsh was named Cal Poly's 16th head football coach. For the previous two seasons, Tim had been the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at the United States Military Academy. And, for a bit of trivia, Tim was a quarterback on UC Riverside's last football team before dropping the sport in 1975. He also coached against the Mustangs while at Sonoma State in the early 90's and at Portland State in the mid-90's.

'79

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

'82

Rob O'Brien and his wife Cathy baptized their son, Lawrence, on August 9th. Serving as Godparents are **Andrew '88** and **Zoea Maso**. Celebrating their brother's baptism were Ashlyn and Kylee. Rob and his family currently reside in Saratoga.

'83

Brian Morton and **Mark Massey** are both currently coaching freshman basketball at Serra. Mark coaches the "A" Team and Brian coaches the "B" Team.

'84

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

John "Tony" James is a Group Manager for MJDII Architects in Addison Texas, where he lives with his wife Giovanna and two children Alexandra and John.

'86

Shane Wehr was recently promoted to the San Francisco Bar Pilots, where he will be navigating ships in and out of San Francisco Bay.

'87

Joel Caceres successfully completed his first Ironman Triathlon in Florida. The Ironman event was Joel's pinnacle in events completed in 2008. He also completed four triathlons and the San Francisco Marathon.

Tim Giacomini and his wife Jenny are proud to announce the birth of their second son Mitchell born May 26. Mitchell joins his three-year old big brother Quinn.

'88

Roy Malatesta and his wife Stephanie welcomed their third daughter Allie Michelle on August 27. Allie joins her two sisters Amanda and Morgan.

'89

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

Peter Feinberg and his wife Briana welcomed a son, Christopher, in September.

'90

Mike Klobuchar aka "Coach K" of the Serra wrestling team married Georgette Dakis (NDB '92) on October 7th at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Belmont. Coach K is the nephew of former Serra faculty member Gail DeFoe.

'91

Mike Langridge and his wife Coleen welcomed twin boys, Tillman and Payton, on October 6th.

Chris Sfarzo's recent song entitled "I've Crossed The Bridge" has received great reviews. (More about Chris on pg. 39.)

'92

Bob MacKenzie and his wife Alice welcomed their first child, Jackson Fung, on January 5, 2009. Bob is the son of long-time Serra staff member Tom MacKenzie.

'95

Rich Van Doren and his wife Shelby welcomed a son, Trenton James, on June 6th.



KEEP US POSTED!

If you've recently graduated, married, 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 Office
451 West 20th Avenue ■ San Mateo ■ CA
94403

or e-mail mwilkinson@serrahs.com

'96

[Jim Biernat](#) and his wife Kristen celebrated their daughter Cecelia's baptism in November. Padre classmates Brian Affrunti (with his twin boys Blake and Chase-15 months) and John Walters with son Harrison (6 months) joined in the celebration.

[Bill Duplissee](#) is in his 3rd season with the Kansas City Royals as the club's bullpen catcher. He spent 2004-05 as an assistant coach at CSM, helping lead the Bulldogs to conference championships in both seasons. Prior to his coaching career, Duplissee caught for five seasons in the Dodgers' Organization. He was a standout player at the college level for both CSM, playing under current Royals pitching coach Bob McClure, and the University of Santa Barbara. Bill and his wife Tiffany are expecting their first child.

[Captain Nathan Woodside](#) recently returned from his third deployment to Iraq. More info about Nathan can be found in our Alumni News section.

'97

[William Barron](#) works for Loral Space Communications in Palo Alto. His wife Greta is a teacher at Monte Vista High School in Cupertino. The couple will soon be moving to Kailua on the island of Oahu where they purchased a home.

[Dr. Nicholas Bronzini](#) completed his board certification by the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry.

[Bill Peavey](#) married Abigail Phelps on August 2nd in Newport Beach.

'98

[Josh Berta](#) married Tara DeCrisoferi on August 2nd in Redwood Shores.

[Andrew Ho](#) and his wife Andrea happily announce the birth of their twin sons, Ethan and Deven, born on April 7th.

[John Loftus](#) and his wife Christine welcomed a son, John Joseph, on July 24th.

[Patrick Peavey](#) and his wife Elisha welcomed their first child, Jace Michael, on August 1st.

'99

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

[Andrew Clifford](#) graduated from the San Francisco Police Department Academy on September 19th. He is doing his field training in the Mission District.

[Douglas Li](#) finished his first Ironman in August honoring his good friend Alison Huber NDB '99 who passed away in 2001 from leukemia. Alison was the brother of [Kevin Huber](#) '02.

[Daniel Stoloski](#) and his wife Laura welcomed a daughter Gianna Lauren on September 10th. Gianna is the granddaughter of Serra staff member Teresa Stoloski.

[Matt Tigri](#) and his wife Sarah welcomed a daughter, Cheyenne, on August 22nd.

'00

[Ben Bowman](#) is currently serving in Afghanistan based out of Bagram Air Base (about 25 miles north of Kabul). Find our more about Ben's service to our country in the "Alumni News" section.

'01

[Noah Serbin](#) placed second in a bench press competition to raise donations for PARCA, a Burlingame based non-profit that serves people with developmental disabilities. Noah benched 310 repetitions of 135 lbs. in the a hour time limit.

'03

[Jonathan Fone](#) graduated from Rose Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Indiana. He is currently working as a civil engineer for Fryer and Laureta of San Mateo.

'04

[Daniel Bocanegra](#) earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Albany. Daniel was also one of 22 college football players named to the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team, an honor which recognizes off-the-field achievements.

'06

[Spencer Blank](#) has transferred to the University of Oregon, where he is studying classical piano performance with a minor in classical voice.

[Ryan Svendsen](#) was presented with Sigma Nu "Talent of the Year" award this past summer. Ryan's incredible trumpeting skills earned him a trip to Austin to perform in front of the Grand Chapter, which included over 2000 representatives from Sigma Nu chapters across the nation. Ryan is currently a music major at UCLA.

[Jeff Thomas](#) is currently playing linebacker for Foothill College. In a write-up after the Owl's season opener, Jeff was referred to as "Baby Urlacher" for being "everywhere on defense." He had 12 tackles, 5 for a loss and 6 solo.

'07

[Adam Markovich](#) was awarded the first annual Rudy R. Miller Business-Finance Scholarship at ASU. The scholarship is based on merit and awarded annually to a junior or senior pursuing a degree in Finance or Business Administration.

[Phoenix O'Rourke](#) is currently a sophomore at SF State, where he is a member of the men's basketball team. During the 2007-08 season, Phoenix was selected to the Academic All-CCAA Team and scored 97 points while playing in all 29 games. He his majoring in Business Management.

'08

[John Thomas Minahan](#) is in currently in his first year at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis.

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 in their estate planning through bequests, 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 individuals listed below as founding members of the Father Serra Society. The generosity of the following Founding Members of the Father Serra Society is gratefully appreciated:

ANONYMOUS
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)
MR. AND MRS. WALTER CHANG
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MR. JERRY DRISCOLL '49 (RIP)
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MRS. ELEANOR FIGONI (RIP)
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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 plan and your name is 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. You may also find more information by logging on to Serra's website at WWW.SERRAHS.COM and clicking on our "Development" section.



In Memoriam



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John Barajas '99 brother of Richard '98 and David '02 passed away on November 5, 2008.

Marjorie Bay, mother-in-law to John Caselli '75 and grandmother to Chris '06 and Kathryn (NDB '08) passed away on September 7, 2008.

Carol Byrne, mother to current Serra student Tim Byrne '10 passed away on September 15, 2008.

Dennis Byrne '55 passed away in September 2008.

Donald Byrne '55 passed away on October 16, 2008.

Angelina Ciucci, daughter of Don and Debbie (former Serra library assistant) and sister to Matthew '03 passed away on October 29, 2008.

Gary Gavello '63 passed away on August 21, 2008.

Debra Glaister, mother of Robert Tolleth '09 passed away on January 8, 2009.

Gordon Kullberg, father to Mark '89 passed away on November 23, 2008.

James A. Lee, Jr. '48 passed away on August 13, 2008.

William Malone '55, former Serra School Board member and father to Tony '80 and Pat '86 passed away on August 26, 2008.

Richard McAdam '64 passed away in June 2008.

Steven Mooney '65 passed away on June 13, 2008.

Alice C. Musante, mother to George '66 passed away on June 28, 2008.

Bernard Retchless '51 passed away on December 28th.

Karen Spillane Gay, wife of Anthony Gay '82 passed away on September 15, 2008. She was the daughter of the late James Spillane '59, brother of Joe Spillane '84, and sister-in-law of Cris Gay '86. Karen is survived by two sons, Tony and James.

Larry Tetreault '77 passed away on November 5, 2008.

Edward Tuite '57 passed away on August 13, 2008.

Loriann Turek, wife of Ric Turek '88 passed away on November 4, 2008.

Reverend Albert Vucinovich, retired Pastor of St. Catherine's (Burlingame) and former Serra faculty member (1970-1979), passed away on August 14, 2008.

Rest in Peace

SAVE THE DATE!

**Serra Alumni
Career Day 2009**

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2009

Keynote Speaker:

Peter Barsocchini '70

Writer of

"High School Musical"

Interested in Participating?

Contact Alumni Director Bob Greene
at (650) 573-9935 ext. 191 or e-mail:
bgreene@serrahs.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

JUNE 22, 2009

JUNIPERO SERRA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S

**22nd
annual**



SERRA GOLF CLASSIC

Peninsula Golf & Country Club

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009

Reunion Gala

Classes of 49, 59, 69, 79, 84, 89, 99

**Sheraton Gateway Hotel
Burlingame**



Help Fund Their Dream

SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

**Fund A Dream
Scholarship
Luncheon**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Serra Alum &
New York Times
Best Selling Author
Bill Keller '66**

For more information, log on
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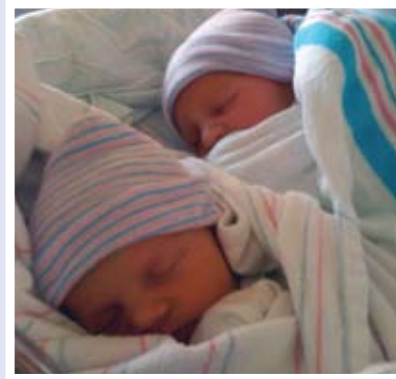




Cecelia Magri Biernat
(Jim '96 & Kristen Biernat)



Blake Wesley Ayoob (Dean '92 & Laura Ayoob)



Langrdige Twins ~ Tillman and Payton
(Mike '91 & Colleen)



Ho Twins Ethan & Deven
(Andrew Ho '98)



Gianna Lauren Stoloski
(Daniel '99 & Laura)



Roy Malatesta '88 Family
Allie, Morgan and Amanda



William Barron Wedding (Pictured L to R: Nick (groomsman), Parvin (maid of honor), William '97, Greta (bride), Doug Oswald '98 (bestman), Eileen Barron NDB '95 (sister and bridesmaid)



Rob O'Brien '98 Family (Pictured L to R: Wife Cathy, Lawrence, Ashlyn, Kylee & Rob)



Peter Feinberg '89
(with wife and new baby Christopher)



The Tigri's
L to R: Eric '01 holding nephew Tyler (son of Chris), Chris '96 holding daughter Haylee, Matt '99 holding daughter Cheyenne



John "Tony" James '84 Family
Tony, John, Alexandra and wife Giovanna



Trenton James Van Doran (Rich Doren '95)

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, Communications Director or e-mail mwilkinson@serrahs.com

Capturing the Spirit & Brotherhood of a Padre!



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