



VERITAS

FALL 2007 / WINTER 2008

The magazine for the Bishop Montgomery High School community

Habitat Club: Putting Faith in Perspective



IN THIS ISSUE: 2006-07 Annual Report

Where Are They Now?

Class Notes



VERITAS

FALL 2007 / WINTER 2008

Dear Friends of Bishop Montgomery,

As our students pursue their academic goals here at Bishop Montgomery, they learn so many things from books and from excellent classroom instruction. How well they master the skills and the information imparted to them during the course of their education here at Bishop Montgomery determines what doors will be open to them in the future. Certainly, their academic education is crucial in their development as thinking human beings who will contribute to the many communities to which they will belong. Our academic statistics in our WASC report unquestionably support our students' academic success. Even more critical, however, is how our students learn to live and love—how they learn to put their faith into action—to be about doing, not just about speaking—to know how to pray, but also to know how to live their prayers

through a commitment to social justice—to have the courage to walk in Jesus' shoes. These lessons do not come from books, but rather as a result of the witness, support, and leadership that our remarkable faculty and staff provide.

Our goal and our continued prayer is that our students will remember not only those academic lessons taught so well

here at Bishop during the course of their four years, but that they will remember the lessons

about how to live a life that is a witness to the message of Jesus Christ. Our prayer is that our students remember that a Christian life is about becoming the largest, most inclusive, most responsive, most Christ-like persons they can be. St. Teresa of Avila said it very well in this, one of my favorite prayers: "Christ has no body on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out onto the world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless the people. Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing frighten you. All things pass. God does not change. Patience achieves everything. Whoever has God lacks nothing. God alone suffices."

This issue contains wonderful examples of Christian service, examples that are not unusual in the daily life of Bishop Montgomery, but part of the very fabric of our school culture for students and faculty alike. We count you, our many friends, as partners in our efforts to encourage our students in this—that just as they excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in their love—that they also excel in the grace of living.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Libbon
Principal



ABOVE:
Clockwise from top left: Marie Cathcart '08, Kelly Omatsu '08, Jessica Boyd '08, Sierra Evans '10, Andrew Forney '08, Rosemary Libbon, Ryan Jackson '09

ON THE COVER:

BMHS Habitat Club members (left to right) Laura Thatcher '09, Megan Parr '09, and Ellyse Carter '09 at a house build in Tijuana, Mexico.

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ABOVE:
Children at the Casa Refugio orphanage get ready to play soccer.

This is the environment in which members of the Bishop Montgomery community have labored for the past two years—a labor of love so passionate, it has ignited a movement of ongoing service not only across the border, but on our own campus as well.

In 2005, then-juniors Lina Borgo and Sara McLay knew they wanted to focus their energy on helping those less fortunate. Inspired by Lina's grandfather, Tom Wilson, a member of Habitat for Humanity in Florida, the girls approached BMHS math teacher Jake Roehl and asked for his help in starting a service club, similar to Habitat for Humanity, at Bishop. Jake, who coincidentally had been assisting his father, Gary, with house builds in Tijuana since 2002 through his parish, American Martyrs in Manhattan Beach, and Homes Without Boundaries, an organization that provides the financing for homes for Tijuana families, agreed to pitch the idea to Bishop's administration. Although Jake had wanted to get Bishop students involved in house builds long before Lina and Sara contacted him, it "never occurred to [him] that Bishop could actually do it." Given the school's official blessing, the Habitat Club was born and its mission decided: hands-on service to those most in need.

The club's first project was to help the Casa Refugio del Nino Jesus orphanage in Tijuana build a home and school for its 27 children (top picture), ranging in age from 18 months to 12 years. Opened in March of last year, the orphanage has not only provided children with bunk beds, a classroom and protection from the elements, it has also been able to give them fleece blankets, books, games and art supplies.

Putting Faith in Perspective

Habitat Club reaches out locally, nationally, and internationally

Tijuana, one of the poorest cities in North America, sits just a few hundred miles south of some of the richest. Here, in California, homebuyers may easily spend over a million dollars on a new residence; in Tijuana, many families are grateful for a 24'x12' house with two rooms and no running water. The poverty in Mexico is staggering: over 25 million people live in "extreme" poverty, earning less than \$2 a day.

While the orphanage plan was underway, Bishop was asked by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to help with a library project for two inner-city schools, San Miguel Elementary in Watts and Precious Blood Elementary in East Los Angeles. Both were desperately in need of books for their students and, for San Miguel, mobile units on which to store them. BMHS principal Rosemary Libbon, who sees one of Bishop's responsibilities as "providing service to our Catholic elementary schools," directed the project to Roehl. Roehl contacted Lina's father, Al Borgo, who owns a cabinetry business and had helped out on the orphanage build. Borgo not only agreed to open his shop to student builders from Bishop, but also to lend his expertise in designing and constructing the cabinets. In the spring of 2007, Borgo and Roehl, along with twelve BMHS students, delivered hundreds of books to the two schools and also took seven mobile bookshelves to San Miguel for the transportation of these books from classroom to classroom.



ABOVE (left to right):
Sarah McLay '07, Lina Borgo '07, San Miguel School principal Jesus Vasquez and Jake Roehl.

Miguel for the transportation of these books from classroom to classroom.

After the success of these projects, two additional elementary schools, St. John the Evangelist in Inglewood and a second East LA school, requested Bishop Montgomery's help with campus improvement projects. On November 7, St. John's received hundreds of books for its classrooms—the result of a campus book drive at

BMHS and donations from the community. Habitat Club members also spent the day at the elementary

school painting a mural in the courtyard. Titled "A Place Where Dreams Come True," the mural depicts some career options the students might choose including a fireman, doctor, priest, engineer, policeman or teacher, all within the view of a figure of Christ. The second East LA school will also receive a mural and a set of mobile bookshelves in Spring 2008.

In conjunction with these projects, club members have also been participating in one-day house builds each semester in Tijuana, organized by Jake and Gary Roehl, American Martyrs and the Habitat Club. Starting at 5:45am on Saturday mornings, the caravan of about seven or eight cars filled with adults and teenagers heads south of the border to a concrete slab, which has been poured and set days earlier. Gary Roehl and other volunteers, having stopped at the Home Depot just inside Tijuana, arrive with the lumber, nails, hammers, saws and other supplies to get the construction started. After about seven or eight hours laboring in the hot sun or freezing cold, depending on the time of year, the Bishop students, along with Jake and Gary, Al Borgo, and other parent and student volunteers present keys for a new, two room home to a waiting family.

For Jake, the moment the family receives the keys is a powerful one for him and his club members because they are committed, start to finish, to all aspects of the build: “I think a lot of schools go to Mexico just to build the houses, but with us we are involved in the whole process from organizing, to getting the supplies, to coordinating. We don’t just show up and provide labor.” Jake also believes that these experiences not only educate the students, but also empower them for future challenges. “The fact that these kids get to help organize something of this magnitude, it has to go somewhere later in life... These kids won’t be intimidated in college, for example, if they see a need. They will take the steps to fill it.”

Since Lina and Sara’s graduation in June 2007, the Habitat Club’s leadership has passed to Lina’s sister Talia, a junior, and Laura Thatcher, also a junior. Taking over where their predecessors left off, Talia and Laura have assumed their new roles with the passion and dedication that is at the heart of the club. They look forward to each house build or outreach project, claiming they are “actually way more fun than any party we could be at instead.” And, for Talia, service is not just an option, it is a duty. “The fact that I have water, heating... all these things... I can’t imagine not having a house or a bed to sleep in. I don’t take these things for granted anymore.” Laura admits that “going to Tijuana was a huge eye-opener... there really is poverty and I realized that [I] can change a person’s life by doing something about it.”

As word of the club’s experiences and successes has spread throughout the BMHS campus over the past two years, so has the desire among students to be a part of it. Crediting Ms. Libbon for her support and Jake, without whom Laura and Talia claim “none of it would be possible,” members continuously seek ways to be involved. “We used to have meetings in my classroom whenever there was a project we needed to talk about,” explains Roehl, “but they got too big. Students



ABOVE:
Al Borgo (left) and Gary Roehl take measurements for a house in Mexico.

were standing outside the doors and hanging through the windows trying to hear.” Now, Roehl and the group communicate through the club’s website and e-mail, easily sharing ideas and disseminating necessary information.

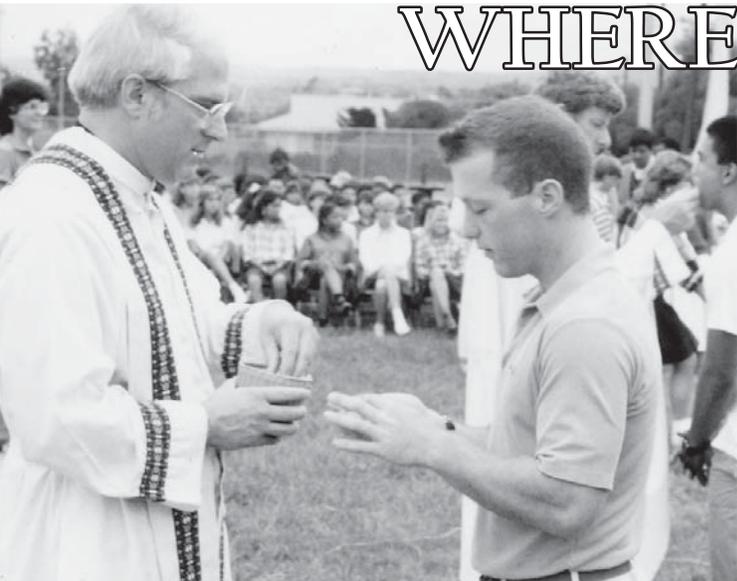
The proof of the club’s popularity on campus was proven in December when Roehl announced a return visit to the Casa Refugio orphanage on December 8 to deliver Christmas gifts and host a holiday luncheon for the children. Knowing transportation and logistics would be a challenge, he limited the number of students he could take to 24 and required permission slips to be turned in at his classroom on a date prior to the trip. “I show up at school [on that day],” Jake recalls, “and there are kids outside my door, waiting since 7am

to hand in their permission slips. By the time first period started, I had filled the 24 spots and had a wait list of four students. I ended up taking 31 kids. What could I do?”

What Jake could do and does do every day-- along with his father Gary, Mr. Borgo, Talia, Laura and the over 100 Habitat Club members-- is to continue to share his gifts, talents and blessings with those who need it most, and to inspire his students and peers to do the same. “My wife, Holly, has a quote from the Gospel of Luke written down which says ‘To whom much is given, much is expected,’” shares Jake. “My life is as perfect as it could be, so it’s fun to try and spread it to the lives of others.”

For more Habitat Club information and pictures, go to http://www.bmhs-la.org/academics/faculty/teachers/jroehl/habitat_club.htm

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



ABOVE:
Father Gary Klauer '63 shares the Eucharist at a school Mass.

IN THIS ISSUE

In celebration of Bishop Montgomery High School's 50th anniversary, we have included a "Where are they now?" feature in this issue of *Veritas*. We are proud of all members of our school community - faculty, staff, alumni, past and current parents. Included in this issue are snapshots of just a few of the many wonderful men and women who are part of the BMHS community. These are the stories of where they have been, what they are doing now, and how BMHS has impacted their lives. We hope you enjoy!



DEREK BROWN Class of 1978, Current BMHS Parent

THEN: Derek played soccer for two years and has wonderful memories of BMHS - senior retreat, senior ski trip and serving as the emcee of the senior talent show. He is thankful for the great times he had junior year with Paul Friedman and Leon Campazzi and "The Boys - Greg Navarez, Greg Moseley, Jon Prince, and others." He also has great memories of Fr. Allen's liturgy class. "As a class, we created some wonderful liturgical experiences for the student body."

NOW: He is a teacher in the theology department at Loyola HS and in June was ordained a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He serves his home parish of American Martyrs. He and his wife of 24 years, Terri, are proud parents of two boys, Aaron and Caleb, and one daughter, Rachel, a sophomore at BMHS.

ON BMHS: "The Franciscans created an environment that made it fun to be a part of BMHS. They planted a seed of faith in me that has grown strong over the years. They taught me what it meant to love God, the Church and Christ."



REV. MARK STRADER Class of 1981, BMHS Administrator (1995-1997)



THEN: As a student, Mark was a yearbook photographer, a member of the Hiking Club and a Campus Minister. His best memory of BMHS is homecoming and the excitement of float building and competition. He had his own "homecoming" when he returned to BMHS in 1995 as the school's chaplain.

NOW: He is an ordained priest for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and serves as the Director of Continuing Formation for Clergy. He is looking forward to becoming a parish priest again. In his travels, he has had the privilege of meeting such notable figures as President Carter, Mother Teresa, Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict.

ON BMHS: "All of my Catholic education taught me to be honest and truthful even in the face of adversity...I'd rather say something truthfully and with transparency than be caught not having revealed what I know."

LISA ROEHL-WALLE Class of 2000, Current BMHS Teacher

THEN: Lisa played volleyball (4 years) and soccer (3 years) while a student at BMHS. One of her best memories is winning CIF and State titles in volleyball as a junior. She was also a member of the bowling club and was active in campus ministry.

NOW: In addition to teaching chemistry and honors biology at BMHS, Lisa is the Music Ministry coordinator with her husband, Mike Guzman-Walle (class of 2000). She is also very active with campus ministry and the *Kairos* retreat program. Lisa and Mike are also very active at American Martyrs Parish. They participate in the 5 pm "Guitar Group" and they are CORE members of the Life Teen/Confirmation program at the church.

ON BMHS: "BMHS gave me a sense of self-confidence and showed me how important my actions are to the community."



“AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE”

Eva Brown, Holocaust survivor, speaks at Bishop Montgomery

One of many things that makes Bishop Montgomery students so remarkable is the respect they have for their peers, their teachers, their school and their community. It is an impressive sight to witness the student body of 1,200 gather together in the gym and sit respectfully and reverently at a school mass. An equally impressive sight occurred in the gymnasium on November 14 when a soft-spoken, 80-year old woman had hundreds of “young fresh faces” sitting on the edge of their seats in “rapt attention.”

It is a story she has told on hundreds of occasions, but each time Ms. Eva Brown recounts her survival of the Holocaust and the horrors she experienced at the hands of the Nazi regime, she does so with dignity and with a clear message for her audience – be tolerant and show forgiveness. “She [had] such a neat demeanor,” notes senior Andrew Forney. “It was unbelievable how she took such a great evil and turned it into an inspirational good. It was a day I will never forget.”

It took fifty years before she could tell of her experiences, but now Eva Brown speaks annually to thousands of students, recounting in chilling detail what she experienced as a teenager in ten concentration camps from 1944-1945. “Auschwitz was the worst of the... camps I was in,” Brown told the students as she showed them the “A17923” tattoo that was branded on her left arm, a grim reminder of the “hell on earth” she experienced at Auschwitz. “I lost my identity when they put this tattoo on me,” Brown told the students. “I became a number.”

Ms. Brown’s incredible story of survival is recounted in her new book, *If You Save One Life: A Survivor’s Memoir*, but to experience it in person “was an important moment here on campus,” said veteran religion teacher John Fitzsimons. Ms. Brown told of seeing her mother and baby sister for the last time after arriving at one of the camps, of the many times she came close to dying, and how she weighed only 60 pounds when she was finally liberated by American soldiers. She also spoke lovingly of the 67 family members she had before the Holocaust and of the seven who survived. She spoke about electric barbed-wire, watch towers, and “showers” that were actually gas chambers. She spoke about rubbing her own blood on her cheeks to make herself look healthy. And, she spoke of love and community and forgiveness.

One of the most poignant moments of her story came when she described the events of May 1, 1945, the day American troops liberated her camp. Brown, then 17 years old and near death, was asked by an American

soldier to “point out the Germans who made [her] look like a skeleton.” Brown, refusing to point any fingers, told the soldier that the Germans were also fathers, husbands and sons and they, too, wanted to go home. “I didn’t want revenge,” said Brown. “The American soldier looked at me like I was crazy.”

Brown’s message to “forgive those who have hurt you so that you can have peace with yourself” deeply affected many of the students in the audience. “Her capacity for forgiveness is astounding,” said senior Sarah Ballister, who was moved to tears during Brown’s story. Adds senior Megan Oshiro, “I feel so privileged to have heard [her story] and to have met her...I will never forget her.”

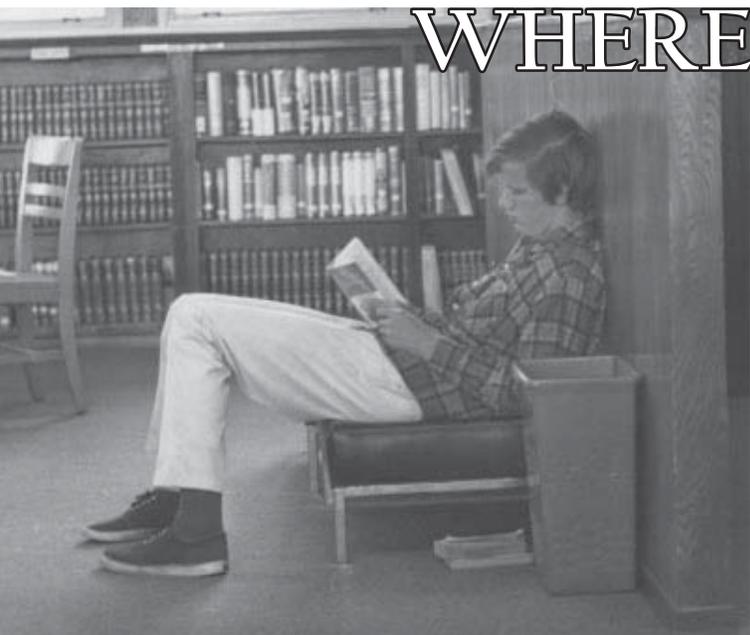
After holding her audience’s attention for more than an hour, Brown moved the topic away from herself and focused instead on the students before her. Standing with her camera to take pictures of them looking at her from the bleachers, Brown thanked them. “You have made my day and changed my life.”

At the end of the day, sitting in the office of BMHS Campus Minister Dorothy Morski, Brown talked about how impressed she was with the Bishop students. “They are so good looking and so happy,” she said. “It shows that they are loved and that they have a good school and good families.” Brown also shared that being at BMHS was an “unforgettable experience” because “the students and the school made [her] feel special.”



ABOVE:
BMHS students
with Eva Brown.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



ABOVE:
Chris Schneider '73 gets some last minute studying done before class.

MARY LOU ALFORD-MORENO Class of 1961



THEN: In 1961, Mary Lou was the first graduate to cross the stage at Bishop's commencement and was the first student to officially become a Bishop Montgomery alum. She was a Drama Club officer, a member of the Glee, Forensics, and Sodality Clubs and a member of G.A.A.

NOW: She is the proud mother of two sons, Eric and Aaron, and a daughter, Nicole, and a grandmother to four. Retiring from Southern California Gas Company in 2004 after 28 years of

service has given her the opportunity to indulge her passion for music and theatre, keep in close contact with her closest confidant, former BMHS classmate Christine Buckley-Finley, and enjoy social outings with many of the friends she has made throughout the years.

ON BMHS: "At BMHS, I learned respect and independent thinking. I live across the street from another BMHS graduate. Torrance is home to me!"

SUE STARK-MEYER Class of 1973, Current BMHS Parent

THEN: Sue was a member of the drill team for 4 years and served in Concordia Club. "I still keep in touch with people from BMHS. It is very special to have all these years of memories to share with these friends." She received her bachelor's degree from Mount St. Mary's College and her master's degree from Cal State Dominguez Hills.

NOW: She is a registered nurse and the Director of the BSN Program and Interim Chair of the Department of Nursing at Mount St. Mary's. She and her husband of 28 years, Gary (also class of '73), have 4 children - triplets Katie, Jennifer & Jonathan (all class of '04), and Andrew, a junior at BMHS.

ON BMHS: "BMHS has given me...the faith and love I have for our Lord Jesus Christ and the Catholic values that support social justice issues. The BMHS community has surrounded my family with prayers many times. I am a long time breast cancer survivor who would be willing to share, talk, and pray with anyone from the BMHS community who needs support."



YVETTE VIGON Class of 1987, Current BMHS Administrator



THEN: Yvette was involved in Concordia Club and "remembers the times we would join together as a community to help families in need. BMHS was then, and is now, a family which guides and supports all students through good and bad times." She graduated from UCLA in 1991.

NOW: She returned to BMHS in 1992 to teach Spanish. After a few years in the classroom, she moved to administration where she has held several positions, including Dean of Women and her current post as Vice-Principal. "This is my 16th year at BMHS and I am proud to say that BMHS is home."

ON BMHS: "I truly believe that BMHS has been one of the strongest driving forces in making me who I am today. I walked away in the Spring of 1987 knowing that I was prepared to take on the challenges of UCLA. My teachers gave me the tools to succeed: belief in myself, knowledge of how to work hard and persevere, and the faith that we are one in God's love."

NADER NASSIF Class of 1997

THEN: Nader was voted Teacher's Pet his senior year at BMHS. He was a member of the tennis team, the Newtonian Society, and CSF. He received his bachelor's degree from UC Irvine and he graduated from Harvard University Medical School (pictured).

NOW: He is an Orthopedic Surgery Resident at Barnes Jewish Hospital at the Washington University (MO) School of Medicine. He has also recently completed two marathons, Boston in 2006 and San Diego in 2007.

ON BMHS: "BMHS provided me with the discipline to do what I need to do."



LEADERS IN THE MAKING

A MISSION REALIZED: SPIRITUAL
ACADEMIC
PHYSICAL
SOCIAL

Three alumni serve their country at the United States Naval Academy

Nate Clark '04 doesn't like to mince words: "When I graduate [from college], I will immediately be handed 40 people who will put their lives in my hands." The Annapolis junior also doesn't like waking up at 5:30am each morning, surviving on less than 6 hours of sleep a night and dining on chow that has been mass-prepared for him and his 4,000 peers. But Nate, with his fellow classmates and BMHS alumni, Jason Miyoshi '04 and Christopher Dippel '07, remains well-aware of the purpose for his education and for the daily rigors he must endure at the U.S. Naval Academy. "The quarter-million dollar education I am being privileged to receive brings responsibility. In four years, we must be developed into individuals who can morally guide and militarily lead sailors and marines into war."

Grateful for the opportunity that four years at one of the nation's premier military institutions has afforded, Nate, Jason and Chris are also appreciative of the four years they spent in high school preparing for the challenges that awaited them in Maryland. Each of the young men not only credit Bishop's college-prep curriculum ("There are no woodworking or home ec classes there and there certainly aren't at the Naval Academy either!" jokes Nate), but also the school's "focus on a Christ-centered life," "development of moral character," and time-management skills that have been "crucial to... success at the Academy."

With a demanding schedule, a tough academic load and over 2,500 miles separating them from their loved ones, these young men have had to grow up fast. Fortunately, they had a strong foundation from which to draw. Chris calls the two *Kairos* retreats he experienced his senior year at Bishop, both as a participant and as a leader, "life-defining moments," where he discerned that "God had a plan" for him and found "the confidence to pursue that plan." Although life as a "plebe" this fall has had its trials, Chris knows that he is in the right place, growing and succeeding in an environment that challenges him mentally, morally and physically.

As a freshman at Bishop, Jason made the Academy his college goal, deciding that he wanted to be a pilot and serve his country. With support from his parents and grandfather, Jason researched the Academy, received a nomination his senior year from local Congresswoman Jane Harmon and arrived on the Annapolis campus a few months after. Now, four years later and looking ahead to graduation with a degree in electrical engineering, Jason's current thoughts are on flight school in Pensacola, Florida - an appointment he received in October. Although he is unsure whether his career choice will have him flying planes or helicopters, he is appreciative for the academic preparation he has received for a "chosen profession outside of the Navy, as well as the leadership tools needed both in the Navy and out in the real world."

While he has found the Navy experience as challenging as his peers have, Nate is thankful for the preparation

he received at BMHS and for the fulfillment of a dream to attend the Academy that began his sophomore year in high school. Recruited to play basketball for the Midshipmen, Nate knew that "the great education and job opportunities that came along with a Naval Academy degree" could provide unparalleled possibilities for his future. As he currently anticipates a career that will include maritime service as a Surface Warfare Officer and the development of his own real estate investment company in San Diego, he looks forward to receiving his degree in 2009 and taking a break from the daily grind of campus life. "There's a saying about the Academy: 'It's not a great place to be, but it's a great place to be from.'"

The choice to attend the Naval Academy is more than just a four-year college commitment; it is a grueling 24-hour a day obligation to willingly and selflessly protect and defend the lives and liberties of every American citizen. At just eighteen years old, these young men chose to accept that duty with maturity, integrity and honor. Reflecting on the influences that brought them to Annapolis, Jason, Nate and Chris cite the profound effect that their high school years at Bishop—the teachers, the courses, the religious formation, and most importantly, their peers—have had not only on their development as naval officers, but also on the decisions they make now that will shape their lives forever. "Although it may sound corny," explains Chris, "getting to know my peers so well [at Bishop] helped me realize that, as the future of our country, they are worth serving for."



ABOVE:
(L to R): Chris Dippel '07, Nate Clark '04, and Jason Miyoshi '04 in front of Bancroft Hall at the United States Naval Academy.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



ABOVE: Members of the 1967 BMHS baseball team, winners of the school's first CIF title.

SHARON KING BMHS Teacher, Coach (1962 - 1977)

THEN: Sharon King taught and coached at BMHS for 15 years. She taught Algebra, Geometry, Driver's Ed, and P.E. in addition to coaching girls' basketball, tennis, and softball and moderating the drill team. She is one of the most successful coaches in BMHS history, guiding the softball team to 10 straight league titles and the girls' basketball team to 1 league title.



NOW: Retired from teaching, she is a volleyball referee at both the high school and collegiate level. Upon retirement from teaching, she satisfied her passion for animals by becoming a dog sitter.

ON BMHS: "It was a great experience teaching and coaching at BMHS because of all the great students and parents that I had the opportunity to work with."

PAT KEALEY Class of 1968

THEN: Pat was a 3-year varsity football player for the Knights. As a junior, he was named to the All-CIF football team. He was also a member of the track team and the Block M Club. He was an outstanding student and was a member of CSF. He attended UCLA where he played football. His best memory of BMHS is winning the first football league title in 1966, against Fermin Lasuen. The Knights won 58-26 in front of over 10,000 fans at Harbor College. "The next Monday, the whole school was still excited about the game, including some of the faculty who didn't even follow football."

NOW: He resides in Concord where he is a realtor with Coldwell Banker. He and his wife of 33 years, Diane King-Kealey '68, have three kids, Dan, 32, Lauren, 29, and Tom, 20, and one grandson, Joshua.

ON BMHS: "The academic discipline gave me the tools and skills to communicate effectively in the work place and kept me receptive to new ideas. The athletic discipline helped me through tough times and disappointments that are part of life."



BRANDON McLEMORE Class of 1995



THEN: Brandon, at left with girlfriend Catlin Francis, was a 4-sport athlete at BMHS. He had one year stints in baseball and track and he played 4 years of football and basketball. His favorite memories include spending time with his teammates, especially sophomore year of football when the varsity practiced off-site for a few days as a way to bond. "We really got to know each other on a different level other than football." Upon graduation, Brandon continued his football career at the University of Oregon, where he received his degree in journalism and communications, and with the Tennessee Titans of the NFL.

NOW: He is a product line manager in charge of accessories for the Jordan Brand at Nike. Much of his work entails working directly with former NBA superstar Michael Jordan, who he says "is as smart and competitive in business as he was with the Bulls."

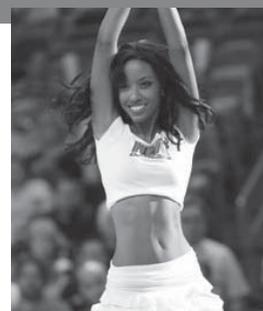
ON BMHS: "Of all the teams I have played on and all the coaches I have played for, Coach [Doug] Mitchell was the best at being able to show me that hard work and preparation pay off. Those lessons have stayed with me to this day."

KRISTINA BINGHAM Class of 2003

THEN: Kristina was involved in choir, campus ministry, drama, yearbook, and the annual talent shows in addition to playing jv and varsity tennis. Her best memories include winning the talent show her senior year, the *Kairos* retreat, and meeting life-long friends.

NOW: She graduated from Florida International University with a degree in advertising. She is a member of the 2007-08 Miami Heat dance team that has been named the "Best Dance Team in the NBA" for two straight years (Heat.com). She has appeared in *Vogue* and *Vanity Fair* magazines for American Express and she also works for Nickelodeon in their live "Go Diego, Go" show.

ON BMHS: "Bishop allowed me to understand that this world is diverse and that I should love everyone as God's child no matter what race they are. We are all one."



A FIGHTING SPIRIT

BMHS mourns the loss of tennis coach Angie Campos, 1943-2007

When the girls' varsity tennis team began the 2007 season in the fall, they did so without Angie Campos, their head coach since 1999. Campos, who battled cancer for several years, died on September 2, 2007 at the age of 64. Even during her battle with cancer, Campos kept a busy schedule, coaching both the girls' and boys' tennis teams at BMHS while working toward and earning a P.E. degree from Cal State Dominguez Hills. Her drive and work ethic inspired her teams and she has continued to be an inspiration even after her death.

Campos battled cancer for the last six years, yet she never let it affect her abilities to coach when she was on the court. "She had such tremendous drive," said Steve Miller, BMHS Assistant Principal in charge of athletics. "There were times when she did not look well, and there were times where she was just amazing to be around." In fact, Campos often underwent chemotherapy in the morning and then joined her teams for practice or a match later that same day. "She was a fighter, such a fighter," BMHS Athletic Director Kareem Mutrie '94 said. This fighting spirit left an indelible mark on all of her teams, especially the 2007 girls' team.

To help them cope with the loss of their leader, junior Genevieve Bever '09, who teamed with Christine Daniels '08 to form the number one doubles team, made black and gold bracelets for the team to wear. The girls also said a special prayer for "Coach Angie" prior to each match. Under the direction of new head coach Dore Pearson-Smyth, the Lady Knights were determined to make 2007 a special



ABOVE:
Angie Campos coached the boys' and girls' tennis teams from 1999-2007.

season and they didn't disappoint. The girls' won their second straight Del Rey League title and finished the season with a 9-5 record after a play-off loss to North Torrance.

The impact that Campos had on her teams goes beyond the tennis court. "She always had a smile on her face and lived every day to the fullest," Bever said. "When she talked, you listened," Daniels said. "She wanted you to do the best you could, so she didn't baby you. She told you how it was. That's what I loved about her; when she told you 'good job,' you knew she meant it." There is no doubt that her drive, her spirit and her passion for tennis will stay with those who played for her for many years.

Sports Wrap-up

Spring 2007

The spring sports season was highlighted by the softball team's first-ever trip to the CIF finals. The league champion Lady Knights posted a 27-4 record. Boys' volleyball also had an outstanding season, winning a league title and advancing to the CIF semi-finals. They posted a record of 21-8. Boys' golf brought home a league title as well and were led by league MVP and CIF individual qualifier Ryan Chan '07. A young baseball team struggled to score runs in 2007, posting a 7-19 record. They were led by freshman pitcher Eddie McLaughlin '10, a 1st Team All-League selection. Tojsh Kennedy '07 turned in several outstanding performances for boys' track, winning league titles in the 200 and 400. In girls' track, Jennifer Okonta '07 won the league title in the 400, Maiya Cooper '08 won the triple jump and the Lady Knights took the 4 x 400 relay.



ABOVE:
Jessica Osorio '08 prepares to field a ground ball for the Lady Knights.

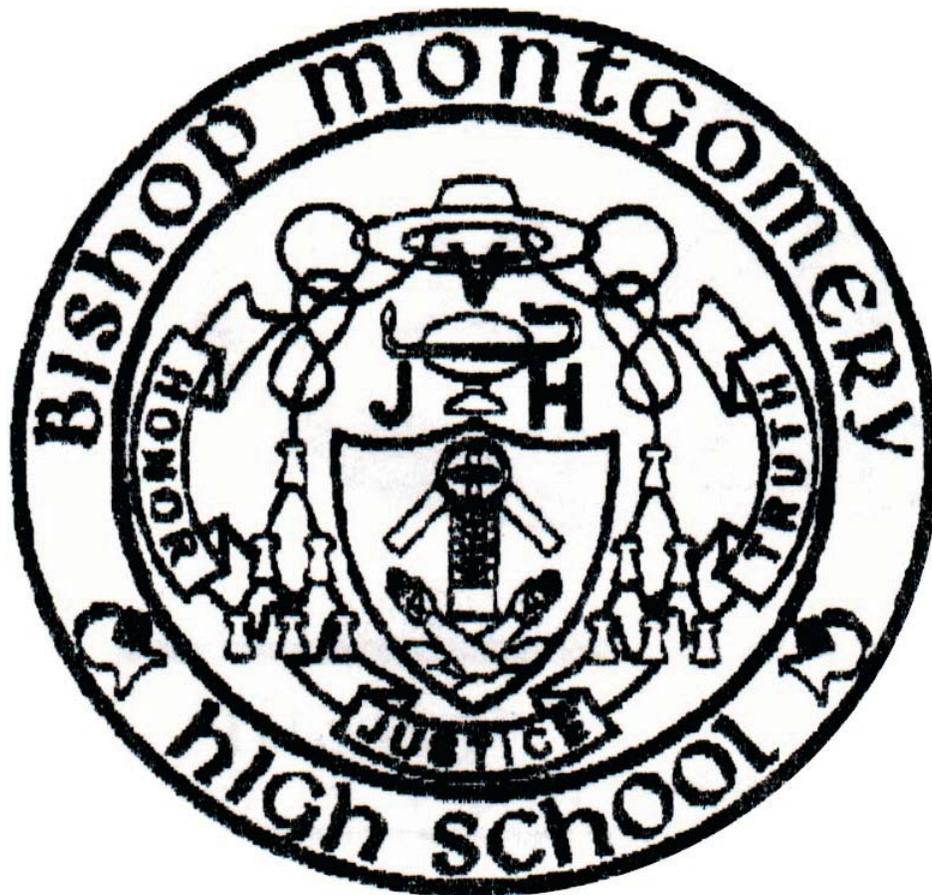
Fall 2007

The Fall 2007 season kicked off what is expected to be another outstanding year in BMHS athletics. Girls' volleyball won their league title and made their 14th trip to the CIF finals. They posted an overall record of 26-8. Girls' tennis won their second straight league title. (See story above). The Knights football team struggled this season, posting a 1-9 record. Ashton Pittman '08, earned 1st Team All-Del Rey League and Daily Breeze 2nd Team All-Area honors. The boys' cross country team finished in 4th place in the Del Rey League. They were led by 1st Team All-Leaguers Andy Cannata '10 and Matt Gomez '10. Girls' cross country also placed 4th in league and were led by Del Rey League MVP Camille Farfan '09.



ABOVE:
All Del-Rey League receiver Ashton Pittman '08 heads for the end zone.

ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007



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Each year, alumni, parents, past parents and friends support Bishop Montgomery High School by contributing to BMHS' fundraising efforts. The Knight Pride program and our other fundraising programs allow us to continue to make BMHS an outstanding school. Our sincerest appreciation goes to all those listed below for their meaningful endorsement of the mission of Bishop Montgomery High School. The list of donors below acknowledges gifts received during the 2006-07 fiscal year.

In reports of this nature, mistakes are inevitable. If your gift was omitted or improperly noted, please accept our apology. If you have noticed such an error, please notify the Development Office at 310.540-2021, ext. 246, so we can correct our records.



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Bishop Salazar administers communion at the Welcome Mass.

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ABOVE:

Alexandria Fontanetta '11, center, and her parents, Philip and Kathy Fontanetta, enjoy the Homecoming BBQ.

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The mission of Bishop Montgomery High School is to provide quality Catholic education primarily to college bound students of varied academic abilities from the South Bay area.

We serve the needs of the Church and the larger community by providing intellectually mature persons who have learned to integrate world knowledge with Catholic beliefs and values.

Our mission is accomplished through the cooperative efforts of parents, students, and staff by providing a rigorous curriculum and a positive discipline program that challenges all students to reach their potential.

The mission is realized in a community that nourishes the faith life of the parents, students, and staff through prayer, worship, and service to others.

The school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, racial or ethnic origin in administration or its education policies, admission policies, scholarships and loan program, and athletic or other school administered programs.

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ABOVE:
 Hedder Illustre '99 and Chrissie Zartman '01 returned to BMHS to coach girls' volleyball.

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| 1963
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| 1966
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| | 2007
Class of 2007 |

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You can make a difference in the lives of our students and in the future of Bishop Montgomery. Join us in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the school by making a gift to Knight Pride, our annual giving program. We are asking all alumni to make a commitment to Knight Pride by donating \$1 for every year since graduation (or make a gift that is comfortable for you). All contributions to Knight Pride are used to enhance our school and its programs and are not used for operational expenses. All gifts to BMHS are tax-deductible as we are a 501 (c) (3) organization.



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Each spring, Bishop Montgomery hosts one of its biggest fundraisers of the year, the Black & Gold Night. This event is attended by parents, alumni, friends, faculty, and staff. Over 350 people annually join together to enjoy the event's silent and live auctions, South Bay Restaurant Sampler, casino-style gaming, dancing and Hall of Fame induction ceremony. Bishop Montgomery High School would like to extend our deepest appreciation to all those who attended the Black & Gold Night, "Walk on the Wild Side" in 2007 and to all those who supported this fundraising event.



ABOVE:
BMHS receptionist Jan Fitzpatrick and faculty member Dee Masters at Black & Gold Night in March.

- | | | |
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 (L to R): Current parent Greg Jaquez and Bridget Fitzpatrick '88 practice their poker skills at the Black & Gold Night.

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 Our Lady of Guadalupe Church
 Pepsi Cola Bottling Company
 Provident Bank Mortgage
 PS Catering
 Mr. and Mrs. Jon Rager
 Rizzo's Pizza
 Dr. Lawrence Saks
 Mr. and Mrs. Scott Salisbury
 Sandy's Boston Pizza



HONOR ROLL OF DONORS



ABOVE:

Bill Burch, architect of the Student Activity Center, explains to students the math used to design the new building.

- Air Combat USA
- Alandrea
- Alondra Golf Course
- Alpine Village
- Amuse Music
- Anonymous
- Aquarium of the Pacific
- Art of Beauty
- Autry National Center
- Bandy Family
- Army Bartoleme
- BeachSports
- Behind the Wheel Driving School
- Ben & Jerry's
- Bertucci Family
- BevMo!
- BMHS Faculty
- Body Clinic
- Bohney Family
- Bongard Family
- Boomers!
- Boulevard Wholesale Florist
- Bradford Renaissance Portraits
- Budding Artistes
- Burger King
- Burke Williams South Bay
- Otto Cache
- Carol Hungerford Fine Art
- Charnofsky Family
- Felix Design Studio
- Fitzpatrick, Jan
- Ford Theatre Foundation
- Friends of Cabrillo Museum
- Gable House Bowl
- Garden Fresh Restaurant
- Garfield Family
- Gold Canyon
- Golf N' Stuff Family
Fun Center
- Gomez Family
- Gregor Family
- Griffith Park Farms
- Griss Family
- Gryder Family
- Rich Gupta
- Joni Haughey
- Hennessy's Tavern
- Henry Family
- Hilton Torrance/South Bay
- Hoffman Family
- Hof's Hut
- Hollywood Park
- Hollywood Riviera
Car Wash
- Michael Hopkins, DDS
- Hunt Family
- Huntington Library
- Ice Chalet
- Mary M Photography
- Mattel Children's Foundation
- Peter Mazzella, DDS
- Joanne McEachen
- Mendez Family
- Mercado Family
- Mimi's Café
- Miracle Springs Resort & Spa
- Miraleste Hairstylists
- Mission Renaissance
- Montgomery Family
- Doris Morton
- Mulligan Family Fun Center
- Museum of Tolerance
- NBC Studio Tours
- Dr. Brian Noguchi
- Nolan Family
- Oakland Raiders
- Olé
- Fernanda Orisini
- Pacific Park
- Pacific Theatres
- Paintball USA
- Palazzo
- Panera Bread
- Paradise Restaurant
- Pasadena Playhouse
- Paul's Photo
- Pedone's Pizza
- Bishop Joseph Sartoris
- San Pedro Eye Care & Laser Group
- Mrs. Virginia Schneider
- St. Anthony Catholic Church
- St. Bernard High School
- St. James Catholic Church
- St. Jerome Church and School
- St. John Fisher Church
- St. John Fisher Parish School
- St. Joseph High School
- St. Lawrence Martyr Church
- St. Margaret Mary Parish
- Sunflower Farms
- Synergy On-Board
- Torrance Marriott
- Trader Joe's
- United Studios or Self Defense
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vezzuto
- Mr. and Mrs. Armando Villalon
- Mr. John Zavala
- Safari Sponsors**
- The following persons and businesses donated items to our live/ silent auctions and/or "Big Game" Balloon Burst:
- Ist Choice Limousine
- 22nd Street Landing Restaurant
- Ace Party Rents
- Adventure 16
- Chicago for Ribs
- Children's Discovery Museum
- Chipotle Mexican Grill
- Civic Light Opera
- CKE Restaurants, Inc.
- Claim Jumper
- CMS Design Portraiture
- Color Me Mine
- Cookie Lee
- Cookin' Stuff
- Creative Cakery
- Curves for Woman - Hermosa
- Curves for Women - San Pedro
- Daily Breeze
- Dave & Busters
- Dermalogica
- Diaz Family
- DIRECTV
- Disney Worldwide Outreach
- Jeanette Donley
- Dream Dinners
- Ducoulombier Family
- Pat Dunigan
- Ector Family
- Elephant Bar
- ET Surf
- EXXonMobil Corporation
- Fabbri Family
- Farquhar Family
- Il Fornaio
- In-N-Out Burger
- Island's
- Italy's Little Kitchen
- Ivey Family
- Dr. Rick T. Iwai
- Jacob's Hair Studio
- Jamba Juice
- Jaquez Family
- Joey Ikemoto Photography
- Johnson Family
- Josten's
- Kim Kano
- Ms. Sue Kent
- King's Hawaiian
- LA Fitness International, Inc.
- Laugh Factory
- Lifetouch Prestige Portraiture
- Long Beach Ice Dogs
- Los Angeles Avengers
- Los Angeles Dodgers
- Los Angeles Kings
- Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Los Angeles Zoo
- Mac Family
- Magalona Family
- Manhattan Beach Marriott
- Marina del Rey Sportfishing
- Mark & Pamela Martis
- Penguin's Frozen Yogurt
- Pierce Family
- Portofino Hotel & Yacht Club
- PV Nails
- Quest College Counseling
- Quijije Family
- Ralph's Grocery Family/
Mission Foods
- Real Mex Restaurants
- Redondo Beach Brewing Co.
- Reporter's Network
- Richard Nixon Library &
Birthplace Foundation
- Rizzo's Pizzeria
- Rohrer Family
- Ronald Reagan Presidential
Foundation
- Rosas Family
- Rowley Portraiture
- Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill
- Ruby's Diner
- Dr. Lawrence Saks
- Sammy's Woodfire Pizza/
Ladeki Restaurant Group
- Sam's Club
- Schatan Optical Gallery
- Shamrock Tutoring
- Signtronix
- Six Flags Magic Mountain

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS



Smet Family
 Sosa's Jewelers
 South Bay Galleria
 Spectrum South Bay
 Spirit Cruises
 Sports Chalet
 Starbucks
 Stella La Tete Clothing & Jewelry
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 Summer Studios Art Academy
 Sunflower Farms
 The Comedy & Magic Club
 The Groundlings
 The Jewelry Source
 The Original Red Onion
 The Westin - Los Angeles Airport
 Ticketmaster
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Ms. Alexis Stumpf
 Ms. Jan Tobias
 Mr. & Mrs. Francisco Torres
 Ms. Marcia Trani
 Ms. Maria Trejo
 Ms. Susan Valenzuela
 Ms. Grace Vidad
 Ms. Cheryl Yanez-Williams

ABOVE:
 (L to R): Frank Distaso, Max Jeffers, Steve Miller, and Eric Torres '99 at the BMHS/Miranda Memorial Golf Tournament in June.

Wild Rivers Water Park
 Witherspoon Family
 Word of Life Christian Bookstore
 Yee Family
 Yoshinoya West/Beef Bowl
 Zoological Society of San Diego

Event Volunteers

Ms. Clementina Aguilar
 Ms. Wendy Akiyama
 Mr. Mike Aliotta
 Ms. Pam Altobelli
 Mr. Jorge Alvarado
 Ms. Suzanne Anderson
 Mr. & Mrs. Tony Arevalo
 Ms. Caroline Baker
 Ms. Jeanne Bever
 Mr. & Mrs. Bob Black
 Ms. Kathy Braasch
 Ms. Donna Carleo
 Ms. Martha Cetina
 Ms. Cristina Checa
 Ms. Simone Clinton
 Ms. Christine Collette
 Ms. Cristina Contreras
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Dargen
 Mr. Dean Dierks
 Mrs. Kathy Dieter
 Mr. & Mrs. Eduardo Duarte
 Ms. Pat Dunigan

Ms. Marlene Luna
 Ms. Shelley Mack
 Ms. Marcia Mar
 Ms. Kathy Marafino
 Ms. Rose Martinez
 Ms. Kate McClain
 Ms. Jamey McElroy
 Mr. Frank Medrano
 Ms. Martha Mejia-Zavala
 Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Meyer
 Ms. Josephine Mikhael
 Ms. Young Miller
 Ms. Jo Montoya
 Mr. Al Morehead
 Mr. & Mrs. Rafael Moreyra
 Mr. Mike Murphy
 Ms. Anne Nolan
 Ms. Marilyn O'Connor
 Ms. Teresa Pedroza
 Mr. & Mrs. Brad Petersen
 Ms. Martha Petredis
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Pollack
 Ms. Barbara Pudewa
 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Robinson
 Ms. Athena Robles
 Ms. Edna Rosario
 Mr. Freddy Ruiz de Castilla
 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Salisbury
 Ms. Dora Sierra
 Ms. Anne Smet

BMHS/Morgan Miranda Golf Tournament

The BMHS/Morgan Miranda Memorial Golf Tournament raises money for tuition assistance and is named in memory of 2000 BMHS alumnus Morgan Miranda. The following golfers enjoyed a round of golf at Lakewood Country Club.

S. Abittante	Camilo Howe '94	Peter Schiller
G Adkins	Max Jeffers	Roger Shaulis
D. Allen	Dane Larsen	J Shepard
B Bielski	Doug Leach '75	M Shepard
Courtney Bacalso '00	Kyle Leach '09	J Southern
S Brown	Andy Marafino	Eric Torres '99
R Buchanan	Mike Maynez '97	M Walker
P. Burg	Rod Mendoza	Mark Woods '00
G. Caeser	Steve Mendoza	Amy Yacorzynski
Chuck Carleo	R Mendoza	
A Chavarin	J Mendoza	
Fred Deimel	M Miller	
Tim Dillon	Steve Miller	
Frank Distaso	Bob Miranda	
J Evert	Doug Miranda	
Kevin Franco	Mr. and Mrs. Ed Miranda	
Eric Fuller '94	Nelson Miranda '04	
Tony Gaimari	Brian Monreal	
Greg Gomez '80	John Nestojko '00	
V Guerrera	Rich Petroshanoff	
Damian Holman '00	J. Pillen	
Patricia Holman	Sam Prouty '00	

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



ABOVE (l to r): Members of the Class of 2000-Stanley Wilson, Trinh Nguyen, Eddie Beshears, Michael Boutte, Jennifer Ochoa, Andre Coleman, and Christiane Davis.

FRANCESCA SEQUEIRA-LOFTIS Class of 1968

THEN: Francesca, the 1967 Homecoming Queen, was a song leader and a member of the ski and pep clubs and the varsity tennis team. She credits BMHS with providing her with great friends who have remained a part of her life.



NOW: Since retiring as an account executive in the insurance industry, she has been active as the Commissioner on the El Dorado Lafco in California's Gold Country. She is active in serving her community and protecting the environment and animals. She and her husband, Larry, have 46 acres, three horses, three dogs, and two cats.

ON BMHS: "BMHS provided me with a solid educational foundation. It became apparent when I went to UCLA and graduate school that I had a foundation that prepared me for higher education and to be successful in whatever I did."

GREG MONTGOMERY Class of 1976



THEN: Greg was a receiver on the football team and ran track while at BMHS. He served as class president his sophomore year. "The thing I enjoyed most about BMHS was the overall comraderie at the school." After high school, he served five years in the United State Air Force.

NOW: He is married and has four children ages 18, 13, 10 and 4. He is a lieutenant in the Los Angeles Police Department where he is a 26-year veteran. Greg has also worked as an actor with small parts in television, including *Baywatch*, *Judging Amy*, and *Unsolved Mysteries*, and in the films *Bread and Roses*, *Blue Streak* and *Jack of All Trades*. He was also a contestant on *American Gladiators*, which re-airs on ESPN Classic.

ON BMHS: "Although the school was not as diverse as it is now, BMHS helped me to be able to fit in anywhere I went in social settings."

SEAN GRIFFIN Class of 1985

THEN: Sean was voted Best Personality, Most Fun to be Around, and Class Clown in 1985. He also played football all four years. "I was on the team, but there were several pockets of time where I didn't do a whole lot of playing."

NOW: He is married to Jennifer and they have one son, Hudson, age 2. He is an actor who has made his living mostly through commercial work. He appears in commercials for Honda, Century 21, Stella Artois beer and Chase Freedom card. He has also recently appeared on the TV hit *Las Vegas* and *Blue Collar TV*. His film credits include *Diamonds and Guns* and *Special Ed*.

ON BMHS: "The strict Catholic education gave me the mental discipline in my life to help me succeed."



ERICK RUBALCAVA Class of 1992, BMHS Teacher (1995-1999)



THEN: Erick was a member of Thunder By Knight (TBK) all four years as a student. He was also involved in Campus Ministry and music ministry. He returned to BMHS from 1995-1999 to serve as director of TBK. His favorite memories include TBK competitions in Hawaii (1991) and Florida (1997).

NOW: He is married to Monica and they are expecting their first child in May 2008. He is the Assistant Principal of Student Services at Serra High School in Gardena. He is also the founder and director of the Young Musician's Academy, Inc., a music education studio in Gardena.

ON BMHS: "BMHS taught me the essentials of leadership and standing up for what you believe. The Christian service program influenced me to want to help others, which led me to pursue a graduate degree in Marriage and Family Therapy."

IN LOVING MEMORY

A MISSION REALIZED: SPIRITUAL
ACADEMIC
PHYSICAL
SOCIAL

BMHS community mourns the loss of two men who served with honor

Randy Simmons 1956-2008



On February 7, 2008 Bishop Montgomery, the Los Angeles Police Department, and the entire country lost a hero when LAPD Officer Randy Simmons was killed in the line of duty responding to a homicide call. Officer Simmons served the LAPD for 27 years and was a member of the elite S.W.A.T. team for 20 years. He is the first S.W.A.T. officer to be killed

in the line of duty in the 40-year history of the LAPD's elite force. Simmons, 51, is survived by his wife, Lisa, and two children - Matthew, a sophomore who plays on the BMHS football team, and Gabrielle, who will be a freshman at BMHS beginning in 2008-09. A trust fund has been set up through the Los Angeles Police Credit Union. Go to www.lapfcu.org or mail donations to: Blue Ribbon Trust Fund/Officer Randal Simmons,/Acct. 2030077-product code S4.12/16150 Sherman Way/Van Nuys, CA 91410/877-695-2732.

Chuck Vogler 1942-2007



On December 18, 2007 Former Bishop Montgomery teacher Chuck Vogler passed away after a lengthy illness. Vogler taught in the English department at BMHS for 20 years from 1980-2000. Following the 2000 school

year, Vogler moved with his wife to the Sacramento area, but made many trips back to BMHS to visit former colleagues. In addition to teaching English, Vogler was the longtime Speech and Debate Coach at Bishop Montgomery and he was recently inducted into the Hall of Fame of Speech Coaches by the Western Bay Forensic League. Vogler is survived by his wife, Marilyn; three children; four grandchildren; one sister; and one nephew. Vogler's funeral was held on December 27, 2007 at St. Christopher's Catholic Church in Galt, California.

HOMECOMING BBQ 2007

The smell of barbeque filled the air on Friday, October 19 as hundreds of students, their families, alumni and faculty enjoyed a pre-game meal together at the Annual Homecoming BBQ. Hamburger and hot dog orders kept the grillers (volunteers from BMHS' Booster Club) busy for hours, as more than 700 persons fueled up before watching the Knights take on the Vikings of St. Bernard in the Homecoming Football game.

Each year, the barbeque offers a special opportunity for alumni to return to campus, tour new and improved facilities and reconnect with old friends and teachers. This year was no exception. Current parent and alumni Anne Dietrich-Smet '85 was happy to be back on campus, not just to revisit her alma mater, but also to re-experience Homecoming through the eyes of her daughter Maggie '10. "I love coming back to Bishop, especially for events like these. There are so many memories, so many good times to recall... Homecoming was always one of my favorite times of year."

Although the Knights were unable to defeat the Vikings that afternoon, most everyone in attendance could agree that the afternoon barbeque and the culmination of an exciting and spirited Homecoming week couldn't be topped.



ABOVE (l to r):
BMHS teachers Lisa Roehl-
Walle '00 and Judi Maylone.

ADVANCING THE MISSION OF BISHOP MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL

DEVELOPMENT

Dear Friends of Bishop Montgomery,

Welcome to another issue of *Veritas*, the magazine for our Bishop Montgomery community. As you can see, the winter edition of *Veritas* is expanded to include our annual report for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our many donors who give so generously to our Knight Pride annual giving program. Monetary gifts from parents, past parents, alumni, friends and businesses play a vital role in helping us provide facilities, equipment and scholarships for the students; but, more importantly, these gifts help to protect the future of Bishop Montgomery High School.

Over the past few years, the many changes and additions to our campus have dramatically increased the number of amenities and services we are able to provide our students. The new Student Activity Center offers our athletes a place to practice immediately after school ends so that they can get home sooner to spend time on their studies and with their families. A new wireless computer cart allows teachers to use a set of laptop computers in their classrooms. New stained glass windows have transformed the chapel into an even more beautiful building on campus where students and teachers can spend time in prayer. These are just a few of the many examples of what we now offer our students because of the generous support of our donors.

One of our greatest sources of pride has been the growth of the scholarship program. In the last 10 years, the scholarships provided by BMHS have grown from just one to twenty and it is the gifts from parents, past parents, alumni and friends who have supported this tremendous increase. With these scholarships, we are able to provide tuition assistance to over 100 students who would otherwise not be able to attend

Bishop Montgomery. This achievement is a great source of pride for our entire community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers who serve throughout the year. It is amazing how our lists of volunteers for the annual Black & Gold event and the Homecoming Barbeque grow each year. Without volunteers, events like these would not be possible.

As we move toward the next 50 years of Bishop Montgomery, it is important that we look for ways to continue to support the growth and prosperity of our school. Our next main project is the construction of an on-campus retreat center, which will be adjacent to the Student Activity Center. We will also continue with other improvements to the buildings, classrooms and facilities that have already begun or are scheduled in the near future. Of course, we could not do any of these enhancements without the support of the entire Bishop community.

We are grateful to all of you in our community who so generously give to our school and remain loyal to our mission of providing a solid Catholic education to college-bound students from diverse backgrounds. It is our hope in this new year that all of the members of our community will consider making a gift to BMHS so that we can continue to provide for our current students and those students who will fill our classrooms and walk our halls for the next fifty years.

Gratefully,

Andy Marafino
Director of Development

2006-07 ALUMNI CHALLENGE UPDATE:

TOP CLASSES

Class	Donors	Amount
1975	6	\$1,364
1983	4	\$923
1961	5	\$760
1967	1	\$500
1980	1	\$500
1981	1	\$500

BELOW:
Development office
staff members (l
to r) Dione Dierks,
Andy Marafino,
and Amy Traxler.



Mayr-Leahy Scholarship Fund

Established at BMHS

In December, Bishop Montgomery was chosen by the Mayr Foundation Board to receive a \$250,000 endowment for tuition assistance. The gift was made possible through the Donald T. Leahy Charitable Lead Trust and will provide the school with an additional \$12,000 per year from interest to assist students in need. The Mayr-Leahy Scholarship Fund is the nineteenth scholarship established at BMHS in the last ten years.

On December 19, BMHS principal Rosemary Libbon was presented a check at the California Club in Los Angeles from Leahy trustee Matt Grossman and George H. Mayr Foundation Board Chairman Pat Haden. "I am overwhelmed that we were chosen to receive this gift," said Libbon. BMHS was one of twelve organizations, and the only Archdiocesan school, to receive funds. Other recipients included Loyola Marymount University, Marymount College, USC, St. Mary's Academy, Mayfield Senior School, Loyola High School, St. Monica High School, and Flintridge Prep. BMHS also annually receives funds from the George H. Mayr Foundation for its "Mayr Scholars." This scholarship fund provides BMHS with \$10,000 per year for tuition assistance. When asked how it came about that BMHS was chosen to receive funds from the Leahy Trust, Haden said that it was a unanimous decision by the Mayr Foundation to award the \$250,000 to Bishop Montgomery.

Scholarship Funding Opportunities

Over the past ten years, the scholarship program has grown significantly. Scholarships and endowments ensure that students of need can take advantage of all of the educational opportunities Bishop Montgomery has to offer. It is our hope that each donor's intent is to make a long-term commitment to the scholarship or endowment of their choice.

Sumer Nicole Alvarez Scholarship
Fred Brierley Memeorial Scholarship
Jimmy Clarke Scholarship
Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation Scholarship
Adam Guymon Memorial Fund
Kathryn Kelly Scholarship
Joshua Lopez Scholarship
Jeffrey J. Mahowald Memorial Scholarship
Val Manalansan Memorial Scholarship
George H. Mayr Foundation Scholarship
Mayr-Leahy Scholarship Fund
Damion Mendoza Scholarship
Morgan Miranda Memorial Scholarship
Jean Miyoshi Scholarship
Piechocki Scholarship Fund
Robert Roach Menorial Endowment
The Michael B. Ruggera Jr. Memorial
Endowment Scholarship
The George and Virginia Schneider Endowment
William Wolfenbarger Scholarship Endowment

New Stained Glass Windows Make Chapel Shine

Last summer, with a gift from the George and Virginia Schneider family, a set of new stained glass windows were installed in the BMHS chapel. Twelve vertical window panels, lining the north and south walls of the chapel, contain symbols representing the Virgin Mary, patroness of Bishop Montgomery. A large circular rose window on the west wall of the chapel catches the afternoon sun, illuminating a stunning image of Mary holding her infant son Jesus. These windows, custom-made and painted by stained glass artists at Judson Studios in Los Angeles, have not only beautified the chapel, but now also serve as a source for mediation and prayer for both students and faculty on campus.

George and Virginia Schnieder, parents to eleven BMHS alumni, have always been dedicated to the mission of Bishop Montgomery and, through the decades, have tirelessly and continuously supported our school. George, who passed away in 2005, was firmly committed to the values of Catholic education and is considered one of a few instrumental persons in the founding of Bishop Montgomery. His wife, Virginia, believes he would be pleased with the new chapel windows as they not only enhance our campus, but also glorify our Lord and His Mother, the Blessed Virgin.



BELOW:
Hand-painted stained glass windows were installed last summer.



ABOVE:
Students gather for the first formal flag-raising ceremony, November 1957.

1960's

Barbara Moore-Novotney '65 celebrates her 35th wedding anniversary this year with her husband, Ralph. They have two sons, Ralph and Joshua, both graduates of the University of Notre Dame. Ralph also graduated from Ave Maria Law School in Michigan and Joshua is a director of development for both the National Republican Senatorial Committee and the American Foreign Policy Council.

1980's

Joe Delaplaine '82 is doing the Lord's work for peace across the country. In September, he helped unite thousands of military veterans, their families and peace demonstrators nationwide for a march on Washington, D.C. to bring an end to the suffering in Iraq.



1990's



Erik Geierman '90 and **Monique Holt**, left, were married on October 14, 2006.

Mary Davin-Torres '91 and her husband, Ramon, gave birth to twins on September 2, 2007. Jake Henry is on the left and Ella Vincenza is on the right. They also have a 3-year old son, Eric.



Khala Taylor-Scott '93 and her husband live in Stockton. She is in school full time and is a home engineer "still lovin' the Lord!"

Chris Langit '94 has two children, both of whom were born on April 25. Kapono, a boy, was born in 2003 and Kylie, a girl, was born in 2007.

Monica Hecht-O'Brien '96 married Tim O'Brien on May 12, 2007.

1990's

Jeff Ramsey '96 is working towards a Master's degree in history at the University of Northern Iowa. He is also working in a graduate assistantship position in leadership programming.

Alisha Ledlie-Bent '97 received her Ph.D in Clinical Psychology from Rosemead School of Psychology. She and her husband, Jeff, reside in San Clemente.



Julio Marin '98 and Yurani Rocio Giraldo, left, were married on January 14, 2006. They welcomed their first child, Diego Alonso, on August 6, 2007.

Jaime Soto-Hall '98 and Ryan Hall '99, right, were married on August 11, 2007. Jaime is an RN and Ryan is an accountant. They are expecting their first child in May.



Joe Silva '99 and Elizabeth Silva, left, welcomed their first child, Isabella, on July 10, 2007.



Melissa Zankich-Wolfe '00 and Brent Wolfe, left, were married on October 27, 2007 in Surprise, AZ.

Tyre Sperling '01 has been appointed Vice-President of Programs for the Atlanta chapter of BPRS (Black Public Relations Society). BPRS/Atlanta is the nation's largest chapter of black

public relations professionals.

Bryan and Kevin Perez, both class of 2006, finished 2nd and 3rd respectively in their division of the 2007 Long Beach Marathon. Bryan, a student at UCLA, finished in 3:29:37. Kevin, who attends Cal Poly SLO, finished in 3:42:01.

Lessa Pelayo-Lozada '03, daughter of Al-den Pelayo '82 and Laurie Ann Pelayo, was married to Christian Lozada, right, on August 18, 2007. She received her degree in Sociology from UCLA and is working towards a Master's degree in Library and Information Sciences at UCLA.



CORRECTION

On page 16 of the Spring/Summer 2007 issue of Veritas, the picture of the front of the school was mistakenly identified as circa 1957. The picture was taken in 1964 at the dedication of the statue of Bishop George Montgomery. The statue was a gift from the class of 1964. We apologize for the error.



In Loving Memory

Bishop Montgomery extends its prayers to the members of its community who have passed away.

Alumni

Bill Yurak '65, November 25, 2007
Robert McKennon '72, November 27, 2007
Yvonne Berthel-Frye '84, July 5, 2007

Alumni Parents

Leo Manalansan, January 19, 2007
(father of Jeffrey '98, Allen '00, and Neal '03)
Mary J. Fernandez, December 12, 2006
(mother of Jeanne '75, Teresa '78)
Donald Miyagishima, November 2007
(father of Catherine '97 and Josh '99)

Current Parents

Rex Peithman
(father of Tara '08, Juliane '09)
Randy Simmons
(father of Matthew '10)

Former Faculty/Staff

Angie Campos, September 2, 2007
Chuck Vogler, December 18, 2007

Send us news of your new job, marriage, births, latest adventure or other significant event for publication in the next issue of VERITAS.

Send in your news by e-mail to amarafino@bmhs-la.org or by mail to: Development Office, Bishop Montgomery High School, 5430 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503.

BISHOP MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL

6th Annual



Morgan Miranda Scholarship Fund Memorial Golf Tournament

June 27, 2008

Lakewood Golf Course

Entry Fee: \$130 (First 80 golfers)

First Tee Time: 11:00

All Golfers Receive:

- 18 Holes of Golf with Cart
- Dinner
- Prizes
- Goodie Bag

**FORMAT: 4-man scramble
with handicap**

DINNER ONLY: \$40

Dinner begins at 6:30

For more information, please contact

Ed Miranda - 310-675-8957 or moraga_ed@yahoo.com

Dane Larsen - dlarsen@buckinghamheights.com

Andy Marafino - 310-540-2021 ext. 246 or amarafino@bmhs-la.org

Send your entry to:

Ed Miranda

15139 Florwood Ave.

Lawndale, CA 90260

ENTRY DEADLINE - June 6, 2008 / Make check payable to Ed Miranda

All proceeds go to the Morgan Miranda Memorial Scholarship at Bishop Montgomery High School

Golfer - \$130

Dinner Only - \$40

Family & Friends Hole Sponsor - \$50

Corporate Hole Sponsor - \$150

Corporate Sponsorship Foursome - \$470

Name _____

E-Mail _____

Name _____

E-Mail _____

Name _____

E-Mail _____

Name _____

E-Mail _____

Bishop Montgomery High School

8TH ANNUAL BLACK & GOLD NIGHT

Night of 1,000 Stars

DINNER & AUCTION

Join us for the celebration!

Saturday, April 12, 2008

6:30 - 10:30pm

THE REDONDO BEACH
HISTORIC LIBRARY
309 ESPLANADE
REDONDO BEACH, CA

Cocktail Attire

Valet Parking Included

RSVP by March 28, 2008

All proceeds from this event will help to fund the construction of Bishop Montgomery's new on-campus Student Retreat Center.

\$85 per person

If you would like to place a congratulatory ad in the evening's program, contact the Development Office.

Hall of Fame - Class of 2008

HONORED ALUMNI:

Greg Goettsch '74
Tricia Miller-Goettsch '79
Craig Leach '73
Judy Kruzic-Leach '73

25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO BMHS:

Kathy Dieter, Bookstore Manager
William Martinez, Librarian
Debra Skelley, English
Mary Wibberley, Fine Art

For more information, contact Amy Traxler,
Assistant Director of Development, at
310-540-2021 ext. 249 or
atraxler@bmhs-la.org.

VERITAS Magazine

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