

The Magazine of Bishop Montgomery High School

# VERITAS

[illegible]



## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Friends of Bishop Montgomery,

To commemorate inauguration day, Elizabeth Alexander wrote and read her poem titled, “Praise Song for the Day.” Certainly, she wrote and read this poem, this “praise song,” to mark the day of the inauguration celebration. This poem, though, like all good poems, applies not only to that day—January 20, 2009—but to every day, to each of our days here at school when we bring ourselves, not just our school selves, but our whole selves, complete with our history and our ancestors, to join together in this community that is Bishop Montgomery. We bring ourselves to do the simple things we do every day—speak, walk, see, do. Each of us, through our words and our actions, offers our “praise song for the day.”

As Alexander writes, “Each day we go about our business, walking past each other, catching each other’s eyes or not, about to speak or speaking.....Each one of our ancestors on our tongues.....We encounter each other in words, words, words, spiny or smooth, whispered or declaimed, words to consider, reconsider.....I know there’s something better down the road.....We walk into that which we cannot see..... Praise song for struggle. Praise song for the day.....Some live by love thy

neighbor as thyself, others by first do no harm or take no more than you need.....What if the mightiest word is love? Love beyond marital, filial, national, love that casts a widening pool of light, love with no need to pre-empt grievance. In today’s sharp sparkle, this winter air, anything can be made, any sentence begun, on the brink, on the brim, on the cusp. Praise song for walking forward in the light.”

My daily prayer is that our students, and our faculty, through the ordinary living that we do each day here at Bishop Montgomery—through our tasks, our encounters with each other, sing that “praise song for the day”, that we have the courage to “praise song for struggle”, to live by “love thy neighbor as thyself” and “take no more than you need”—to create this space which we all share into one where we can each learn, and grow, and be unafraid to be our best selves.

My daily prayer is that how we live each day, the choices we make—no matter how small they seem—proclaim that “the mightiest word is love”—“love beyond filial, national, any grievance—love that casts a widening pool of light.” This community can be and is a community that casts a widening pool of light—light that comes from faith, and hope, and as St. Paul says, the greatest of all these—love.

My prayer for our students is that in “today’s sharp sparkle, this winter air—that they realize that “anything can be made, any sentence begun”—that they are—every minute of every day, no matter how ordinary the moment or the day may seem—“on the brink, on the brim” of the gift of each new moment that is their own to waste or to live—to understand with their whole heart that they each matter—that their successes and failures, their joy and pain, their spoken desires and their prayers in silence—all of this matters. That they are bound in Christ’s love—not separate from each other, or separate from all of those with whom we share this earth—that they weaken or they strengthen each other with every choice that they make, no matter how small the choice seems. Each one matters.

My prayer is that students and faculty alike, all members of this Bishop Montgomery community, gather the courage to live each and every day as that “praise song”—that “praise song for walking forward in the light.”

This is what we strive to do at Bishop Montgomery. This is what you, our friends, make possible with your support.

Thank you.

Rosemary Libbon  
Principal

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ABOVE:

Lauren Morales '08 concentrates on a physics assignment.

# Exercising Our Intellectual Gifts

In 1999, veteran teacher Ron Jenkins invited a friend to come to the Bishop campus and observe his math classes as part of a teacher credential program. Jenkins recalls, that while giving a tour of campus during his free period, his friend, who at the time was working at a school in Los Angeles, asked where all of the students were. "They're in class," answered Jenkins. Then he joked, "Where else would they be?"

In between class periods, the halls of Bishop Montgomery buzz with activity. Students rummage through their lockers in search of their English textbooks; they chat with friends on their way to their next class; they grab a quick snack; and, they take the opportunity to get in some last minute studying for a US History test. During class time, however, the halls are deserted, save for an office aide collecting attendance sheets or a pigeon searching for breakfast. Inside the classrooms, teachers are teaching and students are learning.

Over the fifty year history of Bishop Montgomery, many things about the school have changed. New buildings have been constructed; students now wear uniforms; more honors and advanced placement courses are offered; and, tuition has changed with the times (\$80 per year in 1959). What hasn't changed, however, is the school's commitment to ensuring that all of those who come to Bishop Montgomery graduate as academically-dedicated individuals prepared for college. The instruction of the whole student – spiritually, intellectually, physically and socially – is the goal of the school, but it is exercising every student's intellectual gifts that supports the unique Bishop Montgomery educational experience.

Tremendous growth in the advanced placement (AP) and honors curriculum has allowed more students to excel

beyond the minimum requirements for graduation while significantly increasing the opportunities for college acceptance. AP courses at BMHS were first offered in 1977, with one of the initial classes being Carolyn Quijano's AP U.S. History. Today, the school offers thirteen AP courses in five different disciplines, including Literature and Composition, Biology, Calculus AB, Macro Economics and Spanish Language. Additionally, students can enroll in one or more of fourteen honors-level courses. "The increased AP opportunities give students the chance to take a more rigorous curriculum," explains veteran academic counselor Doug Mitchell, "which, in turn, increases their attractiveness to highly selective colleges."

The education provided by BMHS is designed to prepare students for admission to the University of California and California State University systems; however, all of the academic counselors and teachers strive to help students find schools that fit their personal and academic needs. Throughout its history, BMHS has proudly sent most of its graduates on to college and, in the last four years, BMHS is thrilled that 99% of its alumni have gone on to higher education (*see chart below*).

In addition to UC and Cal State schools, many BMHS graduates over the years have matriculated into some of the

BMHS College Matriculation Since 2005

Year	Graduates	2-year school	4-year school	Vocational School	Total Attending College
2005	234	35 (15%)	195 (83%)	1 (.4%)	231 (99%)
2006	274	51 (19%)	217 (79%)	2 (.01%)	270 (99%)
2007	262	38 (15%)	220 (84%)	4 (1%)	262 (100%)
2008	282	56 (20%)	218 (77%)	5 (2%)	279 (99%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1052</b>	<b>180 (17%)</b>	<b>850 (81%)</b>	<b>12 (1%)</b>	<b>1042 (99%)</b>

most prestigious colleges and universities in the country, including Yale, Stanford and Cornell (*see chart below*). Equally as impressive is that two alumni are currently enrolled at the United States Naval Academy (Annapolis) and one attends the United States Military Academy (West Point).

Part of what drives the students' success is the guidance the students receive from their academic counselors. From freshman year until graduation, students meet with their counselors on a regular basis to create academic plans that fit their individual needs. During freshman year, for example, counselors meet with small groups to help students create a rough course projection outline to chart the classes that they can take during their four years at BMHS. In the student's junior year, counselors guide students in researching and selecting options for their post-high school education using *Naviance*, a computer-based program with a career inventory data base that assists students in matching college majors with potential jobs. "Naviance has been a great tool in helping our students find colleges that are right for them, both academically and financially," says Mitchell, one of the people responsible for bringing the program to campus.

While many other academic support services are available on campus, including CSF peer tutoring, weekly math lab, and SAT prep classes, it is clear that Bishop's most valuable resource in helping students develop their intellectual skills is its teachers. "The work the teachers do in their classrooms is the most important part of each day here," says BMHS Principal Rosemary Libbon.

Bishop boasts a long tradition of employing an excellent faculty that is dedicated to their craft and to their students. A testament to this is the eight members of the current faculty - Mike Butler, Christine Collette, Dietmar Farkas, Dulcie Galdamez, Judy Kline, Dee Masters, Debbie Skelley, and Mary Wibberley - who have taught at BMHS for over 25 years.



ABOVE:  
Mary Wibberley helps Tyler Nelson '09 with an art project.

The average number of years teaching at BMHS across the entire faculty is fourteen years.

Fortunately, this devotion on the part of the faculty is not lost on the students. Senior Carolynn Vuong '09, who hopes to attend either UC Berkeley or Stanford in the fall, notes that the teachers and counselors have had a huge impact on her academic career: "My teachers have thoroughly prepared me for what the college environment is going to be like," says Vuong. "Teachers like Mr. [Eric] Franklin have helped me stay focused on my studies."

Vuong's classmate, Daniel Vollmer '09, praises teachers like Mr. Farkas for the wealth of knowledge and experience that he, and many of his fellow faculty members, bring to the classroom. "Mr. Farkas always has something interesting to say," says Vollmer, who hopes to attend UC Berkeley in the fall. "My German classes with him are small, so there is a lot of individual attention given to the students."

French novelist Anatole France wrote that "an education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don't." In the same way, and as proven by over 14,000 alumni, a Bishop Montgomery education is not about knowing the root word of a vocabulary word, or reciting the Pythagorean theorem from memory; it is about thinking critically, problem-solving effectively, and acting decisively in a world that is constantly changing and continually challenging. For students and teachers alike, the real education comes not from laying stake in the status quo, but rather in finding new and inventive ways to exercise the intellectual gifts God has bestowed on us and, in turn, using those gifts to ensure the good of all.

Bishop Montgomery graduates attend a variety of colleges and universities across the United States. Of the top 100 ranked schools in the U.S. for 2009\*, 239 BMHS graduates (23% of BMHS graduates since 2005) are presently enrolled at 36 of them. Listed below are schools in the top 30 that BMHS alumni are currently attending.

School	U.S. Rank*	# of graduates (2005-2008) currently enrolled
Yale University	2	1
Stanford University	4	3
University of Pennsylvania	6	1
Washington University (St. Louis)	12	1
Cornell University	14	4
Johns Hopkins University	15	4
Brown University	16	1
University of Notre Dame	18	3
UC Berkeley	21	24
Carnegie Mellon University	22	2
Georgetown University	23	2
UCLA	25	15
University of Michigan	26	1
USC	27	11
Tufts University	28	1

\*As ranked by *US News and World Report*





**ABOVE:**  
Jeanette Gonzalez teaches pre-K to the toddlers at Hogar Infantil Orphanage.

# Jeanette Gonzalez '04

## Putting in Perspective the Education of the Whole Person

**T**he education I received at Bishop allowed me to see the world from a different perspective. As a Concordia Club member, I learned first-hand the need to help others and to serve communities less fortunate than mine. I remember it as if it were yesterday, making blankets for the newborns at St. Mary's Hospital during a Concordia meeting at Bishop Montgomery.

Along with participating in community service events, one of my greatest accomplishment was graduating summa cum laude from Bishop. I worked hard both academically and passionately in trying to serve those most in need as a student at BMHS and these blessings followed me to Loyola Marymount University, where I graduated in May with a degree in Spanish and Psychology. LMU proved to be a continuation of the values and morals I learned at Bishop, both in my academics and in working toward social justice.

While at LMU, I had the opportunity to study abroad in China, take an immersion trip to El Salvador and make monthly trips to an orphanage in Tijuana. My decision to study in China came from my deep passion to learn about Buddhism, which was first stoked in Mrs. St. James' *Religions of the World* class at BMHS. By immersing myself in a new culture and increasing my knowledge of Buddhism while visiting Tibet, I learned to be more open-minded and I found a new perspective on life. I experienced the beauty of the country, but I also saw the poverty that has led many people to leave their homeland.

On my trip to El Salvador, my outlook on life was forever changed. In addition to learning about the history of their civil war, I listened to stories of many war victims who were tortured and affected by the political corruption and economic downfall of the country. It was shocking to see such bravery and humility in the Salvadoran people who shared their stories.

The turning point in my life, however, was attending DeColores mission trips to Tijuana with the LMU community. Seeing the poverty the people in Tijuana face and working with the communities to improve their living conditions was a humbling experience and taught me that, as Mother Teresa said, "In this life we can do no great things, only small things with great love."

I planned that, upon graduation, I would begin law school and pursue a career in immigration law, but realized it was not the right time. Something was missing, so I joined the Augustinian Volunteers for spiritual reasons, but also because I felt a strong desire to be a proponent of social justice. I committed myself to a one-year volunteer program where I am living in community, teaching and working at an orphanage in Tijuana.

I am once again in Tijuana, joined by the DeColores group, at Hogar Infantil Orphanage. There are 42 children at the orphanage who have either been abandoned or abused by their parents. I cannot express in words how amazing it is to put smiles on the children's faces and provide a nurturing and loving environment for them. We have even been blessed by the generosity of BMHS students who have made donations to the orphanage.

Thus far, my journey has been blessed with wonderful opportunities. I am thankful to my parents, Obdulia and Enrique Gonzalez, who have inspired and supported my dreams along with my mentors, teachers, counselors, and spiritual directors who have been with me every step of the way.

For more information on how you can help the Hogar Infantil Orphanage, e-mail [janicestar04@yahoo.com](mailto:janicestar04@yahoo.com).

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

CELIA CHIANG Class of 1985



**THEN:** Celia was a member of CSF and the Croquet Society and was voted "Most Scholarly" by her classmates. Her best memories include "taking some really great classes with teachers who loved to teach ...Ms. Gonzalez, Mrs. Egan, Mrs. Alexander, Mr. Wolfenbarger... the list goes on." She earned her B.S. in aerospace engineering from UCLA and her M.S. in aeronautical engineering from Caltech. She received her MD from UC San Diego's School of Medicine.

**NOW:** She has been married to her husband, Rob, for eleven years and they have four children: Ryan (6), Daniel (2), Aaron (2), and Noah (2). "Yes," she explains, "the youngest three are triplets." Celia is a pediatrician working at a private group practice in Laguna Hills.

**ON BMHS:** "BMHS helped me foster the love for learning that got me through the rest of my education and which I still have today."

# Students Make a Difference

by Ryan Rosso, BMHS Class of 2003 and current faculty member

Before any walls were built or any books were opened, the legacy of service and compassion, trademarks of the Bishop Montgomery High School community, had already been planted. In 1906, a man by the name of George Thomas Montgomery helped lead the devastated city of San Francisco through one of the toughest times of its history. Originally ordained a priest in the city in 1879, he felt called to serve the people during the tragic time. As the city was engulfed in flames following an enormous earthquake, Bishop Montgomery, with the help of Monsignor Charles A. Ramm, put out the fire in the bell tower of St. Mary's Cathedral and helped stop the fire at Van Ness Avenue, most likely saving many lives.

Although we now face a different challenge in the form of a struggling economy, this tradition of service in times of need is now stronger than ever at Bishop Montgomery. At the end of 2008, the Long Beach and Los Angeles Metropolitan area recorded a 3.6% increase in the unemployment rate over the year, jumping to 8.7%, the highest percent increase of any metropolitan area in the United States. With the effects of the turbulent economy being so widespread, many in the Bishop Montgomery community are in need of assistance. Necessities for many that were before easy to come by, such as daily meals, are now difficult to afford.

In response, Principal Rosemary Libbon conceptualized an idea that captured the spirit of service that has long been a part of Bishop Montgomery. For years, BMHS students have participated in an annual canned food drive as part of Spirit Week, a collection of service-oriented activities leading up to Homecoming. With the growing need for assistance in the community, Libbon decided to establish a food bank on campus that would be readily available for the needs of

the students' families and loved ones. Through the help of Campus Ministry, student government, and other student organizations, over 9,000 cans were collected this past fall to kick off the project.

Dorothy Morski, BMHS Campus Minister, stresses the importance of making sure the students are aware there are

resources on hand for those in need. "These students are so willing to give; we see it all the time. But it is just as important for them to know they can ask for help, that they know where to go for it." Morski also encourages students to get involved if they would like to help. Students are always welcome to come by Campus Ministry and offer to help sort the canned foods, as well as bring in canned foods in their religion classes. Morski also offers perspective on the current economic situation, noting that, "We have so much and are so blessed, even in these tough economic times."

Students are encouraged to bring in foods that they would eat themselves, not cans that have been sitting in the pantry and are now just taking up space. "Put yourself in their position," Morski says, citing how Libbon thinks of the situation. "If you were in their place,

would you want somebody else's old stuff? Be thankful for the position you are in and spend a few dollars to donate canned foods that you would eat."

Looking for words to sum up what students should keep in mind during these tough times, Morski called to mind the famous saying, "Live simply, so that others may simply live." There is no doubt that those are excellent words for all of us to keep in mind, and there is no doubt the spirit of service George Thomas Montgomery instilled in a city just over 100 years ago is present today on the campus of Bishop Montgomery High School.



ABOVE:  
BMHS students load items in the food bank during Homecoming.

# Recollections of a Literary Knight

by John Carmichael, BMHS Class of 1988

*Japonica glistens like coral in all of the neighboring gardens...*

That was the line that did it.  
Spring Freshman Year.  
Honors English.  
Fifth Period.  
Sue Egan.  
1985.

We sit in a big, nervous, pubescent, co-ed circle about to discuss poetry like it actually *matters*.

We sense for the first time in our lives that in some forbidden respect literature has nothing to do with school or tests or plastic chairs. Some literature was even written by women who walked into rivers with stones in their pockets. There is danger here; no matter what they tell you to think about it, in class, literature cannot be so neatly constrained once released.

But can fourteen-year-olds *do such a thing*, sit in a circle and talk about *poetry* in front of other fourteen-year-olds, boys and girls together?

Yes, as it turns out, if skillfully led.

Enlightenment tumbles in among our bashfulness.

Then a private moment: A singular, magnificent line slices straight through my consciousness from the heavens down to the core of the earth—an incantation:

*Japonica glistens like coral in all of the neighboring gardens...*

I stop staring out the window.

Interior chimes ring.

A glorious and strangely metaphysical golden thread now hangs suspended above our circle.

It cannot be ignored.

What is this we are reading anyway?

*This, is Lessons of the War* by Henry Reed.

*This, is 1941.*

*This, is how the young. Are prepared. For war.*

This is Henry Reed speaking to me across four decades about what he thought as he stared out his window during a routine but oddly chilling wartime instruction by his British weapons trainer:



*Today we have naming of parts. Yesterday,  
we had daily cleaning. And tomorrow morning,  
we shall have what to do after firing. Japonica \*  
glistens like coral in all of the neighboring gardens,  
And today we have naming of parts.*

*This is the lower sling swivel. And this  
is the upper sling swivel, whose use you will see,  
when you are given your slings. And this is the piling swivel,  
which in your case you have not got. The branches  
hold in the gardens their silent, eloquent gestures,  
Which in our case we have not got.*

*This is the safety catch, which is always released  
with an easy flick of the thumb. And please do not let me  
see anyone using his finger. You can do it quite easy  
if you have any strength in your thumb. The blossoms  
are fragile and motionless, never letting anyone see  
Any of them using their finger.*

*And this you can see is the bolt. The purpose of this  
is to open the breech, as you see. We can slide it  
rapidly backwards and forwards: we call this  
easing the spring. And rapidly backwards and forwards  
the early bees are assaulting and fumbling the flowers:  
They call it easing the Spring.*

*They call it easing the Spring: it is perfectly easy  
if you have any strength in your thumb; like the bolt,  
and the breech, and the cocking-piece, and the point of balance,  
which in our case we have not got; and the almond-blossom  
silent in all of the gardens and the bees going backwards and forwards,  
For today we have naming of parts.*

\* A spiny shrub with incandescent scarlet blooms



Reed amplifies beauty by contrast with deadpan horror. And then the horror brings the beauty he describes into sharp, mystic focus. *A shame to be rushing past it into the trenches.* I never really considered *war* or *flowers* before or how barreling into the former might enable you to finally *see* the unfathomable beauty of the latter.

I glance around our circle, which seems to have grown smaller. Did anyone else feel this way?

The boys look a bit more like men and the girls a bit more like women. The yellow flowers outside our classroom window have never looked more brilliant and I am thankful to enjoy them without the looming prospect of total war and corporeal annihilation.

I understand suddenly that poetry and, in a larger sense, all of art, is not the property of the school district or the textbook publishers but, in fact, a supreme and sacred universal gift bestowed in my circumstance through the grace of Bishop Montgomery High School. I understand that the gift is far beyond the reach of any immediate *test* or *quiz* and it is mine for keeps, in celebration and in darkness. It has been said that good teaching is an act of generosity.

2008.

T-minus 10 days to the Class of '88 Twenty Year Reunion.

Panic.

Started too late planning this thing; two hundred fifty people are coming.

We need help, maybe a tour of the school, maybe some giveaways, maybe a teacher or two might show up—

Alumni Director, don't fail me now...

I pull up to the guest parking in front of the school.

Haven't been on campus in a decade.

Are those plantation shutters in the principal's office?

Are these skylights in the hallways?

Why do the hallway floors have a smooth, military academy gleam?

Why does the chapel and... everything really, look *lighter* somehow?

I feel a presence on campus, a goodness, an assurance, a firmness.

I get the tour.

I meet some of my former teachers and other familiars who are dutifully and cheerfully—after twenty years—*educating*.

Everyone seems to have this... glow.

To a person they credit the principal for her leadership. But they are clearly participants in a collective effort, a collective energy.

Bishop is in good shape, I say.

Again, they credit the principal.

Who is this woman? I've got to meet her.

I wonder if she has a favorite poem.

Unfortunately, I have missed her today.

I walk back toward the outside world with a bag full of BMHS 50th Anniversary pens and some car window stickers. Thanks, Andy.

And thanks for the magical mystery tour.

I pass Room 106, the scene of my awakening to the voice of Henry Reed, and start to remember a lyric, not Reed's *Lessons of the War*, but another poem I discovered on my own years later that expresses something of the feeling of the campus today, something of its graceful leadership.

Robert Frost left us with a one-sentence sonnet he wrote for a woman whose character he greatly admired. It is offered here as a gesture of deep gratitude for all that Bishop Montgomery High School was as I found it on a Spring afternoon in 1985 and all that it continues to be in the care of first-rate stewards.

#### *The Silken Tent*

*She is as in a field a silken tent  
At midday when the sunny summer breeze  
Has dried the dew and all its ropes relent,  
So that in guys it gently sways at ease,  
And its supporting central cedar pole,  
That is its pinnacle to heavenward  
And signifies the sureness of the soul,  
Seems to owe naught to any single cord,  
But strictly held by none, is loosely bound  
By countless silken ties of love and thought  
To every thing on earth the compass round,  
And only by one's going slightly taut  
In the capriciousness of summer air  
Is of the slightest bondage made aware.*

Robert Frost



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

KRISTY ANWURI Class of 2002



**THEN:** Kristy was valedictorian for BMHS in 2002 after graduating at the top of her class. While at BMHS, she wrote for the literary journal and ran varsity track for 3 years. Her classmates voted her "Most Likely to Succeed." Her best memories include "Campus Ministry with Mrs. Morski, Geography with Wolf and AP French with Mademoiselle DiCamppli...although I remember all of my teachers."

**NOW:** Kristy earned her B.A. in Human Biology from Stanford in 2006. She received her Master's in Public Health from Yale University in 2008. She is working as an Administrative Fellow at the Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. She plans on working in global health management in the future.

**ON BMHS:** "Bishop Montgomery gave me an appreciation for diversity of all kinds and provided me with a strong sense of values and ethics."

# Two Former Football Coaches Pass Away

Bishop remembers former head coaches, Mike Antista and Andy Szabatura.



ABOVE:  
Mike Antista addresses his players in 1974.

Summer is usually the time when high school football teams begin preparations for the upcoming season, and that was no different here at Bishop Montgomery. But this summer was also a time to mourn the passing of two former head football coaches, Mike Antista and Andy Szabatura. Antista and Szabatura served BMHS in many capacities, including as teachers and administrators and they did so with loyalty, pride and intensity. Szabatura passed away on June 30, 2008. Antista passed away on September 19, 2008.

Szabatura taught a variety of subjects at BMHS from 1984 to 1989, including physical education, accounting, weight training and driver's education. He was named head football coach in 1984 and served in that post until 1988. In five years as football coach, Szabatura compiled an overall record of 19-31, with his best season coming in 1988 where his Knights finished with a 5-5 record. Szabatura also served as the head boys' track and field coach in 1985.

Szabatura graduated from St. John Bosco in 1969 and later returned to his alma mater to teach and coach. During the 1980's, he was also instrumental in establishing the Development Department at St. John Bosco. Szabatura passed away at his home in Colorado.

Antista served BMHS in many capacities between 1965 and 1975. In addition to teaching science, PE and mechanical drawing, he moderated the Block M Club, served as PE department chairperson and served a stint as athletic director. What Antista loved most, however, was coaching football and, in 1969, he was named the third head football coach in school history. In his six years as head coach, Antista compiled a record of 31-24-1. His best season came in 1970 when he led the Knights to an 8-3 record, the Camino Real League Championship and a berth in the CIF

playoffs where they defeated Pacifica 14-9 in the first round. The Knights eventually lost in the second round, but the season proved to be one of the best in Bishop Montgomery history.

Following his stint as head football coach, Antista continued to keep in touch with many of the players he coached and, in 2005, he returned to BMHS to speak to the football team prior to their homecoming game. John Brennan '84, an assistant football coach and the Development Director at Serra High School, befriended Antista and they spoke for hours about their days at BMHS. "We talked endlessly about the 1970 team and the many memories he had as the coach at Bishop," recalls Brennan. "He cherished the experiences he had with all of his former players... he was proud of all of them."

RIGHT:  
Andy Szabatura  
after a game in 1985.



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

MIKE SEQUEIRA Class of 1969



**THEN:** Mike was the valedictorian for the Class of 1969. He was the starting tailback on the 1968 league championship football team and he ran track as well. In addition, he was the literary editor of yearbook and was active in ASB and the Letterman's club. After BMHS, Mike went to Pomona College before graduating with honors from UCSD Medical School. He completed his residencies in Internal Medicine and Emergency Medicine at the University of Oregon Health Services University, where he stayed on faculty for 10 years.

**NOW:** Mike and his wife, Susan, have a daughter, Amelia, 13. He is an emergency physician and the Regional Director for CEP America Medical Group, responsible for the Inland Empire and Arizona emergency departments. He is a national consultant on emergency department operations and quality control and he has co-authored "The 60-Second EMT," a textbook utilized at over 200 paramedic training facilities in the United States.

**ON BMHS:** "My time at Bishop carries some of my most fond lifetime memories. The education I received allowed me to compete in one of the top colleges in the country. I developed an appreciation for a balanced approach to life and personal growth."

# Two Knights Headed to Minnesota

The temperature on November 12, 2008 reached eighty degrees, warm for this time of year even by southern California standards. For Justin Cobbs '09 and Alexandria Davis '09, the temperature on November 12, 2009 will most likely reach a high of thirty degrees, if they are lucky. The two BMHS student-athletes signed national letters-of-intent to continue their academic and athletic careers with the University of Minnesota.

Cobbs, a standout guard on the boys' basketball team, was heavily recruited by several schools, including Cal, San Diego State and Iowa, but chose to play for highly regarded coach Tubby Smith at Minnesota. Cobbs averaged 18.0 points and 7.0 assists as a junior in leading the Knights to the CIF title and being named Co-Player of the Year with teammate Aaron Ware '08, who now plays at George Washington University. Cobbs, a 4-year starter on varsity, was also named a 2nd team All-CIF performer as a freshman and a sophomore.

The accolades continue to pile up for Cobbs this year as well. He was recently named an Honorable Mention Pre-season All-American by *The Sporting News* magazine. Smith was excited to add Cobbs to an outstanding recruiting class at Minnesota. "One of the things we needed was a point guard," said Smith. "Justin is a physical point guard who can score as well as defend and pass."

Davis is a 4-year starter for the Lady Knights softball team who will continue her playing career for Minnesota co-head coaches Lisa Bernstein and Julie Standerling. Davis, a catcher,



ABOVE:

Alex Davis, left, and Justin Cobbs, right, sign their letters-of-intent with the University of Minnesota

was a 2nd Team All-CIF selection in 2007, helping the Lady Knights to the CIF Finals. She hit .435 with 6 HR, 28 RBI, 6 doubles and 2 triples. As a junior last year, Davis again led the Lady Knights to the playoffs, hitting .338 with 3 HR, 12 RBI, 3 doubles, 2 triples and a stellar .991 fielding percentage.

Three other BMHS student-athletes also made commitments to continue their careers in college. Taylor Nieman '09 will play volleyball next year at Cornell University. Girls' soccer standouts McKenzie McGoldrick '09 and Shelby Luna '09 have made commitments to Michigan and New Mexico, respectively

## Athletic Wrap-up

The fall sports season was extremely successful once again as five of the six programs qualified for the CIF playoffs. On the boys' side, the football (3-8) team made the playoffs for the first time since 1983. The Knights, 3-1 in the Camino Real League, were tri-league champions and were led by senior wideout Chandler Jones '09 and the running back tandem of Quinton Howard '10 and Nolan Plummer '11. Senior QB Brian Cabanas '09 also turned in a solid season. The boys' cross country team had another great season, qualifying for the CIF finals. The Knights were paced by Andrew Canata '10.

The girls' volleyball turned in another outstanding season. In addition to claiming the Del Rey League title for the 3rd consecutive year, the Lady Knights (25-9) advanced to the CIF semi-finals. Taylor Nieman '09 led the way for the Lady Knights. The girls' tennis team (11-5) won their 2nd consecutive Del Rey League title behind the performances of singles players Melanie Scott '11, Danielle Butler '10 and Samantha Judan '12 and the doubles team of Genevieve Bever '09 and Nicole Caluag '11. The team advanced to the 2nd round of the CIF playoffs. The girls' cross country team advanced to the CIF finals and were paced by Camille Farfan '09 and Annie Grove '12.



LEFT

Chandler Jones '09 breaks a tackle against Mary Star. Melanie Scott '11 returns a volley against Redondo.

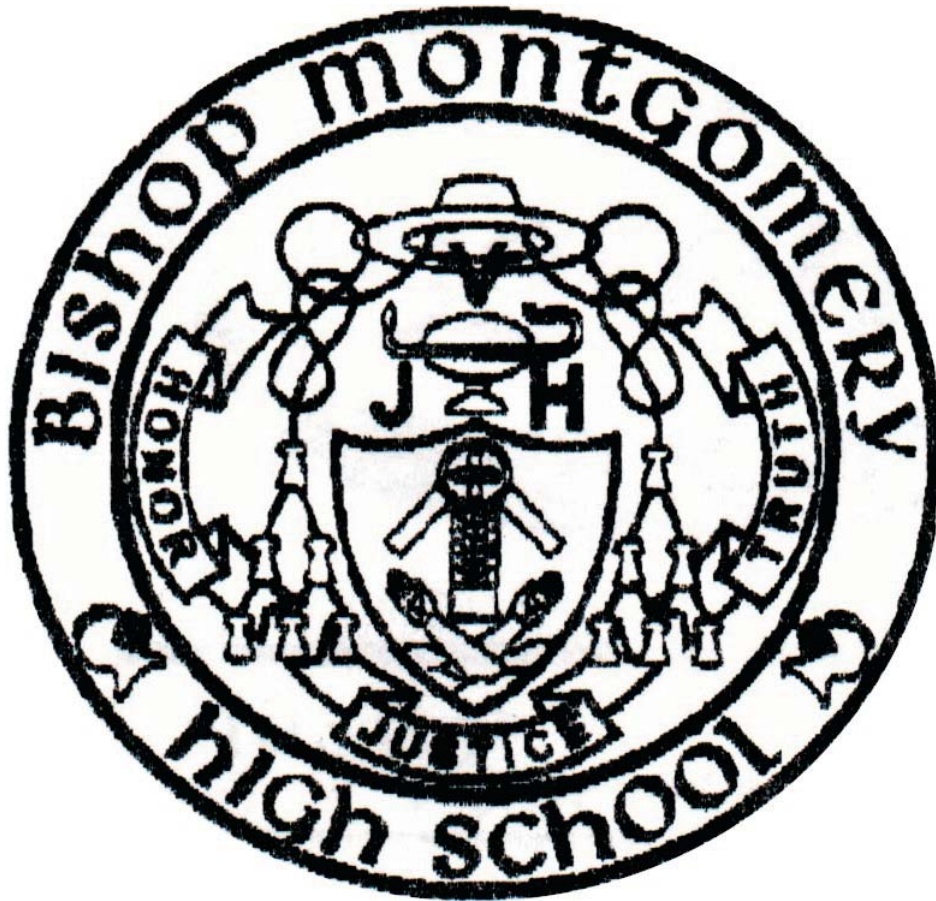
### News & Notes...

- BMHS Head Girls' Basketball Coach and English teacher Bryn Britton will be inducted into the Loyola Marymount University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009. Britton, a standout basketball player for the Lady Lions from 1998-2002, is LMU's career leader in scoring (1,662 points) and field goal percentage (.617). She was also named 1st Team All-WCC as a sophomore, junior and senior.
- Miguel Benitez '04 led the Cal State Dominguez Hills Men's Soccer team to the NCAA Division II National Championship. Benitez, the starting goalkeeper, was named to the Final Four All-Tournament Team. He had a 21-2-4 record with a 0.78 GAA, a .796 save percentage and 14 shutouts.
- Sigi Schmid '71 coached the Columbus Crew to their first ever MLS Cup Championship in 2008.



# ANNUAL REPORT

2007-2008



Thank you.

# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS



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 fundraisers 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 2007-08 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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### ABOVE:

Matt Gomez '10 works on an art project in front of the chapel.

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*This listing reflects gifts received between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008.*



# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

## MISSION STATEMENT

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:

Students pose at the front entrance of campus.

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# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

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Participation rates indicate the number of donors in relation to the number of "active" members, i.e. alumni with deliverable addresses.

### Class of 1961

2% Participation (4 of 165)  
\$660.00 Total Class Contribution

Marianne D'Alesio-Welsh  
John Di Rosario  
Newton Lesh  
Janet Lucero-Tedeschi  
Ida Nazon

### Class of 1962

1% Participation (2 of 136)  
\$95.00 Total Class Contribution

Ed Castine, Jr.  
Cheryl Ware

### Class of 1963

1% Participation (1 of 157)  
\$40.00 Total Class Contribution

Paul Reasbeck

### Class of 1966

3% Participation (6 of 172)  
\$361.00 Total Class Contribution

Bill Bailey

### Class of 1971

7% Participation (14 of 192)  
\$1,267.50 Total Class Contribution

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Rick Bongard  
Mary Fleming  
Paul Gilroy  
Michael McSweeney  
David Mexico  
Anne Mitchell-Gordinier  
Fred Pistey  
Hal Pope  
Marilyn Proctor-Williams  
Scott Salisbury  
Mariann Sisco  
Joyce Thome-Lepore  
Brad Williams

### Class of 1972

2% Participation (5 of 274)  
\$737.50 Total Class Contribution

Nancy Beard  
Anne Corso-Salisbury  
Sharon Garvey-Silengo  
Kurt Glassman  
Ralph Lepore

## KNIGHT PRIDE ALUMNI CHALLENGE

You can make a difference in the lives of our students and in the future of Bishop Montgomery 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 \$10 (or any amount 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. Gifts to Knight Pride also allow us to continue to provide you with *Veritas* magazine. All gifts to BMHS are tax-deductible as we are a 501 (c) (3) organization.



SHOW YOUR KNIGHT PRIDE TODAY!

### Class of 1977

1% Participation (2 of 134)  
\$1,200.00 Total Class Contribution

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Nadine Williams-Winn

Kerry Bateman-Grove  
Andrew Grove  
Ed Nystrom

Kathleen Cavanaugh-Norolak  
Marc Gerhardt  
Bill Lippert  
Mary Manis  
Richard Simonson

### Class of 1967

2% Participation (3 of 124)  
\$1,000.00 Total Class Contribution

Kathy Brierley-Pinson  
Chuck Desiderio  
Dan Graham

### Class of 1968

2% Participation (4 of 241)  
\$225.00 Total Class Contribution

Pat Kealey  
Diane King-Kealey  
Stephen Lepore  
Dorothy Lippman-Salovesch

### Class of 1969

1% Participation (2 of 155)  
\$350.00 Total Class Contribution

Jeff Annis  
Joanne Scanlin-Sullivan

### Class of 1970

1% Participation (1 of 174)  
\$38.00 Total Class Contribution

Rosemary Catena-Trez

### Class of 1973

4% Participation (7 of 161)  
\$6,298.00 Total Class Contribution

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
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Jim Burschinger  
Tim Tessalone  
Patty Stacey-Wells  
Joseph Wells

### Class of 1974

2% Participation (2 of 130)  
\$125.00 Total Class Contribution

Ann Burschinger-Thatcher  
Meg McSweeney

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5% Participation (5 of 103)  
\$2,039.00 Total Class Contribution

Jeanne Fernandez-Bever  
Yolanda Heredia-Quintana  
Doug Leach  
Monica Teebken-Levack  
Michelle Williams-Goodlet

### Class of 1976

2% Participation (2 of 84)  
\$700.00 Total Class Contribution

Bill Bordley  
Donna Di Maria-Carleo

### Class of 1978

2% Participation (2 of 131)  
\$229.00 Total Class Contribution

Teresa Fernandez-Campbell  
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### Class of 1979

1% Participation (1 of 98)  
\$30.00 Total Class Contribution

Norrie Chisholm-McCreary

### Class of 1980

1% Participation (2 of 163)  
\$550.00 Total Class Contribution

Greg Cook  
Tim McOsker

### Class of 1981

2% Participation (6 of 271)  
\$1,590.00 Total Class Contribution

Steven Baaden  
Paul Gibson  
Eric Glassman  
Jocelyn Hillard  
Michael Smith  
Connie Tamburri-McOsker

### Class of 1982

1% Participation (4 of 348)  
\$1,122.00 Total Class Contribution

Michael Baaden

### Class of 1983

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Each spring, Bishop Montgomery hosts its biggest fundraiser of the year, Black & Gold Night. The event is attended by current and past parents, alumni, friends, faculty, and staff who join together to enjoy the event's silent and live auctions, dinner, dancing, and Hall of Fame induction ceremony. We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to all those who attended the 8th Annual Black & Gold Night, "Night of 1,000 Stars" in 2008 and to all those who supported this fundraising event.

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## BMHS/Morgan Miranda Golf Tournament

The BMHS/Morgan Miranda Memorial Golf Tournament, held this past year on June 27, 2008, raises money for tuition assistance and is named in memory of 2000 BMHS alumnus Morgan Miranda. We thank all those who made this a special day.

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ABOVE:  
Colleen Lewis, right, and camper Yisel Martinez in El  
Cruce de Arroyo Hondo, Dominican Republic.

# More Than a Mission

BMHS Teacher Uses Basketball to Help Others

Back in 2005, while working as an assistant basketball coach at Siena Heights University in Michigan, BMHS Spanish teacher Colleen Lewis ran into a friend who began telling her about a mission trip she was about to take to the Dominican Republic to teach English to young children. After some coaxing, Lewis, who was also working on her Masters in organizational leadership, agreed to join her friend. While in the Dominican, Lewis was playing basketball with some kids when she asked a young girl why she wasn't playing. Her response was "Because I'm a girl." That's when Lewis, who also is an assistant girls' basketball coach at BMHS, decided to combine her love for basketball and Spanish to create *Basketball as a Mission*, a non-profit organization that holds basketball camps in poor and remote Spanish-speaking countries.

Although the goals of *Basketball as a Mission* are simple enough, reaching out to as many countries and children as possible is the challenging part. The goal, states Lewis, is to "give the kids opportunities that they don't even know about." Lewis and her volunteers, who have included a number of BMHS alumni, not only share a love of basketball with the kids, they want to show them that they are cared about. Adds Lewis, "Merging the cultures is also a big part of our camps. Many of these kids have never even seen people from the United States."

Each summer, Lewis organizes at least three camps in different Spanish-speaking countries. In the last three years, she has held camps in Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Argentina and, in 2009, she plans to add Guatemala to the itinerary. Her ultimate goal for *Basketball as a Mission* is to visit every Spanish-speaking country. "Cuba might be tough to get to with all the politics involved," states Lewis, "but we are going to try." It is her trips to the Dominican Republic, however, that hold a special place for Lewis and many of the volunteers because of the extreme conditions that they encounter. "Many of these kids are so poor that they don't have windows or doors on their homes and they sleep on dirt floors," says Lewis. "We even met an 8-year old girl who has to do the cooking for her family every night."

The support Lewis has received from the BMHS community has grown during the past three years. Recent graduates who have traveled with the mission include Caroline Green '07, Miranda McOsker '08, Michelle Peterson '08, Celina Valadez '08 and Brent

Watanabe '07. Green, a sophomore at the University of Notre Dame, has even decided to include Spanish in her major as a result of her work with the organization. In addition to these alumni, Lewis has received support from BMHS families such as the Lozano's and the Monteilh's as well as BMHS religion teacher Christina Mattes' classes. Even Lewis' own students have stepped forward and donated supplies for her to take with her on her missions. "We are always accepting used basketball shoes, shorts and jerseys to take to the kids," says Lewis, who also adds that they are in need of new socks.

This spring, *Basketball as a Mission* will hold its annual dinner and silent auction to raise money for upcoming trips. In addition to Guatemala, the projected trips for 2009 include Mexico, the Dominican and Costa Rica. Lewis is sure that these camps will be equally as successful as all the others have been and she is always looking for more volunteers. "The kids open their arms to us and it is so rewarding to help them."

In September, Lewis was honored by the WNBA and the Chicago Sky as a Bank of America "Woman of Inspiration" for her work with *Basketball as a Mission*.

For more information about *Basketball as a Mission*, its annual dinner/silent auction or how you can donate shoes, shorts, jerseys and socks, go to [www.basketballasamission.org](http://www.basketballasamission.org) or contact Colleen Lewis at [basketballasamission@hotmail.com](mailto:basketballasamission@hotmail.com).

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



PJ GAGAJENA Class of 1995

**THEN:** PJ was the valedictorian for the Class of 1995. He competed in cross country and track and was active in Campus Ministry and choir. One of his best memories is singing "Yesterday" with his group, 5 A.M., at his Baccalaureate Mass.

**NOW:** PJ earned his B.A. in political science from UCLA and his Master's in public policy and urban planning from Harvard. He is a management analyst for the Los Angeles DWP and also an adjunct professor of political science at El Camino College. PJ completed the 2007 LA Marathon and, in 2003, he was invited by the U.S. State Department to present a proposal on how to reconstruct the country of Afghanistan.

**ON BMHS:** "My academic, athletic and community experiences at BMHS taught me that the choices you make in high school have a great impact on you later in life."



# Clubs Provide a Place to Serve

Providing service to our local communities has long been a staple of life for the students and teachers at BMHS. Denim Day collections through Campus Ministry, Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives for *All-Life Charities*, and service projects in religion classes have provided the students with invaluable experiences over the years. There are many other groups on campus, however, who have been just as instrumental in serving our local communities. For those students looking to make an impact on the lives of those less fortunate, joining one of the many service clubs on campus is ideal.

This school year, there are twenty-four clubs on campus, ten of which provide community service as their main goal. ASB, Basketball as a Mission, Bishop Ambassadors, Concordia, Invisible Children, Key Club, Life Teen, Students for Animals, Students for Environmental Awareness and US United are continuously involved in projects that help those in our local, national and international communities. Each year, Concordia makes blankets for local hospitals and women's shelters and collects toiletries for the armed services; Key Club organizes beach clean-ups; US United organizes a toy drive during the holidays; Invisible Children raises money for children in northern Uganda. These are just a few of the many projects.

On November 8, students from the Habitat Club visited San Miguel Elementary School in South Gate to help the children paint a mural of the United States on their playground. The painting was sponsored by "Operation Clean Slate," a non-profit organization which challenges



**ABOVE:**  
Students from BMHS and San Miguel Elementary show off their mural of the United States.

young men and women to become involved in communities through hands-on tasks. After pairing up with a student and outlining the states, BMHS students helped San Miguel students identify individual states and the painting began. Talia Borgo '09, Habitat Club president, described her experience with her partner, Jasmine, as "a heartwarming and gratifying experience, not only getting to know about the school [she] attends, but also about the very different lifestyle she has compared to us."

For more information about clubs, visit [www.bmhs-la.org](http://www.bmhs-la.org).

## Senior Leads Busy Life

Between school, homework, college applications and tennis and dance practices, it is a wonder that BMHS senior Genevieve Bever '09 has time in the day to eat, but "sitting around doing nothing" is not in her make-up. At BMHS, Bever has been an accomplished student and athlete all while competing at a national level in Irish step dancing. During the fall tennis season, Bever's typical day consists of classes, a tennis practice or match, a 1 1/2 hour dance practice, homework and, maybe, some sleep. Perhaps what is most impressive, however, is Bever does all of this while carrying a 4.3 GPA.

Bever began dancing in kindergarten and it soon became a passion when she began competing with other girls her age at the Kelly School of Traditional Irish Dance in El Segundo. Over the years, Bever has competed at monthly feis' (pronounced *fesh*), traditional Gaelic arts and cultural festivals, all over the western United States. Prior to Christmas break this year, Bever traveled to Arizona for the western regionals where she finished in the top-half of the competition of about 100 dancers. Even more amazing, however, is that Bever left for Arizona immediately after competing in her CIF playoff tennis match.

On the tennis court, Bever has played an integral role in helping the Lady Knights to consecutive Del Rey League titles in 2007 and 2008. For the last two years, Bever has been half of the top doubles team with sophomore Nicole Caluag '11. This year, Bever and Caluag were the runners-up for the Del Rey League doubles title and helped the team advance to the 2nd round of the CIF playoffs. "Genevieve is an outstanding tennis player, but she is an even better person," comments BMHS girls' tennis coach Brian Monreal. "The way she works in the classroom and on the court is an inspiration to all of her teammates."

"You just have to prioritize your time," says Bever, when asked how she is able to juggle all of her activities and school. Up next for Bever is college. She has applied to several schools, but hopes to attend either Santa Clara or Boston College and possibly walk-on to the tennis team. Wherever Bever lands, she will do so with both feet moving.



# ADVANCING THE MISSION OF BISHOP MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

*"Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education. Our requirements for world leadership, our hopes for economic growth, and the demands of citizenship itself in an era such as this all require the maximum development of every young American's capacity. The human mind is our fundamental resource."*

- John Fitzgerald Kennedy  
Message to the Congress on Education  
February 20, 1961

Dear Friends,

When the doors of Bishop Montgomery High School opened in 1957, it was truly a dream come true for Reverend William Ford, the late pastor of St. James Parish who desired to establish a Catholic secondary school in the South Bay. His contributions, along with those of His Eminence James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, made it possible for Bishop Montgomery to serve hundreds of students from the South Bay and surrounding Los Angeles areas. Although it is over 50 years later, we remain dedicated to the mission and vision of all those involved in the creation of our school. Each year, it is our goal to continue to provide our students with an education that challenges every young man and woman intellectually, spiritually, physically and socially. Each year is also an opportunity for us to make the necessary improvements needed to ensure that we continue to grow as a school. The progress we make would not be possible without the dedication and support of all members of our community. We extend our gratitude to all of our benefactors - alumni, current and past parents, faculty, staff and friends - who so generously make a commitment to the mission of Bishop Montgomery.

The 2007-08 school year proved to be one of the most successful fundraising years in Bishop Montgomery's history. Through *Knight Pride*, our annual giving program, the BMHS/Morgan Miranda Memorial Golf Tournament and Black & Gold Night, it is clear that our community remains committed to our most treasured resource - the students. Contributions to Knight Pride totaled \$345,972 while an additional \$397,000 was received through grants and foundations. The total of \$742,972 marks an increase of nearly 57% from the previous year. Additionally, the number of gifts from alumni more than tripled from last year.

It is our pleasure to once again publish another installment of *Veritas* and the annual giving issue. The young men and women of Bishop Montgomery, both past and present, are doing, creating, serving, helping, saving and making a difference in the world and we strive to tell as many of these stories as possible. We are proud of what our students are doing both in and out of the classroom. Our students are academically dedicated, so it is no surprise that almost every BMHS graduate matriculates in to college. We are equally as proud of our graduates who continue to do amazing work in their own communities. They are wonderful representatives and examples of what it means to be a Bishop Montgomery graduate.

Although they were spoken over forty years ago, the words of John F. Kennedy are as relevant then as they are now. The education we provide our young men and women will help them meet the demands of citizenship and develop into the leaders of their communities.

We thank you for making it possible for us to grow as a school and as a community.

Gratefully,

Andy Marafino  
Director of Development





June 26, 2009  
Lakewood Golf Course

Entry Fee: \$130.00

First 80 golfers

First Tee Time: 11:00 am

*Format: 4-man scramble  
with handicap*

For more information, contact any of the following:

Ed Miranda, Tournament Chairman  
310-675-8957 / moraga\_ed@yahoo.com

Dane Larsen, Tournament Co-Chairman  
dlarsen@buckinghamheights.com

Andy Marafino, BMHS Director of Development  
310-540-2021 ext. 246 / amarafino@bmhs-la.org

Entry Fee Includes:

- 18 holes of golf with cart
- Dinner
- Prizes
- Goodie Bag

*Dinner Only: \$40.00*

Dinner will be held at Lakewood Golf Course  
Dinner starts at 6:30 pm

**Entry Deadline: June 5, 2009**

**Make checks payable to Ed Miranda**

Send your entry to:

Ed Miranda

15139 Florwood Ave.

Lawndale, CA 90260

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

☐ \$130.00 per golfer

☐ \$150.00 - Corporate Hole Sponsorship

☐ \$50.00 - Family & Friends Hole Sponsorship

☐ \$470.00 - Corporate Sponsorship Foursome

☐ \$40.00 - Dinner Only

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail / Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail / Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail / Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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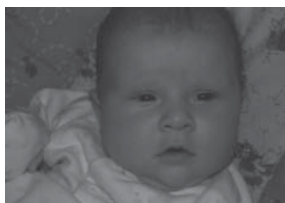
Bishop's first four-year faculty members pose for the 1961 yearbook.

## 1980's

MariCris Aranda-McCamant '86 and her husband, Brett, welcomed their second child, Maya Cristina, on August 11, 2008.

## 1990's

Tom Fitzpatrick '91 and his wife, Diana, welcomed their third child, Abigail Grace, right, on August 24, 2008.



Rob McGarry '91 and his wife, Erin, welcomed their second child, Holly Christine, on July 17, 2008.



Ruby San Jose '92 graduated in August from the Dental Hygiene Program at Western Career College in San Jose. In October, she passed the state board exam and became a registered dental hygienist. She is planning on practicing in southern California.

Jeffrey Kelley '95 and Mandy Rogers-Kelley '95 have a new baby son, Jason, born February 18, 2008. They reside in Fort Collins, CO.



Kelly Cabezas '96 and Jennifer Aguilar-Cabezas '97, above, were married on September 26, 2008.

Alexia Brewer-Martinez '97 is working as a landscape designer and estimator. She graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a degree in Landscape Architecture. She resides in Santa Cruz.

Christopher Caldwell '97 and his wife, Kristi, welcomed their first child, Charlie, on September 29, 2008. They reside in Redmond, WA.

Tina Woods-Kratz '97 recently finished her 2nd season as the JV softball coach at Paso Robles HS, where she led her team to a perfect 24-0 record, the first in school history. In her two years as head coach, she has a record of 42-6. Her teams have finished in 1st and 3rd place in Pac-7 League play, won two tournaments and finished 2nd in another tournament.

Estelle Collins '98 received her Master's in Sport Management from the University of San Francisco on May 16, 2008.

# 2000's

Charles Bryant '00 and Jaera Mangold '00 were engaged on August 8, 2008 in a hot air balloon over Paris. They plan to wed in the summer of 2010.



Vanessa Blackwood-Pettit '01, left, received her Master's degree in social work from USC in May 2008. She married Ryan Pettit on October 10, 2008.

Larissa Skleminoff-Allen '01 and her husband, Richard, welcomed Nathan Richard, right, on September 2, 2008.



Sergeant Jason Silva '02, USMC, left, recently returned from a tour of duty in Kuwait.



Jack Wilson '02 is a producer/editor at Fox Sports Net. In 2007, he won two Los Angeles-area Emmy awards for Best Sports Series and Best Sports Feature. In 2008, he won an Emmy Award for Best Sports Series for his work on "Before the Bigs." Jack is the son of Chris Wilson, a 1982 BMHS alumnus. He is pictured, left, with Jackie Miehl '03 at the 2008 Emmys.



Daniel Fernandez '03 graduated from UC Riverside in June with a degree in political science/law and society. He currently attends Lewis and Clark School of Law in Portland, Oregon.



Bobby Jakucs '04, right, graduated cum laude from Loyola Marymount in May with a degree in history. One week later, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. (He successfully completed Officer's Candidate's School as part of the Platoon Leader's Class program in the Summer of 2007). He went on active duty in August 2008 as a recruiter for the Marine Corps in Los Angeles. In October, he was sent to the Marine Corps base in Quantico, VA to begin The Basic School (TBS) for Marine Corps officers. He is expected to complete TBS in June 2009.



## In Loving Memory

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

### Alumni

Patricia Tobin-Blanton '62, June 24, 2008  
Victoria Podgurski '63, September 28, 2008  
Shelley Becking-Otero '69, June 15, 2008  
Catherine Kirby-Retz '69, August 24, 2008  
Steve Bowman '70, September 1, 2008  
Catherine Cafaro-Busse '80, October 14, 2008  
Meynard Navalta '00, January 2009  
Guillard Cudiamat '03, January 25, 2009

### Alumni Parents

Carmen Mary DeLuccio, October 4, 2008  
(mother of Diane '69 and Alan '72)

Felicidad Yaranon, October 6, 2008  
(mother of David Yaranon '95)

Lilian Sapien, Nov. 1, 2008 & Frank Sapien, Jr., Dec. 12, 1998  
(parents of Christine '69, Tom '72, Tim '75, Trish '81, Mary '81, Christopher '83)

### Current Parents

Stephen Dilag, September 2008  
(father of Korylen '07, Stephen '09)

Staci Granados, December 19, 2008  
(mother of Vincent Alvarez '10)

### Former Faculty/Staff

Mike Antista, September 19, 2008  
Andy Szabatura, June 30, 2008

**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](mailto:amarafino@bmhs-la.org) or by mail to: Development Office, Bishop Montgomery High School, 5430 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503.

## Letters to the Editor



Just took a look at the recent issue of *Veritas*... Reading the recent issue made me so proud of the high school I graduated from in 1985. BMHS is truly a wonderful place of kindness, respect, and spiritual strength. Ms. Libbon is doing a terrific job and is truly one of the greatest leaders BMHS has had in its history. Kudos to all who lead the school and continue to set the high standards of integrity, honesty and discipline for present and past students! My daughter is barely in third grade, but I can't wait until she can be a "Knight!" Congrats once again!

Mona Rivera-Reyes '85

Even though I only worked at BMHS for seven years, they were the most fulfilling and special teaching years of my career (now reaching 19 years). That was my first teaching job and even though I was not the best teacher, I learned so much about myself and about what great teaching looks like from my time there. Mary Fitzsimons (who taught English at BMHS for several years as well) and I now work at the same school in Northern California (coincidentally). We have this conversation every so often that sounds like: "would we rather be back at BMHS? weren't those students amazing? shouldn't we go back?" I happened to be back in Torrance this summer and dropped by the school to show my children where I first taught. I was blown away by the reception I got from everyone and the warm feelings I felt walking the halls once again. And when I read about the passing of Wolf, Vogler and Callahan (three colleagues during my time there), I got to wondering about what makes the place that special, prompting my email. All the best!

Colin Quinton

## Dates to Remember

March 17: Re-Registration Day  
BMHS Gymnasium

March 28: Black & Gold Night  
Manhattan Beach Marriott

April 10-22: Easter Holiday

May 27: Senior Awards Ceremony  
BMHS Gymnasium  
10:00 am

May 29: Class of 2009 Graduation  
Knight Stadium  
1:00 pm  
*by ticket only*

June 22: Summer School Classes Begin

June 26: BMHS/Morgan Miranda Golf Tournament  
Lakewood Golf Course

For more information, go to [www.bmhs-la.org](http://www.bmhs-la.org)  
or check the school calendar located in the  
student agenda book.



## VERITAS

The Magazine of Bishop Montgomery High School

The Latin word *Veritas* is defined "truth." In Roman mythology, *Veritas* was the goddess of truth, a daughter of Saturn and the mother of Virtue. *Veritas* is also the name given to the Roman virtue of truthfulness, which was considered one of the many virtues any good Roman should have possessed. "*Veritas*" is included in many university mottos as well, including Yale University's *Lux et Veritas* (Light and Truth). *Veritas* is also the motto of Harvard University, and the Dominican Order of the Roman Catholic Church. The BMHS motto is "justice, truth, honor" and the case can be made that all pursuits, if they are valid, must first be rooted in truth. We, as a school community, certainly strive to achieve that goal.

**VERITAS** magazine is published two times a year by the Development Office of Bishop Montgomery High School. For more information or to send comments or suggestions, please contact:

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**Contributors:** John Carmichael '88, Jeanette Gonzalez '04,  
Ryan Rosso '03

**Printer:** Malecki Printing Company



Bishop Montgomery High School  
9th Annual Black & Gold Night



# As Time Goes By

DINNER & AUCTION  
Join us for the celebration!

Saturday, March 28, 2009  
6:30 - 11:00 pm

Manhattan Beach Marriott

Hall of Fame - Class of  
2009

Honored Alumni:

Scott Salisbury '71  
Anne Corso-Salisbury '72

25 Years of Service to BMHS:

Mike Butler, Social Studies

\$85 per person

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

Cocktail Attire  
Hosted Cocktail Hour & Hors  
D'Oeuvres  
Seated Dinner  
Live & Silent Auction  
Hall of Fame Inductions  
DJ & Dancing

All proceeds from this event will support Knight Pride,  
our annual giving program.

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

# VERITAS Magazine

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