

Mercy Catholic High School

Red Bluff, CA

April 2009



Mercy Wins in the Catholic Daughter's Education Contest

On March 10, 2009, the winners in various categories of the Catholic Daughter's Education Contest sponsored by Our Lady of Shasta in Redding and chaired by Pat Demarco were announced. In art, Natasha Czajka received first place; in photography Alexandra McFadyen received first place, Daniel Sandoval second place, and Dylan Thomas, third place. In the category of the essay, Emily Crowley received second place and Ryan So received third place. In poetry, Laura Germano received second place. Congratulations to the winners and to all those who participated in the contest. God bless all of you! —Helen Arbin

Juniors Travel to Lakehead for Retreat

The junior class held a three-day retreat at Antler's Resort in Lakehead from March 5-7. Mrs. Carol Germano was the retreat master, and members of the senior class served as support staff. Students bonded through a series of presentations, group discussions, workshops, games and activities. The retreat ended with a Mass celebrated by Father Vito. Mr. Cherveney and Mrs. Lindeman, MHS religion teachers, would like to thank Mrs. Germano for organizing and directing the retreat. We would also like to thank Judy Harvey for her delicious meals, and our wonderful chaperones and drivers.



Right: Senior Camille Gunsauls shares a cup of hot chocolate with junior Bianca Torres at the junior retreat in Lakehead.

Dates to Remember

Apr. 1-3	Senior Retreat
Apr. 4	Prom
Apr. 7	Penance Service
Apr. 10	Good Friday: No School
Apr. 13-17	Easter Vacation
Apr. 20	Parent Guild Meeting
Apr. 21	Late Day
Apr. 24	Cinch Day
Apr. 27	Advisory Commission Meeting



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FNL Hosts Blood Drive

Twenty-four pints of blood were collected on March 9, 2009, at the annual MHS blood drive sponsored by Friday Night Live. Students and staff members joined together in the campus center where members of Blood Source from Redding collected their donations. Each donation of blood can save up to three lives. Participants received t-shirts, a pizza lunch, and snacks. The FNL Blood Drive Committee- Michael Burns, Carter Mudd, Eric Lindeman, and Kit Waits- would like to thank all of those who participated and helped save lives.

Principal's Message



A Whirlwind of Activities

IN HIGH GEAR is how I observe the atmosphere to be at Mercy High School this spring. Parents have stepped up to organize Sober Grad. Alleluia! The seniors are busy organizing and planning their senior trip to Santa Cruz and Monterey Bay. Mr. Matthews, the students, and many parents are working diligently on the school musical, *Into the Woods* that will be performed the first two weekends in May. The sports teams are deep into training and competition. The AP teachers are giving multiple-choice tests as practice for the real thing. Then there are all those DBQ's and in class writes. The junior class is busy with preparations for the prom on April 4th, *Nightfall in Paris*. The juniors enjoyed their retreat and the seniors will soon be on their retreat. Thank you to Carol

Germano for providing this opportunity for our students. Thank you also to Mary O'Keeffe and Jennifer Gagliano for organizing the comedy night that raised \$4000 for our school and to all those who attended and otherwise supported the event.

Now it is on to what is happening next! We have our golf tournament coming up at Sevillano Links in Corning on May 3rd and the Taste of Tuscany on May 16th. These are very fun events. They are opportunities to celebrate our life together as a school community. We would love to see as many of you there and involved as possible.

Call Jim Weber if you would like to help out or attend the golf tournament; call Mary O'Keeffe in the Development Office if you would like to help or just want information on attending the Taste of Tuscany.. These are the final two fundraisers of the year, and they are important in that regard, but equally as important is the time that we spend together celebrating our school.

On the academic side, I noticed that when third quarter report cards came out there seemed to be a dip in the grade point averages. It is important that with everything else that is happening, students remember that their first obligation is to their academics. The third quarter grade is worth 40% of the semester grade, the fourth quarter grade is worth 40% of the semester grade and the final exam is worth 20%. I saw one girl in the hallway lamenting her "B" in a class; it was the only "B" on her report card. That "B" won't appear on her academic transcript if she can do better fourth quarter and on the final exam.

Just a reminder that if a student is interested in taking Shasta College or Butte College classes in the summer, they should be looking at what is available and registering as soon as possible. The concurrent enrollment forms that are required of high school students taking community college classes are available in my office. The registration deadline for summer classes at Butte College is May 8th. Summer class schedules for both colleges are currently available on the college website.

As we continue to pass through the Lenten season at school with the various services that make this season one of preparation for Easter, we are striving to have our students realize that none of us is perfect and we each can do more to give God our best effort. We are always a work in progress and we should be open to His presence in our lives. May we rejoice in the promise of Easter! God bless you and your family.

Cheryl Ramirez
Principal

ALUMNI

Looking for current addresses and emails of all Mercy High School alumni. Please email information to development@mercy-high.org.

Boys Golf

The linksmen began the season participating in the first Annual LMCC Tournament at Bidwell Park golf Course in Chico. The teams participated in the two person format. The front nine was played with Chapman, and the back nine was a scramble competition. Chester won the team competition; the U-Prep tandem of Josh Baskin and Neal Verma won low gross. Ryan Ward and Stephen Rodriguez of MHS paced the Warriors with an 84 team gross.

On Thursday, March 19, the Warrior team participated in the first Tri-Cities league match. Playing at Tierra Oaks proved to be a formidable, tough test for our golfers. Stephen Rodriguez, with an 88 gross, and Ryan Ward, with a 97, paced the team. Wyatt Froome (122), Steve Kim (133), and Jarrett Gash (136) rounded out the five-some scoring. Coupled with a fine competitive schedule and improved play, Mercy will reach their individual and team goals for 2009. The Golf Team is (above) Jarrett Gash, Ryan Ward, Steven Rodriguez, and Steve Kim. (Not shown: Wyatt Froome.)



Boys Tennis

As usual, the season is off to a slow start due to Mother Nature (rain). However, the team has grown to 18 players, and I feel we finally have some depth to choose from. The team looks great with my returning top six guys, Michael Estrada, Kevin Thibert, Carter Mudd, Christian Mondragon, Hector Rodrigues, and Gabe Guerrero, showing lots of strength. The newcomers to the squad are hungry for a starting spot on the team, and I see some real talent in the making. We won our first practice match against the West Valley Eagles with an 8-1 score.

Warriors Track and Field

This year the track team consists of two returning members and six new members. Senior Katie Sullivan and sophomore Jeremie Jones are returning to compete for the Mercy Warriors, and Hana Hederova, Patricia Korbakova, Emily Crowley, Samantha Mondragon, Sang Hee Lee, and Henry Wan are going to be great additions to the team. Everyone this year plans on competing in both running and field events. It is an exciting year for the Warriors track team because being a small team opens up doors for members to try competing in any event they would like. The Warriors track team is coached by Kim Williams and competed in their first meet on March 24, 2009. ---Katie Sullivan

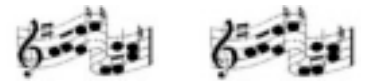
Softball & Baseball

The softball and baseball teams have each had two decisive wins in the current season. The girls softball team beat Dunsmuir and Faith Christian. The boys have had victories against American Christian and Williams. The next home game for both is April 21.

(Right: Benicia Grace takes bats for the Lady Warriors while Scott Farmer (below) calls the shots for the boys' team.)



2009 SAT Dates



2008-09 Test Dates	Test	U.S. Registration Deadlines*		Internat
		Regular	Late (a fee applies)	Early (Internati only)
March 14, 2009	SAT only	February 10, 2009	February 24, 2009	N/A
May 2, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests	March 31, 2009	April 9, 2009	March 11, 2
June 6, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests	May 5, 2009	May 15, 2009	April 15, 20

2008 - 2009 ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee)
April 4, 2009	February 27, 2009	February
June 13, 2009	May 8, 2009	May 9 - 2

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE 2009

The Annual Fund Campaign is one of the fundraising efforts which ensures that Mercy High School will remain a vital and dynamic part of the North State academic community.

In this challenging economy your support will really make a difference. Our attitudes, words and actions actualize our daily experiences and beliefs. When we support Catholic education, we provide a special opportunity for students in our communities. A Catholic education opens hearts and minds to all the possibilities that God has put before us.

Please help us continue our mission with a donation to our Annual Fund.

A Taste of Tuscany

Take a moment and imagine yourself sitting in the middle of a vineyard on a warm Spring evening surrounded by friends and family enjoying a delicious meal while sipping fine wine and listening to light hearted music. Sound appealing? Join us on Saturday, May 16th at Burnsini Winery in Cottonwood for *A Taste of Tuscany*. This spring fundraiser was enjoyed by over 200 people last year. The dress is casual and the key word is FUN. A New York steak dinner along with dessert will be followed by dancing to Soul Citizen. There will be a live auction and some fun games. Tickets are \$45 per adult and \$20 per student (18 and younger). To reserve your tickets, send check payable to Mercy High School by May 8th. This is a good event to catch up on your parent hours. We need lots of help!

Music Notes

On Ash Wednesday, the choir helped celebrate Mass with Laura Germano and Teresa Francis singing the psalm. Teresa Francis, Harmony Lange and Alex McFayden were cantors for the remainder of the Mass. Following communion the choir sang "O Jesus, Drink of Me" by Stan DeWitt with Natasha Czajka singing the solo. The choir also sang at our Mass of March 26. Tatiana Hernandez, Lora Trout and Audra Muller were featured.

The choir is now working on their concert which will be in May. The concert date in May has been changed to Thursday, May 21st due to scheduling conflicts. Hope to see you all there.

Senior Parents:

Seniors must have community service hours and essays completed before graduation. Check School Master (under "Guidance") to see hours and essays completed.



Scholarship Opportunities

Katherine E. Heeren Memorial Scholarship for Christian Women is a \$1000 award. An applicant should: Be a committed Christian who demonstrates a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Be a female. Be a resident of Tehama County. Demonstrate academic promise. Attend an accredited institution of higher learning. Be financially deserving. The committee will invite final applicants to an interview. Applications must be received at the office of The Presbyterian Church by April 24. See Mrs. Agundes for an application.

Red Bluff Rotary Scholarship is a \$1000 scholarship. Criteria: resident of Tehama County, financial need, academics & activities. See Mrs. Agundes for more information. Deadline is April 23, 2009.

Tehama County Peace Officers Foundation is offering 2 scholarships in the amount of \$500 to \$1000 to a graduating student of a Tehama County High School who plans to pursue a career in some area of law enforcement and has maintained a B average. Applications should be postmarked no later than April 17, 2009. See Mrs. Agundes for an application.

Antelope School District Community Scholarship is offering up to 4 scholarships in the amount of \$500 to \$1000. Students must have graduated from Berrendos Middle School and attended Antelope District schools for at least 5 years. Students must have maintained a GPA of 2.5 throughout high school. Deadline is April 6. See Mrs. Agundes for an application.

Tehama County Association of Realtors Scholarship offers two \$500 scholarship to Mercy High School graduates. Applications are available from Mrs. Agundes or can be downloaded at www.tcaor.com. Deadline is April 3, 2009.

Officer David F. Mobilio/PAL Scholarship offers a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior from Mercy High School. The application must be received by April 21. See Mrs. Agundes for an application.

Soroptimist International offers two \$500 scholarships to a Tehama County graduating senior with financial need, good citizenship and good grades. See Mrs. Agundes for an application. Deadline is April 15.

PG&E WNEA 2009 Scholarship Program offers a scholarship to graduating seniors who reside in PG&E's service area of Central and Northern California. You must provide verification of your household income, have a minimum weighted GPA of 3.0 or higher and be pursuing a degree or career in engineering, IT, business, environmental, or other majors related to the energy field. Application is due April 20. See Mrs. Agundes for an application.

Northern California Veterinary Medical Association Animal Sciences Scholarship is dedicated to the encouragement of young scholars interested in animal science related fields. Requirements: cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and demonstrated a genuine interest in animals. Deadline is April 15. See Mrs. Agundes for an application.

Floyd Morgan Scholarship is a \$500 scholarship presented by Holiday Quality Foods. The primary qualifying criteria is community service. You must also have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. See Mrs. Agundes for an application. Deadline is April 15.

BUSINESS OFFICE NEWS

Reminder Dates:

Intent to register was due March 2, 2009

Financial Aid application due by April 30, 2009

(Financial Aid Applications available in the office.)

Please update all parent hours. See form on the back of this newsletter.

Parents: Please look for your Graduation & AP Exam fee invoices in the mail. Those are due and payable upon receipt. As a reminder, all balances must be paid in full prior to finals.

Call the Business Office if you need your current balance.

Office Hours 7 AM to 1:30 PM 530-527-8313 EX 3003

April 2009



April 1-3	Senior Retreat
April 2	Tennis – Colusa @ Mercy 3:30
April 4	PROM
April 6	Baseball-American Christian Academy @ Mercy 4:00
April 7	Penance Service Elk's Student of the Quarter 6:00
April 8	Track @ Los Molinos 3:30
April 9	Baseball & Softball @ University Prep 4:00 Elk's Student of the Month 12:00
April 10	Good Friday-No School
April 13-17	Easter Vacation
April 14	Rotary Student of the Month 11:50
April 20	Parent Guild Meeting
April 21	LATE DAY Tennis @ Live Oak 3:30 Baseball & Softball @ Mercy 4:00
April 22	Track @ University Prep 3:30
April 23	Tennis – Willows @ Mercy 3:30
April 24	CINCH DAY Baseball & Softball @ Redding Christian 4:00
April 27	Advisory Commission Meeting
April 28	Tennis @ Colusa 3:30 Baseball & Softball – University Prep @ Mercy 4:00
April 29	Track @ Williams 3:30
April 30	Tennis – Live Oak @ Mercy 3:30

Important May Dates

May 1, 2, 8, 9	Spring Musical
May 2	Musical Gala
May 3	Trinity Golf Tournament
May 4-15	AP Exams
May 16	<i>Taste of Tuscany</i>
May 19	Sophomore/Senior Banquet
May 20	Late Day/Picnic
May 22, 26 & 27	Senior Finals
May 25	No School
May 28	Baccalaureate/Graduation
May 29	No School

Important June Dates

June 1-4	Final Exams
June 4	Last Day of School

Per Parent Request:

Dates to remember to include
April and May dates.
Parent Guild - April 20th
Golf Tournament - May 3
A Taste of Tuscany - May 16

Reminder:

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE 2009
The Mercy High School Annual Fund Campaign is now a year-round fund drive. Feel free to spread out your donations over a period of time that works best for you. By supporting Catholic education at Mercy High School, you are helping us continue our mission to nurture, encourage and motivate our current students and those who follow them.