

# Mercy Catholic High School

Red Bluff, CA

September 2007



## Students Share Pizza and Fun at Back-To-School-Bash

Student Council hosted the annual Back-To-School-Bash on Saturday, August 25, on the back lawn of Mercy High School. Approximately 60 students ate pizza and ice cream before watching a movie. Student Council president Sam Diaz, vice-president Courtney Brown, treasurer Kirsten Thompson, and

activities director Maureen Dorsett set up for the evening with the help of several MHS parents and student volunteers. We would like to thank our chaperones and faculty who assisted in making the evening a fun event for all.



*Left: Haley Kavanagh and Camille Gunsauls attend the bash. Above: Ms. Ashurst, Jin Fu, Jessica Foss, and Moriah Ford-Gowan enjoy the pizza dinner.*

## Mercy's AP Program Is A-Okay

By the deadline of June 1, 2007 across the nation's high schools, all teachers of Advanced Placement courses were required to submit a detailed syllabus of each advanced placement course that they taught as part of an audit conducted by the College Board. In a year when the faculty and the administration also had to go through a WASC accreditation process, this was an arduous task for all AP teachers here at Mercy High School. However, true to the Mercy spirit of excellence and hard work, the College Board has authorized all of our advanced placement courses. Our courses in English Literature and Composition, English Language and Composition, United States History, American Politics and Government, Biology, Spanish Language, Calculus AB and Calculus BC are now formally authorized and approved by the College Board. What a wonderful validation of our AP program! Congratulations to all of our AP teachers who worked so hard to submit their syllabi in a competent and professional manner.

—Helen Arbini

### Dates to Remember

Sept. 3	No school: Labor Day
Sept. 5	Back to School Night 6:30 PM
Sept. 7	Class elections
Sept. 10	Auction Meeting 6 PM
Sept. 14	Awards Ceremony (dress day)
Sept. 17	Auction Meeting 6 PM Parent Guild Meeting 7 PM
Sept. 19	Late day; school picnic
Sept. 21	Cinch Day
Sept. 24	Mercy Day Mass (dress day)



**Mercy Catholic High School**  
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[www.mercy-high.org](http://www.mercy-high.org)

# Principal's Message

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Dear Parents and Friends of Mercy,

Welcome back to the families of our returning students, and a warm welcome to the families of the Class of 2011! As we begin our new school year, we ask for God's blessings in all that we do as a school community and in the lives of all those, past and present, who are a part of our community.

As I walk the hallways of Mercy High School in a quiet moment between classes or after school, I often look at the pictures and trophies, the statue of Our Lady of Mercy, the lockers that have been here forever since 1959, and I reflect on all of those who have walked these halls before we did. Throughout the school there are symbols of who we are as a school and who we have been since 1882. I think about all that has come before today at Mercy High School and the awesome responsibility God has entrusted to us to carry on his work here in Red Bluff.

All of us are the Mercy community today! The students have come to school eager to learn, happy to be with their friends, and ready to accomplish new things. The faculty and staff are pleased with the results of last year's accreditation with the Western Association of School's and Colleges that resulted in a six year term of accreditation and also the AP Audit from the College Board which certified all of our advanced placement courses. The parents are busy planning for the success of Mercy High School by planning both community building events and by planning for our fundraisers. All parents are a part of the Parent Guild and are encouraged to participate actively in the meetings and efforts of the Parent Guild. The commitment of our parents makes all the difference in our community. Our alumni are reconnecting to our school through the efforts of Brenda Snider and two alumni, Liza Mudd (Class of 2005) and Jacqueline Reynoza (Class of 2006) who have been working in the Development Office throughout the summer. We are today an active community dedicated to our Mercy traditions, to our mission, and to our future.

We are grateful for those who have come before us and for God's many blessing for our school over the years, and we ask a good and loving God for His care as we continue our mission into a new school year.

God Bless!

*Cheryl Ramirez*

Principal

## Meet Mrs. Diaz!



Mrs. Diaz is the Counseling Office secretary. She can be reached at 527-8313 ext. 3010

## College Visitations

Wednesday, September 12th, Chico State will have a college recruiter on the Mercy High campus to speak to interested Juniors and Seniors.

Tuesday, September 25, St. Mary's of California and University of San Francisco will have college representatives available on campus to speak to interested Juniors and Seniors.

The Jesuit College Fair will be held on Monday, September 10th from 7-9pm at Jesuit High School, 1200 Jacob Lane in Charmingichael.

The annual College Quest will be held on Tuesday, September 25th from 5-7:30pm at the Redding Convention Center.

Chico High will be holding their College/Career Night on Thursday, October 4th.

## ACT Test Dates - 2007-2008

Test Date	Regular Registration Postmark Deadline (regular fee)	Late Reg Per (regular late
<b>September 15, 2007</b> (available <b>only</b> in Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and West Virginia)	August 10, 2007	August 11
<b>October 27, 2007</b>	September 21, 2007	September 5, October 5,
<b>December 8, 2007</b>	November 2, 2007	November November
<b>February 9, 2008*</b>	January 4, 2008	January 5 18, 2008
<b>April 12, 2008</b>	March 7, 2008	March 8 - 2008
<b>June 14, 2008</b>	May 9, 2008	May 10 - M 2008

# SAT, ACT FAQ

- The ACT is the preferred test for Cal Poly.
- Cal Poly will not guarantee your application in the selection process if the ACT or SAT is taken after the November test dates.
- October SAT will be held at Chico High, Pleasant Valley, Corning and Red Bluff High schools.
- October ACT will be held at Pleasant Valley High and Chico State.

Wendy's High School Heisman Award for Seniors Deadline  
October 1st

To be eligible to apply you must be a senior male or female with a "B" grade average or higher and participate in a school sport. Winners will be chosen according to students who exhibit excellence in the classroom, on the field and within their community. The online application must be completed by the student and reviewed by the Counseling Office by 12 noon on October 1, 2007. Each student applicant must have their online application reviewed and confirmed online by a school representative. Therefore, students must complete their application early to allow time for counseling staff to receive email notification of the need for review and confirm the accuracy of the data provided. The website is [www.wendysheisman.com](http://www.wendysheisman.com)

## SAT Test Dates - 2007-2008

Test Date	Test	Registration Dead	
		U.S. and International**	U.S.
<b>October 6, 2007**</b>	SAT & SAT Subject Tests	September 10, 2007	September 14,
<b>November 3, 2007</b>	SAT & SAT Subject Tests -- includes Language Tests with Listening	October 2, 2007	October 2007
<b>December 1, 2007</b>	SAT & SAT Subject Tests	October 30, 2007	November 2007
<b>January 26, 2008</b>	SAT & SAT Subject Tests	December 26, 2007	January 2008
<b>March 1, 2007**</b>	SAT only	January 29, 2008	February 2008
<b>May 3, 2008</b>	SAT & SAT Subject Tests	April 1, 2008	April 2008
<b>June 7, 2008</b>	SAT & SAT Subject Tests	May 6, 2008	May 2008

Guidance office  
hours are 8 to 12  
noon, Monday-  
Friday

## 2007 Swim Team Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Aug. 30th	Thursday	Red Bluff Relays	Red Bluff	10:00
*Sept. 5	Wednesday	League Meet	Durham	3:30
*Sept. 12	Wednesday	League Meet	Bishop Quinn	3:30
*Sept. 19	Wednesday	League Meet	Durham	3:30
Sept. 28	Friday	Nor-Cal Invitational	<i>Shasta College</i>	TBA
Sept. 29	Saturday	Novice Invitational	<i>Anderson</i>	TBA
*Oct. 3	Wednesday	League Meet	Winters	3:30
*Oct. 10	Wednesday	League Meet	Bishop Quinn	3:30
Oct. 17	Wednesday	BVL/GMVL Championships	Durham	TBA
Oct. 25	Thursday	N.S.C.I.F. Division II	West Valley	TBA
Oct. 27	Saturday	N.S.C.I.F. Masters	Shasta College	TBA

\*League games

Varsity Coach     Richard Cherveney

## 2007 GIRLS TENNIS TEAM

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
Sept. 7	Friday	Orland	Orland	3:30
*Sept. 11	Tuesday	Colusa	Mercy	3:30
*Sept. 13	Thursday	Live Oak	Live Oak	3:30
*Sept. 18	Tuesday	Willows	Mercy	3:30
*Sept. 20	Thursday	Colusa	Colusa	3:30
*Sept. 25	Tuesday	Live Oak	Mercy	3:30
*Sept. 27	Thursday	Willows	Willows	3:30
*Oct. 2	Tuesday	Colusa	Mercy	3:30
*Oct. 4	Thursday	Live Oak	Live Oak	3:30
*Oct. 9	Tuesday	Willows	Mercy	3:30
Oct. 19 & 20	Fri. & Sat.	G.M.V.L. Tournament		TBA

\*League Games     Home matches held at Valley Oak Racquet Club in Red Bluff.

Varsity Coach     Jim Weber

# MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

## 2007 Warrior Football

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Aug.18th	Saturday	Scrimmage	LM	9:30 a.m.
Aug. 25th	Saturday	Dunsmuir (V)	Mercy	12:00 p.m
August 31st				
Sept. 1st	Saturday	Holy Bowl	Bishop Quinn	12:00 p.m.
Sept. 15th	Saturday	Burney	Mercy	12:00 p.m.
Sept. 21st.	Friday	Westwood	Westwood	5:30 p.m.
*Sept. 28th	Friday	Chester	Chester	5:30 p.m.
*Oct. 6th	Saturday	Biggs	Mercy	12:00 p.m.
*Oct. 13th	Saturday	Los Molinos	Mercy	12:00 p.m.
*Oct. 19th	Friday	Williams	Williams	5:30 p.m.
*Oct. 26th	Friday	Esparto	Esparato	5:30 p.m.
*Nov. 3rd	Saturday	Hamilton City	Mercy	12:00 p.m.
<b>*League Games</b>				
Varsity Coach	Steve Shellabarger		Junior Varsity Coach Doug Bauman	




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Left: QB Neil Lawley runs the ball in a recent game against Dunsmuir.

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Right: Ethan Bell and Scott Farmer provide thrills for Warrior fans at the first home game of the season. The Warriors beat Dunsmuir 14-13.

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# September 2007

- Sept. 1 Football- Mercy @ Bishop Quinn 12:00 Holy Bowl  
Sept. 3 **NO SCHOOL- Labor Day**  
Sept. 5 **Back To School Night 6:30**  
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Swim Team @ Durham 3:30  
Sept. 6, 7, 8 Varsity Volleyball @ Hamilton City Tournament  
Sept. 7 *Class Elections*  
Tennis @ Orland 3:30  
Sept. 8 JV Volleyball @ RBUHS Tournament  
Sept. 10 Auction Meeting 6 PM  
Sept. 11 Tennis - Colusa @ Mercy 3:30  
Sept. 12 Swim Team @ Bishop Quinn 3:30  
Sept. 13 Tennis @ Live Oak 3:30  
Sept. 13, 14, 15 Volleyball @ Los Molinos Tournament  
Sept. 14 **AWARDS CEREMONY**  
Sept. 15 Football - Burney @ Mercy 12:00  
Sept. 17 Auction Meeting, 6 PM, Parent Guild Meeting 7 PM  
Sept. 17-21 **Canned Food Drive**  
Sept. 17 *Choir @ St. Elizabeth Hospital 11:00*  
Sept. 18 Volleyball - Dunsmuir @ Mercy 5:30  
Tennis - Willows @ Mercy 3:30  
Sept. 19 **LATE DAY/SCHOOL PICNIC**  
Swim Team @ Durham  
Sept. 20 Tennis @ Colusa 3:30  
Sept 21 **CINCH DAY**  
*Choir @ St. Elizabeth Hospital Anniversary 7:00 @ Rolling Hills*  
Football - Mercy @ Westwood 5:30  
Sept. 21-22 Varsity Volleyball @ RBUHS Tournament  
Sept. 24 **MERCY MASS DAY**  
Sept. 25 Volleyball - Chester @ Mercy 5:30  
Tennis - Live Oak @ Mercy 3:30  
Sept. 27 Tennis @ Willows 3:30  
Sept. 28 Football - Mercy @ Chester 5:30  
Swim Team @ Shasta College TBA  
Sept. 29 Swim Team @ Anderson TBA

## Auction Update

Save the date: Nov, 10, 2007!

The theme of the 2007 auction is "A Starry Starry Night."  
The auction is the MHS annual fall fundraiser and features a raffle, food, fun, and both oral and silent auctions. Committees are now being formed. Help is needed in all areas from setup, procurement, cleanup, etc. Please contact Diane Poundstone at 892-8202 (or 228-0226) or Kari Hinkle at 209-2641 if you can help in any way. The next two auction meetings will be held on Sept. 10 & 17 at 6 PM.

## Parent Guild News

The Parent Guild is now forming for the 2007-2008 school year. Our monthly meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 7 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 17. We will be voting for officers and setting up the year's events. Please come and share your input. If you have any questions, please contact Kari Hinkle at 209-2641.



## Young Chemists

Chemistry is off to a fast start. We are looking forward to an exciting and challenging year. Students are learning safety and laboratory procedures in order to be able to perform experiments.

---*Eileen Bauer*



# From the Dean of Students



There has been a change in detention hours this year. Detention will be held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. It will continue to be held for one hour beginning promptly after school. Students will still be required to serve their detention the

day the detention was issued or the next day. Participation in sports or after school activities is not an excuse for not serving detention within these guidelines. If a student needs to serve detention on a Tuesday or Thursday, please see me. I will make arrangements for the detention to be served with me on those nights.

Parents, please remember that you can access your student's guidance records, including attendance and detentions, on the Mercy web site. If you have any questions, please call or e-mail me.

---*Eileen Bauer*  
Dean of Students

## Advisory Commission

Sam Mudd  
Cyndee Moon  
Kari Hinkle  
Sister Pat Manoli, R.S.M.  
Father Eric Lofgren  
Craig Poundstone  
Claire Heffernan  
Terri Sullivan  
Brenda Snider  
Steve Brown  
Clementina Torres  
Eileen Bauer, Faculty Representative  
Allie Hinkle, Student Representative  
Cheryl Ramirez, Principal



## Alumni Spotlight

# Kathryn Snider



I was born and raised in Cottonwood and graduated from both Sacred Heart Elementary School ('97) and Mercy High School ('01). My experiences at both schools were positive. In addition to the strong academic environment, the schools fostered the kind of community spirit that has influenced my later academic and career choices.

I attended the University of Nebraska on an out-of-state academic scholarship. At Nebraska I majored in International Studies and minored in both History and Spanish. I also spent a year abroad at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, which in addition to providing excellent intellectual opportunities, gave me the chance to travel extensively throughout the United

Kingdom and Eastern Europe. After graduating from the University of Nebraska I received a scholarship and graduate assistantship at the University of Miami to pursue a Master's degree in International Studies. In Miami I also had the opportunity to become a long term volunteer at the local office of the International Rescue Committee, an international refugee relief organization that provides resettlement services throughout the United States. Now I am working at Miami Dade College. Finding new opportunities for scholarships and research projects is a way that I can give back to the community, keeping with values instilled in me long ago, during my time at Catholic schools. Thank you, Mercy High School!

*Above: Kathryn Snider in cap and gown at University of Miami.*



## Faculty Focus

# Helen Arbini



I have spent a great deal of my teaching career at Mercy Catholic High School in Red Bluff, California. My first year at Mercy I was only hired to teach two English classes and the following year I was hired full time. As a teacher and an individual, I can honestly state that teaching at Mercy has been an uplifting and fulfilling experience and I would not want to be at any other school. I come from a family of teachers and I have always wanted to be a teacher. My mother taught English and Latin and my father, who was an immigrant from Greece, had a strong appreciation for learning. While I have fulfilled my desire to be teacher, I have also been blessed with being able to teach in such an extraordinary environment. In short, I have been extremely fortunate!

Mercy offers so much to parents, staff, teachers and students. It is a true community where not only academic excellence is pursued, but the development of high moral character and Christian values are developed. In teaching literature, for example, I have found students eager to understand the moral values of the classics. In a similar fashion, I have also found parents supportive and engaged in all aspects of their children's lives. The administration and my fellow faculty members also share the vision of producing students who will not only go on to college, but who are also equipped with a moral compass that will direct their lives as college students and adults. An added personal bonus to me is many students have kept in contact with me during their college years and beyond. I know first hand what an impact Mercy has been in their lives. In addition to the curriculum, the extra-curricular activities such as clubs, the Madrigal, the musical and the many sports provide a venue for good times and pure fun as well as character development. As a teacher, I have been so fortunate to observe students as they mature from being freshmen who are often wary of the high school environment to confident seniors who, in turn, are successful in college. Their transformation in high school and subsequent success in college is very rewarding to me.

Finally, Mercy is a tradition and community that extends beyond time and the many generations who attend and have attended this school. It is a place where beauty, learning, and character are forged every day, year after year. I have been most blessed to be a part of this tradition and community. Teaching at Mercy has given me so much more joy and satisfaction than I think I would have had at another school. I could not ask for a better experience!



## Music Notes

This summer has flown by. I kept busy giving piano lessons and making plans for my daughter's wedding. The summer was concluded with two choral workshops at Zepher Point in Lake Tahoe which was awesome. I was fortunate to work with some very knowledgeable vocal conductors one of which is the assistant director of the Los Angeles Master Chorale.

This coming year is very exciting as we begin the year helping St. Elizabeth's hospital celebrate their 100 year anniversary. I would like to invite all students who want to help make this a special celebration to join our all school choir to sing at this special event. Special rehearsals will be announced. Don't forget without the Sisters of Mercy our school wouldn't be here so we have a lot for which to thank them. Join the Celebration!

---Darlene Lee



*Mrs. Lee and accompanist Mrs. Peters rehearse members of the choir for their upcoming performances.*

## Summer Interns Update Alumni Information and More

At first we thought it just summer employment, a job that would look great on a future resume. But it has been so much more. We, Liza Mudd '05 and Jackie Reynoza '06, are former alumnae who have been hired as summer alumni development interns here at Mercy High. Our tasks have included tracking down alumni, planning alumni events, and helping to establish an alumni link on the Mercy High webpage. Using thirty years of old directories we have personally contacted approximately 1500 alumni and their parents and received up-to-date contact information. Although contacting the alumni was a long and tedious task, it was so rewarding to listen to their old Mercy stories and hear their enthusiasm for the alumni project. We were so excited by the response that we are now planning an "Alumni Day," Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup>, which will include free admission to the Mercy vs. Los Molinos football game and a complementary tri-tip barbeque at the school. All Mercy alumni, friends, and family are welcome!

As summer comes to a close, it is hard to believe that we will begin packing up our belongings and returning to college in a few short weeks. Jackie will begin her second year at Santa Clara University and is majoring in Political Science. Liza will begin her third year at UCLA with double majors in Communication Studies and Spanish. However, our work here at Mercy will not be forgotten. Our hope is that Mercy will continue to develop its alumni department for the health and vitality of the school. Please email us at [alumniupdate@mercy-high.org](mailto:alumniupdate@mercy-high.org) for more information about the alumni project or with alumni contact information.

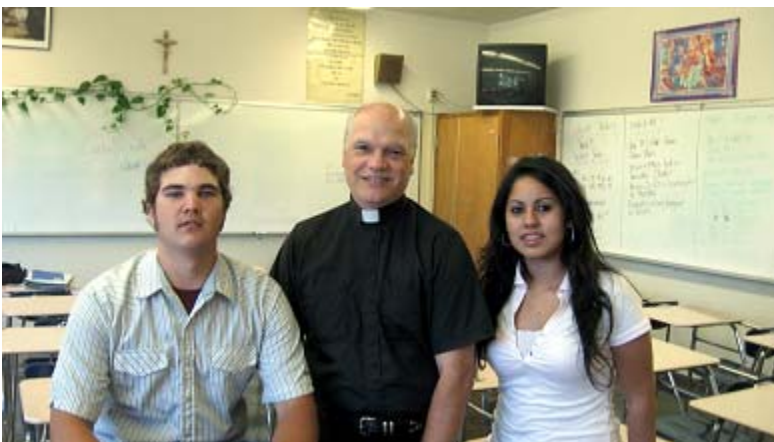


# 2007 Volleyball Season

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Sept. 4th	Tuesday	Pierce	Mercy	5:30
Sept. 6,7, & 8	Thurs.,Fri. & Sat.	(V) HC Tourney	Hamilton City	TBA
Sept. 8th	Saturday	(JV) RBHS Tourney	Red Bluff	TBA
Sept. 13,14,& 15	Thurs.-Saturday	LM Tournament	LM	TBA
Sept. 18th	Tuesday	Dunsmuir	Mercy	5:30
Sept. 21st & 22nd	Friday-Sat.	(V) RBHS	Red Bluff	TBA
Sept. 25th	Tuesday	Chester	Mercy	5:30
*Oct. 2nd	Tuesday	Liberty Christian	LC	5:30
*Oct. 4th	Thursday	Redding Christian	RC	5:30
*Oct. 9th	Tuesday	Esparto	Mercy	5:30
*Oct. 11th	Thursday	University Prep	Univer. Prep	5:30
*Oct. 16th	Tuesday	Bishop Quinn	Mercy	5:30
*Oct. 18th	Thursday	Redding Christian	Mercy	5:30
*Oct. 23rd	Tuesday	Bishop Quinn	Bishop Quinn	5:30
*Oct. 25th	Thursday	Biggs	Biggs	5:30
*Oct. 30th	Tuesday	University Prep	Mercy	5:30
*Nov. 1st	Thursday	Liberty Christian	Mercy	5:30
<b>Varsity Coach</b>	<b>Katie Leitem</b>	<b>Sue Leitem</b>		
<b>JV Coach</b>	<b>Zane Zelei</b>			

## Back to School

Classes started in full on August 22, 2007, and our MHS students have been busily immersed in classwork. From the art room the science lab- and everywhere in between- students have been taking notes and quizzes, learning new information and synthesizing it, reading and writing, making presentations and getting to know one another. Following are some of the images from the early days of the school year.



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# Student Council 2007-2008



Front row: Courtney Brown, Vice-President; Holley Estrada, Secretary; Becca Elliott, Volunteer Coordinator; Kathryn Ward, Director of Athletics. Center: Kirsten Thompson, Treasurer; Allie Hinkle, Advisory Commission Representative; Back row: Maureen Dorsett, Director of Activities; Sam Diaz, President.



The Mercy High website has been redesigned and updated. Go to [www.mercy-high.org](http://www.mercy-high.org) to see what we are all about.

## Jilly Jefferson Crowned Miss Butte County

Jilly Jefferson, a 17 year old senior at Mercy High School, was crowned the 2007 Miss Butte County on August 22 at the butte County Fair. She was selected through a scholarship competition where the contestants were judged on five criteria: personality interview; community service; speech; visual poise and stage presence; and talent. For the talent competition, Jilly sang and played her guitar to a song she had composed.

Jilly will serve as Miss Butte County until next August when she will crown her successor. She plans on using her title to organize, lead, and participate in numerous community service activities.



