



ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL

KNIGHTS & DAYS

Volume 10 Issue 7

March 2008

www.sfhs.net

Upcoming Calendar Dates and Changes

Tuesday, March 11
NHS Installation Mass/
Reception 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 12
Lenten Liturgy
(DRESS UP)
Winter Sports Awards
6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 15
Freshman Registration
8:30-11:30 a.m.

Tues.-Thurs. March 18-20
Third Quarter Examinations

Fri, Mar. 21-Mon. Mar 31
Easter Break

Monday, March 31
Faculty In-Service (No
classes)

Tuesday, April 1
Fourth Quarter begins
Re-Registration begins for
2008-09 school year

Wednesday, April 2
Mothers Guild Meeting
8:30 a.m.
Newsletter sent/Bake Sale



Mini-Posh Supports School Goals



Franciscan Joy

*St. Francis once saw a certain companion of his
with a sad face... he said to him,
"It is not becoming for a servant of God to show
himself upset before men,
but always he should show himself honorable.
Examine your offenses in your
room and there groan before your God. When you
return to your brothers,
put off your sorrow and conform yourselves to the
rest."*

As of this writing, we are in the final stages of preparing for Mini-POSH. By the time that you receive this letter, *A Knight in the Wild, Wild West*, will be history! While I will give you a full update

as to our success, as of this moment, we have completely underwritten the dinner and facility expenses. Once again, I must thank our co-chairs Jenny Schwing and Kal Antoun and their committees. We owe these people, and so many others who have worked behind the scenes, a huge debt of gratitude. Thank you!!! Here's to a great event! (We will do a complete listing of committee chairs next month.)

Applications for the annual Alumni Scholarships are now available in the Development, Campus Ministry, Counseling and Front Offices. These scholarships are given by the Alumni Council to students who exhibit the spirit of the Golden Knight, "Victorious in competition, steadfast in his ideas, reverent unto God and loyal to his alma mater." The money for these scholarships comes from the St. Francis Golf Classic held each year in the fall. Last year the alumni council awarded almost \$50,000 in scholarship money.

We have been invited by the Doheny Foundation to apply for scholarship money. If you are aware of any foundation that supports such needs, or know a trustee/director, personally or through a professional
(Continued on page 2)

WASC Action Plan Announced

As we make final preparations for our accreditation visit in April, here are the four major goals our committees have identified in our Action Plan:

1. Continued development of the Franciscan Spirit and Life Program;
2. Review the existing process for curriculum review and development;
3. Enhance the functioning of the school's Development and Alumni offices;
4. Promote leadership opportunities among staff

During the visit (April 13-16), the visiting team may recommend changes and additions.

Outline of school calendar for 2008-2009:

Frosh Orientation Mon-Tues Aug 18-19
First Day of Classes Wednesday, August 20
First Quarter Exams Tu-Fri October 14-17
First Semester Exams Wed-Fri December 17-19
Christmas Break Saturday, December 20-
Monday, January 5

School reopens (2nd semester) Tuesday, January 6
Third Quarter Exams Wed-Fri March 18-20

Easter Break	Fri, April 17-Sunday, April 26
Senior Final Exams	Tu-Thur, May 19-21
Graduation	Saturday, May 23
Final Exams	Wed-Fri, June 3-5
Summer Session begins	Monday, June 22

Third quarter examinations are scheduled March 18-20. We remind parents that all past due tuition accounts must be paid in order for students to take these examinations. Beginning March 10, payments should be directed to the school Finance Office, not to the credit union and should be in cash or cashiers checks only. We also want to clarify a new policy beginning for final exams this year: **Students who have not completed their service hours may not take final examinations.** Please pay attention to the service projects that are announced in this publication monthly!



(Continued on page 2)

The President's Letter ...continued

contact, I would appreciate it if you would contact me in the Development Office. We would like to learn more and, if appropriate, make a request.

We continue to seek scholarship money from other foundations to support the financial needs of our students. If you are aware of a foundation that supports such a need, or know a trustee/director, personally or through a professional contact, I would appreciate it if you would contact me in the Development Office. We would like to learn more and, if appropriate, make a request.

Please note. Students who receive financial aid must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 and must engage in Christian Service opportunities that work with the poor, underprivileged or disenfranchised.

Finally, I would like to encourage your sons to take advantage of the community service opportunities with our Community Service Coordinator, Mr. Michael Scheper, is making available to your sons. There are group projects as well as individual opportunities. Inquiries can be made at the Campus Ministry Center.

I would like to extend a special word of thanks to the Booster Club for their help with security and concessions at the basketball games and soccer matches. Their support was a great gift to our fans and guests.

As always, know that you and your families remain in the prayers and Masses of the friars, faculty and staff. This remains our means of appreciation and gratitude for your generous support.

Take care, and

God bless,

Fr. Matt

The Principal's Notes ...continued

We also remind all parents of current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors that re-registration materials for the 2008-2009 school year will be mailed April 1, with the deadline for re-registering April 30. If you are aware now that your son will not return next year, please let us know in writing as soon as possible. Another important element for parents to be aware of is that all students are subject to an annual review by the school administration prior to being invited to return. Re-registration is not automatic and may be withheld because of academic or behavioral problems.

Congratulations to Mr. Dierking and the Academic Decathlon Team for their second place finish at the Southern California Private Schools competition last month. We also offer congratulations to the large number of students who were honored at the Academic Awards Night on February 26. Our gratitude is also extended to the Counseling Department for organizing "Teen Issues Day" on March 6th and for the many speakers who helped make the day successful.

Congratulations to the Varsity Soccer Team who advanced to the CIF Playoffs as Mission League Champions. As of this publication, we are beginning the spring sports schedule and wish the best of luck to the Volleyball, Golf, Tennis, Track and Field, and Baseball teams who will be competing through May.

Service Hour Opportunities during March:

Saturday, March 1	Shriners Hospital
Mondays, March 3, 10, 31 (tutoring)	St. Elizabeth and St. Theresa
Tuesdays, March 4, 11 (tutoring)	St. Elizabeth and St. Theresa
Wednesdays, March 5, 12 (tutoring)	St. Elizabeth and St. Theresa
Thursdays, March 6, 13 (tutoring)	St. Elizabeth and St. Theresa
Sunday, March 9	Camp Max Straus

SF Moms Make It Happen

Wow, have we have been busy since the last edition of Knights and Days! We have provided hospitality for: The State of the School (thanks to Kim Kuitake and Judy Kokawa), College Knowledge Night and Building a College Profile (Louise Vallone and Maria Prata), Kairos 69 (Laurie Tixier, Laura Vargas, Salma Dinaulty and Lynn Carmody), Academic Awards Night, Jr. Ring Ceremony and Science Fair (Christine Sauer and Karen Stattler), MG Day of Recollection with Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy (Kelly Young, Allyson Simpson, Cindy Lusnia and Patricia Granja). We did all of these in addition to our regular monthly responsibilities like Bake Sale (thanks to Susan Aoki and Colleen Welsh), Faculty lounge (Estella Romero and Angelica McCoy) and Faculty Lunch (Fadia Daher, Kim Kaufman and Rene Korth). We'd also like to thank our 1st and 3rd VP's for all their time and planning to make sure our upcoming Tuxedo Brunch (May 10th) is a day for everyone to remember. Thanks to our 2nd VP's Allyson Simpson and Brett Hunter for all their hard work putting together our Dinner Knight Out fundraisers. We can't forget to thank our Knightwear ladies (Emi Brennan and Sharon Swart), our Display Window Display ladies (Nadine King and Barbara Lluís) and our Supply Closet ladies (Maureen Manacchio and Melinda Anderson).

We want to remind you to start saving all those "spring cleaning" treasures for Mothers' Guild biggest fund raiser of the year, the **Yard**

Sale. Flyers with all the details can be found on the website or by calling Betty Dowling (818 790-8591) for more information. Betty will also need many volunteers for this event. Be sure to mark the dates on your calendar—April 26th and 27th.

Last but not least, a reminder to talk to Michelle Salzman or Alicia Walker about how you can get involved in Mothers Guild for next year. There are many openings for Committee Chairs. If you can't chair a committee we also have many opportunities to be involved and we'd love to have your help at any level of commitment you are comfortable making.

Our next meeting is April 2nd at 8:30 a.m. in Founders' hall. Please join us to hear about what's going on at SF and to enjoy the company of other Moms in our St. Francis community.

**Michelle Salzman and Alicia Walker,
Co-Presidents**

Spring Sports Season Opens

It is amazing to me how fast this school year is moving. I am sure all of you feel the same way. The Booster Club would like to congratulate Coach Jordan, Coach Appels and their teams on their seasons. With the Winter Season now behind us, we begin moving into the final school sports season with St. Francis fielding teams in Tennis, Volleyball, Track, Golf and Baseball. We want to wish Coach Donovan-Track, Coach Esquivel-Baseball, Coach Frazee-Volleyball, Coach Zambrano-Tennis and Coach Durfee-Golf and the players success as they move forward with their seasons.

During the Winter season, the Booster Club was busy providing concessions for both Soccer and Basketball along with Security. As usual none of this would have been possible without all the volunteers that made it happen. The Booster Club would like to offer a special thanks to Jim Ondrejko for all his effort with Soccer Concessions. Jim has offered his time in this area for a number of years and does a tremendous job for the team, the Club and the School. Additionally, we want to thank Chuck Brash (Security Chairperson) and all the Security volunteers who did a tremendous job with security for Basketball. There were some tremendous crowds this year including a Loyola game where we needed to actually cut off admission. The gym was at capacity and we were forced to turn people away until half time when the crowd thinned out and new guests could be admitted. Chuck, and all the Security volunteers, did a great job of providing a secure environment so fans, families and guests could enjoy the game. The Booster Club would also like to give a special thanks to Georgee's Pizza for their generosity and support of the Concessions stands during the season. Lastly, I would like to thank Booster Club Vice- President John Moe for being a regular presence at all the games, helping where help was needed and running the Basketball Concession stands over the last two games of the season. Because of the efforts of these people and all our volunteers, the Winter Season was very successful!

Committee Chairperson Spotlight

The Booster Club Annual Christmas Tree Sale has become a great tradition at the school and its success can be directly attributed to our Chairpersons Joe Orlandini and Sean McCarthy. The time and effort dedicated by these two men and their wives Lisa and Frances makes this an amazing event! Every year the event gets a little bigger and the support from the school community increases. Both Joe and Sean attend to all the details of the event including negotiating with the tree vendor, transportation, solicitation of wreaths and poinsettias and coordinating the ordering and

volunteer help. It is a model of organization when people arrive to pick up their trees and the environment continually brings people back year after year. The Booster Club thanks the Orlandini and McCarthy families for all their efforts and support of this fundraiser and the St. Francis. The Booster Club would also like to thank all those who supported the event. We look forward to your continued patronage in the future in addition to the continued growth of the fundraiser in the future. Thank you Joe, Lisa, Sean and Frances for all your efforts! If you want to be part of the event next year by purchasing a tree, or volunteering your time, look for our announcements in the Fall.

Upcoming Events

Mini-POSH Security- contact Cheryl Harlow if you are interested in volunteering

**Ray Arriola,
President**

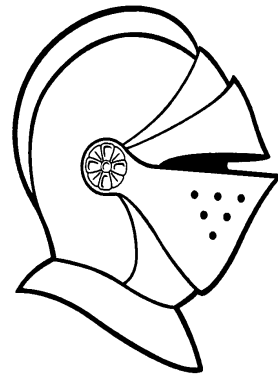
Congratulations to the following who were named to the All Mission League Team:

Basketball:

Malik Speed, Second Team

Soccer:

Nick Posthuma, Most Valuable Offensive Player
Sean McGuinness, Most Valuable Defensive Player
Nick Swart, Nick Rihn, Juan Castro, Jordan Bell, First Team
Eric Verso, Patrick McCoy, Andres Perez, Second Team



Admission Letters Expected Soon

ATTENTION: SENIORS!

This is a very exciting time! All of your hard work is finally paying off and many of you are receiving letters from colleges. Do not worry if you have not heard yet from a college, as most letters are mailed mid-March continuing into April. You should, however, contact the colleges to be sure your files are complete. Please come into the College Counseling Office and let us know of any correspondence you have received. We need to know the status on all applications. In addition, let us know of any grants or scholarships you have received. If you get wait-listed at any school, let us know immediately so we can advise you on the necessary steps to be taken. Seventh semester grades have all been sent to the colleges. In addition, please give a big thank you to Ms. Zepeda for all of her hard work in making sure that the appropriate documents have been sent out on your behalf.

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR SUMMER PLANS? – ALL STUDENTS

We know it may seem early, but now is the time to start thinking about summer. Use this valuable time to get involved in activities that you do not have time for during the regular school year. Summer camps are not your only option. You can choose from a variety of on-campus academic programs, internships, community service programs, student abroad tours, and summer jobs. Your first step in planning your summer is to think about your interests. This is your opportunity to try new things or to hone in on any special interest you have. Here are some ideas:

- Are you interested in art? Research summer programs in the arts or try to get a job or an internship at an art gallery or design firm.
- Love animals? Volunteer at an animal shelter or call the zoo for summer programs.
- Want to help children? Volunteer in a tutoring program, work in the children's library, or coach a team.
- Want to improve your writing? Take a writing class at a community college.
- Serve the community? There are numerous organizations in constant need of volunteers.

These are just a few ideas. The Counseling Office has more information for summer opportunities or you can go online at <http://www.petersons.com/summerop/code/ssector.asp>, www.summerfun.com or www.enrichmentalley.com. Also, Tips on Trips and Camps is a FREE advisory service to families that assists you in choosing summer camps, programs and trips for your child. (However, representatives receive a commission for the placement of your child). For more information, contact Jill Levin at 310-202-8448 or at jill@TipsonTripsandCamps.com. Sending for information and filling out applications take time, and the sooner you think about summer, the more time you will have to explore your options.

ACADEMIC DEFICIENCIES

A grade of "D" in a course may affect a student's eligibility to the University of California, the California State University system, and many other institutions as well. Although it is not required at St. Francis High School, it is strongly recommended that students remediate grade(s) of "D." If a student receives a semester grade of "F," it is mandatory that the course be repeated during the summer, a passing grade is received, and the grade is sent to St. Francis in order to re-enroll the following year.

AP TESTING

AP Exams will be administered May 5 through May 16. All AP students have received the AP Bulletins, and parents will be receiving letters in April informing them of the procedures and instructions regarding testing days.

WHY ARE AP STUDENTS REQUIRED TO TAKE THE AP EXAMS?

AP courses provide opportunities for students to pursue college-level work while still in high school. By taking the AP exams and receiving a score of 3, 4, or 5, a student may earn credit or advanced placement in college. College admissions officers view AP passing scores as an indicator of future success at the college level. Over 90% of colleges around the world accept AP grades. Since students earn college credit, the associated cost savings can be as much as \$3,000 per course! Course exemption also gives students the opportunity to broaden their college experience by exploring additional subject areas. AP Grade Reports are sent in July to each student's high school, home, and any college(s) designated by the student. At the time of the exam, students can indicate if they would like a college to receive their grade.

TEEN ISSUES DAY – ALL STUDENTS

Teen Issues Day, will be held on Thursday, March 6, 2008. Saint Francis students will have an opportunity to increase their education and awareness of issues they face today. Some topics include Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Peer Pressure/Peer Relationships, Spirituality, and Academic Stress. We look forward to having a successful event. Thanks in advance to the 22 presenters, the Guidance and Counseling Department and to all the staff and faculty for supporting and participating in this event!

NEDT TEST – FRESHMEN

Results from the NEDT TEST will be available in June.

*Daniel Pelletier and Mary Lou Rico,
College Counselors*