

Coach Steve Hagerty ('80) visits with alumni at the Homecoming BBQ. The Lancers went on to beat West Hills Chaminade 38-21 that evening.

What's New...

Greetings!
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The 21st Century Learner

Bishop Amat prepares to educate learners in a changing world

It's quite obvious that the world around us is rapidly changing. Businesses, financial systems, and even political institutions are beginning to realize that old business models can't compete in a highly connected global marketplace. The world is seemingly in the midst of a paradigm shift, spurred by increased connectivity and the power of Web 2.0. Successful businesses know that they must change the way they operate if they wish to survive.

Education must also work to provide students with the skills to succeed in the 21st century. Students come into classrooms all over the United States ready to create, express, and collaborate. These inclinations need to be fostered and nurtured because they are the keys to participating in what has become a truly global environment. Newly graduated students will be rewarded for their ability to communicate, their desire to empathize, their hunger to create, show, and tell. These are skills that have, for the most part, been marginalized in classrooms the past few decades.

Bishop Amat High School recognizes that it must continually move toward providing students the opportunity for these types of learning experiences. This recognition has partially fueled the development of the Master Plan. The more I hear about Amat's plan for the next fifty years, the more excited I become. Implementation of the next phase, the construction of a state of the art Performance Arts Center, is especially appropriate. Bishop Amat is dedicated to providing the finest Catholic education for San Gabriel Valley families.

College Night



Alumni participated in Bishop Amat's annual College Night, hosted by Counselor Michael Scott. Christian Dundas ('00) volunteered as a representative of Claremont McKenna College and Kristin Ruvalcaba ('05) currently interns with the Mount St. Mary's College admissions office. Also in attendance were Andrew Woolsey '96 (University of La Verne), Lorena Garcia '03 (University of Dallas), Dora Hernandez '05 (CSU Fullerton), and Michael Muse '05 (Whittier College).



The President

Dear Bishop Amat Alumni:

Greetings and best wishes to all of you where ever you may be, around the nation or around the world. Here on campus we have completed the first semester of the school year enjoying the beautiful California climate.

It was wonderful to meet so many of you who gathered for your recent reunions and for the Homecoming celebration. Gabe Escover, our editor, has some great photographs from the various events in the current edition of The Amat Tradition. We were delighted to host the barbecues for the jubilarians on the Sunday afternoons following the formal assemblies. Thank you for the many favorable comments you had for us on our new facilities and for your pledges of ongoing support of our development efforts.

I am very pleased to inform you that after a marathon eight year campaign we have finally eliminated all of the debt incurred in building the Student Activity Center. The cost of constructing and equipping the Center was approximately \$6,000,000. Parents with students in the school from about 1995 onwards provided at least eighty percent of those funds. The balance came from foundations, friends and alumni. I thank all of you who contributed in support of the capital campaign. The Center has become an extraordinary benefit to the school community.

With one major project completed we must now turn our attention to the attainment of our next construction objective – the 450 seat Performing Arts Center. Our proposal is currently under consideration by Los Angeles County with indications that we could receive approval to move ahead in about ten months. As with the Student Activity Center a capital campaign will be launched to raise the \$5,000,000 necessary to fund the project. We would greatly appreciate your renewed support of our efforts in this regard.

As many of you know, we normally hold the Lancer Classic Dinner and Awards at this time of the year. Having carefully evaluated the negative impact of the current economic crisis on our potential supporters and the growing need for scholarship assistance for our students, we have decided to forgo this year's Dinner and Awards in favor of a smaller, more intimate event. I assure you that it is my earnest hope and intention to restore this prestigious and enjoyable event in 2010.

Monsignor Aidan M. Carroll, President



The Principal

Dear Fellow Alumni:

As we begin a new year we want to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to all who have kept in touch and offered continued encouragement in the work we do here at Bishop Amat. One of the significant areas of support has been in offering your donations so that we can continue to operate at the highest levels of education.

Last year's Alumni Appeal offered several areas in which your gift could be used. One such area was in the technology field. With your donations we were able to purchase and install one "Smart" classroom in the Religion department. (We have used No Child Left Behind funds to place the same technology in two non-Religion classrooms.)

Briefly, a "Smart" classroom uses available technologies to make the classroom more interactive. For example, whatever the teacher writes on the "Smart Board" can be saved to that teacher's web page. We have used this in math classrooms for several years. Did you ever find yourself frustrated to understand your math notes only to find that you copied the problem down wrong in your notes? It is a common issue. Now a student can look up what was written on the web page.

One of the enhancements that we added to this classroom is the use of the "Senteno" individual student response system. Each student is given what looks like a television remote control. As they log in with their student ID code, the teacher can ask questions to the class and instead of calling on one student, each student responds. The array of answers can be posted on the screen. No longer can a student "vegetate" or sleep in a classroom!

This summer we provided a day of in-service to our faculty on ways web 2.0 technologies can be used in teaching. We have been reminded many times, "The real revolution is not about technology. It's about access to information and communication. It's not about the wires, it's about what flows through them." We are trying to keep Amat at the forefront of the tools of technology that enhance student learning. Thank you for your financial help that keeps us moving.

Merritt Hemenway, Ph.D. '64
Principal



In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the following Amat Family members:

Ronnie Sanchez '72. Ronnie's classmates are grateful that they were able to see him at the recent reunion.

Frances McNaney, mother of Carol McNaney '72 passed away on March 6, 2008. Frances is preceded in death by her husband John McNaney, sons John, Bill '67, and Dave '70.

Bodo Rohde '81 lost his battle with cancer on April 21, 2008. He is survived by his wife Wanda of 16 years, his fourteen year old son, two step-children, and two grandchildren.

Long time supporters, **Carmen and Lucy Cavezza, parents of Mary Grace Lima '69 and grandparents of Carly Lima '95, Paul Lima '95, Catherine Lima '03 and Gregory Lima '12** passed away on November 9 and November 16, 2009.

It is with sadness that we report the death of long time Bishop Amat Attendance Office clerk **Mrs. Kathy Verti** on Tuesday January 20. She died after a short illness. Mrs. Verti is survived by her husband Jim and four sons, each of whom graduated from Bishop Amat High School; **Michael '92, Matthew, '93, Mark, '96 and Christopher, '00.** Mark currently teaches History at the school.

We are sorry to share with you the news that **Rick Deeb, Class of 1980** passed away on December 23, 2008. A School Fund has been set up for his two children. His widow, Maggie, is a Class of 1980 Alumni of Amat as well.

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the death of **James Gustavson ('85).** James suffered a heart attack and passed away on December 21, 2008.

Scholarship Benefit Dinner

We are pleased to announce that Bishop Amat High School is sponsoring a Scholarship Benefit Dinner on Saturday, March 28, 2009. The purpose of the Dinner is to raise funds to provide scholarship and financial need assistance to our students.

The Dinner will be held on the grounds of Hacienda La Joyita, a beautiful Spanish style estate dating from 1926 which is located at 3009 East Cameron Drive, West Covina. The reception will begin at 5:00 p.m. with wine and cheese tasting and a silent auction. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m.

Please consider attending the event or making a donation in its support. Your participation will significantly boost our efforts to remove the financial barriers that could prevent worthy young men and women from fulfilling their dreams of obtaining a Bishop Amat High School education.

For further information on this event, please call Mrs. Lucy Rios, Special Events Coordinator at 626-962-2495, Ext. 1-7401.

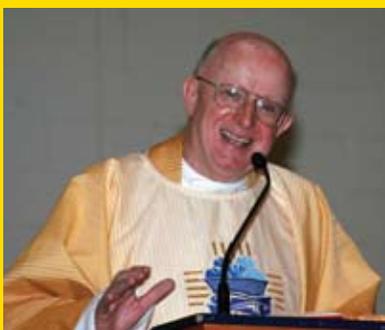
Daylon McCutcheon Scholarship Fund



The Bishop Amat Family is pleased to announce the establishment of the "Daylon McCutcheon Scholarship Fund." Mr. McCutcheon ('95) has pledged \$100,000 to provide scholarship assistance to future Amat Lancers who would not be able to attend due to the lack of financial resources. To be considered for the scholarship,

students must maintain a 2.5 grade point average, be involved in the school community through extra-curricular activities, be of sound character, and demonstrate qualities such as commitment, integrity and perseverance. A former consensus All-American for Bishop Amat and two-time First Team Pac-10 defensive back for USC, McCutcheon returned to Amat last year and currently serves as the Defensive Coordinator for the Varsity Football team.

Opening Liturgy Features Surprise Announcement



Monsignor Carroll shares his dedication to Catholic education with the students and guests present at Amat's opening Mass.

Bishop Amat's opening liturgy for the 2008-2009 school year in part celebrated the 45th Anniversary of Monsignor Aidan M. Carroll's Ordination to the Priesthood. Amat hosted several special guests and visiting priests from the San Gabriel Valley as part of the celebration. Also in attendance was the Archdiocesan Superintendent of Schools, Fr. Sal Palato.

Fr. Palato closed the liturgy with the exciting, surprise announcement that Bishop Amat's Student Activity Center will now be officially named the "Monsignor Aidan M. Carroll Student Activity Center," in honor of Msgr. Carroll's dedication to the school community and his role in making the beautiful Center a reality. Msgr. Carroll's gracious and humble acceptance of the honor was met with several loud and enthusiastic rounds of applause from the assembly.

The Carroll Center's unifying presence on campus continues to enhance the learning experience at Bishop Amat High School. With the completion of a new "Master Plan," Bishop Amat will continue to dedicate itself over the next fifty years to meet the needs of the 21st century student.

New Marquee Lights up Orange and Fairgrove



Dr. Merritt Hemeway ('64), across the street on Fairgrove Ave., watches as Amat's first marquee is brought down. The class of 1964 provided the funds for the original marquee forty-five years ago.



The new marquee is being updated weekly so that parents, students, and the surrounding community know of all the special events happening at Amat. The marquee supports both still pictures and video images.

The long anticipated electric replacement of the marquee in the faculty parking lot was delivered and installed on September 18th. The new sign replaces Amat's first and only marquee, a donation of the Class of 1964.

The new marquee boasts many advantages, including better visibility, the ability to display photographs and video, and a user friendly interface that allows school personnel to keep parents and the community updated on school events and news. Bishop Amat High School looks forward to discovering the many ways that this new technology can aid and promote our role in the community.

Building for the Future

Throughout the 2007-2008 school year, administrators, faculty, staff, alumni, parents and students at Bishop Amat High School engaged in an important project that will have far reaching effects on the functioning of the school for many years. The school community conducted a thorough evaluation of all the structures and facilities on our fifty year old campus. This evaluation was done with the intention of discerning the current and future needs of the school community with regard to academics, faith, athletics, extra-curricular activities, marketing, and finance. Upon the completion of the evaluation, a Master Plan was created to take the school through the next three decades of the twenty-first century.

The school contracted with the architectural firm, McLarand Vasquez Emsiek and Partners (MVE) to develop the Master Plan. The Plan addresses such elements as the demolition of existing classrooms and their replacement with multi-story, air-conditioned buildings, the construction of a 450 seat Performance Arts Center, the construction of a 50 meter competition swimming pool, the construction of tennis courts and the renovation of the existing football, baseball, and softball facilities that would involve the installation of an artificial eight lane running track and artificial turf on the playing surfaces.

The picture below, "Bishop Amat 2057," is the completed Master Plan that envisions these new facilities and projects. We look forward to sharing our progress with you as the Plan is implemented.



bishop amat memorial
high school phasing plan

MVE Institutional
Planning Architecture Interiors

10 March 2008

1968 Reunion



Bonnie Brosnahan and Mark Porter



Cynthia Kolack, Veronica Alvarez Fritsch and Linda Spang Nelson



Suzi Taylor-Sadd, Vicky Patik, Monsignor Carroll

Joe and Erin (Moak) Lillis ('97) welcomed their new child, James Patrick Lillis into the world on October 11th, 2008.

Mark McGilvray ('77) is blessed with the presence of a new grandchild, LIAM NICHOLAS, born to his daughter Lauren on September 24th, 2008

1988 Reunion

After twenty years, the Class of 1988 reunited for a few short hours. They came from all over the country to share old Amat memories. When I started assembling the reunion committee, I was already excited and happy to be able to get my class together once more. After months of preparation, the anticipated night arrived. As I watched fellow classmates walk in nervously, I knew they would indeed enjoy themselves. Looking at the hugs, kisses and laughter made me feel so happy to be able to bring everyone together. The few short hours were not enough. Many discovered this when the lights were being turned on and off to get everyone to go home.

Thankfully, Bishop Amat hosted our Reunion BBQ the following day. A few of the classmates who did not make the reunion the night before were able to get together at the BBQ. Michelle (Garcia) Holmberg made it possible to view pictures from a video presentation that she created. The video was shown at the reunion and BBQ. We can't wait to all meet again in five years! My heart is so full and happy after this brief reunion. Thanks to all!

- Emma (Rodriguez) Luna



Eugene Castillo, Ray Rocha & Richard Vollaire



Nina Romero, Kristine (Montalvo) Cruz, Kristine's Husband & Emma (Rodriguez) Luna

Accomplishments

Professor Angie Chabram Dernersesian ('71) has co-edited the book, *Speaking from the Body: Latinas on Health and Culture*. For more info, please see the alumni website.

Lisette Mendez ('05), a senior at Pitzer College, recent played the lead role of "Della" in the play *Zoot Suit* at Pomona College. The production has recently been asked to the National Theater Festival in Fullerton and Washington D.C.

Four short award-winning plays written by Kelly Younger ('90), including "I Think You Think I Love You," were recently performed as Bishop Amat's Fall Production. He has staged plays off-Broadway, in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, the Midwest, and the South. He currently is an Associate Professor of English at Loyola Marymount University.

Congratulations to Defensive Back #20, Ralph Brown '96, and the Arizona Cardinals for making it to Superbowl XLIII. Ralph played at the University of Nebraska and is currently playing in the ninth season of his pro football career.

1998 Reunion

The ten year reunion for Amat's Class of 1998 proved to be a memorable evening. Organized by co-chairs Amanda (Dovidio) Zelechowski and Alex Lowder, the event spanned an entire weekend. On Friday evening, October 24th, several members of the class met at the Alumni BBQ and attended the Homecoming football game against Chaminade High School. After watching yet another Amat victory, the party moved to BJ's Pizza in Covina.

On Saturday evening, over one hundred participants gathered at Villa Sorriso in Pasadena. The evening featured classmates reconnecting, many for the first time since graduation. The class had so much fun, they literally had to be kicked out of the restaurant for a 2am closing. The following afternoon, still more members of the class gathered in the Carroll Center for a picnic and were excited to go on a personalized tour of the new facility with Msgr. Carroll.

The class is also pleased to announce that they have made a \$1,500 donation toward the newest Amat capital improvement, the Performance Arts Building, which will be located where the Faculty House currently sits.



Amanda (Dovidio) Zelechowski and Alex Lowder



Ellie Moritake, Emily Sandoval, and Gina (Sanchez) Taylor



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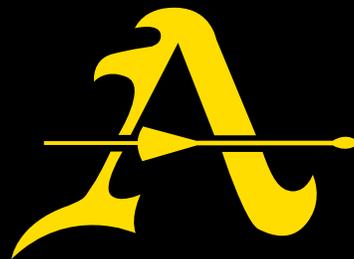
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ALUMNI PORTAL

Register today at alumni.bishopamat.org. It is our goal to use this website to keep in touch with our graduates. We will be posting alumni news, school event information, and sending out e-newsletters and e-announcements from this portal. Help us better serve the Amat Family by signing up today!



Amat on the Web:

Official Alumni website: alumni.bishopamat.org

- Keep in touch and see photos of classmates

Official Alumni blog: amatnews.com

- Read about the latest alumni, school, and sports happenings

Instant sports updates via Twitter - twitter.com/amatsports

- See live updates from selected sporting events

Let us know what you are up to! Email us at alumni@bishopamat.org