

THE HOME PAGE

By Jayne Greenberg, PTSA Executive Vice President

Teen Culture Today - "Drugs, Sex, and ... Parents" November 7

This year's ever-popular and eye opening evening entitled "The Real Story: Tam Teen Panel Talks about Teen Culture Today, including Drugs, Sex and...Parents" will take place Tuesday evening, November 7, from 7-9 pm, in the Tam High School Student Center. This is an evening where Tam teens educate the parents, with no holds barred. It is not to be missed! The PTSA will have a business meeting prior to the start of this evening at 6:30 pm.

The Laramie Project: A Powerful Drama from CTE November 14-18

The first full length play of C.T.E's current season, *The Laramie Project*, directed by guest artist, John Warren, will be performed by our students in the new Daniel Caldwell Theater. The play concerns the death of a young gay man who fell victim to an anti-gay hate crime in 1998. Don't miss it. See page 10 for more details or visit C.T.E's redesigned website at ctetam.org.

Deadlines for College Applications

College application deadlines are upon us. Please contact the College and Career Placement office with any questions you might have. Susan Gertman is always available to help you and your student. See pg. 8 for information about testing dates, financial aid and much more.

Incoming 8th Grade Parents and Students:

If you have an 8th Grade student or know parents of one, please be sure to go to our website—www.tamhigh.org—to read about Tam Tours and Shadowing procedures. This is a very exciting time and we want to encourage 8th Grade parents and students to explore the excellent public education offered at Tam High.

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Spot the Light Bulb

Throughout this issue, look for this light bulb. It's there to show you that the group you are reading about is funded, at least in part, by donations to the Tam High Foundation. Thank you Tam High Foundation for lighting up this issue!



Front elevation of the new Keyser Hall, looking from the arches toward the center of campus.

Tam Patience and Hard Work Paying Off

By Sarah Lynn Schoening, Senior Director of Facilities and Modernization, TUHSD

Century-old Tamalpais High School has endured its share of construction over the last few years, and some of that hard work is now paying off.

The new Caldwell Theater has opened to rave reviews. As final "punch list" items near completion, the drama teachers and students—as well as parents and community—are proud of their cutting edge facility. With a "black box" theater, soundproof stage doors, lighting grid, and state-of-the-art sound and light scene programming, the performers and teachers now have a facility worthy of Tam's outstanding drama program.

Tamalpais High also has several new projects in design phase. Perhaps the most visible evidence of this is the gap where the original Keyser Hall was. A much-loved part of Tam's history, the old Keyser Hall was demolished this past summer because of pervasive water and mold problems. In its place will be two new buildings, also named Keyser. With 22 new classrooms, the new buildings are being designed to complement and blend in with the familiar and historic character of the Tam campus architecture. Where the new building meets the plaza by

the student center, the architects have created a more updated façade. This face has a broad, open stair sheltered by folded roof structures. "This edge wants to be a more modern backdrop to the activities near the student center," says Kevin MacQuarrie, AIA, principal of WLC Architects.

Reinforcing the new Keyser Hall complex at the heart of campus will be a new central open space at the base of the big redwood tree near the existing swimming pool. The idea is to create a gathering place for students, open a walkway through the center of campus, and give visible connection from the upper to the lower campus. This area is logically the heart of campus, and is currently obscured by the solid barrier of the pool and gyms. The new scheme will unite the campus again.

Staff and students are also looking forward to a new 40 by 25 meter pool, scheduled to begin in Summer of 2007. The pool is adjacent to the new open space, and is part of a new plan for the temporary portables area. The new plan was formulated during a design charette at the offices of WLC.

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HOME PAGE, continued

Various options are offered to prospective Tam parents and students to learn about the school, its staff, and student body. To find more information about these tours and dates please click on "About Tam" and go to "prospective students." "All About Tam" night is Monday, December 4, at 7 pm in the new theater.

Tam Girls' Teams among League's Top in Fall Sports

Under new coach Bill Washauer, the girls' tennis team is evolving into one of the elite squads in the Marin County Athletic League. More than half the kids are freshmen and sophomores, which bodes well for future seasons. For more about tennis and the rest of the Hawk's teams, see page 11.

"Every 15 Minutes" Returns

Tam High will present "Every 15 Minutes," a two-day simulation which challenges students to think about drinking, driving, personal safety, the responsibility of making mature decisions, and the impact their decisions have on family, friends and many others. This program is a very important experience for all. Read page 3 to learn how you, as a parent, can become involved.

Need more frequent information about Tam events and news?

Check the website—www.tamhigh.org and send us your e-mail—jaynegreenberg@hotmail.com. You will receive regular updates from Tam administration, foundations, parent organizations, etc.

DID YOU KNOW?

The District reading and math graduation outcomes are met with qualifying scores from the STAR test.

STAR testing is important!

All 9th –11th grade students

will be tested April 23-27, 2007.

The Whole Tam Family

PTSA President

Bonnie Freiberg 388-4785, bkfreiberg1@mac.com

PTSA Executive Vice President:

Jayne Greenberg 383-9492, jaynegreenberg@hotmail.com

Principal

Chris Holleran

Phone: 380-3510, cholleran@tamdistrict.org

Editorial Staff:

Editor: Mary Washburn

Layout: Linda Husted

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National Merit Scholars

National Merit Scholarship Corporation conducts a program that recognizes students throughout the nation for their exceptional academic promise. These students ranked in the top five percent of more than 1.4 million students who entered the 2007 competition by taking the 2005 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/MMSQT).

A National Merit Program spokesperson noted, "These students have demonstrated outstanding academic potential by their strong performance in this highly competitive program."

Tamalpais High School is very proud of these stellar students.

The Semifinalists in the 2007 Merit Scholarship Competition are:

Ariel Berman, Aoife Duffy, Kara Erickson, and John Flavin.

The following are Tam's Commended Students in the 2007 National Merit Program: **Krister Barkovich, Edward Geyer, Margaret Gorelick, Shannon Phibbs, Margot Reynolds, Henry Richardson, David Rieger, Lucy Rosenbloom, Travis Winter, and James Young.** *

News from Food Services

By Diane Deshler, Director of Food Services

The Tamalpais High School Café is on track and moving forward towards opening. Although no official opening date is set, the District is working on a daily basis to complete this project. The Food Services Department has made several changes with the food in the District since the beginning of this new school year that will become apparent when the Tam Café opens. For example, Food Services is now serving organic, whole grain bread products (sandwich bread, foccacia, etc.), some produce from local (Marin and Bay Area) farmers, Strauss organic yogurt, Barton's Bagels (from San Anselmo), and is working towards providing as many healthy, delicious, and nutritious menu items as the students will eat. As the official opening date approaches, more specific menu information will be available and parents will be able to send prepayment checks for the new computer system.

I am excited about the new Tam Café and look forward to keeping you informed of the delicious changes that will be available to Tamalpais High School.*

High School Exit Exam Info for Seniors

Seniors who have not yet passed the High School Exit Exam, English section, please take note: a workshop will be held on November 30 from 4-6 pm in the Carlisle Building at Redwood High School. The Exit Exam, English section, will be given on December 2 at the District Office. Call 380-3512 for more information.*

A Parent's Guide to Teen Parties

When your teen is giving a party:

- Plan in advance. Check party plans with your teenager; know the guest list. If you agree with who is invited, it will help you curb the "open party" situation. Be aware that some kids may show up even if the party is "closed."
- Set a time limit. Set a definite starting and ending time. Do not let it last too long. Consider daytime parties as an alternative or plan an activity such as swimming, skating or renting movies.
- Agree to rules ahead of time.
- No drugs or alcohol.
- No smoking.
- No leaving the party and then returning.
- No gate crashers allowed.
- Lights should be left on.
- Some rooms in your home should be left off limits. Know your responsibilities. The responsible adult at a teen party is visible and aware. Remember it is illegal to serve drugs, including alcohol, to minors. You are legally responsible for anything that may happen to a minor after leaving your home if he/she has been served drugs or alcohol in your home.
- Invite another parent or couple over. Other adults are company for you during a long evening and can help you with problems. It is a good idea to have about one adult to every 10-12 kids.

When your teen is going to a party:

- Call the house. Before giving consent that your teenager be allowed to attend a party, make sure there are basic rules such as parental supervision and that no alcohol will be allowed.
- Check the party plans beforehand with your teenager. Know where your child is going and with whom. When taking your teenager to a party, wait to see that he or she is inside the house. If you don't know the host parents, introduce yourself.
- Make it easy for your teenager to leave a party. Urge your teenager never to ride home with a driver who has been drinking. Have an understanding that there will be no punishment or restriction for a call letting you know that things are getting out of hand. Be available to pick up your child if he or she needs it.
- Be up to greet your teenager when he or she comes home from a party.

When parents are away and leave their teenagers at home:

- Don't allow unchaperoned parties at your home for any reason. Homeowners/parents can be held civilly responsible for problems occurring at their home.
- If parents go out of town and teenagers are left behind, parents must insist that no parties are allowed while they are away.
- Parents should notify an adult relative or neighbor to check in on their children's welfare while they are away.

- Parents should inform their adult relatives or neighbors that no parties are allowed, and leave specific information where the parent can be reached in case of emergency.
- Parents should inform their local police department that they are going to be away, that their teenagers will be home alone and no parties are allowed. *



In the early 1990s, on average, someone in the United States was killed by a drunk driver every 15 minutes. Although the implementation of new laws and emergence of groups such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) have reduced the incidence of fatal alcohol-related accidents to once every 20 minutes, this figure continues to be unacceptable.

On March 27 & 28, 2007, the students at Tamalpais High School will have the opportunity to participate in a program which may result in saving lives. In cooperation with the Mill Valley Police and Fire Departments, the California Highway Patrol, the Marin County Sheriff, Medical Examiner and Coroner, as well as numerous local businesses and private citizens, Tam High will present "Every 15 Minutes." This is a two-day simulation which challenges students to think about drinking, driving, personal safety, the responsibility of making mature decisions, and the impact their decisions have on family, friends and many others.

Every 15 Minutes was created and is sponsored by the California Highway Patrol in conjunction with a small grant which falls far short of covering the program's true expense. Pledges from the PTSA, the Tam High Site Council, and private donations will help to defray some of the costs, but additional contributions are needed to cover the full cost of this program.

Many volunteers are needed to make this program happen and we will ask for volunteers after winter break. We are asking all Tam families to help with the costs involved in providing this program to our students. Please send in your contribution. Thanks for your support!

YES, I would like to make a contribution:

Name: _____

(Please check one)

\$10 _____ \$20 _____ \$50 _____ other \$ _____

Please make check payable to Tam PTSA

Mail check & form to:

Every 15 Minutes/Tam PTSA,
700 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

TUHSD Board Update

by Bonnie Freiberg

The TUHSD Board covered quite few items of interest at its October 10 meeting. One important item was the review of the 2006 Accountability Progress Report. This report covered the Academic Performance Index (API) and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) scores that the Tamalpais Union High School District annually receives from the California Department of Education.

In Marin County this past year, some high schools improved their API scores while others declined. In comparison to other County high schools, the Tamalpais Union High School District schools have consistently been the highest performing in Marin County. This is the seventh year that schools have received API scores. All of the TUHSD comprehensive high schools are above the state's goal of 800.

The current available State Rank information is based on the 2006 Base API. Of the 1,250 schools receiving a State Rank, the three comprehensive high schools in the TUHSD are in the top rank of ten. Only 32 schools have a higher API score than Redwood High School and, of those schools, several are magnet and/or charter schools. Drake and Tamalpais High Schools are in the top 110 schools in California.

The Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) scores are the other part of the Accountability Progress Report. For 2006, there were twelve specific targets set for the Tam District within four specified areas. The District met 11 of 12 targets, the exception being the participation rate of 95% for the Special Education students in English-language Arts testing.

If you would like to see a copy of the full report or if you have questions about specific information in the report call or email Bonnie Freiberg 388-4785 bkfreiberg1@mac.com.

PLEASE NOTE:

The next meeting of the traffic and safety committee is scheduled for Tuesday, January 23 at 9 am.

Tam PTSA Meeting Agenda

November 7, 2006

6:00 p.m.

Student Center

1. Call to Order
5. Upcoming Hospitality Events
6. Campus Beautification Update
9. Approve Minutes—October 2006
10. Treasurers Report
 - a. Approval of Budget
 - b. Approval of Checks
11. Announcements
12. Teen Panel—Parent Education Program

Tam High Presents A Parent Education Evening:

The Real Story: Tam Teen Panel Talks Frankly About Teen Culture Today, including Drugs, Sex and...Parents

Tuesday, November 7

7-9 pm (following PTSA meeting at 6:30pm)

Ruby Scott Theatre

Every generation of teens has its own influences and concerns to understand and contend with. Every group of parents worries about what these influences are and how their teen will handle them. For example, in Marin County we know that drugs and alcohol use and abuse among teens are at an extremely high level. Sometimes getting information from your own adolescent is trying, sometimes it's impossible.

This unique and extraordinary evening offers a wonderful opportunity for parents to hear from Tam students about what they feel about the social world they inhabit. Bruce Chernack, MFT, Tam and New Perspectives Counselor, will, along with Yvonne Milham, beloved Tam Social Issues and Peer Resource teacher, facilitate a discussion with a panel of Tam High Peer Counselors in describing and discussing some of the challenges facing them these days.

There will be a brief presentation by Bruce Chernack and Yvonne Milham, but the bulk of the evening is given over to parents in the audience to ask very frank questions of the students and to receive very honest and frank answers in response.

This is a very special evening with students who have the courage to be forthcoming in the service of helping teen parents better understand their world from the inside out. It is an opportunity as a parent to get information and sympathy and to develop another connection to the community of students and parents that Tam High consists of.

THIS IS A FREE EVENT. NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED. IT IS AN ADULT (NOT CHILDREN OR TEENS) EVENING. BRING QUESTIONS AND RESPECT WITH YOU.

For any questions, call Gail Mason at 389-6636.

Attention Senior Parents:

Tam High Grad Night Safe & Sober Party Planning Meeting

Please come to the first planning meeting for your child's SAFE AND SOBER GRAD NIGHT 2007! We will have our first informational and volunteer seeking meeting on Tuesday, November 14, in the Library at 7 pm.

We know that everyone is busy (we are too!) but we cannot plan and execute this event without the help of many senior parents. If enough volunteers take on each committee, the event will be a success. We are looking forward to seeing you! ✪

Diggin' in the Dirt

By Gail Mason

Anyone who has come around the campus lately must have noticed all the great new benches all over the place. The benches are really sturdy and are a lovely dark color. Abundant thanks again to Kathy Lovold, Property Manager of Macherich Company of the Village at Corte Madera, for donating 37 benches to Tam. They were used in the Village before remodeling and this is the perfect recycling solution for them and a bonus for us.

Particular thanks go to Janet Buder, Tam parent, who rented a giant U-Haul and picked up the benches from the Novato storage unit and Tam alums Steven Fletcher and Kevin Grunedak who moved the benches throughout the campus.

Thanks also to all the Tam parents who weeded and mulched (and donated mulch) at the latest work party. The campus looks so much tidier when it is freshly mulched. Thanks go to Cindy and John Mccauley, Javier Alarcon and Arika Bodo, Leon Sharyon, Paula Weaver, Ann and Evan McGreevy, Helene Siegel-Fotos, David Liff, Anna and Montie Barker, Lori Brooke, and Joanne and Sonny Robinson for all their hard work and to Diane Barber and Richard Ellis, Joanne Yorio, Karen Jernsted, Kelli Tonnenson, and Patti Bertenthal for donating mulch when they couldn't make it. And particular thanks to Freshman Max Lester for painting a number of drab walls and brightening up the whole area around the Dry Garden in the process.



Parent Lori Brooke adds mulch around the shrubbery at the latest work day.

This kind of work "party" is really great and everyone benefits from all these parents' hard work. Thank you so much for volunteering. We'll have another work party in a month or so, so keep your eyes peeled for an invitation by email!

Happy Harvest season to you all. Next....the rains. ♣

TAM PATIENCE AND HARD WORK, continued

in Emeryville. The exercise involved more than a dozen people, including Tam Principal Chris Holleran, who gathered around a large plan of Tam High, and pushed around colored blocks sized to represent the pool, five new tennis courts, a basketball court, storage space, a weight room, and parking areas. When the puzzle pieces made sense, and the group approved, the layout was recorded and further developed by the architects.

The District is making progress on its long-term transition plan to make the campus accessible. As part of that plan, an exterior elevator will move people from the lower campus to the "plus 25" foot level. This "plus 25" level is a major path of travel through the campus, and is an integral part of making the campus accessible. The new elevator required much design effort and exploration of alternative locations. With the helpful input of many alumni, community members, District and Tam High staff, and city representatives, a solution was reached that locates the elevator near the primary path of travel and close to the heart of campus. The elevator is also being designed to blend with the architectural character of Tam.

Other parts of Tam included in this next phase of work will be a new drive-through drop-off area, a field house by the track and a new sports announcer's booth.

Van Pelt Construction Services will guide the construction efforts at Tam for this last bond work. The District also welcomes

Wayne Van Loon as Liaison Coordinator. Wayne is a District employee and will provide a key link between the Tam staff, the construction managers, and the District bond management team.

Completing the work will take another two and a half years, with most of the work breaking ground early next summer. District Superintendent Bob Ferguson sums up his directive for this work with two words: "Quality" and "Communication." ♣

SAVE THE DATE

*Grand Opening Celebration
Caldwell Performing Arts Center
Sunday, December 3, 2006
4 - 6 PM*

Join us for a celebration of the Performing Arts at Tam, honoring all the individuals and groups who contributed their time, talent and treasure to build this state-of-the-art facility for our school community.

Parent to Parent Connection

Dear Tam Parents:

Parent-to-Parent Connection (p2p) is a support group for parents of Tam District students with learning challenges. Our meetings feature local professionals speaking about current issues vital to parents of kids who struggle in school. We open the doors to our meetings an hour before each program for informal discussion and networking with other parents.

Your high school's p2p representative meets each month with TUHSD administrators to plan p2p programs and to voice your questions and concerns about how well the district is serving student needs. If you would like to receive e-mail notices of meetings or have comments or questions, please contact p2p@tuhsd.marin.k12.ca.us. To find who your rep is or to learn more about p2p, visit our website at www.tamdistrict.org/p2p.

Coming Up: Our next program on November 15 will showcase the five TUHSD high schools for parents of current eighth graders trying to decide which school best suits their student's needs. There is no meeting in December, but don't miss Jane McClure's always-popular presentation on college options for kids "not on the Harvard track" on January 10, 2007.

We hope to meet you at one of our meetings soon! ♣

Becky Foust Pilcher
Parent to Parent Connection (p2p) Coordinator

Upcoming p2p Meetings

*Program at 7pm, Informal parent time: 6-7pm
Kreps Conference Center
Redwood High School*

- 11/15/06 **You do have choice for high school: Which high school best suits the needs of my student?** Student and parent panels on TUHSD high school options. Handout information on Intra-district transfer policy and procedures.
(No December meeting)
- 1/10/07 **Whats next? Four-year colleges for students with learning Issues:** which ones to pick, how to get in; every thing you wanted to know about four year colleges but were afraid to ask.
- 2/14/07 **Whats next? Four year college isnt the only way: Real life options that work for kids with learning challenges**
- 3/14/07 **Broadening high school experience: Some new and non-traditional options** (TEAM, Internships, ROP, Drakes Engineering Academy, Outward Bound, Peer Counseling, Pilot Program: Teen Emergency Response Team, Construction Technology class)
- 4/18/07 **Get me outta here!** Meeting Graduation Outcome and High School Exit Exam Requirements/issues for LD kids
- 5/02/07 **Help! My kid forgets everything and is disorganized! Executive functioning problems and how to solve them** (Dr. Ellen Krantz) Also, Getting ready for a Successful High School Experience: How to develop a four year plan, tips for making the transition easier, the summer transition workshop.

High Notes

from the Music Department

GOOD NEWS! There was enough parent support at the September 27th meeting to plan the March trip to NY. So the trip is on. The Jazz Band will also be going with the Choir. It will be a wonderful opportunity for all.



The Jazz Band and Advanced Band went to the SF Jazz Festival October 17. The Advanced Band and Jazz Band Horns have been playing at all Tam home football games and played in the Homecoming parade with the "Haunted Mansion" theme. Thanks to all the THUMB volunteers for coordinating the decorations, truck and driver for the Homecoming parade, and food for the students.

THUMB NEWS

This year THUMB has a new administrative assistant, Christina Pettigrew, who serves as a liaison between THUMB and the Music Department. Although THUMB became part of the Tam High Foundation last spring, a move designed to coordinate fundraising activities, provide administrative oversight and increase parental involvement, THUMB is still a separate entity, like CTE.

The Music Dept is looking forward to placing carpet tiles, partly funded by THUMB, in Ruby Scott to greatly improve its acoustics. As always, we encourage all music parents to join THUMB to help support the music programs.

The THUMB meeting this month will be on Wednesday, November 8 at __ pm in the Band Box. There will NOT be a meeting in December so it is very important to attend this meeting to plan for the Winter Concert on December 13 where all the music classes play together. We need volunteers to help with food for the students, to serve and bring refreshments for the Concert. Music parents, please come to offer your assistance.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, December 3, from 4 to 6 pm, will be the Grand Opening Celebration for the Caldwell Performing Arts Center. Our Chamber Singers and Jazz Band will be performing. Food will be provided by Linda Rosso and Patti Bertenthal. Don't miss this Event. ♣

It Takes a Village...

By Cynthia Chiarappa

YOU'VE HEARD THE SAYING that "it takes a village to raise a child" and here at Tam, participating in the Tam High Foundation's Annual Parent Campaign, you can do your part. The Tam High Foundation has just received 28 grant requests submitted by Tam High teachers totaling over \$120,000 to expand their curriculums and "light the minds" of their students. The more money we raise, the more of their ideas become reality!

Visit www.tamhighfoundation.org to see the many ideas and programs we have funded in the past. This year we are especially excited about the variety and the enriching possibilities the current grants will bring to your students classroom.

Imagine the power generated by the many parts contributing to "lighting their minds." Together, we can provide funding for:

- Probeware Science equipment for all Physiology, Chemistry, and Math Classes
- Six Nuclear Lab Systems for all Integrated Science and Physics Classes
- Shakespearian guest artists for all 9th & 10th grade English classes
- Projectors with document cameras and opaque projector for Art Classes
- Support for the Literacy Support Collaborative within the 9th Grade English and Social Studies
- Tam News: printer, camera, computers, and voice recorders
- LCD projectors with document cameras for all Math classes
- Additional 25 Laptop computers for use in the Library

Your child can have all this and more, for about \$1 per day per child this academic year. And funds raised this year are spent this year. So give as generously as you can.

You can help! The annual campaign is on its way. Our goal is \$300,000 and 100% participation. Please complete the pledge below and see the difference you can make in your child's education.

Tam High Students Thank You for Putting Education First

Cut out and mail this pledge form to:

Tam High Foundation, 700 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

There Is Such a Thing as Free Money for Tam High!

It's Easy and Costs You Nothing! But You Must Renew Annually.

Here's how it works:

- **ESCRIP**—Participating merchants include SAFEWAY, WHOLE FOODS, MOLLIE STONE'S, MACY'S and many others. You must register your Safeway Club Card, Macy's card, debit and credit cards annually to participate. Go to escrip.com to renew, update and make sure that you are supporting Tam High, group # 137140398.
- **BELL MARKETS**—Register your Bell Market Card online today at www.ralphs.com. Go to Community Contribution, click on participant sign-up and enter the Tam High NPO number 81067.
- **MILL VALLEY MARKET'S** "Shop & Give" Program - 3% of every designated purchase will be donated to Tam High. Just let the checker know before the end of your transaction that you'd like the contribution to go to Tam High.
- **Online shopping with SCHOOLPOP.COM** - go to Schoolpop.com, select Tam High as your organization, and shop at hundreds of online sites including Nordstrom, Old Navy, Gap and eBay and a percentage of your purchases will go to Tam High. Over 250 name brand merchants participate.

Questions? Contact Joanne Robinson at 415-381-0992 for additional information or for registration or renewal help.*

TAM HIGH ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Name _____

Address _____

City & zip _____

Phone _____

Student name _____ Grade _____

I pledge: \$100 \$300 \$500 **\$1,000 (Major Donor)**

\$2,500 \$5,000 \$10,000 other _____

My company participates in a matching fund program.

THF ID#63-0385326

Please check the appropriate boxes:

My check for _____ is enclosed, payable to TAM HIGH Foundation

Charge to my credit card Visa Mastercard

Signature _____

Card # _____

charge entire amount now

charge monthly, divided now until June

charge in \$ _____ increments until pledge is met

Online Giving: www.tamhighfoundation.org

College and Career Center

Susan Gertman

Sgertman@tuhsd.marin.k12.ca.us
380-3582

Keep informed about College and Career Center events by adding your name to our email list. Send an email to sgertman@tamdistrict.org and put your students class ("junior") on the subject line. Include your students name and your email address in the text.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 15: COLLEGE PLANNING EVENING FOR JUNIORS & PARENTS.

Juniors planning to attend a two- or four-year college and their parents are invited to preview what is ahead on Wednesday, November 15, at 6:30 pm in the Student Center. The counseling staff will provide a general overview of the college admissions process and review the timeline for admissions tests, college visits, filing applications and financial aid.

NOVEMBER 29: COLLEGE OF MARIN REP TO VISIT TAM.

A College of Marin representative will come to Tam Wednesday, November 29, to talk with seniors who are thinking about attending COM next fall and to any students who may want to register for free classes there next semester. The representative will review the application process, describe the placement tests and explain how to transfer from COM to the UC and CSU systems and to private colleges.

DECEMBER 2: SOPHOMORES TAKE PLAN.

Sophomores may take the PLAN, a practice test for the ACT, on Saturday, December 2, at 8 am. PLAN tests English, math, reading, and science reasoning and includes a questionnaire on career interests. This test is good practice for the ACT, which is accepted equally with the SAT. The results are not sent to colleges and are helpful in evaluating a student's interests and performance. The PLAN is given once a year. A letter will be mailed home to all sophomore families explaining the registration procedure.

DECEMBER 12: FINANCIAL AID NIGHT.

Olga Tapia, PhD, assistant director of financial aid at UC Berkeley, will be the guest speaker at Tam's Financial Aid Night on Tuesday, December 12, at 6:30 pm. She

SAT & ACT REGISTRATION DATES

SAT 2006-2007

Test Date	Registration Deadline (Regular Fee)	Late Registration Deadline (Late Fee)
November 4	September 29	October 11
January 27	December 20	January 4
December 2	November 1	November 9
*March 10	February 2	February 14
May 5	March 29	April 11
June 2	April 27	May 9

*SAT Reasoning Test only

ACT 2005-2006

Test Date	Registration Deadline (Regular Fee)	Late Registration Deadline (Late Fee)
December 9	November 3	November 16
February 10	January 5	January 19
April 14	March 9	March 23
June 9	May 4	May 18

It is easy to register online for the SAT at www.collegeboard.com and for the ACT at www.act.org. Registration forms are also available in the College and Career Center. Register early for a convenient test site.

Students applying to the University of California and many California State University campuses must complete all testing by the December test date.

will give an overview of the financial aid process and review the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). All Tam families are welcome; seniors and their parents are especially urged to attend. The location will be announced in the December *Whole Tam Family*.

The FAFSA and GPA Verification Form for Cal Grants will be available in the College and Career Center in December. Parents who want a head start on the FAFSA may apply online now for a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov. The PIN will serve as your electronic signature when you apply online in January. The FAFSA web address is www.fafsa.ed.gov. The website for the Financial Aid PROFILE, used by many private colleges, is www.profileonline.collegeboard.com. The Profile may be submitted now.

Each week the College and Career Center posts online an updated list of scholarships. The list, called the Green Sheet, includes local, general and school specific scholarships. The Green Sheet is also available in the Career Center.

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

November 30 is the application deadline for all UC campuses and for CSU campuses at Fullerton, Long Beach, Pomona, San Diego, San Luis Obispo and Sonoma. November 30 is also the priority or first consideration deadline for all other CSU campuses. Make a copy of all completed applications for your files. UC and CSU strongly prefer online applications. The CSU application is available at www.csumentor.edu. To apply to the UC, go to www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply.

Continued on next page

School to Career

Fall Internship News

Students who applied for the Fall Internship Program began their internships this month and are beginning to learn more about their specific career fields of interest. The Fall Internship Program began on October 2 and will continue through November 30. Students are required to work a minimum of six hours per week for a total of eight weeks.

Interns from Tam High were placed in the following organizations:

- Youth Give, a youth-led philanthropic organization.

Camille Borgo, School to Career Liaison
College and Career Center
cborgo@tamdistrict.org

- The Environmental Education Council of Marin - Teen Environmental Media Network.
- Marin General Hospital—Electrocardiography and Radiology Departments.
- Marin County District Attorney and Public Defender - Criminal Investigations.
- Generation Chefs—A youth-led culinary program.
- AIM—The Academy of Integrated Humanities and New Media

Redwood High School (415)945-3604
Tamalpais High School (415) 380-3558

Other School to Career Services and News

As the School to Career Liaison for Tamalpais High School, I am available in the College and Career Center on Wednesdays and Fridays 7:45 am - 4 pm and Thursdays 7:45-11:30 am. I am available to assist students with internship placement and preparation, provide students with job shadows, and help students with finding informational interviewing opportunities. I also assist students with resume writing, interviewing skills, and participation in other organized career exploration events and activities.★

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER, continued

Each year UC computers are jammed during the last few days of the filing period. UC and CSU accept no excuses for late filing. File your applications early and relax over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Help with applications is available throughout November in the College and Career Center. The Center has a guide to the UC application, as well as paper copies of the Common Application and applications for other public and private colleges.

COLLEGE VISITS

Representatives from Bard (NY), Bates (ME), Colby (ME), St. Mary's College of California, University of Connecticut and University of Oregon will visit Tam this month. All interested students are invited to attend. The list of college visits is updated weekly and is available online at <http://www.tamhigh.org>.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Is your student passionate about the environment, helping those less fortunate or promoting the arts? The College and Career Center has a list of community service opportunities to satisfy nearly every desire to get involved and help the community. In addition to the list, which is also online, the Career Center receives

frequent requests for volunteers to help staff special events.

ROP CONSTRUCTION CLASS

Interested in the building trades? The County's Regional Occupational Program's construction class will begin Wednesday, January 17, at Redwood High School. The course covers foundation, flooring, framing, plumbing, electrical, sheet rock, windows, doors, cabinetry, roofing, blueprint reading and use of hand tools. Master craftsmen will give demonstrations and there will be construction projects and employment opportunities. The class is held from 5-9 pm. An added bonus: dinner is provided. Call 449-5860 for more information.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH: **finaid.org**

Finaid.org provides financial aid calculators that allow families to estimate their expected contribution for public and private colleges. There is also information about scholarships, grants, loans and military aid.★

On the Shelf

Mill Valley Public Library

Here's what's happening in November for teens at the Mill Valley Public Library. Remember, events at the library are always FREE. "Live Homework Help" is a free online service powered by tutor.com that connects students with professional tutors for help in math, science, social studies, and English. On Thursday, November 2, from 7-8 pm, we will demonstrate the service and show how students and tutors connect and chat online using library computers, or from home.

Then on Wednesday, November 15, from 7-8:30 pm, Shannon Myers, Executive Director of *Beyond Hunger*, will address issues of "Body Image and the Media" in a discussion for teens. For more information about programs and services for teens at the Mill Valley Public Library, contact Donna Brown at 389-4292 x125 or email dbrown@cityofmillvalley.org. ★

The Laramie Project: A Powerful Drama from CTE, November 14-18

By Sam Congdon, CTE Student

AS THE NEW CALDWELL THEATRE nears the final stages of completion, CTE will present the first full length play of the season, *The Laramie Project*, directed by guest artist, John Warren, who has previously developed several original documentary plays with CTE students from stories within the Mill Valley and Bay Area communities. Though Mr. Warren has never directed this particular play before, it is a work that helped model the prior work he did with CTE students. *The Laramie Project* concerns the death of Matthew Shepard, a young gay man who fell victim to an anti-gay hate crime

in 1998. The play is a collage of real interviews, conducted and edited by Moisés Kaufman and the members of Tectonic Theatre Company.

In the aftermath of the incident, the Tectonic Theatre Company traveled from New York to Laramie, Wyoming several times, conducting over two hundred interviews with the residents of the town. Once the company members had gathered enough interviews, they returned to New York where they stitched the interviews together, augmenting them with journal entries, court transcripts, and other sources. Once the edited show was complete, Tectonic Theatre Company performed the show, usually as the characters they had previously interviewed, during a run in New York. Among the audience members was John Warren. He was so struck by the performance that he returned to attend the show a second time. Since then, Warren has wanted to direct the show himself.

Last year, Warren approached CTE program directors Ben Cleaveland and Susan Brashear with a request to do a production of *The Laramie Project* at Tam. Ben and Susan agreed. Rehearsals began in September. Before diving into the script, a lot needed to be discussed, such as what the cast wanted to get from the production, issues of homosexuality and homophobia, and whom the play would reach. Given the gravity of the subject matter as well as the potential impact the show could have, this was an important foundation period for the ensemble. The group watched films, such as the *Not In Our Town* PBS series, and *The Gwen Arraujo Story*. Speakers from the gay rights group, Spectrum, came in for a discussion with the ensemble. The cast members did outside research on issues surrounding the play, and each conducted an interview to better understand the process of question drafting, interviewing, and transcription. A month into the process, the cast began rehearsing the play.

Fourteen CTE students will play the multitude of roles in the play. The ensemble hopes that the show becomes an open environment in which issues of homophobia can be discussed. Following performances, talkbacks with the director and cast will be a part of the experience. Plays that encourage discussion within a community are part of the documentary theatre process. *The Laramie Project* plays in Tam High's new Daniel Caldwell Performing Arts Center from November 14 to 18. For further information regarding performance times and prices, go to www.ctetam.org. CTE's new box office number is 380-3535.

Be sure to mark you calendars for the celebration Dec. 3 for the dedication of the new Daniel Caldwell Performing Arts Center. Many activities are planned from both CTE and Tam's Music Program. Current and alumni students and parents are expected to be in attendance as well as many community members. Look for more news at the new CTE website: www.ctetam.org that Kristin Meuser, a CTE parent, has recently completely revamped. Check it out! ✦

Leadership News

By Peter Berkhout



NOVEMBER USUALLY BRINGS a period of relative calm for the activities planning part of the Leadership class. After a series of successful class and whole-school events in October, we can use the break!

Our class events from October were the freshman candy-gram sales, which were a huge success, selling over 800 candy-grams, a senior trash-a-thon, which raised just over \$1,000, and the sophomore class carwash, which netted nearly \$500. The juniors also began selling class T-shirts. The fall blood drive on October 9 brought in over 60 units of blood for the Blood Centers of the Pacific, near our fall record-setting drive last year. Way to go Tam students and staff! October 20 was the first Scary Movie Night in Ruby Scott Gym, attended by about 35 students. October 20 also kicked off the Homecoming festivities with our Homecoming Rally in Mead Theater. Hall Decorations on the 23rd of October were a rousing success. Teachers, administrators, and students alike all were overheard commenting that they hadn't seen anything like it in years. Kudos to the senior class for their winning Fantasyland motif.

We only have two whole-school events planned in November. The first is Thanksgiving Pie Day, scheduled for Friday, November 17. Last year we counted on parents, staff, and students to come up with nearly 160 pies for free distribution to the student body as a celebration in the spirit of giving thanks. Please contact me at pberkhout@tamdistrict.org if you're interested in contributing a pie this year!

Also, don't forget our new joint fundraiser with the PTSA, Tam Holiday Tree sales! If you're planning on buying a Christmas tree, please consider buying it from us. Trees must be preordered by November 15, and picked up from Tam the weekend of December 9 and 10. Order forms will be available online soon. You can also purchase a tree to be donated to a needy family in the Tam area! See the website for details. Thanks for supporting Tam ASB! ✦

By Tom Davey

Tam's Tennis Teams Take on Aussies in Fundraiser

THIRTY JUNIOR TENNIS PLAYERS from The Peninsula School of Melbourne, Australia, competed with thirty Tam players in a fundraising event earlier this Fall, generating \$4,000 to buy new uniforms for Tams' girls' team and host a tournament and barbeque.

The September 27th event took place at the Mill Valley Tennis Club and resulted in 68 wins for each side. A mixed doubles super tiebreaker gave the Marin players the victory over the Aussie team.

Donna Bohegian, Tam's assistant tennis coach, coordinated the event with the United States Tennis Association. Tam families hosted the Australian kids. Thanks in large part to several corporate sponsors, the local tennis community (including Polo Cowan, the Eisenharts, the Foleys and the Steinbergs to name a few) pulled off the successful fundraiser. The sponsors were Martorana Bohegian & Co., BioDiesel Inc., Mag Tech Australia, Merriman Ford, Brad Gilbert Tennis Nation, Outback Steakhouse and Mill Valley Tennis Club. ♣

Tam Girls' Teams among League's Top in Fall Sports

THE HAWKS GIRLS' TENNIS TEAM is evolving into one of the elite squads in the Marin County Athletic League under new coach Bill Washauer. After finishing 5-9 in 2004 and 7-7 last year, this season's team is headed toward the playoffs with an 8-4 league record as of our October 20 deadline.

Although the team has no superstars, it has plenty of depth throughout its ranks in both singles and doubles play. More than half the kids are freshmen and sophomores, which bodes well for future seasons. And several of the eight freshmen on the team already have been big contributors.

Washauer, who was assistant coach the last two seasons and has a daughter on the team, is proud of the Hawks' tough play this season over nemesis Redwood, which has been a thorn in the side of many of Tam's athletic teams in recent years. Although Redwood won their recent match, two super tiebreakers were needed.

The Hawks No. 1 singles player is sophomore Ariel Sultan. In the No. 2 slot is Janet Rumsey, a junior. Freshman Emily Prescott is usually No. 3.

In the four through six positions are freshman Haley Bronstein, junior Fatima Hansia and sophomore Katie Brigham. Those three combined have won 27 of their 34 matches so far this season.

In girls' golf, Junior Angie Funnel and Senior Laura Reed put in stunning rounds at the MCALs last month, both qualifying to advance to the North Coast Sectionals. The Hawks girls' golf team headed to the MCALS in third place with an 11-5 record. That group also has shown big improvement from three wins in 2004 and seven wins last year.

Equally impressive is the girls' volleyball team under coach Tristen Voget, which finished the 2004 season at 2-12 and marginally made



On the courts—The Peninsula School of Melbourne, Australia, with Tam Girls and Boys Tennis Teams

the playoffs last year. Now, the team is in third place with a 6-3 league record (8-4 overall) and has a good shot at landing a high seed in the playoffs, which start November 7. Top players include seniors Susan Jacobson, Whitney Hood and Kaitlan Cressman.

Girls' water polo, also in third place with a 6-2 record, is assured a playoff spot and possibly a berth in the North Coast Section tournament. Moreover, the team has beaten Redwood both times they faced each other. Among the league leaders in scoring, assists and steals are senior Katie Jewett, juniors Aoife Duffy and Katie Schlueter, sophomore Amelia Harvey, and freshman Erin Schlueter.

Although cross country coach Sylvia Goodman calls this a rebuilding year, the Hawks are in great shape with a relatively young group. The boys are currently in third place with a 5-1 record and the girls are in fourth at 4-2. Top runners on the boys' team include seniors Nick LaPlant and Martin Langeveld and sophomore Cory Rand. The girls' top runner is senior Emilie Olson.

After winning the MCAL crown last year then losing several key players to graduation, the boys' soccer team is rebuilding, finishing this season at 4-8-1 in league play. Tam finished in seventh place, just one spot shy of making the six-team MCAL playoffs.

The boys' water polo team, led by senior Zach Niesen, is 2-5. The football team, which has been plagued by a rash of injuries, is 0-5. Also due to injuries, the JV football team disbanded and the remaining players joined the varsity squad. The freshmen football team is currently 2-3. ♣

Etcetera

BASKETBALL AND WRESTLING tryouts will be November 6. Students must turn in their permission slips to athletic director Gene Ng before that date.

Tam Boosters will conduct our annual holiday wreath sale to fund equipment and field upgrades for our three baseball teams. The 24-inch noble fir wreaths are decorated with golden incense cedar, juniper berries and clusters of ponderosa pinecones. Baseball players will sell the wreaths for \$30 in front of Mill Valley Market on Saturday and Sunday December 2 and 3 from 10 am to 4 pm. ♣



PTSA

Tamalpais High School

700 Miller Avenue

Mill Valley, CA 94941

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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MILL VALLEY, CA 94941

NOVEMBER 2006

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time/Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
1	8 AM-12:35 PM – MINIMUM DAY	
1	7:30 PM – BOOSTERS MEETING	LIBRARY
6	CLASSES WILL FOLLOW A FRIDAY SCHEDULE DUE TO NOV 10 HOLIDAY	
7	6:30-7 PM – PTSA MEETING 7-9 PM – TEEN PANEL	STUDENT CENTER
7	7 PM – TUHSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOX
8	7 PM – THUMB MEETING	
10	VETERANS DAY – NO SCHOOL	
14	7 PM – GRAD NIGHT PLANNING MEETING	LIBRARY
14-18	7:30 PM – CTE PRESENTS "THE LARAMIE PROJECT"	DANIEL CALDWELL THEATRE
15	6:30 PM – COLLEGE PLANNING NIGHT FOR JUNIORS AND PARENTS	STUDENT CENTER
15	7 PM – P2P MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
17	NOON – PIE DAY	GUS GYM
21	7 PM – TUHSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
23-34	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL	
DECEMBER 2006		
2	H.S. EXIT EXAM ENGLISH SECTION TEST FOR SENIORS	TBA
3	4-6 PM – GRAND OPENING	DANIEL CALDWELL THEATRE
4	8:45 AM – PTSA MEETING WITH SPEAKER LINDEN BERRY FROM NEW PERSPECTIVES	TBA
4	7 PM – "ALL ABOUT TAM" FOR 8 TH GRADERS & PARENTS	DANIEL CALDWELL THEATRE