


**BearNotes 11/10/08**

Sunday, November 9, 2008 9:30 PM

**From:** "M-A PTA BearNotes Team" <bearnotes@mabearspta.org>  
**To:** debv1@yahoo.com

## MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL BEARNOTES

PUBLISHED BY M-A PTA  
 NOVEMBER 10, 2008



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### CALENDAR

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Monday, November 10** - Outreach Drive Kick-offs (see [article](#))
- **Monday, November 10** - 8th Grade Information Night, 6:00-8:30 p.m., Ayers Gym, NOTE DATE CHANGE (see [article](#))
- **Tuesday, November 11** - **Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL**
- **Friday, November 14** - *M-A Fall Play, The Mousetrap* (See [article](#) for times)
- **Friday, November 14** - Author Francisco Jimenez speaks at the Menlo Park Library, 7 p.m.(see [article](#))
- **Friday, November 14** - 2nd Quarter progress report period ends
- **Saturday, November 15** - Campus Tours (see [article](#))
- **Monday, November 17** - Cutoff for submission of Athletic participation paperwork
- **Tuesday, November 18** - Minimum Day #3
- **Thursday, November 20** - Fall Sports Award Night, 7 p.m. in Ayers Gym (see [article](#))

### PTA

#### Not Getting BearNotes?

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)


**Did you miss the Fashion Show?** Do you need to see your talented senior modeling again? Do the grandparents need a DVD? Don't worry, it's not too late to order your copy of the fashion show DVD. Find forms on the [PTA website](#) and order yours now!

We will be handing out Fashion Show DVDs at lunch Wednesday, November 12 on "the green." You can also purchase DVDs at that time. If you cannot make it Wednesday, the DVDs will be available in the front office for pick-up until the end of November.

We are pleased to announce that that PTA raised about **\$45,000** from the Fashion Show. We appreciate all who helped and/or attended.

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### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### ESL TUTORS - WE NEED YOU!

A few more tutors are needed because of additional students and changes in our tutors' schedules. Could you help a M-A student once a week? The students and teachers really need YOU! No foreign language or prior tutoring experience required; the teachers will tell you all you need to know to tutor. Contact Linda Fornaciari at [laderalinda@mac.com](mailto:laderalinda@mac.com).

Available times to tutor:

Wednesdays 7:50 - 9:25 a.m. Help several ESL 2 students with reading and writing

1:45 - 3:20 p.m. A new student needs one-on-one reading help

Thursdays 9:40 - 11:20 a.m. Help either several ESL 2 students with reading and writing or help one new ESL 1 student with beginning English

THANK YOU! You can make a world of difference!

**CANNED FOOD DRIVE.** The canned food drive needs assistance. The drive needs food sorters and delivery drivers. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Karen Armstrong ([strong\\_ones@msn.com](mailto:strong_ones@msn.com), or at 704-7285). Also, see the [article](#) below.

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### M-A ADMINISTRATION

#### Upcoming Events for 8th Graders!

**8th Grade Information Night:** (DATE CHANGE!) Monday, November 10, 6:00-8:30 p.m., Ayers Gym. This event is an opportunity for interested parents and students to meet members of the school community including students, parents, faculty, and administrators. Matthew Zito, Alice Kleeman, and several M-A students will speak about the diverse, supportive, and academically rigorous environment that can be found at M-A. Afterwards, families will be invited to rotate through various classrooms so they can learn more about the school's excellent academic programs.

**Campus Tours:** Saturday, November 15, 10:00 a.m.-11:30\* a.m. Meet outside the Library (See [Campus Map](#)). These tours are informal outdoor walks led by M-A Leadership students who will share their enthusiasm for the school and answer questions in small groups. Middle school students and their parents are invited. \*Last tour will depart at 11:15 a.m.

**Student Shadowing:** Please contact Kelly Todd at 322-5311, x5250 or [ktodd@seq.org](mailto:ktodd@seq.org) to schedule a date.

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO M-A SCHOLARS.** By Steve Lippi, Instructional Vice Principal

The National Merit Scholarship Program recognizes students throughout the country for superior scores achieved on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) taken in October of their junior year. Approximately 1.5 million students nationwide participate annually. The top two percent of students are given the designation, Commended Scholars. At Menlo-Atherton, the following students have been so designated: Sarah Carp, William Cohen, Peter DeFillips, Mark

Frankle, Emily Goldberg, Haley Hoech, Hideyo Kameda, Tiffany Kung, Mikalie Lai, Jeff Leanse, Brittany Margot, Nora Ng-Quinn, Haley O'Neel, Sheri Park, Julia Ransohoff, Nicole Scherm, Jay Slavik, Emily Van Rheenen, and Neil Watters.

Students who score in the top one percent nationwide on the PSAT are designated National Merit Semifinalists, and Menlo-Atherton has another very large group who have earned this recognition: Alex Amato, Daniel Chao, Cameron Cogan, Nick Felt, Tamara Hasoon, Thomas Ivy, Christopher Kelvie, Gregory Liggett, Laura Mitchell, Rishikesh Santhanam, Jessica Schwab, Adin Vaeworn, and Robert Weber. Students in this group will compete for scholarship money - the winners will be announced next spring. In addition, the National Merit Program provides special recognition awards, also based on PSAT scores: The National Achievement Scholarship Program recognizes outstanding Black American high school students. M-A's Russell Perkins has been named a semifinalist for this award, representing the top 1% nationwide of students in this category. The National Hispanic Recognition Program awards Hispanic/Latino students who have scored in the top 1% of this group nationwide. At M-A, Nadia Saad and Uriel Hernandez have been so recognized.

We are extremely proud of all these students, and pleased that their hard work and dedication have been recognized at the national level.

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#### ACTIVITIES AND CLUB NEWS

**DRAMA CLUB.** Catch one last performance of the M-A fall play, *The Mousetrap*, by Agatha Christie, Friday, November 14 at 7 p.m., in Room C-16. Staff and students are \$5, Adults are \$8. For questions, contact Mandy Peoples at [apeoples@seq.org](mailto:apeoples@seq.org).

**HOLIDAY OUTREACH.** M-A clubs, people in the community, parents, neighbors, and businesses come together each year to make Holiday Gift a success by either offering direct donations to subsidize purchases, by adopting families and buying the gifts for them, or by donating items for which we will arrange appropriate recipients. Outreach has a goal of assisting 50 families this year. Please consider helping us out in any way that you can -- Contact Ms. Breen at [mbreen@seq.org](mailto:mbreen@seq.org) or stop by G-4 with anything you have to offer. The project will run through the first week in December, in conjunction with the Canned Food Drive organized by Leadership. Thank you and Happy Holidays!

**CANNED FOOD DRIVE KICK-OFF.** This Monday we will create opportunities for all students (and their families) to join in a truly unique service experience. Our whole school will come together **as one** to support our community. It is amazing (but not unexpected) that all M-A Bears will work together to better themselves while assisting people in our community. When one gives, one truly receives. We are not just freshmen, or sophomores, juniors or seniors; leadership students or drama students; water polo players or mash it up dancers...we cannot be defined by any one factor, as we are all **BEARS!!!** Join in the spirit and service by working side by side in the M-A canned food drive. Unity will prevail....I am an M-A Bear and I approve this message. Brought to you by Andy Stuart.

Leadership will also accept cash donations. Cash donations are used for bulk purchases of perishable items. For such donations, contact Karen at [feedourfamilies@mabearspta.org](mailto:feedourfamilies@mabearspta.org). **Additional assistance is needed with this project. Please see the article in the [November TRIVOCIS](#).**

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#### COMMUNITY NEWS

**Author Francisco Jimenez speaks at the Menlo Park Library.** The event is sponsored by Kepler's and benefits the Peninsula College Fund. (See [link](#) for a full description).

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## ATHLETICS



### All the Scores and More!

(Click [Here](#) for This Week's Calendar)

**FALL SPORTS AWARDS NIGHT.** Produced and sponsored by the M-A Boosters, the Fall Sports Awards Night is an event that honors all Fall athletes for their season's accomplishments. This entertaining event, highlighted by the popular M-A Sports Slide Show will be held on Thursday, November 20, at 7 p.m. in Ayers Gym. All athletes, parents and fans are invited to attend!

**CROSS COUNTRY.** PAL Finals were last Thursday at Crystal Springs. Mike Hester was the frosh/soph league champion with the frosh/soph team taking a close second to Carlmont for the league team championship. Julia Vitale placed 2nd in the frosh/soph girls race with a time of 20:18 and Jarrod Nixon made the all-time fastest M-A list at Crystal Springs with a time of 16:52 for varsity. The varsity team will be advancing to CCS at Toro Park next weekend.

**FOOTBALL.** The varsity football team won another nail-biter 21-20 over South San Francisco and have secured at least a share of the PAL title for the second year in a row. Quarterback Turner Baty completed a touchdown pass to Russell Perkins, Rod Nash had a great 43-yard TD run and Will Preston rushed for the third touchdown. Come out and support your Bears this Saturday as they play their final PAL game against Woodside and help celebrate senior day. The JV football team defeated South San Francisco 26-7 with another strong game. Leo Tovo scored two touchdowns, one on an interception return and the other on a rushing touchdown. Zach Klein also scored a touchdown and the defense held another opponent to only one touchdown.

**GIRLS WATERPOLO.** The Bears successfully defended their PAL tournament title by defeating Castilleja, 7-6 in an exciting championship game. Castilleja started the attack with two early goals, but the Bears matched those and then never looked back. Goalie Emily Dorst had another aM-Azing performance, blocking a 5-meter penalty shot to protect the lead. Congrats to Becca Dorst for a well-deserved encore honorable mention as Palo Alto Weekly's player of the week! The Bears will spend the week sharpening their game, then step up to the CCS quarterfinals on Saturday. M-A U-KNOW!

**GIRLS JV WATERPOLO.** It was a storybook ending for the Girls J-V Water Polo this past weekend as they ended their season with three decisive victories over St. Francis (8-3), Castilleja (12-2) and Palo Alto (9-4) in the final match of the Tournament. Afterward, Coach Lara said, "This was a great season and it was especially nice with us winning our Division and going undefeated in this season-ending tournament. I can honestly say that everyone on the team contributed to the success. We had great sophomore leadership and inspired play from our talented freshman."

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## BEARNOTES SUBMISSION INFORMATION

- Email submissions to [your BearNotes Team](#) by Thursday noon, spellcheck/proofread them first, and format them in Arial 10 pt.
- Please keep submissions **concise**, and include the organization name, event, date, time, location, and contact info, including web site URL.

- All submissions are subject to editing by the PTA.
- For the PTA policy on BearNotes publication, please go to the [M-A PTA web site](#).

Menlo-Atherton PTA does not endorse third-party events or submissions, nor take responsibility regarding the content of any third-party websites.

### Go Bears. Grrrr!

Your BearNotes Team  
M-A High School PTA BearNotes

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