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Sunday, December 14, 2008 7:00 PM

From: "Menlo Atherton PTA" <m-apta@seq.org>
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 BearNotes 12/15/08.eml (65KB)

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From: "M-A PTA BearNotes Team" <bearnotes@mabearspta.org>
To: m-apta@seq.org

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL BEARNOTES

**PUBLISHED BY M-A PTA
 DECEMBER 15, 2008**


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QUICK WEB LINKS

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 M-A College & Career Center
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 Comunicado
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CALENDAR
UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Monday December 15** - Regular day ends 12:35 p.m., 7° final 1:15 to 3:15 p.m.
- **Tuesday, December 16** - 1° and 2° finals, 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- **Wednesday, December 17** - 3° and 4° finals, 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- **Thursday, December 18** - 5° and 6° finals, 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- **Friday, December 19 through Tuesday, January 6** - Winter Break, NO SCHOOL
- **Monday, December 31** - the Foundation 500 Challenge Deadline (see [article](#))
- **Wednesday, January 7** - School resumes. Regular day, no block schedule. Class schedules distributed 7:15 and 8:30 a.m., Gym
- **Wednesday, January 7** - College Financial Aid Night for *senior families*, 7:30 p.m., Library and Career Center (see [article](#))
- **Thursday, January 8** - regular day, no block schedule

SAVE THE DATE

- **Friday, January 30** - Winter Formal, 8 p.m. to midnight at the Decathlon Club (see [article](#))
- **Wednesday, February 4** - Parent Education Special Event, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., M-A (see [article](#))

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you from the PTA, Student Support Services, and the M-A Administration for the very generous donations of

gift certificates for internal student outreach. Over \$600 in \$10 gift certificates have been collected from Safeway, Target, and Walgreens. They will be given to M-A students in need throughout the school year. These gifts can work miracles in changing the day of a student. Happy Holidays to all!

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE



WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Please help the Foundation raise \$1,100,000 for M-A.

I can only make a small gift. Should I bother?

Yes! While some M-A families are able to contribute large amounts, the great majority cannot. Last year, we received gifts ranging from \$20 to \$20,000. Every one of these donations is equally appreciated!

When should I make my Foundation gift?

Today! If you give \$500 more than last year before December 31st, you can be part of the **Foundation 500 Challenge** and help us earn a special \$50,000 bonus. Even if you cannot participate in the Challenge, you can receive tax benefits in the 2008 year.

How do I make a gift to the Foundation?

It's easy! Visit <http://www.m-afoundation.org/donate.php> to give on-line, or mail a check payable to "M-A Foundation for the Future" to P.O. Box 1228, Menlo Park, CA 94026.

Other questions? Please contact Cindy Folker, Director of Development at cfolker@seq.org or (650) 322-5311 x 5206.

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COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

The **College Financial Aid Night** for senior families will be held on Wednesday, January 7, at 7:30 p.m. The event will be in English in the library; RSVP to Alice Kleeman at aakleeman@aol.com or 322-5311 x 5141. The event will be held on the same evening in Spanish in the Career Center; RSVP to Greg Baumann at gbaumann@seq.org or 322-5311 x 5125.

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ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

Outreach Club Holiday Gift Drive

Outreach "reached out" this holiday season to support families in the M-A community. Outreach's Holiday Gift Drive was a huge success, with Outreach students, school departments, clubs, teachers, and parents adopting Menlo-Atherton families. Their support helped to fulfill 39 families' wish lists and help brighten their holiday season. **We would like to extend a special thank you to all those who donated to make our gift drive a success.**

Outreach worked closely with the Leadership Canned Food Drive and with their help delivered the gifts with their boxes of food. The Outreach club is proud of its efforts this season, working as a team to bring cheer to families of our school, and knowing that we made an important difference through the process of reaching out to others.

Outreach Club "Project Backpack" Donations

Outreach is working with the Menlo-Atherton community to collect donations for Project Backpack. In its 11th year, Project Backpack is a community service program designed to allow Menlo-Atherton students to interact with and assist the homeless on the streets of San Francisco. **Each year M-A's Outreach collects donations of backpacks or small duffel bags and fills them with gently used scarves, gloves hats, warm clothes as well as new toothbrushes, toothpaste, soaps, shampoos and other toiletries or health supplies.** On Friday, January 23, after school, approximately 50 students will distribute the packs in the Tenderloin district along with cookies, hot chocolate, and a list of resources in the area that provide additional services to help people get off the streets. **This event is the highlight of many Outreach members' service careers in high school.** Please look through your closets for backpacks and warm clothes or bring the complimentary hotel shampoos that are sitting on your back shelf to the Career Center. Questions? Email student Eric Siegel at outreach@mabearspta.org or stop by an Outreach meeting Mondays at lunch in G-4, all students are welcome to be a part of Project Backpack!

Winter Formal Dance

The **Winter Formal will be held on Friday, January 30, 8:00 p.m- midnight at the Decathlon Club**, 3250 Central Expressway, Santa Clara.

For information including ticket prices and guest passes, visit B-21 or check out page 15 of the [December issue](#) of the TriVocis.

Kelly L. Todd, ktodd@seq.org, Co-Activity Director

Menlo-Atherton AVID Fundraiser

The intrepid Menlo-Atherton High AVID team has another great fundraiser: **Spas for a Cause!** Enjoy up to \$300 of spa services during four individual visits for only \$65 total at participating Northern California Spas such as Inspiration Day Spa in Menlo Park, Derma Bella in Redwood City, or Embody Wellness Spa in Mountain View. AVID will receive \$15-\$20 of every \$65 spa card purchase. Go to theleanorgroup.com and make sure Menlo-Atherton High AVID is selected from the Fundraising pull down menu. When you are done shopping, check out and provide an AVID student or teacher name in the referred by box. Your gift card will arrive within 7 business days or fewer. If you have questions or comments, please email AVID teacher Rachel Andres, at randres@seq.org. Thank you!

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PTA



2008-09 Menlo-Atherton Parent Education Series

SPECIAL EVENT! Lloyd Thacker, Founder of The Education Conservancy and Editor of *College Unranked: Ending the College Admissions Frenzy*

Wednesday, February 4, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Menlo-Atherton High School

Mark your calendars! The PTA Parent Education Series invites parents, students, and staff of M-A to a special presentation by Lloyd Thacker, nationally acclaimed lecturer and founder of The Education Conservancy. The Education Conservancy is a nonprofit organization that works with leaders in higher education to make the college admission system more appropriate for

students, families, schools and colleges. For more information, visit the Education Conservancy at www.educationconservancy.org. "Let us reclaim college admissions as an educational process..." (Lloyd Thacker) Space is limited! Please RSVP to Charlene Margot, Co-Chair of M-A Parent Education, parenteducation@mabearspta.org or call 650.868.0590.

All Parent Education Series offerings are FREE and open to the community, sponsored by the Menlo-Atherton PTA.

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ATHLETICS



All the Scores and More!
(Click [here](#) for This Week's Calendar)

Varsity Girls Soccer. M-A's Varsity Girls Soccer team placed third in the Lemoore Lady Tiger's Cup Tournament in Lemoore, CA on December 5-6. The team put together an impressive scoring show winning three of their four matches, (M-A v. Reedley High 2-0; M-A v. Exeter High 4-0; and M-A v. Lemoore High 3-1). In their third match against Tulare High, the Bears got to a slow start on an extremely cold and foggy morning, letting in an early goal. But they rebounded out shooting Tulare 14 to 7 and pressed hard into the second half, nevertheless losing 2-3.

Tulare went on to win the tournament. Gillian Collom was the leading scorer with 4 goals and 3 assists for the tourney, with Vanessa Renkel right on her heels with 3 goals and one assist. This brings the Bears to an overall 4-3-1 record on the year, with the season openers against San Mateo and Burlingame this past week.

Boys Tennis. All boys who are planning on joining the Boys Tennis Team in late January must pick up an Athletic Packet from Aubrey Orcutt's desk in the Main Office if you have not already done so for another sport. Alternatively, you may download the forms from the MAHS website [here](#). The forms must be completed and cleared by the school in order for you to be eligible to practice. It requires a physical which can take some time to schedule, so it is very important to start the process ASAP.

Anyone new to the team who missed the tennis meeting this past Monday should e-mail Coach Carlos at caguilar@cbnorcal.com with contact information which should include parent's and son's e-mail address, home and cell numbers as well as home address.

There will be a final pre-season meeting after Winter Break.

Basketball. Congratulations to the Frosh/Soph boys basketball team for placing third in the Burlingame tournament. The team defeated Menlo 42-34, but then lost to Sacred Heart Prep 33-29. In the final game the Bears beat Burlingame 43-40. Christian Perkins was the leading scorer with 15 points.

The boys varsity basketball team finished third in the Los Gatos tournament last week. On Wednesday, M-A defeated Leland 45 to 44 with Peter DeFilipps scoring 21 and Jeff Keller scoring 10. On Thursday, M-A lost to Pioneer 54 to 43 with Sam Knapp scoring 17. On Friday, M-A defeated Los Gatos 54 to 47 with Keller scoring 18. Knapp and Marquise Tolson both had double doubles with Knapp scoring 15 and pulling down 13 boards and Tolson scoring 10 and grabbing 10 rebounds.

Wrestling. In preseason action, the Varsity wrestling team fell to a more experienced Palo Alto squad last Thursday. Three wrestlers won their matches: senior Sam Pierce and freshman Stephen Gregory won by pins, and senior Matt Fitzgerald won by a score of 17 to 2.

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BEARNOTES SUBMISSION INFORMATION

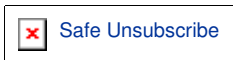
- Email submissions to [your BearNotes Team](#) by Thursday noon, spellcheck/proofread them first, and format them in Arial 10 pt.
- Please keep submissions **concise**, and include the organization name, event, date, time, location, and contact info, including web site URL.
- All submissions are subject 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,
Julie Brody, Kris De Lisle, and Pam Stoner
M-A High School PTA BearNotes

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