

## Historic Mosaics Readied for a New Home

by Judith Wilson, Tam Alumni Association Art Restoration Committee Member



Jantine Neuwirth

Jantine Neuwirth has done a miraculous thing. An art conservator and Tam parent, she has been diligently at work beneath Benefield Hall since the spring, bringing

back to life two massive outdoor stone tesserae mosaics dating from the 1930s that once flanked an outdoor stage at Mead Theater. Approximately 13 feet high by 6.5 feet wide, the mosaics, made of 3/4-inch tessera pieces of varied grays, terra cotta and blue grouted in cement, weigh about a ton and a half each.

William Jurgen Hesthal (1908-1985), a noted painter, lithographer and etcher, created the mosaics as a project of the Works Progress Administration's Federal Art Project in the 1930s. They were a feature of the Mead Theater stage until the mid-1970s, when the stage was demolished because it was unsafe.

When Jantine first saw the mosaics, they had been stored in a garage for 37 years under terrible conditions.

"Moisture, dirt, garbage was everywhere," she said. "The walls of the garage were black because of mold. With the help of my son Henrick, his friends and school maintenance staff, we emptied the room. I vacuumed for days, then I painted the room. In order to do a clean restoration job, that was necessary."

*Continued on page 2*

## Tam Students Recognized in National Merit Scholarship Program

Each year the National Merit Scholarship Corporation conducts a competition to recognize students throughout the nation for their exceptional academic promise. From the more than 1.5 million students who took the 2009 PSAT/NMSQT, about 34,000 are selected to receive letters of commendation.

The following students have demonstrated outstanding academic potential by their strong performance in this highly competitive program: **Hannah S. Berman, Eleanor Coleman, David M. Fuchs, Elijah Goldberg, Alizeh Iqbal, Jason Johnson, Luka Jovanovic, Daniel Milechman, Nathaniel Parton and Brett Russell.**



*Tam's 2010 National Merit Scholar Commended Students: Front Row (L-R): David M. Fuchs, Alizeh Iqbal, Eleanor Coleman, Hannah S. Berman, Lisa Jenkins (semifinalist) and Jason Johnson. Back Row: Daniel Milechman, Nathaniel Parton, Brett Russell, Erin Foley (semifinalist), Luka Jovanovic, Elijah Goldberg and Principal Tom Drescher. (Absent: Jacob Weber)*

A spokesperson for NMSC said, "The young men and women named Commended Students represent some of the most academically talented students in our country. We sincerely hope this recognition will enhance their educational opportunities and encourage them in their pursuit of academic success."



*National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists (L-R) Jacob Weber, Erin Foley, and Lisa Jenkins.*

In addition to the group of commended students in the Merit Program, 16,000 are chosen as semifinalists. These students are the highest scoring entrants in each state. Tam High School has three students who qualified this year: Congratulations to **Erin Foley, Lisa Jenkins, and Jacob Weber.** These students may go on to become finalists in the competition, which will qualify them for scholarships.

Congratulations to these outstanding students and their teachers!

—Tom Drescher, Principal

## Historic Mosaics Readied for a New Home

*Continued from page 1*

Next Tony Catrino from the Tamalpais Union High School District sent two members of his staff, Ruben and Mark, to remove through-bolts and wooden panels from the mosaics and build a wooden box around each one.

Then Jantine put her conservation expertise to work hands-on. The Tam Alumni Association did its part as well.

"They lifted mosaic number one so I could work under it, then, with magic, just like the Egyptian pyramid builders, they slid the top mosaic on its side so I could work on the bottom one," she said.


As her work progressed, Jantine also enlisted help in working out a way to mount the mosaics on an exterior wall at Keyser Hall, which workers prepared for the mosaics while the new building was under construction.

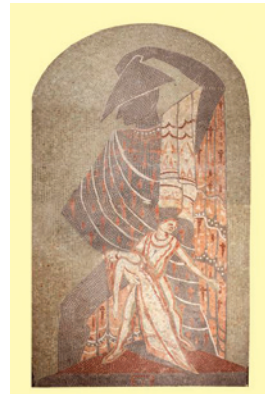
"I contacted architect Deepak Dandekar for the design for a metal box to install on one side of Keyser Hall," she said. In addition, she called on engineers Enrique Goldberg and Raymond Pugliesi to do the engineering calculations. Professional photographer David Fischer put his expertise to work to take a series of detailed pictures, which he and Jantine put together like a puzzle in his lab to create a complete picture of each mosaic.

Deepak and David are also Tam parents.

"All we need is to build the stainless steel box, install it, then transfer the mosaics to the site. The last step is adding the framing to hold the mosaics," she explained.

"It sounds simple — ha! A lot of man work, equipment rental and money, money," she said. "But we can do it. Right?"

The Tam Art Restoration Project began in 2001, when retired administrator Miguel Campos brought the existence of three pieces of WPA art to the attention of the Tam High Foundation. The Tam Alumni Association eventually took on the project. In addition to the pair of mosaics, the project includes a 38-foot by 8-foot mural oil painting, "The Golden Hills of Marin," which Marin artist Maurice Del Mué created for the school's assembly hall, now the library, in 1937. It is currently in fine arts storage. 

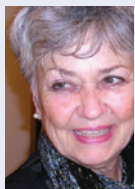


*These WPA mosaics will one day grace the walls of Keyser Hall.*

## Get to Know More of the New Faces at Tam

As promised last issue, here are more details about some of the new members of the Tam Family:

**Chad Stuart:** Tam's new assistant principal for 10th and 12th grade students is Chad Stuart. Chad is a native of Marin and a graduate of Drake High School and UC Berkeley. He taught for 10 years in a middle school before becoming the athletic director at Drake. Chad loves coaching and playing basketball, and his favorite activity is spending time with his wife and young son. Chad was an assistant principal at Redwood High School before coming to Tam.




**Cythea Harrison-Homitz:** When asked to describe herself, Tam's new library specialist Cythea Harrison-Homitz said, "I suggest using Matt Tierney's information with my photo because we're identical except that I don't teach social studies or play basketball. And, I paint interior views and write stories no one reads. I am also older and cuter than Matt. Otherwise, we're the same. I LOVE Tam High School, especially one grassy spot under that big tree out front of the tower. A crow comes to visit me whenever I lie out there. I talk to crows. Matt Tierney probably does not."

*Tam News student reporter Ivy Pannepacker gives us a description of two of the new teachers at Tam.*

**Holly Spencer:** "Tam's awesome. I love everybody here," says Holly Spencer. Spencer teaches academic workshop, math and science in the Special Ed department. She has lived in five different countries, and other than teaching, enjoys being with her eight-year-old daughter, biking, and traveling.



**Elana Zizmor:** "Tam is very welcoming. I like the population and the students are very creative," says Elana Zizmor. Other than teaching science, Zizmor's other interests include singing with an a cappella group called Rapid Transit, playing ultimate frisbee, dancing, and being with her four-year-old daughter. 



### THE TAM FAMILY

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## From the PTSA President

by Leslie Wachtel



As Thanksgiving approaches I want to thank all of the parents who have contributed their valuable time, energy and donations to the PTSA. We are blessed with a supportive administration, faculty, staff and parents that make Tam High a great place for our children to learn, mature and thrive. I hope you all enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends.

Our next PTSA meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 3, at 7 pm in the Student Center. This month our featured guests will be David Wetzel, the teacher leader of our math department, and John Ginsburg, the teacher leader for our science department. Both of these great teachers have agreed to come back to school in the evening and share with the parents what amazing teaching and learning is happening in their departments. Come find out what classes we offer in these two disciplines, how teaching methods in these subjects have evolved since we were all in high school and much more! If you have ever wondered about math and science at Tam, this is your chance to come listen, ask questions and get excited about math and science. We will feature different departments throughout the remainder of the school year at our PTSA meetings.

On Saturday, November 13, the Tam High PTSA and the Mill Valley Middle School PTSA will co-sponsor a wonderful parent education one-day conference. The topic this year is "Creating a Family that Thrives: Experts Discuss the Science of a Meaningful Life." Please read the article on page five of this issue of the Tam Family and be sure and mark your calendar to be at the Tam High Student Center at 8:30 am on November 13. A huge thank you to Joyce Feeney for organizing this wonderful parent ed opportunity for our entire community. Please feel free to invite friends from other schools.

Please look on page four of this issue of the Tam Family for the order form for the PTSA Holiday Plant Sale. These flowering plants make beautiful hostess gifts, teacher gifts and decorations for every home this winter. Please consider supporting the PTSA and help us to continue to provide wonderful parent education programs, beautification of our campus, scholarships for our seniors, staff appreciation events throughout the year, the monthly publication of the Tam Family, email communication with all families, student and staff barbecues and many other events and program support throughout the school year. To order plants please use the order form in this issue or download additional forms online (go to Community, then Tam Family, and click on the October or November 2010 issue). Order forms are due on Friday, November 19, and plant pick up will be on Thursday, December 2, in the Student Center from 8 am – 4 pm. If you would like to volunteer to help that day please contact me at mvleslieann@yahoo.com.

Our last PTSA meeting of 2010 will be held on Tuesday, November 30, at 7 pm at the Mill Valley Golf Clubhouse, 267 Buena Vista Avenue in Mill Valley. We will once again co-host with The Tam High Foundation and the Tam High Boosters a fireside chat with Principal Tom Drescher. This is always a fun, informative and informal meeting and we encourage parents who have never been to one of our meetings to come, have a light dinner and get involved!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving. 

## Looking to Show Your Appreciation to Tam Staff this Holiday Season?



The Tam staff will have its annual holiday party on December 10. Donating a small gift is a great way to show your appreciation to teachers and staff. In the past, parents have donated such things as gift cards or See's candy. The gifts are distributed at the celebration through a raffle. If you'd like to contribute, please drop off your item to Mary in the principal's office by December 9.

Thank you for your support!

## Halloween Breakfast Thanks



A great big thank you to all of you who participated in the Halloween Faculty and Staff Appreciation Breakfast. Our guests were extremely appreciative of all of your efforts, and what can I say about Halloween at Tam? It's so much fun!

— Helene Siegel-Fotos



# TAM HIGH PTSA HOLIDAY PLANT SALE

## TOPIARIES

- Single Ivy Ball in 7" pot  
Double Ivy Ball in 7" pot  
Ivy Tree 30" conical shape



Price	Qty	Total
\$50.00	_____	_____
\$55.00	_____	_____
\$90.00	_____	_____

## ORCHIDS

- Phalaenopsis in 6" decorative pot



\$35.00	_____	_____
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## AMARYLLIS



- Bulb kit ready to bloom, red or white  
--5" clear glass pot  
--6" colored glass pot  
Blooming plant in holiday wrap, red or white  
-- 4" pot hybrid  
-- 6" pot

\$20.00	_____	_____
\$25.00	_____	_____
\$15.00	_____	_____
\$20.00	_____	_____

## NARCISSUS PAPERWHITE

- Bulb kit ready to bloom  
clear glass pot-- 4" with 3 bulbs  
window kit-- 3"Wx10"L 5 bulbs



- Blooming plant in holiday wrap  
-- 4" pot  
-- 6" pot

\$15.00	_____	_____
\$20.00	_____	_____
\$10.00	_____	_____
\$15.00	_____	_____

## CYCLAMEN



- white-- 6" pot  
red-- 6" pot

\$12.00	_____	_____
\$12.00	_____	_____

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PURCHASE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: "Tam High PTSA"

Drop off or mail to: 700 Miller Ave.

Mill Valley, CA 94941

Purchaser's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH**

(Please note that pictures serve as examples only)

**PICK-UP THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2ND 12-6pm, IN THE STUDENT CENTER**

Questions? Contact Helene Siegel-Fotos: [bash5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bash5@sbcglobal.net) or 389-8598

## MILL VALLEY



PTSA | MVMS | TAM HIGH

## Info

Saturday, November 13, 2010

8:30am - 12:00pm

FREE ADMISSION

Tam High Student Center

Tam High | 700 Miller Avenue

(The Student Center is adjacent to the rear parking lot on Almonte Blvd)

8:30am | Coffee and pastry

8:45 | Introductions

9:00 | Dr. Keltner

10:15-10:30 | Break

10:30 | Dr. Carter

11:45-12:00pm | Q &amp; A

Parent Education Coordinators:

**Daphne de Marneffe**

MVMS | dmarneffe@comcast.net

**Joyce Feeney**

Tam High Contact Contact | Joycefeeney@comcast.net

Mill Valley (Tam High and MVMS) PTSA present our 2010 Parent Education Conference

## Creating a Family that Thrives: Experts Discuss the Science of a Meaningful Life

### Speakers

**Dacher Keltner, PhD** | Professor of Psychology**Christine Carter, PhD** | Sociologist and parenting expert

Greater Good Science Center, U.C. Berkeley

### Overview

One of the most essential desires we have as parents is for our children to be happy. But what is a happy life? Can it be crafted or cultivated? Under what conditions do human beings flourish? And what can we do to create those conditions in our family lives?

The November 13th Parent Education Conference explores these questions with two of the most well-regarded researchers in the field of positive psychology.

**Dacher Keltner, PhD** is professor of psychology at UC Berkeley and author of *Born To Be Good: The Science of a Meaningful Life*, will present *Cultivating Well-Being: Wisdom from Science and the Great Traditions*.

"In the last decade, advances in positive psychology and the neurobehavioral sciences have created a revolution in understanding happiness, goodness and our positive emotions. We have learned that happiness and compassion are really a set of skills to be cultivated and put into practice in our daily lives. Combining science and the wisdom of the ages (e.g., Confucianism, Buddhism), in this talk I detail the latest scientific discoveries and practical approaches related to 10 tools for happiness. I will cover topics like healthy play, deep appreciation, optimism, narrative, and a feeling of the sacred, and how these practices shift ourselves, families, and communities from the dynamics of stress to a state of greater resilience, appreciation, and kindness."

[www.greatergood.berkeley.edu](http://www.greatergood.berkeley.edu)

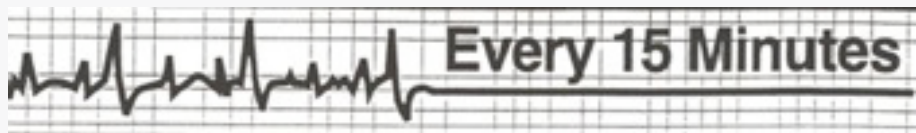


**Christine Carter, Ph.D** is a sociologist and happiness expert at UC Berkeley's Greater Good Science Center best known for her science-based parenting advice, including her online parenting classes. She is the author of *Raising Happiness: 10 Simple Steps for More Joyful Kids and Happier Parents*. She teaches her parenting classes to a global audience online.

Drawing on psychology, sociology, and neuroscience -and using her own chaotic and often hilarious real world adventures as a mom to demonstrate do's and don'ts in action—Dr. Carter will talk about daily practices for building a happier family, particularly families with adolescents. Some topics Dr. Carter will address are: developing a growth mindset by valuing effort and enjoyment; raising emotional intelligence; self-discipline; and choosing gratitude, forgiveness and optimism.

[www.christinecarter.com](http://www.christinecarter.com)





Dear Tam Parent/Guardian,

In the early 1990s, every 15 minutes someone in the United States was killed by a drunk driver. Although the implementation of new laws and programs 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 22 and March 23, 2011, the students at Tamalpais High School will have the opportunity to participate in a program that might help save a life. 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 Fifteen Minutes". This is a two-day simulation that 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 Fifteen Minutes was created and is sponsored by the California Highway Patrol in conjunction with a small grant that falls short of covering the program's true cost. Donations from the Tam High PTSA, the Tam High Foundation, local community organizations and private donations are necessary to help to defray the costs of this extraordinary event.

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

Thanks for your support!

**Please make check payable to Tam PTSA and mail to:**

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

Yes, I would like to make a contribution:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ \$25

☐ \$50

☐ \$100

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## STEP ASIDE AMERICAN IDOL ... TAM's GOT TALENT

**3rd Annual TAM HIGH Musicians' Showcase**

**Tuesday, November 23**

**7 pm**

**Caldwell Theatre**

The 3rd Annual Tam High Musicians' Showcase promises to bring the best that Tam has to offer in vocal and instrumental entertainment. A hot ticket last year, it's sure to be even better than the Thanksgiving feast to follow!

This is an auditioned event that students must earn spots in and do they ever deliver one great, not-to-be-missed performance after another. This evening has it all – jazz, classical, rock and vocal performances.

## Your Personalized & Engraved Invitation is here!



### SAVE THE DATES: Tam Holiday Music Shows in December

It's official. We are hanging the holiday (concert date) ornaments even before the Halloween decorations are taken down!

Tam Music and THUMB plan ahead – just for you!

- Thursday, December 2  
Caroling in Downtown Mill Valley with Tam Choir  
Time: tba
- Wednesday, December 8  
Instrumental Holiday Concert  
Ruby Scott Gym  
For all instrumental groups  
7 pm
- Thursday, December 9  
Choral Holiday Concert  
Caldwell Theatre  
7 pm

Stay tuned for further information on holiday cheer and ho-ho-ho's!



## SAVE THE DATE!

**February 11, 2011**

**Valentine's Dinner & Concert**

**6:30 pm, Ruby Scott Gym**

This is the Music Department's fundraising event of the year and it's a heart-shaped Valentine full of delightful music and singing. Dine on a sumptuous Valentine's feast from Pasta Pomodoro complete with dessert from Sweet Things.

Make this date your Valentine to yourself, your family and your friends. There is no better deal on fantastic food with outstanding entertainment than this special evening.

Please bring your friends and family and plan on attending this special evening. Can't you feel the love?

## THUMB Makes Beautiful Music: Join the THUMB Fun!

by THUMB President Doug Thompson

THUMB (Tam High United Music Boosters) continues to actively support the Tam High music program. Tam music, in common with all performance art programs, relies on parent participation in order to achieve the high level of success and polish that we enjoy. Music Director Spiro Tsingaris performs a singularly impressive feat coaching the talented Tam High School musicians and putting together an array of concerts; however, behind the scenes, THUMB parent volunteers bring in the funds that support this effort and lend a hand to help events run smoothly.

Over the years, THUMB has assisted in funding music department trips to festivals and competitions as far away as New York City. We've helped develop and maintain the guest artist program. We continually provide funding and support to replace and maintain instruments, purchase new music and curate the music library. THUMB also plays a leading role producing the perennial student favorite – the Valentine's Dinner and Concert as well as the hugely successful annual community Phone-a-Thon.

Prepared several years ago, THUMB's multiyear strategic plan has become our road map to help enrich the music learning and performance experience at Tam High. The THUMB strategic plan consists of:

- Ongoing fundraising activities from performances to the phone-a-thon
- A communication and public relations effort to build awareness of the benefits of Tam music to the school and wider community
- Fostering a stronger, more direct relationship with the local middle schools and their student musicians to help show them the opportunities at Tam High
- Developing performance and learning opportunities within the local community
- Maintaining and funding a music scholarship program
- Facilitating opportunities for the advanced music student

With so much valuable work to do for our music students and in order to build a program striving for excellence, THUMB has a place and a fun job for you. From bringing concessions to the performances to actively participating as an officer, please consider this your invitation to volunteer. *You'll find good work and meet friends along the way.*

**THUMB meets on the third Thursday of each month in the Band Box from 7 to 8:30 pm.**

**Get With Tam Music Scene Here!**

**Tam Music Website:** More information about THUMB and the Tam High music program may be found at Spiro Tsingaris' teacher website. Go to [tamhigh.org](http://tamhigh.org), click on "Teacher Websites" and then choose "Tsingaris, Spiro – Music"

**Facebook:** Become a fan of Tam Music. Join the Facebook group "Tam High Music" @ facebook.com.

## Tam High Foundation Board Approves Mini-Grants

by Deborah Miller,  
Tam High Foundation Communications Chairperson

Sometimes parents say, "I support the Tam High Foundation and I know this helps our Tam students, but I am not certain which projects the Foundation ultimately funds."

Each year the Tam High Foundation awards grants to a wide variety of high-quality projects proposed by Tam's teachers to help them enhance student learning at Tam.

These grants reach beyond what is possible with our district budget in order to:

- Have as broad an impact as possible across the school
- Empower the staff to reach their potential as teachers and therefore
- Support the students to reach their potential as learners.

There are two grant cycles per year, fall mini-grants (\$10,000 and under) and spring major grants (over \$10,000). Traditionally, the number of mini-grants far exceeds the number of major grants.

The Tam High Foundation Board is happy to report that at its last meeting it approved \$116,500 to fund outstanding mini-grant projects at Tam High School this year.

Board approval was the last step in a carefully constructed process of review and due diligence which applies to both the mini-grant and major awards. The grants committee, co-chaired this year by Karen Betzner and Robin Moses, invited all teachers to submit proposals. Each teacher then made a presentation about his or her proposal to the grants committee, comprised of parents, THF leadership and some students. The committee co-chairs reviewed all proposals with the senior director of technology for the Tamalpais Unified High School District, Tam's onsite technology manager and Principal Tom Drescher. With the information

*Continued on page 8*

**The next THUMB meeting is: Thursday, November 18 at 7 pm at the Band Box.** Step up the hill to the Band Box and help build pride in Tam Music.

## Tam High Foundation Board Approves Mini-Grants *Continued from page 7*

gathered from the presentations and from meetings with staff, the committee meticulously prepared recommendations for each grant, including the rationale to fund or not to fund each proposal, and the amount to be funded (whether all or a portion of the initial request). These recommendations were taken to the full Foundation Board which thoroughly discussed and voted on each proposal.

Once again, the 2010-11 mini-grant process reminded us how fortunate the Tam High community is to have highly dedicated teachers who continually create new learning programs and opportunities for all students. The Tam High Foundation appreciates our teachers for taking the time to research and submit proposals that are both innovative and practical and most of all of great value to Tam's students.

Grants approved for this year include several for school-wide use and multiple awards for six major departments in the school: math, English, science, social studies, world languages and fine arts. Following are just a few examples:

### Science

- Genetics and biotechnology and chemistry labs equipment
- Rocket altitude prediction project
- Technology: cameras and laptops

### Social Studies

- Street Law – defense lawyer guest lecturer
- Guest speakers for senior economics class
- Five educational globes

### World Languages

- Learning center upgrade
- Department-wide upgrade

### Fine Arts

- Mosaic project
- Camera replacement and lenses for photography class
- MacBook and accessories for art/ceramics projects

### English

- Six laptops for classroom use
- MacBook for digital stories
- Reading assessments program material and software

### Across Campus

- Increased support for Link Crew, the student-led high school transition program that welcomes both freshmen and new students and makes them feel comfortable throughout the first year of their high school experience at Tam.



MAKING THE  
DIFFERENCE

## Leadership News

October tends to be one of the busiest months of the year, and this year was no exception.

The Outreach Committee held its first annual Homecoming Drive, collecting warm coats that were donated to Ritter House of Marin. Homecoming hall decorating took place on Sunday, October 3. Students came out in record numbers to earn spirit points for their class by dressing up on Pajama Day, Twin Day, Class Theme Day, Tam Spirit Day and Lumberjack Day. At the Homecoming Rally on Friday, October 8, the seniors narrowly beat out the freshmen for first place with their rendition of Britney Spear's "Circus." The freshmen put on a highly entertaining version of Justin Bieber's "Baby." Congratulations to the class of 2013 for coming in first place overall! The class of 2011 came in second, the class of 2014 in third, and the class of 2012 in fourth place.

After the varsity homecoming football game on October 9, students stayed to watch the first annual senior vs. junior Powderpuff game. Captains Emma Ellison, Nicole Bruno, and Liv Trombadore led the senior team, and Captains Robin Weisselberg, Gita Isola-Henry, and Rowan Walton led the junior team. At the end of regulation play there was a tie, leading to an overtime period. Both teams scored during overtime, leaving the game ultimately tied at 21-21. The MVP award was given to senior Storie Ledger who scored two touchdowns.

To cap off the week, enthusiastic students from all grades attended the Homecoming Dance on Saturday, October 9, in Ruby Scott Gym. The Fall Food Drive kicked off on Monday, November 1, and will run through November 23. All donations will be sent to the Marin Food Bank. For a list of urgently needed items, please see their web site:

[marinfoodbank.org/topltems.html](http://marinfoodbank.org/topltems.html).





## News from the College and Career Center

by Susan Gertman, College and Career Specialist  
sgertman@tamdistrict.org  
380-3582

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### NOVEMBER 18: 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 at College Night for Juniors on Thursday, November 18, at 6:30 pm at Mt. Tamalpais United Methodist Church, 410 Sycamore Avenue, Mill Valley. 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.

#### DECEMBER 4: SOPHOMORES TAKE PLAN

Sophomores may take the PLAN, a practice test for the ACT, on Saturday morning, December 4, at Redwood High School. The 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 helpful in evaluating a student's interests and performance. The PLAN is given once a year. All sophomore families will receive a letter explaining the registration procedure.

#### DECEMBER 7: FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

Tam will hold a Financial Aid Night on Tuesday, December 7, at 6:30 pm in the Student Center. Our guest speaker, a financial aid advisor at Dominican University, 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 encouraged to attend.

Parents may get a head start on the FAFSA by applying now for a PIN at [pin.ed.gov](http://pin.ed.gov). The PIN will serve as your electronic signature when you apply online in January. The FAFSA website is: [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov). The Cal Grant GPA verification forms will be available in the College and Career Center in January. Information on the Cal Grant and other services of the California Student Aid Commission is available at [csac.ca.gov](http://csac.ca.gov).

The PROFILE, a financial aid form used by many private colleges, may be submitted now. Go to [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com), click on Students, then Pay for College and CSS/PROFILE.

Tam's scholarship list is available on [tamhigh.org](http://tamhigh.org). The list is updated weekly.

### COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

November 30 is the application deadline for all University of California and California State University campuses. The CSU application is available at [csumentor.edu](http://csumentor.edu) and the UC application at [universityofcalifornia.edu/](http://universityofcalifornia.edu/) apply. Make a copy of all completed applications for your files.

Each year the UC computer network is jammed during the last few days of the filing period. UC and CSU accept no excuses for late filing. The

counseling department very strongly advises students to file their CSU and UC application before Thanksgiving.

Assistance with applications is available throughout November in the College and Career Center.

### SAT & ACT

You can download the 2010-2011 SAT and ACT testing calendars and register online for either test. Go to [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com) for the SAT and [actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org) for the ACT. Register early for a convenient test site. Tam is not a test site.

Students applying to UC and CSU must complete all testing by the December test date.

### COLLEGE VISITS

Representatives from Dickinson, Dominican, George Washington, Grinnell, Linfield, Ohio Wesleyan, Reed, Seattle University and Willamette will be in the College and Career Center this month. All interested students are invited to attend. The college visit list is updated weekly and available on [www.tamhigh.org](http://www.tamhigh.org) and the daily bulletin.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE


Are you passionate about the environment, helping people 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 available 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 for-credit construction class will begin in January 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. This class fills up quickly. Call 499-5860 for more information and to register.

ROP also offers a for-credit auto class at San Rafael High School on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-6:30pm. The class is open entry. All you have to do to register is go to the class. For more information, call 499-5860.

### HELPFUL FINANCIAL AID WEBSITE: [fafsa4caster.ed.gov](http://fafsa4caster.ed.gov)

Get an estimate of your eligibility for federal student aid instantly, even before your senior year and reduce the time it takes to complete the FAFSA by using FAFSA4caster. It takes about 30 minutes to answer the questions. 

## A Family Theater Classic for CTE: The Wind in the Willows!

by Susan Brashear, CTE Co-Program Director and Drama Instructor

As the beginning of the holiday season blows in during November, CTE/Tam Drama will offer a wonderful play for all ages, adapted by Alan Bennett from the classic story by Kenneth Grahame, *The Wind in The Willows*. Directed by guest artist director Kathryn Zdan (*Eiffel Tower Wedding Party*/Spring 2009 and *In The Dark*/Spring 2010), this production features an all-female cast which has created the roles of Toad, Badger, Mole, Ratty and all the beloved characters from the book. Opening on Tuesday, November 17, it plays through Saturday, November 21; a delightful story for all ages sponsored by a grant provided through the Tam High Foundation for the 2010-11 season.

Ms. Zdan, who specializes in theatrical interpretations that use bold movement and display strong physical and vocal choices, has led the all-female cast through a rigorous rehearsal process. Her emphasis on creating strong ensemble work meshes with her view of the story.

"I think many of us identify with Grahame's nostalgia for a simpler life, closer to nature, and time spent in the company of good friends," she says. "Alan Bennett has beautifully translated Grahame's story to the world of the stage and infused it with humor and warmth. We can't help but be pulled in and long to be a part of the lives of Ratty, Mole, Badger and Toady."

The sense of community is a strong theme that is well interpreted through the ensemble work of the actors. The cast, led by seniors Carrie Brandon and Jesse Kious, includes Emily Pathman, CoCo Woods, Jessie Fontana-Maisel, Robin Weisselberg, Devon Barone, Gina Knox, Onwyn Healey, Stephanie Howard, Jennifer Reyes, Emma Boyle, Anna Civik, Vivian Bi and Perrin Albert. Stage Managers are Victoria Palmer and Brett Russell. Rehearsals have been filled with dialect work, physical work and intense character development. The opportunity for the girls to develop and play male characters has led to great risk-taking and a lot of fun creativity.

*Continued on page 11*

*Reprinted from the Tam News Student Newspaper*

## Competition in the New Economy: College Expectations Push Students to the Academic Limit

by Zach Wexman and Elianna Cohen

Nicole Bruno is a Tam student applying to college just like most of her classmates. However, an important factor will greatly influence where she decides to attend college: financial aid.

"College is extremely expensive, especially with a single-parent income," said Bruno. "A big factor in my decision is making sure there are scholarships I can apply for in addition to financial aid."

Bruno is not alone. In a survey of 97 Tam seniors applying to college, over 50 percent reported that they are applying for financial aid.

Tam's prospective college students are feeling increasing pressure from this recession. The U.S. Department of Labor said that the national unemployment rate increased from 3.5 percent last year to 9.3 percent this year. According to MSNBC, tuition and fees at private colleges rose 5.9 percent overall, and in California the UC system increased their tuition fees by 32 percent in 2009.

"Financial aid is simply a bigger factor now than it used to be," said Tam college and career specialist Susan Gertman. "People used to be embarrassed and apologize to colleges when they didn't have enough money to pay tuition, but not anymore. More students are talking about public universities."

Gertman also said the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE), a financial aid program that helps parents send their kids to college, influences where students apply.

Gemma Yob, also a senior at Tam said, "I understand that living in Marin [appears to] set a precedent of not being qualified for financial aid. Marin is a wealthy county, but that doesn't mean that I shouldn't be considered for it."

The increase in college tuition has resulted in more students attending community colleges. A September Mercury News article by Rob Roberson said, "For the third consecutive year, College of Marin watched the enrollment rise, with a 4.4 percent increase in students."

Student over-enrollment has forced colleges to limit their acceptance rates. The decreasing college acceptance rates, such as Harvard's drop from 16 percent acceptance in 1992 to 9.3 percent in 2009, have forced high school students to compete amongst each other to get the highest grade point average (GPA). Tam students have responded to the increased level of competition.

Tam is much more competitive now than when it opened as the Tamalpais Polytechnic High School in 1908. The school was known for its technical training as well as the opportunities it gave students from Sausalito and Mill Valley to earn a high school diploma without having to commute to San Rafael High. Some of the courses offered included dressmaking and advertising.

"I wish we still had these courses because there are things to know after high school that's not covered in the college-prep curriculum we have today," said senior Ali Ballantyne.

But currently, Assistant Principal Kim Stiffler said, "courses need to meet the times." Community demand has led to an increase in competitive academic courses, which replaced many of the vocational courses offered in the past.

At the present, many students aim to have a GPA above 4.0. A GPA above a 4.0, which was not possible before 1990 at Tam, is obtained by taking AP and honors classes that boost students' GPA an extra grade point.

"[Tam, like many schools, added AP courses] because colleges were looking for ways to distinguish the exceptional academic students, and students wanted to set themselves apart," said English teacher Austin Bah.

Out of Tam's 1,200 student population, 178 students are taking two or more AP classes and 60 students take three or more.

*Continued on page 12*

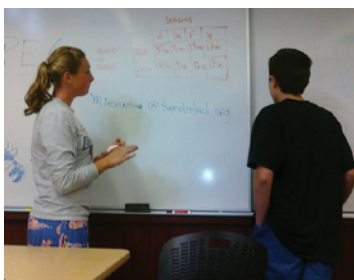
## Link Crew Update

As we enter our second full month of school, we see our new freshmen class beginning to make a name for itself at Tamalpais High School. The month of September ended with a bang in the Link Crew-sponsored Friday Pie Day. In the midst of whipped cream and fun, freshmen bonded with one another, Link Crew upper-classmen and teachers. A great start to the school year, and although it was quite messy, everyone had a great time. All of us in Link Crew hope that everyone who attended enjoyed the event as much as we did.

With the end of the grading period also came a new event: Study and Snacks. Through Study and Snacks, individual freshmen are invited by their teachers to come and get tutoring after school from an upperclassman Link Crew leader. This event was a great success as many students attended and received personal help in subjects in which they needed assistance. Following the end of the next grading period, Link Crew will again sponsor another session of Study and Snacks.




Freshmen and their Link Crew leaders at Freshman Friday Pie Day.



Link Crew advisors and freshmen took part in Study and Snacks at the end of the first grading period.

Each Friday tutorial, freshmen now know to expect Advisory time to help enhance their four years in high school. The focus in Advisories for the past couple of weeks has been time management and goal setting. From writing down goals, steps to achieve these goals, and mapping out daily schedules, Advisory is an opportunity to open up new ways of looking at how to plan and manage one's time.

In the next month Link Crew will host many events for the freshmen class including a Halloween costume contest and November Study and Snacks. 

## School to Career Internship Program


by Camille Madfes, School to Career Liaison  
College and Career Center  
380-3558  
[cmadfes@tamdistrict.org](mailto:cmadfes@tamdistrict.org)

Tam students have been very busy completing applications, writing resumes and interviewing for internships with local businesses and organizations. Most are now midway through the fall program and working very closely with their internship host learning firsthand what it takes to be successful in a particular career.

Several students who expressed interest in exploring a possible career in healthcare are interning this semester in the medical unit, emergency, electrophysiology, intensive care, and education departments at Kaiser and Marin General Hospital.

Other Tam students are interning with the Marin County Public Defender, Courtyard by Marriott, and Ro\*Co Films. In addition, several students with a passion for art will begin their internships in October working with the Industrial Center Building Artists' Association in Sausalito.

An internship is an excellent opportunity for students to gain workplace experience and develop new skills while exploring a career of interest. School to Career's spring program will begin in late February and conclude the last week of April. Students interested in learning more about the internship program can visit me in the College and Career Center on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, or contact me via e-mail at [cmadfes@tamdistrict.org](mailto:cmadfes@tamdistrict.org).

It has been a true pleasure working with Tam students this semester as they explore options for their future. I welcome the opportunity to answer any questions about School to Career services, or you may also our web site for additional information: [stc.marinschools.org](http://stc.marinschools.org). 

## A Family Theater Classic for CTE

*Continued from page 10*

Meanwhile, designers are also having a field day with the production elements in order to create the environment for the play. The lighting designer is Abby Kern; set designers are sophomores Ben Tietz and Julia Akin. Other designers include Chloe Villanueva, sound; Taylor Will, Clara Butler and Ben Milstein, costumes; and Karleen Schuldt and Ciarra D'Onofrio, props. The technical directors are Trevor Williams, Dylan Glave and Brendan Latimer. Charlie Dolton is master electrician and the deck hands are Sam Raffa and Ivy Ryan. All their work will combine to make the magical world of Mr. Toad and company come to life on the Caldwell stage.

Performances will all begin at 7 pm with the box office open at 6 pm. Tickets are \$5 for students and senior citizens and \$12 for adults. Doors open at 6:30 pm for open seating in the auditorium. No advanced ticket sales will be available so arrive early to insure admittance. Latecomers will be only seated if seats are available.

The Caldwell Theatre is located at the back of Tam's campus near Stadium and Almonte, where there's plenty of parking available. Visit CTE's website at [ctetam.org](http://ctetam.org) for more information.

## Competition in the New Economy *Continued from page 12*

Another motivation for taking many AP and honors classes is the competition for financial aid. Financial aid organizations, such as the Jewish Community & Family Services agency, give educational grants to students who excel in their studies.

However, the Tamalpais High School District discourages students from enrolling in too many AP and honors classes. They recommend that each student does not take more than two honors or AP classes.

"AP explosions happened in the 90s, with the change in national culture," Mr. Bah said again. "Schools used to set quotas that would only let the top ten percent into an AP class, but this changed with the College Board. But who's to say that if a kid wants to take a class, they can't try?"

Retired honors science teacher Jerry Childers said in an interview last year, "It would be interesting to see how many people enrolled in AP and honors classes if Tamalpais High School took away the bribe of a weighted GPA. My guess is the enrollment of students in honors classes would be cut in half."

One of Tam's alumni reflected on how society's expectations have changed.

"Back then [in the 1950s] the choices were get married or get drafted, and this was all that was expected," said Jeff Vendsel, class of 1952. He also mentioned how a high school diploma then was equal to a college diploma now.

In regards to the present year, Counseling Department Chair Evelyn Dorsett said, "We're in about the same place we were last year in terms of applicants to private colleges." Despite being in a similar place to last year's class, she also mentioned that fewer students have been applying for early decision.

Not as many students are applying early this year because their parents aren't sure if they have the money for four years of college, according to Dorsett. When students apply for early decision, they sign a binding legal contract that states if they are accepted they will attend that college pending their graduation from high school and withdraw all applications to other schools.

Dorsett, added, "A lot of students are applying to out-of-state public colleges, which will offer them a generous financial aid package." She also mentioned the WUE program is going to be a good option for some people. Though a lot of students are applying to public out of state colleges, like Oregon, Washington, and Arizona, these institutions do not offer the WUE program. As a result, institutions that do not participate in this program limit students' choices as far as where they can afford to go to school.

Not only are private colleges increasing tuition fees, but public colleges as well. The college tuition increase has occurred locally at College of Marin and across the nation. Despite the obstacles Tam seniors face heading towards college, their attitude is still optimistic.

Senior Brett Russell said, "College is going to be fun and you're going to learn a lot, and it's going to cost a lot of money to get there. But you're going to make more in the long run, so you have to suffer through it."

Senior Maddy Ball added, "Stressing for a month in high school is worth it for the rest of your life."

## Reel News: News from the Academy of Integrated Humanities and New Media

**Change is in the Air ... and AIM**

*by Harli Grant, AIM student writer*

After several weeks of filming and intensive editing, AIM students have brought their first project to a close. With a fresh new AIM class, the teachers decided to kick off the year with an entirely new project. Working in teams of three, the profile project required everyone in AIM to make a profile about another AIM student while also serving as the subject of the other student's profile. By the end of the project not only did everyone experience what life was like in front of the camera, but behind the camera, too.

This project taught juniors and reminded seniors how to film, edit, and manage their time so that we are all prepared for documentary projects that are rapidly approaching. In addition to the filming requirements, students were also required to write a detailed written profile about their subject along with an analysis of all the archival material they would use in their film. On top of being a valuable learning experience, watching the profiles also allowed for everyone in AIM to get to know each other better. The profiles ranged from exposing complicated pasts to explaining why someone is shy. It was a great way to get to know every single person within the AIM program from the very beginning.

While working on the film project, AIM students still had their regular history, English and documentary studies classes. In Ms. Scharf's history class we have been learning about the Civil War and its lasting legacy. In Mr. Tarpinian's English class we have read *Hamlet* and are now reading E.L. Doctorow's *Ragtime*, which reinforces the social, political and economic conflicts we are learning about in history. In Mr. Goldstein's class we have had time to

*Continued on page 13*

## Pies Needed for Annual Treat



Friday, November 19, is the always-popular Pie Day, a Tam tradition where everyone is treated to a piece of pie to start the holiday season. But we can't have Pie Day without pies! So please drop off pies of any variety the morning of the 19th in the student parking lot in back of the school near the Student Center. Someone will be there to take them from 7:30 am until 10:45. Thanks.



## Bienvenue – Frenchies Arrive at Tam

Each fall a group of high school students from Orthez, France, affectionately known as “the Frenchies” arrives at SFO to be met by their Tam host students from advanced French classes. The Frenchies go to classes at Tam, live with their host families and visit the Bay Area for about two weeks. Come Spring, they will in turn host the Tam students when they head to France to study and visit. Here are a couple of scenes from their arrival.



Tam students (L-R) Kim Scarsella, Hallie Brauner, Claudia Shapiro, Cade Burkett in the arrivals lounge at SFO with signs, flowers and balloons to welcome the Frenchies.



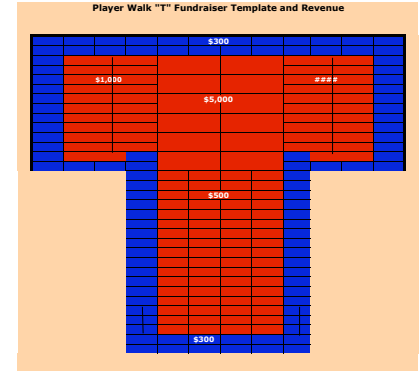
French and American students (L-R) Kim Scarsella, Claudia Shapiro, Clémentine Moncla, Delphine Canion, Marion Loiseau and Cade Burkett.

## Grab a Spot on the New ‘Tam Walk’

Tam Boosters announces an exciting opportunity for students and alumni to leave a lasting mark on the Tam campus. Several new varsity “T”s made up of tiles imprinted with a student’s name, sport or club, jersey number and graduation year will appear next summer throughout the campus. The 6-foot tall “T”s will be permanent fixtures.

This is a Tam Athletic Boosters initiative meant to accomplish the following goals:

- Drive spirit within the Tam community
- Honor current Tam students
- Honor Tam alumni
- Add to the school grounds with a piece of living history
- Provide funding for current Tam Athletic teams, structures and playing surfaces



Size	Cost	Color	# Tiles
3"x6"	\$300	Blue	96
3"x6"	\$500	Red	68
3"x9"	\$1,000	Red	42
6"x12"	\$5,000	Red	12
<b>Total number of "T"s</b>			<b>230</b>

Building spirit and community starts with the “T”. The last few years have seen an increased spirit movement on campus and in the community. We now want to “shout it out” and provide all Tam Hawks and Tam Indians a monument to your days at Tam.

### Q & A

#### What does it cost to buy a tile?

\$300, \$500, \$1000 or \$5,000 (all based on size and placement) \*See attached graphic for the placement areas

#### What sports or clubs are represented?

All Tam sports and clubs, whether they are MCAL or club (i.e., MCAL sports, mock trial, band or drama). Only clubs not held at Tam (i.e., recreational soccer, Rocco dance) will not be included.

#### What can I put on the tile?

You get 3 lines to put what you want. Most will want something like, Name, Sport or club, Jersey number, Graduation date... But, it is up to you.

#### I was a Tam Indian. Can I put that on my tile?

Yes, please do.

#### Is it Tax Deductible?

Yes

#### How do I buy a tile?

Type in your browser the following:

<http://www.tawala.com/p/7pdiuprp2j7oupm/e4f1gui.Registration> 

## Reel News Continued from page 12

work on our profiles, but are now starting to watch more feature length documentaries to expand our repertoire of documentary skills.

Now that the AIM students have gotten to know each other and the equipment better through the profiles and the classes, we have only a few more weeks of regular classes before starting our documentaries. Documentaries are AIM's biggest project of the year and everyone is excited to either make their first documentary ever or to improve on what they learned last year.

## Boosters to Offer Concussion Baseline Testing Clinic

Tam High Boosters is once again pleased to offer the parent-requested ImPACT™ Baseline Test Clinic. The Monday, November 8 appointment-only session is being held just in time to usher in the winter sports season (basketball and wrestling both put athletes at risk for concussions). This clinic is also a great opportunity to have your child who participates in Tam High School's spring sport season also tested. Lacrosse, soccer, baseball, softball, volleyball and diving are all concussion-prone activities but any sport can present a risk for a concussion. Many parents do not realize that females suffer more concussions than males and it takes females longer to recover.

This is the same ImPACT™ program used by the NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL and major league soccer, and the same one you have recently heard so much about in the media. ImPACT™, a 25-minute computerized baseline test program, measures an athlete's brain function prior to a concussion injury. Should an athlete sustain a concussion, he or she can be re-tested with ImPACT™ and that post-injury performance test will then be compared to the baseline test. ImPACT™ can objectively determine the severity of the concussion, monitor recovery, and help parents and coaches make better-informed return-to-play decisions. This is critical information, as physical symptoms often clear before an athlete's brain function fully returns to normal. If an athlete returns to play before his or her brain has healed, he or she is at very high risk of sustaining a second and sometimes more serious concussion. Youth athletes should take a baseline every year while they are participating in sports.

More information about the testing program can be found online at [impacttest.com](http://impacttest.com).

### Clinic Details

**WHEN:** Monday, Nov. 8, beginning at 2:35 pm

**WHERE:** Hoetger Hall Computer Lab, Rm. 205

**WHO:** All Tam High students are eligible

**COST:** \$30 per student \* (Make checks payable to Mt Diablo Memory Center or have exact change.) \*Scholarships available for qualifying families. Please request a scholarship when scheduling your appointment. No Tam student will be turned away.

**RSVP:** BY EMAIL FOR CONFIRMED APPOINTMENT TIME to [annritchi@msn.com](mailto:annritchi@msn.com)

**QUESTIONS:** 381-8661 Ann Ritchie

## Sports News

Here is an update from some of our fall teams:

### Cross Country



*Cross country team members Kaitlin Gillespie, Jenna Lea, Megan Monroe, Nicole Amyx, Izzie Dahlke, Billie Mandelbaum on the run.*

Midway through the season, Tam's cross country teams were putting together strong seasons. The boys' team was undefeated at 5-0, despite being handicapped by early season injuries to defending state champion Dan Milechman and the team's number two runner James MacDonald. MacDonald's first-place finish in Tam's only home meet of the season helped give the Hawks a one-point victory over Terra Linda. The varsity boys traveled to the Mt. Sac Invitational in October, an experience that Coach Sylvia Goodman hoped would be good preparation for the California state meet in December. The Hawks girls' team was 3-2, the only losses coming from Terra Linda and Redwood.

### Girls' Golf

The 2010 Tam girls' golf team has doubled its win total from the 2009 Season and started the season off by beating Marin Catholic for the first time in the history of the program. Later in the season, they almost duplicated that feat at MC's home course with a slim two-stroke loss at the very end. The fact that they went until the last week of the regular season with a chance to compete as a team in the MCAL tournament showed just how successful the season was. While succeeding in the competition was an important goal for the team, it was the enjoyment of the game and the wonderful time spent together on the course that will be remembered by the team. The good news is that all of the players will be returning next year and should continue to improve together as a team. While each individual was successful in some matches and struggled in others, it was the team as a whole that grew together and we look forward to a successful and fun 2011 season. Head Coach John Haight and Assistant Coach Chris Ford could not be prouder of the girls on the team.

### Girls' Tennis

Tam girls' tennis entered the last week of the regular season with a 15-4 record overall, and a near perfect 11-1 record in MCAL play. The team clinched the number two seed in the MCAL team tournament and hosted a semifinal match on Tuesday, October 25, with the final on Thursday, October 27, almost certainly against Redwood. The team's only loss in league play was a razor-thin 5-4 loss to Redwood on



*Tennis team warms up before the Fresno tournament.*

September 20. Since that time, the team showed significant progress, defeating Branson and San Marin by identical 7-2 margins; in matches earlier in the season, the margin of victory over those two teams was only 5-4. In singles, the team had solid play from juniors Liza Brusman, Mia Anderson, and Tasha Radovich, sophomores Chelsea Hayashi and Hillary Fazekas, and freshman Lani Tice. The doubles lineup may be the team's best ever, with Mikaila Smith (freshman) and Isabel Janetos (junior) at number one, seniors Zoe Arthur and Essie Winer at number two, and Alex Goldstein (senior) and Naomi Arthur (sophomore) at number three. Those players are just the starters, the

## Sports News *Continued from page 14*

remaining players have all made significant contributions to the team's coherence, spirit, and energy, as well as showing great progress on the court. These include senior Tai Hirabayshi, junior Julia Francis, sophomores Schuyler Standley and Julianne Ashby, and freshmen Stasha Anderson and Lisa Martinez.

### Water Polo

**Boys' Varsity:** With one game left in the regular season, the Tam boys' varsity water polo closed in on its ninth consecutive MCAL playoff berth, with a league record of 6-1. With an overall record of 15-4, the varsity boys are also en route to their first NCS post-season invitation in three years. The Hawks have been led by senior Max Sieck, who has set a new single-season scoring record with 100 goals thus far (breaking the previous record of 82 held by Rob Parnow '04). Seniors Robert Scott and Devon Miller-Gowan were named "Hawks of the Week."

**Boys' Junior Varsity:** The young Hawks had posted a 7-3 record as of press time, and were 5-1 in league play with one game remaining. Austin Wimberley continued his prolific scoring pace, tallying a JV record 55 goals thus far to break Dylan Glave's ('12) previous mark of 44. The JV's saw strong performances from sophomores Leo Thomas (14 goals) and Justin Schmidt (10) and freshmen Alec Williams (16) and Trevor Rowedder (13).

**Girls' Varsity:** The girls' varsity water polo team enjoyed another strong season with an overall 9-2 record. Seniors Emma Ellison, Zoe Nero, Niki Good and Kristin Sato, juniors Jenna Wallace, Sami Harvey and Ali Coopersmith, and sophomores Sarah Ellison, Jean Shepherd, Pauline and Gabrielle Hauzy all contributed to the undefeated league season. Coach Brandon Williams had the team well-prepared and conditioned as it began the push towards MCALs and the NCS tournament. The girls begin a very challenging home stretch of the season facing the other elite teams of the MCAL, Marin Catholic and Drake, as well as high-powered teams at the Western States tournament in Modesto. Coach Williams feels playing the stiffest competition at the end of the season will serve the girls well as they prepare for a successful playoff push.

**Girls' Junior Varsity:** Girls' JV water polo continues on its path to ensure Tam remains a polo powerhouse into the future. As the JV field in the MCAL is limited to Drake, Terra Linda, and Justin Sienna, the Tam girls are gaining wonderful experience playing in non-league games and tournaments such as the Crusher Classic in Napa. The girls will also compete at the Western States tournament in Modesto, facing the best teams from Northern California. Many of the JV girls will be moved onto the varsity squad once the league games are concluded, allowing them to gain experience playing at the highest level during the MCAL and NCS tournaments.

### Freshman Football

Tam freshman football made a valiant effort in their 35-14 loss to Novato at home on October 9. Highlights included a run of about 37 yards for Aseal Birir, who also ran in for a two-point conversion, and made some good tackles. Also, Lorenzo Jordan caught a pass and ran it in about 22 yards for the other touchdown as the Blue Angels flew out over the Bay.

### JV Volleyball

The JV volleyball team continues to plow through its MCAL competition as it sits nicely in second place with a 7-1 record (18-3 overall). Each player continues to leave her heart out on the court every match, playing with intensity and fire. The key to success this season has been team continuity, led by co-captains sophomore Alaina Waluk and freshman Emily Tull.

### Sailing

Tam High Sailing Club placed fourth overall (out of 22 teams) in the Silver Fleet in the two-day Monterey Sea Otter regatta on October 2 and 3. Sailors were Ian Spillman, Quinn Vangelos, Mark Etam, Jazz Gerrahty and Alexa Swartz.

### JV Boys' Soccer



*Varsity boys' soccer players Tesfaye Paine, Seth Gillis and Jackson Wong.*

Kudos to the junior varsity boys' soccer team for a winning season! As of press time, the team was number one in the junior varsity standings with a 10-2 (14-2) record and only two games left to play. Coach Chris Hutchison noted that he had a talented team to work with this year. The winning roster included sophomores Ted Feeney, Kevin Cordova, Nick Silva, Mohammed Manneh, Joe Laland, Darien Miller-Gowan, Aiden Hersh, and Kenny Rosenberg, as well as freshmen Navid de Leede, Max Murray, Lucas Tan-Alper, Nick Fong, Clay Pelo, Kevin Leake, Christian Abrahamson, Kenyon Jordan, Austin Barger, Dylan DeCotis and Shane Allen. Foreign exchange student Enrico Morales from Valencia, Spain, rounded out the team.

Pleased with the team's success, Coach Hutchison attributed it to the team's potent, high-speed, counter-attacking play and sound defense.

"We were able to diffuse most teams' attacks because our backline was disciplined and quick," he said. "Once we dispossessed, we immediately pushed the ball upfield. Weeks of working together on the practice field meant players' understanding of each others' movement and positioning was excellent and as a result we enjoyed high scoring matches (4 goals per game average) while giving up little at the back (less than 1 goal per game average)."

It's a shame Tam's JV season ended in October. According to Coach Hutchison, with another month together, this team would likely have been able to give some MCAL varsity teams a run for their money.

Join us at a meeting! Tam Boosters will meet on Wednesday, November 10, at 7 pm in the Hawk's Nest (adjacent to the Student Center). We will also join the PTSA to host the Fireside Chat with Principal Tom Drescher at the Mill Valley Golf Clubhouse on November 30 at 7 pm.



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PTSA  
Tamalpais High School  
700 Miller Avenue  
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Return Service requested

NOVEMBER 2010		
Date	Time/Event	Location
1-23	ASB FOOD DRIVE	
3	<b>7 PM</b> – PTSA MEETING Guest Speakers: Teacher Leaders David Wetzel (math) and John Ginsburg (science)	STUDENT CENTER
9	<b>7 PM</b> – TUHSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER Redwood High School
10	<b>7 PM</b> – ATHLETIC BOOSTERS MEETING	HAWKS' NEST (Adjacent to Student Center)
11	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – VETERANS' DAY HOLIDAY	
12	<b>2:25 DISMISSAL</b> – PERIODS 1-7 BELL SCHEDULE	
13	<b>8:30 AM – NOON</b> – PARENT ED EVENT: <i>CREATING A FAMILY THAT THRIVES: EXPERTS DISCUSS THE SCIENCE OF A MEANINGFUL LIFE</i>	STUDENT CENTER
17-21	<b>7 PM</b> – CTE PRESENTS: <i>THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS</i>	DANIEL CALDWELL THEATRE
18	<b>7 PM</b> – THUMB MEETING	GREENWOOD MUSIC ROOM
19	PIE DAY DURING LUNCH PERIOD	FRONT OF STUDENT CENTER
19	HOLIDAY PLANT SALE ORDER FORMS DUE	
22	<b>3:25 DISMISSAL</b> – PERIODS 1-4 BELL SCHEDULE	
23	<b>7 PM</b> – MUSICIAN'S SHOWCASE	CALDWELL THEATRE
23	<b>7 PM</b> – TUHSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER Redwood High School
24-26	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – THANKSGIVING RECESS	
30	<b>7 PM</b> – JOINT PTSA & BOOSTERS MEETING: <i>FIRESIDE CHAT WITH PRINCIPAL TOM DRESCHER</i>	MILL VALLEY GOLF CLUBHOUSE 267 Buena Vista Ave
DECEMBER 2010		
2	<b>8 AM-4 PM</b> – HOLIDAY PLANT PICK-UP	STUDENT CENTER
7	<b>6:30 PM</b> – COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID NIGHT	STUDENT CENTER
8	<b>7 PM</b> – INSTRUMENTAL HOLIDAY CONCERT	RUBY SCOTT AUDITORIUM
9	<b>7 PM</b> – CHORAL HOLIDAY CONCERT	CALDWELL THEATRE
For details and updates, check the calendar on the Tam High website: <a href="http://tamhigh.org">tamhigh.org</a>		