

## The Home Page

by Jayne Greenberg  
PTSA Vice President—  
Communications

### October PTSA Meeting Wednesday, October 15 at 7 pm Tam Library in Wood Hall

Tam math teacher Chris Erlin will be the featured speaker, taking us through fine points of the Home Access Center (see accompanying article).

### Leadership: Page 7

**Homecoming:** Activities begin the week of October 20 with the parade, football game, and dance on October 25. Get to the Games: In conjunction with Boosters, Tam High's ASB will charter a bus to take students to some of the away games. Parents will need to fill out a permission slip for their students.

### Tam High Foundation: Page 5

**The Annual Fall Campaign** is in full swing. If we haven't already heard from you, you'll soon be hearing from us! Our parent volunteers will make "reminder" calls during four phone-a-thons this month.

### Boosters: Page 12

#### Congratulations to Bobby Burton

Co-captain of Tam's varsity football team, who was the first Tam athlete of the school year to be honored as "Prep of the Week" by the *Marin Independent Journal*. And kudos to the entire team for its 3-0 season start. For scores and up-to-date sports information, check out the Tam sports website: [tamhighathletics.org](http://tamhighathletics.org).

### Tam High e-mail Communication:

Tam High communicates on a regular basis with parents via email. If you are not on the list and would like to hear about school news, information, important events and meetings please send your email to [jaynegreenberg@hotmail.com](mailto:jaynegreenberg@hotmail.com). The monthly calendar is emailed, the Tam Family newsletter is posted monthly on the website and there will be an online newsbrief in January and April in lieu of a printed newsletter.

### Walk to School Day – October 8

A friendly reminder to walk, bike or ride the bus on Walk to School Day – the first Wednesday of every month.

## No More Cloak and Dagger: Know Everything That's in Your Child's File at Tam

by Michelle Slatalla



When my oldest child went off to high school six years ago, she might as well have joined the CIA. Every bit of information became classified – her quiz grades, daily homework assignments, her true whereabouts during a mysterious time of day known to me only as “3rd Period,” and I had to take it on faith that, yes, she was enrolled at Tam. All I really had to go on was an occasional sighting by someone who would report seeing her crossing Miller, headed to Safeway, during lunch.

This year, my world changed. Life is suddenly much better for us parents, thanks to a new online information system the district launched last month after a year of testing. Parents who sign up at <http://home.tamdistrict.org/> for an account on the new Home Access Center can get immediate access to their children's school records.

This is a gold mine. Among the information you can see at Home Access Center is a chart that details your child's attendance history – including tardies! – for the entire school year. Check it every day, and you'll have plenty of time to clear up “mistakes” before the two-week window for correction passes. You also can see your child's entire transcript, with annual and cumulative grade point averages calculated nicely on the screen.

As if this were not enough to change your life – it certainly gave me a sense of control and, with it, a new hope that I may after all survive adolescence – the site also lists your child's scores on various tests.

Suddenly, it no longer matters that you can't remember where you put those slips of paper that came in the mail describing the results of AP exams, SATs, STAR tests and graduation-proficiency requirements. The scores are all there, online, in one place.

For some lucky parents, even more information is available. Your child's teachers may, if they choose, use the system to post assignments and as an online grade book. For now, however, school officials say the majority of teachers haven't signed up. Some may be reluctant to use the system because of bad experiences on older, less-user-friendly systems, officials say. But I trust teachers soon will climb aboard the information highway since they are, after all, the role models whose tireless intellectual curiosity sets a standard for the rest of us.

*continued on page 3*

## Principles from the Principal

By Tom Drescher

### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TAM

#### Modernization

All modernization projects on the Tam campus are currently on schedule for their projected completion dates. Lower Keyser was recently painted, and drilling of the pool support piers began in September. Modernization information will be updated regularly on the school website, tamhigh.org. In addition, downloads of the new bell schedule, the drop off plan, pedestrian travel routes, etc. are available on the website and in the assistant principals' office.

#### HAC/New Tam Website

Parents and students are now able to monitor grades and attendance through the Home Access Center (HAC). While not all teachers will opt to use HAC, many will use this as an additional means for communicating student progress. For assistance in using HAC, please visit home/tamdistrict.org. In addition, the PTSA will offer a hands-on training for HAC on Wednesday, October 15, at 7 pm in the Tam library. An overview of the new Tam website will also be presented that evening.

#### Celebrating Tam

The Tam Celebration Committee will meet on Monday, October 6, at 6 pm in the Mountain View room of the Tam library. This group was created last year to examine how we celebrate academic, athletic, parent, and community accomplishments at Tam, and to work collaboratively toward improving school spirit. The Tam administration will report on some of the new programs that have been and will be implemented this year and will work with community stakeholders in mapping out the next steps. The meeting is open to the public, and we hope to see new parents in attendance at the next meeting.



### The Tam Family

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## AN OVERVIEW OF ATTENDANCE POLICIES

from Johnnie Daniel, Attendance Clerk

Welcome back to another great year. Below are some tips and helpful information that should make attendance run more smoothly for us all.

Whenever possible, please report your student's absence early each morning, or as soon as you know they will be out of school. This is very important in the event of an emergency. The number is 380-3592. All absences must be reported no later than 24 hours of the absence. Also, remind students to obtain passes from Room 140 in Wood Hall each and every time they leave and return to classes. Students need these passes to make up missed work or assignments. Following procedures should help prevent unexcused absences and truancy letters.

We ask that you try not to schedule medical appointments during school hours. We cannot interrupt class time to deliver off-campus passes unless it is an emergency. If it is necessary to schedule an appointment after your student has left for school, tell him or her that you are doing so and have the student check with the attendance office during breaks. In the interim, call the attendance office and a pass will be immediately written and placed on a clip outside the attendance office door.

Our nurse's hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 8 am to 3:30 pm. On Mondays and Tuesdays students should go to the attendance office for their medical needs. If your student becomes ill during the school day and wishes to go home, please have him/her report to the nurse's office, or attendance office, and we will call you for permission to release your student.

Family vacations are not considered excused absences.

If your student will be out of classes for a college visit (maximum three days per year), job interview, court appearance, or to observe a religious holiday, a warranted absence form must be processed prior to the absence in order for it to be excused. These forms are available in the bins outside the attendance office and from the receptionist. You must sign the form and have your student obtain a signature from the assistant principal. Each teacher must initial the form and give your student assignments or homework before it is returned to the attendance office. In the case of absence for a religious holiday, teachers' signatures are not required. This is a district policy and the only way these types of absences will be excused.

**Tardy Policy.** Once a student misses 10 minutes of class, he or she will be marked absent. Three tardy periods equals one unexcused absence. You will receive an automated call home each evening when your student is marked tardy.

Truancy letters are sent once a student acquires two or more absences in a given class. If your student misses a class that has not been excused you will receive an automated call home. Grades can be reduced and/or credit lost for unexcused absences as follows:

- 2 unexcused absences in a class: Final grade lowered 1/3 letter grade
- 3 unexcused absences in a class: Final grade lowered 2/3 letter grade
- 4 unexcused absences in a class: Final grade lowered 1 letter grade
- 5 unexcused absences in a class: Loss of one unit of credit.

**Homework requests:** You can request homework through the attendance office once your student has missed three consecutive days of school. Many teachers have web pages that post homework. Got to tamhigh.org, click on "Teachers" and then click on the teacher's name. You can also contact teachers via e-mail and/or obtain assignments from classmates or friends. A homework night box is in the Gomez Street parking lot.

Please feel free to call me any time you have questions. It's also a good idea to encourage your student(s) to visit the attendance office to check their attendance periodically. Absences are shown on progress reports and report cards. ♦

## New Student Parking Policy

from Corbett Elsen, Assistant Principal

The student parking policy has changed. Beginning Wednesday, September 24, all licensed seniors who have completely filled out a parking application will receive a parking permit. The student lot on Almonte Avenue will still be for carpools only (a carpool is a minimum of three students, including the driver), but will be available on a first come, first served basis until it is filled. Once the lot is filled, students will need to find street parking. We think that this is a better solution that will provide equal access to all seniors.

### Upcoming Testing Dates

**October 7-8:** California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) for juniors and seniors who have not yet passed.

**October 20:** Direct Write Assessment test for juniors and seniors who have not yet passed.

## No More Cloak and Dagger:

*continued from front page*

One warning: Please remember that Home Access Center is a new program. Please be patient if things don't work perfectly the first time you try it, that's part of the debugging process. When I tested the Home Access Center, for instance, it would not at first allow me to register. If that happens to you, you have two choices: send an email to the troubleshooter address listed on the site or phone the counseling department at Tam. I did both; Tam's counseling department sorted out the problem for me the same day. It took five days, however, to receive a reply email from the troubleshooters. ♦

## PTSA News

from Leslie Wachtel, PTSA President

The beginning of the school year has come and gone so quickly and the lazy days of summer have given way to the energy-charged atmosphere of fall at Tam. Freshman orientation welcomed approximately 315 new faces to Tam High and the barbecue for incoming freshmen following orientation was a great success. Many thanks to Bonnie Freiberg and Gladys Blose for chairing this PTSA-sponsored event, and to the parents who came and helped them serve the freshmen, Link Crew and staff that day.

Please look for our "Tam Thanks You" article for a partial list of the parent and teacher volunteers who gave their time and energy this summer to assemble the school packets that we all received in July, and the parents who came and helped with the barbecue, registration and schedule pick up in mid-August. It is only with the help of so many parents that these events can happen throughout the school year.

Our first PTSA meeting took place on Wednesday, September 10, at the home of Beverly Robertson and senior Matt Robertson. It was a well-attended meeting where the PTSA budget for the coming year was presented and we had a chance to inform the parents about some new, different and exciting ideas that the Tam PTSA is implementing this year. All PTSA meetings will be held in the evening this year in the hope that this will allow more of you to come and get involved. Each month we will have a different topic. Please look below to see what is happening this month.

After our first meeting we all had the opportunity to meet and ask questions of our new administrative team of Principal Tom Drescher and Assistant Principals Corbett Elsen and Elizabeth LaBorde. We also had the chance to meet Aparna Naidu, the Fulbright Exchange math teacher from India. We want to thank all the administrators and Ms. Naidu for coming and participating. Thank you to Beverly and Matt for opening their home to all of us and making the evening fun, informative and a great start to the new PTSA year.

### Next Meeting: Home Access Center Information

Our next PTSA meeting is Wednesday, October 15, at 7 pm in the Tam library in Wood Hall. Following the meeting we will welcome math teacher Chris Erlin who will walk us through the new Home Access Center (HAC), the home to school communication component of eSchool-Plus, which is available online for Tam parents. Students and parents may use the HAC to view student attendance as well as assignment and course grades. We will get everyone registered online (using the many computers available in the library thanks to the Tam High Foundation) and learn how to navigate the site. We will also be able to help families learn more about what information is available on the Tam High website every day.

We invite and welcome everyone to come and learn more about what is happening at Tam this year. For information on upcoming events or to volunteer email Leslie Wachtel, PTSA president at [Leslieann@ix.netcom.com](mailto:Leslieann@ix.netcom.com).

The first PTSA Staff Appreciation Breakfast took place on September 19 and was enjoyed by all. Thank you Helene Siegel-Fotos who is once again our Vice President of Hospitality. Helene does a wonderful job organizing these breakfasts. Thanks to everyone who provided something wonderful to eat for this event! The next Staff Appreciation Breakfast will be Friday, October 31. If you would like to contribute something delicious and are not already on Helene's email list, please email her at [Bash5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Bash5@sbcglobal.net) and let her know you would like to contribute. ♦

## STRESSED OUT STUDENTS: Family and Community Solutions

A Parent Education Conference Sponsored by  
Tamalpais High School PTSA and Mill Valley Middle School PTSA

**Saturday, November 22, 8 am to 1 pm**

Tam High School Student Center

Join us as we examine the “High Stakes, High Stress” world in which our teens live. The keynote address will be offered by Dr. Denise Pope: “Parenting for Success; How to Keep Your Child Healthy, Happy, and Engaged in Life.” Dr. Pope is the author of “Doing School; How We Are Creating a Generation of Stressed Out, Materialistic, and Miseducated Students.” She is co-founder of the Challenge Success Project at Stanford University

The movie trailer for “Slipping Behind,” a Sundance Film Festival submission and documentary feature film by Reel Link Films (produced and directed by Vicki Abeles) will begin our conference by bringing us directly inside the hearts and minds of our American teens, educators, parents, psychologists, economists, and historians.

Six practical, proactively geared workshops led by various experts in teen stress will follow:

- Denise Pope, PhD: “Healthy Kids/Healthy Homes/Healthy Schools”
- Annie Fox, MS: “Too Stressed to Think: Peer Acceptance, Rejection, and Romance.” Author of “Too Stressed to Think!” and other teen self help books.
- Nicholas Carlise, JD: “Bullies, Ice Queens, and Cyberbullying; Facilitating Inclusion and Acceptance in a Diverse Community.” Director of No Bully, attorney and psychotherapist.
- Kyra Bobinet MD: “Teen Speak: Communication Tools That Bridge the Gap between Parents and Teens.” Author of the blog and practice booklet “Teen Whispering.”
- Regan McMahon MS: “Activities Gone Haywire; Parenting for Balance.” Author of “Revolution in the Bleachers,” and book editor for the San Francisco Chronicle.
- Dave Talamo MFT: “Creating a Meaningful Life: Adolescent Development and the Discovery of Purpose.” Founder of Wilderness Reflections.

Questions? Call Linda Brauner 388-3557. ❖

### Staff Breakfast

Thanks again to all the volunteers who participated in last month's faculty and staff appreciation breakfast. The teachers and staff were overwhelmed by the amount and variety of food that was provided. They are truly touched by the time and effort put into an event that is strictly for them.

The next appreciation breakfast is on Friday, October 31 – Halloween. This is the breakfast that everyone looks forward to the most each year. Many of the faculty and staff dress up and really get into the celebration. If you would like to participate and have not signed up officially, please email me at bash5@sbcglobal.net. All participation is greatly appreciated and extremely welcome!

## TAM THANKS YOU!

### Summer Packet Assembly

Patti Bertenthal, Judy Hopelain, Julia Howard, Kim Suppes, Peggy Sharyon, Elaine Elkind, Jeannie Lloyd, Michelle Egan McCabe, Loryn Sweet-Winer, Maria Black, Cam-Tu Tran, Ben Cleaveland, Cindy Rigatti, Joanne Yorio, Beth Schieble, Marilyn Weinberg, Lee Budish, Carla McDonald, Ruth Rosenfield, Ingrid Sato and Leslie Wachtel. Diane and Sarah Swartz

### Freshman BBQ

Bonnie Freiberg, Gladys Blose, Margaret Soffer, Kristen Ahlquist and the 2008 graduates who came to help out including Erin McCauley, Maggie Norby-Adams and Lauren Wright.

### Registration and Schedule Pick Up

Kelli Tonnenson, Lisa Canepa, Patti Bertenthal, Patti Boston, Amy Metzenbaum, Michaela Kalff, Katie Shine-Harris, Gladys Blose, Michelle Egan-McCabe, Lisa Scarsella, Talene Kapeghian, Barbara Chambers, Jeannie Lloyd, Maria Black, Cindi King, Nanette Zavala, Shirley Ehrlich, Ruthanne Ranz Appell, Marilyn Weinberg, Rena Gustafsson, Helene Siegel-Fotos, Jayne Greenberg, Georgia Pung, Annette Gamboa (and Nicole), Peggy Sharyon, Sylvie Silverstein, Linda Meyer and Leslie Wachtel.

### Teacher Appreciation Breakfast

Helene Siegel-Fotos

### PTSA Meeting Hosts

Beverly and Matt Robertson

Please forgive us for any names inadvertently left off. The PTSA thanks all of you for your time, energy and Tam spirit. ❖

## News from Parent to Parent Connection

by Linda Siegel and Janet Miller, P2P Coordinators

Diane Provo was our speaker on September 18. She spoke on "A Cooperative Model for Advocating for Your Special Needs Student: Planning for High School Success." Diane emphasizes the importance of parent involvement and the critical role that parents have in advocating for and assisting their child through high school.

Diane challenges the traditionally-held philosophy that we should "train our students to be independent learners"; rather they should be "interdependent, creative learners, who know their own strengths and weakness and know how to get help."

In taking this approach, Diane states that if the parents are organized and work in an active partnership with the school, they will teach their children how to map strategies for success that they will carry forward with them in college and beyond.

Please join us for our second p2p meeting on Thursday, October 16, at 7 pm:

"Which District High School Best Suits Your Student's Needs?" This program will be presented by a panel of high school students and will offer incoming students and parents an overview of the different academic programs offered throughout the Tamalpais District.

Please check out the website for further details on our program and schedule [www.tamdistrict.org/P2P](http://www.tamdistrict.org/P2P). We look forward to seeing you at our meetings!

Betsy Hillman  
Victoria Vogel  
Susan Ultsch  
Tam High School Representatives ❖

## Tam High Foundation – Time for the Annual Fall Campaign

by Julie Kertzman

The Annual Fall Campaign for the Tam High Foundation is in full swing and enthusiastic parent volunteers will be making "reminder" phone calls during four phone-a-thons in October. Everyone received a donation envelope in the first-day packet and many, many families have already shown their support by mailing in generous donations. Families we haven't heard from will receive a friendly call and the parent volunteers calling can answer any questions you might have.

At Back-To-School Night parents saw evidence of the Tam High Foundation in every classroom and throughout the campus. From teaching tools such as laptops, projection equipment and additional computers, to classroom support such as guest artists and literacy tutors and teacher innovation grants across many disciplines, the Tam High Foundation makes an impact on your student every single day!

Last year the Foundation invested \$300,000 in our students. We are asking for a donation of \$500 per student or whatever you can give to help us achieve our goal of 100% participation. The teachers and the new administrative team already have lots of ideas to enhance the teaching and learning at Tam. Your support will allow the Foundation to fund more projects, mini-grants and initiatives that enhance the high school experience of all students.

This year the investments include:

- 21st Century Literacy – New laptop lab, literacy tutors/readers for 9th – 11th grade, guest artists
- Teacher Innovation Grants – program and equipment support across many disciplines
- Specialized Expertise – Drama guest artists, library aide, website coordinator
- Building the Tam Community – "Breaking Down Walls" LINK Crew, Grad Night, Tam Family newsletter

It's easy to donate! Visit the website, [tamhighfoundation.org](http://tamhighfoundation.org), and make an online donation, or mail in the donation envelope or wait for the phone call and complete your pledge over the phone. **Thank you for your support!**

TAM HIGH FOUNDATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN  
"The Next Century of Learning" 2008-2009

Name \_\_\_\_\_ I am a: ☐ Tam Parent  
☐ Community Donor  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Tam alumnus  
City & Zip \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Parent of Tam alumnus  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Local business person

Student Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check appropriate boxes:

I pledge: ☐ \$10,000 ☐ \$5,000 ☐ \$2,500 ☐ \$1,000  
☐ \$500 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ major donor level

Payment Arrangements:

☐ My check is enclosed, payable to the Tam High Foundation ☐ I would like to remain anonymous

☐ Charge to my credit card ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_ exp. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Charge entire amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ now.

☐ Charge monthly (\$ \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_ months)

☐ Charge in \$100 increments until pledge is complete

☐ My company \_\_\_\_\_ participates in a Matching Funds Program (THF tax id. #68-0385326)

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND MAIL TO:  
TAM HIGH FOUNDATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN • 700 MILLER AVENUE • MILL VALLEY, CA 94941



## College and Career Center Services

Susan Gertman

### College and Career Specialist

[Sgertman@tuhds.marin.k12.ca.us](mailto:Sgertman@tuhds.marin.k12.ca.us)

380-3582

### KEEP INFORMED

To keep informed about College and Career Center events make sure each of your students registers for PrepHQ, the district's student organizer. It is easy to register. Go to [www.tamhigh.org](http://www.tamhigh.org), click on Academics, then Counseling and follow the link to Prep HQ. Once there, go to: "Click Here to Register."

### SAT & ACT

You can download the current SAT and ACT testing calendars and register for either test by going online. For the SAT, go to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) and for the ACT go to [www.act.org](http://www.act.org). Students are encouraged to register online for both tests. Register early for a convenient test site. Tam is not a testing site.

Students applying to the University of California must complete all testing by the December test date. Certain impacted California State University campuses, including San Diego and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, require students to complete testing by November. For more information on UC and CSU admissions requirements go to: [universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions](http://universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions) and [csumentor.edu](http://csumentor.edu).

### PSAT

Juniors and Sophomores: The PSAT (Preliminary SAT) will be given at Tam on Saturday, October 18, 8 am to noon. Students should check in at Gus Gym no later than 7:45 am. Student athletes who need an early time because they have a game that day should arrive at Gus Gym at 7 am. The early test starts promptly at 7:30 am.

Taking the PSAT gives students an opportunity to become familiar with the SAT and may help to improve future scores. Juniors who took the PSAT last year are strongly encouraged to take it again. The \$30 fee is non-refundable. Checks should be made payable to Tamalpais High School. Students may sign up in the counseling office during breaks, lunch and after school. The signup deadline is October 1.

### CHSPE

The California High School Proficiency Exam (CHSPE) will be given in San Rafael on October 18. Students who pass the CHSPE will receive a high school equivalency certificate and be able to leave high school with parental permission. Students must be at least 16 to take the test; pre-registration is required. For more information, go to [www.chspe.net](http://www.chspe.net). The test will also be given on March 21 and June 20. The CHSPE is different than the California High School Exit Exam needed for graduation from Tam.

### FINANCIAL AID PROFILE

Students applying for financial aid to private colleges requiring the

**PROFILE** should log on to [profileonline.collegeboard.com](http://profileonline.collegeboard.com). The entire application can be completed online. Students applying to one of these colleges for early action or early decision need to fill out the PROFILE now.

### COLLEGE REPS AT TAM

Representatives of colleges from across the U.S. come to Tam each fall to meet with students. These are wonderful opportunities for students to learn about the different colleges and the application process. The list expands daily and is announced in the bulletin. It is also available in the Career Center and PrepHQ. So far, 31 colleges and universities from across the country are scheduled to visit Tam this month.

### COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications for admission to the University of California and California State University are available online October 1. Help filling out the applications will be available to students during most tutorial periods throughout October and November in the College and Career Center and in special after-school online application workshops.

To access the applications online, log on to [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions) and [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu). The application fee can be billed or paid with a credit card. Students may also apply online for a fee waiver. The filing period for most CSU campuses is October 1 to November 30. UC accepts applications November 1 to November 30. The Common Application, used by nearly 350 colleges, is available online at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org).

### UPCOMING EVENTS

College Essay Writing Workshop: Dyan Pike, an independent college counselor and former English teacher, will give tips on how to write a personal essay for UC or private colleges on Friday, October 24, during tutorial. Please sign up in the College and Career Center.

Online UC and CSU Application Workshops: Wednesdays, 2:45-4pm, in the Hoetger Hall computer lab. CSU Workshop: October 22; UC Workshop: October 29; UC and CSU Workshop: November 5. There will be another UC/CSU workshop Wednesday, November 12, during tutorial period in the T-9 computer lab.

College Planning for Juniors: Juniors and their parents are invited to preview what is ahead for students planning to attend two-year or four-year colleges on Thursday, November 13, at 6:30 pm in the Student Center. The counseling staff will review the timeline for standardized testing, college visits, filing applications and filing financial aid forms. ♦

## School to Career Partnership

by Nancy Westreich, School to Career Liaison

### College and Career Center

**Redwood High School (415) 945-3604**

**Tamalpais High School (415) 380-3558**

**nwestreich@tamdistrict.org**

For students who are interested in healthcare, Marin General and Kaiser Hospitals are sponsoring Youth Health Forums on October 17 and October 31. Students will hear presentations by physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals about their careers. Applications were due on September 26, but there are a few spots still available. Applications are in the College and Career Office. There is also a Teen Community Emergency Response Training in October through the Mill Valley Fire Department. The training is Wednesday, October 22, and Saturday, October 25. Applications are due October 8, but there may be a few spots still open as well. Other activities coming up this fall include a Law Day and an Architecture, Engineering and Construction Job Shadow day. See Nancy for more information and applications.

### Other School to Career Services

I am available in the College and Career Center at Tam on Wednesdays and Thursdays. I assist students with internship placement and preparation, finding job shadows and informational interviewing opportunities. I also help students with resume writing, interviewing skills, and provide opportunities for students to participate in career-related field trips and activities throughout the year. ❖

## Leadership News

By Peter Berkhout, Activities Director

pberkhout@tamdistrict.org

This fall is an exciting time for the activities program at Tam. Our sports committee brings you a new type of event: introducing the Tam Spirit Crew (actual student-created cool name to be determined!). With Tam Boosters as a cosponsor, the ASB will charter a bus to bring the Tam student fans to some away sporting events this fall. Working with our district administration, we've created a new open permission slip that allows parents to give permission for a series of games each sports season, without having to sign a permission slip each time. Parents can give permission for their student to attend any playoffs that our teams are in, if a bus can be arranged in time. If your student is interested, you can download the permission form from [tamhigh.org](http://tamhigh.org) (click "Activities," then "ASB/Leadership"). Remember that for some games the host schools will charge admission, so make sure your student has some cash. Also, just as a friendly reminder, as an activities field trip, all school rules are in effect. Games on the transportation docket currently are October 15 to Redwood for boys' soccer, and November 7 to San Rafael for a Friday night football game.

The Leadership class has also selected our Homecoming theme: Just Dance! Each class will create a homecoming float and decorate one of the halls around campus with their class themes: seniors have hip-hop/rap; juniors chose tribal; sophomores are putting on a luau, and the freshmen have techno/rave. We are really trying to pump up the quality of homecoming floats this year, so if you can host a float-building party, please contact me. Also, if your student is in a club, plays a sport, or has another program he or she would like to represent in our Homecoming parade on October 25, please have him or her check with me and pick up our float planning guide. We would really like to pull out all the stops this year for Homecoming!

To follow up quickly from September's Blood Drive, new height/weight restrictions played havoc with our usual donor numbers, but Tam students and staff still contributed 49 units of blood. There is a severe local blood shortage because of the hurricanes in the eastern U.S. (we import 20-40% of our blood supply from the south), especially a critical shortage of type O blood. If you are able, your donation is needed now more than usual. Visit [bloodcenters.org](http://bloodcenters.org) to find out where you can donate.

Finally, new club charters were approved in September. Club Day, during which clubs publicize themselves and recruit new members, is on October. To see the new list of clubs, check out [tamhigh.org](http://tamhigh.org) (click "Activities," then "Clubs"). ❖



*Sophomore Emma Ellison gives directions to a parent on Back to School Night*

## On the Shelf from the Mill Valley Public Library

Here's what's happening in October for teens at the Mill Valley Public Library. Remember, events at the library are always free.

On Thursday, October 23, from 7-8:30 pm, we will present "The Anatomy of Marine Mammals." Representatives from the Marine Mammal Center will offer an up-close look at the bones, teeth, fur and skeletons of sea mammals, to show how these animals adapt and thrive in their environment. Also, our Teen Council will meet on Monday, October 13, from 6:15-7 pm. New members are always welcome.

For more information about programs and services for teens at the library, contact Donna Brown at 389-4292 x125 or email [dbrown@cityofmillvalley.org](mailto:dbrown@cityofmillvalley.org).

## FALL SEASON FOR CTE: LOOKING FORWARD AND LOOKING BACK

by Alexi Torres, CTE Publicity Team and Susan Brashear, CTE Co-Program Director

After the whirlwind of the beginning of the year, things are finally falling into a schedule of work, production and learning for students of the Conservatory Theatre Ensemble (CTE). With three productions currently in rehearsal at various stages of progress, CTE students are operating their theater production company with the bumps and challenges encountered while learning from mistakes as well as successes along the way. This pattern has been going on here at the Tam drama program for well over 35 years, though it has been greatly expanded due to the additional technical and design opportunities for students in the new Daniel Caldwell Theatre.

We thought this would be a good time not only to look at what's happening with our students today, but to look at where our former students are now and who they are becoming as they pursue their paths in life.

### CTE NOW: "Living Out," Fall Production #2

The second production for CTE's fall season is "Living Out," written by Lisa Loomer, the touching story of Ana Hernandez, a woman who has just moved to Los Angeles from El Salvador to find work as a nanny. Her whole life involves balancing a job, a husband, and two boys, yet when she eventually finds herself a new immigrant in America, locating a job is harder than expected since many of the privileged families look down on Ana.

Luckily, she is hired by one of the Southern California's high-powered entertainment lawyers. With her newfound job, she must deal with issues of racism, class, and social politics while continuing the balancing act in her own life.

The play is a dramatic piece updated with splashes of humor and wit that portrays a realistic slice of life in the 21st century and deals with contemporary issues facing us as a nation. Guest artist Julia Mueller is directing the play with the following cast: Gigi Bustamante, Kelly Witwicki, Sarah Schwartz, Marcie Shepard, Ben Stanton, Kelly Bertenthal, Martine Ehrlich and Wyn Evans with stage managers Charlotte Wimberly and Ansel Burk.

All performances are at the Daniel Caldwell Theatre located at the back of Tam's campus near Almonte and the football stadium. Tickets for adults are \$12, for students or senior

citizens \$5, and they can be pre-purchased when the lobby and box office open at 6 pm on the day of each show. Seating in the auditorium is on a first come, first served basis when the doors open at 6:30 pm. Performances begin at 7 pm, and latecomers will not be seated until intermission and only if seats are available. For further information, go to [www.ctetam.org](http://www.ctetam.org) or call 380-3535.

### Where Are They Now? CTE Alumni News

**Grace Rubenstein (CTE 1997):** Grace loved CTE from the moment she started as a sophomore. She fondly remembers her days being directed by Dan Caldwell (CTE founder) and Bruce Fleischer (guest artist) in "A Thurber Carnival." Through her experiences in those years as a student director, lighting technician, actor and stage-manager, Grace understood how much she could learn and prosper from our unique student-run company, translating those experiences into success in her future endeavors.

After graduating from Williams College in Massachusetts, Grace became an education reporter for a daily newspaper, "The Eagle-Tribune" just outside of Boston. She returned to the west coast as a co-editor for a brand new periodical called "The News-Marin." Yet once she heard of an education magazine based in Marin, she knew that it would be a perfect fit.

She began working as a staff writer and multimedia producer for magazine "Edutopia," produced by the George Lucas Educational Foundation. Through an array of interesting media incorporating audio, image, and video work, Grace tells stories about innovation in public education across the US. Her latest effort can be seen at: <http://www.edutopia.org/counseling-three-rivers-video>.

Helping to spread this knowledge about this important topic is what Grace loves to do, and we certainly all appreciate her work and effort to raise awareness of this wonderful progress being made in education all over.

Ben Snyder (CTE 1998) has relocated to Austin, Texas, for the next two years as he works on his master's degree in playwriting at the University of Texas Fellowship program



Marcie Shepherd (L) and Kelly Bertenthal play two young working mothers in the play "Living Out" who have immigrants caring for their children.

on a full scholarship. Ben, who has been a playwright in New York since graduating from NYU, has been very involved with the Hip Hop Theatre Festival community, LAByrinth Theater Company and Center Stage. He's had a number of plays produced in New York City, as well as in Johannesburg and Brazil, where he collaborated with leading theater companies. He is the founder of "Rebel Verses" in New York that produces a youth playwrights' one-act festival. Ben's UT fellowship allows him more time to write and he'll be teaching at UT as well as developing projects there. Ben may be at Tam in the spring to develop a play with CTE students that would be produced during the '09-'10 school year.

**Quin Gordon (CTE 1996)** recently graduated from North Carolina School for the Arts (BFA) where he was selected for its exclusive directing program. He is currently in New York at the Lincoln Center Institute as a Kenan Fellow for 2008-09. He'll teach as well as develop his own projects through the fellowship group. In a recent email, he cited teaching as a guest artist with CTE as an important experience in getting this prestigious fellowship.

**James Christie (CTE 1999)** recently sent an email and paid a visit to CTE. After graduating from Lewis and Clark, he took some time to explore his interests before settling on attending Yale Divinity School. He has just started his second year after spending a summer in Istanbul researching Muslim-Christian dialogue. Part of his volunteer work there involved working with young people. James called upon his CTE experience as a way to work with the group using ensemble games and theatre improvisation he learned at CTE. He's very enthusiastic about everything he's doing and learning. Here is his Istanbul blog: <http://jameschristie.livejournal.com>. (cont'd next page)



**CTE** (continued)

**Miles Feld** (CTE 2001) is living in Los Angeles after graduating from NYU's Tisch School for the Arts with a directing focus. Currently, he is working in film and television production. For his own projects, he just finished shooting a short film in New York that he wrote and produced entitled "Trunk." "Trunk" was directed and edited by his sister Annie (CTE 2006). He's hoping for a January 4, 2009, West Coast premiere. He has also written a graphic novel that will be available online in January that was illustrated by Tam alumnus Brett Doherty. He has two other scripts waiting in the wings. Miles will return as a guest artist later this fall to lead his successful directing seminars with Honors Theatre Directing students in CTE.

**Chloe Thorpe** (CTE 2003) who attended CTE for only two years has recently won a very prestigious honor in her home country, England, the "Spotlight Award." Thirty top theater training schools in Great Britain each nominate one male and one female student to compete with prepared monologues. Chloe was chosen by a group of top directors, producers and casting agents as the number one female for this very competitive award. She tells us this honor has already led to auditions for several major West End shows.

**Joanna Hefty** (CTE 2003) is living in New York after graduating from NYU's Tisch School for the Arts and has just finished her first year of teaching at PS/MS 149 in Harlem. Her proudest accomplishment? According to Joanna in a recent email, "My reading group made an average growth of 1.82 years in just eight weeks. My social studies kids mastered 72% of our last unit on the Civil Rights Movement." This is quite an accomplishment!

**Rhiannon Brogan** (CTE 2008) Loving her time at USC, Rhiannon enjoys many of the theater classes and also is studying theater texts in class.

**Pomme Koch** (CTE 2007) Pomme is thoroughly enjoying his time at the University of Michigan, and was cast in "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot."

**Micah Tichenor** (CTE 2007) Micah has just arrived in London where he is attending London University and taking some amazing courses:

- Modern Performance Practices
- Analyzing Performance
- Dramatic Texts: Cultural Contexts
- Practice: Theory
- Cultural Identities and Theatre Practices

He sounds very excited about his courses!

And that's all our news for now!! ♦

**Reel News****News from the Academy of Integrated Humanities and New Media (AIM)**

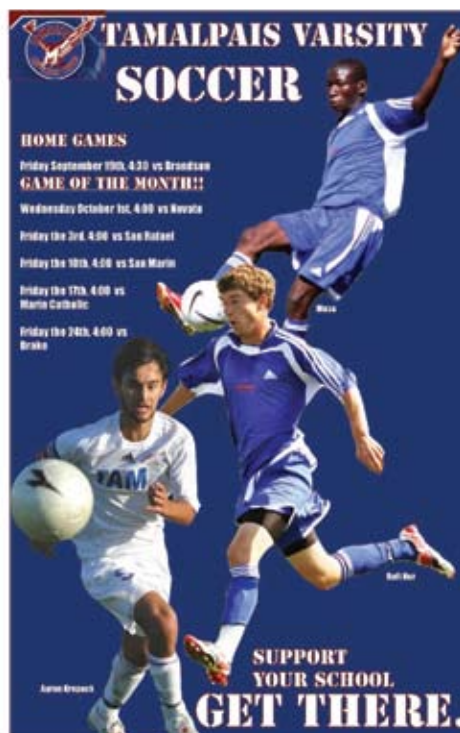
*AIM in Mill Valley Film Festival for 5th Straight Year*

*By Emily Bernstein, AIM student writer*

One month into the school year, AIM is moving along with new curriculum and our first films. This semester the core focus is race. In English we are reading Ralph Ellison's "Invisible Man" while learning about slavery and its legacy in US History. In Documentary and Integrated Media Studies, the seniors are coaching the juniors in cinematography and editing skills while we produce our "Mandy" films. Once our films are completed, we will be watching and analyzing documentaries that explore race. At the end of the semester, we make documentaries that reveal truth about this volatile and sensitive topic.

One of the unique aspects about AIM is that a lot of our learning takes place outside of the classroom. As a class we recently attended the solo show, "Not a Genuine Black Man," at the Throckmorton Theater, performed by Brian Copeland. It was an inspiring presentation that offered a personal and contemporary look at racism in Bay Area, making our readings and discussions in class more relevant and meaningful. Tam parent Lucy Mercer helped make this evening possible by reserving eighty seats and subsidizing the ticket price.

October means its Mill Valley Film Festival season and some great AIM films from last year have again been selected for its "Youth Reel," which presents films by young filmmakers from across the world. The documentary "Handprints," produced by Oliver Whitcroft, Julia Black, Arandelly Mendoza and Becca Goldman; the mockumentary "Skip," created by Matt Henn, Garrett Roseman, Zach Parker and Max Eddy, and two solo films by Ariel Sultan and Thomas Law will be shown on Saturday, October 11, at 11 am at the Smith Rafael Film Center in San Rafael. Come out and support our talented Tam students. ♦



Sophomore Sean Wilkins draws inspiration from his Tam soccer team for this poster design project for Draw Paint class.



A variety of pieces on display at Tam's booth at the Mill Valley Fall Arts Festival last month.



## Tam High Documentary “Reunion” in Mill Valley Film Festival

*‘Loving tribute’ Sparks Discussion and Closer Look at Tam’s Influence on its Students*

“Reunion,” the documentary commemorating 100 years of Tam High history, will be shown during the Mill Valley Film Festival on Sunday, October 5, at noon at the Sequoia Theater. Tickets are \$10 for CFI members and \$12.50 for the general public and are available through the MVFF website, mvff.com.

The film has sparked discussion among those who saw it in May during the centennial celebration, and now the whole Tam and Marin community has a chance to see what the Mill Valley Film Festival has called “a loving tribute” to a school that has “absorbed and reacted to larger changes around it.”

The heart of the film is comprised of interviews representing different eras, walks of life, and impressions of the high school experience. Some of the well-known Tam alumni featured in “Reunion” include 108-year-old graduate from the class of 1917, Camille Folker, Marin City native and world-renown jazz musician George Duke, award-winning director at Sundance and Cannes film festivals Rob Nilsson, pioneers of the mountain bike revolution Joe Breeze and Steve Potts, Chicago vocalist and hit songwriter Bill Champlin, and a former Tam student and recently honored faculty member who has been at Tam the last 44 years, Jewel Barrow. Of equal importance is the multitude of interviews with students, teachers and community members connected to Tam High over the last 100 years.

An all-Tam High team created the film. “Reunion’s” executive producer,

Julie Kertzman, is an active Tam High parent and foundation supporter. The producer, director and writer, Mike Goldstein, is a Tam High teacher and a founder of AIM, the Academy of Integrated Humanities and New Media, an award-winning program created five years ago that teaches students how to produce documentary films. Goldstein’s students’ success with filmmaking inspired him to make his own, and he enlisted the help of his former student, Joe Shapiro, to edit the film. Stuart Schwartz, a Tam parent and photographer, serves as the film’s cinematographer.

For Goldstein one of the most surprising and heartwarming aspects of making Reunion has been the groundswell of support from Tam High’s parent foundation, public libraries, local historical societies, musicians and other filmmakers. “When I contact people to ask for permission to use photos, film or music, as soon as I tell them that I’m a teacher and that the material is being used for a film about high school, people are incredibly generous.”

Mush Emmons, a filmmaker and Tam alum, told Goldstein that he had footage that he shot when he was a student at Tam in the early 70s that he would be happy to lend for the film. The catch was that he lives in Brazil, and the reels were in the basement of his grandmother’s house in Mill Valley.

“Mush proceeded to draw a detailed map of her basement and the exact location of the reels, faxed it to me from Bahia, and then one of his old Tam High buddies met me at his grandmother’s to dig for the reels. We found them, and they’re incredible,” recounted Goldstein.

With archival photos, film footage, contemporary live action and a soundtrack comprised of music by Tam alumni and parents spanning several generations including the Opposite Six, Sons of Champlin and Talking Heads, “Reunion’s” goal is to create a shared experience and bond between all who have been touched in some way by Tam High over the last century.

For more information about the film, please go to mvff.com and search for “Reunion.” ❖



## Tam Chapter of National Art Honors Society

This year we are proud to continue our involvement with the National Art Honors Society through the Tam High chapter. Tam High Art Honors Society is a group of dedicated Tam art students, all of whom are looking to contribute to the community through their artwork. We meet twice a month to discuss our current projects and plan community service events that allow us to use our artistic abilities to meet the needs of the community.

Last meeting, Max Schieble was voted president of the club. He has pledged to move the Art Honors Society in a more productive, more artistic direction with new ideas (such as a mural in downtown Mill Valley) and a good spirit. Vice President Oliver Whitcroft, Secretary Allely Albert, Treasurer Theresa Iker, and Publicity Directors Sandrena Frischer and Sara Weitzman were also chosen, all of whom are looking forward to contributing to this year's projects. Art Honors Society members include students from all realms of visual art – photo, design, drawing/painting, and ceramics – who all share a common vision in uniting the art community. Art Honors Society is a great opportunity for art students of different fields to come together and collaborate on unique activities. We look forward to a great year! ♦



*Images from Advanced Placement Photography field trip to the SFMOMA via ferry. For more student photos and a weekly update please visit [staff.tamhigh.org/photo](http://staff.tamhigh.org/photo).*



**The Mill Valley Library will display student work from Lynne Klein's Draw/Paint and AP Studio Art classes during the month of November. Be sure to see "Flattened Light," above, by Oliver Whitcroft, as well as other student art.**



## TAM BOOSTERS

### NEW TIME & MEETING LOCATION

We are still meeting the first Wednesday of the month, but at 7 pm instead of 7:30 pm and in the Hawks' Nest instead of the library. The Hawks' Nest is the small cafeteria in the Student Center building just to the right of the kitchen and snack bar windows. There is easy parking in the lot behind the Student Center. An earlier start will mean an earlier end time and the new location will make the parking more accessible.

### ANNOUNCING A NEW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

Along with our regular levels of membership, we are offering a Community membership for \$25. This level is for families who do not have a student currently at Tam.

"For families with young children, it makes for an affordable outing and we get to come root for the home team," said a dad with his two kids at last Saturday's football game. He lives in the neighborhood hills behind Tam and had walked down to buy a lunch at the snack bar and catch some of the game. The \$25 Community membership includes free admission to all regular season home games for football and basketball.

"It's a great deal," reports Staff Assistant Jewel Barrow, who has been taking tickets at various Tam athletic events for almost 20 years. "I sold six of these new memberships in the first quarter!"

Congratulations to Bobby Burton, the first Tam athlete of the school year to be honored as "Prep of the Week" by the Marin Independent Journal. He earned that honor by being instrumental in ending a two-year losing streak by scoring all three Tam touchdowns and also helping on defense. A junior, Bobby is one of the captains and is looked up to by his teammates for his strong work ethic and leadership.

Thank you to all the families and local businesses who have already joined Boosters. Our goal is to match the high percentage of Boosters

support enjoyed at the other district high schools, Drake and Redwood. So far this year we have helped fund new uniforms for the football teams, clinics for coaches, entry fees for pre-season tournaments, awards for athletes and scholarship needs. Here is a breakdown, by sport, of Boosters memberships based on the approximately 276 students playing fall sports. Hats off to girls' varsity water polo for having the highest participation percentage!

Varsity Football – 10 out of 29	Girls' Golf – 1 out of 6
Freshman Football – 11 out of 33	Girls' Tennis – 10 out of 23
Boys' Varsity Soccer – 10 out of 19	Girls' Varsity Volleyball – 5 out of 11
Boys' JV Soccer – 7 out of 15	Girls' JV Volleyball – 3 out of 13
Boys' Cross Country – 13 out of 35	Girls' Freshman Volleyball – 2 out of 10
Girls' Cross Country – 7 out of 24	Girls' Varsity Water Polo – 7 out of 10
Boys' Varsity Water Polo – 5 out of 14	Girls' JV Water Polo – 2 out of 10
Boys' JV Water Polo – 5 out of 24	

Next Boosters Meeting: Wednesday, October 1, at 7 pm in the Hawks' Nest.

Mark your calendar: Homecoming Parade and Football Game – Saturday, October 25

For game schedules, scores and more photos, go to [tamhighathletics.org](http://tamhighathletics.org) - GO HAWKS! ❖



*Tam High Girls Tennis team after winning a match against Redwood.*



*Alex Goldstein knocks in a beautiful backhand!*



## The Cross Country Teams holds it Stinson Relays:



*Caitlin Firmage, Varsity Girls, passing Redwood on the beach*



*Kalen Rago, Varsity boys*



*Freshman Jenna Lea surges past Terra Linda runner at Stinson Beach Relays, September 11, 2008*



*Matt Henn, Varsity Boys*

## Boys Soccer: Tam vs. Redwood



*Rafi Nur gets free at the top of the box and drills a hard shot into the back of the net to tie the game.*



*Jonah Hopton watches as his header goes over the keeper and into the far side of the net to score Tam's first goal sparking an improbable comeback. He took the cross at the far corner of the 18 yard box that Emil Barkovich sent from the near corner and then headed it up and over back to the far post. Hence his anxious expression.*

## Fall Sports Recap

### TAM HIGH VARSITY FOOTBALL – WOW!

Tamalpais High School's 2008-2009 varsity football team began its season this year with a scrimmage against John Swett High School. It was the first time anyone had a chance to see how much the team had progressed since last year. Working for the second year in a row with a staff headed up by Coach Tony Keefer, the Red Tailed Hawks impressed everyone in the stands.

The first official game was held in Walnut Creek on an excruciatingly hot September 6 against Northgate High School. On the day that Northgate inaugurated its new turf field, with temperatures hovering around 105 degrees, a small but very vocal fan base watched as Tam High won 22-19. It was an emotional day all around. Coach Keefer said the following about the victory: "Our players were pointing to our Northgate game the day we started workouts this past January. Hoping to salvage their 63-0 loss from 2007, they put in the necessary work for a 22-19 win."

With this important win under their belt, the Red Tailed Hawks followed up with a narrow 13-12 victory against Kennedy High of Richmond. Alex Ritchie nailed a 26-yard field goal with less than two minutes to play. Coach Keefer remarked that "Moving on to Kennedy, our home opener, we did not play up to our potential on the offensive side of the ball but our players, learning how to win found a way to get it done with special teams and defense."

Colton Danz and Bobby Burton, together, accounted for all but nine yards of Tam's total offense against the Eagles.

Tam had it a bit easier the following Saturday in another non-league home game against Galileo High School of San Francisco. The Hawks were well prepared defensively since Galileo runs a spread offense similar to that of Kennedy. In front of another large crowd of supporters, Tam won 56-0.

The football season is still young and Tam High School's varsity team is looking to add to its first three wins. They want to thank all the fans who have been so supportive and are hoping that new fans will come out to cheer them on.

#### SCHEDULE:

Saturday, October 4 @ 1 pm HOME vs. Sir Francis Drake High

Saturday, October 11 @ 1 pm AWAY vs. Castlemont High in Oakland  
(note new time and date)

Saturday, October 18 @ 2 pm AWAY vs. Terra Linda High

Saturday, October 25 @ 1 pm HOME vs. San Marin High  
(Homecoming Weekend)

Saturday, November 1 @ 1 pm HOME vs. Marin Catholic

Friday, November 7 @ 7 pm AWAY vs. San Rafael High

Saturday, November 15 @ 1 pm HOME vs. Justin Siena

Playoffs Begin Friday, November 21

### FRESHMAN FOOTBALL

The Tamalpais freshman football team traveled to Concord to face off against the De La Salle Spartans in their season opener. The team started off slowly, falling behind 22-0 in the first half after losing the ball twice deep in their own territory. They scored their first touchdown of the season when Ethan Jackson ran around the left end for a 60 yard touchdown to make the score 22-6.

Excellent special teams play by Will Haight kept the Hawks close.

Great defense held the Spartans to only one touchdown in the second half as the Hawks were led by strong safety James Gilmore and nose tackle Samuel Rivas. Jackson also had an interception in the second half. The final score was 29-6 in favor of the host Spartans.

It was a great effort against one of the national powerhouses in high school football and marks the first time that the two schools have played each other.

### GIRLS' WATER POLO

The Tam varsity girls' water polo team welcomes new coach Brandon Williams this season. Brandon brings a wealth of polo experience to the pool. The team returns a solid core of players led by Erin Schlueter, Avery Mosser, Amelia Harvey and third-year starter goalie Mattie Winkler. Freshmen Sami Harvey and Ali Coopersmith will play varsity and JV, bringing their club experience with them. The difficult schedule requires the Tam team to travel to the East Bay to play Berkeley (Tam won 16-2) plus powerhouse teams Las Lomas (Tam lost 4-2), Acalenes, Deer Valley and College Park, to stay in the running for a potential run at NCS for the third year in a row. Seniors Sophie Sieck, Alexis Kleinman, and Jillian Gamboa will also be strong contributors, having played all four years at Tam, along with juniors Gina Wall and Catie Debenendictis. Coach Brandon predicts a strong showing in MCAL competition (the team is already 2-0 in league play) and a return trip to NCS.

JV girls' water polo started its season with an 11-8 win against Las Lomas. Sami Harvey and Ali Coopersmith led the Hawks in scoring.

### BOYS' WATER POLO

Although MC and Drake have been at the top of the league in recent years, the Tam boys' team can't be counted out. The Hawks have key players back from a team that finished third in the league last year. Tam has a core group of seniors led by first-team all leaguer David Phillips and goalie Gus Stout, Andrew Latimer, Cooper Parkerson, Taylor Gamboa, Hans Geiszler and Cole Rippe. The team is currently 7-4 overall and 0-1 in MCAL, after losing to Terra Linda 14-13 in a tough physical battle.

The JV boys' water polo team is very promising, with a large roster that includes returning sophomores Jake Weber and Robert Scott leading the way plus new freshmen Dylan Glave, Brennan Latimer, Joe Weber and Trevor Williams to name a few.

Coach Bob Kustel says, "We need the young guys, you don't do it with just seniors. I think we're going to be pretty solid."

### CROSS COUNTRY

The Red Tailed Hawks upset Redwood at MCALs last year and return many of the same faces from that effort this year in Cory Rand, Kalen Rago and Chris Lowell. They have strong back up in Dan Milechman,

*continued on next page*



## Fall Sports Recap (continued)

Sean Lang-Brown, Kevin Templeton, Michale Fearon and David Fuchs, to name a few. The girls lost six seniors to graduation but returning runners include Monica Milstein and Devin Patrick. Olivia Blackstone and Linden McGreevy are standout track and field athletes who, in their senior year, are first time cross country participants, and bring maturity and lots of talent.

Coach Sylvia Goodman says, "I'm very excited about the influx of the large group of freshmen girls, who show tremendous potential. We have 64 athletes on our team this year, up 17 from last year. They are a hard-working, enthusiastic bunch of athletes who love the challenges of running on different courses under different conditions, but most of all, they seem to really enjoy the camaraderie they share. They are a delight to coach."

### GIRLS' GOLF

Last year the Tam girls' golf team enjoyed a very successful season despite having only five players, the smallest team in the league. The team was one of only four teams to make the MCAL playoffs. However, three of the five players were seniors who graduated. We have eight team members this year, six of whom who are new to the team. Three of the new members are freshmen who, along with the other team members, are rapidly improving their game through the instruction of Ray Leach, of Peacock Gap, the team's teaching professional. Coach Kirk Hanson comments, "Our goal this year is to rebuild a team for future years, and to have a fun time doing so. We have played four matches against more experienced teams, so we are still looking for our first win as the girls improve weekly."

### GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

In 2008, the MCAL volleyball league has perhaps more parity than it has had in many years with 4 or 5 teams at the top. Trying to break into that group is the Tam team. Coach Beth Maseuli returns for her second season. Tam is focused on building for the future with seven seniors mentoring a solid group of younger girls. The seniors bring enough experience to pull off some upsets: Hilary Jacobs, Cameron Cressman and Sinead McSweeney are outside hitters, Andrea Mazzini and Siena Hood are the go-to front row middle blockers, along with liberos Paige Ogden and Cynthia Bathgate.

### GIRLS' TENNIS

The 2008 Tam team has remained largely intact, which is good since the MCAL title is up for grabs, with no clear-cut favorite as the season begins. With almost no truly dominating players this season, depth will be extremely important. For the same reason, doubles may play a bigger role than they have in recent years.

After spending the last few years in the shadows of Redwood and San Marin, the Red Tailed Hawks have a shot at being the MCAL's top team. Tam returns all-league selections Ariel Sultan, Emily Prescott and Haley Bronstein, who will play in that order at the top of the singles ladder. The remaining three spots are likely to rotate among senior Katie Brigham, junior Megan Schuller and freshman Liza Brusman while Coach Bill Washauer learns which lineup he likes best.

"It's very competitive internally," Washauer said. "I think that's going to translate to us being very competitive in league."

With the top three singles players set, the most difficult task for Washauer will be finding the lineup that will give him the most depth.



*Tam's offensive line holds Galileo's defense in check*



*Jack Hogan carries the ball to eventually score two touchdowns.*

### BOYS' SOCCER

Coached again by Dustin Nygaard, assisted by Shane Kennedy, the boys' team tied sixth in MCAL last season, losing a spot in the playoffs in a tough play-in game. The loss of some key seniors to graduation, including MCAL Player of the Year goalie Brayden Hoyt, combined with some early season injuries, has kept Coach Nygaard busy adjusting the lineup.

Junior Josh Renn, a wrestler, has used his athleticism to make a lot of progress as the new goalie. Aaron Krepack and Rafi Nur return as captains this year. Sean Wilkinson and Spencer LaBay are back after playing a ton of minutes on defense as freshmen last season. Juniors Nick Pastuhov and Jonah Hopton provide the Hawks with more experience as three-year varsity starters. Tam also has a foreign exchange student from Ghana, Musa Manneh, who is already making an impact this season.

"Musa is a very dynamic player," Nygaard said. "He has a different style, very creative. He's a target striker. He can be with his back to goal and then be facing the goal and shooting in the blink of an eye."

Tam hosted the Bay City Invitational Tournament earlier this season and scored an impressive 3-0 victory over NCS Class A runner-up University High School from San Francisco. Although they started the season with a loss and two ties, the boys' team continues to dazzle the large home game crowds with amazing foot skills and solid teamwork. ♦



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700 Miller Avenue  
Mill Valley, CA 94941

### OCTOBER 2008 TAM HIGH ANNUAL FALL CAMPAIGN MONTH

Date	Time/Event	Location
1	<b>7 PM</b> – BOOSTERS MEETING	HAWKS' NEST
3	<b>12:25 PM</b> – CLUB DAY	FRONT CIRCLE
5	<b>NOON</b> – "REUNION" DOCUMENTARY	SEQUOIA THEATER
		25 THROCKMORTON AVE.
6	<b>6 PM</b> – CELEBRATE TAM MEETING	LIBRARY
7	<b>7 PM</b> – TUHSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
8	MINIMUM DAY – <b>12:35 DISMISSAL</b>	
11	<b>NOON-10 PM</b> – CTE DANCE-ATHON	RUBY SCOTT GYM
13-24	<b>LUNCH PERIOD</b> – HOMECOMING DANCE TICKETS ON SALE	FRONT CIRCLE
15	<b>3:40 PM</b> – SPIRIT CREW BUS TO FOOTBALL GAME VS. REDWOOD	FRONT CIRCLE
15	<b>7 PM</b> – PTSA MEETING; TOPIC: HOME ACCESS CENTER	LIBRARY
15	<b>7 PM</b> – THUMB MEETING	GREENWOOD MUSIC BLDG
16	<b>7 PM</b> – P2P MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
17	<b>9:55 AM</b> – HOMECOMING RALLY	MEAD THEATER
18	<b>8 AM-NOON</b> – PSAT (CHECK IN BY 7:45 AM)	GUS GYM
20	<b>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</b> – NO SCHOOL	
21	<b>7 PM</b> – TUHSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
21-24	<b>7 PM</b> – CTE PRESENTS "LIVING OUT"	CALDWELL THEATRE
25	<b>HOMECOMING</b> PARADE: <b>10 AM</b> STAGING, <b>NOON</b> START	OLD MILL SCHOOL
	<b>1 PM</b> – FOOTBALL GAME VS. SAN MARIN	BRUCE GRANT FIELD
	<b>8-11 PM</b> – DANCE	GUS GYM
31	<b>7:30 AM</b> – HALLOWEEN BREAKFAST	HAWKS' NEST FOR FACULTY AND STAFF