

**Christian Brothers
High School**

Scrapbook

1996-1997



Our fearless leaders:

Mrs. Cecilia
(Ce Ce Centipede)
Powers and
Mrs. Madeline
(Guerra Gorilla)
Guerra



Christian Brothers High School
Student Council
1996-97

Student Body Officers:

Jon Brack, president
Matt Robinson, vice-president
Kari Strawn, secretary
James Coloma, co-treasurer
Michelle Crenshaw, co-treasurer
Darren Davis, co-publicity / historian
Debbie Obernesser, co-publicity / historian
Kelly Dority, spirit captain

Senior Class Officers:

Bud Rojas, president
Sarah Garrett, vice-president
Lisa Yokoyama, secretary
Angela Jablonsky, treasurer
Devon Farren, co-spirit captain
Chrissy Soda, co-spirit captain

Junior Class Officers:

Chanel Price, president
Hillary Evans, vice-president
Mandy Cotta, secretary
Lisa Pascuzzi, treasurer
Annie Jesseman, co-spirit captain
Jennifer Robb, co-spirit captain

Sophomore Class Officers:

David Holquin, president
Marguerite Noteware, vice-president
Erin Lofstrom, secretary
James Snyder, treasurer
Julie Kolch, co-spirit captain
Lauren Wong, co-spirit captain

Freshman Class Officers:

Gerry Lobo, president
Eva Cantu, vice-president
Aaron Rogers, secretary
Macenzie Monroe, treasurer
Nathan Brown, co-spirit captain
Christian Muller, co-spirit captain

Lock-in 2000

The first ever Freshmen Lock-In was a huge success. The event was planned by the ASB Council and the Senior Class Council and was designed to welcome the incoming freshman and to give them an opportunity to make friends and meet their classmates before school officially began. The festivities lasted from eight in the evening to eight the next morning and included mixer games, a dance, a magic show, movies, volleyball, basketball, a scavenger hunt, a talented volunteer balloon artist, and a bouncy house. Thanks to the overwhelming percentage of the class that attended, plus the student council members and volunteers from the CB community that showed up to make the freshman feel at home, the night was an overwhelming success.









Student Council Camp





Area scouts earn Eagle status

By DiAnne Brown

POCKET NEWS EDITOR

Three area Boy Scouts were honored as new Eagle Scouts in a ceremony held July 14 at Sacramento's First United Methodist Church.

Christopher Jong and Jonathan Fong of the Pocket Area and Brian Peck of Land Park, all members of Sacramento Troop #259, achieved the Boy Scouts of America's highest rank of membership after having completed a series of merit badges and an extensive Eagle service project.

Christopher Jong, son of Jeff and Betty Jong, will be a sophomore at Kennedy High School this fall. He joined Cub Scouts in 1988 and completed his Eagle Scout requirements last January. For his Eagle Scout service project, Jong chose to redecorate Chinese Grace Bible Church's education building's second floor hallway.

"The hallway looked really dingy, like a dark alley," said Jong. "I decided that I could make it look



Local scouts Brian Peck, Christopher Jong and Jonathan Fong recently achieved Eagle Scout ranking.

much more cheerful, brighter, and scouts in my troop,"
lively with help from all of the

See SCOUTS, page 30

Scouts

Continued from page 1

He and his father cleaned and taped the hallway for painting so that when 15 scouts in his troop arrived to help out, Jong was able to use his leadership skills to get the work done in an organized manner.

After the paint job was completed, the two Jongs finished the project with more detailed design painting, bulletin/poster board construction, and graphics application. "I received lots of compliments from the church members on the improvements," said Jong.

Brian Peck also chose to assist a local church for his service project.

"I built 11 sets of bookshelves for the First United Methodist Church," he said. With help from a retired industrial arts teacher, Peck designed the bookshelves, purchased the materials, and assembled kits for his helpers — 14 scouts and two friends.

"After the shelves were assembled, four of us took them down to the church for installation. Two of us carried them up the fire escape and the other two put the shelves in the cases... they were completed in record time," Peck said.

The Christian Brothers High School junior is the son of Pat and Bob Peck. He joined the Cub Scouts in 1986 and became an Eagle Scout last February.

Jonathan Fong, son of Jim and Josie Fong, volunteered for the Sacramento Stormwater Management Program and stenciled storm drains for his service project. He stenciled the message "NO DUMPING — FLOWS TO RIVER" on approximately 325 storm drains in the Greenhaven/Pocket Area.

"I helped people realize they are not to dump any toxic materials such as used motor oil and anti-freeze, pesticides, pet wastes, paint, and other water pollutants into storm drains which flow directly to the Sacramento and American Rivers and local creeks," said Fong. "In addition, I made people aware that just one quart of motor oil entering our storm drain system pollutes 250,000 gallons of fresh water. By stenciling storm drains I helped protect our waterways and wildlife from stormwater pollution."

The Kennedy High School sophomore joined the Tiger Cubs in 1987 and achieved his Eagle Scout rank last May.

Assistant Scoutmaster Dennis Fong said he was proud of the achievements of the three new Eagle Scouts who are members of one of Sacramento's oldest scout troops. The troop was established in 1966 and now has 84 members, most with First Class and Star Scouts rankings. Weekly meetings are held at the Elks Lodge on Riverside Boulevard.

All three Eagle Scouts credit their parents and scoutmasters for keeping them involved in the scouting program.

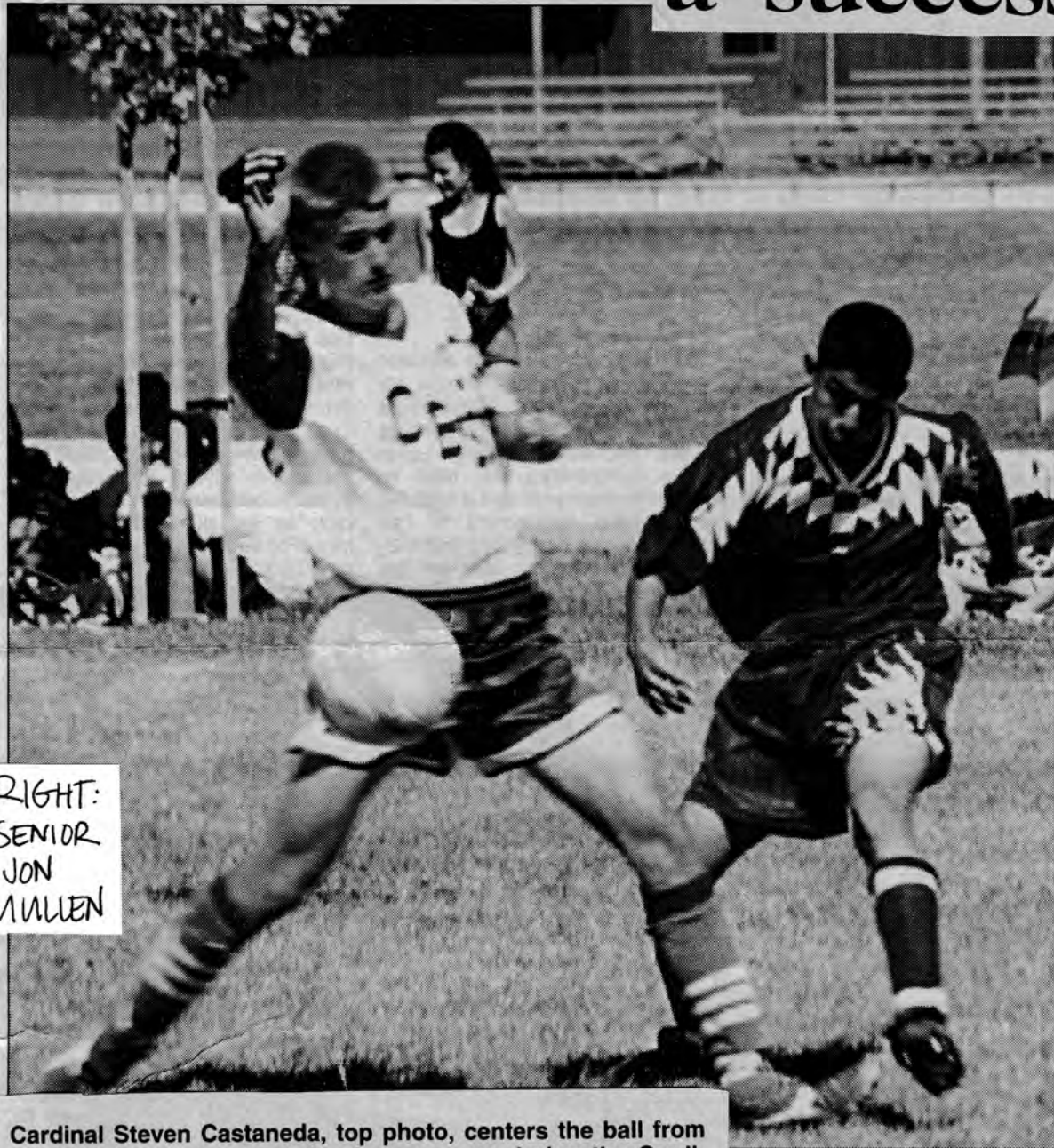
"My mom really motivated me," said Peck. "She always asked about my merit badges and projects and remind me to get them done. Moms are pretty good at that kind of stuff."

POCKET NEWS

JULY 18, 1996

First Cardinal Classic

a 'success'



RIGHT:
SENIOR
JON
MULLEN

Cardinal Steven Castaneda, top photo, centers the ball from the left corner despite defensive pressure during the Cardinals 2-1 win over Christian Brothers. Jason Jones, Laguna Creek's leading scorer, beats three Falcon defenders and the goalie to the ball and scores his ninth goal of the week.

Neighbors/Gareth Dodd



SACRAMENTO BEE
SEPTEMBER 5, 1996









Onward, Christian Brothers

They take steps to regain power

By Jim Van Vliet
Bee Staff Writer

While Jesuit High School was rumbling through the 1995 Metro League campaign, culminating in the school's first Sac-Joaquin Section football championship, things were a little different at Christian Brothers.

The two Catholic schools were heading in decidedly opposite directions.

By midseason, Jesuit had nearly as many people on its coaching staff as CBS had players. Faced with the possibility of disbanding its team, the once-mighty Falcons did the next best — or worst — thing.

They pulled the plug on their junior varsity team and elevated all the sophomores to the varsity. It allowed CBS to complete a 1-9 season. More importantly, it put a spotlight on a program that once had been the pride of Sacramento.



As recently as 1983, with Cal-bound Vince Delgado running for more than 2,000 yards, CBS won a section title. But as Jesuit asserts itself as the premier Catholic school in Northern California, CBS rebuilds with an eye on the future.

Mike Clemons, a part of the school's legacy when it was called Bishop Armstrong in the late 1950s and early '60s, has been brought in as athletic director.

According to Ron Limeberger, CBS' longtime athletic director

and now Clemons' assistant, the problem is purely numbers.

"Look at Jesuit," he said. "They have 1,000 boys. Give any school 1,000 boys and watch out. When we had 725 boys (in the 1980s), nobody could touch us.

"It's a numbers game. Who has the athletic programs? It's the school with the most athletes."

The biggest impact on CBS' enrollment came in 1990, when the school opened its doors to girls. Now CBS has 935 students — 545 boys.

Limeberger was skeptical when girls first arrived. But he isn't now.

"The girls have helped me clean up my act," he said. "And I needed it. We're like any other school now."

In his first two months on the job, Clemons already has identified where the work starts. And it begins with the coaching staff, where only four of 19 head coaches work full time on campus. That compares to nine of 12 at Jesuit, which has 23 on-campus coaches overall.

"We need more in-house coaches to come in and take ownership of their programs," Clemons said. "That's very important. We also need a strong booster club, and we need to promote ourselves better. We're a tuition-based school, and we need kids to survive."

There is a ray of hope: CBS sports a freshman class of 263 this year, its biggest in a decade.

While lower overall numbers suggest CBS may never be in a position to challenge Jesuit as the local Catholic power, nobody is giving up trying.

"They're the heavyweight champs," Clemons said of Jesuit. "And they won't back down. You've got to find a way to beat them."

“
We're a
tuition-
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”

Mike Clemons

SACRAMENTO BEE
SEPTEMBER 12, 1996

CBS keeps its roots in familiar soil

Mike Clemons is at the wheel of his extended-cab pickup, circling the block near 21st Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. It's early afternoon and the sun is blazing, but Clemons disdains air conditioning. His windows are down. His arms are waving.

Clemons is a football coach whose current job pulled him away from blocking sleds and stuck him in an office. He quit Sacramento State on the suspicion that the university was ready to drop football. He became an assistant coach at Pacific. Sac State expanded football. Pacific suspended its program. So much for his timing.

Now he's athletic director at Christian Brothers, a Catholic prep school that has been educating Sacramento boys for much of the past century.

Girls entered the mix six years ago, making Christian Brothers a place of special ecumenicalism, home to sisters as well as brothers.

One big controversy at Christian Brothers has been its location. The Oak Park neighborhood has seen better days, and there's a belief that parents who might be willing to spend upward of \$4,000 per year to prepare their children for college would rather spend the money in more pristine surroundings.

Clemons, who has removed his necktie and draped it around his rearview mirror, is showing us why those parents are wrong.

He turns the wheel to the right and heads down a side street several blocks from Christian Brothers.

"Look at these homes," he says. "There's a lot of pride in these places. These people may not

have a ton of money, but just about everyone is trying to do the best they can. Look at the flowers that guy has growing there. Look at that yard. I'd be real happy with that yard."

Clemons makes another turn and says, "People hear about Oak Park, and they assume it's all bad. That's just not true. Sure, some places have to go, some people are knuckleheads. But most of these places are pretty nice. When people come down here and look around, they see what I'm talking about."

Ahead on the right, several

Please see GRASWICH, page D6

Graswich: Clemons says school

Continued from page D1

men are seated in chairs beneath a shade tree on the lawn of a bungalow-style home. A pickup is parked on the grass. The truck is filled with fresh summer fruit for sale.

Clemons drives past and waves his hand and says, "Now here comes one of the places that have to go. Look at these apartments. The city has to do something about that. You get rid of that place and a couple of others, and a lot of your problems go away."

The two-floor apartment building sits a short walk from Christian Brothers and is surrounded by a

chain-link fence. Windows on the corner unit are broken out, replaced by garbage bags taped to the frames. The yard is overgrown with weeds. Broken glass reflects in the sun.

Over cheeseburgers and diet Cokes at a drive-in, Clemons talks about why he loves Christian Brothers, which was called Bishop Armstrong when he graduated from the school in 1963.

"Don't get me wrong. I'm more of a football coach than a school administrator," he says. "I don't know how long I'll be an athletic director. But there's one thing I always felt about

should stay in Oak Park

Christian Brothers: I wouldn't want it in any other neighborhood."

In recent years, some Christian Brothers alumni and faculty members talked about opening a new campus on North Natomas farmland. According to outgoing school president Don Gillott, the plans are on hold.

"The feeling is we can make a bigger impact improving our present campus," Gillott said.

Back at the drive-in, Clemons says, "Anybody can build a school overlooking a river, but that's not what a Catholic school education is supposed to be about. I'm speaking strictly as

a layman, but it seems to me that our order's whole purpose is to serve people who wouldn't otherwise get help. We're supposed to serve our neighbors, to bring kids here and prepare them to succeed in the real world. I don't care what other schools or coaches do. This is where we belong."

Clemons finishes his meal and climbs back into his truck. When he returns to campus, flowers are blooming. Down the street, a few windows still need fixing.

R.E. GRASWICH'S column appears four times a week. Write him at P.O. Box 15779, Sacramento, 95852, or call (916) 326-5521.

SACRAMENTO BEE
SEPTEMBER 12, 1996

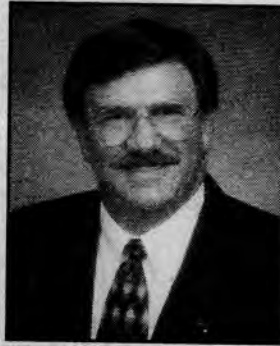
Christian Brothers High School names Mark Warren as president

Mark Warren, an administrator at Jesuit High School in Carmichael, has been appointed president of Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento.

After months of searching and interviewing candidates, the school's board of trustees and the De La Salle Institute announced the appointment Sept. 5.

Warren brings a wealth of Catholic education experience to Christian Brothers. For the past 24 years, he has served in various capacities at Jesuit, including teaching, counseling and coaching. For the past 11 years he has been director of development for all boys' high school.

Warren has been active in a variety of local associations, including membership in



Mark Warren

the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, the Jesuit Secondary Association, and serving on the government relations committee of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives. Warren's daughter is currently a sophomore at Christian Brothers.

Effective Sept. 15, Warren will replace interim president Don Gillott, who has served Christian Brothers since

1993, following his retirement as dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science at California State University, Sacramento.

Gillott submitted his resignation in June but will remain at the coeducational high school through September and then continue to be available on a consulting basis.

CATHOLIC HERALD
SEPTEMBER 14, 1996

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS (CITY)
SEPTEMBER 26, 1996

Seven Christian Brothers
High School students have been named
semifinalists in the 1997 National Merit
Scholarship Competition.

**Ross Boughton, Byron Chen, Devon
Cromwell, Christine Fort, Sarah Garrett,
Deborah Obernesser and Sean Rogers**, are
among 15,000 seniors selected from more than 1.1
million students throughout the United States who
entered the competition. The finalists will be
announced in April.

Around the schools

Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento and The College Board recently announced **Paul Reynaga** as a Scholar Finalist in the National Hispanic Scholar Recognition program. The Hispanic Scholar program provides national recognition of the exceptional academic achievements of Hispanic high school seniors and identifies them for post-secondary institutions.

Reynaga qualified as one of 3,000 finalists selected from more than 100,000 students who applied nationwide. Acceptance into the program is based on grade point average—a 3.5 or better—high marks on the preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship qualifying test and the school's endorsement of his academic background. The names of all finalists are listed on a roster of outstanding Hispanic students which has been released to colleges and universities to encourage them to seek out these talented students as potential candidates for admission.

CATHOLIC HERALD
SEPTEMBER 28, 1996

CATHOLIC HERALD
OCTOBER 26, 1996

Christian Brother Stephen Rusyn, principal of Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento, recently announced that **Kimberly Irish, Paul Reynaga** and **Nathan Vincent** have been named Commended Students in the 1997 National Merit Scholarship Program. A letter of commendation from the school

and National Merit Scholarship Corporation will be presented by Brother Rusyn to these scholastically talented seniors. About 35,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being honored for exceptional academic promise.

CELEBRATING HERITAGE

David Nguyen, age 17

Activities: Asian Cultural Exchange's Lion Dance Troupe and Asian Pacific Theatre Company

David Nguyen was born in 1978 in the countryside near Saigon. A year later, his family fled to Indonesia, surviving pirate attacks and camping on a beach before coming to the United States.

As a child, he occasionally performed a made-up version of the lion dance – an Asian ritual designed to bring good luck. But his interest didn't spark until last year, when he sought help in learning actual lion dance basics for Multicultural Week at Christian

Brothers High, where he's now a senior.

He was hooked. Dancing under the heavy lion costume to the beat of a drum, he found a connection to his heritage. Now, he frequently performs as a member of the Asian Cultural Exchange's Lion Dance Troupe.

He also explores his heritage artistically through the Asian Pacific Theatre Company, which is currently staging a play called "Paper Angels." He plays a poet.

"I like to do these things. They're fun, they're interesting and I get to learn not only about my culture but about other ones. We're all Asian, but most of our cultures are distinct.

"In a way, it has made me appreciate other people. But most of all, it's fun."



SACRAMENTO BEE

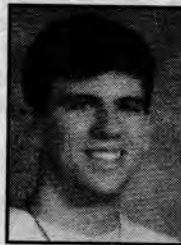
Students set agenda for next president

Seniors from the seven high schools in the Sacramento Diocese responded to the question, "What do you believe is the single most important issue to be addressed by the man elected president of the United States in 1996?"



**Lisa Colins,
Christian
Brothers
High School**

"The most important issue to be addressed by the man who will be elected president this year is education. The education system has suffered many cutbacks in funding in recent history and as a result education has suffered... Teachers are unable to help those students which require help because they have too many students in their class. Students are learning less and it has become easy for uneducated students to pass through the school system. The education system must be addressed because education is the foundation for our society."



**John Kubasak,
Christian
Brothers
High School**

"I think the most important issue is Washington spending. With an incalculable deficit, wasteful spending must be watched and controlled. In addition, there needs to be a balance of continued programs and cuts. The present programs must be analyzed and decisions must be made on which programs should continue and which are a waste of the tax dollars. The ensuing step would be to analyze and, if necessary, reform the present programs."

CATHOLIC HERALD
OCTOBER 26, 1996

CBS struggles to regain tradition

Varsity program no longer strikes fear in opponents

BY JOE DAVIDSON
Neighbors sports writer

On the outside, Christian Brothers High School looks the same. Structurally, the Catholic school campus on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard appears no different than it did 25 years ago.

There are the red-brick buildings, the gym, the expansive practice and playing fields.

There is the parking lot that doubles as an outdoor basketball court. It's still all there.

But the occupants who stroll the halls and sit in the classrooms are decidedly different than students of two decades ago. That has affected the extracurricular activities, most of which have flourished.

The student body includes girls where there used to be boys only. CBS went coed five years ago.

But while girls teams in volleyball, basketball and softball have made quick strides, some boys programs — including football — have struggled.

Though the effort on the field has been admirable, the Falcons hardly resemble their once formidable selves.

Opponents no longer think there will be a battle on their hands when Christian Brothers is on the schedule.

Undermanned and lacking size and quickness, CBS fights mostly for survival.

With 32 players on the varsity, CBS is limping home to its second straight one-win season.

Players who used to suit up chose not to this season. Some students who never played football are now starters. Where there used to be a platoon system with one-way players, nearly half the roster seems to play offense and defense now.

Luck and good fortune, always a staple to the Falcons' power teams of the 1960s, '70s and '80s, seems to have faded as well.

"It's been difficult," coach Greg Meegan said. "We have some kids who can play, and as a team they absolutely work their butts off. But it hasn't been enough to show anything on the scoreboard. We can stay with teams for a while, but after awhile, we're on our backs and we're in trouble."

It doesn't help that injuries have taken their toll on an already thin roster.

"We're banged up," Meegan said. "Our training room looks like a triage room from the Civil War."

The climb back to respectability has been slow, but there is progress. The freshman class is 262 strong, the largest in years. More than 50 players suited up for the freshman team and produced a winning Metro season for coach Rolf Schumann.

A year after the junior varsity team was abolished because of a lack of players, the JV Falcons under coach George Smith and standout quarterback Steve Cuckovich can tie for the Metro championship with a win against Jesuit Friday in the Holy Bowl.

Some have joked that the varsity and JV games should be switched, because there will be more interest in the lower division game this season.

So what happened? How could a program that won league championships in three decades and still field playoff teams in the early 1990s veer off course so suddenly?

Coaches, players and administrators point to several reasons for the demise, including a change in demographics.

CBS does not have the physically gifted athletes that dotted the football rosters in previous eras.

That change can be seen in part with the ethnic make up of the

varsity squad. There is only one African American player, where there used to be considerably more.

And many gifted athletes who could qualify academically for CBS are choosing Jesuit in Carmichael for their Catholic experience.

"The kind of kids that used to go here now go to Jesuit and after awhile, it makes a difference," assistant coach Mel Fontes said. "CBS needs to start winning that battle again."

Meegan agreed.

"This school is in an identity crisis," Meegan said. "It's coed. The alumni may not even recognize the place. It's like a brand-new school."

"In the old days, it was blue collar. There were hard-nosed kids. Now it's more of a college prep school, which is good, don't get me wrong. But it's not as easy to get in here as it use to be so you don't have the same kinds of kids you used to get.

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS (SOUTH)
NOVEMBER 14, 1996

"No school challenges a student more than CBS academically. Students are required to take seven academic courses a day, more than any school in the Sacramento area. After practice, the kids have a lot of homework to do.

"But it can be done. Look at De La Salle (of Concord) and Jesuit. They win. We used to and we need to again."

Fontes and Dave Hoskins, veteran coaches who got their start at CBS 30 years ago, returned this fall after enjoying record success at Valley.

Hoskins and first-year athletic director Mike Clemons are close friends and one-time California State University, Sacramento, roommates

But the sideline view has been different than the 12-1 juggernaut Hoskins and Fontes directed a year ago at Valley.

Still, the coaches are moved at the efforts of their current players. They say the players are attentive and eager, but maybe too polite for their own good.

"They're fantastic kids," Fontes said. "But there's a time to be mean in this game. During one game, a player kept apologizing for a mistake. 'I'm sorry coach, I'm sorry.' (Defensive coordinator) Rick Messer finally said, 'Don't say sorry! Go out and blow someone up!'"

There is a strange sense of irony here for Hoskins and Fontes. At Valley, they won league championships and players obtained scholarships. But some parents wanted more and others wanted the coaches out entirely.

Now that CBS has struggled just to reach the end zone, there are no demands for a new coaching staff. No one pickets in front of the gym or writes letters to the editor. The CBS football community is patient and helpful.

Parents have helped refurbish the weight room and training room. Meegan said the support has been overwhelming

And like Hoskins and Fontes, he left greener pastures to plant

some new sod. He was athletic director at Jesuit before accepting the CBS post.

At CBS, he hopes to orchestrate the same kind of magic he worked in Fresno. In some ways, the San Joaquin Memorial High program he took over in the late-1980s was in worse shape than CBS.

The Fresno school had three wins in its previous six years before Meegan came aboard.

Meegan's first team went 0-10. His second went 3-7. But by the third year, he was 11-3 and by the fourth the team was 12-2 and winners of the section championship for the first time.

Meegan was a salesman on campus. The athletes who shunned the program in the past started to come out for football. He wants to do that at his latest

stop.

"This isn't a quick fix, I knew that coming in," Meegan said. "It'll take time but it can be done. It has to get done."

Mike Clemons is disturbed. For a proud bear of a man who has played or coached at all levels of football, he is confronted with his most daunting challenge at his alma mater.

As is his nature, Clemons sugarcoats nothing. The former CSUS head coach and University of the Pacific assistant coach wants the students and the athletes to have more balance at CBS.

Specifically, he wants players and he wants results.

"It's a heck of a lot harder to get in here than it used to be with academic requirements and all, but

maybe we need to be a little more sensitive to a kid's needs," Clemons said. "We have to give them chances. We have to attract kids. I'm serious about athletics here. It's important to me.

"I don't run the school. I try to impress upon the administration that we need to think about getting kids who want to play sports here as well. They'll still have to meet the academic guidelines, of course, but let's get them in.

"We don't want all students. We want some student-athletes as well. We want well-rounded kids. The more kids that are involved in programs in school, the better it is for everyone involved.

"I tell the athletes that we want to be competitive. They represent themselves and the school. We're not a recreational program."

Danny Gill understands the theme.

A junior, Gill symbolizes the team player. A natural tight end or linebacker, Gill has played quarterback, tailback, fullback, strong safety, defensive end, tight end and linebacker.

"I'll do whatever it takes to win," Gill said. "We're working hard out there. We didn't expect to be this bad. I mean, we're in some games and we can move the ball in between the 20s, but we don't always score."

Gill accounted for four touchdowns in the Falcons' lone win, a 35-14 conquest of winless Sacramento. He ran for three scores and passed for one.

Sensing a long season, Meegan resisted the temptation to elevate talented sophomores. He's confident the move will pay off in the long run.

"I wanted them to stay together and win together," the coach said. "The only way to understand winning is to experience it. It was the best thing to do. I don't always feel like that after the weekend, but it is the right thing to do."



CHARR CRAIL / NEIGHBORS

CBS football players run through form drills as a warmup during a recent practice.

CBS junior varsity football soars past varsity brethren

Falcons are 7-1 and have renewed hope for future

"And now, introducing your mythical national champion Christian Brothers football team ..."

OK, so announcer Omar Ruiz's pre-game introductions for the Christian Brothers High School junior varsity team is a little exaggerated. But compared with their struggling varsity brethren, the JV Falcons continue to soar.

Friday night's Holy Bowl coaches should consider

switching starting times to let the deserving junior varsity programs take the prime-time spotlight.

Metro League bragging rights will be on the line when Christian Brothers and Jesuit clash in the 6 p.m. JV game at California State University, Sacramento.

But for the second year in a row, the varsity game will have no playoff implications. Defending champion Jesuit is fattening up for a return to the Sac-Joaquin Section playoffs while Christian Brothers is closing out a one-win

season.

A victory in the JV game will conclude an 8-1 season for the young Falcons under coach George Smith, a proven varsity leader who assumed command of the JV team after a year away from high school coaching.

With 6-foot-2, 190-pound quarterback Steve Cuckovich hooking up often with T.J. Jennings and Nick White or handing off to fullback Ronny

SEE FALCONS, PAGE 14

FALCONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Gayton, the Falcons lost only to McClatchy 28-21 this season.

"We've had a good season," Smith said. "I've enjoyed it. I feel like I've had a rebirth. I like being on campus with the kids and seeing the progress on the field. I really missed that."

In Cuckovich, Smith sees a glimpse of the past. Kevin McKechnie set Christian Brothers passing records in 1992 and 1993, and he led the program's last playoff team. Cuckovich represents a bright future for the varsity ranks.

"We're determined to turn this

thing around," said Cuckovich, who led the freshmen to a 7-3 record a year ago. "If we all stay together, keep working together and dedicate ourselves, we should win games next year."

Cuckovich comes from quality Metro League stock. His father, Mel, and his uncle, Steve, were one-time athletes of the year at Hiram Johnson in the 1960s. Young Cuckovich wears his dad's jersey, No. 11.

Thirty years later, he hopes to win a Metro championship like his father and uncle.

— Joe Davidson

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS (SOUTH)
NOVEMBER 14, 1996



NEIGHBORS FILE

George Smith has returned to lead the Falcon's JV team.

One last look before we switch equipment

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS (SOUTH)
DECEMBER 12, 1996

As we head into basketball season, it's time to recap and recall some of the top performances of the high school football season.

■ **Run of the Year:** Take your pick. Avion Weaver of Valley pulled an Earl Campbell bit on two Grant defenders on his way to a 45-yard gain in an early nonleague game, and he ran over a Del Campo defensive back at the goal line that punctuated his dominance in a playoff game. In both cases, defenders were heard to say ouch.

■ **Run of the Year, Part II:** O'Jay Brown of Mira Loma needed exactly 94 yards to reach the 1,000-yard rushing mark for the season like his teammates Kam Davis and Tony Brown.

Brown came through. He raced for a 94-yard run to reach the milestone — and to beat Rio Linda in the final seconds in Week 9 to secure the Matadors' first playoff berth since 1981.

■ **Pass of the Year:** Jeremy Bryner will forever be frowned upon in Grass Valley for this one. The Del Campo quarterback found Matt Barnes for a perfect 19-yard touchdown with no time left, sealing a 33-32 win over Nevada Union and setting up the infamous coin flip that ultimately dashed Miner Magic.

■ **Pass of the Year, Part II:** Robert Coleman tossed the winning touchdown to Derrane Taylor on fourth down to beat Jesuit 21-14 in the Metro League championship at Hughes Stadium. Coleman was the first sophomore Max Miller has started in his 33 years of coaching.

■ **Pass of the Year that wasn't:** Randy Fasani rolled out left in his end zone like only he can in a Sierra Foothill League showdown at Roseville. The Del Oro All-American flicked the ball with nary an effort. It sailed some 50 yards, only to be dropped.

The play would have been a national high school record-tying 99-yard play. Still, even Fasani's incomplete passes were fun to watch.

■ **Defensive Performances of the Year:** 1.) Wes Frailey of

JOE DAVIDSON



Ponderosa took part in four sacks and provided emotional leadership while leading the upstart Bruins past Galt in the regular-season finale. It was a game Ponderosa had to win to reach the playoffs for the first time since 1981.

2.) Jabbari Block of Johnson made life miserable for Jesuit's J.T. O'Sullivan when he sacked the senior four times in that Metro League title tilt. Additional kudos to Warriors defensive coordinator Mike Dimino, who shuffled players to find the right defensive fit.

■ **Gutsiest call of the Year:** Golden Sierra coach Terry Cox never hesitated when his Grizzlies scored late against rival Bear River in a nonleague game.

He opted for a two-point conversion and the win instead of the safe route by kicking for a 7-7 tie. Golden Sierra was stopped short on the conversion try, but Cox gained even more respect for the effort.

■ **Hit of the Year:** Harold Blackshire and Weaver of Valley combined to do a number on Yuba City's Colin Smith at the goal line with no time left. Their effort secured a 14-6 win and a chance to repeat as Delta League champions.

■ **Bogus Play of the Year:** The coin flip heard all around Grass Valley. Because Nevada Union, Grant and Del Campo finished in a three-way tie atop the Capital Athletic League, a flip of the was needed to determine the two playoff teams. NU lost just one game in the final second to Del Campo, and lost the flip.

There's got to be a better way.

■ **Unsung heroes:** Lee Turner of McClatchy was the leader of the youngest playoff team in the section; Jeremy Freitag of San Juan clobbered people even

though his team lost more than they won; John Kincaid of Mira Loma was the leader of an offensive line that paved the way for the most prolific backfield in the section; Danny Gill of Christian Brothers played every position asked of him, and played them all well. Gill accounted for all five of his teams touchdowns in a 35-14 win over Sacramento, the Falcons' only victory of the season.

■ **Welcome Back honor:** Running back Gary Smith of Johnson did not play his sophomore and junior seasons because of poor grades, but he put it all together as a senior. After earning his way out of Miller's dog house for dropping the ball on a premature celebration against Foothill, Smith brought back memories of Donald Hair, who set area scoring records at McClatchy in 1984.

■ **Voteless:** He scored more rushing touchdowns than anyone in Jesuit history. He reached the end zone more than just about anyone in the section. He played stellar defense, was a captain, was a leader who earned good grades and he was classy in victory and defeat, which can't always be said for players at this level.

So why didn't anyone vote for Josh Ehlers on the All Metro team? In a ballot of area coaches, Ehlers got one vote, and that was from his coach, Dan Carmazzi.

Ehlers no doubt was a victim of his team's success and image. Much like Cordova of the 1970s and 80s, people have grown tired of Big Red, and that means a cold shoulder when it comes to votes.

■ **Most ironic twist:** For years, Grant disdained Saturday afternoon football. For whatever reasons, the Pacers would at times go through the motions under the sun. They were still good enough to win a championship, but it was rarely pretty.

So what happens this year? The Pacers play eight Saturday games after a parking lot shooting incident that stripped Grant of their Friday night games. Grant went 8-0 during the run.

Spirit Week

Spirit Week Schedule

Monday 10/28 Seniors: Hillbilly Day
Tuesday 10/29 Freshman: Backwards Day
Wednesday 10/30 Sophomores: Sports Day
Thursday 10/31 Juniors: Halloween
Friday 11/1 ASB: Walkathon/Rally
Friday Night: Homecoming Dance
"Underneath the Stars"
Saturday 11/2 Homecoming Game
@ ARC vs. Johnson Warriors





Powder Puff Victors:

1st - Freshman

2nd - Seniors

3rd & 4th - Juniors and Sophmores



Float Contest:

1st - Seniors/Freshman (tie)

2nd - Juniors

3rd - Sophomores



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TOP: (l-r)
Seniors Justin Holmly,
Zorba Lindros, and
Mark Quontamatto

MIDDLE:
Seniors Adam Rakela
and Brian Manning

BOTTOM:
Soph. Shely Huffman



TOP:

Junior Chanel Price
and Senior Steve Falcone

MIDDLE:

Seniors Mark Quontamatto
and Micah Graybill

BOTTOM:

Junior Sanae Patton and
Seniors La'Keisha Alexander
and Elizabeth Holliday



HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST WINNER:

Senior Tony Caselli - what's under that felt Tony? (left)

BELOW: (back, l-r) juniors Ashley Robb, Kelly McKechnie, seniors Adam Rakela, Brian Manning and Tony Verdon. (middle) juniors Chanel Price, Shannon Oren, Shannon Gury, Tera Mitts (bottom) Jennifer Robb and Annie Jesseman





ABOVE LEFT:
Senior Darcy Villere

ABOVE RIGHT:
Senior Daniel Cox as
the Cookie Monster

LEFT:
Senior Chris Tagudin
as a Chiquita banana

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above: Senior Erin Moore topples freshman Allison Santsche
below: seniors Renee Raffetto, Christa Iniguez and Jennifer Galenti
exult after a big win.





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The BIG Game: Homecoming Falcons vs. Warriors





MOB



Mouths
of
Brothers











HOME COMING ROYALTY 2000

Class of 2000: Prince Nathan Brown & Princess Aha Jennings

Class of 1999: Prince Brandon Tronel & Princess Quianna Johnson

Class of 1998: Prince Roy Hayes & Princess Erin McFarland

Class of 1997: Princes Todd Mulligan & Levi Henson

Princesses Amy Stenbakken & Sarah Lippman

King Mark Quontamatto &

Queen Brianne Sanchez


FRIDAY/15

'Macbeth'

Christian Brothers High School presents its fall drama production, "Macbeth," at 8 p.m.; 2 p.m. Sunday in the Speech Arts Room, 4315 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Additional performances are at 8 p.m. Nov. 22 and 23; 2 p.m. Nov. 24. \$7 adults, \$5 students high school age and younger. 733-3666.

Christian Brothers High School presents

The Tragedy of

M a c b e  h

by William Shakespeare

November 15 - 24, 1996

*Christian Brothers High School
Speech-Arts Room
4315 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Sacramento, CA*

sound off



Should doctor-assisted suicide be made legal?

There are three sides to the issue. One is the doctor, who is constantly under fire from his profession. Another is the family members, who are torn between having someone they love live out their life in pain or die at their own will. The third is the patient's right to end their life. The question you have to ask yourself is, "If I were dying from a fatal disease and had nothing to live for, should I let the doctor prolong my life and possibly make me a burden to my family and friends, or should I die on my own terms?" Personally, I'd rather be put to sleep by a doctor.

*Valerie Lum, 15
Christian Brothers High*

SACRAMENTO BEE
JANUARY 24, 1997

Real school values

I write this letter in response to the many letters that were published by Jesuit supporters. The way I heard it, the reasons given for going to Jesuit centered around sports and the huge campus. But in my opinion a true measure of a school is the people inside and their relationships, academic marks and spirit of the students.

True, Christian Brothers doesn't have the best campus, and, no, Brothers is not in the best neighborhood nor does it have the best athletics program in the city. But those factors shouldn't dictate whether one school is better than the other.

*Nick Sylva
Sacramento
class of 2000*

SACRAMENTO BEE
OCTOBER 6, 1996

CBS champs

After many a second-place finish, Christian Brothers won the Metro League JV soccer championship with an 11-1 mark. The Falcons beat league power Jesuit twice to seal the title.

Coached by former Falcons Javier Martinez and Eddie Chavez, the roster includes Mark Morrow, Mike Casady, Francis Nasca, Jady Nunan, James Snyder and Anthony Pease, Eric Voss, Brandon McVeigh, Vidal Lopez, Jonathan Maxwell-Jolly, Sam Stefanki, Joel Goldwaite, Brandon Schumacher, Greg Fonts, Kevin Barker, John Blaylock and Christian Vellanoweth.

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS · SOUTH
DECEMBER 19, 1996

tracking

The flight of St. Nick

By Jeremy Siebert
Christian Brothers High

Two weeks before Christmas,
And all the children hope
Their lists are delivered,
To the northernmost Pole.

Where Santa will read them,
Then write up his list,
And then read them again
To make sure no one is missed.

As time dwindled down,
More letters arrived
From all over the world
And from the deprived.

The Big Guy went over
Each new letter with care.
He couldn't miss one,
No, he'd better not dare.

With these last-minute orders
The elves try to complete
All the toys for the children,
Not too easy a feat.

Some ask for a doll,
Others a toy car.
But some letters stand out
From the rest by far.

These letters do ask
For lasting world peace,
That fighting would stop,
That wars would just cease.

To end all the hunger
Of the world entire,
For those for which food
Is all that's desired.

One week till Christmas
And preparations are made
For that very special,
magical and upcoming day.

Santa makes sure
To eat great dishes of food.
That way he knows
He'll fit into that roomy red suit.

The reindeer are made ready
For December Twenty-fifth.
New shoes are fashioned for them
By Santa's own blacksmith.

It is now Christmas Eve
And the elves need to check
All of Santa's equipment,
To make sure that it's set.

The toys, the sleigh,
The suit and reindeer
Were all good and ready.
There is nothing to fear.

Santa loads up the sleigh
And grabs onto the reins,
He waves to the elves
And calls out the deers' names.

Rudolph's red nose
Beams with great pride.
It is time to take off
On their mythical ride.

The crew lifts off
With Santa telling the way.
Each home is all ready
For Old St. Nick's brief stay.

During the ride
The forces of time no longer proceed.
Do not ask how or why -
It's enough just to believe.

To believe in the magic
And the spirit of Christmas -
That is all that one needs
To get onto his list.

When he wraps up his gifts
Of love for the world,
There will be Christmas
For each boy and each girl.

SACRAMENTO BEE
SIDETRACKS
December 20, 1996



Bee photograph/Ehardt Krause

The Green family

Michael and Ione Green with Samaya, 17, and Michael, 14. The senior Michael says: "We want them to share what's on their minds. We keep the door open. Too many kids are shut off."

SACRAMENTO BEE
FEBRUARY 22, 1997

Family: Michael and Ione Green and their two children: Samaya, 17, and Michael, 14. Michael is 42 and special projects coordinator at the Sutter Sleep Disorders Center. Ione, 43, is a customer service representative at Liberty Mutual. The family lives in the Calvine area of Sacramento.

Background: Ione grew up in Santa Barbara, one of four sisters who are very close to this day. Michael is from Oakland; he has a sister who is 20 years older and two nieces around his age who were brought up as his siblings.

The couple met in 1973, when both were attending San Jose State University; Ione majored in physical education, Michael in biological science.

He spotted her walking to class and decided then and there he had to get to know her. "It was the way she moved. I knew I had to meet her," Michael remembers.

He finally had a chance some time later, at a party. They hit it off and exchanged numbers. Among the interests they shared was intercollegiate fencing. They decided within six months that they would marry, but waited until 1976.

They lived in San Jose for a little more than 10 years, then Oakland for seven, and made the move to Sacramento in 1989.

Parenting: Like their parents, the couple's children, Samaya and Michael, are athletically minded. Both are involved in track and field, basketball and softball. Michael is also a gymnast.

"We've had to make some sacrifices in order for them to participate," says Michael. But it's worth it, he says, because they believe that sports offers

BEELINE

To nominate a "Family Album" family, call Beeline at 552-5252 and punch in category 4027 on your touchtone phone. Tell us something about the family you're nominating, and leave your name and daytime phone number; you'll have 60 seconds.

552-5252

a wide range of opportunities.

The siblings attend Christian Brothers High School, where Samaya is on the honor roll; she hopes to major in business at Hayward State College next year.

"They are both good students, both are good kids," says Ione.

Her hopes for the children are that they will grow up to be "good citizens, well-balanced, and with good family relationships.

"We also want them to have a personal, strong relationship with God," says Ione.

Michael feels that good communication is critical. "We want them to share what's on their minds," he says. "We keep the door open. Too many kids are shut off . . ."

It's important to meet them halfway and really get to know your kids, know what their interests are, and who their friends are, Ione says. To that end, she says, "We listen to their music and watch TV with them."

She and Michael both hope they are good providers — of values as well as material things.

"You want to give your kids at least what you had," she says, "and then, give them better than that."

—Maria LaPiana

STREET TALK

LEZLIE STERLING / NEIGHBORS

Your view on Proposition 209? / Asked at Java City in Loehmann's Plaza and Buckhorn's and Brick Oven Pizza in the south area.



'Well, that's a tough one because you're damned if you do and damned if you don't. My main concern with it is, will the truly qualified people actually get hired or will the white male yuppie get a strong foothold again, and what will this do for the women in the workplace? Let's give it a year and see how it goes.'

William Bug,
small-business owner,
Rosemont



'I'm totally for it. It's not fair that just because I'm white, another person of another creed can get the job over me to fill some quota. It's just not fair. Say I'm more educated and can do the job better. Then I deserve the job. Equal rights happened so long ago. This is the '90s, everything is equal now.'

Chrissy Soda,
student,
College Greens



'What affirmative action does, in a sense, is to eliminate competition. To a certain degree, our whole system is based on competition. Companies strive to produce better products and people should try to increase their standards. Affirmative action is designed to eliminate discrimination in the workplace when the issue is qualifications.'

Tino Feyz,
student,
Campus Commons



'I voted for it and the reason is, I'm from Ireland and I was discriminated against when I went to England. They called me a paddy or a mick. Now I've been over here for 20 years, and in those 20 years, as a white male, I've found that I'm discriminated against because of quotas. Not because of education, skills or abilities.'

Phillip O'Dowd,
chef,
South Land Park



'It's disheartening to me that more Americans of Mexican descent didn't take this proposition seriously enough to vote against it. It's a good wake-up call for us.'

Gilbert Valenzuela,
staff services analyst,
Greenhaven



'I think affirmative action is still needed. When it's time for me to go to college and get a job, I hope having affirmative action in place will help me have more equal opportunity. We've come a long way from slavery and segregation, but racism is still very prominent and I think we still need affirmative action, especially in California.'

Courtney Cherry,
student,
Greenhaven

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS. SOUTH
JANUARY 23, 1997

Winter Sports Rally

WRESTLING!

BASKET BALL!





sound off

? Are you proud of the way your school looks, or are there things that need to be repaired?

I am very proud of the way my school looks, but there is always room for improvement. It was built to resemble a college campus, with hills and lots of plants and trees. It is kept clean and managed well. It was recently painted and recarpeted.

Trisha Beard, 17
Valley High

I am definitely proud of the physical appearance of my school. Our school-improvement program has invested a lot of time and money in landscaping and repainting the buildings. The parking lot was recently redesigned to allow a better flow of traffic. Of course, there are always things that could be improved. The bathrooms would fall into this category.

Julia Chan, 16
Rio Americano High

At my school, drainage is a problem. It's hard for the water to go down the drains, so our school gets flooded a lot. Also, the bathrooms are a mess. They're very dirty. There's graffiti all over our school and we need to paint it.

Natalie Stroppini, 15
Mira Loma High

Our school needs a big makeover. We need heating and air conditioning in all the classrooms because we have it only in some. And we need to redo our gym.

Chris Post, 17
Christian Brothers High

I guess when they built our school they messed up with the cement mixture, so it looks gray and it was supposed to look brown. It kind of looks like a prison. I do like the way our campus looks, but I do think our school needs to be painted.

Rosanna Kaser, 17
Mesa Verde High

SETTING IT STRAIGHT

On page B1 Wednesday, a story about Campbell Soup Co. incorrectly reported that the company had permit violations at its Sacramento plant and had failed to comply with the federal Clean Air Act. In fact, the allegations by the federal government were not resolved legally because the statute of limitations on penalties has expired.

■ ■ ■

A story about Generation X entrepreneurs on page 12 of Monday's Inside Business had the incorrect name of a computer rental business in Davis. The company is CompleteLink Inc.

■ ■ ■

A story on page B1 Saturday incorrectly reported that McClatchy High School is the second oldest in Sacramento. McClatchy, which opened in 1937, is the second oldest public high school. The second oldest high school is Christian Brothers, a Catholic institution, which opened in 1876. (The oldest high school in the capital, Sacramento High, opened in 1856.)

SACRAMENTO BEE
MARCH 7, 1997

SACRAMENTO BEE
MARCH 13, 1997
NEIGHBORS SOUTH

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Spotlight



Senior Kim Irish and castmates rehearse a scene from "42nd Street." Christian Brothers High School presents the musical at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through March 23 in the Speech Arts Room at Christian Brothers High School, 4315 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. \$8 adults, \$5 students 18 and younger. 733-3666.

JOAN BARNETT
NEIGHBORS

SACRAMENTO BEE
MARCH 13, 1997

Christian Brothers High School
presents



Music by Harry Warren, Lyrics by Al Dubin
Book by Michael Stewart & Mark Bramble

Friday, March 14	8:00 p.m.	Friday, March 21	8:00 p.m
Saturday, March 15	8:00 pm.	Saturday, March 22	8:00 p.m
Sunday, March 16	2:00 p.m.	Sunday, March 23	2:00 p.m

Christian Brothers High School Speech-Arts Room
4315 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

The best laughs from readers

This week, we're running some jokes from you readers. Please keep them coming.

□ On a visit to the U.S., the Pope decided that he would drive the limo. Reluctantly, the driver got into the back seat.

Having little experience driving, the Pope was soon pulled over for speeding. As the officer recognized who it was, he ran back to his patrol car and radioed headquarters.

"I've got a problem," the officer told his sergeant. "I've stopped somebody really famous and I don't know whether to ticket him or not."

"Who is it, the governor?" the sergeant asked.

"No, he's bigger than that."

"Is it President Clinton?" the sergeant asked.

"No, he's bigger than that."

"Well, who is it then?" the exasperated sergeant asked.

"I don't know, but he's got the Pope as a chauffeur," the officer said.

— **Steven Falcone**

□ A horse walks into a bar and the bartender says, "Gee fellow, why the long face?"

— **Tim Matheson**

□ Why do eggs hide?

Because they're chicken

— **Justin Scherer**

□ There's the story about the married woman who ran off with a tractor salesman and eventually sent her husband a John Deere letter.

— **Jerry Axley**

□ What do cows do on Saturday night?
Go to the MOOOvies.

— **Anetha Evans**



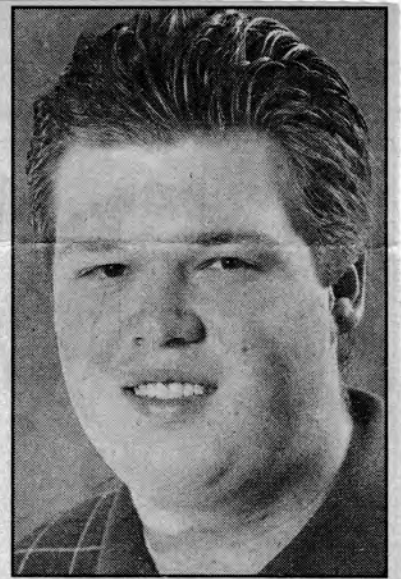
SACRAMENTO BEE
APRIL 29, 1997

Around the schools

Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento has received an award from Reynolds Recycling for recycling the most aluminum during one month in the company's school recycling program. During Nov. 1996, Christian Brothers recycled 255 pounds of aluminum. Jose Guiherme, the school's maintenance chief, conducts the school's aluminum recycling efforts. During the 1995-96 school year, Christian Brothers earned more than \$1,000 for recycling efforts. Currently the school is competing against 180 Northern California schools to gather the most aluminum during the year and be eligible for cash grand prizes. For further information about the school recycling program, call 1-800-595-8550.

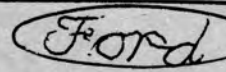
CATHOLIC HERALD
MARCH 8, 1997

DESIGN-AN-AD
WINNERS

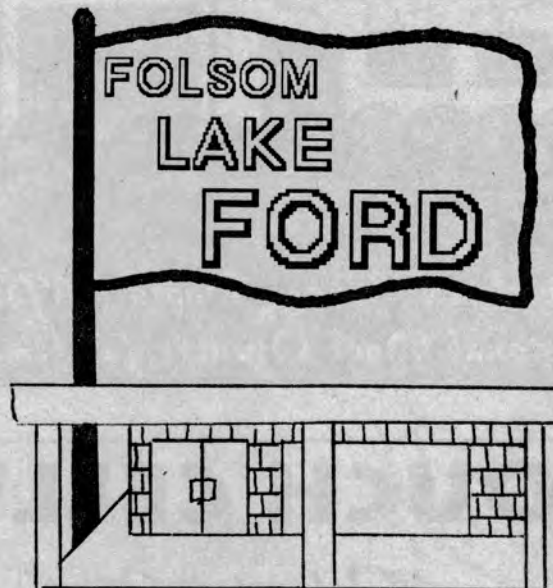


Alex Taylor, 12th grade
Christain Brothers High
Folsom Lake Ford

FORD TOUGH



WE HAVE MORE OF AMERICA'S 5 BEST
SELLING VEHICLES THAN ANY OTHER DEALERSHIP!



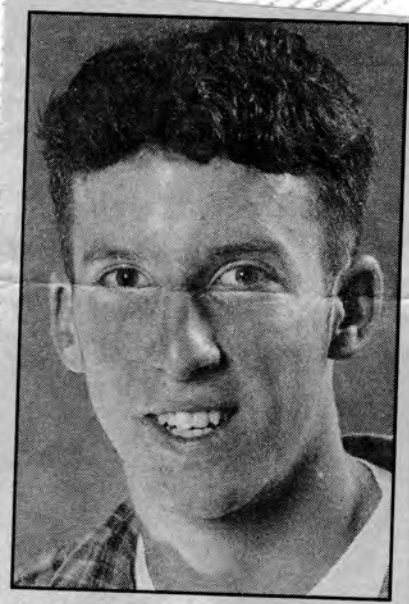
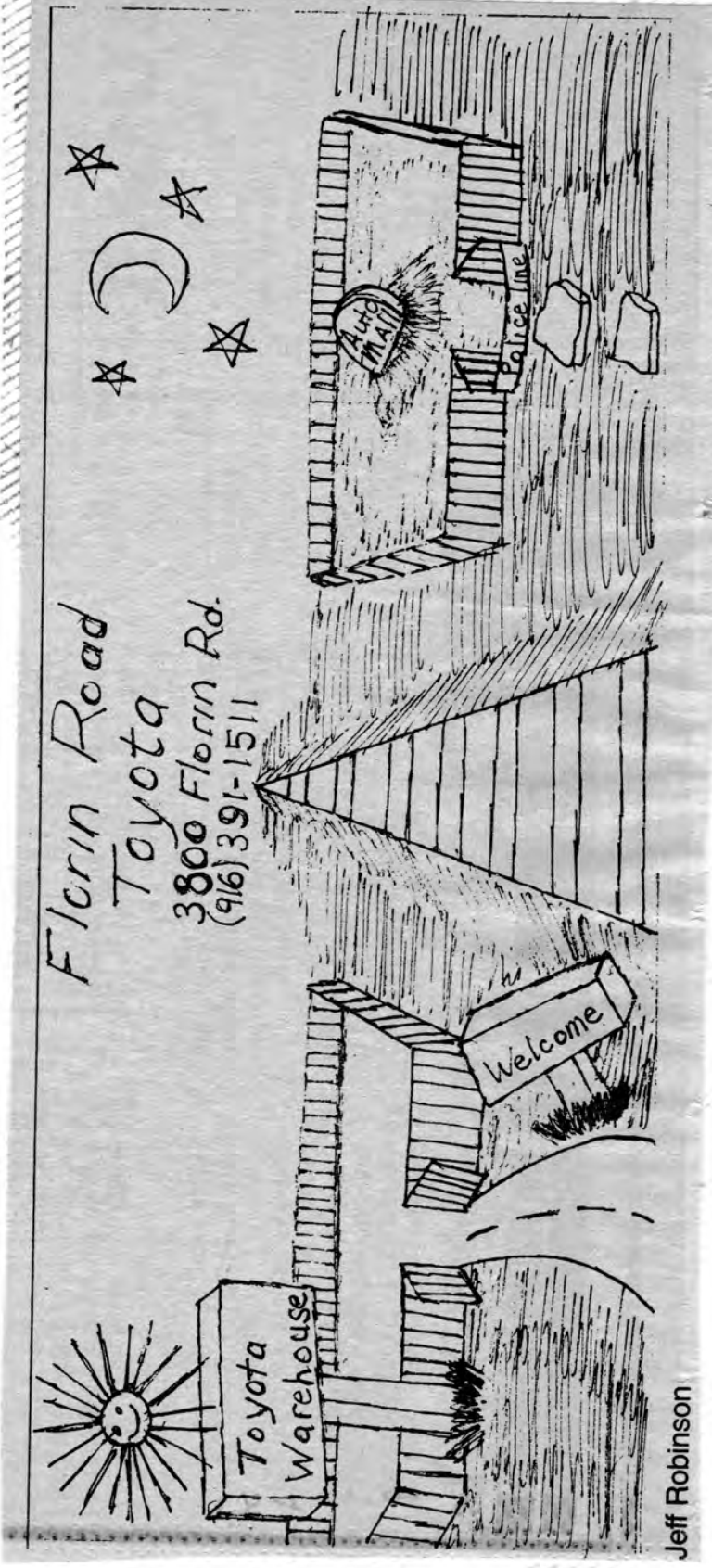
- Aspire
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- Probe
- Mustang
- Contour
- Thunderbird
- Taurus
- Crown Victoria

- Ranger
- Explorer
- Windstar
- Aerostar
- Club Wagon
- Econoline
- F-Series
- Expedition

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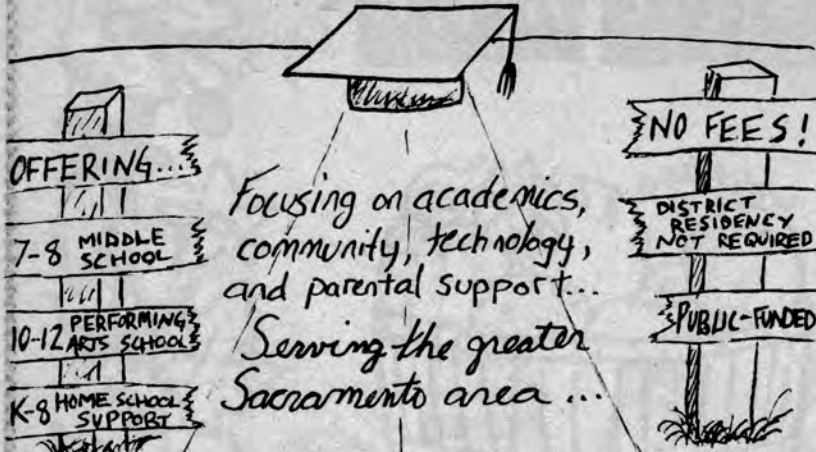
Jeff Robinson, 12th grade
Christian Brothers High
Florin Road Toyota

Jeff Robinson

NATOMAS

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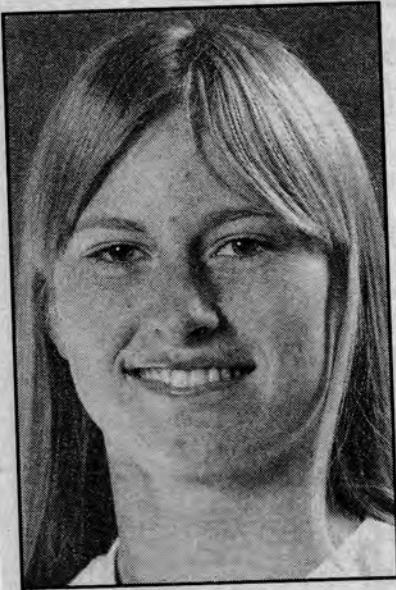
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Tyson Ortiz



Tyson Ortiz, 11th grade,
Christian Brothers High,
Natomas Charter School



Charleen Pfanner, 11th
grade, Christian Brothers
High, Dr. Pepper

NOW IS THE
TIME...



Charleen Pfanner

Hoping For The Homeless



PHOTO BY NOEL NEUBURGER

IN RED:
SISTER MARIA
CAMPOS, RSM

Supporters of Loaves & Fishes gathered at City Hall Friday to protest the city's suit against the charity for serving meals to more homeless people than their permit allows.

SACRAMENTO
NEWS & REVIEW
APRIL 3, 1997

In the academic big leagues



Seven students of Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento have been named finalists in the 1996-97 National Merit Scholarship Program. They are (left to right): Sarah Garrett, Sean Rogers, Deborah Obernesser, Byron Chen, Christine Fort, Devon Cromwell and Ross Boughton. The finalists represent one half of one percent of all seniors who took the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test in their junior year. They qualify for the Merit Scholarship awards to be announced soon.

CATHOLIC HERALD
APRIL 5, 1997

Hoping For The Homeless



IN RED:
SISTER MARIA
CAMPOS, RSM

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SACRAMENTO
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CATHOLIC HERALD
APRIL 5, 1997

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

The Bee's rankings

School and record, with last week's ranking in parentheses:

■ Baseball

School	Record
1. Elk Grove (1)	5-0
2. Woodland (7)	6-0
3. Oakmont (5)	6-1
4. San Juan (-)	5-1
5. Florin (4)	7-1
6. McClatchy (2)	5-3
7. Laguna Creek (-)	5-1-1
8. Del Campo (6)	6-2
9. Christian Brothers (-)	4-1-1
10. Woodcreek (-)	5-1-1

■ Softball

School	Record
1. Del Oro (1)	4-0
2. Oakmont (3)	
3. Galt (5)	7-2
4. Del Campo (8)	6-1
5. St. Francis (5)	5-3
6. El Camino (3)	5-3
7. Christian Brothers (7)	4-4
8. Elk Grove (10)	4-4
9. Casa Roble (9)	5-2
10. Oak Ridge (-)	5-2

SACRAMENTO BEE
MARCH 18, 1997

PREPS OF THE WEEK

Joaquin Pons

The senior swingman averaged 23.7 points in three playoff wins as Encina captured the NorCal Division III boys basketball championship. He scored 24 points in a 73-65 home win over Tamalpais of Mill Valley. He had 26 in a 55-53 road win over Palma of Salinas and had 21 in the 60-48 title-game victory over top-seeded San Rafael at Memorial Auditorium.



Erin McFarland

The junior pitcher-shortstop had a glorious week on the mound for Christian Brothers. At Johnson's pre-season tournament, she threw a perfect game with nine strikeouts in the Falcons' win over Casa Roble and added a two-hit, 12-strikeout performance in a win over Ponderosa. For good measure, she tossed a two-hitter Tuesday in a 4-0 win over St. Francis.



SACRAMENTO BEE
MARCH 20, 1997

A league of their own. Seven Christian Brothers High School National Merit Scholarship program, which means they represent one-half of 1 percent of all seniors who took the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test in their junior year.

"We're very proud of them," said their school counselor, **Joan Haan**, who added that seven finalists from one school is "an extremely high number."

The students are:

■ **Debbie Obernesser** of Greenhaven. She is assistant editor of the school yearbook, a member of the student council, and a member of the German Club and the Mathletes. Last year she went to Cologne, Germany, as a foreign exchange student.

■ **Sean Rogers** from River Park. He is involved in Christian Brothers Mock Trail program and Key Club. This year, he ran cross-country and he is a Life Scout for Boy Scouts of America Troop 420.

■ **Christine Fort** of Elk Grove. She runs cross country and track, but said she is currently injured. She is also news editor of the school paper, editor of the school literary/art journal and president of the German Club.

■ **Devon Cromwell** lives in Laguna. Only 15, he is a member of the California Scholarship Federation and the National Honor Society. Clubwise he belongs to Junior Statesmen of America and the Science Club. He wants to major in theatre.

■ **Sarah Garrett** lives in Land Park. For the last five years, she has been a violist in the Sacramento Youth Symphony. She played on the varsity girl's soccer team for three years and has been a member of several clubs, including the literary/arts journal, Junior Statesmen of America, Friday Night Live and the Key Club. Last summer she worked as a volunteer



CHRIS CREWELL/NEIGHBORS

Debbie Obernesser, left, Sean Rogers, Christine Fort, Devon Cromwell, Sarah Garrett, Byron Chen and Ross Boughton, all students in the 1996-97 National Merit Scholarship program.

at a county child-development center.

■ **Byron Chen** of South Sacramento is active in both his school and his community. At Christian Brothers he is a senior retreat leader, literary/arts journal editor, member of the cross-country team, and coordinator of Students Reaching Out. Chen is also the Sacramento delegate for the Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities and he has volunteered with the Sacramento Food Bank, the AIDS Walk and the B Street Theater.

■ **Ross Boughton** from Land Park. He's captain of the varsity water polo team and is a member of the varsity swimming team, where he was metro league breaststroke champion last year. Other activities

include Mock Trial, Odyssey of the Mind and senior retreat leader.

The Merit Scholarship awards will be announced later this month.

■ Two city residents, **Charlotte Delgado** of Alkali Flat and **Ella Boyce** of Oak Park, were among those chosen as Safe Streets 1996 heroes of the year.

Delgado has been involved in everything from block cleanups to advocating for low-income tenants in Washington, D.C.

Boyce is a Neighborhood Watch block captain and a street beautification coordinator. She also helped found Share and Repair, a volunteer group that renovates the homes of people unable to fund such work themselves.

■ **Daniel E. Chipps** of Curtis Park was named to the dean's honor roll for academic achievement during the fall 1996 semester at Creighton University in Omaha, Neb. Full-time students who achieve a grade-point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale are eligible for honor roll.

■ **Stephanie Watson** of South Sacramento was named to the 1996 fall semester honor roll at Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss. Dean's list scholars must obtain a grade point average of at least 3.0.

If you know of someone who deserves recognition in the People column, please tell us. Call Walt Yost, 348-2759.

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS-SOUTH
MARCH 20, 1997

Woodland family...

From page 6

children were younger, two grandmothers and an adult in-home sitter ensured someone always covered home base.

"Jan is the organized one. She organizes everyone, including me," chuckled Stephen. "When we have meetings, one of us is usually here and when we haven't been here the house hasn't burned down."

Janet explained that one of the reasons she has been working in Woodland for 17 years is that "the family is looked on as an important part of life."

"Being in town I was always able to leave my job to go to a play at school or a birthday party. It was really important for me to be with my children and the city has been real flexible with me," she noted.

Janet added that she and Stephen share the belief that household tasks aren't a mother's or father's job but interchangeable.

Key to parenting. Janet says sur-

rounding children with plenty of love is one key.

"We always tell our kids that even when they do things we don't really appreciate, we still love them. We remind them of that," she stated.

The other key is communication. "As our kids have become older we tell them exactly why we don't want them to do certain things," Janet said. "It's important for parents to communicate back and forth to one another too."

"Being Italian, we're real open with our emotions and don't feel bad very long," said Stephen. "I think that's helped and keeping a sense of humor about things."

Nurturing the faith. Stephen and Janet believe that modeling through daily living, being active in the church and involving their children in church and school activities are important in the development of their faith life.

"I think a Catholic education gives them a sense of community and a better understanding of their faith and relationship with God," Janet said.

CATHOLIC HERALD
APRIL 5, 1997
(both pieces)

Christian Brothers Hall of Fame dinner is Apr. 25

Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento will hold its 46th annual Baseball Hall of Fame dinner on Friday, April 25 in the school at 4315 Martin Luther King Blvd.

One of the inductees will be Msgr. James Church, pastor of St. Philomene Parish in Sacramento. A Sacramento native, Msgr. Church was a star athlete at Christian Brothers, lettering in both varsity baseball and basketball his sophomore, junior and senior years.

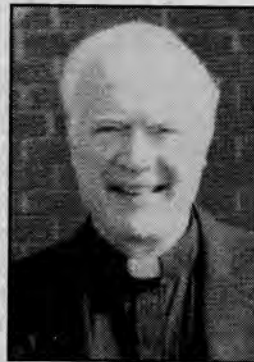
He was named to the *Sacramento Bee's* all-city basketball and baseball teams during his senior year in 1950 when he led the Gaels to the city basketball championship, scoring 168 points in 20 games.

As the Gaels front-line pitcher that spring, Msgr. Church had a six-win, one-loss record and a .429 batting average.

Jim McNamara and Bill Svilich, co-chairmen for the dinner said that the other inductees will be Augie Amorena, Al Anicich, Del Bandy, Johnny Briggs, Sam Kanelos, Don McKenzie, Bill Monahan, Bob Palmer and Gil Urbano.

A special award will be presented to longtime graduate, Bill Morebeck of the class of 1928, who has been on the Hall of Fame committee since its inception in 1957.

Social hour will begin at 6 p.m., with dinner served at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$11 per person and advance reservations can be made by calling the school at (916) 733-3603. All proceeds raised from the event go to benefit the school's athletic program.



Msgr. James Church

Woodland family finds activities enhance values

Holy Rosary student council, plays basketball, football, track and soccer and is editor of the Holy Rosary school newspaper.

Mark is a senior at Jesuit High School in Carmichael, a member of Holy Rosary's youth ministry group and has participated in the Jesuit community service program.

Barbara is president of the Holy Rosary student council, a member of the Holy Rosary Community Service Club, plays volleyball, soccer, basketball and track, is a reporter for the school newspaper, a Girl Scout, member of St. Vincent de Paul Society, and an altar server.

Background. Janet, who was born in Sacramento, grew up one of four children in a large, Italian family. She attended Immaculate Conception School, St. Joseph's Academy, St. Francis High School and is a graduate of Santa Clara University. As a child, one of Janet's fondest memories is of being picked up by her grandmother when school was out on first Fridays, riding the bus to attend Mass at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament and going out to lunch.

"My grandmother had a strong belief and instilled her faith in me," she said.

Stephen, who grew up in a close-knit Italian Catholic family of six, was born in Philadelphia. After his family moved to Sacramento in 1959, he attended St. Mary School, Jesuit High School and Santa Clara University. Although Stephen and Janet met their sophomore year of high school, serious dating began at Santa Clara where they married the week before graduation.

Working parents. Because the Ruggieros have worked continuously since before their children were born, they have faced the challenges of balancing career and family. When the

Continued on page 10

**By Nancy Westlund
Herald staff**

(Editor's note: This is one in a series of profiles on families in the Sacramento Diocese featured periodically in The Herald.)

The family. Janet and Stephen Ruggiero and their children, Joe, 13, Matt, 14, Barbara, 14, and Mark, 17, are members of Holy Rosary Parish in Woodland. Stephen is a science teacher at Rio Americano High School in Sacramento and Janet is Community Development Director for the city of Woodland.

Activities. Janet is chairman of the Holy Rosary development committee, a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, past president of Holy Rosary School Parents Club, eighth grade room mother, co-founder with Stephen of the Holy Rosary auction fund-raiser, a member of the League of Women Voters and a Girl Scout troop leader.

Stephen is a member of the Holy Rosary Parish Council, past president of the Holy Rosary school board and past president of the Holy Rosary Parents Club.

Matt, a freshman at Christian Brothers High School, is assistant coach for the Holy Rosary School basketball team and plays YMCA soccer.

Joe, a seventh grader at Holy Rosary, is a member of the



FAMILY LIVING PROFILE



Stephen and Janet Ruggiero credit their Italian Catholic heritage for providing good grounding in raising their children: Mark, Joe, (front, left to right) Barbara and Matt (rear).

Nancy Westlund/Herald photo

Continued...

Area catchers receive high marks

Coaches rate this as an up year for high school catchers.

While Mike Tonis and Mickey Kammeyer of Elk Grove, seniors bound for Cal and Stanford, respectively, are considered the only pro prospects, many others are expected to play at the community college and college level.

Tonis and Kammeyer are special because of their strong arms and exceptional mobility.

Some are calling Kammeyer the best defensive catcher — only six runners have dared to challenge him and only two were successful — to come out of the area in the last 20 years.

Tonis, the back-up catcher and starting shortstop, is a strong hitter.

"A shortstop who can catch like that — Wow!" said Oakmont coach Ted Acres of Tonis, who has caught just one high school game but will play that position at Cal if he doesn't go pro.

Brian LoForte doesn't hesitate in saying that junior Matt Bonovich is the best he's coached at McClatchy. He also has junior Corey Watts, who can play first base.

Bonovich, who once played on a Pacific Little League championship team with Kammeyer, picked off three players in one inning against

Del Campo.

"I love to throw. I'm dying for the runners to go," Bonovich said.

Here's what some other top prospects have achieved for their teams this season:

■ When B.J. Crone missed the first six games of the season, opponents were successful on all 24 stolen base attempts against Bella Vista. The Broncos also lost all six games. In his first four games back, the senior threw out 7-of-10 runners and the Broncos won three of the four games.

"We might still be looking for a win if it wasn't for B.J.," said Don Barney, Bella Vista coach.

■ Kevin Goetsch of Del Campo is a sophomore who boasts an unusually strong arm. He threw out nine of the first 13 runners to challenge him this season. Although he needs to improve his hitting, coach Bill Richardson said he wouldn't trade him for another catcher in the Capital Athletic League.

■ Scott Lebeck is the first sophomore Cordova coach Guy Anderson has put behind the plate in is 27 years as coach. Here's why: He is batting .400 and has made only two errors all season.

■ J.T. O'Sullivan of Jesuit hadn't

worked behind the plate since his Folsom Little League days. The senior, who sat out last year to concentrate on football, has provided the Marauders with a strong arm and potent bat.

McClatchy is 0-for-4 in stolen base attempts this season against O'Sullivan, who is headed for the University of California, Davis, as a quarterback.

■ When Oakmont starting catcher Matt Wheeler hurt his ankle, coach Ted Acres pointed to junior Nathan Lopez, who never missed a beat. The Vikings have some of the best pitching and defense in the section, which is the reason they have won 18 straight games.

■ Mike Schuering is the next in a long line of standout catchers at Christian Brothers. Coaches have raved about his defense as he follows in the footsteps of Todd, Danny and Jeff Elorduy.

Other catchers of note this spring for championship contenders include Dan Lange of Florin, Brendon Fricke of Woodland, Chris Kelly of Woodcreek and Greg Giant of Ponderosa.

— Joe Davidson

Catch this

What scouts and coaches have to say about prep catchers:

■ "The catcher at this level used to be the fat, jolly kid who wouldn't hurt you. No longer. The high school catcher has to be agile, tough, smart, alert and talented, otherwise you're looking at a long year." — Cordova High coach Guy Anderson.

■ "Catcher is the quickest way to make a team because there's always such a need. You never cut a catcher." — Jerry Weinstein, Sacramento City College.

■ "You have got to have a catcher with skills or you're done, finished." — Jim Dietz, San Diego State University.

■ "There's always been decent catchers in this area, but show me a guy with the whole package, a guy who understands the position, blocks the plate and has the ability to swing the bat, and we're always interested. But it's a rare, rare find." — Greg Orr, scouting supervisor for the New York Yankees.

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS-SOUTH
APRIL 24, 1997



FAHIZAH ALIM

Helping young men become great men

President Clinton sounded the bell for volunteerism in Philadelphia on Monday. But a local black women's civic organization had already heeded the call.

On Saturday, for the ninth consecutive year, the Sacramento chapter of Links Inc. held its annual "Beautillion: Affair of Honor," at the Radisson. In grand and formal style, the event celebrates the achievements of young African American men who have demonstrated strong social and moral values, commitment to their communities and academic excellence.

This year, 16 high school seniors dressed in white tie and tails were presented to more than 400 friends and relatives dressed in equally splendid attire. It was an event to behold. And not enough people know about it.

"Until we started this 'Affair of Honor,' all of our programs were targeting high-risk children," says Barbara Nance, chairwoman of this year's event and a member of Links, a 48-year-old national organization of black women who perform community service, particularly community service that serves the black family.

"But it became increasingly evident that high-achieving black males also needed support and recognition," says Nance. "These young achievers were dealing with some of the same issues that at-risk kids were dealing with, such as negative stereotypes of black males as criminals. Many of them were isolated in schools and communities where there were not many kids like them or where bringing books home was not cool.

"We decided to reach out to these young men, put them together with other guys like themselves and pat them on the back."

Since Sacramento's first "Beautillion" in 1989, more than 100 young men have been honored at the banquet, which features a brief slide show of their lives, dances and a formal presentation of the young men to society by their guardians. College scholarships totaling more than \$10,000 were awarded.

In an oath led by Judge Vance Raye, the young men vowed to continue their commitment to excellence. Then their fathers draped a kinte-cloth medallion around their sons' necks in honor of their past achievements.

Nance says that every young man who has participated in the past has gone on to college.

Sacramento's event has been so successful that eight young men who participated this year came from the Bay Area.

Over the past eight months, the young men have participated in career, college and relationship workshops. They have performed 20 hours of community service. And they have also had fun, including art and cultural programs, swim and pizza parties, ski trips and a picnic.

The young men are not all from middle-class families who can afford the \$400 it costs to participate in the "Beautillion." Take Zachery O'Neal Young.

Zachery, who is 17, was presented by his foster parents, Girtha Davis and Natalie Wilson.

"It was good for Zachery because he came out of a very unhealthy environment and he fit the statistical profile of a troubled young man," says Wilson. "Since he has been with us, he became active in our church and has worked hard to change his attitude and actions. The 'Beautillion' program introduced him to other positive young men and reinforced the values that we and our church family are trying to instill."

Stories like this motivate Nance, a 20-year member of the Sacramento Links chapter, which was founded 44 years ago.

She volunteers to make a difference.

"It's a simple question of, 'If not you, then who?' Everybody has to do the little bit that they can do.

"I may never found a school or turn a country around, but I can do something on a day-to-day basis that I feel makes a difference."

Participants from CB this year include Jon Brack, Darren Davis, and Xavier Green.

SACRAMENTO BEE
APRIL 28, 1997

sound off



TV networks rate certain shows for violence and sexual content, so parents can monitor what shows their kids watch. What effect is this

having in your household?

It has no effect on me, but it does on my little brother. He's only 7 and ratings are a good thing because my parents are able to decide what he can and can't watch.

*Darcy Zillere, 18
Christian Brothers High*

sound off



Should governments provide shelter and food for the homeless?

If we want to clean up our streets and make our world better, we should start by giving the homeless food

and shelter.

*Tess Simas, 14
Christian Brothers High*

Cuckovich is up-and-comer for Falcons

If Adam Rakela is the pitcher of today for the Christian Brothers baseball team, then Steve Cuckovich is the player of tomorrow.

The sophomore with a rich athletic background has played several positions for CBS, and he has a 1-0, one-hit win against Cordova in the Cordova Easter Tournament to his credit.

The 6-foot-2, 195-pound Cuckovich, who led the CBS JV football team to a 7-2 record as a quarterback, has hit screaming line drives and is among the team leaders in stolen bases.

Cuckovich's father, Mel, and uncle, Steve, were high school stars at Johnson. But neither burst onto the scene quite like their protege.

"He's the franchise," CBS coach Joe Gill said. "He's a definite up-and-comer. By the time he's a senior, he'll be awesome. I mean, he's already a good one. He smoked a 450-foot homer against Kennedy."

With a win against McClatchy last week, the Falcons would have pulled to within a game of the Lions. CBS

lost 4-2 and then fell 3-2 to Jesuit, thus losing any momentum it had gained and dashing any hopes of securing the team's first Metro League championship since 1992.

The Falcons also dropped out of The Bee's Top 10 for the first time this season, though they are determined to slip back in and make a run for the postseason. The Metro League will advance three teams to the postseason.

Brandon Valine, Clayton Hallford and Danny Gill play the outfield. Hard-hitting John Otto is at first. He is flanked by Brian Manning at second, Jeff Lewkowitz at short and Ryan Stinson at third.

Mike Schuering is behind the plate. He works with Rakela, Cuckovich, Trevor Taylor and Hallford, among others.

"I think we'll be tough in the playoffs," Rakela said. "We're getting better and better. Most of our losses have been by a run."

— Joe Davidson

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS CITY
MAY 1, 1997

Christian Brothers ace gets

Ex-cutup buckles down to keep Falcons in playoff hunt

BY JOE DAVIDSON
Neighbors sports writer

It's not that Adam Rakela ran through the hallways at Christian Brothers High School toppling trash cans or unsuspecting freshmen in a fit of youthful exuberance.

Far from it.

But when the jovial senior talked about his younger days as a student at one of the state's oldest Catholic schools, he said, with a degree of seriousness, that he could have been a bit more serious. Rakela never shied away from a conversation

with a pal or a coed, even if it was during a lecture.

"I've been a good boy lately," Rakela said, then laughed. "I was the kind of person who would talk too much in class, and then blamed it on the person next to me."

Now Rakela has emerged as one of the top student-athletes in the area this season. Having earned outstanding grades, Rakela throws a mighty fastball, a reliable curve and is plenty motivated to get his Falcons into the playoffs.

But it took some horseplay with painful results to give Rakela a sense of perspective. He wrestled playfully with ex-McClatchy star Nick Johnson during the winter of his sophomore season. The athletes slipped on the wet grounds of a baseball practice and went down in a heap. Rakela's left arm paid the price.

The growth plate in his elbow broke off and slid down his arm. He has fully recovered, but the cast served as a constant reminder. Next time it could be his pitching arm, his ticket to a scholarship, the amateur draft or both.

"I've learned a lot the last few years," Rakela said. "I've matured, and it started after I broke my arm. That hit hard. I started to think, 'What if that was my pitching arm?' That put an end to my wrestling days."

Rakela might still be the life of the party among his mates — "I'm still active," he said — but there's more business to his pleasure this season. The only hurt he inflicts now is on other teams with his fastball. It's his money pitch. It has professional scouts and colleges, namely St. Mary's in Moraga, looking his way.

Rakela has been a big reason for the Falcons' return to title-contending status. He has won five games entering the week, and his finest outing might have been a game he lost.

Rakela struck out 10, but his teammates ran into Jason Howard, an equally strong pitcher who also fanned 10 in a 4-2 Lions win.

Rakela has shown tremendous improvement since last season, when he never seemed to hit a groove. The Falcons also failed to



BRIAN FANN / NEIGHBORS

Batters face the serious demeanor of Adam Rakela when he is on the mound for Christian Brothers High School.

serious about his future



BRIAN FANN / NEIGHBORS

Adam Rakela looks forward to a future career pitching in college or the pros.

find a groove, failing to qualify for the playoffs.

Against the Metro champions, Rakela pitched seven innings despite a tender hamstring that he stretches morning, noon and night. Three scouts pointed their radar guns his way and came away nodding in approval.

At 6-foot-2 and 200 pounds, there is room for more growth and increased velocity. But Rakela talks mostly of winning the next Metro League encounter.

"He's had his ups and downs but this year he's more focused," said Joe Gill, CBS coach. "He's one of the seniors steering us. He's on a mission."

All the while, Rakela takes the mound with the seriousness of a banker. There is no clowning, smiles or barbs issued. Just high

heat and strikeouts.

"He's serious and he's relaxed even with all of the scouts looking at him," said outfielder Danny Gill. "A lot of guys would be nervous with the scouts, but he takes it all in stride. He's one of the best pitchers around, and he may be the most underrated."

A turning point for Rakela came in the off-season when he competed in the All-American Talent Showcase competition at Sacramento City College.

Area athletes completed an assortment of baseball drills that were graded. Rakela more than held his own.

"That showed me what I could do," Rakela said. "Ever since I've been out there doing the best I can."

'I was the kind of person who would talk too much in class, and then blamed it on the person next to me.'

— ADAM RAKELA
CBS pitching ace

SACRAMENTO BEE
NEIGHBORS · CITY
MAY 1, 1997

**Christian Brothers High School
present**

**An Evening of
One-Act Plays & Scenes**

Friday & Saturday, May 9 & 10, 1997
7:30 p.m.

* * * * *

DEADLY WILL

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY HUGO TORRES

* * * * *

Aphrodite's Actors

Written & Directed by Lee Sapaden

* * * * *

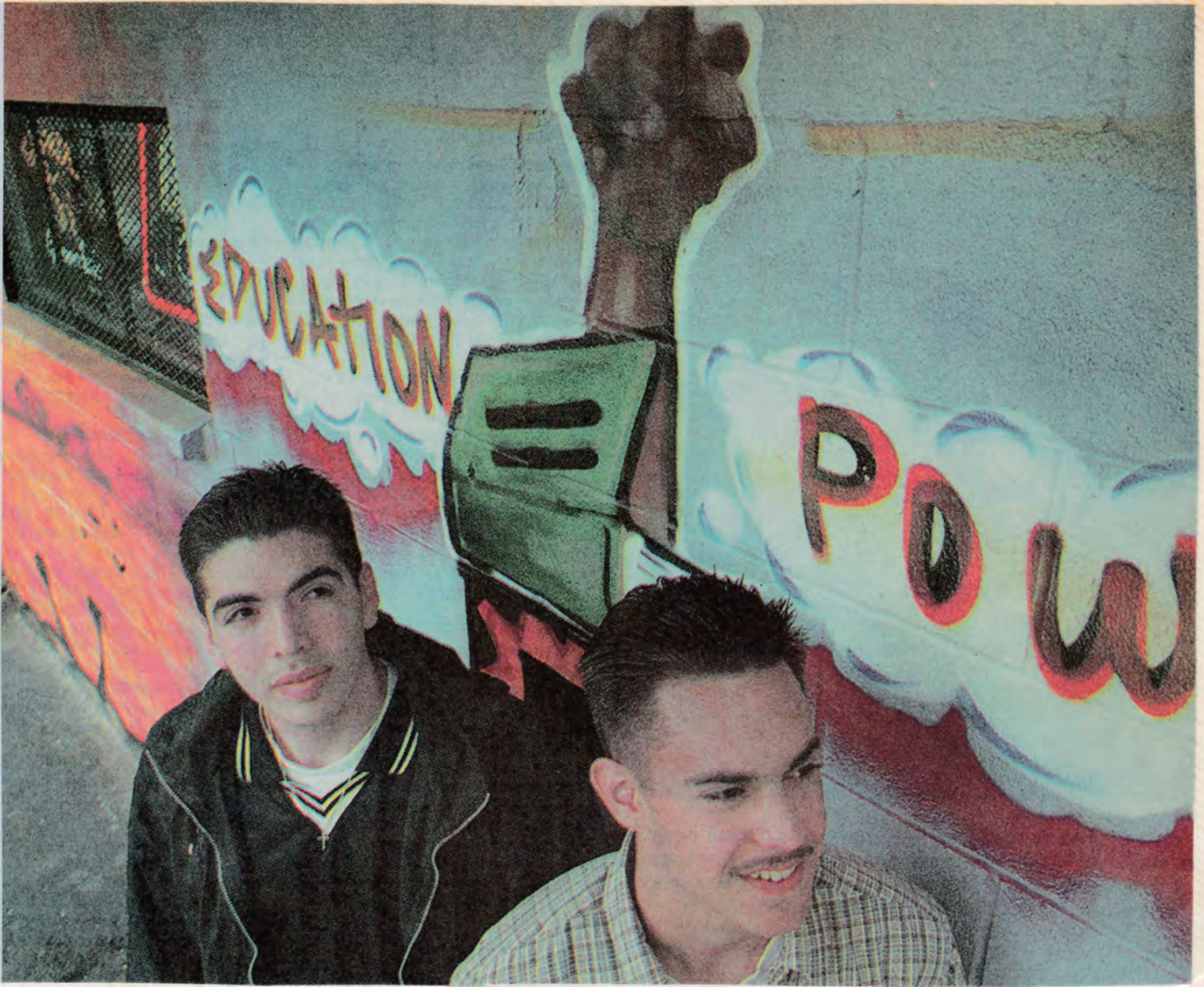
The Most Lamentable Comedy and Most Cruel Death of

Pyramus and Thisbe

from "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

by William Shakespeare

Directed by the Advanced Drama Class



David Valentin, above left, and Brian Castaneda stand near the mural they painted outside of Day's Market on 20th Avenue. The work depicts unity, education and power. Area residents say the mural has made the once graffiti-plagued corner, below, blossom with color.

'While painting it, we were, like, talking to (some gang members), and we told them, "Hey, this is for you guys and the neighborhood," and I guess they respected us and respected the art.'

— DAVID VALENTIN
mural artist

Taggers see the writing on the wall

BY ROBYN S. EIFERTSEN
Neighbors staff writer

A wall once regularly defaced by crudely painted gang graffiti now displays swirls of color — a mural painted by two recent graduates of Christian Brothers High School.

Budding muralists Brian Castañeda, 18, of Rancho Cordova, and David Valentin, 18, of South Sacramento, answered the call of an Oak Park activist and a small-business owner who were fed up with the

gang graffiti that plagued Day's Market at 20th Avenue and 36th Street.

The side wall of the market was repeatedly vandalized with splashes of gang signs and names before the mural was completed in April.

"Every week I had to keep painting (the wall)," said Day's Market owner Kishor Patel.

Patel said he spent about \$350 on paint for the mural — a savings, considering that he had paid \$25 weekly, and

SEE MURAL, PAGE 5

New generation of graduates



SACRAMENTO BEE
MAY 29, 1997

Christian Brothers High School senior Paul Taormina adjusts his attire Thursday while waiting to participate in the first graduation at Sacramento's Memorial Auditorium in 12 years. Taor-

mina's father and grandmother also graduated in Memorial Auditorium, which stopped hosting the ceremonies in 1985. The renovated auditorium reopened in November. Story, page B1.

Bee photograph/Randy Pench

sometimes daily, for paint to cover graffiti.

Kelly Moore Paints on Folsom Boulevard donated a sealant to protect the wall from future graffiti.

A portion of the wall now displays an illustration of the Earth, the sun and other planets. The cosmic scene is next to a depiction of the Sacramento River cascading below large, graffiti-like bubble letters that spell out "unity." A smaller, more traditional letter rests inside each graffiti-style letter.

Valentin said the lettering was rendered in two styles for a reason.

"We tagged it up and wrote in regular letters and gang-style letters," Valentin said. "While painting it, we were, like, talking to (some gang members), and we told them, 'Hey, this is for you guys and the neighborhood,' and I guess they respected us and respected the art."

Patel said he no longer has to paint the outside of his store to cover the marks of vandalism.

The project took Castañeda and Valentin two months to design and a little more than two weeks to paint. The two mixed spray paint to create the 25-foot-wide and nearly 19-foot-tall mural.

Besides unity in the universe, the mural depicts the idea of unity between the Oak Park neighborhood and the rest of Sacramento.

Next to the universe scene and the bright blue and orange "unity" is an illustration of an Oak Park neighborhood silhouetted by the state Capitol and other Sacramento landmarks.

"You kind of get that feeling of unity when you see it," Valentin said.

Cheri Gordon, a member of the 19th Street Neighborhood Association in Oak Park, said the mural is the neighborhood's first piece of art.

"I think people are just enthralled with it," she said. "It gives people a sense of pride. It has made that corner blossom with color."

Gordon said she came up with the mural idea after hearing from neighbors that the market was consistently vandalized. She said she looked for artists at Christian Brothers High School because she thought "they should have an investment and an involvement with the community."

After looking at several student designs, Gordon said she and the store owner chose a conglomeration of three designs.

"We had to choose a style of art that would not be attacked by the 'gang bangers,' which would be a graffiti style of art," she said.

At the same time, Gordon said, she insisted that no gang symbols or names be used on the mural.

Besides the main mural, Valentin painted a smaller scene on the store's front wall that shows a desert leading to a stack of books on the tip of a pyramid. A fist shoots from the books into the words: "Education is Power."

Both artists hope to paint more murals in the future.

Castañeda became interested in painting murals when he began working with the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission about a year ago. Through the organization,

he met Sacramento artist Anthony Padilla and helped him paint murals at Gardenland Park in the Northgate area.

Castañeda is now preparing for a trip to Germany in early June with a foreign exchange youth group, Youth Bridges. While there, he hopes to visit museums in Berlin and see cottage murals popular in southern Germany.

After his 18-day trip, he will start summer school at the University of California, San Francisco.

Art said Castañeda, is "one of the best ways I know how to express myself."

Valentin, who said he has been drawing "ever since I can remember," plans to attend San Francisco City College in the fall while taking art classes at San Francisco State University.

He said he hopes to become a famous artist or an art teacher. He plans to earn a master's degree in fine arts.

"I wanted to have this experience, because I always wanted to do murals, and most people would turn me down because they thought it would be in a graffiti style," said Valentin, who admires Sacramento mural artist Jose Montoya.

Montoya has painted several murals in the area, including a large butterfly on the wall of the Macy's department store parking lot on O Street.

Valentin said he enjoys the process of creating artwork by "mixing colors into motion," whether on paper, on canvas or on a wall.

Gordon said she would like to see murals painted on other Oak Park buildings and walls that are plagued by gang tagging.

Specifically, she said, she wants to see artwork on a fence at the corner of 24th Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and at two other convenience stores that face the boulevard.

'We had to chose a style of art that would not be attacked by the "gang bangers," which would be a graffiti style of art.'

— CHERI GORDON

19th Street Neighborhood Association





Bee photograph/Bryan Patrick

Christian Brothers High School student Krystle Fisher takes Ellana Reyes, 3, for a swing as Jeremy Tyller, 4, signals end of recess at Oak Ridge Elementary School.

Public, private schools benefit from partnership

Brothers tutors learn by helping

SACRAMENTO BEE
JUNE 3, 1997

By Bill Lindelof
Bee Staff Writer

In one corner of the small playground, Krystle Fisher hugged a preschooler and spoke softly to her.

Across the pavement, Christian Brothers High School classmate Santino Huizar taught a child the finer points of hopscotch.

The two 16-year-old students are participants in a longtime partnership between the private Roman Catholic high school and Oak Ridge Elementary, a public school in the Sacramento City Unified School District.

"A lot of them like attention, a lot of hugs," said Fisher. "They calm down if you pay special attention."

"When the teacher is real busy, they get the attention they need from me," Huizar said.

Christian Brothers students have tutored and been role models for the children at Oak Ridge at least since the late 1960s.

The schools are neighbors on Martin Luther King Boulevard in Oak Park.

However, until the early 1980s, the tutoring was hit-or-miss.

The partnership acquired stability when the Developmental Specialist Program was founded about 16 years ago to provide mentors and tutors for the children of Oak Ridge, said Pat O'Brien, a Christian Brothers counselor who ran the program the first 10 years.

The student population at Oak Ridge is 43 percent Latino, 42 percent Southeast Asian and 12 percent African American.

A good number of Oak Ridge's students come from "economically disadvantaged" families, said principal Irma Jue. The program, she said, provides role models, boosts self-esteem and improves academic performance.

"Many (Christian Brothers students) told me that they got more out of it than the kids they were serving," said O'Brien.

The program this year consisted of 28 juniors and seniors working with small groups or individual preschool through sixth-grader students at Oak Ridge.

The tutoring is part of the regular class schedule for the participating Christian Brothers students.

Instead of correcting papers or stapling notebooks, they work closely with students on academics, focusing on math, reading, phonics, writing or speaking English.

Other teenagers help with physical education or hang around at recess, developing friendships.

Teacher Paul Havey, current adviser for the program, said Christian Brothers students "develop a real hunger to help because they see the need is great."

Essays written by this year's student volunteers speak of the frustrations and the joys of teaching:

"The children of Mrs. Rohr's class light up when I walk into the classroom, their smiles shine with a day's potential yet to come," wrote Christian Brothers student Patrick Harbison.

"Some of the kids can't spell basic words or do simple math," wrote Dave Babcock. "But they come to rely on you being there."

During winter break, the entire school has the opportunity to donate presents to Oak Ridge pupils.

The young students walk over to the high school for gifts, refreshments, music and Santa Claus.

O'Brien said the relationship with Oak Ridge fits in well with the Christian Brothers' mission of helping the underprivileged. St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle founded the Catholic order of Christian Brothers in the early 1700s in France.

METRO

■ Sacramento

High school gets principal

Thomas Rutten, a vice principal at Sacramento High School, has been named principal of Christian Brothers High School, effective June 15.

Rutten, 41, will succeed Brother Stephen Rusyn, who is joining the English Department of St. Mary's University in Winona, Minn.

Christian Brothers, a 950-student Catholic school, conducted a nationwide search. Eight people applied and Rutten was recommended by an interview committee, said Christian Brothers President Mark Warren.

Rutten, a 12-year veteran of Sacramento City Unified School District, is Sacramento High's mentoring program coordinator and recently resigned as the school's head varsity football coach, a position he had held since 1987.

"I'm excited to be a part of Christian Brothers' 120-year history of service to Sacramento," said Rutten, a member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish.

—Edgar Sanchez

SACRAMENTO BEE
JUNE 3, 1997

CBS MULTICULTURAL WEEK 1997

Day of the week	Club(s) Participating	Food	Activities and Entertainment	Tables and Chairs needed	AV equipment needed
MONDAY (in gym)	Halo Halo Club	full plates of Asian food in gym	-dances -marital arts demo	6 tables in SE corner of gym plastic under tables west bleachers out	-one microphone in gym -cassette/CD player
TUESDAY (in quad)	Black Student Union	full plates of "soul food"	-quest drill team performance -poetry reading -dance performance	6 tables outside in quad	-microphone system in quad -CD player
WED (in quad)	Drama Club (Renaissance)	none	-madrigal choir, dramatic performance, costumes, face painting, games, dancing, etc.	8-10 tables in quad area	-none requested
WED (in quad)	Native American Club	none	-Display of crafts -video of Native American Dances	2 tables with 5-6 chairs outside of classroom on the quad where video will be shown	TV/VCR outside of classroom on the quad
THURS (in quad)	German Club French Club	Desserts only	-German band on the quad -French posters	4 tables and 8 chairs	none requested
FRIDAY (in gym)	Maya Club	Full plate of Mexican food in the gym	-music -dances -salsa contest	6 tables SE corner of gym w/ plastic under West bleachers out	-microphones -cassette/CD player all in gym

STUDENT EXHIBITION

Art Work from Christian Brothers
High School

September 10 to November 2, 1997

Reception: Sunday, Sept. 21, noon - 2 pm

Art work from Christian Brothers High School will be the second installment in a four-part series of "up-and-coming" art education programs. This exhibition features thirty-five skillfully crafted paintings and drawings done in a variety of media. The exhibition highlights student art work of teachers Kevin McGovern and Robyn Slakey. With a combination of dynamic classroom instruction coupled with an increased emphasis on exhibiting art work, CBHS is fast becoming one of the area's finest art programs.



Mola, Italian (1612-1666),
Temptation of St. Anthony
Museum Collection

CSUS/50



Wayne Thiebaud, *Street and Shadow*, 1982-83/1996
Crocker Art Museum Collection

September - October, 1997

ART LETTER

CROCKER ART MUSEUM

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