



*An Exemplary Recognition School ~ Mission, Community, and Climate*

**PROUD TO BE ST. MONICA SCHOOL:  
We Celebrate Some of our Recent Alumni, Student, and Staff!**

***Alex Spaeth***

**Alex Spaeth**, St. Monica School Class of 2003, is currently attending Boston College and has played a pivotal role on the school's NCAA Division I swim team. As a freshman at Boston College, he enjoyed a successful swim season as the team's sprint freestyler and its anchor for the relays.

Alex graduated from Marquette University High School in the Spring of 2007 with National Merit Honors. He achieved All-American Athletic Honors his Senior year and grabbed five school swim records. Alex also achieved All-American Academic/Athletic Honors.

***Stephen Fong***

**Stephen Fong**, St. Monica School Class of 2006 alum and current Dominican High School sophomore, was named the recipient of the Renaissance Award for the months of December and January for his outstanding academic work in the area of Science. The Renaissance Program is one avenue through which Dominican High School recognizes student, staff, and alumni for their academic achievement and exemplary demonstrations of the Dominican mission statement.

***SMS Alumni at Dominican High School***

Dominican High School recently announced its honor roll awards for the first semester of the 2007-2008 school year. St. Monica School alumni who earned a place on the honor roll included the following:

**High Honors (3.67 – 4.00 G.P.A.)**

Tess Gronski (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Jessie Bazan (10 <sup>th</sup> )	Peter Vartanian (11 <sup>th</sup> )	Claire Gerlach (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Daven Hines (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Emma Bradford (10 <sup>th</sup> )		Emily Lasky (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Katie O'Neil (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Elizabeth Devine (10 <sup>th</sup> )		
Maggie O'Neil (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Stephen Fong (10 <sup>th</sup> )		
Leigh Poellman (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)			
Charlie Sather (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)			
Lily Vartanian (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)			

**Honors (3.33 – 3.669 G.P.A.)**

Mary Alice Carroll (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Tony Gerlach (10 <sup>th</sup> )	Amir Hamizadeh (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Annie Murphy (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Dylan Mooney (10 <sup>th</sup> )	Elizabeth Pircon (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Aaron Raffet (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Meg Murphy (10 <sup>th</sup> )	Sara Topp (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Katy Schuele (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)		
Elizabeth Topp (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)		

**Commended (3.00 – 3.329 G.P.A.)**

Sam Bazan (10 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Amanda Angelo (12 <sup>th</sup> )
	Elizabeth Rice (12 <sup>th</sup> )

***SMS Alumni at Marquette High School***

Marquette University High School recently announced its honor roll awards for the first semester of the 2007-2008 school year. St. Monica School alumni who earned a place on the honor roll included the following:

**First Honors (3.60 – 4.1 G.P.A.)**

Charlie Traudt (10 <sup>th</sup> grade)	John Bennett (11 <sup>th</sup> )	Ryan Traudt (12 <sup>th</sup> )
	Michal Flejsierowicz (11 <sup>th</sup> )	
	Danny McDonough (11 <sup>th</sup> )	
	Matt McDonough (11 <sup>th</sup> )	

**Second Honors (3.20 – 3.59 G.P.A.)**

Trevor Hoy (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Mark Lasky (10 <sup>th</sup> )	A. J. Klotsche (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Billy O'Connor (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Andrew Wallis (10 <sup>th</sup> )	Christopher Schuele (12 <sup>th</sup> )

## ***SMS Alumni at Divine Savior Holy Angels High School***

Divine Savior Holy Angels High School recently announced its honor roll awards for the first semester of the 2007-2008 school year. St. Monica School alumni who earned a place on the honor roll included the following:

### **First Honors (3.60 – 4.0 G.P.A.)**

Kathleen Brennan (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Ellie Christenson (10 <sup>th</sup> )	Bridget Geygan (11 <sup>th</sup> )	Samantha Brennan (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Katie Haynes (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Brenna Wildt (10 <sup>th</sup> )	Katie Neville (11 <sup>th</sup> )	Isabelle Hoy (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Molly O'Connor (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)		Catherine Quirk (11 <sup>th</sup> )	Annie Regan (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Kelsey Quirk (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)		Andrea Wallach (11 <sup>th</sup> )	
Peyton Sweeney (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)			

### **Second Honors (3.0 – 3.59 G.P.A.)**

Callie McBride (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Sarah Brennan (10 <sup>th</sup> )	Emily Fitzgibbons (12 <sup>th</sup> )	Caroline Murphy (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Alexa Nickrant (9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Katie Swain (10 <sup>th</sup> )	Sarah LeBrun (12 <sup>th</sup> )	Meghan Neville (12 <sup>th</sup> )
		Alex McBride (12 <sup>th</sup> )	

## ***SMS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys, Girls Basketball Teams Earn Padre Serra Invite***

Congratulations to the St. Monica School 8th grade boys' and 8th grade girls' basketball teams for capping successful seasons by earning invitations to play in the 50th Annual Padre Serra basketball tournament! This prestigious tournament is an invite-only event sponsored by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. It involves the top 8th grade boys' and girls' teams from the Archdiocese, a true pitting of the "best against the best." This marks the second consecutive school year in which both the 8th grade boys' and 8th grade girls' teams earned invitations to the Padre.

Both teams drew difficult first round match-ups, and after competing valiantly all game long came up just a bit short on the scoreboard. The girls lost a hard-fought tussle with St. John the Evangelist by a score of 27-14, while the boys played with great effort before St. Margaret Mary pulled away with a 42-24 victory.

Special thanks to all St. Monica School athletics' fans – school parents, past parents, alumni, parish members, and other friends – who donned your red and white colors with pride and came out to cheer on our Raiders to victory!

## ***St. Monica School Art Teacher Gives Time and Talent to Make a Difference***

The St. Monica School community has been blessed to have had Sue Miller as its Art Teacher for the past 24 years. To all who know her – staff, parents, and students – she is a gifted educator full of optimism and energy and the possessor of a trademark smile. She is also an incredibly talented artist who is always looking to use those talents to make a difference for those around her in need.

For many years, Mrs. Miller has used her art education curriculum as a forum for teaching St. Monica School students about the importance of serving and ministering to others. Each school year, she involves students in the "Empty Bowls Project," a fundraising event entailing the creation and subsequent sale of pottery bowls to benefit food pantries in the Greater Milwaukee area. Several years ago, following the devastating tsunami, she organized and hosted a "Student Art Show and Art Sale" during the school's annual Open House event; proceeds from sales of the artwork, created by St. Monica School students and staff, were donated to Catholic Relief Services and were earmarked for tsunami relief efforts.

More recently, Mrs. Miller has given of her time and talent to make a difference in a very personal way. Fresh off lending her time and talent to the design of the race shirt for this past Labor Day's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Diane Woodke Memorial Run/Walk event (honoring former SMS secretary, Diane Woodke), she decided to help with the design of a shirt to benefit area runner and close friend, Jenny Crain. Crain was seriously injured when hit by a car during an Olympic training run in Milwaukee in August. While she has made gradual progress in her recovery these past six months, Crain's family and friends – Mrs. Miller included – know she still has a long and challenging journey ahead.

When she heard about Crain's tragic accident, Mrs. Miller decided it was time for her to give back to Jenny in any way she could. "I knew my way of giving back was to help raise funds for her medical and long-term care," Mrs. Miller said.

And so, the idea for a t-shirt bearing Jenny's personal motto "Make it Happen" was born. Along with her husband, Mike (who coached Jenny's Junior Olympics team), and friends Peter Bandettini (St. Monica School and Dominican High School alum) and Eric Geitzen (Dominican High School alum), Mrs. Miller helped to create the shirt design. The shirts have been sold at several area running events, including the "Al's Run & Walk for Children's Hospital" event in September and the "Lakefront Marathon" in October. To date, sales of the shirt have raised nearly \$9,000 for Crain's benefit.

The St. Monica School community continues to hold Jenny Crain and her family in its prayers – and thanks Mrs. Miller for representing us with such wonderful compassion and generosity.

**Congratulations to all of our alumni, students, and staff featured in this update!**

**We are proud of you and your accomplishments – and we are grateful to have you representing SMS!**

***If you know of a student or alumni success we should be celebrating, please contact Tom Mlada, St. Monica School Development Director, at (414) 332-3660 ext. 123 or [tmlada@st-monica.org](mailto:tmlada@st-monica.org).***