

THE DRAGON PRIDE



Hello Dragons!

Welcome to the 5th edition of the Sac High Alumni Newsletter. The purpose of the monthly newsletter is to provide updates on current Sac High events affecting the Alumni.

Sac High in the News

April 20, 2006: Sac Bee: Kevin Johnson helps drive to boost schools

<http://owa.sachigh.org/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://www.sacbee.com/content/news/story/14245610p-15063727c.html>

April 20, 2006: Sac Bee: Marty Mac's World: Ex-Cowboy Cosbie sees Sac High as a perfect fit

http://owa.sachigh.org/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://www.sacbee.com/content/community_news/mcneal/story/14245717p-15063785c.html

April 20, 2006: Sac Bee: Baugh, Anderson make all-state basketball teams

http://owa.sachigh.org/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://www.sacbee.com/content/community_news/sacramento/story/14245161p-15063421c.html

April 18, 2006: Sac Bee: Judge orders mediation in VAPAC charter suit

<http://owa.sachigh.org/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://www.sacbee.com/content/news/story/14244553p-15063028c.html>

April 18, 2006: Sac Bee: States help districts avoid No Child Left behind Act penalties

http://owa.sachigh.org/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/national/1155AP_No_Child_Loopole.html

SAC HIGH ON OPRAH!!!!

Oprah in Oak Park? Yes, that's right! Oprah's production crew spent a day filming at Sac High for an episode on the crisis in public education. On Oprah's April 11th program, Bill and Melinda Gates highlighted some of the biggest problems facing America's schools—obsolete curriculum, high dropout rates and underperforming graduates. On Oprah's April 12th broadcast, the reinvention of Sacramento High School as a charter school was used as an example of a potential solution. Kevin Johnson visited *The Oprah Winfrey show* and shared the Sac High story and information on the new Gates Foundation campaign called *Stand Up*—designed to bring awareness to the crisis in public education. In addition to being the national spokesperson for *Stand Up*, Mr. Johnson will maintain his commitment to running the four small schools at Sacramento High School, and PS7, St. HOPE's elementary school. Johnson says, "We have a national crisis going on. We want to get into the psyche of



Photo courtesy of Oprah.com

Kevin Johnson meets with the Sac High Small School Senate to discuss the new Gates Foundation campaign *Stand Up*—a campaign designed to unite all citizens in *Standing Up for equality in education*.

America so everyone understands that there has to be a national dialogue. We want to demand that all of our kids are ready for college, work, and beyond." Sacramento High School is being transformed into a college prep school with high expectations and a focus on results. The state API (Academic Performance In-

dex) scores have been rising steadily and are up to 615. That's up from a dismal 564 three years ago. According to a national survey, 30% of all American high school students drop out, and 50% of African-American and Latino students don't graduate. It's time to *Stand Up* against social injustice and institutionalized racism.

4 SMALL SCHOOLS IN ONE!

Part of reinventing Sac High under the management of St. HOPE Public Schools was implementing a small school strategy. To replace our large, comprehensive high school with small learning communities, we created four small, themed schools on one campus. Our test

scores are rising and the Dragons are thriving with this new combination of small school support, and big school fun! The four schools are: Arts, Business & Communication, Law & Public Service and Math, Engineering and Health Sciences. Now teachers can give individualized support and attention to all of our students. Every Dragon is made

to feel special. The five pillars that guide our decisions and school culture are: *High Expectations, Choice & Commitment, More Time, Focus on Results, and The Power to Lead*. Stop by for a tour by calling Allison Alair at 275-9584



SAC HIGH CLASS OF 1986 CELEBRATE ITS 20 YEAR REUNION SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH, EMBASSY SUITES, OLD SAC

August 5, 2006, 6 pm - 12 am
Embassy Suites, River City Ballroom
100 Capitol Mall, Sacramento
(916) 326-5000

Questions? Contact Shelley Hall at:
SacHigh86@hotmail.com

Cost:
\$55.00 per person for adult buffet
dinner and dance, no host bar
Not included in cost:
Parking, reunion memory book, and
photographer

**RSVP and Payment in full due by May
15, 2006**



If you have any photos from 1983-86 that you would like to submit for a reunion slide show, please send them in with your payment in jpeg format on a CD, or e-mail them. Photos will not be returned.

Pool Party! Join the class of '86 on the day after the reunion, Sunday, August 6, from 1-5 p.m. for a **family day** at the College Greens Cabana Club (2707 Notre Dame Drive, Sacramento). The day will include swimming and a BBQ (hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, salad, dessert, juice and water provided).



ALUMNI OF THE MONTH-HERB CAEN 1916-1997

Famous San Francisco Chronicle Columnist Herb Caen was born in Sacramento on April 3, 1916, and graduated from Sacramento High School in 1932. Soon after graduating from Sac High, where "Raisin' Caen" wrote "Corridor Gossip" for the school paper, *The X-Ray*, Caen was hired by the *Sacramento Union* as a sports reporter. In 1936, Caen moved to San Francisco to become *The*

Chronicle's radio columnist and later gained fame with his print column "It's news to me," which was first published in 1938. His columns were known for their dry wit and his intimate knowledge of the goings-on in his city. Caen had a considerable influence on pop culture and its language; most notably, he is credited with inventing the term "beatnik" in a 1958 column

and the word "hippie." He also playfully popularized many other less well known concepts and terms, such as Frisbeetearian. Herb Caen died on Feb. 1, 1997. He was 80 years old. "One day if I do go to heaven, I'm going to do what every San Franciscan does that goes to heaven, he looks around and says it ain't bad, but it ain't San Francisco."



Photo Paul Bishop-1954

Herb Caen, Class of 1932



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COORDINATOR-ALLISON ALAIR, CLASS OF 1983

In addition to being the alumni Association Coordinator, I am a teacher at Sac High. I am the Student Activities Director and I run the Small School Senate leadership program. Both of my parents are Dragons from the class of 1952, and I graduated in 1983. My brother and uncle are also Dragons, and my daughter will graduate from Sac High in 2016. Thank you for your feedback on the newsletter. I am happy to report that folks have been forwarding our

newsletter all over the country via e-mail. Please feel free to forward the *Dragon Pride* to your friends and family and let me know if they would like to be added to our database. Send their name, address, phone number and e-mail to: aalair@sachigh.org

Go Dragons!
Allison Alair
(916) 275-9584



Special Upcoming Sac High events:

Spring Musical, Honk! 4/27-29, 5/5-6, 7 PM
Mel Lawson Arts Theater, Sac High

Sacramento High School Dance 2006
A student dance concert at the Guild Theater
Friday May 12, 9:30 a.m. & 7:00pm,
Saturday, May at 7pm and
Sunday May 14, 2:00 p.m.
\$7students & \$10 adults