



News

Fall/Winter 1998

Concord

The official
newsletter of
Concord
High School

This month four Concord graduates stopped in to say hello and to update us on their latest accomplishments and adventures. We love hearing from former students who, in addition to regaling us with stories of their own, often ask about their friends with whom they have lost touch as well as inquiring into the goings on of the present student body. Sonya and I wanted to satisfy this interest and to share with you, our friends and former students, some of the information that passes our way, and so we here initiate *The Concord News*. Please contact us by phone, mail, email (info@concordhs.org) with any information about you or other Concord alums that you think we and others would be interested in hearing about. Or better yet, stop by when you are in the neighborhood. We hope you enjoy reading these periodic epistles and look forward to hearing from you. — Susan Packer Davis, Administrator

Caitlin Bernstein, Class of '98, surprised herself, but not us, when she took the required English placement exam at **Mills College**. She scored a **perfect 5** which makes her eligible for the most advanced English classes. She also placed into college-level French III and was admitted to Mills' "French" dormitory.

1600 is the largest possible number! No, it is not infinity. It is 1600! If you don't believe us just ask **Max Comess**, Class of '99. Last spring Max scored **1600 on his SAT I** exams, the highest possible score. In the 1996-97 test year, the latest year for which data is available, only 453 of the over two million students taking the test received this high score. Max, who is currently taking two advanced courses at **UCLA** as well as taking flying lessons at Santa Monica Airport, was recently the subject of a lengthy front-page article in the Life and Style section of the Los Angeles Times* (September 4, 1998). He

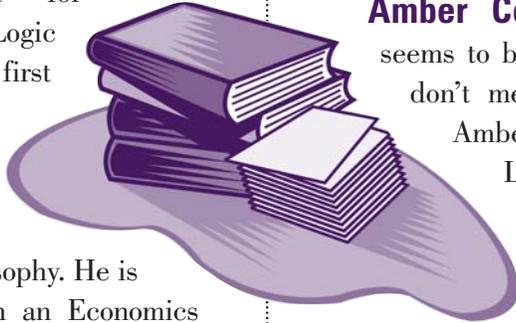
hasn't made a final college choice, but we have assured him that he will have many options. As an aside, **Lily Comess**, Class of '02 and Max's younger sister, has informed one of our staff that she intends on doing better than her brother, who did miss one question (a slip that ETS allows for those who otherwise answer all questions correctly). Lily assures us that she will get a 1600 without any incorrect answers. *You go girl!*

**To read the text of the entire article, go to our web site and click on students. Many of our other stars are featured along with Max.*



Natalie Shaw, Class of '98, who many of you know acted professionally while at Concord, continues to audition for roles while she is attending **Sarah Lawrence College**, but her intelligence is no act. Natalie is one of eight students (in her class of 350 students) whose **advanced preparation** for college exempts her from freshman requirements.

Dustin Osborn, Class of '96, currently a junior at **UCLA majoring in philosophy**, lunched with staff members earlier this month. He has had a very successful first two years. As a sophomore he was chosen by Professor Donald Kalish as a teaching assistant for Kalish's Symbolic Logic course and ended his first two years with College of Letters and Science honors as well as Department honors in philosophy. He is currently working on an Economics Department scholarship to help him complete a double major.



How many of you saw **Vanessa Desrochers**, Class of '96, working hard at Wolfgang Puck's café on Montana Avenue this past summer? Vanessa was trying to make some money for her return to the **University of Washington**. Why is she so anxious to return to Seattle? Because she is doing great! She made the **Dean's List** this past semester with a 3.7 including a **4.0 in calculus**. She attributes the calculus grade entirely to Bamdad's teaching skills. *Thanks Bamdad.*

October 6th. So who just walked into our office from out of the blue? Former Concord student **Lucky Grundy**, of course. Lucky, brought news of his most recent accomplishment: he is on his way to Madrid to play **professional basketball**. He is as humble as ever about this latest dream fulfilled. Lucky recently graduated from **California State University, Northridge** in Pan-African

Studies. You may have read about him there as he was the star point guard for the CSUN Matadors. We wish him continued success and a great season playing ball in Europe.

Rushing to get to the bar. That is what **Amber Cohen**, Class of '94, seems to be doing. Hold on! We don't mean that kind of bar. Amber recently returned to Los Angeles after completing her **Bachelor of Arts** degree at the **University of Pennsylvania** in only three years. She plans to go to **law school** . . . to get to the bar. *Get it?*

After taking a semester off working for Concord last fall as our school monitor, **Ashley Lyle**, Class of '95, has returned to finish her studies at **Columbia University**. It was great having her around again.

Recently **Camrin (Cami) Cantrell**, Class of '98, came back to see us. We were very pleased because we thought she was just dropping by to say hello. It turned out that she really came to see Bamdad to get some post-Concord mathematics help. She did spend some time in the office making sure we knew that she **loves UCLA**.

Add another Concord grad to the honor roll. **Starlyn Kleiner**, Class of '94, graduated with honors from the **University of California, Santa Barbara**, this past June with a Bachelors of Arts degree in **Communication**. ■

ConcordNews

is published by
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Concord High School is ready for the new millennium. We have our own website and email address. Click on www.concordhs.org to view the work of Bamdad Samii, who, in addition to serving as head of our mathematics department, is our acting sysops. (Computer lingo for the person who picks up our email and maintains the website.)

Our email address makes it easier for you to stay in touch with us. You can email us at info@concordhs.org with any news about yourself or any other Concord alumni who are doing something you think will interest us. Of course, we still receive mail from our friendly postal worker, so send pictures, stories, articles, postcards, etc. We would love to hear from and about each of you.

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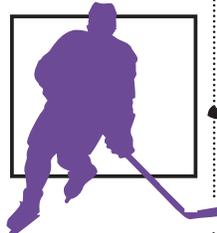
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Not everyone in Washington D.C. is a creep! **Ben Ganger, Class of '94**, after repeatedly making the Dean's List at the **College of William and Mary**, has landed his dream job in the nation's capitol. After his graduation last June, he began **working** for a major consulting firm located within the beltway (Arthur Andersen). Those of you who knew Ben, probably recall that this is exactly what he wanted to do after college. He plans to attend **graduate school** in a couple of years through *Andersen's* "long distance" program with **Duke University**.

Homesick for LA at **UC Irvine, Nicole Bihari, Class of '96**, decided to do it her own way. Returning to Los Angeles, Nicole began to take classes on her own through **UCLA extension**, accumulating 44 units as of last spring. Nicole had a great time doing school on her own terms while maintaining a **3.4 GPA**. Her hope was to accumulate enough credits to slide into **UCLA** as a junior, and she did it! Nicole was accepted at **UCLA for Fall 1999**.

If you saw the **Concord High School** sign in the *Our Times* section of the *Los Angeles Times* on May 9th (page 7) and read the article, you would now know that we are a major California high school **sports power**. Out of our small student body (88 this year), we happen to have **three young hockey players** who were on two winning teams



which competed in the National Championships last April.

David Andrews, Class of '01, played for the **West Valley Wolves**, a Bantam AA team. In March, David and the Wolves won the *Pacific Regional Championship* in Anchorage, Alaska. As winners, they went to the Nationals in St. Peters, Missouri, in mid-April, where they were not eliminated until the semi-finals.

Max Duganne, Class of '01 and **Will Bentley, Class of '02**, played on the **Junior Kings**, a AAA Bantam team, sponsored by the *Los Angeles Kings*. They also won their *Pacific Regional championships* in Seattle in mid-March. The Nationals for AAA teams were held from April 7-11 in Adina, Minnesota, where Max, Will and the Junior Kings also lasted well into the competition, being knocked out only in the semi-final rounds.

It's easy to be proud of these young men, as they continue to do very well in school while actively pursuing their athletic ambitions. *How many of you have seen the ice hockey rink in the basement of the school?* Come by and one of our state champs will give you the tour.



Foiled again! Not satisfied sitting on the sidelines, **Justin Kaplan, Class of '01**, has joined the athletic fray by winning a **Certificate of Merit for Men's Foil** in a recent *Southern California Fencing League All Conference Fencing Tournament*. Anyone have sug-

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Please email us at info@concordhs.org with any news about yourself or any other Concord alumni. We still receive mail from our friendly postal worker, so send pictures, stories, articles, postcards, etc. We would love to hear from and about each of you!

gestions for a mascot and fight song?

Community service paid off for **Andrew Kazakes, Class of '00**, as he was selected to receive a **President's Student Service Scholarship** by the *Corporation for National Service*. This award, announced by **President Clinton**, was in recognition of Andrew's exemplary community service. Andrew worked hard, putting in over 200 hours of community service last year at the **Boys & Girls Club of Santa Monica's Knight's Service Club**, where he helped with yard sales, fed the homeless, and helped out with the cooking. Andrew also received a **\$1,000 scholarship** to help him attend college.

Who says nice guys finish last?

When she came to Concord, **Danielle Rabkin, Class of '99**, had only one wish, she wanted to attend the **University of California at Berkeley**. It would be unfair to Danielle to say, "guess who got her wish," because Danielle worked very hard last year to become one of California's top students. **UC Berkeley** is fortunate to have her.

Katia Sigal, Class of '99, began to **dance** when she was three years old, while she was living in Texas. She never stopped. For the past nine years, she has performed in jazz, ballet and tap performances, joining *The Dance Factory Teen Performing Troupe* in Los Angeles in 1993. She has also danced with the *Groove Radio Dance Troupe* and in 1998 with *Dick Clark Productions* in Las Vegas for the *New Year's Rockin' Eve '99*. As a fitting tribute for all of this hard work, dedication and the love of dance, Katia was accepted to **UCLA's prestigious dance program** where she will be dancing "smartly"

for the next four years.

Who's the newest reporter in town? Our very own **Lindsay Spann, Class of '02**, who has recently been selected by the **Los Angeles Times** as its **youth correspondent!** She will be interviewing teens on various subjects in the coming months. Perhaps you saw her first opinion piece on *youth violence* in the *Times' Metro Section*, "Voices," Saturday, June 12, 1999.

Stephen Benenson, Class of '97, stopped by to visit Concord last June on his way to **Peru!** Stephen attends **Wheaton College**, and has decided to major in **anthropology**. Many of you know Stephen as the artist responsible for several of the awesome works of art that grace Concord's walls, especially his "old men." Stephen will be studying in **Boston** during the next year, at the Museum, where he will likely be a neighbor of **Tim Barry, Class of '98**, who will be a sophomore at **Boston University**. Tim returned to Los Angeles last summer, to intern for a well-known music/production company.

Violet Ramis, Class of '95, dropped by in July on her way to **New York City**. She graduated in June from **UC Santa Cruz**, with **honors**, and plans to work for a while before entering **graduate school** in the field of **education**. Violet's dad, **Harold Ramis**, spoke at the graduation ceremonies, just as he did when Violet graduated from Concord!

Caitlin Bernstein, Class of '98 earned **academic honors** at **Mills College** for Spring, 1999, before taking off to spend the summer in **Japan!** She has been learning Japanese...and teaching English.



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News

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in the News

Fall 2009

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15 CONCORD STUDENTS EARN AP® SCHOLAR AWARDS!

SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER EVER EARN HONORS

Fifteen students at Concord High School (usual enrollment: 100 students) have earned the designation of **AP Scholar** by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) Exams.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college-level courses while still in high school, and to receive college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. Only about 18 percent of the more than 1.6 million high school students in almost 16,000 secondary schools worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to merit the recognition of AP Scholar.

Students took AP Exams in May 2009 after completing challenging college-level courses at their high schools. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on student's performance on AP exams.

AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION

At Concord High School six students qualified for the **AP Scholar with Distinction** Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, *and* grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are **Joseph Patrick Bowman, Charles H. Brittenham III, Ramia Adaeze Davis, Jackson Packer Hille, Ryan Gannon King** and **Jeffrey W. Samuelson**.

More AP Scholars on back...

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AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION



BOWMAN



BRITTENHAM



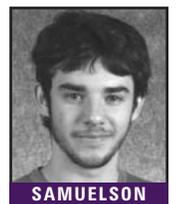
DAVIS



HILLE



KING



SAMUELSON

Concord
HIGH SCHOOL

*An Academic Haven
for the Serious Student*

AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR

CAMPBELL



PAPE



PIETON



WOOD

AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR

Four students qualified for the **AP Scholar with Honor** Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, *and* grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are **Claire Edwards Campbell, Hana Michaelle Pape, David Richard Pieton** and **Andrew Wood**.

AP SCHOLARS

Five students qualified for the **AP Scholar** Award by completing three or more AP Exams with grades of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are **Max David, Sabrina Deanne Leong, Dylan Scot Modell, Madison Grace Neufeld** and **Mason Mikhail Totaro**.

REPEAT HONORS

Of this year's award recipients at Concord High School, eight are currently seniors: **Joseph Patrick Bowman, Claire Edwards Campbell, Ramia Adaeze Davis, Jackson Packer Hille, Ryan Gannon King, Sabrina Deanne Leong, Dylan Scot Modell** and **Madison Grace Neufeld**. These students have at least one more year to complete college-level work and earn another AP Scholar Award before graduating from Concord.

Most of the nation's colleges and universities award credit, advanced placement, or both, based on successful performance on the **AP Exams**. More than 1,400 institutions award a full year's credit (sophomore standing) to students presenting a sufficient number of qualifying grades. In 2009, thirty-seven AP Exams were offered in a wide variety of subject areas, each consisting of multiple-choice and free-response (essay or problem-solving) questions (except for the Studio Art exam which evaluates students' original artwork).

The College Board is a not-for-profit membership organization whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the association is composed of more than 5,400 schools, colleges, universities, and other educational organizations. Each year, the College Board serves seven million students and their parents, 23,000 high schools, and 3,500 colleges through major programs and services in **college admissions, guidance, assessment, financial aid, enrollment, and teaching and learning**. Among its best-known programs are the **SAT®**, the **PSAT/NMSQT®**, and the **Advanced Placement Program® (AP®)**. The College Board is committed to the principles of excellence and equity, and that commitment is embodied in all of its programs, services, activities, and concerns. More at: www.apcentral.collegeboard.com.

AP SCHOLARS

DAVID



LEONG



MODELL



NEUFELD



TOTARO