



BISHOP CONNOLLY HIGH SCHOOL

COUGAR NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday, November 12 -First quarter grades mailed home.

Sunday, November 15 -Sports Boosters Pancake Breakfast from 8am-11am; mass at 9:30am.

Saturday, November 21 - Placement Test for prospective freshmen @ 8am.

Tuesday, November 24 - BCHS Calendar Drive begins.

Wednesday, November 25 - Thanksgiving Prayer Service; dismissal at noon.

Wednesday, December 2 @ 6:30pm - College Financial Aid Night for Parents of Seniors.

Saturday, December 5 @ 8am - Placement Test for prospective freshmen

Tuesday, December 8 - Holy Day Liturgy at 1pm.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, December 11, 12, 13 - A FEW GOOD MEN.

Friday, December 18 @ 1pm - Lessons and Carols Christmas Service at 1pm; full day of school.

Monday, December 21 - Friday, January 1 - Christmas Vacation.

Campus Clean-up Brigade



November - December, 2009

Dear Parents, Friends and Alumni:

This is an exciting time in the history of Bishop Connolly High School.

A few weeks ago we came together to dedicate the renovations to the school's auditorium; finally our theatre facilities match the excellence of our regionally-recognized theatre and film program. In addition, within the past year, with the help of generous supporters like yourselves, we have created a state-of-the-art fitness center, renovated our school offices and entrance, installed wireless connectivity throughout the campus, purchased up-to-date computers for the school library and computer labs, rehabilitated the tennis courts and the field in Cougar stadium, and improved the campus lighting and ventilation systems.

We have also introduced a series of new, vital programs at Bishop Connolly High School – dual enrollment with Bristol Community College through which our students are eligible to gain more than a year of college credit before graduating from BCHS, a new leadership initiative, an international division which has brought us students from China and Italy, and a wellness program that we hope will improve the

health and well-being of our community.

All of these new improvements to the campus and to the school programs have contributed to the Bishop Connolly Renaissance and, I believe, have been directly responsible for the fact that this year we have experienced a ten percent enrollment increase despite the current difficult economic situation in the region and in the country.

Clearly, we would like to build on this momentum, and plans are already underway to add to our virtual science labs, to create an interactive learning center for the study of World Languages and to fully automate and update the school library.

To accomplish all of this, we need your help. Please consider making a donation to the BCHS Annual Fund. Inside this newsletter, you will find a pledge slip and a return envelope. By contributing, you will help us to ensure that BCHS continues to provide academic excellence in an environment which allows students to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a commitment to becoming “not only a hearer, but a doer of the Word”.

Sincerely,

Michael Scanlan, Principal

COMMENDABLE SCHOLAR

Dylan Hillman, a senior at Bishop Connolly has been named a Commended Student in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, will be presented by the principal, Michael Scanlan, to this scholastically-talented senior.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2010 competition by taking the 2008 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

“Recognition of high achieving students is essential to advancing educational excellence in our nation,” commented a spokesperson for NMSC. “As demonstrated by their outstanding performance in our highly competitive program, the young men and women named Commended Students represent some of the most academically-talented students in our country. We sincerely hope this recognition will enhance their educational opportunities and encourage them in their pursuit of academic success.”

Dylan Hillman '10,
National Merit Commendation



CAMPUS CLEAN-UP

Over thirty students volunteered to spend a Saturday working on campus beautification!




CONNOLLY STUDENTS WARM THOSE IN NEED

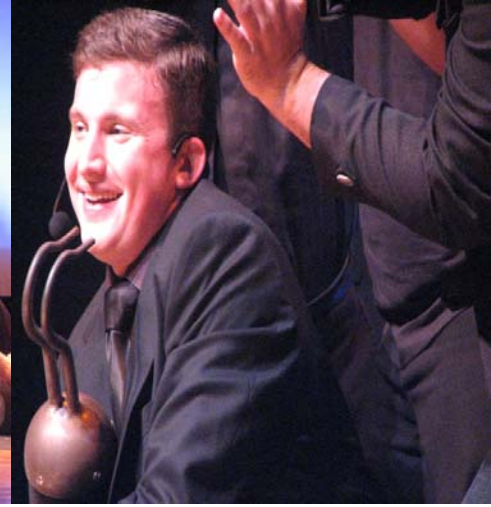
Beginning last March, Bishop Connolly High School students from the French, Spanish and Portuguese Language Honors Societies under the direction of Mrs. Susan Silvia began collecting used coats, jackets, sweaters and sweatshirts to pass along to those less fortunate in the Fall River community. As the donations piled up in Mrs. Silvia's classroom, students helped after school to sort and box the donated items. There were items for men, women and young children. Many were brand new and in excellent condition.



On Monday, September 28th, seven huge boxes containing several hundred items were delivered to the Sacred Heart Parish in Fall River. This has become an annual charitable project for the language students. Toward the end of winter, another appeal will go out to the Bishop Connolly

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THEATRE DEDICATION CELEBRATES THE PAST AND ANTICIPATES THE FUTURE

Bishop Connolly High School hosted a dedication concert for its newly-renovated theatrical stage on Sunday, September 20th. Connolly theatre students were joined by returning theatre alumni in a special retrospective performance to celebrate the school's past, present and future in the performing arts.

"We performed selected scenes and musical numbers from every Connolly production since 2003 with the original cast members returning to reprise their roles," says Connolly Theatre Director Chris J. Silva. "It was very exciting to see current and former students working together to pay tribute to a program that meant so much to them." The performance included selections from *Peter Pan*, *The Odd Couple*, *Oliver!*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Macbeth*, *Damn Yankees*, *Pippin* and many other past Connolly productions.

In all, over sixty former and current BCHS students and faculty members joined to create a memorable evening of theatre.

"The event celebrated the culmination of the capital improvement campaign for the school's theatre," said Connolly principal Michael Scanlan. "We are so fortunate to have one of the most extraordinary high school theatre and film programs in the area, and we wanted to match the excellence of the program by providing a state-of-the-art facility in which to mount its exciting productions." Renovations included brand new stage curtains and a cyclorama, a new theatrical lighting system and a high definition LCD projector. The results were evident in the evening's production in which the new technical enhancements were featured.

The production culminated with the musical number "We Are the World" in which the entire cast of graduates and current students performed. An enthusiastic and deeply-moved audience responded with a standing ovation.

Over forty thousand dollars has been raised in donations and pledges to pay for the stage renovations. Fundraising continues on behalf of the rehabilitation of the backstage, greenroom and dressing rooms.



BISHOP CONNOLLY HIGH SCHOOL
PLACEMENT TEST
FOR INCOMING FRESHMEN

**Saturday, November 21, 2009
at 8am**

For more information contact
Tony Ciampanelli, Admissions Director
at 508-676-1071, ext. 333.

THE BISHOP CONNOLLY THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

A FEW GOOD MEN

BY AARON SORKIN

DECEMBER 11 AND 12 - 8:00 PM
DECEMBER 13 - 4:00 PM
BISHOP CONNOLLY
HIGH SCHOOL

ADULTS - \$12
STUDENTS - \$10
RESERVATIONS
(508) 675-4228



**Bishop Connolly High School
373 Elsbree Street
Fall River, MA 02720**

Permit Number

www.bishopconnolly.com



2009 BISHOP CONNOLLY

ANNUAL FUND

I am pleased to support the
2009 BCHS Annual Fund.

Enclosed is my gift of \$_____.

Payment method (check one):

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Master Card

Visa

Name on Card:

Card# _____

3 Digit CVV# _____

Expiration Date _____

Cardholder's Signature:

This gift will be matched by:

Please include Matching Gift
Form from your company's
Human Resource Department.

All gifts are tax deductible.

Questions? Call Principal Mike
Scanlan at 508-676-1071, ex-
tension 353.

Thanks for being "not only
hearers, but doers of the
Word". May God bless you
and yours!



