



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MOUNT MADONNA SCHOOL

A Trip To Remember

The juniors (incoming seniors) of Mount Madonna School traveled to South Africa from June 13-29th, 2015 to visit a variety of nonprofit organizations and schools, as well as the Botshabelo AIDS orphanage. Along the way they interviewed several people including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and saw the environment/nature of South Africa on a safari.

On Safari in Pilanesberg National Park, South Africa

By Holden Smith, 11th grade

Did I leave home fourteen or fifteen days ago? Is it Thursday or Friday? Did I change my socks? I don't have the slightest clue. As our jeep hurtles through the African landscape everything escapes my mind but the present. Swaths of grass cradle gazelle, camouflage lions, ripple like the gossamer surface of the sea, whisper stories, and dance wildly at the touch

of wind. I forget the coldness gnawing at my bones. I embrace the spirit of an open-minded traveler, letting the bumpy road give me a massage with its crooked fingers. The sunrise confounds my worried thoughts. I become a stream of images inseparable from the thing itself. ... The soil of South Africa, of the whole world is fecund for change,



Dancing students with new friends - the Tswelopele Performing Artists in Tembisa

for the growth of compassion. I feel the potential all around me. It is in the laugh of Desmond Tutu, in the smiling, playing, and dying youth of Botshabelo and on the savannah; it intoxicates me with a child's imagination. We need only to sow the seeds.

Visit africa.mountmadonnaschool.org for more student comments.

My Name is Curtis Hargrove

Running 58 marathons in 49 days

With a quick stop in Gilroy for a bite at The Miliias Restaurant along the way, Curtis Hargrove is a man on a mission. He is on a 1518-mile run that started in Port Alberni, BC on August 30th and is headed to the Ellen Degeneres Show in Los Angeles. He is delivering a very special blanket on behalf of Angel Magnussen, a 19-year-old BC teen who makes blankets for critically ill kids all over the world through her non-profit foundation, "Hugginz By Angel."

The goal is to have the opportunity to invite Ellen to be part of "Team Hugginz," and help her help sick kids.

Curtis was accompanied by his support driver, videographer and partner Allen Felker.

When asked about how he was received along the way, Curtis said, "Everyone loves getting involved, restaurants have been extremely gracious throughout the trip."

