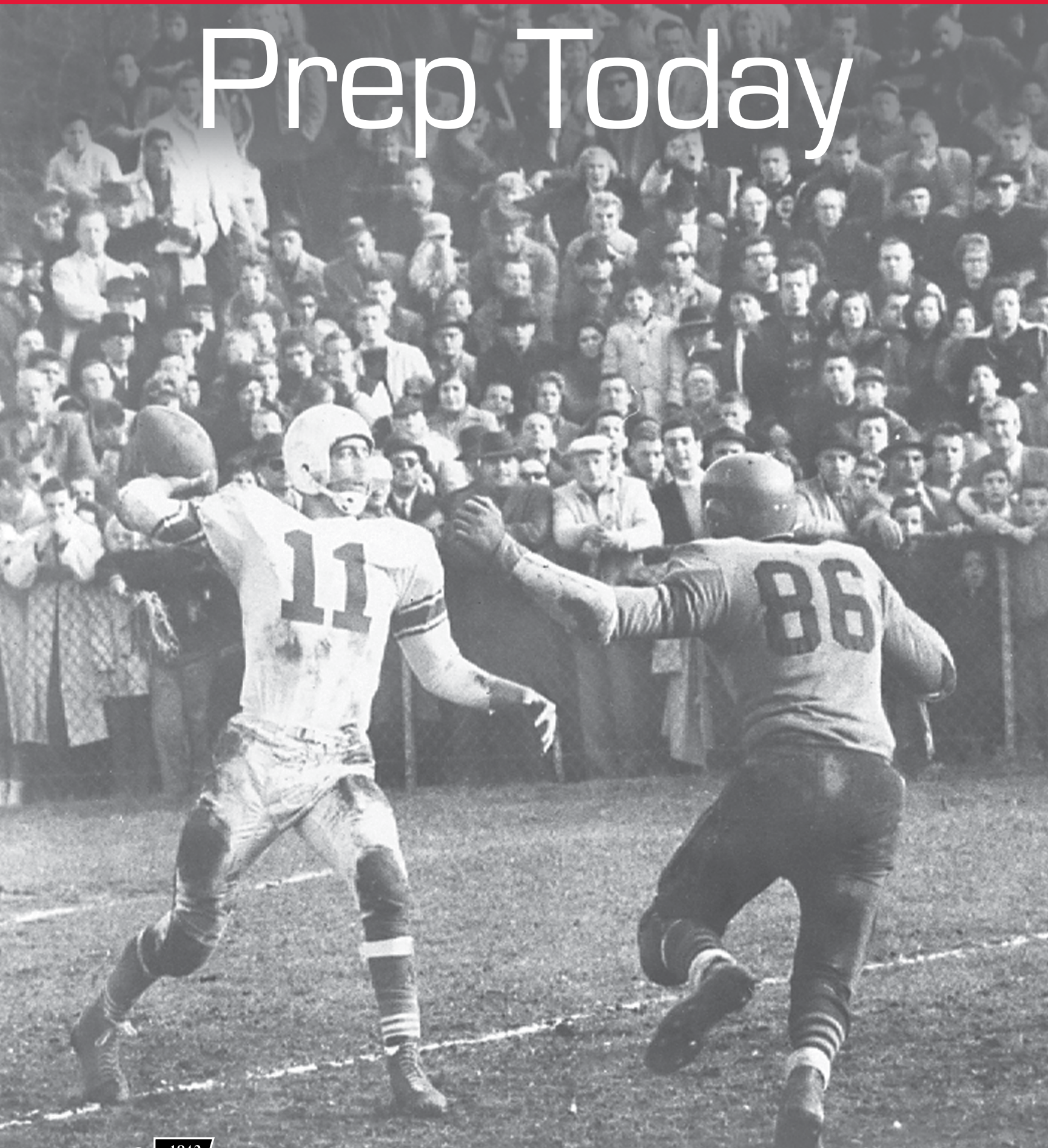


Prep Today



Celebrating 75 Years of Excellence

FEATURING A SPECIAL FOOTBALL RETROSPECTIVE



MESSAGE FROM THE President

Dear friends,

Saint Ignatius of Loyola once wrote, “To do many things and to mix with many people, yet not to turn aside from either God or oneself, is a great and rare art.” Understood in this way, Fairfield Prep is an expansive gallery of great art. Across these pages, you will see Fairfield Prep students engaged in a multitude of activities. We hope you enjoy the works you see on display!

I would also like to thank the Prep community for your feedback and collaboration. We initiated an extensive marketing survey this year. We contacted numerous constituencies through focus groups, online surveys, phone calls, and market research. The results are guiding us towards improved student learning outcomes and a more robust marketing plan. The thoughtful, honest, and caring responses revealed how much Fairfield Prep means to all of you.

Entrusted with this legacy of support, we are honored to carry our 75 year tradition forward into a future filled with new challenges. Thank you for ensuring we fulfill our mission of Jesuit education.

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam!

Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J.
President

Per Fidem Ad Plenam Veritatem – Through Faith to the Fullness of Truth

Prep Today

The Magazine for
Fairfield College Preparatory School
Winter 2017

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Fairfield Prep is a leader in education



Academics



504
Students Enrolled
in AP Courses



29%
Students Assisted
by Financial Aid



1749
Average SAT Score



16:1
Student-Faculty
Ratio

Athletics

35
 **TOTAL
Athletic
TEAMS**

PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS

Total athletes per grade (based on
891 approximate enrollment)

229
Grade 9

224
Grade 10

188
Grade 11

138
Grade 12




60
COACHES

Intramurals




34
**EXTRACURRICULAR
CLUBS**

95%+
of students
participate
in **Club and
Activities**



Fine Arts

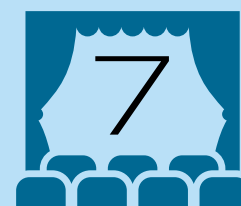
30

**HALO Nominations
Awards** by Seven
Angels Theatre



250+

Pieces exhibited at the
2016 Spring Art Show



**Performing
Ensembles**

Christian Service & Campus Ministry

23,435



Christian service hours
performed each year by
Prep students



200+

Number of students
who participated in
Christian Retreats
in 2015-2016



Service immersion trips to
Bridgeport, Los Angeles,
Ecuador, Appalachia
and Jamaica



Prep attends **World Youth Day** in Poland

Max Moeser '17 and seven other Prep students traveled to World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, along with Fr. Bret Stockdale, S.J., and Iwona Kolotylo, P'19. Prep was part of a larger contingent of pilgrims from the Diocese of Bridgeport led by Bishop Caggiano. World Youth Day was begun in 1984 by St. John Paul II, since then there have been 14 WYDs and Krakow's attracted three million young people to celebrate with Pope Francis. The next WYD will be held in Panama in 2019.

Our World Youth Day (WYD) trip started with a flight to Warsaw, Poland. Everyone made it safely and we went to our first hotel. We all got together for an opening Mass and after service we heard from the religious leaders traveling with us. One of the Sisters spoke on mercy and how we can model our lives after the saints — especially those from Poland (like Pope John Paul II and Maximilian Kolbe). Our own Fr. Bret Stockdale, S.J., gave a lecture on the Ignatian teachings that our ministry values so much. Bishop Caggiano of the Diocese of Bridgeport spoke on what we could expect to learn during the pilgrimage.

After Warsaw we traveled to Kraków where we spent the rest of the trip. On the way we visited Our Lady of Czestochowa.

The opening Mass for World Youth Day was massive and all the countries represented went out to the town green to celebrate WYD.

The next day we were at the Catholic center where we heard multiple catecheses from different clergy and lay people.

Highlights of the trip included: a tour of Auschwitz (which was a very sobering, somber experience); Mass with Pope Francis in the town green; exploring Kraków; and visiting historic churches and landmarks. Our daily reflections helped wrap up the entire experience into a very worthwhile event.

Special thanks go to Fr. Bret Stockdale, S.J., and Prep Database Manager Iwona Kolotylo P'19, who led and chaperoned the Prep group as part of the Diocese of Bridgeport's pilgrimage.




Taken from reflection by **Max Moeser '17**





JAMAICA

Conor Hatton '18 traveled to the Mustard Seed Community in Jamaica in July 2016. Mustard Seed is a volunteer organization that is dedicated to caring for the most vulnerable populations in society, inspired by the healing and caring Ministry of Jesus Christ. Following are excerpts from Conor's speech given at the sophomore and junior orientations.



I could feel God's presence during my whole experience in Jamaica. The first time was when we pulled into Blessed Assurance and saw the kids' faces. They were filled with excitement and some ran to the bus to greet us. I stepped off of the bus and to my left I saw children who were screaming and jumping because they were so happy to see us. When I looked to my right I saw a line of children in wheelchairs who sat passively. They did not have any expression or movements that made them look excited. God had called us to travel to this Mustard Seed Community to fulfill Jesus' work. I realized quickly that this would be different from any other experience.

During our first night at Blessed Assurance, my friends and I talked about how fortunate we are to live in the United States. We listed all the things we take for granted in our Fairfield County bubble. For example, in Connecticut we waste water every single day. From leaky faucets, to warming up the shower before we get in, so much water goes to waste. Then there is the food that gets wasted. We thought about the Country Cow Bacon-Egg-and-Cheeses that we have wasted, the Chinese food we couldn't finish, or the burgers we couldn't bear to take another bite of because we were so full. These are all things that the kids at Blessed Assurance would be ecstatic about, even if it was a small amount. Throughout the week it became evident how the residents and caregivers at Blessed Assurance conserved and appreciated. Things that were insignificant to us mattered a great deal to them.

Each of us made our own impact. We built a stone wall, moved soil to plant banana trees, and repainted the chapel. We all had the opportunity to feed those residents who were unable to feed themselves. I believe that each of us were humbled by what we saw and experienced. It's been said, "It's better to give than to receive." I know I speak for my classmates when I say we all received an unexpected level of satisfaction from giving on this trip.

I recommend this immersion trip to all of you. I think this was one of the most important weeks of my Fairfield Prep years.



Taken from reflection by **Conor Hatton '18**



MAKE MISSION MATTER

APPALACHIA



This summer I had the amazing opportunity to go to Fries, Virginia, on a service trip with twenty of my peers. I was able to immerse myself in the Fries community, provide service to those in need, and grow closer to my Prep brothers.

The long van ride to Virginia got the trip off to a good start. The hours in the van provided the perfect opportunity for us to get to know each other before we even stepped foot in Virginia. I was able to meet kids that I had never talked to before in a unique way that can only be accomplished on a trip like this. I also met our two adult leaders, Jake and Pat, for the first time. This was their third time going to Appalachia with Prep so it was fun to talk to them about what to expect.

When we finally got to Fries, the very first thing I noticed was how nice and caring the people were. We were welcomed by Denny who organized the activities at the Rec-Center where we would be sleeping and working.

The first experience we had was at the Blue Grass Music Festival. Blue Grass is an old country music genre that I had

never heard of before. The festival was a great time. We got a taste of the local culture and had fun playing games in the field or getting food at the stands. Overall, it was a great way to spend our first full day in Appalachia.

Over the next few days we worked on a number of service projects. The main assignment was restoring the decades-old theatre which was part of the Rec-Center. I worked on painting the upstairs yellow and blue with a few of my friends. As the week went by, it was satisfying to stand back and observe what we had accomplished. The best part was when Denny got the new sign for over the doorway. They had an exact replica of the original old glass sign made and it was finished on the last day we were there. We all helped hoist up the huge sign above the doors. This finishing touch gave everyone a great feeling including the members of the community.

Another project I helped on was at the ice cream store down by the river. This small shop was in an old train car from

the railroads that used to run through Fries. I landscaped outside the store and cleaned the deck in front. It was fun to help out a small business and to get some amazing ice cream for our work.

While in Appalachia I was able to make friendships that most likely never would have happened had I not gone on this trip. Although many of my good friends were in my group, there were also a lot of kids that I had never talked to before. Over the span of one week, I got to know everyone very well and we are all friends now. This includes our leader **Mr. Kery '00**. I never had him as a teacher so this was the first time I had gotten to talk to him. I am so glad he was our leader because he is so fun and understands the importance of this trip from his many years of experience. Now I say hello to him whenever I see him because of the relationship we formed during the trip.

I will never forget Appalachia. I was able to learn about a part of our country that I had never seen before. I helped their community and I made new friends that I share great memories with.

This trip cannot be fully described in words. You must go yourself to really understand what it is like. I'm considering becoming a leader next year so I can recreate the great experience that my leaders created for me. I am thankful for this trip and I know it will be as great for the next students to go as it was for me.



Taken from reflection by
A.J. Valus '18





URBAN PLUNGE

Ever since I began at Prep, I thought the whole idea of Prep's service was quite pretentious and hollow. Putting myself in the shoes of someone that we were "helping" I thought would make them feel patronized and treated as inferior. Urban Plunge greatly changed my cynical view of Christian service at Prep. The notion of its phoniness all but evaporated when I saw what we were doing brought out the best in the Prep students who were helping. My belief that those receiving our aid would feel patronized disappeared in seeing the appreciation of the homeless we were feeding at the Thomas Merton Center.

The first step of the Examen is to become aware and realize God's presence in the now, and in whatever moment(s) or experiences that you are reflecting on. Looking back in retrospect, I can see the presence of God in all of what we did as a group, as a family even, on Urban Plunge. God was present inside the beings and actions of both the givers and the receivers of the service.

The next step of the Examen is to review what you are reflecting upon with gratitude. While it is unusual that someone expresses gratitude for staying in a very bad neighborhood for two nights, I am grateful for the nature of it. I am grateful, now that I am home, for the way that moving into such a situation brought me out of my comfort zone and woke me up to the realities of people who are living only around 10 minutes from us. I am also grateful for being able to make relationships with the people that I was helping, even if I may never see them again. I felt like I really connected with Brandon and Ethan at the Beardsley School. Once you could talk to them, you could see that they were like any other kids. They just wanted to have a good time. At the Merton Center, I felt like I made a connection with the people I was giving food to in the pantry. Just their sheer openness stemming from their appreciation from what I was doing made it easy to get along and relate to one another. There is nothing more fulfilling than feeling a connection with someone that you have never met before in your life, and for that I am truly grateful.

The third step is to review the experience, in this case my Urban Plunge. My first involvement on the trip was buying groceries and cooking dinner for the group of Prep boys. The limitations on what we could buy really showed the struggle between having a very limited budget and still trying to eat healthy. Cooking dinner, not something I usually do, was also a new experience, because it forced me to cooperate with people

in an environment where time was of the essence. The next morning, my job was to help out at the Thomas Merton Center assisting people in the food pantry. We also went to the Beardsley School on that day, where I was able to play with some underprivileged elementary schoolers. That was really fun for me and the kids. The next day the entire group and I went to St. Thomas Church in Norwalk to do yard work. While the job itself really wasn't that fulfilling, the happiness on the faces of the parish workers truly enlivened me.

The fourth step of the Examen is to look at where I showed love, and where I failed to love. I was able to show love at the Beardsley School. I was able to put all predisposed notions aside and just look at the children as friends. That made it a lot easier to connect with them, and I felt like it made it easier to show love. One place where I felt I may have failed to love was at St. Thomas Parish in Norwalk. When I was painting a set of doors with someone else, I got angry at the other person because I felt like he wasn't doing his work right. I could have been more forgiving and understanding.

The fifth part of the Examen is to look forward to the future and look at how you can use what you learned in your experience. I think that the most important lesson that I can take out of this is being open to others. As I mentioned earlier, Urban Plunge turned my previous outlook on Christian Service on its head, so I need to take my new outlook, one of openness, love and a good attitude. I can even continue some of the work that I did on Urban Plunge in the future. I was really impressed by the mission of the Merton House, and the other volunteers or staff members who were working there. They seemed especially open and appreciative of our help, and ready to welcome us into their operation. For my senior service project, I think that I would like to complete the remainder of my hours there. I was truly impressed and would enjoy going back to help out there.

Being able to participate and learn from Urban Plunge will go down as a highlight of my years at Prep. I will look back at it as an experience that changed the way I look at poverty, service and everything that we do at Prep.



Taken from reflection by Robbert van Batenburg '18



Welcome to Prep!

Grandparents and Freshmen enjoy Mass & Breakfast

Over 250 freshmen and their grandparents enjoyed a special morning on October 6. The day started with a delicious breakfast buffet in the Student Life Center followed by a short presentation about Fairfield Prep. Professional photos of the students and grandparents were taken, and grandparents also received a Prep Christmas ornament as a souvenir gift of the event. The guests then moved to Brissette Gymnasium, where Mass was celebrated by President Rev. Tom Simisky, S.J., and Student Chaplain Rev. Bret Stockdale, S.J.

See photos at
www.fairfieldprep.org



I attended my grandson's Grandparents Breakfast on October 6, 2016. My first impression as my driver pulled up to the school was WOW. From the moment I climbed the stairs, every student greeted me, held doors for me, and took me to where the breakfast was being held. I had an absolutely wonderful morning, but the best part of my visit was to see my grandson, **Jeffrey Lumia '20** as a freshman at Fairfield Prep. I am a "Proud Gigi!" Thanks to all for your excellence and pride!

— LINDA RAMOS, GP'20



Class of 2020 Freshman Orientation & Olympics



On August 30, the Freshman Class of 2020 arrived at Prep ready for Orientation and the Freshman Olympics. Students had ID photos taken, picked up schedules and locker assignments, got Bomb Squad t-shirts, attended an assembly with multiple speakers, learned liturgical music, took part in a prayer service, and learned the Prep Fight Song. They then competed in the "Olympics" held in Brissette Gym and on Grauert Field. After lunch in the Student Life Center, freshmen followed an abbreviated day schedule to meet their teachers and navigate the halls. Watch Prep YouTube of **Mr. Greg Marshall '73** and senior leaders teaching the fight song.

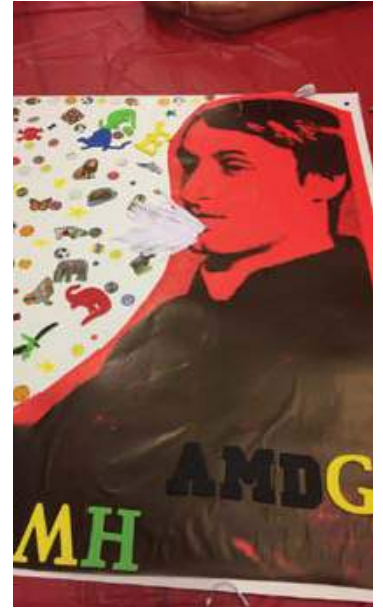
Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1

Freshman Rally Day



Freshman Rally Day (not to be confused with Freshman Field Day) for the Class of 2020 took place in October. On this day the freshmen were introduced to their small group and upperclassmen leaders. They got a preview as to how the freshman retreat will operate in March. This is an opportunity for prayer, conversation, and some fun (outdoor capture the flag/Frisbee and dodgeball). Also, each small group of freshmen are named after a Jesuit model of faith (a Jesuit saint, brother, or priest) whose name is chosen by the upperclassmen leaders of the group. On Rally Day the freshmen decorated their Jesuit name poster. This continues to be a great primer event for the freshman retreat (17th year in March 2017).

— Elliott J. Gualtiere, Director of Campus Ministry



Open House welcomes families

Hundreds of prospective students and their families attended the Open House held on October 2, 2016. Students, teachers and administrators were available to explain our Jesuit mission and curriculum, plus answer questions. Additionally, sports teams and clubs offered representatives in Brissette Gym to share information about their activities. See the Prep website for admissions information.



Prep opened my mind

Kevin Gallagher '17, Student Government President (shown with parents Jeannine and Kevin), spoke at the Freshman Parent Reception on September 21, 2016.

Fairfield Prep is a unique place that forms a distinct character and a strong sense of brotherhood.

Our school pulls students from across Connecticut, New York, and now even parts of China into a Jesuit school of excellence committed to strong academics, and forming men of character. I want to share the impact Prep has had on my life, helping me grow into the young man I consider myself to be today.

When I first came to Prep, when my parents were sitting where you are right now, I knew only two people coming with me from my hometown of Darien. I was expecting a continuation of my public middle school education. I never could have been so wrong.

Fairfield Prep is more than a school with world class academics because we also educate the entire person, offering a dynamic education that can only be found at a Jesuit school. We talk about something called the Graduate at Graduation, the five values Prep merits and strives to promulgate to all students.

The first, and my favorite value is the one that has shaped my



PREP PARENTS PARTICIPATE!



Guild welcomes Prep Moms

The Bellarmine Guild, Fairfield Prep's club for mothers/guardians of students, sponsored a Welcome Back Coffee on September 1. Mothers had the opportunity to learn about and sign up for many of the club events. They also were welcomed by the new co-chairs Mary Alice Noone, P'11,'13,'15,'18 and MaryEllen Guere, P'17, as well as Prep President Rev. Tom Simisky, S.J., Principal Dr. Robert Perrotta, and Dean of Enrollment & Marketing **Greg Marshall '73**.



Mom/Son Dinner & Show

This year's Mother/Son event was held on October 25. Over 300 mothers and sons attended! After dinner and a raffle, the guests were entertained by Ryan Oakes, Magician and Mentalist. He put on a fantastic show! Thank you to all of the mothers and sons who donated to the coat collection for the Bridgeport Rescue Mission. Your generous donations will help keep the needy and homeless warm this winter. Special thanks to Co-Chairs Vicki Loris, P'18 and Jeanne Wisnieski, P'18.



Faculty/Staff Appreciation

The Guild hosts a meal to show appreciation of the faculty and staff four times a year. In September a "Go Prep" breakfast was hosted the senior moms. The November "Giving Thanks" lunch was hosted by junior moms. The sophomores hosted a February "Thank You Snow Much" breakfast. In April the freshman will host lunch. Thanks to Co-Chairs Carla Gavey, P'12, '14, '17, Allison Dunn, P'17, '19 and Karen Sullivan, P'14, '17 plus all of the mothers and sons who have donated.



Prep experience the most — which is being open to growth. To be open to growth is to grow socially, religiously, and educationally through engaging in the world around you with an open mind. When I developed this mindset as I engaged with likeminded and open individuals around me, the values Prep has instilled in me have taken me to amazing places. I have found myself on Prep service trips to Appalachia, developing my talents on the clarinet and playing at Carnegie Hall, starting my own charity initiative, working on complex problems under a Yale professor, and even speaking in front of large audiences like tonight. Now, if you came up to me on the first day of freshman year, and told me all this, I would look at you and say, “What? You’re crazy!” I’m terrified of public speaking. I’m not good enough to play Carnegie Hall or work with a college professor. But it’s funny how things work out, and how much a school and academic atmosphere can cultivate in a person.

These halls are filled with intellectual curiosity, openness, and a palpable brotherhood that fosters a distinct character. Without Prep, I would not be the person I am today. If I went to any public school, I would not have the full development of character that I have experienced over the past three years here. In addition to the outstanding academics, Prep has opened my mind and equipped me with what I need to succeed.

Now, I can’t neglect the other four values now, can I? To touch quickly on them, Prep values being intellectually competent — to

master critical thinking and integrity to engage in creative development. Another value is being religious — and I want to stress, if you are not Catholic, that is not a problem in the slightest. We learn about world religions, social ethics and morality in addition to the Catholic tradition. The other two values are being loving and being committed to doing justice. These five principles culminate into men of character; or what

“I have found myself on Prep service trips to Appalachia, ... playing at Carnegie Hall, starting my own charity initiative, working on complex problems under a Yale professor, and even speaking in front of large audiences like tonight.”

KEVIN GALLAGHER '17

the Jesuits call a “Man for Others.” This model is one I aspire to emulate as I form my own identity as a young individual, and I’m sure it will become a model your sons will come to merit as well.

So overall, I want to acknowledge you for making the right decision for your sons. I am blessed to have come here to Prep, because I know it has helped me become the man I am today. As my peers and I apply to college — some of the most selective in the country — and as we prepare to graduate, Prep has left a mark on us, and I hope we have also left a mark on Prep. It truly has become my home.

So again, welcome. Welcome to Freshman Parent Reception night, but also welcome to the next four years, an experience I’m positive you’ll love. Thank you and God bless.



Fathers' Club BBQ in the Quad

On September 10, the Fathers' Club hosted the annual Welcome Back BBQ. More than 70 fathers attended. **Tom Dolan '81, P'12, '17** handed over the reins of the Club from himself and **Matt Terry '82, P'11, '12, '15, '17** to Jeff Beiser, P'16, '19, John Kelly, P'13, '16, '18 and Brendan Lynch, P'16, '18. Tom and Matt have been leaders in the Fathers' Club for almost 10 years! Tom offered a moment of silence to remember Bobby Kaps, father of Prep senior **Miles Kap**, who passed away, and to commemorate 9/11. Father Tom Simisky, S.J., welcomed the group, gave an update on Prep, and showed his support for the Fathers' Club.



Dad/Son Dodgeball Mania

The Fathers' Club hosted their annual Dodgeball Tournament in Brissette Athletic Center on October 29. Fathers and sons had a great time together, with 90 participants competing for the dodgeball championship. The gym was packed with exciting, competitive games! All participants received a FP “Bullseye” t-shirt. The winning team was made up of the Lafferty and Knisely families: Mr. Pat Lafferty and his son **Sean '20**, and Mr. Matt Knisely with his twins **Trevor '20** and **Tyler '20**. The McClures and MacAleavys came in second. Go Prep!



Parents enjoy Christmas Party

Over 180 Prep parents attended a festive cocktail party to kick off the Christmas season at the Fairfield Museum and History Center on December 10. The guests were entertained with Christmas classics by the Prep Encords acapella group. Attendees also collected unwrapped Christmas gifts at this event on behalf of Domus, a non-profit organization serving the most struggling youth in Stamford and New Haven with educational, community and residential programs. Special thanks to Shannon Nordlinger, P '19 and Pasqualina Berkowitz, P'16, '19 for coordinating the evening, which was sponsored by the Bellarmine Guild.





Mass of the Holy Spirit

Elaine Clark awarded Ignatian Teacher of the Year

On Friday, September 16, Fairfield Prep celebrated its annual Mass of the Holy Spirit which marked the beginning of the academic year. Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J., was the principal celebrant and Fr. Michael Tunney, S.J., (rector of the Fairfield Jesuit community) was the homilist. The Mass of the Holy Spirit is a tradition among Jesuit academic institutions dating to 1548 in which the community gathers to thank God for the gifts of creation and salvation, and to seek the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit in the coming year. During the celebration the newest members of the Fairfield Prep community (the Class of 2020, transfer students, and new faculty and staff) were blessed by the rest of the community. The senior class was also recognized and blessed for the service it would be performing during this academic year. Elaine Clark was presented with the Fr. Martin Shaughnessy, S.J., Ignatian Educator of the Year Award. Watch Elaine's speech on Prep YouTube.

Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1



Prep Community celebrates Immaculate Conception Mass

On Thursday, December 8, Fairfield Prep held a school Mass to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was also a chance for our school community to gather during the Advent season. Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J., was the principal celebrant and homilist. Fr. Simisky's homily challenged us with a question, "What is holding us back?" He asked us to consider whether or not we have the freedom and courage to say "Yes" as Mary did in receiving her call from the Angel Gabriel.

Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1





Excerpts from speech by **Matt Trez '18** to fellow juniors at the Junior Ring & Christian Leadership Ceremony

“ God calls us to serve others constantly.... That was Jesus’ mission in life! The top of the mountain is empty if the rest of the world is still at sea level. As we approach our life past Prep, let us never forget the lessons we learned about service, and the importance of living a wholesome existence.

After the ceremony, take a look at your ring or medal of Ignatius. What does that ring stand for? It stands for memories. It stands for relationships. It stands for service... It stands for Fairfield Prep. Home of the best four years of your life, whether you know it yet or not.”

Junior Ring & Leadership Ceremony

The Class of 2018 gathered in Fairfield University's Egan Chapel for the annual Junior Ring Ceremony on December 2. Juniors purchase class rings each year as a tangible remembrance that they are, and always will be, members of the Fairfield Prep community. The rings (and medals of St. Ignatius) were blessed by Fr. Stockdale, S.J., and presented to each young man. On December 4, the Class of 2017 celebrated at their Junior Ring Dance held in Fairfield University's Oak Room.

CLASS OF
2018



Ring Dance



Four years changes a man's life

Taken from a speech by Junlin Mo '17 given at the President's Dinner which is held to honor Prep benefactors who contribute \$2,500 or more annually

As a member of the graduating class of Prep's 75th anniversary, I have sat in the same seats that you have sat in, have experienced the same halls that we know and love, and have experienced the same Prep brotherhood that we all know and love. I stand before you all not knowing your names, your backgrounds, your life, but I know that we were Prep brothers at one point. I want to take a moment to emphasize that critical point, the Prep brotherhood. I'm sure everyone here has heard it before, but it is honestly what makes Prep a different school.

I came from a very common background for an immigrant family. My family and I moved from Guangzhou, China, to New Jersey when I was just three years old. From New Jersey I moved to New York and then finally to Bridgeport, Connecticut. Speaking English was difficult for my family and it was hard to navigate from place to place. Because I was in school, I learned the language and quickly had to become the translator for my family – something that I still practice today. As a result, I was the one who wrote my financial aid application and admissions application to Fairfield Prep.

Although I grew up in the "nicer" part of Bridgeport – the north end – my neighborhood was still not conducive to what I thought life would be. I received a mediocre education from elementary to middle school as I attended lower-class public schools in Bridgeport. The classes often lacked basic school supplies like textbooks and the building looked like it would crumble at any moment. Like many students I applied to Fairfield Prep cautiously. The \$18,000 price tag really made me hesitate at the door. I could feel that Fairfield Prep had a different atmosphere to it than other high schools. Looking at Prep, some may call the feeling "a hope for a brighter future," but Prep brothers would call it "a strong will to fight for your dreams." At my local high schools, I didn't get the feeling that I could fit in, love just being at the school, or make friends that would last a lifetime. Graduating from Prep would give me an advantage and I saw it as an opportunity to propel me and my family out of our situation. I envisioned myself crossing the stage at the end of my senior year in that white tuxedo. Fairfield Prep, I thought, was where my dreams could come true.

Fairfield Prep's financial aid program has contributed over \$70,000 to my education, and I could not be more grateful. I knew coming in the door that I would have to work extremely hard these four years to make the most of my time here, to make the most of Fairfield Prep. Since the first day I stepped foot in these halls, I took off running, founding the Digital Technology Club during freshman year and then subsequently joining almost every single club at Fairfield Prep.

Since then, I've found an honest and absolutely beautiful community within Fairfield Prep. But something special happened when I joined Fairfield Prep's drama club, the Prep Players. During my freshman year, I signed up for Speech and Theatre as an elective. After watching the fall play, I decided to audition for the Prep Players. Keep in mind, I had never done theatre before. But little did I know, I just signed up for the craziest roller coaster of my life. Ecstatic, nervous, and 5 foot 2, I walked into

the audition waiting room and almost every cast member jumped to their feet to greet me. I then nervously gave my monologue. When I joined the Prep Players ensemble, I became a part of a group of people committed to working together and creating something truly extraordinary. Every day after school I could see just how much drive and dedication my cast mates put into every second of rehearsal. We have a saying in the Prep Players – that we will always hold you up. It was the first time that I had ever felt like a part of a community at a school. We became more than just a cast. We

took care of each other. Just last year we tackled the American classic play "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder. I can't thank you all enough for changing my life just like that.

Academically, Prep has allowed me to flourish. Beyond achieving Summa Cum Laude, I have learned so much in the classroom. I learned how to speak publicly from Mrs. Hoover. I learned how to not just write but deliver emotion on the page from my English teachers. I learned so much in honors physics that I decided to take the AP Physics test. *J'ai appris tout du français*, to how fusion happens in the sun, to how we won the Revolutionary War. I was even recognized as a National Merit Commended Scholar for scoring in the top three percent in the nation for the PSATs. It is thanks to the amazing faculty and the amazing support that we have received that I was able to accomplish so much in just four years.

I've contributed to Fairfield Prep in a variety of ways. I have participated in six shows, led the Fairfield Prep Robotics team to second place alliance in the state, and I am currently in charge of five fantastic organizations: the Robotics Team, the Digital Technology Club, the Engineering Team, the Business Club, and the Science Fair Club. I have competed in the Connecticut Science Fair every year since I came to Fairfield Prep, winning awards for my projects in sensory isolation, quantum mechanics, and quantum computation.

Throughout my years at Prep, I have learned that it is not about all the things you gain in life

but what you will do to impact the world. I am committed to justice and that is why throughout my years I started a business in the advertising sector and a charity organization. Lately, I co-founded a research initiative with a few other Prep students to help provide a new, sustainable source of water to developing countries like Haiti. We pulled along Yale Professor of Environmental Science Dr. Graeme P. Berlyn to guide our venture. Our plan is to use natural resources to provide a constant supply of water to communities where water scarcity is a huge problem for families and children. None of this would have happened if I didn't go to Prep.

I think anyone who has gone to Prep knows that those four years changes a man's life. Part of that which makes Prep unique is that it has something that is unspeakable among all Prep brothers, a bond that lasts forever between students, faculty, alums, and even our families. When we wear our Prep name, we wear it with pride. Prep will always push you to run faster, think smarter, and fight harder.

Often times, we leave and forget to say thank you – in a few months I will be the person to leave. Therefore, I want to say thank you to the person who believed in me. I want to say thank you for taking the chance to financially invest in my education. Because of you, doors have been opened, opportunities sought, and my dreams fulfilled. Thank you so much!





Trunk or Treat



Fairfield Prep seniors sponsored a great day of "Trunk or Treat" in the senior parking lot and on adjacent Grauert Field. Seniors decorated their trunks with Halloween themes, and donned costumes for a BBQ lunch in the parking lot. Elementary students from Hall School in Bridgeport arrived in costume to meet their Prep senior "buddies." Together, the groups of buddies played harvest-themed games on the field, including pumpkin rolling contests, pumpkin bowling, sack races, hay bale obstacle course, and more. The elementary students were then escorted up to the parking lot to go "Trunk or Treating" with the Prep seniors as hosts at their decorated cars.

BEST PREP COSTUME (Voted by Hall students)

★ "Tyrannasaurus Rex" **Greg Lawler**

TRUNK DECORATION WINNERS

★ **1st Place** – Fairfield Beach Lifeguards



CLASS OF
2017

Watch video highlights
[youtube.com/fairfieldprep1](https://www.youtube.com/fairfieldprep1)

Fall Festivities



Friday Night Lights!

Fall football season drew crowds of fans, including the Bomb Squad, parents and alumni. As a team tradition, the Jesuit senior players were honored with their parents on the field. Prep played some exciting home games, such as a huge win over Shelton.



Alumni honored on Veterans Day

On November 11, many Prep veterans braved the cold and rain to march on field in a special halftime ceremony honoring Prep veterans and active members of the military. The event featured the American Legion Post 143 Honor Guard, of which **Tom Quinn '59** is current Sr. Vice Commander. Fairfield First Selectman Mike Tetreau gave a speech recognizing our brave military.



Turkey trotter Pat Corona '12 wins Pequot Race!

Over 100 members of the Prep Community (students, alumni, faculty, and parents) ran in the annual Pequot Runners Thanksgiving Day 5 Mile Race. Congratulations to race winner **Pat Corona '12** and **Brendan Terry '12** who placed 10th.

True generosity is giving the gift of who you are

Fairfield Prep's annual Thanksgiving Prayer Service took place on Tuesday, November 22, in Alumni Hall. The prayer service focused on generosity of spirit — "the true gift of generosity...is giving of who you are." This year's service included prayers from various faith traditions, a moving reflection from **Kevin Lydon '17**, and beautiful music by the FP liturgical choir. Fr. Simisky, S.J., also honored faculty members Tom Sacerdote (30 years) and John Szablewicz (45 years) for dedicated service to Fairfield Prep.



Prep Food Drive fills two vans

Prep's annual Thanksgiving Food Drive successfully collected hundreds of bags of much-needed food for Bridgeport area families, filling Arrupe Hall! Students filled two large transport vans with bags of food for Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc. The staff members from ABCD were grateful to receive the large amount of food. ABCD works to provide Thanksgiving dinner for 2,000 families. Thank you to the Prep Community for your generous support of our Thanksgiving Food Drive.



Blessed Sacrament Pantry

Fairfield Prep partnered with Lauralton Hall for a service project at Blessed Sacrament Parish. With the help of **Fr. Skip Karcsinski '70**, students helped to unload and organize hundreds of pantry items that would be used in the parish's food pantry and their Annual Thanksgiving Drive which serves those in need living in East Bridgeport.



Thank you for making Day of Giving a success!

We are extremely grateful to the hundreds of alumni, parents, friends, students and teachers who helped celebrate Prep with gifts to our many mission-advancing programs. Beyond the gifts, the real impact of the day was felt by raising awareness of what your support means to our students and the understanding our students gained about the importance of giving back to their community. While we often act individually, it is our collective effort that makes a significant difference. Thank you! Watch a thank you video featuring students and staff on Prep YouTube.



Watch video highlights
[youtube.com/fairfieldprep1](https://www.youtube.com/fairfieldprep1)



Christmas at Prep

Christmas Card Winner

Mr. Bob Fosse-Previs '87 gave his art students an assignment to create a Fairfield Prep Christmas card graphic with digital design. Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J., picked the winning art created by **Dongxu Zhang '18** (left).



Christmas Tree is blessed and lit

Fairfield Prep celebrated the season with a Christmas Tree Blessing and Lighting in Pelletier Quad on December 9, 2016. Fr. Bret Stockdale, S.J., led the blessing and lighting. The Prep Encords group performed a selection of the season's classics, and all enjoyed cookies, hot chocolate and camaraderie in the Arrupe Hall afterward. Watch Prep YouTube highlights of the Blessing & Lighting and the Encords performance!



Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1





Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1

Encore, Encords!

The Prep Encords co-ed acappella group sang Christmas favorites at the annual tree lighting and blessing. For the Prep video Christmas greeting, the group was video recorded singing while they walked through the Prep hallways! Watch Prep YouTube.

Tranquilla Nox! Sancta Nox!

Ms. Koren Mumma's senior Latin class sang Christmas carols in Latin, traveling through the classrooms and contributing to the school-wide Christmas spirit!



Environmental Science ornaments

Mr. Ford's Environmental Science class members were instructed to make a Christmas tree ornament constructed completely out of recyclable materials.



Christmas gifts for children

In support of the Diocese of Bridgeport Office of Social Concerns, Prep collected new, unwrapped toys for families in the Bridgeport area. Hundreds of toys plus packages of much-needed diapers filled Arrupe Hall. Members of the Prep Squires Club helped load the toys into vehicles. Shown far right: Alex Capozziello '17, Thomas Hurst '17, Zachary Aruguman '17 and Greg Lawler '17.



John Walshe '17



Greg Lawler '17

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ASSEMBLY

Diversity Within Us

The Prep SEED Program (Students for Educational Excellence through Diversity) sponsored a student assembly commemorating Martin Luther King Jr. on January 18 at Alumni Hall. The theme of the program was “Diversity within Us.” Through presentations of song, speech, and a “Unity Procession” with posters, the students, faculty, administrators and guests delivered a message about respect for diversity and love for humankind. Prep’s Men’s Chorus sang the U.S. national anthem, the Republic of China national anthem, and closed with “Up to the Mountain” (MLK Song) to a rousing ovation. Musical guests Mr. Malek Simpson and Ms. Gina Levon Simpson performed Spoken Word poetry, an oral art of African

traditions with African drumming, which inspires social consciousness and teaches history.

Director of Diversity & Academic Support Services Alecia Thomas commented, “Embedded in one of the six characteristics of Ignatian Spirituality is the notion that we, “Seek to find God in all things – in all peoples and cultures, in all areas of learning, in all human experience, and especially (for the Christian) in the person of Jesus” (St. Ignatius Loyola). The assembly strives to promote unity within our own community.”

Watch Prep YouTube video highlights of the full assembly.



Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1



Prep staff and faculty serve at Merton House on MLK Day

In keeping with our yearly tradition, several faculty and staff members gathered to prepare and serve food at the Thomas Merton Center in Bridgeport on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The Thomas Merton Center is a community soup kitchen and day shelter providing the women, men and children of Bridgeport with a variety of services. Thank you to Mr. Matt Sather, Mr. Elliott Gualtiere his son **William '21**, Mr. Dean Davis, Mrs. Kathy Norell, Mrs. Martha Terry, Mrs. Iwona Kolotylo, Mr. John Hanrahan and wife Sara, **Mr. Rick Hutchinson '87** and his family, Mr. Kevin Kery, Mrs. Margaret Rosario and her granddaughter, Madison, for their contributions. More than 170 people shared in this meal.

THE STORY PIRATES PROJECT

Prep Players

The Prep Players participated in a very special fall project. Prep brought in professional actors called the “Story Pirates” who visit elementary schools and run writing workshops. The Prep Players were trained in how to be Story Pirates, and headed to Cathedral Academy in Bridgeport to run a writing workshop with their third grade. After the writing workshop, the students from the third grade sent the Prep Story Pirates 50 stories. The players selected eight of those stories and turned them into remarkable short plays full of imagination, creativity and general silliness. The cast returned to the Academy on November 3 to perform a full show based on the stories the kids had written. The production was directed by Mrs. Megan Hoover, Fine Arts Chair, and ran additionally on November 9, 10 and 11 in the Black Box at the Quick Center for the Arts.

Watch video highlights
[youtube.com/fairfieldprep1](https://www.youtube.com/fairfieldprep1)





Music Department takes the stage

The Prep Music Department's annual Winter Concert was presented on January 11 in the Kelley Theatre at the Quick Center for the Performing Arts. The concert included selections played by all of the performing music groups that represent the music program at Prep: Symphonic Orchestra, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble (featuring freshmen only); Men's Chorus; and Jazzuits and Encords. The students performed a broad variety of genres.

Music Director Christine Evans expressed pride with her students' performances, and wrote: "Every year the music gets more challenging, and with those challenges, these young men continue to grow in their journey as musicians. Every moment we spend as an ensemble cultivates a higher level of understanding of the world around them. It is my hope that their commitment to their music and to each other helps them connect to being more human; being more open to the beauty that surrounds them."



Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1



Prep After Dark



The Fairfield Prep Astronomy Club meets weekly under the steadfast guidance of Mrs. DiCenso to discuss various tidbits of astronomical news and major areas of research. At a typical meeting the club will discuss recent scientific studies and findings, ranging from close-to-home studies like an analysis of silica deposits on Mars to large-scale, far-flung topics like newly discovered gaseous halos around distant quasars. Alongside the science, we also typically discuss issues that are a bit more down to Earth, like the role that space science does/should play in society. We've discussed what the Trump

presidency will mean for NASA and private space exploration both in the United States and around the globe.

Along with our weekly meetings, the club also performs monthly observation nights right here on the Fairfield Prep campus. At our last observation night we observed Solar System objects like Mars and Jupiter and were able to obtain some beautiful images of the Moon at first quarter. At future viewings, we hope to image deep sky objects like the Andromeda Galaxy (the Milky Way's closest intergalactic neighbor) and the Crab Nebula (the corpse of a supermassive star). The club has also begun work on the construction of a radio telescope, which we hope to use to observe the universe with our ears, at wavelengths too large for the human eye to see unaided.



By **Ben Martinez '17**, co-president and co-founder of the club.

Photos: club members



Drew Thompson '18 is SCC Runner of the Year

For the second year in a row **Drew Thompson '18** was named SCC-Runner of the year. After a very impressive sophomore year as the top runner in the SCC, Thompson took it to another level this year, finishing first in the SCC Championship meet and finishing second in both the CIAC Class LL championship meet and the State Open meet. In addition, Thompson finished first in the prestigious Thetford Invitational and first in the Wilton Invitational. At the end of the season Thompson won the Jesuit High School Championship and also finished 10th in the Foot Locker Regional Race which earned him a spot in the Foot Locker National Championship race. His outstanding resume has earned Thompson recognition as SCC runner of the year, ALL-SCC and ALL-State, as well as being named as a finalist for the CT Gatorade Runner of the Year. Thompson placed 37th in the Footlocker National Championships, with awards of Honorable Mention and Academic All-American. He is now focusing his efforts on the Fairfield Prep Indoor and Outdoor Track Teams.

Drew's pursuit of excellence in his running life is a mirror of his outstanding academic record at Fairfield Prep. He has taken the strongest course of study available in each of his Prep years, achieving magna cum laude honors by earning a 3.9 GPA and qualifying for induction into Prep's National Honor Society. Drew is well known for his determination and hard work in and out of the classroom and shares



Drew Thompson pictured with, from left: Athletic Director Tom Curran, Cross Country Coach Bob Ford Jr. and SCC Commissioner Al Carbone

his positive energies with the community each week through his dedication to service as a volunteer at the Kennedy Center.

FATHER-SON DUO

ROBERT FORD SR. & ROBERT FORD JR.

A WINNING COMBO
AT FAIRFIELD PREP

When Fairfield Prep's **Drew Thompson '18** crossed the line in tenth place at the Footlocker Northeast Regional meet at Van Cortlandt Park and qualified for the Footlocker National Cross Country Championships, he accomplished what thousands of high school runners have dreamed about the past 37 years. Qualifying for "Footlocker" is a dream come true for the top 40 boys and girls cross-country runners in the nation and comes with an all-expense paid trip to San Diego, California. They get to rub shoulders with some of the best professional runners in America and meet their peers, who all aspire to reach the highest level of the sport.

Thompson, who finished 35th in a time of 15:52, has been coached by a father-son coaching duo, Robert Ford Sr. and his son, Robert Ford Jr., who have guided the Jesuits for the past three decades. The Fords have a unique coaching relationship where they play off each other's strengths and weaknesses. Ford Jr. is the Xs and Os guy who sets up the workouts with his background as a science teacher. The elder Ford is more "grandfatherly and offers a personal connection," according to his son. Ford Sr. offers the day-to-day connection throughout indoor and outdoor where Ford Jr.'s teaching responsibility makes it impossible to make practice every day. Both are always on the same wavelength and collaborate often.

This collaboration has brought success that no other school in Connecticut, and few in the country, have attained. With Thompson making Footlocker, that makes the fourth boy from Prep to make it and the sixth time the Fords have made the trip to nationals. In 2014, they were named Coach of the Year by Footlocker.

"Footlocker does a great job with all of the athletes," Ford stated. "When we get there, they have a meeting and they talk about how we are all here for the kids. Once we arrive in San Diego, they take care of them from there."

Their first Fairfield Prep athlete to qualify for nationals was **Brian McGovern '01**, who finished 15th to earn All-American honors in 1999. He qualified again his senior year by finishing second in the Northeast Regionals and 17th at Nationals. The two-time New England champion, who also earned All-New England four times came from a running family and grew up competing at the Junior Olympics and road races. McGovern came into high school with experience and talent. Ford stated that, "Brian had the ability to communicate with me in ways that helped me as a coach." McGovern took his considerable talent to the University of North Carolina where he became captain of the team and later worked for Nike for many years after college.

McGovern ended an eight-year drought for Connecticut athletes. The only other Nutmeggers to qualify in the '90s were National Champion Liz Mueller of Waterford and Erin St. John of Bethel in 1991. Since McGovern's breakthrough, there have only been two years where a Connecticut athlete hasn't made the finals.

Since 2011, the Fords have attended the meet four of the past six years with Fairfield Prep athletes. The second Prep boy to make it was **Connor Rog '12** who finished

18th that year. Ford felt Rog "had the ability to empty his mind about everything but that race he was running." Rog was a three-time All New England athlete, who won the State Open and led his team to the State Open title in 2011. He was known for his tough, front-running racing style and finished in the top-10 at the State Open three times in his Prep career, with a runner-up finish his junior year before winning his senior year. Rog ran for the University of Virginia where he earned All ACC honors and is currently finishing his NCAA eligibility as a grad student at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield.

The very next year, junior **Christian**

Alvarado '14 (right with Ford Jr. and Ford Sr.) finished tenth at regionals after having a setback early in the season when he was diagnosed with a stress fracture in his left foot and found himself on crutches. This forced his coaches to become very conservative with his training and bring him along slowly. Alvarado trained by aqua jogging, riding a bike and going to physical therapy to maintain his fitness. This regimen allowed him to return ahead of schedule. He won the SCC meet, but sat out the Class LL championships to save himself for the State Open. Prep was good enough to qualify as a team and they reinstated him in the lineup where he finished fourth. He then came back a week later to take ninth in the New England Championship.



But thanks to the patience of the father-son tandem, he continued his workouts and rounded into shape by regionals where he finished eighth. While he finished a disappointing 39th at Nationals, it gave him the experience for the following year where he finished 20th overall in 15:47. He continued his excellent senior year and later won the mile at the New Balance Nationals Outdoors championship with a time of 4:06.88.

Alvarado is currently running for Georgetown and has twice helped the Hoyas qualify for the NCAA championships in cross country where they have finished 10th and 21st the past two years.

Thompson, the latest boy from Prep to earn a trip to race in Balboa Park, finished only a second behind winner Zak Ahmed in both the Class LL and State Open Championships. "Drew is a tough kid who is able to give 99.9 percent and go to the edge," says Ford Jr. "He is a strength runner and we are working on his speed."

When asked what these runners had in common, Ford felt "all of them really wanted to go to Nationals and they wanted to take a shot. All of them are good students and the qualities of a good student are the same as a good runner. If you don't find reward in hard work, without immediate reward, you won't excel in school or running."

— By Marty Ogden, reprinted with permission by Ct.MileSplit.com

High Achievers



Patrick pictured with, from left: Athletic Director **Tom Curran '05**, Mark Cirilli P'19 (quarterback coach), Head Varsity Football Coach Keith Hellstern and Principal Dr. Robert Perrotta

Patrick Conte commits to Yale Football

Patrick Conte '17 has made his commitment to attend and play football at Yale University. Conte has been a leader on the gridiron and within the school community, all while embracing the Jesuit mission of service to others. As the starting quarterback on the football team for the past two seasons, Conte led the Jesuits to a 5-5 record in 2015 and a 6-4 record in 2016. He finished his Prep career with 14 touchdown passes and 1,648 passing yards. He also rushed for 277 yards and seven touchdowns in his career. Conte was a captain in his senior year for head coach Keith Hellstern and was a year round leader for the team in the weight room and during off-season training.

In the classroom, Patrick is a Summa Cum Laude honor student and a member of the National Honor Society, where he serves as a peer tutor to underclassmen. He gives back to the community through his volunteer work in the afterschool program at the Cardinal Shehan Center in Bridgeport. Conte has also volunteered with the Newtown Youth Flag Football program, and was a lead camp counselor at the Fairfield Prep Football Camp last summer. Patrick has attended a Kairos spiritual retreat with the Fairfield Prep Campus Ministry program, and has also volunteered at Fairfield Prep Open Houses. Patrick plans on studying Economics at Yale.



From left: **Julio Ojea Quintana '17**; Principal Dr. Robert Perrotta; and **Ryan Marusi '17**.

Ryan Marusi '17 and Julio Ojea Quintana '17 recognized as SCC Scholar Athletes

Seniors Julio Ojea Quintana (Soccer) and Ryan Marusi (Football) were both recognized for their sport leadership and athleticism, and were named OrthoNOW/ Southern Connecticut Conference Scholar Athletes of the Month. Student athletes who are selected must be a varsity letter winner and have a 3.0/B average while demonstrating leadership qualities.

Julio Ojea Quintana '17 is the captain and two-year starter for the Jesuits who reached the Class LL quarterfinals last year and this year reached the SCC final and Class LL semi-finals. Julio was named ALL-SCC Quinnipiac conference as a junior and All-SCC Hammonasset conference as a senior. Julio also plays club soccer for the Shoreline Football Club.

Ryan Marusi '17 provided great senior leadership during a successful season for the Jesuits football team that saw them finish 6-4. He will continue his athletic career at Prep in the spring as Ryan is a member of Fairfield Prep's varsity lacrosse team. Ryan also plays lacrosse with the Bulldogs Club.



Front row from left: President Rev. Thomas Simisky, S.J., Semifinalist - **Jonathan Siveyer**, Commended seniors **Grant Ballesteros**, **Junlin Mo** with Principal Dr. Robert Perrotta. Back row from left: **Brendan Flynn**, **Tom Paul** and **Ben Martinez**

National Merit Semifinalist and Commended Scholars

Fairfield Prep is pleased to announce recognition of six seniors who are honored in the National Merit Scholarship Program, including Semifinalist **Jonathan Siveyer** and five Commended honorees. The seniors are recognized based on the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test taken in their junior year. Over 1.5 million students from across the nation entered the competition by taking the test, and the Prep winners were selected based on placement in the top five percent in the highly competitive state of Connecticut.

Bobby Haskins '17 is News12 Scholar-Athlete

Robert "Bobby" Haskins was named News12 Scholar Athlete. A four-year member of the football team, Haskins was a two-year starter at tight end and defensive end and was named ALL-SCC this past season at tight end. He led his team with 29 catches for 354 yards and 2 touchdowns on the season. On the basketball court Haskins plays power forward and center, and is also a four-year member and two-year starter for the basketball team which won the SCC title and advanced to the state semi-finals last year.

Haskins has maintained a 3.85 GPA, which is a Magna Cum Laude scholar. Bobby is vice president of Student Government.



NHS senior officers left to right – **Jerome Larracuente**, **Brendan Flynn**, **Kevin Gallagher**, and **Jayson Figueroa**

National Honor Society inducts new members, Seniors receive Book Awards

Fairfield Prep students were honored for their high academic achievement at the annual National Honor Society Awards Ceremony which was held on September 28, 2016, at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Fairfield. New members were inducted in the National Honor Society and seniors received special Book Awards, recognizing their outstanding school performance and leadership in key subject areas. Additionally, students were recognized for honors awards for the 2015-16 school year.

School Happenings

Geisert '18 & Mannello '18 attend Future Science & Technology Leaders Congress

Christopher Geisert '18 and Dante Mannello '18, both Summa Cum Laude students, received certificates for representing Fairfield Prep at a conference held in Massachusetts this past summer. The Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders included speakers and presentations by "Giants" in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), including Nobel Prize winners and top prodigies in their fields.



From left: Christopher Geisert '18, Dante Mannello '18 and Science Chair Mrs. Deborah Kiel,

Tom Shea '73 participates in an international exchange

English teacher **Mr. Tom Shea '73** is participating in an international cultural exchange this semester with a teacher from Sydney, Australia. Effective January 9, Mr. John Caillard of St. Aloysius College (Australian for High School) is teaching Mr. Shea's five sections of English. Mr. Caillard has over 25 years of experience teaching English and French to all high school age groups. He brings a wealth of experience and a perspective that will be informative and refreshing. Mr. Shea arrived in Sydney on January 10 and is teaching English to grades 7 through 10. Let's extend Mr. Caillard a warm Prep welcome!



Partners in Science

For six weeks this past fall two seniors **Ricky Pabon (L)** and **Ian Imery (R)** participated in an afterschool seminar series at the Research and Development facilities of Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals and the Duracell Corporation. As participants, they gained an insider's view of how leading corporations depend on scientists from the biological, chemical, and computer science fields in order to solve challenging problems confronting society. Each seminar session involved a lecture presentation by leading scientists, as well as a tour of lab and research and development facilities. Anthony Dotolo, science teacher, accompanied them each week to the B-I and Duracell campuses in Ridgefield and Bethel, and believes it is a great program for our science students.



The Ignatian Family Teach-In

The Ignatian Family Teach-In is an annual gathering of schools and organizations around the country to discuss topics of social justice.

In conjunction with Pope Francis' call for a "Year of Mercy," the theme for the Teach-In was appropriately titled, "Mercy in Action." Seven students from Fairfield Prep attended this year's conference in Washington, D.C., where they heard from speakers like Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J., Simone Campbell, S.S.S., and Fr. Jim Martin, S.J. Keynote speakers and breakout sessions invited dialogue on topics like immigration reform, environmental justice, and criminal justice reform. Prep's group had the opportunity to speak with a representative from Congressman Jim Himes' office at the conclusion of the conference for the Teach-In's Advocacy Day.



Hopkins '18 is BrainDance Award Winner



On October 14, 2016, **Joseph Hopkins '18**, former student of Prep science teacher Jane O'Reilly and winner of the 2016 BrainDance awards contest, presented along with Dr. Jeffrey Pearlson, founding Director of the Olin Neuropsychiatry Research Center at the Institute of Living, Hartford, CT. Joseph was invited to present along with Dr.

Pearlson at the NAMI Connecticut State Conference 2016 at the Army Reserve Center in Middletown. This workshop detailed the importance of the BrainDance competition which teaches Connecticut high school students about mental health issues through a creative arts project. Joseph was a winner in last year's contest for his short story, "Eyes," which dealt with PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). For more information about Braindance go to www.nrc-iol.org.

Coats to help the homeless

Members of the Spanish Honor Society get ready to load cars with bags of new and gently used coats for the homeless and those in need. Every year

the Spanish Honor Society traditionally has sponsored a clothing drive to help those served by the Bridgeport Rescue Mission – which offers safe shelter and essential clothing. People who are fortunate to stay in a shelter for the nights are often turned out in the early morning with no place to go until the shelter allows them back in at night. They are frequently outdoors in the most frigid conditions. We thank the Prep Community for your kind contributions.



School Happenings



Prep scholars inducted into Classical Leagues' Latin Honor Society

50 Latin students have been enrolled in the National Junior Classical Leagues' Latin Honor Society. The NJCL Latin Honor Society is a special designation given to students who are members of the Junior Classical League who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement (an A average in their Latin course) and citizenship. The 50 honors candidates are from the academic year '15-'16 and are current Latin students. The chapter at Prep meets as the "Classics Club" and is open to all students interested in the language, literature and culture of ancient Greece and Rome. The moderator is Ms. Koren Mumma.



Theology takes on the Carbon Challenge!

Ms. Jackson's Theology classes committed to an environmental challenge put forth by the Ignatian Solidarity Network. These challenges respond to Pope Francis' encyclical, "Laudato Si," a calling for humanity to "care for our common home," the Earth. The ISN's September Challenge was to go for a hike with a friend. The Carbon Challenge is an ongoing effort to create awareness of our carbon footprints with the hope of creating "women and men for others."



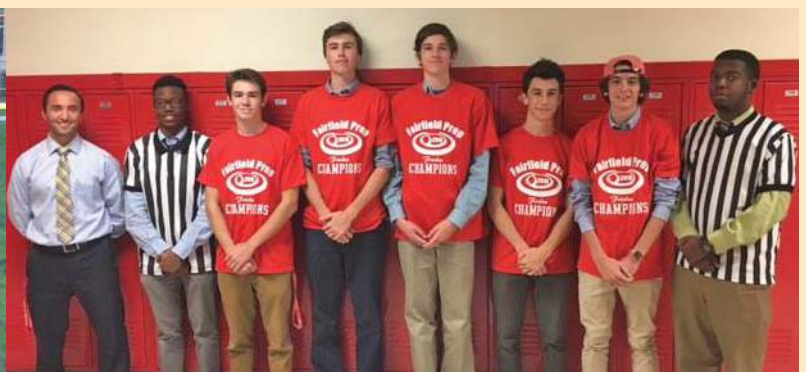
ASPIRA Hispanic Club celebrates diversity!

During the ASPIRA (Hispanic Student Association) meeting, students discussed their different ethnic backgrounds while sharing food from their ethnicities led by **Alexander McMullen '18** and **Henry Essex '19**. ASPIRA exposes students of all nationalities to the varieties of Hispanic cultures, enriched by group discussions, films, and trips that serve as an opportunity to explore leadership development in today's youth. All students are invited to attend these meetings.



Intramural teams battle for dominance

With about one hundred student participants, the Fall Intramural Season saw intense competition on the Wiffle Ball field (The Quad) and the Ultimate Frisbee field (The Hill). For weeks leading up to the Championship Games, teams battled for runs and points as they competed for Championship T-Shirts. Congratulations to The Spaghetti Monsters for winning the Fall Ultimate Frisbee Championship and to The Massaros for winning the Fall Wiffle Ball Championship! Make sure to get a team together (Fall: Wiffleball and Ultimate Frisbee, Winter: Basketball, Spring: Flag Football) and register with Mr. Dennis in B102 as registration opens before each season!





Ben Martinez '17 helps Brooklyn Jesuit Prep students.

Brooklyn Jesuit Prep and Fairfield Prep **partner** to support students

By Amanda Pertier, Development Associate, Brooklyn Jesuit Prep

Every summer since 2006, Brooklyn Jesuit Prep (BJP), a Crown Heights middle school serving families of low to modest income, brings its students to Fairfield University for a month long leadership camp. Students live in University dorms and attend classes six mornings a week at Fairfield Prep. The camp has become the catalyst for a growing partnership between the schools.

BJP seeks to break the cycle of poverty through extended days that incorporate extracurricular activities and academic enrichment, graduate support through high school and college, and of course, the summer leadership program that brings the student body to Fairfield's campus each year. The school's results speak to the success of their holistic approach, with 98% of BJP alumni graduating from high school, leaps and bounds from the NYC four year high school graduation rate of 70.5%, and 95% of high school graduates enrolled in post-secondary programs.

Although BJP students pay a modest tuition, the school must raise over 90% of their operating budget with the assistance of donors who believe in their mission. Prep's president, Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J., serves on the Board of Members of BJP and takes an active interest in the school.

The camp is a foundation of the BJP experience, helping students to grow academically through the summer and to see Jesuit values lived out in the wider world. "Camp means BJP values become a way of life, instead of just what you do at school," BJP Camp Director and Social Studies teacher Greg Arte said. "This is not a September-June thing. It's just who I am. I am loving, I try new things, and I look out for my friends."

In addition to making classroom spaces available, Prep staff and parents open the gym, provide breakfast when the University's dining hall is closed weekend mornings, and are on call to field questions from BJP counselors throughout the day.

Prep's partnership with BJP extends beyond hosting the camp, with Campus Ministry organizing Lenten collections on behalf of the middle school, and parents and students donating sports and arts equipment. BJP also receives technological assistance, including gently used projectors and occasional IT support. The donations



assist BJP in continuing to offer a broad and rigorous education to students who would not otherwise be able to afford a Catholic school.

The thriving connection between the schools is indicative of the transformative power of Jesuit values. Prep students tutor their BJP counterparts during summer math and writing classes. Relationships between Prep and BJP students proved the impetus for a growing number of Prep students and families who volunteer at BJP's monthly Saturday Program throughout the academic year, once again tutoring and participating in activities from Turkey Trots to kickball with the younger students, and interacting with BJP families who offer to clean the school.

Prep parent Beth Kelly, mother to **Chris '13, Thomas '16 and Andrew '18**, is a regular at Saturday Program events, along with her family. "We found a common bond with BJP moms and dads in our mutual commitment to a Catholic Jesuit education," she said.

BJP breathes the Jesuit ethos in a way that closely mirrors Prep's commitment to men and women for others. From Grad@Grad shout outs posted on BJP's assembly room wall to AMDG at the top of each handout and test, it is clear that the schools share a common vernacular.

Danny Giangrande '15 started as a camp tutor, then became a Saturday Program volunteer, a role which he continues as a freshman at St. John's University.

"I see the Jesuit influence at BJP," Danny said. "The stuff they are doing at a middle school level is very similar to what we do at Prep. Students I tutor go through the basics of the Examen, rephrased for middle school. It's the beginnings of discernment."

In 2016, 85% of BJP's 8th grade continued on to Catholic high schools, enabled by scholarships and BJP's commitment to providing financial assistance for graduates hoping to continue in Catholic education.

Next year will mark the fulfillment of a dream for BJP, when the school adds back a 5th grade class, allowing them to further advance their mission of preparing low income students for success in high school, college and lives of service.

About Brooklyn Jesuit Prep

Brooklyn Jesuit Prep is a middle school (grades 6 through 8) located in the Crown Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn. We have a unique program with three main components: extended school days, a graduate support program and a summer leadership program. Modeled in the Jesuit tradition, we educate our students' minds, character, and spirit in order to become 'men and women for others.'

FAST FACTS: BJP is nonsectarian in its admission practices. ■ Approximately 60% of our students are non-Catholic and 40% are Catholic. ■ 62% of our students live in single-parent households while 38% live in two-parent households. ■ Approximately 87% of our families qualify for free or reduced lunch. ■ Approximately 72% of our students were either born outside the United States or are first generation U. S. citizens. ■ Families self-identify as Caribbean American (41%); White/Hispanic (13%); African American (35%); Black/Hispanic (4%); Black/Caribbean (3%); Black/Arabic (1%) and other (3%). ■ The average class size is 13.

To learn more about BJP, visit www.brooklynjesuit.org.



Tables donated to St. Ann's Academy

Prep donated older cafeteria tables to St. Ann's Academy in the Diocese of Bridgeport, who welcomed the tables for their lunch room and expressed their gratitude. With the construction of the new Student Life Center, Prep acquired new round, multi-purpose tables. Thanks to the Prep movers above.

Prep Pink Pledge

PREP RAISES \$1,500 FOR CANCER CAMPAIGN

The Prep community proudly presented the Fairfield "PINK PLEDGE" campaign with \$1,500 raised through the school in support of cancer awareness. October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and Fairfield Prep participated in the town-wide initiative to increase knowledge and raise funds to fight cancer. Prep joined all of the local schools, businesses and town residents in Fairfield, taking the "Pink Pledge" to support The Norma Pfriem Breast Care Center.

On October 26, speakers from Norma Pfriem made presentations to Prep students to educate them about breast and testicular cancer. Additionally, students and staff purchased and wore special "Prep fights Cancer" t-shirts, which raised money for this important cause.



Pictured from left: Principal Dr. Robert Perrotta, Norma Pfriem Community Education Coordinator Nancy Church, Guidance Counselor Suzanne Gorab, and Prep Pres. Rev. Tom Simisky, S.J.



IN MEMORY OF **RYAN CHARLES BRENNAN '11**



Coast-to-coast ride benefits **Ryan's scholarship**



Phil Morris '11 rode across the country during summer 2016 in memory of classmate **Ryan Brennan '11**, who died of cancer in their senior year. Phil pictured with, from left: VP for Advancement **Rick Henderson**; Dir. of Planned Giving & Stewardship **Larry Carroll '63**; and **Tom Brennan, P'92, '11**. Following is a short reflection by Phil.

I left on May 15 to bike from Fairfield, CT, to San Diego, CA. I biked through twelve states for approximately 4,700 miles. I finished on August 15 for a total of 94 days and raised \$9,640 for Ryan's scholarship. The money came from friends, family, strangers, and people I met along the way.

I averaged around nine hours of riding a day. There were plenty of days where I wouldn't see a building for 70 miles (eight hours of riding) and no shortage of days where I wouldn't see a person until I arrived at the next town.

I camped, stayed in hostels, with friends, with other riders, in the country's cheapest motels, in churches, firehouses, and with people who offered me a bed and dinner. I met amazing people in every town and incredible people from all over the world who were also biking cross country. The funny thing is, most people who were riding cross country had hardly ever ridden a bike before.

I fought wind, hail, rain, heat, animals, and the blackest skies I've ever seen. Everything that could go wrong did — but I managed and learned from every mistake.

It was a humbling experience crossing our country at ten miles an hour, completely self-reliant on what you have packed in your saddle bags. I would definitely do another bike trip like this again.



Left: Tom Brennan, P'92, '11 with scholarship recipient **Brendon Russell '15** and family

Remembering **Ryan**

Each year three fundraisers take place since the passing of **Ryan Charles Brennan '11**. Most recently the "Jar on the Bar" event at **Mike Brennan '92** Brennan's Shebeen on January 21 (pictured). In addition there is an annual RCB Corn Hole tournament over Memorial Day weekend held at Chris and Mary Ellen Brennan-Connelly's, P'15 home, and the annual Brennan RCB

Golf outing at Smith Richardson Golf Course and Brennan's Shebeen Irish Pub & Grill in July. These three fundraisers contribute to the scholarship set up in Ryan's memory. These events and other direct gifts have raised the scholarship to approximately \$235,000. Continued thanks to the Brennan family and all of their friends!



Dan Carlucci '98 performs at event

IN MEMORY OF **BELOVED FACULTY**

Mrs. Betty Kachmar

By Robert J. Levens, S.J.
Rector/President, Campion Health Center

When she came to Fairfield Prep in 1970, Mrs. Betty Kachmar faced some difficult challenges, a few expected and others unanticipated: She was the first woman member of the faculty. And she was starting the Art Department which meant that Latin would no longer be a required course of studies. She was able to overcome both of these obstacles within a short period of time.

She was a committed Catholic who was by training a professional art educator. Born in 1931 in Wilkes-Barre, PA, Elizabeth Mary Check was baptized in her church of St. Stanislaus Kostka, one of three so-called Jesuit boy saints and a patron of Catholic students. (Was this a harbinger of her work at Prep?) When she left home to study art education at Kutztown State College, her faith life was further developed by her membership in the Cardinal Newman Society.

When she came to Prep, Betty's devoutness was further enhanced through the Spiritual Exercises of St.



Ignatius Loyola. She also was able to see the educational principles that could be derived from Ignatian Spirituality. Betty came to see that every human person is also given the ability to be creative in the use of his talents to enrich the world through the arts. Betty's well-known aphorism captured this fundamental belief: "God has put ART into every HEART. Without ART, HE is incomplete."

A second goal Betty knew she had to accomplish was to make the art curriculum credible. Beginning with Basic Art in freshman year, she built a program that was pedagogically sound, developmentally rich and varied,

aimed at satisfying and nourishing the creative energies and enthusiasm of all her students. In addition, she had the genius to appreciate that many of Prep's students would be headed for college majors and careers in the sciences. To give these students a first-class preparation for college, she offered an upper-level elective in Architectural Drawing and Design. In many respects this elective was the capstone, the jewel, of a comprehensive art curriculum that included Painting and Drawing and Fine Arts I and II, for those interested in pursuing visual arts majors in college. Before long, performing arts were added to the program, including Drama and Music.

A third insight Betty quickly gained was her awareness of how important sports were for many of the Prep students and their parents. She quickly became Prep's #1 fan and cheerleader, especially embracing Prep's football teams. She was present at every game, rooting for the team from the bleachers. Once the game was over, Betty went to her classroom and painted a large banner congratulating the team on its victory and/or for its spirit. She hung the banner in Berchmans cafeteria so all would see it on Monday morning. She became the inspiration for

Prep's Bomb Squad and with Kevin "Kal" Kallaugher '73 (professional syndicated cartoonist) designed and produced Bomb Squad t-shirts that are still in use today.

It is no wonder, then, that Betty Kachmar's contributions to Fairfield Prep were publicly recognized in 1985 when she was inducted into Prep's Hall of Fame, the only woman so honored. The plaque recognizing this honor still hangs in the corridor on the first floor of Xavier Hall. To state the obvious, it was a well-deserved salute to the "First Lady of Fairfield Prep."

Betty's career at Prep lasted some 27 years until her retirement in 1997. Her impact was transformational in the academic, spiritual, and social life of the school she loved. Every woman who has taught at Prep since Betty "broke the glass ceiling" owes her an enormous debt of gratitude, as do the men (Jesuit and lay) who were her colleagues and the generation of "gentle boys," her students who have now become "gentle men" and alumni of Fairfield Prep.

Betty Kachmar, "Mrs. K," died peacefully on October 7, 2016, after enduring quietly and courageously several debilitating illnesses. May she now rest in the Peace of the Lord she loved so dearly and served so faithfully, especially here at Fairfield Prep.

Mr. Jack Slavinsky



From John Szablewicz

We called him "The Cowboy." Following the adage that there are two kinds of people in this world, the doers and those who watch the doers, Jack Slavinsky did things. He ran with the bulls in Pamplona. Like Brautigan, he went trout fishing in America from his summer home in Montana. We all thought we knew him, but his loving wife Ellen knew him best. As educator and coach, Jack called Stamford Catholic and Fairfield Prep his home. At Prep he taught a popular course called "Hero in the Wilderness." We perceived it to be

autobiographical. He was voted Educator of the Year in 2002.

Sitting in the Black Rock Oyster Bar on a rainy afternoon, pounding down the Bluepoints with the occasional adult beverage, Jack commented, "This is the kind of weather that soothes my Baltic soul." A lover of great books and classic films, Jack often referred to them in conversation. Speaking of the chaos and political flux of contemporary times, he once said, "You know, if people would just read *Dos Passos*, all of this would make sense." We all nodded in agreement. The Cowboy passed away at age 73 on December 27, bravely fighting a prognosis that should have taken him from us a half decade earlier. Jack Slavinsky was an original — a great colleague, an even better friend, and I will miss him very, very much.

From Ian Brennan '02

My fondest memory of Jack Slavinsky is from Summer 2003, when my two best friends and I were amidst a big cross country road trip.

We stopped for a few days in Montana where Jack graciously took us in like family and gave us a tour of Sheridan and the surrounding area. Jack took us to our first rodeo, the local town fair and fly fishing along the Ruby River. I can still hear him grumbling how the movie *A River Runs Through It* exposed



his secret fishing spots and attracted unwanted tourists. Jack displayed tremendous patience with us as we repeatedly tangled his lines and bungled his gear. We also enjoyed visiting a nearby ghost town.

The time with Jack in Montana opened our eyes to an entirely different way of life. Now that I've had time to reflect on it I realize it was just more of his teaching style. I distinctly remember his lessons on *The Sun Also Rises* and learning about running with the bulls and Spanish bullfighting. He had shown the class a video on matadors and their training, opening our eyes to an entirely new concept of what a national tradition is and what a professional athlete could look like. I can still hear him exclaiming "Stella! Stella!" reading the classic passages from *A Streetcar Named Desire*. These are just a few of the many memories that come to mind when reflecting on his lessons.

Cheers and good years Jack, and from all of us at Prep, thank you for the memories.

ALUMNI FOCUS: MIKE MARTIN '83

For the love of wine in Walla Walla



What do a love for wine, a hole-in-one and a state prison have in common? Each played a role in The Walls Vineyards, a new Walla Walla, Washington winery founded by **Mike Martin '83**.

After graduating from Prep and finishing his law studies, Mike headed west to Seattle in 1992. He had a successful law career with Perkins Coie, a leading Northwest firm, and eventually a senior role in Microsoft's legal department. He also became passionate about wine – particularly those from the Pacific Northwest – an industry that was just taking off as he arrived.

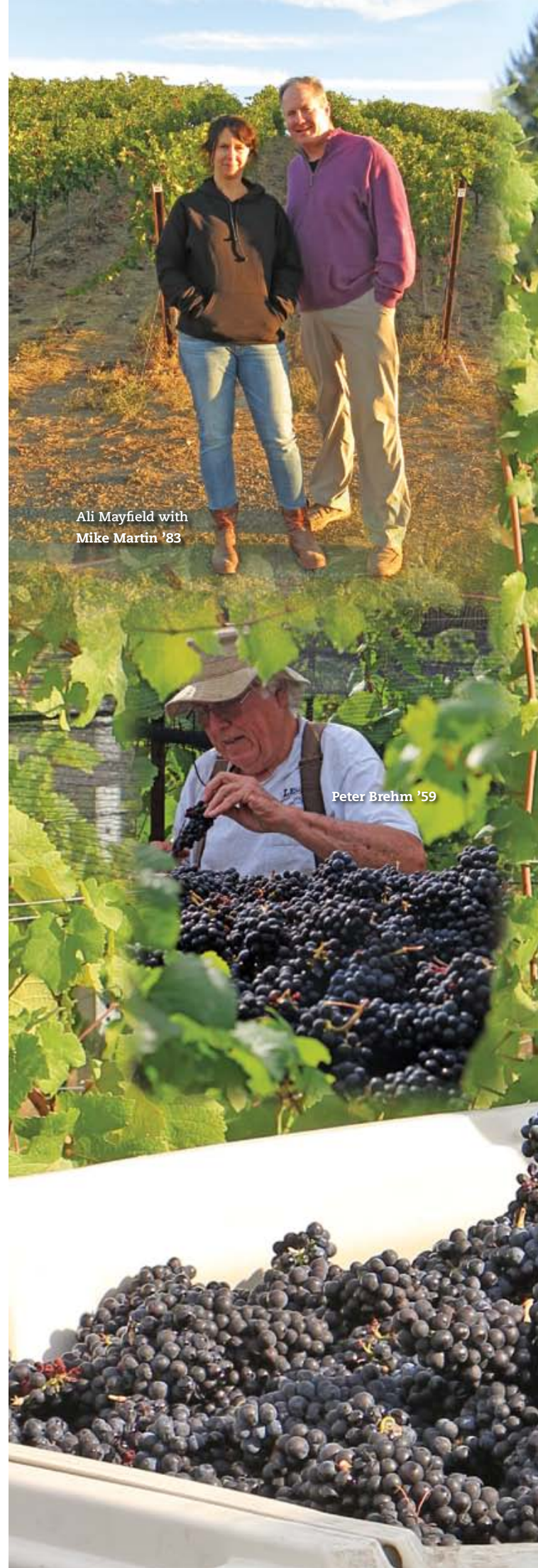
Fast forward 15 years when he was looking for a place to stop over on a trip to Idaho. He saw a new golf course in Walla Walla, appropriately named "Wine Valley," and loving both golf and wine he couldn't resist. By the end of the first day he had his first ever hole-in-one and was singing karaoke with a bunch of locals. More trips followed and he eventually decided it was the kind of place to start a new chapter in his life. And as chance would have it, a talented local winemaker, Ali Mayfield, had recently gone out on her own and was interested in making wine with someone who was as passionate about it as she was.

So in 2014, The Walls Vineyards was born. The name is a play on the Washington State Penitentiary, Walla Walla's least talked about but perhaps most notorious landmark. And one that loomed down the street from where Mike and Ali made the first The Walls wines.

Since that fateful day, Mike has rolled up his sleeves – literally and figuratively. He has been involved in everything from sourcing grapes and hauling them to the winery, design labels and a brand-new downtown space to showcase its wines and planning its estate vineyard, to be planted later in 2017. And in the midst of all of it he also opened with some talented Northwest pros a companion project to The Walls in downtown Walla Walla, an Italian restaurant called Passatempo Taverna.

The Walls sources grapes from vineyards from some of the Northwest's most notable vineyards and produces both premium red and white wines. They include chardonnay from White Salmon Vineyard in Underwood, WA owned and farmed by **Peter Brehm '59**. As Mike described it, "Ali loves White Salmon and meeting Peter was one of the first things she said we had to do. I noticed his website had references to Long Island Sound and I mentioned to him at lunch that you don't see that every day out here. He replied, 'I'm originally from Norwalk and went to Fairfield Prep, ever hear of either?' I laughed and said, 'Yeah, I know something about that school!'"

Mike notes "it's been an amazing journey so far – and we've only just started. I can't wait to see where The Walls goes from here. It's a lot of work, but at the end of a long day having a great bottle of your own wine to share and enjoy makes it all worth it."



Ali Mayfield with
Mike Martin '83

Peter Brehm '59

For more on The Walls Vineyard visit www.thewallsvineyards.com. Written by Cara Jacobson.



Mike Martin '83



Fairfield College
Preparatory School

We resume from where we left off in the first installment of this three-part series, as we follow, decade by decade, Prep's history through the 1967-1992 period. Again, the primary source is John Szablewicz's outstanding Prep history, "A Tradition of Excellence: A history of Fairfield College Preparatory School."



PART II OF III: 1967-1992

75 Years Young

Edited by Greg Marshall '73, Dean of Enrollment and Marketing

After twenty-five successful years of providing an excellent educational environment in southwestern Connecticut, Fairfield Prep seemed secure in its mission. Yet the changes sweeping America during the latter part of the sixties had yet to make their full mark on the school. Most of those changes, while having their genesis in the tumult of that decade, would not affect the school until the following decade of the 1970s.

While the main story of Prep's first twenty-five year period is that of establishing a new school and securing its future, the main story of Prep's second twenty-five period is that of change and experimentation. Prep responded to the external pressures for change, and also initiated change internally.

Before we continue our Prep history timeline, let us consider several of the major currents of change during the second twenty-five years of Fairfield Prep's existence.

Academics

This early part of this period witnessed significant efforts at implementing academic change, often experimental in nature, stemming from educational theorizing in vogue in the late sixties and early seventies.

CAPSULE: For the 1968-1969 school year, Prep entered the arena of educational innovation with the establishment of the CAPSULE program. The "Creative Approach and Performance to Secondary and University Level of Education" was instituted to provide a unique learning environment wherein a CAPSULE student would complete an

accelerated learning experience for high school and college, graduating first from Prep, then from Fairfield University, in only six years for both degrees.

CAPSULE eventually became its own "school within a school," with its own director and faculty. Enrollment went from two dozen in the program's first year to more than 100 at the program's height of popularity.

Daily time order and class schedule: For the 1970-1971 school year, a radical new daily order of classes was introduced. Under this new schedule, students had much more free time than before. The prevailing theory was that free, unstructured time would result in enhanced learning on the part of students.

Student evaluations: Also for the 1970-1971 school year, grades were de-emphasized. Although grading on the A through F scale did not disappear entirely, teachers were now required to compose a unique narrative prose assessment for each student at the end of each marking period.

Mini-Courses: The 1970-1971 school year witnessed the introduction of another major innovation, the Fairfield Prep Mini-Course Program, which consisted of two two-week mini-course sessions occurring at different times during the school year. During each of the two yearly mini-course sessions, regular classes would not meet. In their place was a four-hour-a-day schedule in which teachers would offer courses outside of their normal field of expertise. The mini-course program would endure as a part of Prep's curriculum for seventeen years.



Faculty and Administration

The 1967-1992 period saw two great changes in the school's employee base. The first was the hiring of the first female teacher in 1970, with Ms. Betty Kachmar's arrival as chair of the new art department. The second major change occurred in the 1971-1972 school year, when for the first time the number of lay teachers exceeded the number of Jesuit teachers.

Student Life

DRESS CODE: Certainly the aforementioned changes resulted in a profoundly different set of experiences for Prepsters. To that list we can add a liberalization of the dress code, which was phased in over a several-year period beginning in 1970. (By the end of the 1967-1992 period, the dress code had reverted to its traditional form.)

UNDERGROUND NEWSPAPERS: Prepsters were caught up in the culture of youth empowerment prevalent in the late sixties and early seventies, as evidenced by the appearance in 1968 of two underground student publications as competitors to *Soundings*, the school's official newspaper; these were *Silence* and *Noise*. Although they were short-lived, they did result in *Soundings*'s reorganization and revitalization.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW TEAM SPORTS: During the 1967-1992 period, the Fairfield Prep interscholastic athletic program greatly expanded. Ice hockey, lacrosse, rugby, sailing, wrestling, and soccer were all added to the school's roster of available team sports.

CONVOCATION PLAN: As an example of a more formal approach to institutionalizing student empowerment, one need only look back upon the controversial Convocation Plan, whose creators sought to establish a truly tripartite form of school governance in which each of the three components, the administration, the teaching faculty, and students/parents would have equal say in the running of the school.

While the Convocation Plan failed to garner the necessary support among the faculty and went down to defeat in 1972, the very fact that it was given serious consideration is evidence of the radical push for change during the early part of the period under consideration.

Mission

GRADUATE-AT-GRADUATION: Of profound importance for the history of Fairfield Prep, the 1967-1992 period saw the development of the sense that a certain unique mission underlies what it means to be a Jesuit school. The embodiment of this realization came in 1982, at the end of a four-year process that began in 1978, with the publication of



A group photo of the Prep Jesuits from the 1990s. Front row, l-r: Fr. Spoule, Fr. Trinkle, Fr. Murphy, Fr. Gallarelli, Fr. Pusateri, Fr. Brissette. Second row: Fr. Perry, Fr. Ryan, Fr. Pelletier, Fr. Barry, Fr. Eagan. Back row: Fr. Zupez, Fr. Shaughnessy, Fr. Crabb, Fr. Allen.

the Graduate-At-Graduation, a statement of principles expressing the goals of a Jesuit education.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE: Prep was an early pioneer in establishing that service should be a requirement for graduation from a mission-based school. Controversial when first instituted in 1978, the service requirement is now seen as a primary means of fulfilling the school's Jesuit mission.

Physical Plant

VACATING MCAULIFFE HALL: During this period, Fairfield Prep moved out of McAuliffe Hall (1982), which had been an academic building for the school since the founding in 1942. At the same time, Fairfield University vacated the first and second floors of Xavier Hall, which were turned over to the Prep.

In sum, whether we consider the hiring of female teachers, the establishment and then abolition of mini-courses, the liberalization of dress code and the student discipline code, followed by retraction to a more conservative approach, it is clear from a sweeping overview of the 1967-1992 period that Fairfield Prep did not shrink from change, but rather embraced it.

The next (and final) installment in this three-part Prep History series will cover the period 1992-2017.

Memorable moments and faces



Mr. Michael Wolfer, Director of CAPSULE

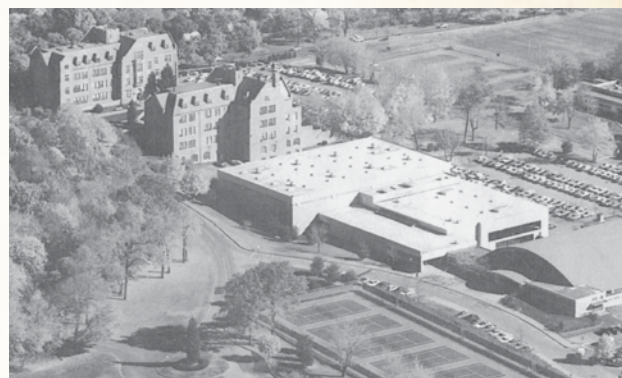
July 1968

CAPSULE Program created Creative Approach & Performance to Secondary & University Level of Education



September 1968

The ever-popular Rev. Martin Shaughnessy, S.J., begins his long teaching career at Prep.



1970s Prep campus. L-r: Xavier Hall, Berchmans Hall, the Recreational complex (completed in 1979 and renamed the Leslie C. Quick Jr. Recreational Complex in 2002) and the Fieldhouse (completed in 1959 and renamed Alumni Hall - Sports Arena in 1981).



December 1972

Debut of the Bomb Squad cheering section at the first home basketball game. The logo, still in use (and a Prep registered trademark) was co-designed by Mrs. Betty Kachmar and art student Kevin Kallaugher '73.

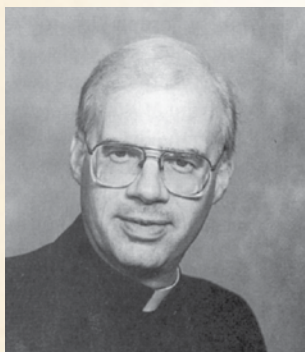
July 31, 1973

Father General Pedro Arrupe, S.J., delivers a speech in Rome titled "Men for Others: Education for Social Justice and Social Action Today," in which he issued the now-famous mandate to the worldwide system of Jesuit schools to educate their students to become agents of social change in the world.



Summer 1982

The dilapidated McAuliffe Hall was removed from service, as Prep took over the first and second floors of Xavier Hall, which had been the location of the Fairfield University Graduate School of Education.



September 1985

Rev. Charles H. Allen, S.J., named headmaster, to succeed Father O'Brien.



1986-1987

Establishment of the Concert Choir under the directorship of Mr. Mario Dell'Olio.



Spring 1987

Prep awarded for Excellence in Education by the U.S. Department of Education.

Ad Majoram Dei Gloriam



Fall 1970

Mrs. Betty Kachmar becomes the first female faculty. She was hired to create the fine arts program.



Spring 1972

The very first Prep auction event was staged in Alumni Hall.



Making sure the judge didn't miss a spot.

Fall 1972

Under Dean of Men John Szablewicz, the JUG Judicial Review Board was instituted. The Board heard students' appeals of sanctions for serious disciplinary infractions.

1982-1983

Graduate-At-Graduation

document completed. Henceforth, the goals of education at Fairfield Prep would be that upon graduation a Prep graduate would be:

1. Open to Growth
2. Intellectually Competent
3. Religious
4. Loving
5. Committed to Doing Justice.



1984-1985

Ms. Donna Andrade appointed to the new position of Director of Minority Concerns, to oversee a new initiative which would eventually culminate in Prep's S.E.E.D. program.



1984-1985

Prep institutes its first computer lab, consisting of 20 Atari 800 XL computers. (Each computer boasted 64 kilobytes of random-access memory.)



Spring 1989

Ted Drury '89 drafted by the Calgary Flames, becoming the first Prep hockey player to be drafted by an NHL team. (Ted decided to attend Harvard University before assuming his position as a professional hockey player.)



Fall 1989

Rev. James C.L. Arimond, S.J., named headmaster to succeed Fr. Allen and dropped the jacket rule in the dress code



Spring 1992

Under director Ms. Scoville, and with sets designed by Mr. Frank Bramble, the Prep Players put on the musical South Pacific.

Sports Retrospective



Fairfield College
Preparatory School

Fairfield Prep is celebrating our 75th Anniversary with a special sports retrospective, beginning with football, and following with other sports in coming months. Through our varied media outlets, Prep is sharing events, stories, and anecdotes of historical significance. Contributing editors are retired Connecticut sports writers **Sandy Sulzycki '64** and **Lou Pintek '72**, both well-known from their careers at the *Bridgeport/Connecticut Post*. They have culled huge amounts of historical information with personal interviews to report on the great teams and players of the past, and their memories and paths. Much information was also gathered from the Prep history "*A Tradition of Excellence*" written and edited by Prep teacher and historian John Szablewicz. John is currently working on an updated history for the 75th celebration.



Sandy Sulzycki '64



Lou Pintek '72



FAIRFIELD PREP'S FIRST FOOTBALL TEAM, FALL 1942. L-r, first row: Cook, Daly, Moran, Neary, McDonough, Naputano, Hanlon, Tickey, Harrington, Ward; second row: Coach Mr. Murphy, Manager Mr. McBride, Falanga, Jones, Fitzsimons, McEnany, O'Connor, Trojanowski, Garrity, Gaynor, DeRosa, Costanza, Moderator Fr. John Barry.



FAIRFIELD PREP

Football

THE EARLY YEARS



PREP'S 1949 "WONDER TEAM" The starting lineup as of November 1949: Dave Lane (RE), Len Riccio (RT), Larry Gaboury (RG), Charlie Luedee (C), Howie Bodell (LG), Joe Kaluzynski (LT), Mike Slosek (LE). The backfield: Jack Lindsay (RHB), Ronnie Habansky (QB), Fred Judd (FB), Johnny Maiocco (LHB).

PART I

1949 - "THE MIRACLE TEAM"

Written by Sandy Sulzycki '64

FAST FACTS: Coached by Fella Gintoff (1946-51, 26-21-4 overall record for six years), it was the first undefeated team in school history (7-0-1). But it was not a given that the team would be as successful as the 5-1-2 squad from the previous season despite the return of nine lettermen. In a preseason preview that ran in the Bridgeport Sunday Herald, Gintoff might have been using the "crying towel" of his coach at Boston College, Frank Leahy, when he said, "We'll be lucky if we win two games. We have some good boys, but we are playing some good teams." Indeed the article also noted that no other district school had lined up as tough a schedule as Prep. Gintoff's charges wasted little time in making its mark as it surprised powerful LaSalle 20-17 in its opener in Rhode Island, breaking the 17-game win streak of the defending New England champions. A relatively new Catholic school served notice that it was on the regional sports scene to stay. Prep was not given much of a chance and was described as a "warm-up opponent" by the Providence papers. Gintoff's teams became well-known for using the vaunted single-wing formation to perfection with some use of the "T". From an unbalanced line the center would snap the ball directly to the tailback, or sometimes the fullback, who would have the option of running, handing off or throwing. The quarterback was considered a blocker. The patented "Prep reverse" proved to be an effective and productive part of Gintoff's offense.

CO-CAPTAINS: Guard Howie Bodell and QB Ron Habansky. **THE BACKFIELD:** Seniors Habansky, John Maiocco, Joe Gromults and Jim Roach. Juniors Fred Judd, Jerry Sarno, Jack Lindsay and Mickey Donahue. **THE LINE: ENDS:** Seniors George "Babe" Risley, Mike Slosek, David "Daisy" Lane, Ed Wallace. **TACKLES:** Seniors Earl "Duke" Lavery, Lenny Riccio, Joe Kaluzynski. **GUARDS:** Juniors Larry Gaboury and Howie Bodell. **CENTER:** Senior Charlie Luedee. Juniors Charlie Neverdousky, Phil



L-r: Co-Captains
Ronnie Habansky and
Howie Bodell with
Coach Gintoff.

Hyde, G. Sarsfield Ford and Ed Wallace also helped out on the line. Many of the players were two-way performers.

THE RESULTS: After beating LaSalle 20-17, Prep followed with wins over Stratford 27-6; Iona Prep 19-0; Harding 13-0; Greenwich 26-14; Xavier of New York City 27-7; and Ludlowe 34-7 before tying Stamford 6-6.

OF NOTE: Bodell, Maiocco, Kaluzynski, Risley, and Habansky were selected to Prep's All-Decade Football Team from 1942-51 as noted in the 2008 edition of "A Tradition of Excellence" by John W. Szablewicz. Risley earned the distinction of being the only three-sport selection as he was also named to All-Decade teams in baseball (right field) and basketball. Maiocco (basketball guard), Bodell (baseball catcher) were double honorees as well as Judd, Class of 1951, in football and baseball (center field).

... Maiocco, president of his senior class, made the all-district team in football (winning the district scoring title) and basketball. He received over 20 college football scholarship offers and selected Georgetown.... Maiocco and Ford served concurrently as distinguished Superior Court judges in Bridgeport. ... Lavery also starred as a shot-putter on the track team and in football at Holy Cross before becoming the most successful football coach in Prep history (1965-92, 231-53-8). ... Baseball was Risley's favorite sport



SENIORS ON THE 1949 SQUAD. First row: Lane, Lindsay, Roach, Kaluzynski, Habansky, Bodell, Lavery, Wallace, Maiocco, Gromults. Second row: Mr. Sullivan, Kirk, Rev. Mr. Tucker, Risley, Luedee, Fr. Keaney, Mr. Gintoff, Mr. Yabrosky, Walsh.

PART I CONTINUED

and he played a year of basketball and baseball at Holy Cross before signing with the Detroit Tigers, working his way up to their Triple-A team as a third baseman in the Pacific Coast League. He spent a total of 14 years in the minor leagues. This was quite an accomplishment since there were only 16 major league teams at the time and the legendary George Kell had the position secured up in the majors. ... Sarno, a diminutive, but elusive, 5-foot-5, 155-pound speedster as a junior in the backfield, went on to a rather interesting career after Prep when he worked for the U.S. Postal Service while a driver/trainer for harness racing for over 30 years, including tracks like Suffolk Downs. ... Roach was the third in his family to attend Prep, two older brothers had already graduated. He was described as Prep's version of Albie Booth on the gridiron and one of the trickiest runners in a flashy backfield. ... Gromults came from Ansonia and was known as a "speed merchant" before an untimely facial injury ended his season while Risley earned the reputation as "glue-fingered". ... Luedee, a native of New Haven, had an outstanding career on the track team and was considered the best half-miler and miler to have graduated from Prep. ... Kaluzynski, who commuted from Milford, was penned "a devastating tackle" who held the Alumni Field discus record. ... Habansky, a Fairfield native, "had no peer as a linebacker." ... Gintoff, a math teacher who also coached basketball and baseball, played three years of football under Gil Dobie and Frank Leahy at Boston College. ... It is believed that only about six players of the 27 that appeared in the yearbook team photo are still living.



ALL-DECADE TEAM FROM 1942-51: ENDS: John McBride '46, George Risley '50. Tackles: Joe Kaluzynski '50, Al Jolson '46. **GUARDS:** Howie Bodell '50, Phil Lamoureux '46. **CENTER:** Bob Skoronski '51. **HALFBACKS:** John Maiocco '50, Bill Scholz '48. **FULLBACK:** Fred Judd '51 and **QB:** Ron Habansky '50. Source: "A Tradition of Excellence." Note: Jolson left school and became the first Prep student to join the Society of Jesus. He served as the Bishop of Iceland but returned frequently to Fairfield.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Prep teams were not eligible for state championship consideration and its players not permitted on all-state teams until the 1956 season. ... Home games were played on campus, but Alumni Field was not officially dedicated until October of 1945. Szablewicz noted that many parents and students helped to get the field ready and that "More than occasionally the Jesuits were able to secure 'Jug Labor' to perform minor tasks such as picking rocks out of the topsoil. ... Face guards were not standard equipment at the time and it cost Prep in its opener against LaSalle when Gromults, playing in his first varsity game in four years and expected to be one of the main contributors in the backfield, had several teeth knocked out and was lost for the season. Gromults did not become a dentist, but a successful family physician in Stamford for over three decades. ... Players were expected to get to some of the local games like Harding, Bullard-Havens and Ludlowe and get back home on their own. ... It could take over an hour to get home after practices by the time players walked or hitched a ride down North Benson to the Post Road and took a CR&L bus. And then they could start several hours of homework.

SOME MEMORIES



G. SARSFIELD FORD '51 †

Ford, a junior lineman, was quoted in a Connecticut Post "Where Are They Now" article from Sunday Jan. 23, 1994 about how the team earned "The Miracle Team" distinction. It was also described as the "Wonder Team" in the yearbook. "Prep was just getting started and it was our first undefeated team so that's how the team got its name. Coach Gintoff had us in such good shape and that was the difference. We were able to overpower and outlast the other team. We practiced until it was dark and then ran laps. It was brutal, but it paid off." ... Ford also recalled, "Watching our senior tailback John Maiocco score five touchdowns in a 34-7 win over Ludlowe that season." ... "When I was a center on the JV team, and [I] was snapping to tailback Jack O'Connell in a single-wing formation down on the goal line. It was the last game of the season and he had his first chance to score and that's all he had been thinking about. Well, I snapped it over his head some 30 yards and he missed his big opportunity. To this day he has never let me forget it." A knee injury ended O'Connell's football career, but did not prevent him from becoming one of the all-time basketball greats at Prep and Fairfield University.

† Deceased



JOHN MAIOCCO '51 †

Maiocco, who was president of his senior class and was described by the press as “a pugnacious runner”, was also quoted in the same “Where Are They Now” article about the '49 team: “Prep teammate Babe Risley was one of the most natural and gifted athletes I ever saw, no matter what sport it was.” ... “Fella Gintoff was our coach and he was just as tough in basketball and baseball. He was a taskmaster, no fooling

around.” ... “Talking to an assistant coach from Fordham about a football scholarship at a Father-Son affair after my junior year. It was my first offer and it came from Vince Lombardi.” ... “We used to scrimmage the junior varsity and I was impressed by a lineman named Bob Skoronski, who went on to a great career at Indiana and was the first Prep grad to play pro ball on the highest level with the Green Bay Packers.” ... “After we tied Stamford 6-6 on Thanksgiving Day, their coach, Paul Kuczo, came over and presented me with the game ball. I still have it.” ... “Georgetown dropping football during spring practice my freshman season. It was a major college program at the time and we were getting ready to play teams like Penn State, Boston College, Holy Cross, Fordham, Maryland and Miami. Certainly I was disappointed, but they still honored my scholarship.”



EARL LAVERY '50

“My parents paying \$600 for a four-year Jesuit education. It was well worth it to say the least.” ... “Coach Gintoff would have us run laps after a tough practice and the guys who finished last had to bring in the tackling dummies. It turned into a routine for me.” ... “Walking over from our home by Beardsley Park to the old Candlelite Stadium on River Street in Bridgeport around 1947 to watch Coach Gintoff play semi-pro football for the Bridgeport Yankees.”



BOB SKORONSKI '51

Author Don Harrison of Fairfield wrote in the *Fairfield Magazine* Holiday 2015-2016 issue that was reprinted in the “Prep Today” 2016 Winter Issue quoted the Green Bay Packer Hall of Fame lineman as saying: “The head coach, Fella Gintoff, was the first disciplinarian I had as a coach. Joe Brosley, the assistant coach, did well as a head coach later, and we became good friends through the years.” Skoronski, born in

Ansonia and raised in Derby, was a junior lineman on the junior varsity team in 1949 who dressed for the varsity, but did not play in any games. Brosley was credited with noticing Skoronski prior to his junior season and urging him to give football a shot.



JIM ROACH '50

Roach, whose son Tim played in the backfield on the 11-0 1977 Class L championship Jesuits, vividly recalls:

“The practices were so hard with plenty of contact that the games were easy. Honestly, at the start of the season we were not very confident about how successful we were going to be and certainly not expecting any “miracles.” But we made the most of what we had and surprised everybody, including

ourselves.” ... “Our line made the difference up front. They enabled us to play that grind-em-out style that fit our talents perfectly. It's funny how things work out at times. A perfect example was when Babe Risley decided to come out for the team his senior year as an end giving us a dangerous passing threat. He and I only played one year of football. We were playing American Legion baseball together so I asked him if he was going to try out for football. He said that he would only try out if I went out. We both did and never regretted it.” The Prep yearbook of 1950 pointed out that when the running game stalled, “Roach to Risley” was a touchdown pass play that became famous for its effectiveness. ... “John Maiocco was a tough, strong kid from the Hollow section of Bridgeport, maybe 5-8, 165 pounds tops. Fast enough if you know what I mean.” ... “Growing up in Bridgeport's Black Rock section hearing so much about Friday night football games at Harding's Hedges Stadium and then actually winning 13-0 before a crowd of 9,000 will always be remembered. Many of our players also grew up in Bridgeport so we knew a lot of their players as friends. The same was true when we played in-town rival Ludlowe with great players like quarterback Ed Malloy, who played quarterback at Yale. I was the best man at his wedding. They also had Jerry Ringel, brother of Jack Ringel, who starred on the undefeated 8-0 team of 1953.” ... “There were not very many face guards back then. Unfortunately, one of our top backs, Joe Gromults, had several teeth knocked out in the opener against LaSalle and was lost for the rest of the season. Junior Fred Judd did a great job in Joe's absence. I don't think that we played one game at full strength because of injuries so the excellent play of the replacements was also one of the big reasons for our success. Some of the other juniors that made key contributions were Sarno and Donahue in the backfield and Hyde, Neverdousky, Slosek, Ford and Gaboury on the line. A lot of guys were expected to play both ways.” ... “For most of us getting to and from school meant a lot of walking, hitchhiking and public transportation. I was fortunate in the mornings when a Frisbee Pie truck driver would pick me up on Fairfield Avenue and drop me off at North Benson Road and the Post Road as many as four days a week. At night it could take as much as an hour to get back to Black Rock when a group would walk or hitch a ride back to the Post Road, and then grab a CR&L bus or walk.”



JERRY SARNO '51

Sarno, who arrived late to school many a day because he had to clean his father's restaurant, the Southport Tavern on the Post Road the first thing every morning before going to school, ironically played a key role in preserving the undefeated season when Prep tied Stamford 6-6 on Thanksgiving Day even though he did not play one down. “Before the game Coach Gintoff seemed very concerned when he wanted to know who

had a size 8 low-cut shoe and that it was very important. I was the only one and he told me to trade shoes with Maiocco, who just had one of his shoes crack in half. We switched shoes and John scored our lone touchdown. So I've always said that I played a pivotal role that day although I did not see any action. ... Sarno ironically also had an unusual occurrence his senior year on the 1950 team when the Jesuits played a 13-13 tie at Harding on TDs by Sarno and Judd. “I got a ride to the game from Southport with some teammates. Early in the second half I hurt my ankle but played the rest of the way. Because of the injury I was delayed in hooking up with them after the game. They were in a hurry to get to a party and left without me. My parents had already left so I had to walk across the street on Boston Avenue to catch a bus back to Southport in my uniform with all my equipment. The next day I could not walk on the ankle so my mother took me to Norwalk Hospital where it was diagnosed as a torn ligament. I had to miss the last four games of the season.”





'53 VARSITY SQUAD.

First row: Fr. Dooley (Moderator of Athletics), Zysk, Kearns, Marcoux, Dolan, Ringel, Forte, Laitres, Dew, Stephanak, Makarczyk, Mr. Brosley (Assistant Coach). Second row: Coach Seymour, Riebe, Lesko, Bonitati, Catalano, Galla, D'Aulisa, Franko, Erwin, Izzarelli, Halapin (Manager). Third row: Mr. Sullivan (Assistant Coach), Coppola, DelMastro, Hoffman, Burns, Poillon, Alexander, Robotti, Salvato, Grella (Assistant Manager). Fourth row: Chagnon, Weiss, Welch, Wilson, Daly, Epifano, Zuscin, Lavery (Assistant Manager).

PART II

THE CHAMPIONS OF '53

Written by Sandy Sulzycki '64

FAST FACTS: Coach Thomas Seymour (1952-1955, 4-year overall record 23-7). ... Recorded Prep's first undefeated and untied season with an 8-0 record, outscoring opponents 287-56. ... Although they were called "The Champions of '53" in the 1954 yearbook, Prep was still not eligible for state championship consideration nor its players for all-state honors. Catholic schools did not have their own league championships or all-star teams at the time. Only public schools could be voted for in the state coaches polls ... It was Seymour's second season after taking over from Fella Gintoff in 1952, going 5-2 in his rookie season. ... Joe Brosley once again served as the assistant coach with many players citing his spark and inspiration for their success. Players just did not want to disappoint the enthusiastic Brosley who graduated with honors from Holy Cross while playing football and later with his U.S. Air Force base teams... "Powerful is the only word that can properly describe the undefeated and untied Fairfield Prep gridders," was just one example of how they were described in the local press.

THE RESULTS: Defeated Stratford 42-6, Bullard-Havens Tech 33-0, Notre Dame-West Haven 47-0, Boston College High 47-12; All Hallows of New York 20-6, Mt. St. Michael's of the Bronx 38-14, Milford Prep 38-6 and Stamford 22-12 on Thanksgiving Day. ... The win over Stamford had added significance because it was Prep's first victory in the traditional rivalry. The Black Knights were the No. 1-rated team in the AP state poll at the time and were the eventual state champs. ... The victory over Boston College High was equally impressive as BC went on to win the Massachusetts state championship in their division, with the loss at Alumni Field its lone defeat of the season.

CO-CAPTAINS: End Mickey Forte and fullback Jack Ringel. **IN THE BACKFIELD:** QB Dolph D'Aulisa, fullback and punter Jon "Jarring Jack" Ringel, halfbacks Richard "Ziggy" Zysk and Donny "Dynamite" Dew. Ray Franko, John Zuscin and Tony Izzarelli were equally outstanding in the defensive secondary. **ON THE LINE:** Ends: Mickey "Rough and Ready" Forte, John Makarczyk. Tackles: Bob Marcoux, Ted Stephanak. Center: Jay Dolan. Guards: Jim Kearns, Larry Laitres. Also making important contributions were the likes of "Big George" DelMastro, "Mugs" Welch, Jay Galla, Mike Catalano, Jack Weiss, Jim Alexander, Rollie Wilson, Henry Hoffman, Tony Izzo, Don Collimore, Jim Lesko, Jim Daley and Art Chagnon.

PLACEKICKER: Prep used the talented toe of Dennis "The Menance" Poillon.

MANAGER: Bill Lavery

1953 VARSITY SCOREBOARD

PREP VS ...

Stratford.....	42-6	BC High	47-12	Milford Prep.....	38-6
Bullard Haven.....	33-0	All Hallows.....	20-6	Stamford	22-12
Notre Dame	47-0	Mt. St. Michael..	38-14	Wins 8, Loss 0	

OF NOTE: Ringel surely would have made everybody's all-state team as he set a school and regional scoring record with 128 points and was selected to the All-District team for the second time, as was Forte. ... Ringel did receive honorable mention on an All-American team along with 11 other seniors from the state. He holds the distinction of playing four years of varsity football and baseball at Prep. He then played three years of varsity in both sports at Holy Cross despite being slowed by injuries in his last two years. The 1957 Crusaders beat Syracuse while the baseball nine finished third in the 1958 College World Series in Omaha, Neb., with Ringel patrolling the outfield. Prep teammate Ron Liptak was a shortstop on that team. Ringel has been the co-owner, along with his brother, Jerry, of Switzer's Pharmacy in Southport for over 40 years. ... Makarczyk (William & Mary) and Forte and Zysk (both at Dayton) also went on to play in college ... Dolan served as the class vice-president. ... Players and coaches were honored with a Football Banquet at the Ritz Ballroom in early December. ... D'Aulisa, described as "swivel-hipped" in the yearbook was also a starter for Coach George Bisacca's basketball team, tying a school record with 24 points in a 59-57 win over Stamford that winter. He was the only three-sport athlete on the team with baseball his third sport. ... Jim Roach, a halfback on the 7-0-1 "Miracle Team" of 1949, was an undergraduate student at Fairfield University at the time and saw Prep play several times. He stated that, "Jay Dolan was as good a linebacker/center that he had ever seen." Dolan taught history at the University of Notre Dame for over three decades with his specialty American Catholic history. He has published a number of books in the field while becoming, "The master historian of Catholicism in America and the most influential Catholic historian of the Vatican II generation." Dolan established the Joseph T. and Margaret R. Dolan Scholarship in honor of his parents with the stipulation that it be awarded to a student from Bridgeport. His father grew up on Bridgeport's East Side and ran Dolan's Corner in downtown Bridgeport and later the landmark Angus Steakhouse. ... The 1953 junior varsity team, coached by Allen Sullivan, followed the lead of its varsity counterparts by recording a 6-0-1 record (the first undefeated JV team in school history) good enough for the Junior Varsity District Championship. It was the players from this team that formed the nucleus of the undefeated and untied 8-0 team of 1956. Freshman back Frank Robotti led the scoring with 24 points while Frank Redgate and Harry Riebe tied for second with 18 apiece. The passing of QB Larry Merly to ends Jim Lesko, Henry Hoffman and Joe Sikorski led the aerial attack. The line was anchored by Jim Alexander, Dennis Poillon, Tony Izzo, Don Collimore, Jim Daley and Rollie Wilson.

SOME MEMORIES



JAY DOLAN '54 6-foot, 200-pound center/linebacker
 "Prep's Jesuit education was a decisive influence in my life and formed me in ways that are impossible to calculate."
 "Notre Dame-West Haven had a highly touted junior back, Nick Pietrosante, from Ansonia. I remember very well that when I went to tackle him he hit me full steam in the gut and we both went down. I lost my breath and was down for a while, but I stayed in the game. I might not remember what I have for

breakfast at times, but I'll always remember that hit from Nick Pietrosante from over 60 years ago. Pietrosante went on to play at the University of Notre Dame and in the NFL with the Detroit Lions."

"We had just beaten Stamford on Thanksgiving Day for the first time and our guard, Jim Kearns, was so happy he just sat in the shower with his uniform still on, soaking up the moment. Supposedly Fairfield's Chief of Police let it be known that any post-game celebrating should be done out of town, definitely nothing in town."

"Those traditional games before SRO crowds at Boyle Stadium and a legendary Friday night game at a packed Hedges Stadium against Harding my junior year in 1952 stand out the most. Ringel scored four touchdowns that game and we beat Harding for the first time 45-18. After that they dropped us from their schedule and we did not play them until 1956."

"Jack Ringel and his older brother, Jerry, working behind the soda fountain as youngsters for their father, Herb, at Switzer's Pharmacy. The soda fountain is long gone now, but Jack and Jerry are remarkably still there. Mr. Ringel taped all our games on 16 millimeter film."

"We played Boston College Prep, "Kings of the Mountain" up there. That weekend BC players stayed at homes of our students and two of them stayed at our house. We were not very good hosts however when we handed them a convincing 47-12 loss. Two weeks later we had a tougher time against a much-talked about Mount St. Michael's team of the Bronx. I remember one play especially. They had a big tackle and I hit him with a pretty good shot. I knew that he was going to retaliate so I told the referee that he had been hitting me all game long and to watch out for him. Sure enough he hit me with an illegal shot and the ref hit him with a 15-yard penalty, negating a nice gain."



JACK RINGEL '54 6-foot-1, 185-pound fullback
 "It was a great atmosphere with outstanding coaches and teammates who all got along. I loved the Jesuits. They were great teachers and disciplinarians who did not take any guff."
 "Jay Dolan and I flew out of LaGuardia Airport to Indianapolis and then to the University of Indiana on a recruiting trip. It was the first time flying for both of us and I was very scared to say the least while waiting in the terminal to board. I think Jay was

also a bit worried, but certainly not as much as I was. But we ended up being shown a good time by Class of '51 grad Bob Skoronski, who was a freshman on the Hoosier line after spending a year of prep school at Admiral Billard Academy in New London and who would go on to star with the Green Bay Packers. Skoronski later said that Fella Gintoff was the first real disciplinarian he had as a coach and that Brosley was instrumental in getting him to give football a try."

"I was able to pick up a lot football skills before Prep by playing a lot of sandlot games at the Brooklawn Country Club before we were asked to leave because we were tearing up the fairways."

"I did not miss a game at Prep because of injuries, but always ended up with a bloody nose after every game. Some teams were really out to

get me, trying to take me out of the game, but I had a pretty good straight-arm."

"It was the thing to do on Friday nights to take the CR&L bus with friends from Fairfield to Hedges Stadium at Harding to watch the games if we had the 75 cents to get in and if the games were not already sold out. I remember reading in the paper that the 1947 Prep-Harding game drew a record crowd of at least 15,000. Harding won 21-0 and were state champs that year. It meant a lot to us playing on that field and beating them for the first time my junior year in 1952. We were dropped from their schedule and did not play them in '53. Harding had enough players to suit up for what seemed like six or seven teams in pre-game warmup formations. We had two and part of a third."

"College coaches from schools like Fordham, Holy Cross and Boston College would come and watch practices. I was considering a few schools like Maryland, North Carolina and Indiana, but selected Holy Cross with assistant coach Brosley's blessings."

"Playing two years for coach Gintoff, who was indeed a disciplinarian, and my last two years for coach Seymour, who was more soft-spoken and changed us from a single wing to a T-formation. They might have been different in style, but they were both great coaches. Gintoff and Seymour expected the starters to play both ways, but made sure that the subs saw plenty of action and gained valuable game experience."



JIM ALEXANDER '55 †
 6-foot-1, 200-pound, junior lineman

"I got hooked on Prep football watching them play as a kid while growing up on Old Town Road in Bridgeport. Halfback John Maiocco from the "Miracle Team" of '49 was my idol. The main reason I wanted to go to Prep was athletics and to play football. Sports, sports and more sports. Of course I soon realized what great teachers the Jesuits were."

"Jack Ringel had All-American qualities, very strong with reasonably good speed. We had such an experienced, talented and deep roster at all positions, we probably could have won a lot of games anyway without him, maybe even gone undefeated, but Jack Ringel put us way over the top. We had a veteran team with nine senior starters returning from a very good team that went 5-2 in 1952. Dolph D'Aulisa and Ted Stephanak were the only juniors. Dolph was the fastest runner on the team and I wasn't far behind."

"Besides touchdowns, individual stats for number of carries, total yardage and average per carry were not kept so it would hard to say exactly how many times or how much yardage a player gained but I feel safe in estimating that Ringel must have carried the ball at least 70 percent of the time. He also did most of the passing and that's in addition to exerting a lot of energy playing linebacker. After breaking through the line, he was extremely tough to tackle downfield in the open with opponents hanging on trying to bring him down without any luck. It took more than one or two defenders to do that."

"My specialty was long-snapping on the punts, but we only had to punt three or four times the whole season so I did not see much action there. But I, and the rest of the second team, got to play just as many quarters as the starters since the outcome of most of the games was well in hand by the end of the first half."

"Back then you did not have to come out of the game if you were injured and time had to be called. It seemed that our guard, Larry Laitres, had his shoulder pop out of the joint just about every game, but he did not miss any action. Somebody would put one foot on his helmet and somebody else would grab his shoulder and pop it back in. He'd be right back on the line like nothing happened."

"Assistant coach Brosley's favorite saying was a simple but meaningful one: "You have to pay the price to reap the glory."

"We played the Catholic schools on Sunday afternoons and drew crowds of 2,000 to 3,000. There wasn't competition from NFL games on TV back then. After the games there were parties at our house on Old Town Road or at Donny Dew's in Stratford."

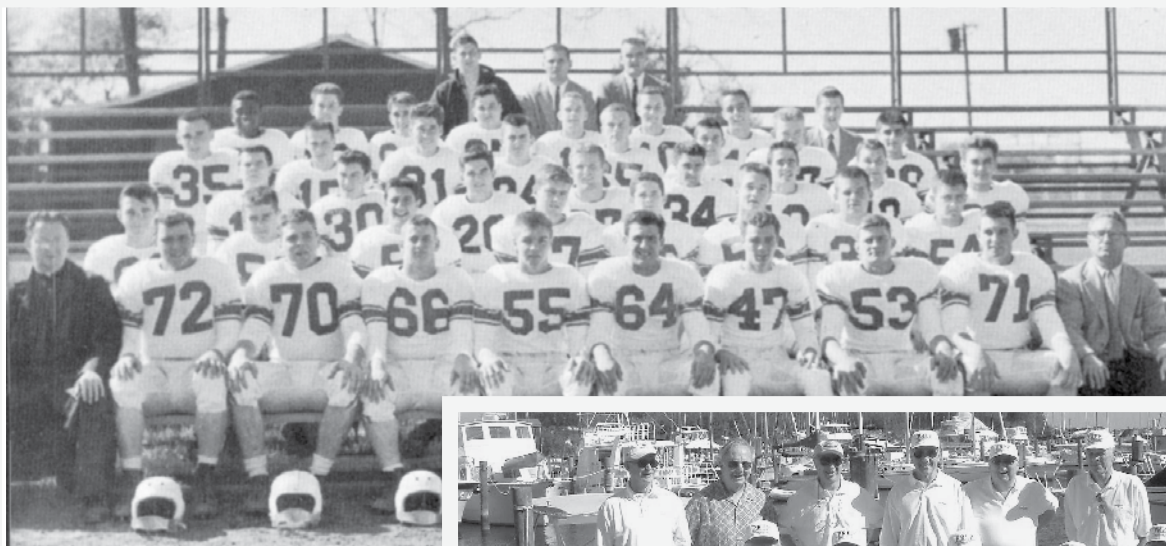
"Just like many other guys on the team, I had to work part-time at a gas station and was expected to contribute to help cover the cost of the \$200 tuition. The Jesuits went above and beyond after my senior year. I was awarded a football scholarship to Fordham but the program was cancelled before school started. I was working out at the University of Bridgeport for freshman coach Lou Saccone when Fairfield University called me in and told me that it would honor the scholarship."

Editor's note: sadly, shortly after being interviewed for this article, Jim Alexander '55 passed away suddenly on November 1, 2016.



'56 VARSITY SQUAD.

First row: Fr. Quinn, Galluzzo, Johnson, Hellauer, Sikorski, Robotti, Merly, Stark, Robinson, Brosley. Second row: Keating, Saur, Pugliese, King, Donahue, Malstrom, Galemba, Combs. Third row: Burns, Cassidy, Kiernan, Lang, Pezzimenti, Lavery, Dorion, Catalano. Fourth row: Connors, Sutherland, Swatland, Cremins, Macy, Paulin, Holst, Zowine. Fifth row: Mitchell, Luciano, Rowe, Fazio, Redgate, Hess, Habansky, Jasmin. Sixth row: Lavery, Furgess, Sikora.



1956 VARSITY SCOREBOARD

PREP VS ...

Stratford.....	19-0	Notre Dame WH.	39-6	West Haven.....	39-6
Bullard-Havens ..	47-6	Hillhouse.....	32-12	Stamford	27-7
Stepinac	33-0	Mt. St. Michael....	25-0	Wins 8, Losses 0	



PART III

1956: The Saga of Victory

Written by Sandy Sulzycki '64

FAST FACTS: "The Saga of Victory" was how the Yearbook described the 1956 football season as assistant coach Joe Brosley took over as head coach from Tom Seymour and produced the second undefeated and untied 8-0 team in school history, equaling the success of Seymour's 1953 unit by combining a potent offense and stingy defense to outscore the opposition 261-37. ... Brosley became Prep's fourth football coach and compiled a 55-27 record from 1956-65 with his 1960 combine posting a 10-0 record and another first for Prep with the Waskowitz Trophy, emblematic of the state football championship. ... The New Haven Register also had its Sportswriters poll but did not publish them for the 1955 and 1956 seasons. ... Although New Britain won the Waskowitz Trophy in 1956, Prep was listed atop a list of four teams in the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference Football Awards of Merit Large School Division, followed by Harding, Naugatuck and New Britain. The CIAC Award of Merit Committee chose the outstanding high school football teams from each class from 1947 to 1980. Prep earned the most Awards of Merit (14) in that span followed by Stamford and Ansonia with 13 apiece. ... The junior varsity team posted an 8-0 record as well. ... Prep's 1955 team was also among the top four teams in the Merit Awards with a 7-1 record, its only loss coming to out-of-state Archbishop Stepinac of New York 19-0.

THE RESULTS (8-0): Defeated Stratford 19-0, Bullard-Havens Tech 47-6, Archbishop Stepinac, N.Y. 33-0, Notre Dame-West Haven 39-6, Hillhouse 32-12, Mount St. Michael, N.Y. 25-0, West Haven 39-6 and Stamford 27-7. **CO-CAPTAINS:** End Joe Sikorski and fullback Frank Robotti. **ON THE LINE:** Ends: Dan Combs, Joe Sikorski, Matt Pugliese, Ed Galemba. Tackles: Bob "Mouse" Malstrom, Jim Hellauer. Guards: Tom Catalano, Jim Stark. Center: Bill Robinson. Also contributing on the line were: Bob King, Dom "Big Dom" Galuzzo, Bob Dorian. **IN THE BACKFIELD:** QB: Larry Merly. Fullback: Frank Robotti. Halfbacks: Pete Saur, Jeff Donahue. Also: Kevin Keating, Alan Habansky. **PLACEKICKER,**

PUNTER: Bill Robinson. **MANAGERS:** Marc Jasmin, Kev Cavanaugh. **PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCERS:** Jack Greenspon, Ray Panda.

NOTEWORTHY: Co-captains Sikorski and Robotti were the first Prepsters honored with all-state honors by the New Haven Register. Harding back Herb Sutton was also on the team while tackle Jim Hellauer earned a spot on the Honorable Mention list. ... The co-captains earned All-American mention and their second Bridgeport Sunday Herald All-District first-team honors while senior guard Jim Stark was also selected. ... Sikorski (end and captain his senior year), Robotti (linebacker) and Robinson (back, punter) went on to play at Boston College. Robotti played in the National High School All-American game in Memphis, Tenn. ... Sikorski and Robotti had brief stints with the Boston Patriots of the old AFL in the early 1960s as undrafted free agents. However, Robotti's days were numbered when the Patriots picked Notre Dame's Nick Buonoconti in the 13th round of the 1962 draft and signed him to a no-cut contract. The Stamford native was also one of the last cuts by New York Titans general manager and coach Weeb Ewbank in 1963. ... Sikorski went to Georgetown for a year before being hit by the football bug and transferring to BC. ... Sikorski also co-captained coach George Bisacca's talented 16-4 basketball team that winter along with Joe Dunn. ... Combs was also a starter for Bisacca and would go on to earn all-state honors as an end his senior year in 1957. ... Sikorski, a three-sport standout, made the 1957 Bridgeport Sunday Herald All-Star Baseball Team as a shortstop while Robotti and Merly were second-team selections in the outfield. ... Robotti died at age 32 in a tragic automobile accident in Florida in August of 1971. ... Bill Robinson, who was president of his senior class, was selected King of the Barnum Festival. He also helped pitch BC to the NCAA District I championship and then played in the New York Mets organization. ... Sophomore lineman Bill Lang would go on to make the 1958 New Haven Register All-State squad as a senior center when he co-captained the 7-1-2 team along with John McGourthy. Lang had broken Jim Alexander's shot-put record his freshman season. ... Ed Galemba went on to play at North Dakota where he also became a nationally acclaimed bronco bull rider and rodeo performer. ... Public address announcer Jack Greenspon (Jack Laurence) also deserves special recognition for becoming one of the finest war correspondents/authors of his time for his coverage of the Vietnam War. His accomplishments are noted at the end of this article.

SOME MEMORIES

Jim Stark, Tom Catalano and Jim Hellauer organized a reunion of 13 players and 'significant others' in March of 2004 in West Palm Beach, Fla. Stark perfectly summed up the thoughts of the group when he wrote:

"Although it had superstars, it was a team in every sense of the word. It had played like a well-oiled machine, every part dependent on the other for its near friction-less function. Its members were as close as any Marine combat platoon or Army Ranger squad. That same cohesiveness has endured and was evident in this gathering 47 years after its success on the gridiron. Judges, lawyers, military leaders, business entrepreneurs, professional athletes, a neurologist and a world-ranked rodeo cowboy ... all credited Fairfield Prep with establishing the discipline, values and foundation for their achievements."



JIM STARK '57

Stark, a 5-foot-10, 185-pound guard, came in from Easton and would have gone to Bassick H.S. in Bridgeport via public transportation if he had not gone to Prep, where he was a three-year varsity performer and held the school record in the discus. He played four years of college football, one at Penn and three at North Central State in Naperville, Ind.. He authored his personal history in "Two Turning, Two Burning:

Memoir of a Naval Aviator." It was about his flying the surveillance P2 plane. During the Cold War tensions of that time, Russian ships were stationed less than 100 miles off the East Coast and were capable of firing cruise missiles at major cities, escaping submerged. The task of the P2 was to find and destroy the Russian subs in the event of war. He also wrote the historical novel "Great Lakes Skipper" that involved his great-great-grandfather in the early 1800s and many other award-winning short stories as a hobby. He's retired now, but is a serious sailor and marathoner. Stark recalls:

"I never again felt the passion and total dedication that I felt with that '56 team. We were like a pack of Navy Seals; it was do-or-die with no fooling around at all during the season. ... I don't think our first-string defense gave up a point the whole season. ... Joe Sikorski made some spectacular catches and worked some magic with those hands. ... After losing most of the top players from the 8-0 team in 1953, some of us saw plenty of varsity action as sophomores, but we took our lumps and went 3-4 in '54. We used that experience to go 7-1 the following year and returned most of those players that resulted in our continued success in '56 as we won 15 of 16 games those two years."



LARRY MERLY '57

Merly played a combined four years at quarterback with the JV/varsity and has the unique distinction of never being intercepted. The yearbook described his passing skills by saying: "Larry Merly unleashed an aerial attack never before seen by Prep followers." A native of Bridgeport's East Side, he served as a state representative from the Black Rock section of the Park City. He was Bridgeport's City Attorney during

Mayor Tom Bucci's administration and will always be remembered for his lead role in prying loose an insurance fund of more than \$1 million to aid in the rescue and recovery efforts after the tragic 16-story L'Ambiance Plaza collapse that claimed the lives of 28 construction workers in April of 1987. It was one of the worst disasters in modern Connecticut history. Merly recalls:

"I had the rare opportunity to have two all-state ends on the same team with Joe Sikorski and junior Dan Combs, who became an all-stater his senior year in '57. Although we only passed when we had to, it created a lot of problems for our opponents. Most of the time the starters only got to play a half because of the lopsided score. ... Frank Robotti was a bulldozer out of the backfield but was mostly recruited as a linebacker because he was able to get to the ball carrier before anybody else could. He was just as tough as Jack Ringel from '53 to bring down; just one or two guys could not do it. ... Coach Brosley could really motivate the guys. We loved to play for him. A real genuine person. He cared for us and stood up for us. But he made sure we knew the plays and our assignments and would really tear into us if we didn't. To this day I think a lot of the guys still remember those plays. Nothing came in from the sidelines, it was all done in the huddle. ... I was the only one of four brothers who went to Prep; the other three went to Harding. My father was in the construction business and gave me a good lecture about going to Prep. He said it was fine with him and my mother, but that I better be serious about it, that I would have to work hard at it and that it wouldn't be easy. I was always able to keep in shape over the summer helping him. Bob Malstrom also worked

with us. ... I learned a lot of my football skills by playing sandlot games at places like Yellow Mill Village, Success Park and at Brooklawn Country Club right by the corner of Brooklawn and Capitol. Jeff Donahue, Frank Redgate and Kevin Keating played there also and they were going to Prep so that's why I wanted to go there. ... Practices were brutal with a lot of contact. As freshmen we had to scrimmage every day against players like Jack Ringel from the undefeated '53 team and then my sophomore year play against ND-West Haven's Nick Pietrosante, who later starred at the University of Notre Dame and the Detroit Lions. I don't know who was tougher to tackle, either Ringel or Pietrosante, because I did not come close to tackling either one."



TOM CATALANO '57

Catalano was one of three brothers (Michael '53 and Hugh '60) from the Paradise Green section of Stratford to man the guard position at Prep. While a student at Fairfield University, he was part of a quintet of saxophone players that gained national attention when they appeared on Ted Mack's Original Amateur Hour on NBC. While at Fairfield he played semi-pro with the Connecticut Giants out of Went Field in Bridgeport. After

graduating, he enlisted as a sailor in the Navy Reserves and during his two-year active duty stint found himself on a ship steaming through 16 days of hurricane conditions to participate in the naval blockade during the Cuban missile crisis. He was also part of the band on the sax for four-star Admiral John Sidney McCain, Jr., whose Naval aviator son, John Sidney McCain III, was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam for five-and-a-half years and later became the U.S. Senator from Arizona and was the GOP presidential hopeful in 2008. Catalano then opted for the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School and served for 21 years, including two tours of duty in Vietnam, before retiring in July of 1985. Catalano recalls:

"We had a change in coaches from Tom Seymour, who was very calm and deliberate, almost cerebral, to Joe Brosley, who was all emotion. ... It was really an unselfish bunch. If you ask anybody on the team who was the most important player they would all have different answers. ... We did not have to pass very often, but when we did our QB Larry Merly was right on target with his patented jump passes that were very popular at the time. ... It was the first year that the single-guard face mask was standard equipment. Some of us actually complained that we had to use them. I can remember my freshman year using those Jim Thorpe leather-style helmets. ... Although we beat Mt. St. Michael's of New York my junior year, I took a beating on the line from a pretty big and tough kid. It was Vince Promuto, who went on to play at Holy Cross – where he actually recovered six fumbles one game – and 11 years for the Washington Redskins (1960-1970). ... The varsity locker room at McAuliffe Hall was very, very basic, but the coaches told us it was because they didn't want other students to think that we were soft."



JIM HELLAUER '57

Hellauer, a 5-foot-10, 182-pound tackle, had an older brother Joe '52 and younger brother Bill '59 who attended Prep. Serious knee injuries during his first year at the U.S. Naval Academy ended his playing days. He graduated from the Academy in 1961 as did his father, Joseph Hellauer, in 1927. Jim served as an officer in the Supply Corps during the Cold War threats of the Soviet Union before he was medically discharged

in 1970. Hellauer recalls:

"We lived in Newtown and at times had to hitch-hike the 20-plus miles to get to Prep my first two years until I earned enough money to buy a used car my junior year. It could take a good 90 minutes some days. There was a pretty regular group that would stop and offer a ride. I wanted to play other sports but the time commuting made it impossible with leaving home very early and getting home no earlier than 6:30 p.m. We lived on a main street, but it was still only a dirt road back then. ... Father Eugene Brissette had recently joined the faculty and immediately became an integral part of the coaching staff. He would challenge us to come get him but always ended up knocking us on our rear ends. He loved it and was a real inspiration. ... A few of us decided that we wouldn't wash our practice gear until we lost. You could just imagine what the locker room at McAuliffe Hall smelled like after our undefeated season. ... I was pretty good in English and Algebra, but was really worried about Geometry while preparing for the Naval Academy's entrance exam. I was able to achieve the minimum passing grade of 2.5 on that part of the test only because coach Brosley tutored me. He was a true teacher/coach."



'60 VARSITY SQUAD.

First row: Fahey, Niedermeier, Frigon, Miller, Sheridan, Peddle, Cassulo, Gilmartin, Redgate, Marchese. Second row: Mr. Brosley, Miazga, Skowronski, Carroll, Chiota, Moran, Fritz, Reed, Santora, Stewart. Third row: Mr. Connor, S.J., Bonifietti, Skowronski, Shattuck, Pond, McCarthy, Lynch, Amon, Mosko, Csandi, Fr. Brissette, S.J., Cavanaugh. Fourth row: Mr. E. Lavery, MacLaughlin, Esposito, McCarthy, Summ, Grywalski, Murray, Duffy, Berry, Tristine, Riordan, Mr. Braunreuther, S.J.



JACK GREENSPON '57

Greenspon, who later changed his name to Jack Laurence, went from announcing the play-by-play action from the press box at Alumni Field to become one of the finest war correspondents/journalist/directors of his time for his coverage of the Vietnam War from the 'hotspot' of Hue for CBS when he befriended the iconic newsman Walter Cronkite. Laurence also covered the riots during the Democratic National Convention in

Chicago in 1968. His reporting played a role in President Lyndon Johnson not running for re-election in 1968. Laurence authored the 800-plus award-winning book "A Cat from Hue" about his experiences over 22 months in Vietnam, including embedding himself in Infantry Combat unit Charlie for 30 days. Laurence covered the 1989 Tiananmen Square Massacre in China and also wrote "I'm An American Soldier" about a U.S. Ranger outfit in Iraq.

PART IV

1960: MBIAC & STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Written by Alexander "Sandy" Sulzycki, '64

FAST FACTS: The 1960 edition of Fairfield Prep's 10-0 football team earned the Waskowitz Trophy for the first time in school history. The award was emblematic of the "official" state championship. It was determined by a state-wide committee of sportswriters and was awarded annually from 1933-63. The CIAC did not institute its playoff system until 1976. From 1942-1954 Catholic schools were not eligible for state championship consideration or its players for all-star teams. Prep's 1955 (7-1) and 1956 (8-0) teams were strong contenders for the state crown and were both recognized by the CIAC with an Award of Merit. Prep also earned the MBIAC (Metropolitan Bridgeport Interscholastic Athletic Conference) title with a 7-0 record in league play. ... QB Ed McCarthy, tackle Gene Skowronski and end Frank Grywalski earned New Haven Register All-State honors and all three played for the West against the East in the annual Nutmeg Bowl game in August of 1961 at Harding's Hedges Stadium that featured the top high school seniors in the state from the previous year's football season. Skowronski captained the victorious West team. ... Halfback Floyd Little, Hillhouse (Syracuse, Denver Broncos, NFL Hall of Fame); fullback Jerry Fishman, Norwalk; center Steve Miska, Harding; and guard Bill Pedersen, Central, were other regional players on the All-State team. ... The New York Giants conducted their preseason practices at Alumni Field and drew a lot of attention to the campus from fans across the region. Many of Prep's players recalled how great the Giants were in sharing their knowledge and advice. Players also recalled future Green Bay Packer Hall of Famer, Bob Skoronski, older brother of Gene Skowronski, coming back to Prep during the offseason and visiting the players and coach Joe Brosley, whom Bob credits with playing a major

1960 VARSITY SCOREBOARD

PREP VS ...

Stepinac	24-16	N. Dame (WH).....	20-6	Bassick.....	44-0
Milford.....	30-8	Stratford	52-0	Bullard Havens ...	61-0
Harding	32-0	N. Dame (Bpt)	16-6	Stamford	35-0
Central.....	38-0				



Fr. Eugene Brissette, S.J.

role in his success. ... Several team members were in attendance at Alumni Field when the 50th anniversary of their historic accomplishments were recognized in pre-game ceremonies on Sept. 27, 2010.

THE RESULTS (10-0): Defeated Archbishop Stepinac of New York, 24-16; Milford 30-8; Harding 32-0; Central 38-0; Notre Dame-West Haven 20-6; Stratford 52-0; Notre Dame-Bridgeport 16-6; Bassick 44-0; Bullard-Havens 61-0 and Stamford 35-0. **Points scored:** 352. **Points allowed:** 36. **Shutouts:** 6.

CO-CAPTAINS: Fullback Donald "Ducky" Moran, end Bob Fritz. **IN THE BACKFIELD:** QB Ed McCarthy. Fullback: Don Moran. Halfbacks: Pete Frigon, Jerry Niedermeier. Also: Tom Redgate, Bob Riordan, George Pond, Jay Gilmartin, Steve Csandi, Charles Duffy, Mark Peddle, Stu Esposito, Ted See. **ON THE**

LINE: Ends: Frank Grywalski, Bob Fritz, Marty Tristine, Ray Mosko. Tackles: Don Lynch, Gene Skowronski. Center: Ron Miazga. Guards: Win MacLaughlin, John Chiota, Leo Carroll, Ron Santora. Also: Alan Reed, Wayne Bonifietti, Jack Summ, Walter "Snuffy" Skowronski, Rich Amon, Frank Casulo. **CHAPLAINS:** Fr. Eugene Brissette, S.J., and Mr. Braureuther, S.J., **MANAGERS:** Joseph Fahey, Jim Stewart, K. Cavanaugh, Dave Marchese.



SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO ED MCCARTHY '61 †

McCarthy, who as a 6-foot-2, 178-pound senior led Yale to a 6-2-1 record and third place in the 1964 season under coach Carm Cozza, tragically lost his life at age 21 in an auto accident on U.S. Route 5 in Greenfield, Mass., in late January of 1965. An honor student, McCarthy was a starter on Prep's basketball team his junior and senior years and was a mainstay on the track team. After McCarthy's death, Cozza said in an interview in the *Bridgeport Post*: "Ed McCarthy was absolutely one of the finest young men I ever had the privilege

to coach. He had tremendous qualities of leadership and a great competitive spirit." ... Brosley was quoted in the same article: "This hurts me deeply that a boy with such great potential, not only in sports but in any field he chose to venture, should die at just 21 years of age. Ed's attitude was his greatest attribute. He commanded respect from anyone he met. He was quiet and well-mannered and a gentleman in every way. We both liked to kid around a lot, and our sense of humor ran along the same vein. Also, Ed had a great mind, one that you just had to admire. Even as a quarterback, his intellect carried over to the playing field. He was more like a coach, rather than a player, when he was on the gridiron."



Mr. Joseph Brosley

NOTEWORTHY

When asked by a *Bridgeport Post* sportswriter what made the team so great, Brosley responded: "A balanced attack with top passing, running, defense and a strong supply of reserves. In general that 1960 football team has to go down as the greatest I've ever coached in my 10 years at the Prep helm. But some day, hope that I can field a team just a little better." ... After taking its lumps, but gathering some valuable playing time and experience during a 4-6 season in 1959, the team returned 13 seniors, 11 forming the starting lineup for the eventual state

champions. ... Similar to teams of that era, starters were expected to play both offense and defense. ... Brosley had his co-captains switch positions before the season started and it paid big dividends. Fritz went from the backfield to end/LB and the bruising 5-foot-11, 180-pound Moran from end to fullback. ... Proving that the 1960 team was quite a talented group, eight starters (five linemen and three backs) and two substitutes went on to play college football. The linemen were tackles Gene Skowronski, Harvard; and Don Lynch, Duke/brief stint with the Washington Redskins; center Ron Miazga, U.S. Air Force Academy; ends Frank Grywalski, Boston College and Bob Fritz, U.S. Military Academy 150-pound team. The backfield trio included; QB Ed McCarthy, Yale; halfback Pete Frigon, Tufts; and fullback Donald Moran, Boston College... Miazga, who captained Prep's golf team, played in the 1963 Gator Bowl against North Carolina and faced his former teammates, Moran and Grywalski, when the Air Force and BC each won at home in a two-game series. Miazga went on to fly a KC-135 in Vietnam. ... Win McLaughlin, John Chiota, Ron Santora and Leo Carroll were referred to as guards of the "Watch-Charms variety". What they lacked in size they made up in speed and quickness, leading the way on the vaunted "Prep sweep". ... Backs Frigon and Jerry Niedermeier were described as "evasive, smallish speedsters and long-distance threats" in contrast to the power skills of Moran at fullback. ... Ends Grywalski and Fritz were listed as "dangerous targets" for the accurate passing of McCarthy, who served as senior class president. Lynch was the vice-president and back Ted See the graduation valedictorian. ... Earl Lavery was the junior varsity coach and first-year math teacher Harry Hyra the freshman coach.

SOME MEMORIES



BOB FRITZ '61

Fritz was having a productive season as a left end/inside linebacker before breaking an ankle in the fifth game of the season, a 20-6 win over Notre Dame-West Haven, forcing him to miss the last five games. Fritz went on to play all four years in the backfield on West Point's 150-pound team and was a captain there as well. After graduation he switched armed services and joined the Air Force, the last year that this option

was still allowed. He was trained as a pilot on the strategic bomber B-52 and was



married to his wife, Trish, in 1966 before serving two years in Vietnam (1969-70) as a forward air controller. After five years with the Air Force, he had a 23-year career in the FBI in addition to earning his law degree. Fritz recalls:

"We grew up on Homeland Street in the Stratfield section of Fairfield during a time when we did not have any organized football training, except for playing some serious backyard two-on-two or four-on-four games, which included neighbors and future teammates John Chiota and Jerry Niedermeier ... My parents just told me that I was going to Fairfield Prep and I did not really have any say in the conversation, that was it. My father even took me to a few of the Bassick-Ludlowe Thanksgiving Day games instead of Prep-Stamford at Boyle Stadium. ... Between Prep and West Point I certainly was fortunate to be well educated and well served by the two. ... I always wanted to go to West Point after taking a ride through the grounds before a game when I was in the seventh grade. ... I enjoyed playing at West Point. You couldn't weigh more than 154 pounds the Thursday before the game, but now I'm in the 204-pound range. ... I would liked to have wrestled at Prep, but it didn't have a team. It was good to hear that there's a great program there now."



DONALD MORAN '61

Moran, a "workhorse" fullback was the leading scorer with 14 touchdowns and 102 total points. He was the last of three brothers to attend Prep, following in the footsteps of Tom '55 and Jim "Red" Moran '57, who was a starter and key contributor along with Joe Sikorski, Dan Combs, Joe Dunn, Bob Valus and Steve Csontos on coach George Bisacca's 1956-57 basketball team that went 16-4, a record among the

state's best. Donald was a forward and joined Ed McCarthy and center Frank Grywalski to form the frontcourt on coach Vin Burns 13-6 basketball team that was the MBIAC co-champion in 1961. Moran's career at Boston College was highlighted by his 4-yard first-quarter TD run in a 21-14 upset of ninth-rated Syracuse in the season opener his senior year. The Orangemen featured Floyd Little and "Big Jim" Nance in the backfield. Knee injuries limited Moran's freshman season and he missed his sophomore season with a broken collarbone. ... Moran taught Business classes at Shelton High School for 35 years. Moran recalls:

"My parents were Irish immigrants and certainly were not well-off financially but they wanted my brothers and I to have a good education and made a lot of sacrifices to see that we went to Prep. ... Growing up in the South End of Bridgeport just a short distance from Seaside Park, I was able to get an early start by playing lots of sandlot football with kids from the neighborhood and friends from Sacred Heart parochial grammar school. We could always count on being able to get a game going and that really helped me out when I got to Prep because there were not any organized youth football programs at the time. I then had the proper fundamentals and techniques drilled into me by Joe Brosley, Earl Lavery and Father Brissette. ... I think the professional attitude of the New York Giants while they were practicing at Alumni Field rubbed off on us and we tried to do things just like they did, except for the drinking. Bob Skoronski, Gene's brother, was absolutely the best, a perfect gentleman, when he visited during the off-season. ... A few of us would be late for practices because Father McLaughlin kept the class until 4 o'clock teaching us the roots of Latin words. ... Father Brissette saying the pre-game Mass and then letting us know in no uncertain terms what we were doing wrong during the game and even showing us what we had to do physically. ... Don Lynch, who weighed 205 pounds our senior year at Prep, and I would work out at Prep after graduating from college. He had bulked up so much in preparing for his workout with the Redskins that I couldn't even get my arms around him. ... Unlike many of Prep's students, I lucked out and did not have to hitchhike to and from school because former Prep football player Lou Zowine, who later went to Fairfield U., lived right around the corner and I got a ride in or back with him or there was always the Gray Line bus."



LEO CARROLL '62

Leo's older brothers Phil '52, Walt '55 and Roger '59 also graduated from Prep. A 5-foot-8, 160-pound junior guard, he was inserted into the starting lineup the last four games when senior John Chiota suffered a knee injury. Carroll earned the nickname "Pepsodent Al" when he had a few teeth knocked out during the season. ... He has practiced law in Milford for the last 47 years. Carroll recalls:

"Our father went to Fordham College for two years and developed an affinity for the Jesuits, so four of five brothers went to Prep. My mother was always involved with the Bellarmine Mothers' Club. Time spent at Prep was the best single educational experience in my lifetime and that includes college at Villanova and law school at Boston College. My heart and mind still belong to the Jesuits. They taught us the tools so we knew how to think, reason, take tests, answer questions, read. We were well prepared to continue our education. To this day there's a bond between anybody that I still meet for the first time that went to Prep. The contacts that I have made through that bond over the years have proved invaluable, like Lou Zowine who played at Prep, coached briefly there and I practiced law with. ... Father Brissette on the sidelines, either yelling at us or saying the rosary. It wasn't anything new for us. It was a carryover from the classroom. But we all loved and respected him so much that the '61 Hearthstone Yearbook was dedicated in his honor. ... I was one of those undersized guards who were quick and able to lead the sweep, but we gave up a lot when it came to pass blocking. But Ed McCarthy was so good at leaving the pocket any pressure didn't really bother him. ... Coach Brosley was ahead of his time as far as his offensive schemes like the sweep. Our opponents had a tough time defending them. ... Our biggest rival was still Stamford while the ND-Bridgeport rivalry was just starting to take shape."



JOHN P. CHIOTA '61

Chiota was one of the "Watch-Charms variety" guards along with Win McCloughlin described in a *Bridgeport Post* preseason preview. They were instrumental in the potent ground attack as they pulled quickly off the line to lead the vaunted 'Prep Sweep'. A knee injury forced Chiota to miss the last three games of the season but the Prep line continued to dominate up front as Leo Carroll and Ron Santora filled in

at guards. Chiota graduated from Holy Cross and Fordham Law School and served as Judge of Probate for the Trumbull District covering the towns of Trumbull, Easton and Monroe from 1979-2013. Chiota recalls:

"At the start of the season, even with 13 experienced seniors returning, we didn't realize just how good we could be. There certainly weren't any thoughts of a state championship as one of our goals. Midway through the season we started to feel that we had the potential to be pretty good. We just wanted to go the rest of the way undefeated. Even after finishing 10-0 we did not realize that we had won the

first "official" state championship in school history. The importance in winning the Waskowitz Trophy did not set in until much later. ... Little did we know that our opening 24-16 win over Archbishop Stepinac would be our closest game as the outcome wasn't decided until we stopped a fourth-quarter comeback. Stepinac had rallied with two touchdowns and was looking to tie the score on a late drive but linebacker Don Moran, middle guard Ron Miazga and defensive backs Pete Frigon and Ed McCarthy shut down their passing attack. That set the tone for the rest of the season. After giving up eight points to Milford the following week, the defense only allowed six points against ND-West Haven the last eight games. ND-Bridgeport's six points came on a 78-yard interception return. ... Some of the Jesuits weren't afraid to use, let's say "physical incentives" to get their point across, but nobody complained. After missing a tackling assignment against Milford, coach Brosley took me out and grilled me. Father Brissette then took over. The former Boston College lineman showed me the proper way to tackle and before I knew it I was on my rear end, a fate also shared by some of my teammates. He was very inspirational, went to most of our practices and I'll always remember his weekly Masses before the games. ... Back Frank Gifford, defensive back Dick Lynch and defensive end Andy Robustelli of the New York Giants went out of their way to spend a few minutes with us either before or after their practices and vice versa for us. Lynch was a distant cousin of Don Lynch and showed us a few plays that we were able to use during the season. ... Shutting out traditional rival Stamford 35-0 was memorable. We had lost three straight before those big Thanksgiving Day crowds at Boyle Stadium so it was the senior class' first win over them. ... Trying to move the tackling sled with coach Lavery on board was virtually impossible, especially for us 160-pound guards.



FRANK GRYWALSKI '61

Grywalski, a 6-foot-4 right end on both sides of the ball, proved to be a tough target to defend when he teamed with 6-foot-2 quarterback Ed McCarthy on one of their patented jump passes, especially in the red zone. His two TD receptions played a big role in the impressive season-opening win against New York powerhouse Archbishop Stepinac. Frank was recruited by Maryland, Colgate, Army and Navy among others.

Serious knee injuries plagued him throughout his career at Boston College. In the yearbook Grywalski was listed as captain and a center on coach Vin Burns' basketball team. He was flanked in the frontcourt by forwards and football teammates McCarthy and Moran, as the 13-6 Jesuits were co-MBIAC champions and posted CIAC tourney wins over Bassick and Warde before losing to powerhouse Wilbur Cross. Grywalski recalls:

"Our family grew up a block-and-a-half from Prep and I started going to games when I was in 6th or 7th grade. Because of football, it was the only place that I wanted to go after watching players like all-staters Joe Sikorski, Frank Robotti, Dan Combs and Bill Long and other greats like QB Joe Witkewicz, Lou Zowine, Ken Maiocco, Billy Redgate, Bill "Punchy" Flanagan, John McGourthy, Crazylegs O'Toole, Bob Murphy, Jack Mahar and Vinnie Lynch. ... We had a great team with so many talented players. Any personal success I may have had was because we had so many weapons it was hard to defend one or two players. Ed McCarthy was a great QB and we had a special connection especially on the jump pass. The only bad thing about that play was getting hit by a couple linebackers after the catch. ... Everything was team oriented. There was no concept about individual stats, personal success or who was going to be all-state or All-MBIAC. ... I remember many games when Gene Skowronski and I had double-team assignments which were easy because of his devastating blocking. ... I think that Ron Miazga was the best center in the state and certainly could have been an all-stater as well. He was also a classmate of mine at St. Anthony's parochial grammar school. ... Our '60 season was the best time of my athletic life and I feel very fortunate to have played with so many great guys and be coached by legends like Joe Brosley, Earl Lavery and Father Eugene Brissette S.J. I loved being at Prep."





JERRY NIEDERMEIER '61

Niedermeier grew up in Fairfield's Stratfield section on Toilsome Hill Road with childhood neighbors John Chiota, Bob Fritz and Ed McCarthy and went to St. Peter's Parochial School on Colorado Avenue in Bridgeport. He earned a spot as a starter in the backfield by coming off the bench with a 6-yard TD run in the opener against Stepinac and stayed there the rest of the season. After Prep he entered the Jesuit Novitiate

at Shadowbrook in Lenox, Mass., and was a Jesuit priest for 11 years earning a law degree from Georgetown before leaving the Society in 1972. He came back to Prep for a year in 1967 teaching Latin and Religion and assisting coach Earl Lavery. ... He married his wife, Helen, in 1974 and they have three children and three grandchildren. For the last 33 years, he has served as a Magistrate Judge at the U.S. District Court in Burlington, Vt., and Boston and continues to do so part-time on Cape Cod. Niedermeier recalls:

"My father wanted me to go to Prep because, as the owner of the Beechmont Dairy on North Avenue in Bridgeport, he ran the school's food service and got to know many of the Jesuits really well and what they stood for. ... Our line was the best. The guards were fast at pulling and leading the sweep. The tackles and center were big and strong. Fullback Donald Moran would block for Pete Frigon or myself and open up huge holes. When we blocked for him the holes weren't that big. ... We were expected to play both ways but after the first game against Stepinac, Coach Brosley saw that my defense was lacking and replaced me in the secondary with Ted See. He was a much better tackler and defender than I was. It was a wise move. ... The Giants practicing at Alumni Field helped us out a lot. I was able to score a few TDs thanks to Dick Lynch showing us some new plays, including a swing pass that left me uncovered coming out of the backfield. Teams didn't know how to defend it. I loved it because I didn't really like being hit at 5-foot-8 and 150 pounds. ... Brosley and Lavery drilled us on the basics, especially when it came to tackling the proper way – not leading with the head, but with the shoulders and then wrapping your arms around the ball carrier. It cut down on the injuries."



GENE SKOWRONSKI '61

Gene was one of six Skowronskis to play football at Prep: brothers Bob Skoronski '51 and Ted '64 and cousins Walter '62, Bill '64 and John "Jay" '73. Gene went on to Harvard where he was the team MVP his senior year as a tackle and received honorable mention on the AP All-East team in 1964. Gene, a former head of the Board of Aldermen in Derby, continues to practice law from his office in Ansonia. Ted, who also played in

the Nutmeg Bowl, also went to Harvard and was the starting center when the headline read "Harvard Beats Yale 29-29" as the two rivals tied at Boston in 1968. The Elis were heavily favored and the outcome is a cherished one in Harvard history. Walter, a junior reserve lineman on the state championship team, went on to West Point, graduating with the Class of 1966. The Class was hard hit by the Vietnam War and was celebrated in the 1989 book, "The Long Gray Line." Walt underwent Airborne and Ranger training and served two tours in Vietnam, receiving two bronze stars. Gene Skowronski recalls: "I'll always remember Father Brissette saying the ritual team Mass at McAuliffe Hall on the Friday afternoon prior to the opener on Saturday against Archbishop Stepinac. As part of the service he expressed the thought that he had "a very good feeling about this team". For me that simple statement set the tone for the rest of the season and turned out to be a pivotal moment for what turned out to be the highlight of my athletic career. Father Brissette was a coach and our inspirational leader. ... Joe Brosley and Earl Lavery just drilled us in the fundamentals, especially on the line, and that training well served those who went on to play in college. Prep sent several players to Harvard and they were ready to play when they got there because of that training. ... I was very young when my brother Bob took me to the Thanksgiving Day games at Stamford's Boyle Stadium, where I saw him play as well as some great Prep teams with players like John Maiocco, Fred Judd, Jack Ringel and many more. I was hooked on Prep and it would be a dream come true if I could follow in their footsteps. I was never as nervous when I took the entrance exams in Berchman's Hall in 1957 and so excited when told I was accepted. ... Practices were brutal with lots of contact so we looked forward to Friday's walk-throughs in our sweats. Coach Brosley would get us in the right frame of mind by ending practice with a 100-yard sprint named after Saturday's opponent – The Harding Sprint, etc. It worked for 10 straight weeks. ... Being able to meet and watch the New York Giants practice. They were still accessible back then. The NFL wasn't as massive as it is today, there wasn't all the public relations side of it. A box of equipment was left behind when they broke camp. I found the biggest pair of cleats that I had ever seen and couldn't image anybody actually fitting into them. ... A cousin who went to Fairfield U. gave me a ride in from Derby in the morning, but after practices it could take

me as much as an hour hitch-hiking the 20-mile trip back home. Frank Grywalski would give me a ride to the Merritt Parkway Black Rock Turnpike entrance from where I would have to hitch to Route 8 and then up to Derby."



PART V

The Lavery Years (1965-1992)

Written by Lou Pintek '72

Head coach Joe Brosley stepped down after the 1964 season to assume the role of athletic director. Named as his successor was assistant Earl Lavery, a tackle on Prep's unbeaten team of 1949 who played three seasons at Holy Cross. Little did anyone realize at the time, but the Fairfield Prep program was about to embark on a remarkable 28-year run of success.

From 1965 until his retirement in 1992, Lavery won more games (231) than any coach in the state of Connecticut. He coached four undefeated, untied teams (1967, 1969, 1973 and 1977) plus another that finished unbeaten (1975). His teams won or shared 13 Metropolitan Bridgeport Interscholastic Athletic Conference (MBIAC) titles, won three state championships and had 14 teams finish in the state's Top 10.

His teams epitomized the old-school, in-your-face approach to football: run the ball, and when expected to pass, run it again. He made strategic use of the forward pass, often catching his opponents by surprise, and it usually resulted in sizable gains or the occasional touchdown. But the essence of Lavery's teams was defensive dominance.

His first team in 1965 was a portent of all the good years to come when it won the MBIAC with an 8-2 record. Led by quarterback Kevin Connolly and a host of offensive stalwarts, the Jesuits compiled 264 points. But what stood out just as significantly was the defense, which allowed only 59 points and had seven shutouts.

The following season brought seven more wins, a share of the MBIAC title and postseason honors to one of the premier linemen in Jesuits history. Tackle Tom Lyddy garnered all-MBIAC, all-state and Catholic All-American laurels for his prowess in the trenches. That team laid the groundwork for the first of Lavery's undefeated squads in 1967.

Prep went 10-0 with junior Brian Connolly at the helm, big Dave Revenaugh at fullback and a corps of talented receivers at Connolly's disposal such as ends Ron Bazza and Jim Walsh and halfbacks Bob Gulash and Mark Sulzycki. There was also a special-teams threat in barefoot kicker Mike Neidermeier.

"It was a very much a team, and the scoring was spread out," Gulash said. "We were well balanced and high scoring (30.6 points per game). "But we had two close games: a 7-6 win over Law and then [the following week] a 12-6 win over Rippowam [with all-stater Bobby Valentine in the backfield]."

"There were no prima donnas [on the team]," Connolly said. "Earl wouldn't have stood for that and [assistant coach] Larry O'Toole would have taken them down to size. The team played as a team. We were well prepared, well coached, and had confidence and fortitude -- all instilled by Earl Lavery.

"Earl always expected 100% out of his players. He never yelled, but had a stare that was louder than any voice could be. I remember vividly the dreaded game-film day. If someone missed a block, tackle or messed up something, Earl would just keep playing that scene over and over, preempted by a sarcastic comment. The player never made that mistake again."

SPOTLIGHT: 1967 (10-0)

RESULTS: Bassick 46-18; Central 40-14; Stratford 34-0; Notre Dame-Bridgeport 47-0; Law 7-6; Rippowam 12-6; Harding 28-7; Milford 41-14; Bunnell 40-6; Stamford 41-14

HIGHLIGHTS: First undefeated team under Earl Lavery. ... Offensive juggernaut scored 306 points.

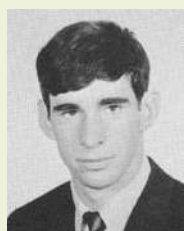


BOB GULASH '68

Halfback who formed triple threat backfield with late co-captains Mark Sulzycki and Dave Revenaugh. ... Now an attorney.

Candidly speaking: "We had lost a lot of seniors [from the '66 team], so [coach] Lavery completely re-did our offense. We went to what you called then a pro-set offense with a fullback [Revenaugh], halfbacks [Gulash and Sulzycki] and a flanker. It

was a less conservative brand of offense that incorporated each week a new, yet-to-be-tried play [such as an end-around]. By and large, Lavery was a fairly conservative coach. But we became a more innovative offense. We scored on the first play in four or five games. ... A lot of us went both ways. I was always considered fast, so I was on offense, defense, kickoff returns, punt returns, kickoffs and punts. ... We also had a lighter, faster line, with [junior] Frank Luysterborghs at tackle. ... We were a really good team, a great bunch of people."



BRIAN CONNOLLY '69

Quarterback who was in his second of three seasons as the Jesuits' starter. ... Went to Wake Forest and was an anesthesiologist at New Milford Hospital until his retirement in 2014. ... He and his wife moved to Palm City, Fla. in 2015, where he now races sailboats and plays golf.

Candidly speaking: "With regard to the 1967 team, I think it can be best summed up by a newspaper quote after one of the

games: 'They came to play, and play they did.' ... The team was not a very big team nor did we have many returning lettermen that year. But the team was fast, smart and had a ton of desire. Earl saw this and designed the offense and the defense to take advantage of the assets and minimize the deficiencies. That was one of Earl's great talents -- he didn't form a team to a style; he developed a style to fit the team. Subsequently the players always felt comfortable and confident at their position and it showed come game day. ... I played on other great Prep teams, but the 1967 team was special. On paper we didn't look that good, but we came to play, and play we did!"



FRANK LUYSTERBORGHs '69

Two-way tackle who was in his first year as a starter on offense. ... Spent 28 seasons as a head football coach, three at Milford High and 25 at Law before he retired in 2010.

Candidly speaking: "We were a young team. We had no returning starters on offense except for (quarterback) Brian Connolly, who started as a sophomore, and on defense, just [Dave] Revenaugh and myself on the defensive line. We

really didn't know what we had until we got going [with the season], but we had a very talented backfield with Bob Gulash (halfback), Revenaugh at fullback [and] Mark Sulzycki. ... We used to run off-tackle a lot, that was Earl's play, and every once in a while we used to [fake it] and Connolly would hook up with Sulzycki running a post [pattern] for a touchdown. ... To me, the most memorable game was the Law game. They were our big rival then, and me being from Milford made it special. We won 7-6 and [Mike] Neidermeier made the deciding extra point, and I believe there had been a death in his family that week, so I was very happy for him. I still get emotional thinking about it. ... Larry O'Toole was Earl's [only] assistant coach, and he would always get us ready. He was a very integral part of our success as well."

The following season Prep reeled off nine consecutive wins (for a 23-game undefeated streak) before being upset by Stamford on Thanksgiving Day (Prep and the Black Knights played every Thanksgiving from 1947 until 1978).

Connolly graduated after that season, but backup Chuck Lemieux took over the offense in 1969 and the result was a second 10-0 season in three years. That team opened with five consecutive shutouts and notched six in all. It also exacted a measure of revenge against Stamford for the previous season's defeat by thrashing the Black Knights 36-14.

SPOTLIGHT: 1969 (10-0)

RESULTS: Bassick 50-0; Central 20-0; Harding 28-0; Law 6-0; Bunnell 30-0; Rippowam 34-14; Notre Dame-Bridgeport 27-14; Stratford 33-0; Milford 26-14; Stamford 36-14

HIGHLIGHTS: Opened the season with five straight shutouts and had six in all. ... Outscored the opposition 290-56.



CHUCK LEMIEUX '71

First of two years as Prep's starting quarterback. ... Now a licensed physical therapist with offices in Fairfield.

Candidly speaking: "A bunch of us started working out in the winter [of 1968]. It was very businesslike. ... I was a junior that year and I remember we had a ritual before every game where me, Kevin Beardsworth, Dan Davis and Pete Brawley would walk up the path to the field. Pete was always nervous, talking about the pressure to win, but it was fun. We played very well. ... Dan Davis was in his first year as a starter at end, we had a good offensive line with [Ken] Pruzinsky, [John] Friar, [Walter] Welsh, and Dave Lincoln at center. ... We were the best team in the state, I think. There was no [official] poll then, and Earl [Lavery] always said it's gonna be what it's gonna be. But we were undefeated and unscored on the first [five] games. ... We just went out there and did our jobs."



JOHN FRIAR '71

Junior played three positions that season: offensive line, tight end and placekicker. ... Went on to play three seasons for Harvard as a guard and middle linebacker. ... Now a business professor at Northeastern.

Candidly speaking: "Basically we had a bunch of horses. We physically beat up everybody we played. We had six shutouts. ... [Rich] Ryan and [Ken] Pruzinsky were all-state that year, the

guards were all-league and we had our captain, Dave Lincoln, at center. [Greg] Gintoff was our fullback, [Paul] Mitchell was a speedy running back -- we punished the hell out of people."

Prep extended its regular season winning streak in 1970 to 17 games before being surprised by Rippowam in Week 8. The Jesuits bounced back to beat Stratford the following week before heading back to Boyle Stadium. That game, however, would be no ordinary Turkey Day tilt.

In the days before playoff games decided champions on the field, the No. 1 team in the state was voted on by sportswriters. That season Stamford had one of its best teams ever, led by quarterback John Darling and two all-stars: halfback Jim Cobb and split end Bob Augustyn. That's why a crowd estimated at more than 10,000 shoehorned its way into Boyle Stadium for what many in the school believe was the greatest game in Prep history, given the circumstances.

"It had snowed lightly the night before," quarterback Chuck Lemieux recalled. "So I thought it was pretty cool to play a game with a little snow on the field. It made you feel like a football player."

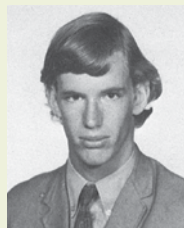
The Black Knights had won the FCIAC championship the preceding week by drubbing a talented New Canaan team by 33 points. They entered the game as the consensus No. 1 team in Connecticut. Stamford scored on its opening possession, but the MBIAC champs surprisingly went ahead 13-7 with 2:11 left in the first half and held that lead midway through the fourth quarter. Stamford got the ball at its own 47 with 7:09 left and began moving downfield. A desperation Darling-to-Augustyn completion got the ball to the Prep 25 and a few plays later Stamford had a first-and-goal at the Prep 6. Two running plays moved the ball to the 1. Then Prep's defense, anchored by Walter Welsh, Rich Ryan and Greg Gintoff up front, stopped Cobb on two consecutive running plays and the Jesuits hung on for a most improbable victory.

"Earl earned his money that year," kicker John Friar recalled. "We had a lot of injuries -- Gintoff got hurt, Welsh got hurt -- so Lavery had to do stuff he never did before. He moved guys to different positions -- Kevin Beardsworth went from guard to fullback, I had to wear two different (numbered) shirts because I played line and end -- and that changed up the offense so we threw more. [Quarterback] Chuck Lemieux got all-state that year."

The triumph was both euphoric and bittersweet for Prep's coaches, players and fans. When the final state poll was released, Stamford was still the No. 1 team in the state and Prep No. 3. To this day, Lavery cannot fathom how that occurred.

"Different things happened that year," he said. "We had one defeat to Rippowam, but we came around and played really well after that. [The goal-line stand] was great, but the only thing I was disappointed in was that Stamford was voted No. 1 after we beat them."

SPOTLIGHT: 1970 Thanksgiving game (Fairfield Prep 13, No. 1 Stamford 7)

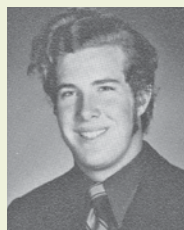


COLAN CONNOLLY '72

Running back and defensive back. ... Recorded a key end-zone interception to thwart a Stamford scoring drive and scored the go-ahead touchdown late in the first half. ... Attended Colorado State ... Sold medical equipment for 35 years and is now retired.

Candidly speaking: "The 1970 Thanksgiving game was a gift to Prep. The previous year we had gone 10-0 and did not get the top

ranking in the state. Stamford High was rated No. 1 in Connecticut. We had a good team and had to work through a lot of injuries, especially to [Greg] Gintoff and [Walter] Welsh. Both of those guys were able to play in the Thanksgiving game and made significant contributions to the win.... It was by far the largest crowd we played in front of and the Prep fans were very supportive. It was a team effort that enabled us to win the game. Al Stanczyk and I were voted the co-MVPs of the game and that could not have pleased me more. Al was the best football player I had ever played with, and one of the finest gentlemen and friends I have known in my life. ... We did not get the No. 1 ranking in the state, but everyone on the team knew something special happened that day."



TOM SHEA '73

Sophomore center who went on to succeed Bill Pinto as head coach in 2010. ... He won 11 games in 2013 as Prep made the CIAC Class LL championship game. ... Now on the Prep faculty as an English teacher.

Candidly speaking: "[Stamford was] undefeated and appeared invincible. We were 8-1 but [had] lost to a weak Rippowam team. I think it was the first week that Walter Welsh and Greg

Gintoff had returned from injuries. The game [was] particularly important for Welsh since he lived in Stamford. ... The game came down to that epic goal-line stand. They had first-and-goal from the 6 and Prep stopped them four plays in a row, led by Welsh and Gintoff. They had been so disappointed in missing most of their senior year and so this game was a great personal satisfaction for them. And one of the most memorable moments in Prep football history."

Prep's next great team came three years later, with the nephew of NFL legend George Halas at quarterback. Senior Paul Halas, whose brother Wally had started for Prep's first state championship basketball team in 1968-69, had a banner season on both sides of the ball, named all-MBIAC at quarterback and all-state as a safety. Helping to protect him was a standout offensive tackle in Raymond Cal, another all-MBIAC and all-state winner. Prep won 11 games for the first time in school history and capped off a perfect season by defeating Harding in the first MBIAC championship game and then Stamford on Thanksgiving. The Jesuits scored 341 points, 11 shy of the then-record 352 set by the undefeated 1960 team.

Halas recalled a quote by Lavery in the Bridgeport Post high school football preview edition in which the coach said, "We'll be small in size, and small in numbers, but we'll show up on Saturdays."

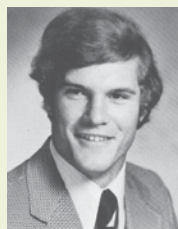
"At the time there were nine Saturday games on the schedule, plus the Thanksgiving Classic at Boyle Stadium," Halas said. "But as it turned out there were 11 Saturday games, as the team played Harding for the MBIAC championship on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, and the T-Day game was moved to the following Saturday. ... We all know that it would have been completely out of character for Earl to expect or predict a perfect season, but his comment sure turned out to be prophetic!"



SPOTLIGHT: 1973 (11-0)

RESULTS: Bullard-Havens 55-0; Bunnell 35-0; Bassick 35-6; St. Joseph 26-0; Stratford 7-6; Bunnell 30-0; Notre Dame-Bridgeport 33-6; Harding 29-8; Kolbe 40-6; Central 30-6; Harding 21-6 (MBIAC championship game); Stamford 40-26

HIGHLIGHTS: Offensive powerhouse scored 341 points in posting first undefeated 11-game season. ... Won first MBIAC championship game, beating Harding 21-6.



PAUL HALAS '74

Top two-way player as all-MBIAC quarterback and all-state safety. ... Also handled the place-kicking chores. ... Played college ball at Harvard, where he was an all-Ivy safety his senior season and led the league in interceptions. ... Also a three-year starter in baseball and captain of Ivy League champs in 1978. ... Won Harvard's scholar athlete award, graduated with honors from Harvard College and Harvard Law

School. ... Embarked on a 35-year legal career, the last 11 with GE, culminating in role as Executive Counsel Mergers and Acquisitions at GE HQ. ... Recently returned to long time family home in Fairfield. ... He and wife Jackie have 5 grown children.

Candidly speaking: "Key games were the third and fourth of the season as we had to avenge our only two (and very tough) losses from the season before. St. Joe's had replaced Notre Dame [then located in Bridgeport] as our chief rival by surprising us in a very physical game in 1972; we couldn't let their crowing stand for long and dispatched them 26-0 at home. The next week was a different story as we traveled to Longbrook Park to take on the Stratford team that had gone unbeaten the previous year. Nick Giaquinto had graduated but Ed Rooney, Jack DeLaura and others were a formidable bunch. They took a 6-0 lead but our defense stopped Rooney's attempted two-point conversion run inches short of the line. In the third quarter Rich Kondub blocked a Stratford punt deep in Stratford territory. I was able to sneak across the goal line and kick the extra point (never a sure thing for me!) and we prevailed

7-6. ... The sailing was pretty smooth the rest of the way until the MBIAC championship game in Kennedy Stadium. Harding had great athletes (Larry Rudd, John Santos, Dominick Lewis), but we had better coaches. A great call by Duke [Lavery] on the first play of the game was destined to result in a 75-yard touchdown pass, but our runner couldn't believe how free he was, turned his head to look for pursuing defenders and dropped





'75 VARSITY SQUAD.

First row: Pintek, Carroll, Vigilane, Davis (Co-Captain), Stanley (Co-Captain), Euerle, Kollar, Crist, Morrissey (Manager). Second row: Lenhart, Russ, McLeod, Webb, Tarczali, Mola, Axon, Miller, Bonney. Third row: McLeod, Quinn, Fitzsimmons, O'Hara, DiTullio, Bourgeois, Mulrooney, Horan, Schultz (Trainer). Fourth row: Boyle, Salvati, Kupchik, Davis, Mauritz, Cingari, Bradshaw, Lavery (Coach), Hildebrandt (Asst. Coach), Mastroni (Asst. Coach).

the ball. Harding recovered -- we didn't for quite some time! Down 7-0 at the half the Duke called for an onside kick to open the second. It worked perfectly, we steamrolled to our first touchdown, then took the ball away on Harding's next two possessions, drove it in and won 21-6. ... In the last game in the state that season (there were no state playoffs), we blew away a pretty good Stamford team, amassing a 33-6 lead before coasting to a 40-26 final. Believe me, Duke didn't like that "coasting" aspect and reinserted the starting defense to impose some discipline and send a message to the underclassmen who would follow us. ... We would have loved to play the other two unbeaten teams in the state that year, Ansonia (9-0) and Derby (8-0), led by Roger Ings and John Pagliaro, respectively, but we had to settle for a third-place ranking in the final polls. We still believe we didn't get appropriate respect in the individual honors either, as only I made first team all-state and several of our teammates got snubbed even at the MBIAC level. Ray Cal was as good a lineman as there was in the state; he made second team but deserved first. Mike Dolan [was] a great leader; Gerry Norman, Bob Albert, Andy Karpie playing great at center at about 160 pounds ... Those slightly sour grapes have blended over time with that sweetest of seasons to produce a very fine wine, greatly aged of course, but always pleasant to reflect on and savor."

The 1975 team was Lavery's second to win 11 games and fourth to go unbeaten, but a turnover-laden 8-8 tie with St. Joseph in mid-season prevented the Jesuits from an unprecedented 12-0 campaign.

"The week before, we played Central in a quagmire," recalled tackle Gary Pintek, who formed part of the defensive line with all-state performer Joe Miller. "The following week Alumni Field was unplayable, so the [St. Joseph] game was moved to a Monday and we played at Tomlinson [Junior High]. "We were flat."

"We outrushed them something like 300 yards to 40," all-MBIAC linebacker Pete Tarczali said. "But we fumbled three times inside their 10. The ball was just rolling around on the ground all day and [the Cadets] were falling on it."

"What most people don't recall is that near the end of that game, St. Joseph lined up for a 30-yard field goal and they chunked it."

Nonetheless, that team set a school record with eight shutouts -- the last a 21-0 whitewashing of Harding in the MBIAC title game -- and allowed a measly 42 points.

"We were the best defense in the state," Miller said, "and I believe our first-team defense was unbeatable."

Tarczali noted that Warde scored its 10 points against the second unit in the opener and then-Notre Dame of Bridgeport scored its two touchdowns in the fourth quarter. That meant the first unit was scored on in only two games: the tie against the Cadets and in the season finale against Stamford (12).

"We had a good button-down defense," Tarczali said. "Our first seven was good, but nobody got behind our back four ... and they could *hit*." [Senior] Scott McLeod didn't make all-MBIAC, but he was fast. He had to be the best or second best safety in the state."

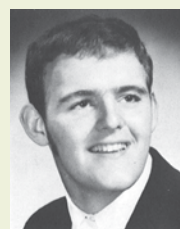
1975 VARSITY SCOREBOARD

PREP VS ...

Warde	28-10	Central.....	30-0	Bunnell.....	20-0
Bullard Havens...	20-0	St. Joseph	8-8	Bassick.....	30-0
Harding	7-0	Stratford.....	39-0	Harding	21-0
Kolbe.....	26-0	N. Dame (Bpt) ...	35-12	Stamford	22-12

SPOTLIGHT: 1975 (11-0-1)

HIGHLIGHTS: Unbeaten in Prep's first 12-game schedule. ... Only blemish was an 8-8 tie with St. Joseph. ... Holds school record with eight shutouts. ... Allowed just 42 points while scoring 289.

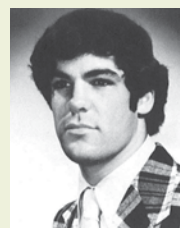


JOE MILLER '76

All-State tackle and Catholic All-American. ... Went on to play collegiately at Holy Cross. ... Now retired and devoting his life to caring for the hungry and homeless.

Candidly speaking: "We were the first team at Prep to play a 12-game schedule. We finished 11-0-1 and were ranked third in the state. ... We had a great year, and our defense only allowed 42 points. But what most people don't remember is

that our first-team defense gave up only [20] points. ... We were the best defense in the state and I believe [that] defense was unbeatable."



PETE TARCZALI '76

All-MBIAC linebacker... one of a dozen Jesuits named to the all-league first team that season. ... Now working in commercial construction in Tampa, Fla.

Candidly speaking: "[Fellow linebacker] George Webb and I started as juniors and came back to start as seniors. We were a senior-heavy team, but still the majority of us went both ways. ... Our center, guard, tackle and tight end were all-MBIAC, as

was [halfback] Billy Stanley, [the] co-player of the year. And [linebacker] Dennis Axon was all-MBIAC, too. We dominated. ... With Earl, you earned your right to play for him."

After a 10-2 season and state championship game loss to East Hartford in 1976 -- the first season of CIAC title games -- Lavery would have one more perfect team in 1977. However, it was atypical from the previous standout teams in that the Jesuits used the passing game more frequently to take advantage of the talents of strong-armed quarterback Al Arison.

Arison has been acknowledged as one of the school's pre-eminent passers -- he was

named all-MBIAC – but he was a dual threat as a punter who changed field position often with a 42-yard average. It was also the first Prep team to be crowned a CIAC state champion after a 22-6 victory over Xavier.

“Our defense was unbelievable,” said Joe Lombardo, Prep’s all-MBIAC middle linebacker. “We had six or seven guys who came back (from the ’76 season) to start. We had a really great team. We were a unit, and that’s why we won.”

SPOTLIGHT: 1977 (11-0)

RESULTS: Harding 7-0; Central 23-0; Bassick 40-6; Bunnell 34-0; Bullard-Havens 27-8; Stratford 29-13; Notre Dame-Bridgeport 60-0; St. Joseph 27-6; St. Joseph 21-0 (MBIAC championship game); Stamford 14-8; Xavier 22-6 (CIAC championship game)

HIGHLIGHTS: Jesuits defense notched five shutouts.



BOB MEYERS '78

Linebacker at Prep who went on to play cornerback for coach Jack Bicknell at Maine. ... Transferred to Fairfield and played club football for Fran Lynch. ... Was inducted into the Fairfield University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000. ... Member of the Fairfield County Football Officials Association for the past 10 years.

Candidly speaking: “I was one of the seniors on this great team.

We had a very close group of players who were unselfish and willing to do what Mr. Lavery needed for success. We did not call him “Coach” out of respect. ... We played in the first night game at Prep that season. Portable lights were brought in for the game. ... We had a great defense, a great punter [Al Arison] and a very tough group of kids who were very physical, to put it nicely. ... We were 8-0 when we faced St. Joe’s (8-0 also), whom local radio station WICC favored. We beat them 27-6, then we beat them again in the MBIAC championship [game] the next week 21-0. That year was the second year of the present-day CIAC playoff system. We were underdogs again to Xavier, who seemed to do better in the state polls historically. Before the game Mr. Lavery, who is a man of few words, gave a rare pre-game famous speech “Windstorm” that fired up our team. We went out and beat Xavier 22-6. That win was for all of the alumni who never got a chance to play Xavier on the field. His players carried Mr. Lavery off the field that day in New Haven. ... Two of the more successful plays that season were: Straight T 44 and Pro Right Half Back Split. ... Father Brissette would say Mass for the team before every game. He was a special priest who played football at Boston College.”



JOE LOMBARDO '78

All-MBIAC and all-county middle linebacker. ... Played collegiately at Southern Connecticut. ... works for UPS.

Candidly speaking: “[Coach Lavery] saw some talent in me. I started out as a defensive tackle, but he moved me to middle linebacker and I ran with it. I averaged three or four sacks a game. He said ‘All you gotta do is stop the run.’ ... He saw talent, but he was very strict. He always [got] his point across.

After I graduated they went back to the nose guard and two tackles inside. ... A coach can make you or break you, but everybody loved Earl.”



TIM ROACH '78

Running back/defensive back who went on to play at Fairfield University. ... Works as a sales specialist at IHS Markit in New York City and lives in Fairfield with his wife and 3 kids.

Candidly speaking: “What I remember most about the ’77 team was that we were a team of undersized overachievers. I made some great lifetime friends that I still speak to all the time: Jeff Smith, Al Arison, Tom and Bob Meyers, Joe Lombardo and

Larry LeBlanc. John DiTullio and Dave Fitzsimmons were the captains. ... We played Notre Dame in the first night game at Prep. We were really fired up and played a near perfect game, winning 60-0. Our big rivalry was against St. Joe’s and we beat them on consecutive weekends; the second game was for the MBIAC title. We had a tough game vs. Stamford on Thanksgiving that we won 14-8. Next was the state championship vs. Xavier at Southern Connecticut. Xavier must have suited up 100 players; we had about 35 and they were making all kinds of noise during pre-game warm-ups as we

were waiting in the locker room when coach Lavery (a man of few words) issued the classic [line]: “All that noise is about as good as a fart in a windstorm.” We beat Xavier 22-6 to complete an undefeated season. ... I’ll always remember Friday after ‘walk-throughs’ after Fr. Brissette would say Mass. ... Coach Lavery was a great coach and disciplinarian. We didn’t run any complicated offense, but we drilled every day and he ran a tight ship. Ironically one of our assistant coaches in ’77 was Tom Shea, or “T Willie” as we called him.”

The 1979 and 1980 teams also flirted with perfection, going 10-1 and 11-1, respectively, with back-to-back MBIAC titles. To date, though, the 1997 team is the last Prep squad to finish the season unblemished.

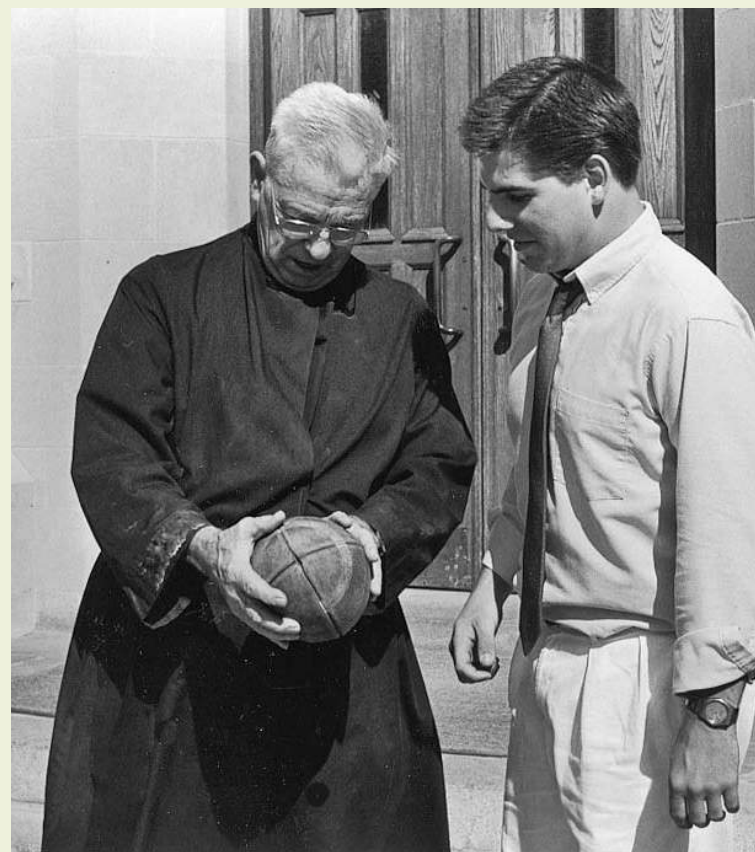
Another state title followed two years later, despite a two-loss regular season (both to St. Joseph), as Prep knocked off perennial FCIAC power Greenwich 19-6.

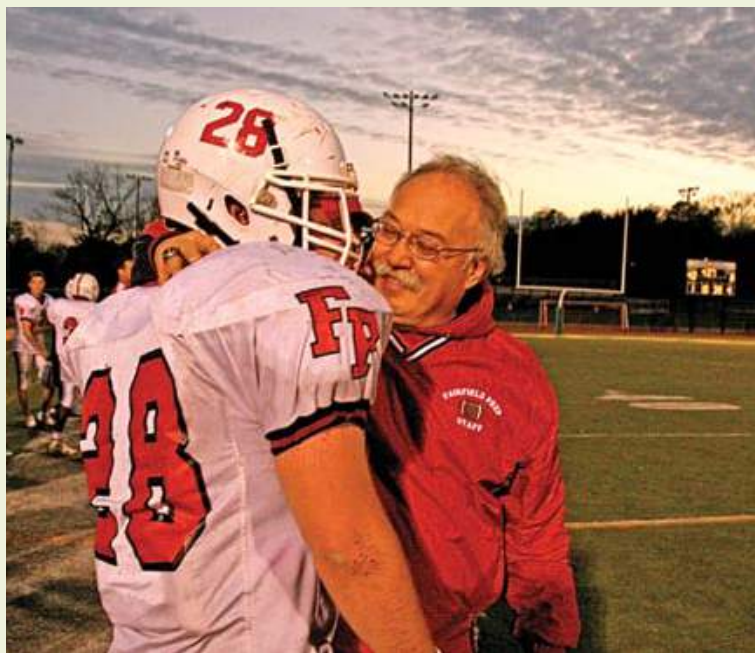
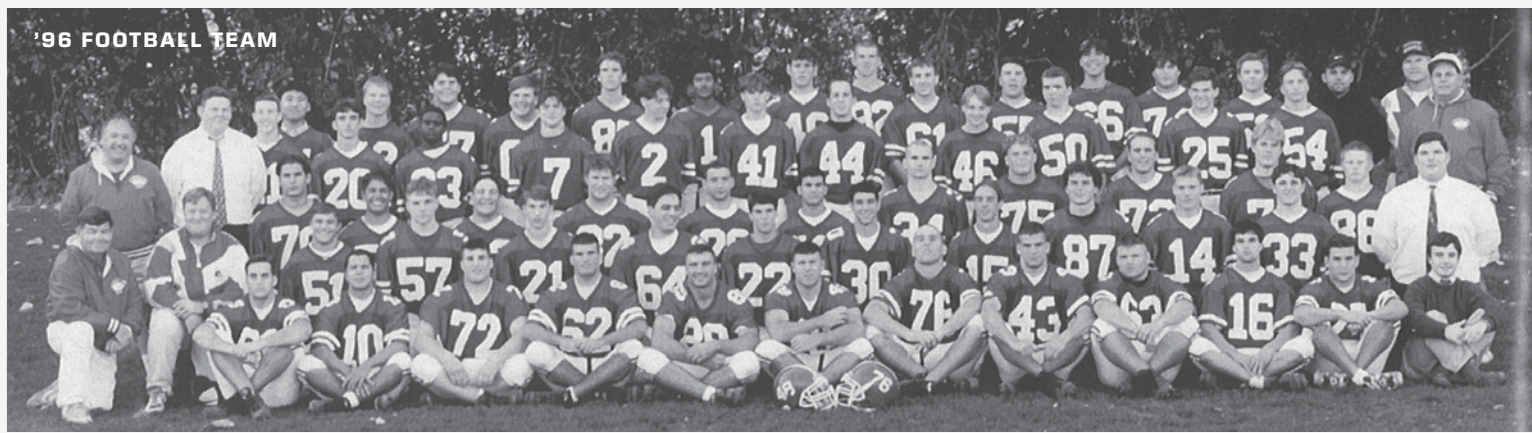
The Jesuits won their last MBIAC title in the final season of the league in 1984. Prep’s only two losses were non-league defeats, but that year was memorable because Prep stayed home on Thanksgiving for the first time because its opponent – Stamford Catholic – qualified for the FCIAC championship game on the same day, so the Turkey Day tilt was ultimately cancelled.

Beginning in 1985, the Jesuits kicked off their 30+ year association with the newly formed All Catholic Conference (nee All Connecticut Conference; forerunner of the Southern Connecticut Conference) with an 8-3 record. Although many of their opponents were situated in the central or northeastern part of the state, Prep’s rivalry with St. Joseph remained intact until well after Lavery’s final season in 1992. His best year in the ACC came in 1988 when the Jesuits finished 9-1-1 and won their last state title under “The Duke”, beating Greenwich 7-0.

I had a lot of good teams and a lot of good players. It’s tough to decide which team was better,” Lavery said. “I was always very pleased with my associate coaches like Rich Magdon and Bob Mastroni, before he left for Bunnell. They certainly get a lot of credit.

“I enjoyed every minute of it. I had a lot of great kids.”





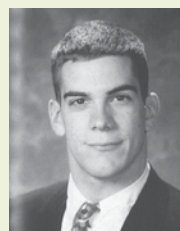
"We told [the team], if we were going to win, we were going to have to make big plays," Magdon said after that game. "Our kids are confident, not cocky. There's a difference. They respect the [heck] out of [Cheshire] ... but they're not afraid of anybody."

"All of the qualities he possessed could be recognized instantly," all-state tight end Ryan Utzler said about Magdon. "He loved the game, instilled mental and physical toughness in his players, was a comedian, a disciplinarian, but at the same time genuinely cared about your development as a young man. He could tear you a new one for an assignment mistake one minute, but after practice make you laugh hysterically, hug you, and then fire you up to do better tomorrow. It is impossible to pull all of that off simultaneously, but somehow he did it."

"It's hard to do justice on paper to the Prep football experience and the amazing coaches and teammates, but I appreciated the chance to give it a try, Utzler added. "RIP Coach Mags -- you will be missed dearly."

SPOTLIGHT: Oct. 4, 1996

(No. 3 Fairfield Prep 14, No. 1 Cheshire 6)



JASON WUCHISKI '97

Running back who played all four seasons. ... Had 13 carries for 72 yards and scored the decisive touchdown. ... He also had a 56-yard kick return in that game. ... Won the Mark Masiello Award as team MVP in '96. ... Now a partner for a real estate consulting firm.

Candidly speaking: "The Cheshire game was a really special night. Richie and his staff had us ready to play that game. There was no way we were losing on that night. The lead-up to the game and ultimately our victory was special to be a part of, but I'll tell you this: After we watched film of the game on that Sunday morning he told us, 'Great win, but don't let it define this team.' We were only a handful of games into the season and he made sure we regained focus on the next game."



RYAN UTZLER '97

Two-time all-state and all-SCC tight end/linebacker. ... Earned all-East honors from PrepStar magazine and Prep Football Report. ... Had 79 receptions for 1,012 yards and eight touchdowns in three seasons. ... Caught 41 balls as a junior. ... Also a four-year starter on the baseball team. ... Went on to play for Boston College, starting at tight end, fullback and linebacker. ... Was the starting fullback for 10 games in his

final season, including BC's Aloha Bowl appearance vs. Arizona State. ... Now does business development for Dell EMC.

Candidly speaking: "A key part of any memorable football experience is winning, and Cheshire was flawless in that area for many years. In 1996 [the Rams] came to Prep with a 49-game win streak under their belt. During warmups they rang a very loud, annoying cowbell as they encroached on your side of the field in an attempt to intimidate you. That prompted [Chris] Tymniak to turn around and let them know, 'That's enough, it ends

PART VI

The Magdon Years (1993-2008)

Written by Lou Pintek '72

The appointment of Rich Magdon as head coach in 1993 wasn't particularly surprising given his long affiliation with the program as an assistant coach. When Lavery decided to hang it up after the 1992 season, Magdon seemed the logical choice to provide the program with the continuity it needed to move forward. Magdon compiled a respectable 96-69-2 record in 16 seasons, but his tenure was not without speedbumps.

His first season was one of on-the-job training, as it were. It was reflected in the team's 4-5-1 record, its first losing season since 1963. Slowly, the program began to rebound while navigating through an increasingly difficult SCC schedule. Gone were the days of the MBIAC, where the divide between the "haves" and "have nots" was clearly defined. There were fewer bad teams; in fact, most SCC teams were talented and a few extremely so. Magdon compiled a 9-2 record in 1996 and then came two more sub-.500 seasons.

It was in that 1996 season that Magdon had his signature win and the team posted its biggest victory in more than two decades when the then-third-ranked Jesuits snapped nationally ranked and No. 1 Cheshire's 49-game winning streak on Oct. 4 at Alumni Field. Running backs Drew Reilly and Jason Wuchiski scored touchdowns in the third quarter to give Prep a 14-0 lead and the defense held on for a 14-6 decision before an estimated 5,000 spectators.

tonight! ... We had every right to be intimidated by them given the tremendous track record they earned, but Coach Magdon had us better mentally and physically prepared that night. ... When we scored with Wuchiski's run the confidence grew, and we knew our defense was stout. [Mike] McKelvey, [Nick] Bilotta, [Anthony] DiCocco, [Roland] Newmark, [John] Heffers and [Jesse] Marraffa were very tough against the run -- which was Cheshire's style. When we were able to grind it out and hold on 14-6, the crowd stormed the field, and that is still my personal favorite football memory to this day. ... Being fortunate enough to continue playing until 23 at memorable stadiums, there's some relative perspective, and while those were great experiences, the job at that stage was to tune out your surroundings and focus. It's just different and less personal. This is why I appreciate that night against Cheshire more now and can still remember every detail. When the crowd stormed the field at Prep, you were surrounded by family, friends, teammates and classmates -- people that mattered to you."

Magdon finally got Prep back in the championship conversation in 1999 as the Jesuits went 10-1 and qualified for the CIAC playoffs. However, Greenwich eliminated them handily by a 35-14 count. It took another two-year dropoff before Prep fashioned a 10-1 record in 2002, reeling off 10 straight wins. However, that season ended in heartbreak as eventual state champion West Haven ruined both Prep's Thanksgiving and its state playoff hopes by beating the Jesuits 29-14.



ED MCCARTHY '03

All-state tight end/defensive end. ... Won the Brissette Award as Prep's top student-athlete in 2003. ... Went on to a distinguished college career at Yale, where he played four seasons on the offensive line and was an AP and Walter Camp All-American his senior year. ... Also a finalist for the Draddy Award, given to the nation's top scholar-athlete. ... Was Ivy League Rookie of the Year in 2003. ... Now practicing law in

Shanghai.

Candidly speaking: "Growing up, I worshipped Prep football. Both my dad [the late Dick McCarthy '64] and my uncle [the late Ed McCarthy '61] played, and I grew up going to games on Friday nights. I'll never forget watching from the stands when the Ryan Utzler-led team beat Cheshire, breaking their 49-game winning streak. I could not have been more excited to play football at Prep. ... I truly loved playing for Prep. Coach Magdon did an amazing job of making us understand how special our experience was. He was our coach, but he was also our friend. Nothing was better than hearing your name called over the loudspeaker being told to leave class, that your presence was required in coach Magdon's office, and then spending the next hour hanging out with Coach and talking about life. ... We had a lot of success our senior year, going 10-1. We were greatly aided by the weather. It rained almost every Friday and at that time we still played on grass, so the field was always a mudpit. This played to our strengths, as we had a huge offense line led by Tom Bourdeau (I played tight end), and a great stable of backs including Kevin Ryan, Shaun Hunte and Andrew Urquhart. Our biggest win was against ND-West Haven, [which] at the time was undefeated and coming off a state championship from the previous year. We were undefeated heading into our Thanksgiving Day game with West Haven, which we sadly lost and missed out on the LL playoffs. While we came up short, Coach Magdon's wisdom and numerous aphorisms still have an impact on me. One that I loved was, 'A loser makes an excuse, and a winner finds a solution.' Words to live by!"



ANDREW URQUHART '04

All-state fullback/linebacker. ... Currently resides in Boston with his wife and daughter.

Candidly speaking: "Richie was a great man and I have a lot of fond memories of playing for him at Prep. ... I will always remember Coach Magdon for the way that he cared about all his players. ... Winning and losing were important, but he did not put winning above all. He had a great understanding and

perspective of what high school football was, which ironically probably contributed to his success. When a player got hurt, he always walked out onto the field to check on [him]. ... I wouldn't classify Coach Magdon as an Xs and Os coach, but he got the best out of his players because he had our respect and love and [we] would run through a wall for him. ... Out of all the coaches and teams I have played for, Rich Magdon and Fairfield Prep football are two of my fondest and proudest."

It was a strange year in 2003. Prep had its most explosive offense ever, setting school records for points in a game (75) and in a season (369). But two losses -- 9-7 to Xavier and another lopsided defeat to West Haven on Thanksgiving -- prematurely ended the Jesuits' season at 9-2.

The quirky part of Magdon's tenure was that after a really good season, there was usually a down year or two before another strong one emerged. Such was the case in 2006. Prep went 9-3, qualified for the state playoffs but was whitewashed by Greenwich in the Class LL semifinals.

Prep went against form the following season by going 8-2 and ending a six-game losing streak to West Haven in the process. But it wasn't enough to qualify for the playoffs. It also proved to be Magdon's last hurrah, as he retired the following year after a 3-7 record.

Most Recently (2009-2016)

In a surprise to many, the school hired Bill Pinto as Magdon's replacement, and he lasted just one forgettable 0-10 season in 2009 as the Jesuits went winless for only the second time in their history (0-6-1 in 1943). Pinto was let go and Prep turned to former player Tom Shea '73 to help resuscitate the program.

Like Magdon before him, it took a while for Shea to lay the appropriate groundwork. In his second season he got Prep to .500; by his fourth, Prep was back in the state playoffs. The 2013 team finished 11-3, beat West Haven in the semifinals but lost convincingly to Southington in the Class LL championship game. Shea stepped down the following year after a 7-4 record, winding up 32-23 in five seasons.

Shea has stayed on as an assistant under current coach Keith Hellstern, who debuted at 5-5 in 2015 and finished 6-4 this past season. Perhaps Hellstern is laying the foundation for more Prep memories. Only time -- and talent -- will tell.



Father Eugene Brissette, S.J., the devoted and animated Prep Football Chaplain.



IN MEMORY OF **COACH RICH MAGDON**

Leave No Doubt

The 2016 football season was marked by great adversity and achievement that led to one of the more memorable years in the last decade. Despite several injuries throughout the fall, the Jesuits had many first time contributors step in and help garner a 6-4 regular season record while barely missing the Class LL playoffs. The season was dedicated in honor of former Prep head football coach Rich Magdon who won 96 games from 1994-2008 and sadly passed away this past April. Rich's fierce grit and huge heart could be found in the players honoring him all season long while wearing "RM" stickers on their helmets.

The season began with three straight victories starting on the road with a thrilling 26-20 win against perennial power Daniel Hand. The intensity of the game was at a playoff level based on the physicality and competitiveness shown by both teams as they finished regulation tied at 20. Prep began OT on defense and shut down Hand's offense over four plays. Offensively we eventually scored on a well-executed slant pass to achieve the first overtime victory in Prep history. Week Two saw the Jesuits travel to New Haven and defeat a stubborn Wilbur Cross team 21-6. Prep's third victory was our home opener against eventual Class M state champion Hillhouse. The Jesuits clicked on offense and defense and handed the Governors their only loss of the season 40-18 in a fantastic showing.

Upwards of nine starters were out due to injury the following week against rival



Notre Dame West Haven. A game tied at 7 at the half eventually unfolded into a difficult 34-7 loss. The Jesuits followed up with a solid win against Hamden – still with several starters down – 28-6 at home. Two very challenging losses with very different scores occurred on the road in Weeks Six and Seven. The Jesuits would lose a tense game versus Cheshire 10-0 and disappointing showing followed at rival Xavier 31-7.

Prep would notch two incredible victories at home after a week of soul searching and getting back to basics in practice. The Shelton Gaels came to Rafferty Stadium with a 29 game regular season win streak that the Jesuits mightily ended 38-15 as the fans stormed

the field to celebrate. The team played a dominant game offensively rushing for over 400 yards and holding their opponent three touchdowns below their scoring average. The following week the Jesuits won in dramatic fashion with a last minute touchdown and two point conversion to defeat North Haven 43-42 in a shootout.

Unfortunately, the season would end with a tight loss to West Haven on Thanksgiving 28-21. The disappointment of not making the playoffs was felt throughout the program due to our commitment to excellence. Although we fell short of our goals, the young men on the 2016 Prep football team gave tremendously of themselves all season long and grew as a unit through victory

and defeat. The class of 2017 was asked to "leave no doubt" and their legacy of toughness and drive set a powerful example for what a total team effort truly means. The 2017 Prep football team will look to uphold and exceed that standard going into next season for themselves and all their Prep brothers who have worn the uniform in seasons past.

Prep – P.R.I.D.E. – Victory.

By Keith Hellstern, Varsity Football Coach,
Social Studies Teacher

POST-SEASON AWARD WINNERS

- ★ **Ayinde Johnson:** All-SCC, Walter Camp ALL-CT 2nd Team, New Haven Register All-State Honorable Mention and All-Area Defense 2nd Team
- ★ **Nate Miller:** All-SCC, New Haven Register All-Area 3rd Team, Rev. Eugene C. Brissette, S.J., Award (Defensive Player of the Year)
- ★ **Bobby Haskins:** All-SCC, News 12 Scholar Athlete, New Haven Register All-Area Defense 2nd Team, National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete
- ★ **Bruno Perlicki:** All-SCC, CHSCA All-State, New Haven Register All State and All-Area Defense 1st Team
- ★ **Harrison Houghton:** Chris Boyle Memorial Coaches Award
- ★ **Ryan Marusi:** SCC Scholar Athlete
- ★ **Douglas Harrison:** Mark Massiello Memorial (Offensive Player of the Year)
- ★ **Kyan Keel:** Chris Boyle Memorial Coaches Award
- ★ **Drew McAvey:** Richard Magdon Most Improved Player Award
- ★ **Ken Moales:** Richard Magdon Most Improved Player Award



Rappoccio retires after 19 seasons



Pete Rappoccio with his two grandsons, Peter (son of **Pete '97**) and Logan (son of **Tim '00**).

Prep's mission is to form young men for others. Part of this happens at home, as in the case of Pete Rappoccio; long time football coach and parent of **Peter '97** and **Tim '00**. Pete had long been involved with Ridgefield Youth football. When his sons came to Prep, he saw how football related to the mission of the school and wanted in. And in he was for 19 years — serving as an assistant on the freshman team, freshman Head Coach, and varsity assistant working with running backs and linebackers.

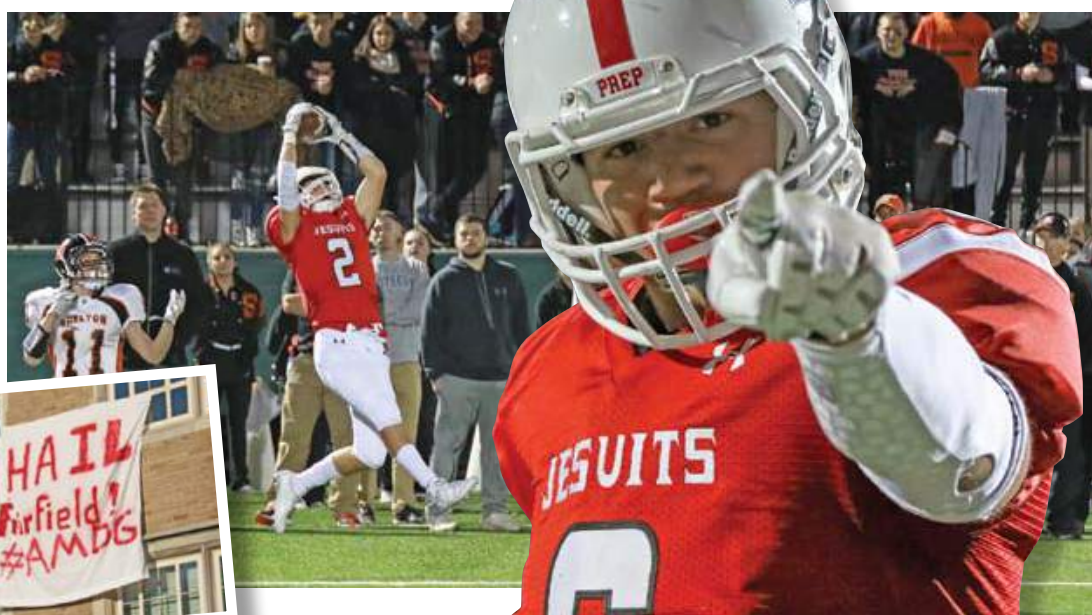
For 19 years he brought knowledge of the game, passion for competing and helping young men become the best players they could be, with a wonderful sense of humor that put everything its proper perspective.

It wasn't easy. He would be at his job at 4:30 a.m. daily so he had the time in the afternoon to be with his players. Pete always called a tight defensive game and his players couldn't help but laugh when he would do the mamba to signal in his infamous 3-kings blitz.

For five years Pete made the coaches wear white dress shirts and red ties on game day — making it easy for the refs to find us on the sidelines.

I thoroughly enjoyed the seven years we were side-by-side coaching games. Prep was blessed to have had him on the team. Good Luck Coach Rappoccio! We'll miss you.

By Former Head Football Coach **Tom Shea '73**



Hellstern named NY Jets Coach of the Week

The New York Jets named Coach Keith Hellstern as the recipient of the New York Jets High School Coach of the Week award in September, presented by Chase. The school's football program received \$2,000,

and Coach Hellstern was presented with a certificate and award ball. The Coach of the Week award is given to a coach in the Tri-State area who serves the best interests of the game through the teaching of sound football

fundamentals, the motivation of young players to achieve and the promotion of youth football by way of dedication to their community, their school and their student-athletes.



CROSS COUNTRY HONORS

- **Drew Thompson**
Won SCC Championship; SCC MVP
All State and 2nd in Class LL
Championship
All Coaches and 2nd in State Open
Qualified for New England
Championship
1st of 850 runners in Thetford, VT
Invitational
1st in Northeast Jesuit
Championship
Footlocker National Championship
Qualifier
NH Register All Area MVP
Hearst CT Media All-Star
Gatorade Runner of the Year Finalist
- **Chris Nilsson**
All SCC Team
11th in Class LL Championship
NH Register All Area Team
- **Joe Keller**
All-SCC 2nd team

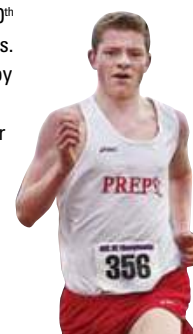


Cross Country team makes the State Open

In spite of an unusual number of season-ending injuries to varsity runners, the Cross Country Team pulled together for a great performance in the Class LL Championship to advance to the State Open.

Only 20 teams of some 150 in the state make the Open. The seven varsity runners included: **Drew Thompson '18**, **Chris Nilsson '17**, **Eddie Tristine '17**, **Joe Keller '17**, **Matt Corcoran '17**, **Colin Terry '17**, and **Connor Gurnham '18**. The team had an 8-2 dual meet record and was second in the Quinnipiac Division.

Early in the season Coach Ford Jr. won his career 250th dual meet win, with a 30 year record of over 80% wins. Coach Ford Sr. and **Coach Chris Sages '95** were happy to be part of that accomplishment and very proud of the team. **Drew Thompson** (right) continued to deliver top performances and earn accolades throughout the post season. See page 24 for more about Drew's award as SCC Runner of the Year, as well as a tribute to the Ford Father-Son Duo and Prep Cross Country.



Crew achieves top results at NEIRA

The 2016 Fairfield Prep Fall Crew team had high expectations coming into the fall season. The top three varsity boats were comprised of a strong group of seniors and juniors, and the novice boats presented a promising group of underclass athletes. Senior Captains **M.J. Duffy**, **John Pacelli**, and **James Thornton** led the team to a very successful fall season.

The season began with the Head of the Riverfront race in Hartford on October 2. The crew showed a promising start to the season, gaining seconds on their competition and continuing to put opposing crews behind them. On October 8, the team traveled to Derby, Connecticut, for the Head of the Housatonic regatta. Prep's 1st Varsity 8 placed 10th out of a group of challenging crews. The 2nd Varsity 8 finished in 10th place, with the 3rd Varsity 8 finishing 12th in the same category. The Novice Crews placed 9th and 18th in this regatta, which further strengthened Fairfield Prep Crew's standing among other teams.

On October 9, the team traveled to Worcester, Massachusetts, to compete in



the New England Interscholastic Rowing Association, (NEIRA) Championship. The 3rd Varsity 8 finished in first place, earning another gold medal, after their first place finish in the 2015 championship regatta. The 2nd Varsity 8 placed 3rd in their category, ahead of Boston College High School. The 1st Varsity Eight placed 8th in their category due to a disappointing mishap nearing the end of their race. This championship regatta set a new precedent for Fairfield Prep Crew.

The 1st Varsity 8 moved on to participate in the prestigious Head

of the Charles Regatta in Boston, Massachusetts. The top rowers that represented Fairfield Prep Crew were, **James Thornton '17**, **Will Short '18**, **M.J. Duffy '17**, **Eric Spinka '19**, **Derek Grabe '18**, **Patrick Dolan '17**, **Dante Mannello '17**, and **Billy Duffy '18**, with **John Pacelli '17** as coxswain. This Regatta would prove to be the most arduous test for this resilient boat in the fall season. The 1st Varsity 8 placed 60th out of 84 boats.

The final race of the fall season was on October 30. The team traveled to Philadelphia to attend the Head of the

Schuylkill Regatta. This regatta was a fantastic way to finish the fall season, with the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Novice boats finishing in the middle of the pack.

The team will continue to train over the course of the winter, and will look forward to the upcoming competition. The team will continue to push the top crews of the league, and is hoping to earn a medal in all Varsity 1st, 2nd, and 3rd 8+ categories.



By **James Thornton '17**



Soccer finishes strong, reaching State Semifinal

The Jesuits Soccer Team finished a strong year with a 14-5-4 record under Head Coach **Ryan Lyddy '93**. The Jesuits won their sixth Southern Connecticut Conference Division Title in Lyddy's seven years, and advanced to the SCC Finals and the CIAC LL Semi-Finals, losing to eventual state champion Farmington High School. On and off the field, the team was led by captains **Biagio Paoletta '17**, **Jamie Becker '17**, **Julito Ojea Quintana '17**, **Ian Cantrell '17**, **Dan Szabo '17** and **Tim Lyons '18**.

The Jesuits began the season without a defeat in the month of September, ending the month with a 6-0-2 record. Prep began the year with a 3-1 win against Guilford High School off goals from **Andrew Neumeyer '19** and **Matt Chiota '18**. After defeating North Haven and Career/Hillhouse, the Jesuits held off a late rally from West Haven to earn a 3-2 victory off goals from Neumeyer, Lyons and **Nate Montani '19**. Prep traveled up to Boston to compete against fellow Jesuit school Boston College High School and emerged with a 2-0, led by goals from Ojea Quintana and **Neco Ulloa '17**. The Jesuits continued their winning ways against Shelton, winning a tough 1-0 game off of a header from Paoletta. **Matt Gavey '17** scored the lone goal to defeat Guilford 1-0 at Rafferty Stadium, and on



Senior Day, Paoletta and **Axel Whamond '19** scored goals and the Jesuits defense, led by Szabo, Lyons, Paoletta and **Patrick Guere '17** held Shelton scoreless for the second time in the season.

The first two rounds of the Southern Conn. Conference Tournament brought two familiar tournament rivals to Rafferty. After defeating Wilbur Cross 1-0 off one of many Szabo to Paoletta free kick connections, Prep defeated Guilford for the third time in the season. The SCC Final brought a third matchup against Shelton which ended in a hard fought 1-0 loss at West Haven High School. In the CIAC LL

State Tournament, Prep began with a 4-0 win against Manchester, led by a hat-trick by Paoletta. In the second round, Prep traveled to play top seed and undefeated Naugatuck High School where Paoletta scored an early first half header to lead the Jesuits to an upset victory. Szabo stopped shot after shot in the game, while **Jack Meszaros '18**, **Jorge Aguilar '17**, **Jonah Melton '18**, and **Hunter Lutz '17** controlled the middle of the field to ensure victory. Back at Rafferty, Prep defeated Simsbury 2-1 off goals from Paoletta and Whamond before losing to eventual state champions Farmington in the LL Semi-

Finals 3-0.

Throughout the season, the Jesuits were led by their strong senior class consisting of Paoletta, Becker, Ojea Quintana, Cantrell, Szabo, Ulloa, Gavey, Guere, Aguilar, Lutz, **Briggs Palmer '17**, **Connor Furio '17** and **Mike Shea '17**. Four Jesuit players were recognized with post-season awards.

By Tim Dee, Assistant Soccer Coach, Academic Dean and Math teacher

SOCCER HONORS

- **Daniel Szabo**
CHSCA All-State Team
All-SCC First Team
New Haven Register All-Area
Hearst CT Media Boys Soccer All-Star
- **Biagio Paoletta**
All-SCC First Team
New Haven Register All Area
Hearst CT Media Boys Soccer All-Star
- **Julio Ojea Quintana**
All-SCC Hammonasset
SCC Scholar Athlete
- **Tim Lyons**
All-SCC Hammonasset



Sailing finishes 4th overall at Great Oaks

The Prep sailing team placed in the top at the Great Oaks regatta at Southern Yacht Club in New Orleans in November. They finished 4th overall out of 37 teams from around the country (all of whom won the opportunity to attend a regional qualifying event). Prep was the top finishing school from the Northeast. The four sailors who competed — **Grant Ballasteros '17**, **Christian Haranzo '19**, **Chase Latour '19** and **James Paul '19** — were accompanied by Coach Marc Jacobi and Ms. Latour.



Prep-peroni pizzas at college campuses

Austin Ryan '06 of the Prep Advancement office stopped on the road to catch up with our college-age alumni and host a pizza lunch.



Loyola University MD November 14, 2016

Attendees were: **Dan McCarthy '16, Drew Rolapp '16, Michael Meszaros '16, Harry Malloy '15, Michael Kubisek '16, Michael Russo '15, Paul DeFelice '16, Vito Ciambriello '16, Matt Jakab '16**



Boston College

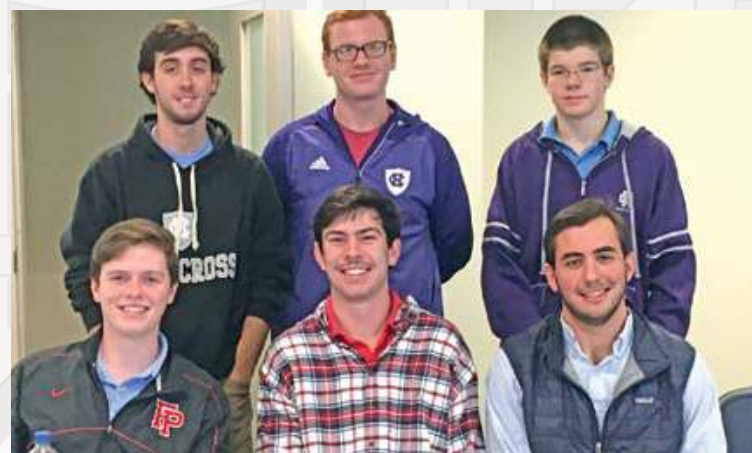
November 8, 2016

Attendees were: **Aidan Coyle '16, Jake Bosken '16, Robbie Reilly '16, Connor Lynch '16**



Georgetown University November 15, 2016

Attendees were: **Josh Bernstein '15, Carter White '15, Jeff Swanson '15, Brendan Rooney '16, Andrew Crane '16, Joe Daccache '16, Matt Kelly '04, Rich Sekerak '13**



College of the Holy Cross November 10, 2016

Attendees were: **Dan Donahue '14, Conor Carey '14, Andrew Palaia '16, Matthew Sweeney '16, Dan Passarelli '13, Chris Fusco '16, Tim Noone '15**



Bowdoin College September 11, 2016

L to r: **John O'Connor '16, Fr. John Fagan, S.J., Julio Palencia '16, and Bill Harke '94** having lunch at Bowdoin College.

Szabs recounts Prep History at Stamford Business Breakfast



Watch video highlights
[youtube.com/fairfieldprep1](https://www.youtube.com/fairfieldprep1)

Prep alumni and parents enjoyed an enlightening presentation by legendary Prep teacher and historian John Szablewicz at the Stamford Business Breakfast on October 20. The event was held at the Stamford Marriott. "Szabs" told about his own educational journey, his interest in the Jesuits and their history of work, and how he came to Prep. He reminisced about memorable Prep Jesuits and teachers who impacted him and his own career development. At the conclusion, the guests gave him a standing ovation!

Szabs is currently working on Prep's 75th anniversary history, as he wrote the previous two versions produced for the 50th and 65th anniversaries.

Watch Szabs on Prep YouTube!



Return of the Alumni

College-age alumni (and Prep seniors) enjoy mini-reunion, “Murphy Cup” awarded to Class of 2014 in competition

Prep welcomed current seniors and college-age alumni on campus at its annual reception on Tuesday, January 3. Over 70 guests enjoyed refreshments and camaraderie; faculty reconnected with former students, and the Class of 2017 sought college advice from the youngest alumni classes. Headlining the afternoon was **Kevin Stone '15** with the presentation of the 2016 Murphy Cup trophy to the Class of 2014. Stone, a sophomore at Harvard University, was a co-captain for his class during the Murphy Cup – a giving challenge between the college-age alumni classes spanning the month of November, ending on Prep’s Day of Giving on November 29. Stone recounted his joy in networking with Prep alumni as a [college] freshman at the annual Boston Breakfast in April 2016; and with his peers during lunch at Boston College. Also, he emphasized the importance of initiatives like the Murphy Cup – giving back to the alma mater symbolizes gratitude and passion for Prep, and all it has done for its students and alumni.

Concluding the program, the Murphy Cup was presented to **Conor Carey '14**, a co-captain of his class for the challenge. Named after the beloved Fr. Tom Murphy, S.J., this revives a tradition stretching back to the '70s, in which the alumni class with the highest participation in the Fairfield Prep Fund was recognized. Now applied to college-age alumni, the Murphy Cup challenge begins November 1 and ends on Prep’s annual Day of Giving.

Based upon these outstanding results, the revival and redirection of the Murphy Cup has cemented itself as a primary means for college-age alumni to stay connected once they graduate. **Austin Ryan '06**, Fairfield Prep Fund Officer, coordinated the successful alumni challenge.



CLASS	% PARTICIPATION
2013	11%
2014	32%
2015	23%
2016	29%



Alumni spotted at Prep games






It’s great to see so many alumni return to cheer for Jesuits basketball (and reconnect with current students)! Pictured from top left corner, clockwise, all from left: Photo 1 – **Vincent Cotto '10**, **Rowan Kane '08**, **Mike Myers-Keitt '07** (played for Monmouth) and **Tavonne Reid '08**. Photo 2 – **Drew Rolapp '16**, **Rich Kelly '16** and **Brendan Carey '16**. Photo 3: **Chris Golger '13**, **Tom Shea '73** and **Chris Kelly '13**. Photo 4 - front row **Brey Jackson '15** and **Tony Fox '14**; 2nd row **Matt Trez '18**, **Kyan Keel '17**, **Ben King '15** and **Trevor Gerald '18**; top: **Grant Ballesteros '17** with friend.



Alumni Class News

Submit your news! Let us know what's NEW in your life! Submit your news and photos easily online at www.fairfieldprep.org/alumniupdate. Email us at development@fairfieldprep.org or mail to Fairfield Prep Alumni Office, 1073 North Benson Rd., Fairfield, CT 06824.

Find us on
social media

-  [youtube.com/fairfieldprep1](https://www.youtube.com/fairfieldprep1)
-  facebook.com/fairfieldprepalumni
-  twitter.com/fairfieldprep
-  instagram.com/fairfieldprep
-  Fairfield Prep Alumni Network
Fairfield Prep Parent Network

1967



Fri., June 2 • Sat., June 3 • Sun., June 4

50TH REUNION WEEKEND



Legacy grandfathers with grandsons

At Prep's Grandparents Breakfast and Mass, several alumni attended with their freshman grandsons. Pictured from left: **Kevin Cavanagh '57** and **James Burris**; **James Kearns '54** and **Jeremy Rodriguez** (7th in back); **Pat Carolan '55** and **Seamus Carolan**; **Andrew Chiota** and **John Chiota '61**; and **Francis Pfeiffer '62** and **Sean Fisher**.

Lawrence W. Fitzgerald '82 returned to campus as an Adjunct Professor of Psychology at Fairfield University thirty-four years after graduating from Prep. He taught his first class during this fall term.

W. Peter Schulz '80 has relocated from Texas to Bonita Springs, FL and is now Sr. Vice-President of Customer Operations at Cable & Wireless.

Matthew T. Rostafin '96 writes: "Wanted to take a minute to thank all the members of the class of '96 who reached out and sent donations to the South Louisiana community after the devastating floods. We are truly 'Men for Others.'"

2000's

Charles J. "Chip" Crawley III '04 recently hiked Mt. Kilimanjaro. During his travels he also visited a school near Tanzania. Chip is currently serving in the military on deployment. See story on page 70.

Colin Dailey '01 has recently relocated to Michigan to work for GE in a new position as Senior Enterprise Application Engineer. Colin attended Sacred Heart University and studied Information Technology.

Justin R. Gregg '04 is currently finishing his chief year in Urologic Surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He was recently accepted to a Urologic Oncology fellowship at MD Anderson in Houston, TX starting July 2017.

1990's

James H. Booth '93 completed his fifth-annual Run in the Pub on July 30, 2016 at O'Neill's Irish Pub in Norwalk. Jimmy completed this marathon on a treadmill in the pub to raise money for charity. This year he raised \$1,300.00 for Homes for the Brave, a nonprofit organization that provides housing and services for homeless military veterans.

Christopher E. Drury '94 has been named Assistant General Manager of the New York Rangers. Chris has been serving as the Rangers' Director of Player Development.

Latin Scholars Class of '46

At a Latin Scholar lunch meeting, members reconnected with **Rev. Msgr. Joe Potter**, who founded and directs a Brazilian charity program. The "Latin Scholars" raise funds annually to support Father's programs which serve some of the poorest communities. Pictured back row from left: **Bob Walsh '46**, **Rev. Msgr. Joe Potter '46**, the late **John Ford '46**, **Leo Gallagher '46** and (front) **Steve Caliento '46**.

1940's

Members of the Class of '46 "Latin Scholars" met for lunch with **Rev. Msgr. Joe Potter '46** (see above).

1950's

Fr. Philip D. Evanstock, CSSP '52 writes: "Still teaching mathematics after 55 years. Go Prep!"



John M. Kennedy '58 was honored with the dedication of the John Kennedy Learning Center at Westchester Country Club.

Robert E. Witt '58 was inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame on Nov. 17, 2016. See story on page 69.

1970's

Chuck W. Berke '70 has written and released a book, *High Potentials' Boot Camp: The Ultimate Playbook for Winning at Work*. The book is designed to help people take greater control of their careers. He has earned a Ph.D. in Human Systems from Fielding Graduate University.



Thomas S. Santa '73 was honored at the 28th Annual Greater Bridgeport Good Scout Breakfast on September 28, 2016.

Richard G. Williams '73 received the Carnegie Medal in recognition of his acts of civilian heroism on March 23, 2016, by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.

1960's

Reverend William F. Verrilli '69 is currently assisting the Hartford Archdiocesan Tribunal as a judge.

1980's

Jonathan M. Carroll '87 was named Fairfield University's new Chief Information Officer on December 19, 2016.

Michael E. Connelly '83 has joined Fairfield Prep's Development Office as the new Leadership Gifts Officer. See page 63.

Coming soon...

JESUITPRIDE.com



The all new official website of
Fairfield Prep Athletics



Ian Dempsey '07 was featured in the Connecticut Post as part of Fairfield University's advertising campaign for graduate school programs. He is pursuing a PhD in Psychology.



Daniel L. Murphy '09 won the CT District Championship in golf in September 2016. Pictured above with father **John A. Murphy '76**.

Colin E. Shukie '06 reached his one-year anniversary as a Health Inspector for Tri-County Health Department in December 2016 (located in Commerce City, CO). His wife Christy is a professional boy wrangler for their two children. They closed on buying their first house in mid-December 2016.



Ian Staber '05 is an architect at LaFreniere Architects Inc. in Boston. He is an active calligraphist artist.

Mark T. Tran '03 has a new position as the Pharmacy Manager at Rite Aid. He has a Pharm.D. from Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

2010's



Alexander J. Amador '10 is currently volunteering in the Peace Corp in Cameroon as an agriculture agent. He has been recognized for building creative projects such as a pizza oven, a chicken pen, a water heater and many other things!

CLASSES OF '47, '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97, '02, '07, '12



Reunion Weekend

Register online: www.fairfieldprep.org/reunion

FRIDAY, JUNE 2



www.fairfieldprep.org/golffouting



Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

The inaugural event followed by dinner, spirits, music and lots of memories!

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

- ★ **"Breakfast in the Quad"** - State of the School address by Fairfield Prep President, Father Tom Simisky, S.J.
- ★ **Variety of events on campus** such as tours of the school, reconnecting with Prep Faculty, activities for the family, Prep Athletic events and more.
- ★ **Fairfield Prep Reunion Weekend Mass** followed by...



The largest Reunion Weekend Party ever! Food, music, dancing, spirits and Prep memories, plus... the 75th Anniversary celebration!



Mike Connelly '83 is back on campus



"It's quite a feeling to be back. While much has changed over the years, the Jesuit traditions and quest for excellence in

the classroom and on the athletic fields, are stronger than ever. The energy and enthusiasm of the faculty, students, parents and alumni is at an all-time high. As Prep celebrates its 75th anniversary this year, I am honored to be joining the Development Team. I look forward to reaching out and connecting with alumni and friends as we work towards furthering Prep's mission and institutional strategic plan. The future is bright at Prep, and the generosity and support of alumni and friends is greatly appreciated."

— **Mike Connelly '83**, Leadership Gifts Officer



All in the family

Joe Valus '16 and **George Crist '16** have deep-rooted family connections. At graduation, Joe's grandmother Pat Caseria (center) reconnected with George's grandparents (George and Olympia Crist), as they had become friends via their Prep sons **Robb Caseria '78** (Joe's uncle) and **Athan Crist '78** (George's uncle).



Fr. Allen and Gualtiere support CT Challenge

Fr. Charles Allen, S.J., former Prep headmaster and Fairfield University Chaplain and Assistant to the President, was the captain of the Fairfield University cycling team for the CT Challenge. Elliott Gualtiere, Prep Director of Campus Ministry, was a member of that team and rode 50 miles to support cancer survivors (Elliott beat thyroid cancer in 2010).



Cooney Wedding

Robert R. Cooney '04 married Becka Haworth on September 3, 2016, at Ashdown Park Hotel and Country Club in England. Prep Alumni in attendance were, from left: **Phil Lauria '05**, **Bill Pappa '04**, **Tom Dornan '04**, **Rob Cooney Sr. '53**, **Rob Cooney '04**, **Thomas Topalian '05**, **Matt Oehlsen '05**, and **Chip Crawley '04**. The couple is living in England.

Gerics Wedding

Joseph A. Gerics '97 married Karina Strobl on July 30, 2016, at the Saybrook Point Inn at Old Saybrook, CT. Attended by many Prep alumni and administrators, including his father **Joseph Gerics '68**, his brothers, **David A. Gerics '75**, **Robert G. Gerics '72** and **Gregory Gerics '70**, **Brendan N. Ruane '97**, **R. Beecher Taylor '97** and **Alexander M. Bush '97** and Prep Administrators **Greg Marshall '73** and Dr. Bob Perotta.



McCarthy Wedding

Edward M. McCarthy '03 married Bonnie Doyle on October 1, 2016, at Dexter's Inn in Sunapee, NH. Many Prep alumni and friends were in attendance. Pictured from left: **Victor Ferrante '64**, **Dr. Gregory Russo** (Kohanski) '92, **Dr. Robert Russo '65**, Larry Galbo (father of **Michael '03** and **Anthony '01**), **Michael Galbo '03**, **Ed McCarthy**, Bonnie Doyle, **Jim McCarthy '08**, **Christopher Russo '03**, **Eamonn Nolan '07** and **Mark Musico '03** (missing from photo: **Jack Calcutt '03**). The couple lives in China.



Dean Holland '88 is an Emmy Award-winning, American film editor, television director and producer best known for working on *Entourage* and the NBC comedy shows *The Office* and *Parks and Recreation*. In 2007, he was honored with the Primetime Emmy for Outstanding Single Camera Picture Editing for a Comedy Series for his work on *The Office*.

IN MEMORIAM

James M. Alexander '55 on November 1, 2016.

Maudie T. Altieri on January 22, 2017. She was the wife of former Board of Governor **John L. Altieri Jr. '64**, mother of **Christopher R. Altieri '95**, **Kieran G. Altieri '98**, **Kevin J. Altieri '00** of the Prep Social Studies department, **Matthew O. Altieri '01**, Sheila Altieri P'19, and Anne Altieri. She was the grandmother to 9 loving kids including **Calyb E. Reeves '19**. She was the sister-in-law of **Peter L. Altieri '73**, aunt of **John S. Altieri '10**, and relative and friend to many Prep alumni.

Mildred Bisacca on December 24, 2016. She was the wife of **George R. Bisacca Sr '46**, the mother of **George R. Bisacca Jr. '73** and **Joseph J. Bisacca '83** and grandmother of **David M. Lehn '94** and **Benjamin P. Lehn '02**.

Alvin D. Boddell '47 on August 13, 2016.

Carlton D. Briggs '46 on October 26, 2016.

Henry B. Connors '58 on March 26, 2016.

Ronald E. Cormier '59 on December 8, 2016.

William J. Creagh '57 on August 24, 2016.

Beverly Fox Curley on September 6, 2016. She was the wife of the late **Robert W. Curley '48**, mother of **Robert W. Curley Jr '73**, sister in law of **Edward F. Curley '47** and grandfather of **Daniel P. Steele '06**.

Robert J. Doran '48 on April 1, 2016. He was the brother of **David J. Doran '55**.

James M. Dowd '92 on September 18, 2016. He was the son of **William E. Dowd '55**.

Thomas J. Downs '53 on December 9, 2016.

Carl D. Eisenmann '45 on September 12, 2016.

Marylyn E. Flynn on December 13, 2016. She was the mother of **Thomas J. Flynn '84** and **Christopher J. Flynn '87**.

John C. Ford '46 on November 27, 2016. He was predeceased by his brother **The Honorable G. Sarsfield Ford '51** and the uncle of **Terrence Ford '85**.

Leland "Bill" Gorton '56 on October 19, 2016.

Francis "Rocky" Graziano on October 10, 2016. He was the grandfather of **Jesse C. McEachern '08** and **Ryan M. McEachern '04**.

Stanley J. Greenwood on December 7, 2016. He was the brother of **Richard F. Greenwood '44**.

Basil Harris Jr. '65 on January 15, 2017.

Thomas J. Jaski '59 on August 1, 2015.

Elizabeth "Betty" Kachmar on October 7, 2016. She was the mother of **Frank M. Kachmar '83** and **Charles J. Kachmar '80**. Betty was the first female faculty member at Fairfield Prep. See tribute on page 31.

George Kachmar on September 30, 2016. He was the husband of former faculty member Betty Kachmar and father of **Frank M. Kachmar '83** and **Charles J. Kachmar '80**.



Austin Sims '14, played as Captain of the US U19 Lacrosse team which won the World Championship Gold Medal. He was pictured on the cover of US Lacrosse magazine. Austin was the only player from Connecticut to be named to this team. He currently attends and plays for Princeton University.

Tyler D. Stankye '12 graduated from the Armor Basic Officer Leadership Course. See photo on page 66.

James B. Terry '11 works as a Production Assistant for ESPN Radio.



George Crist '16 has achieved the military rank of C4C Cadet Fourth Class at The United States Air Force Academy. As a "Fourth Degree," he is currently in a tough 40 day long period that is mentally, physically and emotionally challenging leading up to a long three day testing event known as "Recognition" that occurs this March. George is currently on the USAFA Marathon Team, enjoying glider-soaring training. He has been hiking and camping in the Rockies.



... Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." JOHN 21:17

Ed Krygier '60 coordinated and served dinner at Columbus House in New Haven with fellow alumni in December. Multiple times a year, the group serves approximately 200 meals at the Columbus House (the main shelter), the Overflow House and the Recovery House. Prep is the only organization that feeds all three of these facilities when it sponsors the soup kitchen. In December, 17 alumni and the son of an alumnus (a future Prepster) attended. In addition to serving the three facilities, Prep made a dry-goods contribution to the Veterans residing at Harkness House; the contribution is funded by the Prep alumni who were unable to participate in the event.

Maureen Kelly on October 14, 2016. She was the grandmother of **Christopher J. Kelly '13**, **Thomas J. Kelly '16** and **Andrew J. Kelly '18**.

Frank A. Mahoney '48 on December 20, 2016. He was the brother of the late **Robert B. Mahoney '50**.

Mary Caple Maiocco on January 15, 2017. She was the wife of the late **Richard L. Maiocco '62** and mother of **Richard L. Maiocco, Jr. '84**.

David Maleski '73 in January 2016. He was the brother of **Thomas Maleski '72**.

Thomas E. Mangines on November 13, 2016. He was the father of **James E. Mangines '69**, **Brian A. Mangines '81** and the late **Matthew Mangines '76**.

Benson B. Martin Jr. '64 on March 18, 2015.

Catherine O'Connell McDonough on December 29, 2016. She was the daughter of **John F. O'Connell '51** and niece of **James V. O'Connell '56**.

John H. McGrath '51 on August 24, 2016.

Joseph J. Murphy on July 3, 2016. He was the father of **Joseph J. "Trey" Murphy III '82**, **Daniel J. Murphy '88** and **Craig K. Murphy '93**.

Michael J. Noone Sr. on August 10, 2016. He was the grandfather of **Michael D. Noone '11**, **Mathew M. Noone '13**, **Timothy D. Noone '15** and **Brian B. Noone '18**.

Edward J. O'Hara, Jr. '46 on November 21, 2016. He was the father of **Michael O'Hara '78**, **Richard E. O'Hara '72** and brother of the late **John F. O'Hara '51**.

Ann Pervier on January 22, 2017. She was the mother of **Martin A. Gavin '73** and **Blaise Gavin '75**.

James M. Pisaretz '72 on March 12, 2016.

Daniel R. Plouffe '55 on February 25, 2014. He was the brother of the late **Robert R. Plouffe '57** and the late **Raymond "Mike" Plouffe Sr. '55**.

Patrick T. Power '80 on September 17, 2016.

Joseph D. Sargent '55 on November 1, 2016. He was the brother of **Gerald T. Sargent '57**, father of **Joseph P. Sargent '85**, **Liam O. Sargent '88**, **Sean M. Sargent '87** and grandfather of **John J. Murphy '15** and **Aidan P. Murphy '19**.

Evelyn Moore Sheehy on January 8, 2017. She was the grandmother of **Adam H. Sheehy '05**.

Edward R. Shek '89 on October 18, 2016.

Walter E. Skowronski '62 on September 2, 2016. He was the brother of **John J. Skowronski '74**, the late **William J. Skowronski '64** and cousin to **Robert F. Skowronski '51**, **Eugene A. Skowronski '61** and **Theodore E. Skowronski '64**.

Richard M. Soares '89 on November 29, 2016.

Malcolm Tabackman '54 on December 26, 2016.

Joseph M. Trosan '46 on December 13, 2016. He was the father of **Robert Trosan '72**.

Stephen J. Varholy '59 on April 24, 2016.

William H. Varnum, Jr. '53 on October 22, 2016. He was the grandfather of **William H. Varnum IV '11** and great uncle to **Patrick J. Sprows '10** and **Colin R. Sprows '07**.

Paul A. Yates '47 on December 26, 2016

Ilona D. Walsh on October 29, 2016. She was the mother of **Patrick M. Walsh '73** and **Peter J. Walsh '76**.

George Wines on June 17, 2016. He was the father of **James J. Wines '87**.

ENGAGEMENTS

Peter A. Christiani '09 is engaged to Becca Nichols. See photo on page 65.

WEDDINGS

Joseph A. Gerics '97 married Karina Strobl on July 30, 2016, at the Saybrook Point Inn at Old Saybrook, CT. See photo on page 64.

Edward M. McCarthy '03 married Bonnie Doyle on October 3, 2016, at Dexter's Inn in Lake Sunapee, NH. See photo on page 64.

Robert R. Cooney '04 married Rebecca Haworth on September 3, 2016. See photo on page 64.

Brendan P. Steiner '06 married Meredith McLennan on June 18, 2016. See photo on page 65.

Jeffrey S. Takach '02 married Gillian Tanz on October 15, 2016, at Tyrone Farm in Pomfret, CT. See photo on page 65.

Keith D. Hofmann '06 married Rachel Lieber on July 3, 2016. See photo on page 65.



Steiner Wedding

Brendan P. Steiner '06 married Meredith McLennan on June 18, 2016. **William P. Steiner '13** was the best man.

Takach Wedding

Jeffrey S. Takach '02 married Gillian Tanz on October 15, 2016, at Tyrone Farm in Pomfret, CT.



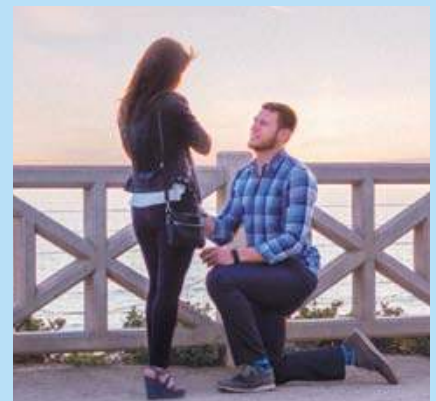
Hofmann Wedding

Keith D. Hofmann '06 married Rachel Lieber on July 3, 2016, at the Cooper Hill Inn in East Dover, VT. The couple honeymooned in Thailand, and live in Arlington, VA.



Christiani Engagement

Peter A. Christiani '09 is engaged to Becca Nichols from Waltham, MA. A June wedding is planned





Noelle Marie Carrington



Anastasia Mari Tschilas



Margaret Mills Gregg.



Eleanor and Findlay Rochford



Jonah and Sam Shukie



Graham Kelly Tropsa

BIRTHS

Michael P. Carrington '02 and his wife Emily welcomed their daughter Noelle Marie Carrington on October 10, 2016.

Michael D. Donovan '96 and his wife Mary welcomed Samuel David Donovan on November 29, 2016. He joins big brother Charlie.

Andrew Tschilas '97 and his wife Jessica welcomed a baby girl, Anastasia Mari Tschilas, on June 23, 2016.

Justin R. Gregg '04 and his wife Becky welcomed a baby girl Margaret "Margot" Mills Gregg on December 28, 2016.

Colin M. Rochford '99 and his wife Heather welcomed their second child Eleanor Margaret on July 18, 2016. She joins big brother Findlay.

Colin E. Shukie '06 and his wife Christy welcomed Jonah Gabriel on June 20, 2016. He joins big brother Sam.

Stefan J. Tropsa '06 and his wife Amanda welcomed their son Graham Kelly Tropsa on November 21, 2016.



DeSilva '10 is Project Designer

Ryan D. DeSilva '10 is currently a Project Designer for Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects in New Haven, CT. The firm is led by world renowned architect Cesar Pelli. (AIA Gold Medal Winner). He has been working for PCPA for two years, and has had the opportunity to work directly with Cesar Pelli and Fred Clarke on various world class buildings.



Stankye '12 preparing for deployment

Tyler D. Stankye '12 (second from the right) graduated from the Armor Basic Officer Leadership Course, a 19-week course for all Armor Lieutenants to teach them the doctrine and employment of a tank platoon. He graduated in the top half of his class of 76 and will continue on to the Army Reconnaissance Course and Bradley Leaders Course before heading to the 1st Cavalry Division in Texas in July and eventually to join his unit on deployment in Kuwait shortly after.

FACULTY AND STAFF

IN MEMORIAM

Albert Hanwell on October 3, 2016. He was the father of **Rev. John J. Hanwell, S.J.**, former President of Fairfield Prep.

Elizabeth "Betty" Kachmar on October 7, 2016. She was the mother of **Frank M. Kachmar '83** and **Charles J. Kachmar '80**. Betty was the first female faculty member at Fairfield Prep. See tribute on page 31.

John J. McLaughlin, TV personality and political commentator, on August 16, 2016. He was a member of the Prep Faculty from 1960-1966 and a former Jesuit priest.

Marcia Molenda on November 4, 2016. She was the longtime partner of **Larry Carroll '63**, Director of Planned Giving & Stewardship.

C. W. "Bozo" Richards, on February 2, 2017. He was the father-in-law of **Greg Marshall '73**, Dean of Enrollment and Marketing.

Jack Slavinsky on December 27, 2016. He was a former member of the Fairfield Prep faculty and football coaching staff. See tribute on page 31.

WEDDING

Kyle Hanson, iPad & Technology Support, married Tiffany Hanson Stahura on October 8, 2016, in Buffalo, NY.

BIRTH



John Szablewicz and his wife Terry became grandparents to a baby girl, Ramona (Romy) Rose Parker on January 26, 2017.



First Alumni Swimming & Diving Meet

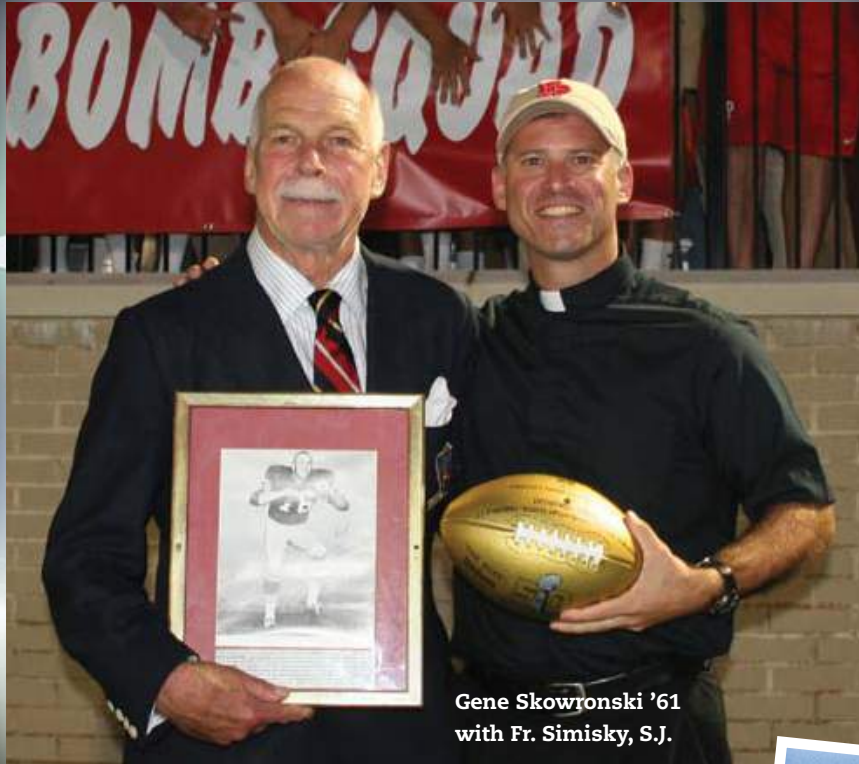
On December 23, Fairfield Prep Swimming & Diving held its first ever "Alumni Meet." Forty seven alumni bravely slipped on the old "Speedos" and dove back into the RecPlex pool. In attendance were alumni representing four decades – the '80s, '90s, '00s, and '10s. There were fast times and some impressive dives throughout the night. A post meet gathering capped off the evening. The overwhelming consensus was to do it again next year, so mark your calendars for the weekend of December 22-23, 2017. A big thank you to **Matt Watson '08** for spearheading the event.

— By Head Varsity Coach **Rick Hutchinson '87**



Gibson and Dellisanti families reunite on the football field

At a fall college football game (Endicott vs. Hobart), the Prep Alumni families of Gibson and Dellisanti reunited for a group photo. **Allen Gibson '15** plays free safety for Endicott College and **John Dellisanti '15** plays wide receiver for Hobart College.

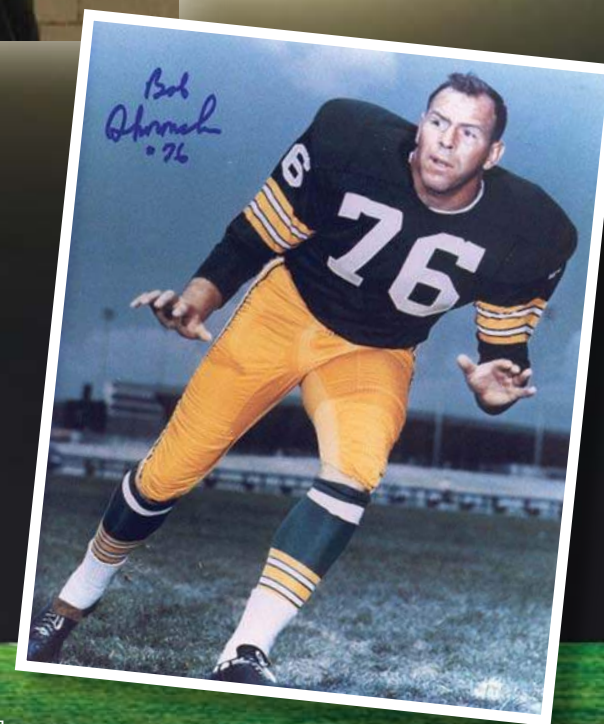


Gene Skowronski '61
with Fr. Simisky, S.J.

Fairfield Prep named on Super Bowl High School Honor Roll

Fairfield Prep honors Bob Skoronski '51

At the Prep-Hillhouse Football Game on Sept. 23, 2016, at the home field, a special presentation of the Super Bowl High School Honor Roll "Golden Football" was made on the field, in honor of **Bob Skoronski '51**, who played football for Prep, Indiana University, and ultimately enjoyed an 11-year NFL career with the Green Bay Packers. His brother **Gene Skowronski '61** attended on Bob's behalf and read his message.



To the members of the Fairfield Prep family and football team, please accept my sincere apologies for not being able to be with you in person tonight. I am with you in spirit and extend to you my warmest greetings and best wishes. I am deeply honored to be part of this NFL Super Bowl golden football celebration. This award belongs to Fairfield Prep, its wonderful priests, teachers, coaches and football players and to my teammates while here at Prep.

I would never have been able to learn and grow without their never-ending support, encouragement, help and inspiration. Fairfield Prep gave me my start. It all began here on this playing field and at McAuliffe and Berchmans. It was here that I got that great, classical, Jesuit education with its strong emphasis on Latin, English, foreign language and religion. It was here that the Jesuit priests tried valiantly to teach me how to think critically and independently. Occasionally they had modest success. This education and the values I learned here were transformative and guided and sustained me throughout my life.

On the Prep football field I learned the importance of conditioning, good fundamentals, perseverance and sportsmanship. These ideals and values were carried on and strengthened by my later coach, Vince Lombardi, himself a product of Catholic and Jesuit education.

I am profoundly grateful for the start I got here at Prep. There is a famous song entitled, "You never walk alone." I know I never walk alone. I know that as I walk, the priests, teachers, coaches, students and athletes of Fairfield Prep, past, present and future, are always with me. They are my companions on the journey. Without their help, I could not have had whatever success I did have, and we would not have this beautiful golden football.



I hope this golden football will inspire future generations of Prep students and athletes to follow and fulfill their dreams. Thank you.

Message from **Bob Skoronski '51** for presentation of golden football at Fairfield Prep (Delivered by his brother, **Gene Skowronski '61**)



Juwan Crawley '12 is third from left.

Actor Juwan Crawley '12 and his 'insane' career

Sometimes a life can change with the “ping” of a cellphone. **Juwan Crawley '12**, still in his work uniform after his third-shift job at Shelton's Wal-Mart, where he spent the night moving cash registers, was having morning coffee with a cousin in Bridgeport, when he received a text from his agent which read: “Check your email.” So he did, and the 21-year-old actor-singer, who had graduated from the Hartt School at the University of Hartford just weeks earlier, learned he was cast in “Spamilton!,” the off-Broadway musical parody of you-know-what blockbuster show.

“Spamilton!” opened in September, and it quickly became one of the hottest shows off-Broadway, with Crawley being singled out for his performance in a variety of spoofy roles. He performed before Lin-Manuel Miranda, who loved the parody so much he gave everyone in the cast tickets to his hit.

Not enough? Crawley was one of four nominees for the prestigious 2016 Clive Barnes Award given to outstanding young artists in theater and dance (losing to Khris Davis for “The Royale”). Crawley's self-produced CD, “Awakening (Mind),” for which he composed the music and most of the lyrics, is about to be released.

Music was a natural for Crawley at his grandmother's large home in Monroe, where he and his mother, his great-grandmother lived while he was growing up. His grandmother, a professional gospel singer with her own performing and recording group, Mary Morrow and the Heavenly Gospel Singers, had Juwan joining in on one of the group's recordings when he was around 9. That's when it became clear he had a special musical gift.

Crawley attended public school in Stratford and Bridgeport before his mother, a counselor in the Department of Corrections, enrolled him in Fairfield College Preparatory School. It was there — after a brief stint on the football team, where he only stood out for his singing of the national anthem — that he developed his love of musical theater. His family thought high school would be the extent of his theatrical career. “My mother was dead set that I was going to be a lawyer or a doctor because she had paid all this money for me to go to private school, where I was doing exceptionally well.” Then she saw him perform in “The Fairfield Follies,” when at the end of the song there was a good four or five seconds of silence and then the audience went crazy. After that reaction, she was like, “OK, I guess this is what he's going to do.”

After graduating from Hartt in May, Crawley realized he would have to find work to pay the bills. “I couldn't just wait to get a magical audition that would change my life. I got a third-shift job from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. so I could have time to be in the city by noon to audition, sleep on the ride back and then eat and make it back in time for work.” His first audition was for “Spamilton!,” where he was asked to sing a comic song, do an impression (“Miss Audra, and I sang it in her ‘Ragtime’ key”) and do a rap number. “I was never a rapper, but I guess I am now.”

After his exceptional career launch he's prepared for anything. He sees himself playing Genie in “Aladdin,” or as the first male Rafiki in “The Lion King.” “Maybe even in ‘Hamilton!’, too,” he says.

Source: CT Post

Jazz pianist keeping it smooth In Bridgeport

Walter Duda '65 had wanted to play the piano for years, but he never had access to one until he found out about free practice space at the University of Bridgeport. Soon he was a familiar face in the music rooms, teaching himself to play by ear.

Now 65, Duda has spent a lifetime in music — from playing in rock & roll bands in Detroit to recording with some of the top names in the business to entertaining foodies with his own smooth jazz compositions recently at the Downtown Farmers Market.

Duda started out sneaking his older brother's guitar out of his bedroom, learning how to play the chords and melodies that would help him gain several gigs after he graduated from the University of Detroit with a bachelor's in history and foreign language.

The Fairfield Prep graduate spent a year teaching German at Fairfield Warde High School, but he knew he wanted to concentrate on music. Thankfully, his brother owned a print shop where he could work here and there when he needed a little cash.

In 1992, he put out his first CD, “Revitalize.” Over the years, he has put out three more, landing a few of his original works in the Top 20 of the smooth jazz charts. Along the way, he has played with some modern jazz standouts, including Will Lee, the bassist from “Late Show With David Letterman,” and Chris Parker, who played drums in the “Saturday Night Live” band for six years.

While he makes his living teaching piano lessons, Duda has played many of New York City's top night spots, including The Bitter End and Catch a Rising Star. A few years ago, Duda said he got a big musical thrill when he was asked to open for one of his early idols, British pianist Brian Auger, at the Fairfield Theatre Company. “What a pleasure!” Duda said, who treasures all time creating and playing music. “I can't wait to wake up in the morning, have a cup of tea, and get in a few hours at the piano.”

Source: Bridgeport Daily Voice



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ALUMNI RETURN TO CAMPUS



Jay Miolla '94 shares VR tech

For the second year in a row, **Jay Miolla '94**, returned to Prep to share the latest virtual reality technology with our students. Prepsters avidly lined up to experience some of Jay's latest projects, including adventures in outer space and underwater with a sunken ship and sea life. Jay is the Owner and Creative Lead for Out of Body VR LLC, New York, a virtual reality company that provides end-to-end production for VR photography, films and software.



Dan Hodson '05 speaks about epidemics

Dan Hodson '05 came back to speak with Mr. Ford's Environmental Science classes. Dan spent several years in West Africa with the Peace Corps and had experience with helping to manage several contagious diseases. Dan described the Ebola epidemic in West Africa and measures to help stop the spread of the disease. He is currently a Yale research assistant and is applying to med school.



John Guzzi '11 shares his med school journey

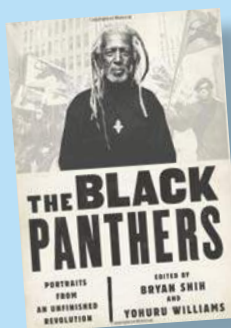
John Guzzi '11 spoke to the AP Biology class about his specific research experiences and what it meant for him to follow this path of medicine. Prep students listened intently, and followed up with an array of questions about his life, his studies, and the field itself. Some of Guzzi's current work as Editor in Chief of *Scope* medical publication and President of Georgetown Arts & Medicine program includes the annual publication of *Scope*, a creative journal written by and for medical students.



Dr. Robert Witt '58 is Alabama Hall of Fame recipient

Dr. Robert E. Witt, Prep Class of '58, was inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame in November 2016, sponsored by the University of Alabama's Culverhouse College of Commerce. Dr. Witt holds degrees from Bates College, the Tuck School at Dartmouth College and The Pennsylvania State University. Following his 35-year academic career in the University of Texas System, including eight years as president of The University of Texas at Arlington, Witt was named president of The University of Alabama in 2003. He became chancellor of The University of Alabama System in 2012. He is chairman of the Alabama Council of College and University Presidents and has served in leadership roles with numerous civic and charitable organizations. Witt is pictured with **J Dillon Collins '98**, former Prep Major Gifts Officer, at the College Football National Championship.

AUTHOR'S CORNER



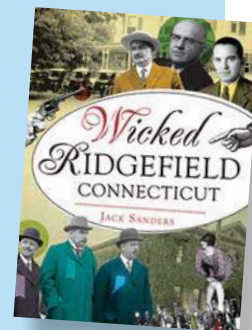
Yohuru Williams '89 writes "The Black Panthers"

Historian and Dean of Fairfield University's College of Arts and Sciences **Yohuru Williams**, PhD, has published his new book, *The Black Panthers: Portraits From An Unfinished Revolution* Shih. In *The Black Panthers*, Dr. Williams and Bryan Shih, the book's co-author and photojournalist, mark the 50th anniversary of the party's founding by offering readers a fascinating reappraisal of the revolutionary group's legacy through a series of stunning portraits, illuminating essays by leading scholars and interviews with over 40 surviving members. The personal recollections assembled in the book recount tales from the movement's most iconic figures and grassroots members while highlighting the grit, battle scars and undying love that kept them going.

Hailed as a "highly recommended compilation of interviews and photographs" by the *Library Journal*, the new book helps reframe the Black Panthers' legacy to include the humanitarian work they performed all across the United States. "By focusing on and allowing the rank and file of the party to speak for themselves, the book's interviews, along with Shih's brilliant photographs, illuminate previously unknown aspects of the party's work and history," Dr. Williams explained. "We hope our book will open the door and serve as a stepping stone for a new appreciation for one of the most significant, if still largely misunderstood, organizations of the late 20th century." Amazon.com

Sander '62 reveals stories in "Wicked Ridgefield"

Ridgefield is no stranger to life's shadier characters. The history of this idyllic community includes cunning crooks, suburban embezzlers, bungling burglars and wandering scallywags. In 1894, a group of bank robbers literally blew it in a heist at the Saving Bank—the explosion attracted witnesses to see the gang miss out on a grand haul of fifty dollars. Half a decade later, in 1940, a skeleton whose origins still befuddle experts was unearthed in a tree nursery. This look at the darker side of Ridgefield's past includes sad and tragic moments as well, such as newlyweds imprisoned in the Tombs, the Satanists of the '70s and a hermit murdered for love. Local editor **Jack Sanders** tells fascinating tales of two centuries of Ridgefield criminals, n'er-do-wells and even wayward do-gooders in this entertaining—and occasionally humorous—glimpse into some of the town's wickedest moments. Arcadiapublishing.com





Dan O'Connor '82 relaunches Frisbie pies

Dan O'Connor's interest in the former Frisbie Pie Company — the business credited with the invention of the flying disc later named the Frisbee — began when he found an old pie tin in a tag sale just after college. An avid Frisbee player at the time, O'Connor, a Fairfield resident, said he hadn't realized the extensive local history connected to the classic toy.

The story goes that children and college students from Bridgeport to New Haven's Yale University would throw the metal pie tins created by William Russell Frisbie's business as a game, and yell "Frisbie!" to warn of an incoming disc. Word spread, and California-based Wham-O, which sold hula hoops and a similarly-shaped plastic disc called a Pluto Platter in the 1950s, found out the game had become popular in the East Coast and began selling a Frisbee — changing the name slightly to avoid trademark issues.

"At the time something clicked and I started collecting," O'Connor said of finding the pie tin. Over the next few decades, he found hundreds of metal Frisbie pie tins at tag sales, flea markets, antique shops and online. Then, nearly a decade ago, he hit the Frisbie jackpot and came across old handwritten recipe books and photographs at an estate sale for which he ultimately won a bidding war.

Over time, O'Connor, who has a background in sales and marketing and is also certified to teach ultimate Frisbee, considered taking his interest a step further. "I've always thought about bringing back the Frisbie Pie Co.," he said. "It has been a vision for 30 years."

The opportunity to do just that appeared several years ago. Through his connections in the world of marketing, O'Connor found out who held the trademark for the brand name. "I was able to get the license and distribution rights to the name," he said, noting it was a lengthy and complicated process. Two years ago, he also found a 1936 Chevy Panel truck similar to one used by the original Frisbie Pie Co. Since then, the truck has been restored by Dragone Classic Motor Cars in Bridgeport and bears the Frisbie Pie Co. logo.

O'Connor then found a local supplier who could replicate the recipes for 4-inch blueberry, apple and cherry pies. The pies are more than 50 percent fruit and made with natural fruit juices. Last year, the pieces all came together when O'Connor made contact with the Restaurant Depot, which has members in the restaurant, deli and other food-related businesses. They began distributing his pies to the local market, including the Brooklawn Deli in Bridgeport, last month.

"Somewhere along the line it became ... destiny," he said. O'Connor said he is determined to place Frisbie pies in the hands of as many people in the region as he can. And he has bigger goals, too. He said he hopes to bring more ultimate Frisbee, disc golf and similar games to area children, possibly with help from the city on local parkland. He'd also like to someday see a brick-and-mortar bakery that would serve as a Frisbie Pie Co. museum. "It has nostalgia," he said. "It's all the good stuff that has huge potential."

Source: Fairfield Citizen News



Lafleur '15 answering the call

Andrew Lafleur '15 has always felt drawn to the priesthood since his earliest elementary school days. Having attended Catholic school since third grade and currently enrolled at Sacred Heart University while taking Divinity Studies courses, his main goal is to see where his vocation lies. Fairfield Prep fostered his desire to maintain this religious pursuit all throughout high school and even now. Andrew resides at the St. John Fisher Seminary in Stamford, CT where he is challenged to know more about his faith and live deeper in the formation of priesthood. His love of the Ignatian reflection and discernment was one of the biggest influential factors from his four years at Prep. Andrew's spirituality is a journey that is still evolving, and he feels that now is the time to truly discover what his exact calling is. One of the reasons Andrew gave for following this path was, "I want people to know the faith and why it is taught." His dedication and passion at such a young age make Andrew an inspiration to all.



Chip Crawley '04 in Tanzania

During late November of 2016, **Chip Crawley '04** set out on a trip to climb mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. Due to mis-scheduling and extra time while driving around a nearby city Moshi, he noticed the immense poverty. One of the men he climbed with brought him to an orphanage in town. In the remaining time before his flight, Crawley scheduled a visit to the Sadick Orphanage to learn more.

The Sadick Orphanage was a two room building with no running water and broken windows for over 95 children (and growing) from the village. He played with the children, gave them his camera for amusement, and discussed their situation with one of the educators, Steven. He told Crawley that the orphanage is funded through charity and they're treading water. This made him recall all he had learned about Prep's Jesuit mission.

During his visit to Africa, Crawley also encountered the East African tribe known as the Maasai, whose traditional values have come before educating their youth. The tribe is male dominant, so much so that the clothes they wear identify where a male is at in his "prime." Elderly, children, and women wear blue cloths with red designs. Males wear red cloths with black checkers. He believes that this tribe, being beautiful in its African traditions, could also benefit from an education system or learning another language. Either way, these experiences moved Crawley so much that he wants to increase awareness so that others can get involved.



BARRY WALLACE – “I miss my teaching and I miss my boys.”

Retiree recalls his Prep days

When I came to Prep in 1979 my first classroom was on the third floor of Xavier Hall along North Benson Road. Inside the brown gothic castle, the south stairwell next to my room was just as crowded with boys flooding through the double doors at class changes. From my very first day Fairfield Prep was a current of energy that carried me along.

After nine years of teaching in public schools I had never seen anything like the sheer exuberance of it. I’m not sure that I ever caught my breath. When you put 900 young men under the same roof the vibrations are cosmic; every day is an event in the creation of minds and souls. My classroom became my anchor to learn my trade teaching English and also a vantage point on the parade.

The ceilings were ten feet high and the tile floors were worn smooth behind the teacher’s desks from the pacing of Jesuits and lay faculty — the first generation of founders and followers. There were slate chalkboards encased in oak moldings, already worn with time and inscribed with some choice epithets that couldn’t be fully removed. The radiators knocked when the heat came on, slow at first and then hot enough to fry an egg. The old Prep buildings were filled with ghosts and memories. I felt honored and intimidated by the tradition.

Eventually the English department was moved across the way to Berchmans Hall. The school library, a dark, book-crammed room, was on the third floor overlooking the University campus. From its windows you could see all the way down to the Long Island Sound. There was a certain majesty in teaching at Prep, the ambiance of the university, the rolling campus with its edge of forest, and the startling expanse of the blue waters of the Sound which were part of our alma mater and our heritage.

Twenty years passed in an eye-blink for me. I went from one of the rookies on the faculty to one of the veterans. This wasn’t easy to do because teachers lasted lifetimes here. The halls were filled with legends. I was always aware that I was part of something both venerable and vital at the same time. I wanted to be a part of all this. I must’ve worked in a half dozen different classrooms until I ended up camped in B305 overlooking Pelletier Quad. This became home for my best teaching years and a room I kept until I retired in 2013.

When you spend day in and day out in a classroom for decades it becomes a part of you. I loved the sunlight pouring in the windows as we settled in to read “The Ancient Mariner” together. I watched storms flow down from the north as we read “Hamlet” and armies of clouds scudding off the Sound and over our historic slate roofs. What an amazing thing it was to see Arrupe Hall being built under the leadership of Michael Boughton, S.J., as it slowly rose above us and into our lives forever. Birds and bumble bees flew into my open windows and snowflakes sometime covered the students in the back row.

The most amazing thing that happened in B305 however, was the company of the boys who were becoming men. We read great literature, told stories, wrote and rewrote weekly essays, laughed like lunatics, cried at the loss of classmates and said farewell with a handshake in June. There were many days I was touched to my soul by the humanity and goodness of the boys. I gave selflessly to them as their teacher and they rewarded me with love and loyalty that was one of the great gifts of my life.

After four years of retirement I can say I miss my teaching and I

miss my boys. Prep is not a place you can walk away from and forget. It stays with you everywhere and visits you in a thousand different ways. B305 was a place of quiet joy and humble service for me. The classrooms tell my story and so many others who have been fortunate enough to be part of the Prep tradition. Cherish and honor it, and it will remain with you forever.

Contact Barry Wallace: wallacebarry19@gmail.com



Safeguarding Prep’s Future!

As Fairfield Prep celebrates our 75th anniversary celebration, it is an opportunity to reflect on how the school has shaped our lives and how we may help shape the future of this school. Six of our alumni share their memories, thoughts, and plans for how they are choosing to safeguard Prep’s future. Enjoy this short video on Prep YouTube! Thanks to **Jack Connolly ’65, John Altieri ’64, the late Jim Alexander ’55, John Chiota ’61, George Mihalik ’58 and J. Kendall Murphy ’48.**



Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1



Leave your mark on Fairfield Prep

Has your Fairfield Prep education been a major influence in your life? If so, you can have a significant impact on Prep in return. By making a bequest to Fairfield Prep, you will help ensure that future students will be able to benefit from the distinctive education that made such a difference to you.

The Prep Development Office offers information and assistance in creating an effective will and estate plan. Such a plan can provide financial security to your family at the same time that it endorses and perpetuates Fairfield Prep’s educational philosophy and programs. Please contact Larry Carroll ’63, Director of Planned Giving & Stewardship at (203) 254-4237 or lcarrroll@fairfieldprep.org.



From left: Fine Arts Chair Megan Hoover, Dr. Sal M. Santella '49 and VP for Advancement Rick Henderson

Prep Announces **\$500,000 Gift** to the Fine Arts Department

When you ask **Dr. Sal Santella '49** what Prep means to him, he'll respond with a slight raise in his eyebrows and smile on his face, "Prep is an amazing institution with a moral and religious mission, striving to form high quality men for our society." Through his amazing generosity, this past December **Dr. Sal M. Santella '49** committed \$500,000 restricted to the Fairfield Prep Fine Arts Department.

The newly re-designed third floor of Berchmans Hall, will now be known as the **Dr. Sal '49 and Marilyn Santella Fine Arts Center at Fairfield Prep.**

As his gift now serves as the largest private investment ever made to the Fine Arts Department, Sal states, "The arts cross all boundaries. Whether you're in business, medicine or technology, the arts can be and should be appreciated by all. It is my wish that all current and future students of Fairfield Prep enjoy and experience the fine arts." As a student at

Fairfield University in the early 1950s, Sal's love of the arts started as a result of joining the University's Glee Club. "The arts have always been an escape and an outlet for me, while as a young man, and during my years practicing medicine. My late wife Marilyn and I would always love going to the theater and local arts venues in Connecticut and New York City. The arts were always in our life."

Authored by Father Simisky, S.J., the recently approved new strategic vision for the school boldly lists, under the heading of Excellence, the enhancement of the Arts at Fairfield Prep, its facilities and curriculum. Vice President for Advancement Rick Henderson states, "We are very grateful for Dr. Santella's generosity. His gift is truly telling of his love for his alma mater, his belief in our strategic vision and the exciting future that lies ahead for Prep." When asked about what he would like to see in Prep's future, Sal responds, "President Father Simisky is a true blessing to our great school. His ability to lead with a smile while injecting enthusiasm into the Prep community is extraordinary. By following its mission, I want to see Prep grow. I want to see Prep continue to evolve with new ideas for education and continue to form these young men into leaders."

The newly re-designed third floor of Berchmans Hall, will now be known as the **Dr. Sal '49 and Marilyn Santella Fine Arts Center at Fairfield Prep.**

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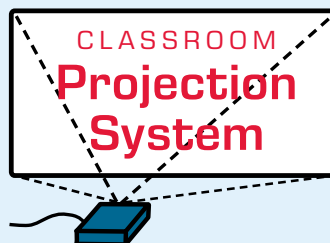
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