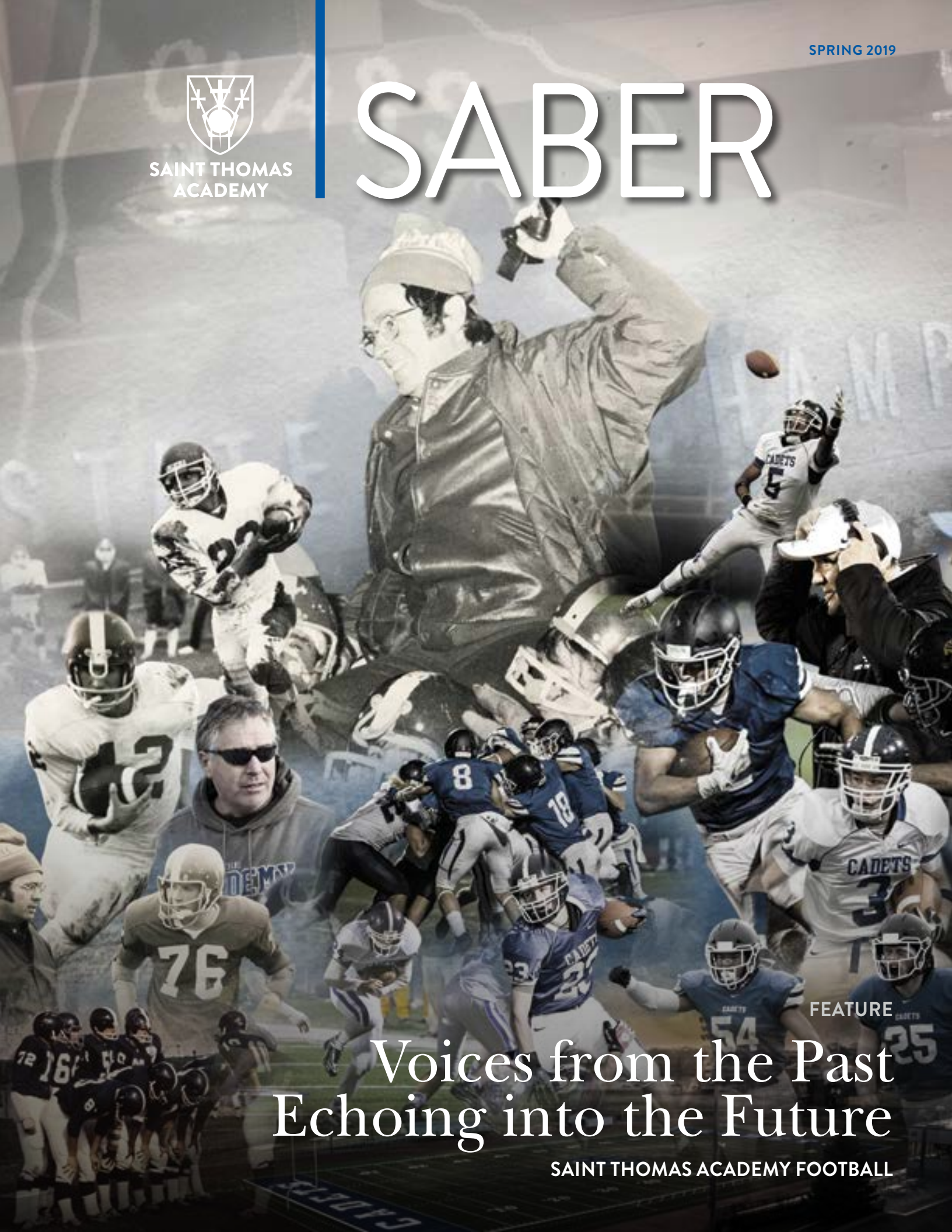


SPRING 2019



SAINT THOMAS
ACADEMY

SABER



FEATURE

Voices from the Past Echoing into the Future

SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY FOOTBALL

FROM THE HEADMASTER



Matthew C. Mohs '90



SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY

MISSION

Our mission — to develop boys into men of character — is our promise to our students, our families, our community and the world.

We accomplish this through the transformative power of an educational and life experience deeply rooted in Catholic faith and traditions, academic excellence, military leadership, and an all-male environment.

The season had an almost magical quality. Cheering my classmates to victory after victory, I became a die-hard, passionate football fan in 1989 as I watched my friends and brothers break long-held Academy records and decisively defeat our historical rival (in part by repeatedly intercepting passes thrown by a future Heisman Trophy winner). I was awe-struck as a future Rose Bowl-champion running back, protected by a mammoth offensive line, tallied a school record that stood until this year. The 1989 cadets had the look and feel of a team of destiny heading into the State Class AA semi-final football game.

As the bitter cold numbed our bodies that frigid November night, we watched our dreams of a state championship die on the frozen tundra of Parade Stadium. I felt a strange dichotomy of emotions — sadness and disappointment that the ever-elusive state championship would remain on the horizon and yet enormous pride and respect for my friends and classmates for what they had accomplished and the impact it had upon our beloved school.

This issue of the *Saber* looks back on the storied tradition of Saint Thomas Academy football in the afterglow of a record-setting season under new Head Coach Dan O'Brien. As a school, we are blessed with so many excellent programs that we could have retrospective cover stories for the next decade just recalling the history and legacy of specific programs. Other excellent co-curricular activities are sure to grace the cover of *Saber* in the future.

Memories that last a lifetime — that is an essential promise of the Academy experience. These memories are inextricably linked to our friends, our teachers, our shared experiences — as teammates or as fans. I hope you enjoy this issue. **Go Cadets!**

A handwritten signature of Matthew C. Mohs '90 in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name 'Matthew' being more prominent and the last name 'Mohs' following it.

Matthew C. Mohs '90
Headmaster

CONTENTS

SABER
Spring 2019



Saber is published by
Saint Thomas Academy

949 Mendota Heights Road
Mendota Heights, MN 55120
651-454-4570

cadets.com

Your comments, story ideas and suggestions are welcome. Please call editor Deborah Edwards, Director of Admissions and Marketing, at **651-683-1532** or email dedwards@cadets.com.

Feature and Articles Writer:
David Jacobson

Designer:
Renee Dubs Ellena

Printing:
Dolan Printing

Photo Credits:

Andy King Photography
Michael Murray Photography
Katy "Boo" Holmes
Patrick Gaylord '17
Liam Brennan '21
Tyler Maddaus
Saint Thomas Academy Archive Photos
Saint Thomas Academy Faculty, Staff,
Alumni & Friends

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LEADERSHIP

Chief Officer

The Most Reverend Bernard Hebda

Chairman

Mr. Kelly Rowe '79

Vice Chairman

Mr. Daniel Kubes '87

Past Chairman

Mr. James Kolar '80

Vice President

The Most Reverend
Andrew Cozzens

Secretary

Mr. Matthew Mohs '90

Founding Partner

Mr. Michael Ciresi '64



FEATURES

- 2 Voices from the Past Echoing into the Future
- 13 Middle School Football Program Prepares Cadets for Varsity
- 14 Fathers' Club Adds to Tradition for Football Games, Other Events

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 16 Academy News
- 26 Meet the Faculty
- 28 Advancement News
- 32 Alumni News
- 34 Class Notes
- 36 In Memoriam
- 37 Calendar of Events

SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY FOOTBALL

Voices from the Past Echoing

BY DAVID JACOBSON

When your school's football history, like Saint Thomas Academy's, dates nearly to the sport's birth, you're bound to hear some ghost stories. Especially when a program rises to its past height, as the Academy's did in 2018, stories start to stir among the players and coaches who, at least metaphorically, "live and die" with that team. A spirit has lived throughout the century or more that Cadets have played football. That spirit sometimes whispers, sometimes roars, channeled through voices of Saint Thomas Academy football in this oral history of the program's past, present and future.



CHAD ABBOTT '94 — Played primarily offensive line, graduated from Concordia University, now works as a Program Director for iHeart Media/KFAN radio and serves as offensive coordinator under Head Coach Dan O'Brien:

"Our kids remain among the most disciplined. That speaks to the school — to the type of kids we get. There's a buy-in and a belief that they're a part of something bigger."

DAN O'BRIEN — Head Coach, whose first season, 2018, ended with a 14-3 loss to Owatonna in the state championship game at U.S. Bank Stadium:

"I started hearing about the tradition as soon as I took the job. I started getting emails from alums. One of the reasons I took the job was because I knew football was important at Saint Thomas Academy. That's the kind of school I wanted to work at. If I was going to be a head high school coach, I wanted it to be where football was important. Does that add pressure? Absolutely, but it's a good pressure."



into the Future

“So actually, our mantra this year, our motto, our saying was #OldSchool. People asked, ‘Where did you get that mantra from?’ and I’d say, ‘For one thing, I’m old.’ But really, it’s because I challenged the kids, not with a goal of a certain number of wins, but to take it back to the ’70s, ’80s, ’90s, and 2000s, when Saint Thomas Academy won so many football games, and the style they did it with. [They were] disciplined, hard, we’re gonna come off the ball, run the ball, throw it when we need to do, but live and die with the run. That’s a physical style of old school football.”

CHAD ABBOTT: “We often talk about the ghosts of Saint Thomas Academy football. We tell the kids when they’re playing, there are always going to be a couple of alumni that don’t know anybody on the team but just like to come to the games and sit way up in the top of the bleachers and not say a

word to anybody. You want to make them proud and show them that you play just as hard as they did.”

DAN O’BRIEN: “We don’t need a room full of fancy weights and stretching bands. It’s gonna be outdoors with cement blocks, pushups and sit-ups. Fortunately, they bought in.”

According to O’Brien, the players asked for “old school stories.” He obliged, reading them stories he wrote, complete with use of his term of endearment for his players — “jokers” — and use of cues for players to “boo” and “yah” as he read. For example (see below):

— Continued on page 4

Old School Story

Way back in 1885 a few tough old jokers started a military high school. The school was very unique in that it only had boys and no girls. (Boo.)

As luck would have it, there was an all-girls school right across the street. (Yah!)

I’m sorry to tell you this, but there’s a tall fence around the school so you can’t go there. (Boo!)

The school was very hard academically, and the boys had to march and get inspected every day. (Boo!)

But all the discipline and hard work made the boys mentally and physically strong, so in 1922 they started a football team. The team was good and all the girls from the school came to the games. (Yah!)

With the football team winning most of its games, the locker room, after the wins, had lots of loud music and dancing. (Yah!)

Fast forward about 100 years, the Cadets had a grumpy coach who loved to get their feet hot. (Boo!)

But they had the best assistant coaches in the land! (Yah!)

With the Cadets’ expectation to be excellent, many other schools cheered when they would lose a game. (Boo!)

But on September 14th of 2018 they kicked the living hell out of the Sibley Warriors! (Yah!)

Voices from the Past Lead to the O'Brien Era

GERRY BROWN '58 — Quarterback/Safety, converted to offensive line; assistant coach, '63-'69, head coach, '69-'90; namesake of Gerry Brown Stadium, '94:

"In the earliest days of the school from 1885 to the 1920s, athletics were of the intramural type, formed around clubs and later military companies and coached by teachers, priests and military instructors.

"The early years are poorly documented but here was football right from the start. There is a picture of an early team in the history book *A Family Album*, but very few names and results. The first official interscholastic competition in football began in 1922 with a bang. The school's first football team, coached by Father Joseph O'Neill and captained by Dick Hanousek '22, was undefeated, and a post-season Armistice Day Challenge game was arranged with Alexandria, the newspapers' consensus public school state champions. The team traveled to Alexandria by train but was beaten in the big game. Father O'Neill coached for three seasons and was succeeded by Father Joe Gibbs. Gibbs was followed by Ray Mock and then Frank O'Rourke into the '30s.

"The 1935 team began the season 6-0 and then was trounced by Saint John's Prep. Seven players went down in the game with serious injuries, one so serious that the remainder of the season was canceled. The Cadet Corps went to Mass for four days, rather than drilling, to pray for those injured players who had complications!

"One prominent player was Jack Salscheider '42, who went on to play for the College of St. Thomas and then the New York Giants in the NFL. A variety of coaches were used for the interim years until Frank Deig had two powerhouse



Father Joseph O'Neill, first official Saint Thomas Academy football coach.

teams during the war years of 1944 and 1945, both teams achieving 7-1 records. Those teams included Herb Mischke '45, who also played collegiately at St. Thomas. Deig moved on to coach the St. Thomas College team in 1946, and Leroy "Skip" McMahon was hired. That began the 'modern era' of STMA football.

"Skip McMahon is a legend at Saint Thomas Academy, mostly for his personality. He was tough-talking, intimidating. Everyone had to pass muster. A lot of us, our first thought about what to say or do, was 'What will Skip think?'

"His best team was in 1950, which featured Steve Dolan '51, Peter Ritten '51, Dick Urbanski '51, and Roger Swenson '51. His best player — and probably the best player in the history of the school — was Mike Wright '56, who was a high school and college All-American and an All-Pro in Canadian football for many years."



A football team photo from the early days, taken from the Archives at Saint Thomas Academy.

STEVE DOLAN '51 — Quarterback:

"Skip McMahon had been a two-way end at Marquette University. In World War II, he commanded a LST (landing ship) at the Normandy Invasion in 1944. Our 1950 team was 8-1, beating Cretin, 19-7, our first victory over Cretin since 1943, when the great Jack Salscheider led his team to a narrow win. We also beat DeLaSalle, 20-0, and lost only the last game to Champion in Wisconsin, with four starters injured.

[In 1950] "Our captain, Pete Ritten, led us throughout the year and was named All-State at left halfback. Dick Urbanski, our right halfback, was 6'-1" and 190. He excelled in the DeLaSalle game, with a bruising, long touchdown, in which he could not be brought down. Mike Mullin '51, our right guard, was so dominating at his position that I wasn't sacked at quarterback all season until Mike was out of the Champion game with an injury. Our right tackle, Frank Klein '51, never was beaten in a match-up. Our right end, Pete Castner '51, was the classic all-around athlete. At left tackle, Dick Palen '51 was a favorite go-to

“SKIP [MCMAHON] WAS FOLLOWED BY BILL RIDLEY, AN INNOVATIVE AND CHARISMATIC COACH WHO WAS AN AGGRESSIVE LEADER OF BOTH THE FOOTBALL TEAM AND LATER A SCHOOL HEADMASTER. HE REVOLUTIONIZED SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY FOOTBALL.”

— GERRY BROWN



lineman, as approximately 40 percent of our running plays went off-tackle. He and left end Joe Sernett '51 worked the cross-block perfectly. Vince Dolan '51 was a non-erring center, wiry, strong and effective in protecting me at "T" quarterback.

"Our game against Cretin began inauspiciously, with the Raiders driving down to our five-yard line in the opening minutes, but our great two-way line held, and we were in command the rest of the game. Denny Monahan '53, a sophomore fullback, had several long runs, one for a touchdown, and the other a 45-yard run after a fake punt.

"Our first victory over Cretin in eight years had an emotional moment at the end of the game, when our talented classmate, trumpeter Jim Karpus '51, blew *Taps* in the last two minutes from the top row at Central Stadium in Saint Paul. For me personally, it was very memorable, with my mother being at the game after three years in a TB ward at Ancker Hospital. It was her first outing after her discharge."

GERRY BROWN: "Skip was followed by Bill Ridley, an innovative and charismatic coach who was an aggressive leader of both the football team and later the school as Headmaster. He revolutionized Saint Thomas Academy football. His signature achievement was beating arch-rival Cretin, 19-13, in 1964 after ten straight losses to the Raiders. My brother, Andrew 'Buster' Brown '65, was on that team and was named a high school All-American by the *Catholic New*

World newspaper, and then he played three years for Murray Warmath at the University of Minnesota. All of Bill's other years finished with winning records, including 8-0 in his final year, 1968, but Jack Horner (the local journalist, known as 'Mr. Sports') chose Cathedral in Saint Cloud as the state Catholic school champion. I became head coach in 1969."

(Brown's 21-year football coaching tenure was the longest in Academy history. When he retired in 1989 his record of 173-34-1, .834 lifetime winning percentage, led all active high school coaches in Minnesota. His 1969 and 1971 teams won state championships by newspaper poll, and his 1975 team won the Minnesota State High School League Class A Playoff Championship with a perfect 12-0 record, the only football playoff championship in the school's history.)

(His 1980 team was ranked first in the state by newspapers and wire services from the first day of the season to the last, when Saint Thomas lost 7-0 to eventual state champion

Pictured below, the 1975 Minnesota State High School League Class A Playoff Champions, the only football playoff championship in school history.

— Continued on page 6



FEATURE

Cambridge. His teams topped Cretin in 16 straight games. Football participation numbers sky-rocketed as freshman and JV football were added to the existing sophomore team, and varsity rosters usually included 70+ players.)

GERRY BROWN: “In 1969, we scored on the first play in five of our eight games. We were a powerhouse. The papers really covered us, and our kids were lionized. Beating Cretin all those years, they hated me and hung me in effigy and threw those dummies out on our lawn. It was a real rivalry. Players from each school grew up in houses next to each other. The parents all knew each other. It just rubbed them so raw over there. Talk to anyone from my era, and that’s all they want to talk about.”

TIM HERNANDEZ '77 — Defensive back, then played at Carleton College, attended med school at Mayo Clinic, and now practices family medicine and serves as CEO of Entira Family Clinics; has coached at Saint Thomas occasionally since 2004; sons played for Saint Thomas — Tony '97; Andy '98; Zach '02 (freshman football only); and John '04:

“My first experience with Saint Thomas Academy football was when I was still in grade school. I lived close enough to O’Shaughnessy Stadium to walk there. I remember sitting there, watching a Cretin-Saint Thomas game. I didn’t have any connection, but Saint Thomas won, and I thought it was really cool. I ended up at the Academy because a lot of my buddies from Nativity were going.”

**“ HE LOVED THE GAME, AND HE MADE YOU LOVE THE GAME.
HE TAUGHT ME THE IMPORTANT ROLE COACHES HAVE,
JUST BEING THERE FOR KIDS. ”**

— TIM HERNANDEZ '77



KEVIN BERG '76 — Defensive and Offensive End, also played linebacker for three years at Northwestern University, earned a law degree at University of Minnesota, and practiced 16 years before going to work for a subsidiary of Sysco Corp., while also serving off and on over 21 years as an assistant coach at Saint Thomas Academy:

“The games at the college were awesome. We got a good crowd. It was a cool stadium, a beautiful place to play. The parents were way into it, even though, unlike today, parents were less involved. My dad never drove me to practice and certainly never *watched* a practice.

“And whatever the coach said, that was it. There was no bitching about playing time. If a parent ever called Gerry about that, he’d invite them in for a film session. ‘Do you want to know why your kid’s not playing more? Let’s watch the film.’ Seriously.”

HERNANDEZ: “My freshman year, we were undefeated. My sophomore year, I had probably the best experience with a coach, Earl Wetzel '65. I’ve had a lot of wonderful coaches, but Earl was something special. He loved the game, and he made you love the game. He taught me the important role coaches have, just being there for kids. With Earl, it was his pre-game speeches. He was a really interesting individual. He was a '60s child, with long hair, which was unusual at Saint Thomas, and he would have us meditate a little as we were stretching. He taught a lot of life’s lessons.

“Junior year, I remember a game where I got beat deep, and I came off the field knowing I was going to get a tongue-lashing from Coach Brown, which I did. And I remember Coach Paul Maloney kind of grabbed me and said, ‘Don’t worry.’ He had my back. The mentoring and role-modeling Coach Brown gave was incredible. He was a tough guy. He was a tough coach. But he really instilled in us how to be organized, and how to coach kids, and how important coaching is in the lives of young men.”



Pictured above, Coach Leroy “Skip” McMahon coaching the Cadets from the sidelines.

Pictured left, Head Coach Gerry Brown with Bob Slater on the sidelines.

BOB SLATER '77 — Later earned a bachelor’s in education/history at University of Minnesota and a master’s in educational leadership and administration at University of St. Thomas, then served as assistant coach at the Academy, ’80-’89, head coach from ’90-’02, then returned to assistant and took his current position as Athletics/Activities Director:

“At the time I played, the tradition and football culture were very clearly defined by Gerry, who quite often paid homage to Bill Ridley and Skip McMahon as mentors of his. The most important things that were imparted to me were a sense of appreciating the opportunity to play, the importance of preparation, and the enormous benefit that could be gained personally from athletics.

“There was also camaraderie of teammates and the opportunity to grow meaningful relationships with adults — our coaches. It was an ethos that really took hold with me and was a really strong influence in my life. You can play football anywhere around the country, but there was an aspect to the culture, and the people involved, and a nurturing of relationships that really took hold with me. I really felt it was a privilege to play here and to be around the people I got to be around.

“ I REALLY FELT IT WAS A PRIVILEGE TO PLAY HERE
AND TO BE AROUND THE PEOPLE I GOT TO BE AROUND. ”

— BOB SLATER '77

“One of the memories that stands out to me was the year of our state championship, a team filled with really accomplished athletes, seven guys who played at the Division I level in college. We didn’t have a most valuable player, but the most important person on that team — and to a man, I think anyone on that team would tell you this — was our manager, Steve Abbott ’76. Though there were a handful of guys that got a lot of the press clippings, they’d tell you the most important person on that team was our manager, and I think that speaks volumes about how we felt about each other.

“Among a team of stars, he stood out for his selflessness. That was respected by all and embraced by everybody, to the point where a couple years ago he went into the school’s Hall of Fame. He never played a varsity sport, but he went into the Hall of Fame just because of the respect people had for him.

“He was born with cerebral palsy, but he was a gritty, tough-ass kid. If a kid was feeling sorry for himself in practice, Stevie would tell him, ‘Let’s go.’ When guys had bad days at practice and got chewed out by coaches and weren’t feeling good about themselves, Steve was able to boost them. But if you got a little too big for your britches, Steve had a pretty good one-liner to bring you back down to earth.”

BERG: “Gerry was a big influence on me and a great coach. He got me to play a lot better than I probably thought I could, which is what great coaches do. He knew what buttons to push with everybody. He was a good motivator and a great tactician. He made the game simple, and he made you want to play the game well for him. Sometimes I was terrified of him. Sometimes he used to get on my ass

pretty good. He knew which guys he could do that to, I think. He never talked to his quarterbacks that way. Quarterbacks have too much going on in their heads.

“When I was a sophomore, all he ever talked about was how much he hated sophomores. Every time I made a mistake, ‘God, I hate sophomores.’ Then, when I was a senior, we were playing Anoka, and he chewed my ass out in front of the whole team at half-time. He called me out, and he was right, and that changed the whole rest of the year. I adjusted my attitude a little bit, played a little better, and I owe that to him, though it didn’t feel too good at the time.

“He knew he needed to do that with me. I was a cerebral, technician-type player. I needed to be more emotional, and Gerry succeeded in finding that switch with me, that angry-guy switch, to get a little bit mean out there. He told me I was too nice of a guy.

“Our championship game at the University of St. Thomas against Saint Peter, they were really good. They were faster than we had practiced against, but I caught a touchdown pass at the end of the first half, which made the score, I think, 14-13, and in the second half we got our feet underneath us and scored one more.”

HERNANDEZ: “When I played there, we went onto the field and just knew we were going to win. It wasn’t arrogance. We just knew we were prepared. That quiet confidence is a critical piece in the success of the program.”

— Continued on page 8

FEATURE

BERG: “We wore white shoes. Gerry was a hard-core, conservative dude, but we wore white shoes. I think he did it just to piss people off, to put it in the opponent’s face. ‘Yeah, we’re gonna wear white shoes, and if you think we’re wimps because of that, you’re gonna find out otherwise.’ We had to shine them every game. It was a ritual. That was Gerry. He’s one of the most competitive people I’ve ever met.”

BROWN: “We were a high-tuition school, so some of our opponents saw us as ‘cake eaters’ or ‘candy asses.’ But just because our players were smart didn’t mean they couldn’t be street tough. The white shoes helped us establish a mindset with the players, a statement that said: ‘We ARE a fancy school, and whether you like that or not, we’re still going to hit you in the mouth.’”

According to Brown, 1987 marked the last football season of the 10 years that Saint Thomas Academy competed in the Saint Paul Conference. Political wrangling resulted in the Academy and Hill Murray entering fall of 1988 without conference affiliations. A year later, Saint Thomas was competing in the newly reorganized Saint Paul Suburban Conference and reached the final four of the large school division of the state football tournament. It was Brown’s last season as head coach, the end of an illustrious decade, in which he coached such stalwarts as Matt Brzica ’89; Pat Eilers ’85 (who later played for a National Championship University of Notre Dame team, followed by six seasons in the NFL); John Hansberry ’85; Mark Hansberry ’88; Jay Lennon ’85; Kevin Lovegreen ’87; Mark Montgomery ’90; Tim Murray ’86; Ryan Murray ’90; Tom O’Brien ’86; Eric Rapp ’86; Christian Sirek ’89; Randy Skarda ’86; and Pat Tingelhoff ’86.

Bob Slater — Brown’s top assistant and a former All-State linebacker on the 1975 state championship team — succeeded Brown in 1990. A significant development early in Slater’s tenure was the opening of Gerry Brown Stadium in 1994.



Pictured above, Pat Eilers ’85 who played at Notre Dame and in the NFL.

BROWN: “In 1993 Bill Makens, a concerned parent and board member, approached the Board of Trustees, offering to help with the construction of an on-campus stadium. We met and decided what would be needed for the Stadium, and he said, ‘Done.’ He agreed that his family would fund some of the new stadium construction and volunteered to act as Project Manager.

“I submitted some sketches, and in subsequent meetings we arrived at a final design, and the heavy equipment rolled in on May 1, 1994. What followed was termed a ‘construction miracle’ by local contractors. In the short span of six months a project that normally would take two years to complete was opened for business — albeit in incomplete condition, on September 30, 1994 — for the Saint Thomas Academy-Woodbury football game.

“Along with the Makens family, 110 donors participated, mostly former players and their families. The \$1.25-million stadium was totally funded before one shovel of dirt was moved. Alumni donors participated willingly, and alumni vendors discounted their services and products generously.



Pictured left to right: Chris Moore, Tony Hernandez, Todd Spicer and Steve Tanghe from the 1996 football season.



Original sketches by Coach Gerry Brown for the new on-campus football stadium at Saint Thomas Academy.



“This true community project, initiated and ramrodded by Bill Makens and his family, was topped off with a plaque affixed to the outside wall of the press box. The plaque’s inscription accurately reflected the wishes of the Makens family: ‘For the Kids of Saint Thomas Academy and Visitation.’ The stadium was transformational for the campus, because it brought our community together on Friday nights.”

Slater led the Cadets to conference titles in '93 and '95-'99, with state tournament appearances in '96-'01. The '96 team was undefeated in the conference and finished 10-1. The '97 team lost in the state semifinals to Spring Lake Park and featured a school-record seven-touchdown game by running back Xavier Smith '98, against Park of Cottage Grove. The '98 team had 10 straight wins but lost to Owatonna in the state semifinals. The 2001 team was state runners-up.

ZAVIER SMITH '98 — Past Academy record holder for touchdowns in a game, TDs in a season, and longest TD from scrimmage, also played one year at Minnesota State University-Mankato, now working for an engineering firm and pursuing a music/entertainment career:

“There was nothing really like playing for Saint Thomas Academy at that time. We had just got the new stadium. Everybody was really excited. It was packed for every game, and the energy was very high. It was definitely an experience I will never forget.

“At the same time, it was difficult time for me because of a disconnect in social classes. I come from a lower middle-class background, and going to Saint Thomas Academy, where everybody, essentially, is upper class, there were a lot of racial and socio-economic challenges that I fought through while I played.

“For me, football was the one place where I could prove myself every night. Nobody could deny what I could do on a football field. So, every game, to me, was

an important game. When the stadium was built it inspired me to take my game to another level.

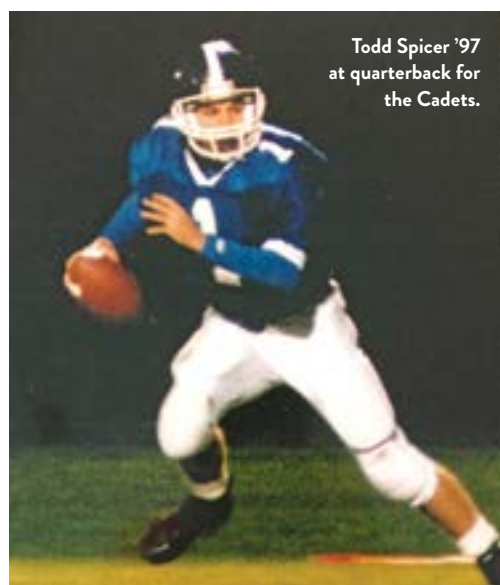
“I always felt like my best games were played at Saint Thomas just because EVERYbody came to the games, 95 percent of the school, people from the area, family, friends. It was always packed, and you could feel the support. It felt like *Friday Night Lights*. It was like Texas football. I felt like the stadium brought that energy to the team and to the program.”

TODD SPICER '97 — Quarterback, went to Bradley University on a baseball scholarship, played baseball for the Independent League’s Rockford Riverhawks, earned a business administration degree from Bradley and a law degree from Hamline University and now is Chief Compliance Officer at Allianz Investment Management LLC:

“When I look back on my time with Saint Thomas football, that really is the gold standard for my expectations personally and professionally as far as how to go about doing things the right way. I pretty much use that as the measure for everything I do. It is truly one of the highlights of my life to be able to say I quarterbacked a team that achieved what we did.

“I remember my senior year we traveled to Rochester Mayo. They were one of the two teams we lost to in my junior year. That senior-year game was great, back and forth, and we won on a last-second touchdown pass to beat them by one point.”

ABBOTT: “It’s the brotherhood you remember, the relationships with the guys. I don’t remember the games as much as the friendships we formed. Going through it as a player and now watching it as a coach, when you see the work that’s needed to be successful, it’s a really good teaching tool for life. When



Todd Spicer '97
at quarterback for
the Cadets.

“IT FELT LIKE *FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS*. IT WAS TEXAS FOOTBALL. I FELT LIKE THE STADIUM BROUGHT THAT ENERGY TO THE TEAM AND TO THE PROGRAM.”

— ZAVIER SMITH '98

— Continued on page 10

FEATURE

you work together with guys and go through hard times with guys — the practices, the reps, the hot days, the cold days — you form relationships that just are not formed in other sports.

“My favorite game memory was against White Bear Lake. It was snowing, and we had to make a final drive to go ahead and eventually win the game. We had two touchdowns called back on that drive, but we kept at it. We scored, and then we botched the extra point. Steve Feldon '94, the quarterback, was the holder and threw it into the back of the end zone and our tight end, Brian Beske '94, went up for an unbelievable catch for a two-point conversion that sealed the game. But that whole drive, in the huddle, huge, giant snowflakes were falling on our quarterback's face as he was calling the play. When I spoke earlier about the brotherhood, that's what I meant. We just were NOT going to lose that game.”

JAVIAR COLLINS '96 — Defensive tackle, went on to play for Northwestern University through 2000, and then several NFL teams from 2001-2006, followed by business and non-profit consulting and now pursuing executive coaching:

“Looking back at Saint Thomas, the first thing that comes to mind is walking into that culture with Bob Slater — we called him ‘Ox’ — and Kevin Berg, our defensive coordinator, and seeing that they emphasized intangibles, such as hard work, effort and being a well-rounded man, even more than they emphasized tangible football skills. Those messages really stuck with me. Hearing men I respected sharing those messages with me on a daily basis really affected me.”

SLATER: “Coaching was something I had long aspired to do, and I felt well prepared when I became the head coach. It was an honor to try to perpetuate a way of doing things that had been done not only by Gerry but also by Bill Ridley

The 2018 Saint Thomas Academy football team in a pre-game huddle on the field under the lights.



“ CARRY YOURSELF THE RIGHT WAY. HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS. REMEMBER WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO TEENAGE BOYS. ”

— BOB SLATER '77

before him. Carry yourself the right way. Have high expectations. Remember what's important to teenage boys.

“The thing I really liked about being a head coach was being responsible for building a culture of respecting each other, supporting each other and giving it your best effort. I really enjoyed nurturing those relationships, making sure there was an environment where teenage boys, who are at a very awkward stage of development, could express themselves in a manner that was healthy, that was good, that appealed to their sense of competition and that took into consideration that teenage boys are not God's greatest creation, and that the hallways have to be a little wider for them sometimes. The fact that I'm dealing with these guys today as fathers...that's something you can't put a price-tag on.

“I got to coach with a lot of my best friends. That made it a much more enjoyable experience. Some of us raised

our kids together. Those kids were at every practice and every game, and they were the ballboys and waterboys. They still tell stories about halftime speeches. Those are funny stories and fond memories and sometimes they're a little bit embarrassing.

“There's one episode from my first year of coaching that stands out, and it's not a fun one. I learned the value of facing the field when you're talking to your players. Don't face the stands, where their mothers are sitting. I happened to have some constructive criticism for my position group, and the next day the headmaster called me into his office, and he said, ‘Hey, Bob, I thought you guys played a really nice game. But now you might want to visit a proctologist to get your head out of your ass. You don't yell at a bunch of kids when you're facing their mothers, you dummy.’ From that point on I never scolded kids or offered constructive criticism unless I was well away from their mothers.”

BROWN: “Bob Slater handed off the coaching reins to Dave Ziebarth, and the string of successes continued in the 21st century. The Cadets became a regular in the state football tournament with appearances in 2003, ’06, ’08 and ’09. The 2006 team that featured Tim McManus ’07; Bill Lawrence ’07; and Fritz Waldvogel ’08 lost an exciting championship game in the Metrodome in the last seconds. The Cadets returned to the Dome for another semifinal appearance in ’09, and Ziebarth led the squad until 2015.”

DAVE ZIEBARTH — Longtime social studies teacher began as an Assistant Coach in 1984-2002; and Head Coach 2003-2015:

“I started coaching at Saint Thomas Academy under Gerry in the ’80s, and then I was the offensive coordinator for

Bob for 13 years, and then spent 13 years as head coach. There were similarities between the three of us. We were all demanding and tough and wanted disciplined teams.

“One difference for me was giving more leeway to my assistant coaches. I never wore the headset. The OC and DC did their jobs. Another difference was due to reading Joe Ehrmann’s *Season of Life*. We would discuss a lot of non-football things. Tim Hernandez’s son was in a terrible car accident, and we prayed every day after practice, and the kids wanted to keep doing it. We still do that, get together and pray and talk about intentions and things outside of football.

“I’ve been at Saint Thomas Academy for 39 years and have been to a lot of weddings and funerals, and I always see

the large numbers of teammates who turn out for each other. When I was coaching with Bob in ’97, my mother died. When my dad and I walked into the church, we saw 300 kids in their Class A uniforms. It was a really powerful moment. That’s what our kids do.

“As I think back on all that time, it’s the time in the locker room, before a game, when you’ve warmed up, and you’ve gone back in, and you’re standing in there with those kids, and there is this tremendous sense of connection. They’re different-looking kids, and they have different uniforms on, but they’re the same. Sometimes we talk to them about the ghosts. All the guys who played before you are watching and want you to do well, and that shouldn’t be a burden, it should be a help. You should be lifted up.”

— Continued on page 12



SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY CLASS OF 2019 FOOTBALL PLAYERS WHO PLAN TO PLAY IN COLLEGE

(Listed alphabetically by last name)

Keoni Amadick	St. Olaf
Logan Cloutier	St. John's University
John Copeland	Citadel
Sean Creamer	Undecided
Charlie Fafinski	University of St. Thomas
PJ Gaertner	Undecided
Callan Happe	Undecided
Luke Herzog	University of North Dakota
Will Herzog	University of St. Thomas or St. John's University
Jack Horst	Undecided
Vince Hubbell	Undecided
Alex Kuntz	University of St. Thomas
Brendan McFadden	Undecided
Jack Nozel	St. John's University
Tommy Odegard	Undecided
Jason Samec	University of South Dakota or Villanova
Johnny Steveken	Undecided

The Present

The relatively brief tenure of Jason Sedlak '93, ended when he retired, and Slater, in the role of athletic director, hired O'Brien. The former University of Saint Thomas football player, who earned a bachelors in PE and masters in instructional leadership, grew up in Winthrop. His lengthy coaching and athletics administration career includes time at Benilde-Saint Margaret's, Lakeville Schools, Bemidji Schools, Concordia University, Hamline University, and the University of Minnesota.

O'BRIEN: "Overall, I really enjoyed this past season. From the standpoint of our win-loss record, nobody would have expected it, including me, to play at U.S. Bank Stadium, with probably 5,000 people supporting us, in two consecutive games. The alumni and student support were fantastic. It was loud, and it was a great experience to be in the locker room, where the pros dress, and then to come out of that tunnel.

"My staff is 80 percent former players, and they continually talk to the kids about the past at Saint Thomas. I'm not sure what it took for the kids to buy in, but I want to figure that out, so I don't screw it up. A lot stems from our summer program and how that helped build brotherhood. Another turning point was our game against Mahtomedi, because they were ranked ahead of us, and when we beat Hastings the next game, our kids realized we could run the table.

"We established some new things, such as weekly texts to someone who deserves our gratitude...family, teachers, a doctor. Some of those texts got funny responses. One parent

wrote back to the boy, 'Son, did you hit your head in the game again?' Another player's sister wrote back, 'Thanks, but you still suck.'

"We also started to have lighter practices on Thursdays, followed by about a half-hour mass from Father Mark, and then a pasta meal served by different parents each week. I thought it was important for the kids to sit together and reflect outside of football."

BERG: "I'll tell you something about this team this year. My nephews (Charlie '19, and Oscar '21) were on it. I coached some of these kids when they were freshmen. I think I was just helping out with linebackers. That's quite a group of kids. They reminded me of us. They were fearless. They liked to compete. They liked to mix it up. They were a little bit mean, even when they were 13. Those kids had some moxie, and they were not afraid, and we were 13-0 as freshmen. So, there are links. The real links are the coaches. The continuity is in the players who came back to coach."

HERNANDEZ: "There's a huge connection between players and alums, starting with Gerry and going to Bob Slater to Dave Ziebarth and now Dan O'Brien. This year, I was fortunate enough to have an intimate view of change with Dan, new ideas, a little bit of new culture, because he is not a Saint Thomas alum. He did an outstanding job of making connections to the past. He brought in classmates of mine to really embed in these young men an understanding of what a privilege it is to be part of a school with this long tradition."



The Future

ABBOTT: "My son, who's a third-grader, comes around to a lot of the practices. He loves it. The older he gets, the more he appreciates it."

SPICER: "Now that I have an eight-year-old son, who is very intrigued by football, I'm excited to share Saint Thomas football with him. Being able to go to U.S. Bank Stadium and watch the state semi-final victory, it means a lot to him and to me to see the tradition that I was part of playing out in person and on TV in huge stadiums. I can see the excitement in his eyes."



Middle School Football Program Prepares Cadets for Varsity

BY DAVID JACOBSON

As the Saint Thomas Academy varsity football team returned to lofty heights, the future of the program is prepared at the middle school level. Under Head Coach **John Reagan '10**, the 6th-through-8th graders focus on fundamentals and instilling character.

“Our motto is ‘Give Your BEST’ — an acronym that stands for Brotherhood, Excellence, Service and Tradition,” Reagan said. “It’s on t-shirts, slide shows, and classroom presentations. They hear it 10 to 15 times per day from the start of the season to the end. We want to get our culture instilled.”

With roughly 40 players out for the team, Reagan will try to schedule teams with smaller student bodies for 2020 to play against his “blue” team of 8th graders and the most skilled 7th-graders and his “white” team of 7th-graders who are not yet proficient and all the 6th-graders in the program. “Our win-loss record is not great,” he acknowledged, “but our kids have been very competitive, and I’m proud of what we’ve accomplished.”

Assisted by Paul McKeehan, as well as **Rich Hanousek '87** and **Phil Ritten '87** — who both played for legendary Academy Head Coach **Gerry Brown '58** — Reagan’s primary goal is preparing players for the varsity. He integrates them however possible, for example, having the middle school



players stand with the varsity players and hold their helmets during the national anthem played before the varsity games.

“And Coach O’Brien is great about sending maybe 100 kids from the varsity and sub-varsity to our games,” Reagan said. “So, in addition to the 100 or 150 family members, we can get a pretty big rooting section and that really fires up our kids. Coach O’Brien is great about making sure there’s a family atmosphere from the seniors on down.”

Another way to knit together the middle school and high school programs is by running simplified versions of the

varsity’s schemes on offense and defense and using the same terminology. There are occasional pay-offs on the scoreboard, too, Reagan noted.

“Last season we had a game under the lights on our varsity field against Woodbury. It was raining and cold, and our guys showed their character in a hard-fought game. We won by two touchdowns, and the way the kids played through adversity after being down a touchdown is a great memory. They just kept plugging. It was a credit to how hard they worked, how hard they played and the toughness of our team.”



Fathers' Club Adds to Tradition for Football Games, Other Events

BY DAVID JACOBSON



A football program as historic and tradition-laden as the Cadets' should draw the largest crowd possible beneath the Friday Night Lights. But man (and woman and child) shall not live by football alone. Occasionally, there must be sustenance, so when Tom Motzel and Thor Raarup realized the Cadets were losing spectators to distant dinner bells, they started a new tradition: the Fathers' Club pre-game burger basket at Gerry Brown Stadium.

"We wanted to get fans there earlier," Motzel said, "so we started serving dinner. We also grill burgers for other sports, whenever they request a 'Spotlight Game.' And our grill is not just a grill. It's a \$20,000 grill with five spits and sinks in the back. We could probably go fishing off this thing. We knew the previous owner, who was a professional grilling competitor. He told us he was thinking of selling it, and we said, 'Then that means we're thinking of buying it.'"

For Fall 2018 Spotlight Events, the Fathers' Club served 2,288 burgers. The fact that Motzel and Raarup can provide such a precise number exemplifies the care they put into the Fathers' Club feeding of the Saint Thomas Academy community. Such attention to detail lies at the core of all their efforts, which

have helped grow the Fathers' Club from a "core of six or seven" at the start of the decade to about 100 active dads this year.

Their passion stems from the welcome they received as non-alumni. "It's easy for outsiders to assume there will be cliqueness," Motzel said, "but I immediately fell in with Saint Thomas Academy when my oldest son (**Ryan '13**) started. It was old school, and the mission statement hadn't changed in about 130 years.

None of the rest of the core of active Fathers' Club dads that first year were alumni, and that helped create even more familiarity among us."

Legends from the past 10 years have helped build the Fathers' Club brand. "Our first night grilling was parents' night for the football team," Motzel recalled. "The grill wouldn't start. We have 300 people to feed, and the fans are





- 1 Grilling up burgers on a Friday night at Cadet football.
- 2 Tom Motzel and Thor Raarup, the two fathers who brought the burger baskets to life for the Fathers' Club.
- 3 Fun at the annual Trivia Night event in February.
- 4 A cadet at the annual Mother/Son Dance in January.

getting restless. A guy comes walking up, maybe 6'-4" or 6'-5", not a small frame, a Mendota Heights firefighter, nicest guy you'll ever meet. He offers to help, and five minutes later the grill is started, and he never put the spatula down. That was our original grillmaster, Ken Weisenburger."

(Editor's note: You couldn't make this stuff up if you tried.)

Beyond the burgers, Motzel and Raarup spearheaded an effort to revive the tradition of a canon shot after each Cadets touchdown, resulting in the unveiling of Cadet Thunder, which the Rangers fire. They also are protectors and developers of the Fathers' Club brand, shield, and swag, such as t-shirts and ballcaps.

The efforts seem sports-focused, partly due to the role of sports at the Academy and the involvements of Motzel's sons (**Ryan '13; Nick '15; Vinny '18; and Joey '19**), as well as Raarup's (**Anders '14; August '16; Axel '18; and Asa '20**). However, beyond sports, a partial list of Fathers' Club-led events includes:

- Mother/Son Dance (500+ formal sit-down dinner)
- Father/Son Banquet (400+ attendees for dinner and speaker, such as Louis Zamperini of "Unbroken" fame; Herman Boone, the football coach portrayed in "Remember the Titans"; and a Blue Angels Commander)
- Valet Parking at the Military Ball
- Trivia Night (whose proceeds go toward such items as the statue of St. Joseph for the Academy's chapel)
- First Friday Mass

As past presidents and drivers in the development of Fathers' Club over the last decade, Motzel and Raarup are quick to thank all the dads who put forth effort and contributions, such as current grillmasters — Jim Englin and JP Melendez — and other past presidents (from most recent, moving back in time) Doug Goaley, Kelly Rowe, Mike Weidner, Al Patterson, Dave Carlson, and Mike Peterson.

Both Motzel and Raarup recognize that Fathers' Club active membership can be transitory after sons graduate, but also point out: "At any school you can choose your level of involvement. We've been very intentional about using Fathers' Club as a welcome mat. Every dad of a Cadet, by definition, is a member. If you're a dad, just show up."

FATHERS' CLUB SPECIAL EVENT SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019

The Saint Thomas Academy Fathers' Club is beyond thrilled to invite you to a special evening with Jake Olson, who has inspired millions as a long-snapper for the University of Southern California Trojans football team, despite his blindness. Please join him and his USC football teammate, the Academy's own **Wyatt Schmidt '13**. Register at Cadets.com/JakeOlson and direct any questions to Fathersclub@Cadets.com.

See back cover for more details.



ALUMNI HONORED AT VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

At the 2018 Veterans Day ceremony, the Fleming Alumni Veteran Award recipients were:

LT. COL. COLLIN COATNEY '94, U.S. AIR FORCE —

Since August 2015, Coatney has been commander of the 162nd Operations Support Squadron of the 162nd Wing at Morris Air National Guard Base in Arizona. The squadron is comprised of 10 functional areas and 80 airmen and is the largest squadron in the 162nd Operations Group. The 162nd Wing has more than 1,600 military members total and 74 F-16s, flying 15,000 hours annually. Since earning his commission in 1998 through Marquette University ROTC and completing F-16 training, Coatney has flown west coast defense and Salt Lake City Winter Olympic air patrols after 9/11; and combat missions over Iraq and South Korea. He has been a T-37 instructor pilot for the Air Force's Euro NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Program and an F-16 instructor pilot and an active duty adviser to the Air National

Guard. In 2011, he left active duty to join the Arizona Air National Guard, and the 162nd Wing, where he has taught students from the U.S. and NATO countries to fly and fight with the F-16 and has personally influenced the air power of emerging countries such as Indonesia, Morocco, Poland and Pakistan. Prior to his current position, Coatney served the 162nd Wing as a flight commander, chief of standardization and evaluation, F-16 evaluator pilot, and director of staff.



Featured Special Guest, retired Rear Admiral Brian Losey addresses the crowd.

LT. SEAN ANDERSON '03, U.S. NAVY —

Anderson served as an active duty officer in the U.S. Navy until 2017, and today serves as a flight instructor in the Navy Reserves while working as a pilot for Southwest Airlines. During his active-duty career, Anderson was most recently a Catapult Launch and Recovery Officer on an aircraft carrier, operating the ship's four steam-powered catapults that launched F-18 Super Hornets, E-2 Hawkeyes and C-2 Greyhounds.



Pictured left is Lt. Col. Collin Coatney '94 and Lt. Sean Anderson '03.

He also served as the Arresting Gear Officer for recovery and landing of the same aircraft, and Helicopter Control Officer. In 2016, the carrier deployed to the Persian Gulf, where its crew initiated strikes 6 days a week on Islamic State strongholds in Iraq and Syria, resulting in the Islamic State losing much territory. Prior to serving on the aircraft carrier, Anderson was an instructor pilot teaching Navy and Marine Corps students to fly various Navy and Marine Corps aircraft, as well as Coast Guard and international students from Italy, Mexico and Norway. His fellow instructors chose him to receive the 2015 Instructor Pilot of the Year Award for VT-31. He began his military career as E-6B Mercury (Boeing 707) Aircraft and Mission Commander, overseeing nuclear command and control for aircraft used for strategic communications between nuclear submarines and the U.S. joint forces. As mission commander, Anderson led 15 Navy aircrew members in maintaining a 24-hour "line of alert," safely operating the aircraft and ready to fly at a moment's notice. They routinely flew 12-15-hour missions during which they deployed 5-mile-long trailing wire that transmitted low-frequency radio waves that enabled submarines to receive messages anywhere in the Atlantic Ocean. They also conducted aerial refueling of aircraft and enabled remote command and deployment of land-based nuclear weapons in the event traditional decision-making authorities were unavailable.

FACULTY/STAFF UPDATES

Theology teacher **JOE SEIDEL**, will receive the 2019 Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Award from the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) for dedication and commitment to excellence in Catholic education.

Seidel was chosen from more than 150,000 teachers and administrators, as well as diocesan leaders and organizations dedicated to the nation's Catholic schools. He will be recognized during the annual NCEA 2019 Convention & Expo that will take place April 23-25 in Chicago. The annual award honors those whose ministry is Catholic school education and who have demonstrated a strong Catholic educational philosophy as well as exceptional efforts, dedication and achievements.



Band Director **JOHN BINA** contributed to the book, *Rehearsals "In the Round"* in *The Conductor's Companion* (p.10) published by Meredith Music Publications. Mr. Bina was also featured at the 72nd MidWest International Band Clinic in Chicago, Illinois in December. The conference was attended by 17,000 band directors from around the world.



On January 10 at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, Art teacher **BRANDON LUTTERMAN**'s piece was awarded first place in the ceramics division at the Arts in Harmony 2019 Annual International Show, an international juried exhibition showcasing artwork of thirteen different classes of media by artists from the United States and abroad.

NORMA GUTIERREZ, Director of College Counseling, was appointed to the Board of Directors for the National Catholic College Admission Association, which is a nonprofit organization of Catholic colleges and universities committed to promoting the value of Catholic higher education and to serving students, parents and counselors. Currently, 145 Catholic colleges and universities are member institutions.



COACHING UPDATES

TOM and **GREG VANNELLI** announced they will retire from coaching the Cadet Hockey team after the 2018-19 season. Since 2003, when Tom and Greg Vannelli became co-head coaches, the Cadets have won 5 state hockey championships, 10 section championships and 4 conference championships. The Cadets had the honor of playing on an outdoor rink at Holman Field for Hockey Day Minnesota in 2015 and annually share a top-ranked position with the best AA teams in the state. Equally impressive is the talent that has emerged: 30 Cadet hockey players have collectively received approximately \$6 million in college hockey scholarships since 2003.

Saint Thomas Academy has promoted assistant baseball coach **MATTHEW KELLY** to the position of head baseball coach and baseball program head, effective immediately. Kelly will oversee the Academy's baseball program for grades 6-12, including leading the varsity baseball team and coaching staff. Kelly has been the assistant varsity coach and JV head coach for the past two years and was the freshmen head coach in 2016.



REGISTER AT CADETS.COM/EVENTS



SENIOR OFFICER PROMOTIONS



Kolar Named Cadet Colonel

Luke Kolar '19 was named the 111th Cadet Colonel, taking leadership of the Corps of Cadets following the annual promotion ceremony in November. Commandant of Cadets, Colonel Neil Hetherington, had this to say about Cadet Kolar. "He is truly an exceptional young man. He is an amazingly well rounded leader and is not only the best qualified on paper to lead the Corps of Cadets, but was

overwhelmingly voted by his peers as the best candidate to lead them during the school year. This speaks volumes of Luke's leadership skills, both inside the walls of Saint Thomas Academy and also in the community. Luke is the epitome of the Saint Thomas Academy mission statement in building young men of character. He possesses all the attributes of what a leader should be, know and do and he is an excellent role model for all cadets to emulate."



**Pictured with his parents:
Mike '87 and Amy**

Kolar, a resident of Edina, Minnesota, has attended Saint Thomas Academy for four years. He hopes to attend college on the East Coast. "As a senior today, I'm still in awe of the immense impact this school has had on me since my first days as a freshman. Saint Thomas Academy teaches skills that can be applied to any career or role in life; ambitious competition,

countless hands-on leadership scenarios, and lessons in diligence that characterize a Cadet's high school years perfectly compliment the values of compassion, community, and courage that the Academy instills in young men. Saint Thomas Academy is a place like no other, and I'm forever grateful for the amazing experience of maturing here."



C/LIEUTENANT COLONEL, DEPUTY BRIGADE COMMANDER CALLEN HAPPE

Happe, a resident of Eden Prairie, has attended Saint Thomas Academy for four years. He hopes to study business or economics at Boston College, Villanova, or Notre Dame. "Attending Saint Thomas Academy has been one of the biggest blessings in my life. The combination of its challenging academics and wide variety of extra-curriculars has pushed me to step out of my comfort zone and discover my passions and capabilities. Through rigorous schoolwork and friendly competition with fellow students, Cadets are better prepared for the next stages of life than students at other schools. Saint Thomas Academy's commitment to excellence resonates with my brothers and me, and I am sure the class of 2019 will go on to do great things in the near future." **Pictured with his parents: Michael and Shannon**



C/LIEUTENANT COLONEL, CHIEF OF STAFF, THOMAS MAYLEBEN

Mayleben, a resident of Edina, has attended Saint Thomas Academy for six years. He hopes to attend the University of Notre Dame or Duke University next year. "It has been a true blessing and life-changing experience to attend the Academy for the past six years and there is no school that I would have rather been at. Saint Thomas Academy has not only taught me what it means to be a man of character and respect but also how to live these qualities on a daily basis. The rigorous academics, bountiful co-curriculars, and faculty and staff here at school have offered me tremendous opportunities to develop as a person and student." **Pictured with his family: Andrew '15, Daniel, Elizabeth, William '17**



C/LIEUTENANT COLONEL, BATTALION COMMANDER, HAYES REDING

Reding, a resident of Saint Paul, has attended Saint Thomas Academy for three years. Next year, Hayes will attend and play lacrosse at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. "I am so grateful for everything Saint Thomas Academy has done for me. I have grown intellectually, spiritually, and physically in my time at the Academy; transforming into the man I am today. Many of my most cherished memories have happened here at STA, and I have been able to make friends at this institution that I know I will have for the rest of my life. It means everything to me that I am at a school I love, surrounded by like-minded people with a will to succeed."

Pictured with parents: Andy '85 and Francie



C/LIEUTENANT COLONEL, BATTALION COMMANDER, BRENDAN MCFADDEN

McFadden, a resident of Sunfish Lake, Minnesota has attended Saint Thomas Academy for six years. Brendan is hoping to attend either Boston College or Santa Clara. "I am extremely thankful for my six years here at Saint Thomas Academy. Learning how to become better men and better leaders is what this institution is all about. It provides each cadet the tools necessary to be successful in life. The values of hard work, humility, and respect are not only taught in the classroom, but on the playing fields as well. I am proud to call myself a Cadet."

Pictured with parents: Michael and Mary Kate



C/LIEUTENANT COLONEL, BATTALION COMMANDER, MAXWELL MCFARLAND

McFarland is a resident of West Saint Paul. He has attended Saint Thomas Academy for six years. He is hoping to attend Gonzaga University or University of Portland. "Saint Thomas Academy has provided me with the opportunity to develop myself in ways I never thought possible. With the unique aspects of all male and military affiliation, I have been able to learn how to serve others while also improving upon my academic and leadership intellect. While attending the STA middle school, I was getting prepared for high school by learning the foundations for what it means to become a man of solid character through added responsibilities and expectations. Once reaching high school, I have spent these last few years flourishing and becoming a cadet who is prepared to graduate and go on to be a positive influence and difference-maker in the world. I would not change my last six years of experience here for the world." **Pictured with parents: Walter McFarland and Kathryn Ter Horst**



C/LIEUTENANT COLONEL, BRIGADE OPERATIONS OFFICER (S3), JOSEPH MOTZEL

Motzel, a resident of Eagan, Minnesota, has attended Saint Thomas Academy for four years. He hopes to attend the United States Naval Academy or Boston College next year. "Saint Thomas Academy has played a significant role in developing myself both academically and mentally. I have honed skills that prepare me to perform well in school, athletics, and leadership. I know that these are things that I will take with me for the rest of my life, and for that I am truly grateful."

Pictured with parents: Thomas and Tara



Andrew Brundidge '24 contributed an article to the *Minnesota Spokesman Recorder* newspaper in December. Andrew's article was a business spotlight feature on Aniki's Ice Cream Bow Ties.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SHOWCASE

Tuesday, April 30, 2019
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Come and experience the uniqueness of Saint Thomas Academy.

To register, visit
Cadets.com/showcase



Middle School Geography Bee

Max Mapellentz '24, has won the school's 2018-19 Middle School Geography Bee, the first round in the 31st annual National Geographic Bee, a competition to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world. He beat all other 6th, 7th and 8th graders for the chance to represent Saint Thomas Academy at the State Geography Bee. Max will compete at the state level on March 29.

Pictured with Middle School Director Jamie Jurkovich.



JUNIOR HIGH MATH LEAGUE

Sixth grader **Kian Farook** (pictured with math teacher Kim Wald) tied for fourth place out of ninety seven 6th through 8th grade students from the South East Metro Division of the Minnesota Junior High Math League. Medals were given to the top 10 students at the end of the season. Saint Thomas Academy competed at five meets between October and January with St Paul Academy, Heritage Middle School, South Saint Paul Secondary School and Friendly Hills Middle School.



CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP STATE CHAMPION

Congratulations to 8th grader, **Eric Zahua**, first year marksman. Eric competed in his first competition in January. He placed third, received a bronze medal, and was the Civilian Marksmanship State Champion for his age group.



Middle School Wins Annual Quiz Bowl

Congratulations to 8th graders **John Charles Farrell**, **Thomas Lund**, **Ethan Horton**, and **Ben McKinley** on placing 1st out of 41 teams at the 26th annual Catholic Quiz Bowl. The tournament was sponsored by the Admissions' Offices of the 13 Metro Catholic High Schools. The finals were held at the University of St. Thomas on Monday, December 17.



CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP CHAMPIONS

The Saint Thomas Academy rifle team consisting of **Jack Martin '21**, **Michael Driscoll '21**, **Daniel Staelgraeve '21**, and **Kaleb Rutgers '19** won its second state championship of the year, when they won the state championship in the Civilian Marksmanship Program. With the win, the team advances to the CMP regional championship to be held this spring at Camp Perry, Ohio. Individually, Driscoll finished 1st overall, Rutgers 3rd, Staelgraeve 4th and Martin 10th. Saint Thomas Academy is coached by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Paul Preblich, U.S. Army (ret.).

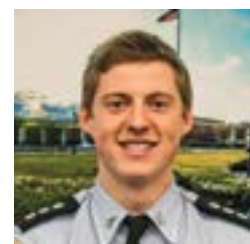
2019 SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Seniors **Donald Hau**, **Hayes Reding** and **Philip Skeps** are candidates in the 2019 Special Scholarship competition through National Merit Scholarship Corporation which are awards for outstanding students who are not Finalists in the Merit Scholarship® competition. They are provided by National Merit® Scholarship Program corporate sponsors to complement their National Merit Scholarships given to Finalists.



Honor Guard Participates in Veterans' Day Events

The Honor Guard Commander, **Thomas Thurlow '19**, and Executive Officer, **John Copeland '19**, were on hand for two Veterans' Day Recognition Masses at St. Patrick's Church in Edina. St. Patrick's is the home parish of Saint Thomas Academy alumnus **Mr. James Garberg '41**, the military wing's namesake. Thomas and John were professional in greeting parishioners and gracious in talking with veterans as they reminisced about their military service. Chief Kim Friede shared, "many people asked where we were from and complimented the 'polite and mature young men we train.'"



John Copeland '19 (top) was accepted to the Citadel and Norwich University. **Sean Creamer '19** (above) was recently accepted into the US Merchant Marines Academy.

At Nativity of Our Lord parish in St. Paul, all four of the Sacristans who work Sunday mornings are current Saint Thomas Academy students — **Lucas Dvorak '21**, **Joseph Michel '21**, **Jackson Smith '20**, and **Charlie Treacy '22**. Saint Thomas Academy cadets not only learn about their faith in the classroom, but want to live their faith outside of the classroom too.





SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY AND THE MINNESOTA TWINS

Charles Crutchfield IV '22 pictured with new Twins Manager Rocco Baldelli.



Jack Ogle '19 received a four-year Army ROTC Scholarship to the University of Chicago. The scholarship covers tuition, books and a monthly stipend. Jack will be commissioned a second lieutenant upon graduating and will be obligated to serve in the Army for a total commitment of 8 years active duty and/or inactive reserve service.

Cadet of the Quarter

Each Quarter, a process begins to select one Cadet, Non-commissioned Officer (NCO), and Officer from the Brigade who best exemplified leadership, excellence, and military achievement throughout the quarter. Each Company Commander nominates one Cadet, NCO, and Officer for entry into this process. The Brigade Staff creates a selection process to narrow down each list of candidates; this quarter, it involved a basic cadet knowledge (BCK) test, an inspection, and a formal interview. The Staff used an objective scoring system to finalize decisions, and these three exemplary cadets were chosen:

Cadet of the Quarter: C/EL Joseph Kolar '22 (Foxtrot)

Officer of the Quarter: C/2LT Samuel Cunniff '19 (Band)

NCO of the Quarter: C/MSG Charles Berg '19 (Bravo)

Each cadet was formally recognized at formation on 7 November with a medal and a certificate signed by the Headmaster and the Commandant of Cadets. In addition, exciting new prizes were announced this year, including a reserved parking space closest to the Flynn Hall entrance, a \$25 Cane's gift card, as well as one opportunity to drive with three friends to an off-campus lunch destination during flex period.

On 11 February, Cadets of Quarter 2 were announced:

Officer of the Quarter: C/2LT Henry May (Echo)

NCO of the Quarter: C/CPL Jack Martin (Honor Guard)

Cadet of the Quarter: C/CPL Baker Reding (Charlie)



The Tri-Metro Conference Music is an honor ensemble comprised of the best student musicians in the conference who were selected by nomination. The conference consists of two days of rehearsal with a guest conductor and a concert at St. Andrew's in Mahtomedi. Pictured left to right are: Peter Bina '19, Sam Cunniff '19, Jack Ogle '19, Ryan Dorle '19, Devin Klein '20, Jack Bartlett '20, Jake Miller '20, and Jacob Farley '20.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

The Model UN team participated in a Model United Nations Conference at Yale University in January. The conference welcomed an estimated 3,000 delegates from 12 states and 22 countries around the world including Brazil, China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Dubai, England, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Manila, Mexico, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, and Venezuela. Mr. Harry K. Thomas Jr., United States Ambassador to Zimbabwe, the Philippines and Bangladesh, addressed the conference about his experiences in the field working to combat human trafficking.



Pictured from left to right: Front row — Andrew Walsh '21, Joe D'Agostino '20, Jordan Young '21, Will Guttery '21, and Abraham Yosef '20. Back row — Jack Fenlon '20, Jack Burns '20, Murphy Lynch '20, Jack Simerson '21, Baker Reding '21, Matthew Boland '20, and Oliver Balfour '21.



**MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR!**

VISTA PRODUCTIONS

THE LITTLE MERMAID

Performance Dates:

May 3, 4, 10, 11 @ 7:30 p.m.
May 5, 12 @ 2:00 p.m.

Tickets:

Adults — \$10
Students/Seniors — \$5

Contact **Wendy Short-Hays** at wshorthays@vischool.org for ticket reservations or purchase at the theater the day of the performance.



ANNIE JR.

Annie Jr. was performed by a cast of talented 6th, 7th and 8th grade students from Visitation and Saint Thomas Academy. Mr. Nikko Raymo directed the show as it was his first year as our Middle School Artistic Director. Nikko's professional acting career and his electric personality and dance skills brought the show to new heights.



February 8 was National Boy Scout Day, pictured are many of the 30+ Boy Scouts at the Academy.



Cadet swimmers volunteering with the Thanksgiving Meals on Wheels program. This is the 18th year the Cadet Swim team has participated.



KARE 11 and Boyd Huppert interviewed six cadets who are taking the new Officiating class taught by Bill McCarthy for a feature story. Pictured here are Zach Holper '20 and Gabe Sirek '20.



SPORTS UPDATE



SOCCER

The Saint Thomas Academy Soccer team had another strong fall season as they finished the regular season with a record of 8-5-2. Notable victories on the year include: a 5-0 opening win over Coon Rapids, a 2-0 victory over Cretin-Derham Hall, and 2-0 shutout over cross-town rival, Henry Sibley. The Cadets would then march through their section with big victories over Hiawatha Collegiate (6-0) and Minnehaha Academy (2-0) and into the section title game. They would ultimately fall to the Academy of Holy Angels by a final score of 1-3. **Jacob Mathews '19** lead Saint Thomas Academy on the year in total goals scored and assists.

FOOTBALL

The Cadet Football Team had a remarkable season as they went undefeated through the regular season (8-0). They would cruise through their section and all the way through the quarterfinals and semifinals of the state tournament. The Cadets met their match in the state championship as they were playing the defending state champions, Owatonna. The Cadets would head to the locker room up 3-0 at the half but could not hold on in the second. Owatonna scored two late touchdowns to beat the Cadets 14-3. The Cadets finished the year 12-1. Three athletes received post season awards selected by the media. **Brendan McFadden '19** was named All-State, All-Metro, *Pioneer Press* Player of the Year and the District Offensive Player of the Year. **Johnny Steveken '19** was All-Metro honorable mention and **Jason Samec '19** was named the District Lineman of the Year. Coach Dan O'Brien was named Metro Coach of the Year.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Saint Thomas Academy Cross Country team were the Varsity and JV Metro East Conference Champions for the second year in a row. In addition to great team success, several Cadet athletes garnered accolades as well. **Luke Kolar '19** was the Metro East Conference Individual Champion for the first time in school history and **Thomas Thurlow '19** was runner up. **PJ Doran '19** was also the JV Metro East Conference Individual Champion for the second year in a row. The Varsity team finished a terrific season by earning the Section 3AA Gold Academic Achievement Award with a cumulative GPA of 4.07.

ALPINE SKIING

The Saint Thomas Academy Alpine Ski team has concluded their 2018-19 season. Throughout their five MEC conference meets, the Cadets finished in the upper half, with strong performances coming from multiple Cadets all season long. With a strong outing at the section meet, the Cadet Alpine Ski Team headed back to the state meet which took place at Giants Ridge in Biwabik, MN. The team competed well and **Jack Folkman '20** finished the in Top 10.

BASKETBALL

The Saint Thomas Academy basketball team is in the critical stretch of their season as they sit in 4th place in the Metro East Conference standings with a 10-5 conference record, and a 14-11 overall record.

They will look to make a strong push as section play begins, with eyes on a repeat appearance in State Tournament. The Cadets are lead by captains, **Noah Chamberlin '19** (SMSU commit) and **Jack Thompson '19** (USF commit) who average 16.4 and 19.4 points, respectively.

HOCKEY

The Cadet Hockey team has concluded their 2018-19 regular season. They finished with an overall record of 21-3-1. They concluded conference with 9-1 record and 30 points on the season, which was good for a 1st place finish in the Metro East Conference. They have claimed another section crown, and are looking to make another run towards a state title at the Xcel.

In addition to another strong season, Head Coach Greg '72 and Tom Vannelli have announced that they will step down as co-head coaches of the varsity hockey team following the 2018-2019 season. While Tom will no longer be involved, Greg will contribute to key aspects of the program to ensure a smooth transition to a new head coach.

NORDIC SKI

The Cadet Nordic Ski Team has concluded their 2018-19 regular season and finished 5th in the competitive Metro East Conference this year. The top skiers on the season this year for the Cadets were **Peter Bina '19**, **George Budzius '19**, **Max Heuermann '19**, **Peter Holmes '19**, **Aidan McSweeney '19**, **Joey Motzel '19**, **Tommy Hedman '21**, **Padon Kinzley '22**, and **Jack MapellLentz '22**. With a strong performance at the section meet this season, **Joey Motzel '19** qualified for, and competed at the State meet this season.

SWIMMING

The Saint Thomas Academy Swim & Dive Team won the Metro East Conference with a perfect 6-0 record and an overall record of 6-2. Head Coach John Barnes says: "the boys have gotten better each day and are always learning how to deal with adversity and discomfort." In addition to another stellar conference season, the team won True Team Sections for the 16th straight year. After a strong section outing, the Cadet Swim team advanced to the State Meet and after yet another strong performance, they finished ranked 4th in the State. All-State Swimmers on the season are: **JT Howard '19** in the 200 MR, 100 Back and 400 FR, **Toby Sullivan '19** in the 50 free, 100 fly and 400 FR, **Alex Adams '20** in the 500 free, **Lorenzo Figueroa '19** in the 200 MR, **Evan Santrizos '20** in the 200 MR and 400 FR, **Mitch MacDonald '20** in the 200 MR, and **Max Stewart '20** in the 400 FR.

WRESTLING

The Saint Thomas Academy wrestling team is achieving both individual and team success this 2018-19 season under the direction of new Head Coach, Joe Piazza. The Cadets currently fulfill 7 of the Metro East Conferences' 14 weight classes, putting the Cadets at a disadvantage when competing in dual meets, but in individual tournaments, multiple cadets have placed high and walked home with championships.

Coach Piazza says the team has relied heavily on captains **Phil Skeps '19** and **Garrison Solliday '21** this season, who are both "natural leaders and genuine people." **Phil Skeps '19** also qualified for, and competed in the State meet representing Saint Thomas Academy wrestling.





Justin Larson

YEAR STARTED AT SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY | 2016

SUBJECTS/CO-CURRICULARS/CLUBS | Professional Licensed School Counselor

Peer Mentor Moderator

High school football coach — Sophomore offensive coordinator/varsity assistant

High school basketball coach — Freshman “A” coach/varsity assistant

FIRST TEACHING JOB | My first school counseling job was as a long-term substitute at Totino Grace High School in Fridley, MN

HOBBIES | Traveling, photography, watching sports and movies, playing IBA, cooking, trying new restaurants, paddle boarding, golfing, woodworking and going to concerts and music festivals.

A FAVORITE TEACHING MOMENT | Being involved with the senior retreat and experiencing the real, live brotherhood in action was a truly special moment. It is amazing what happens when the walls come down and the boys can be real with each other. I wish this was something that could be bottled and shared, but in reality it only comes together when the time is right and guys are willing to be vulnerable and truthful.

BRUSH WITH FAME | I had my own personal “Hard Knocks” summer working as a member of the Kansas City Chiefs equipment staff in college. During training camp I got to know several players and coaches really well and my look inside the NFL was an experience that very few people get to have.

WHY I TEACH AT SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY | I was really fortunate to have several strong role models growing up, and they happened to be teachers, counselors and coaches. I always knew I wanted to coach and work with young men to help them find their potential, and I could not be at a better place. My role models and mentors were transformational and I knew from our relationships that they cared about me more as a person than just a student or athlete and that meant so much to me, I wanted to be able to give back the same to other young men.



FAVORITE MUSIC | Alternative rock and folk music. Favorite artists include: Bon Iver, The Avett Brothers, The Lumineers, The National, and Jose Gonzalez.

FAVORITE VACATION SPOT | Yellowstone. I want to keep exploring the west and visit as many national parks as possible.

FAMILY | Fred (Dad), Lori (Mom), Easten (younger Brother)



“
I ALWAYS KNEW I
WANTED TO COACH
AND WORK WITH
YOUNG MEN TO
HELP THEM FIND
THEIR POTENTIAL,
AND I COULD
NOT BE AT A
BETTER PLACE.

”

SUMMER AND ATHLETIC CAMPS

Lego Robotics,
YOUTH FOOTBALL,
Drone Racing,
WILDERNESS SURVIVAL,
AND SO MUCH MORE!



**SAINT THOMAS
ACADEMY**

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

cadets.com/summer

STA GIVE DAY 2018

Another Day of Incredible Generosity by Our Community

BY MIKE MAXWELL '84, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

There was something different about Give Day 2018. Maybe it was due to the fact that we downplayed the competition with our friends at Visitation or maybe it was the incredible run that the Cadet Football team made to the State Championship game that took some attention away. Whatever it was, it was different than the previous four years. Suffice it to say, it was still pretty great!

We originally reported a final total of just over \$452,000 raised for the Aquinas Annual Fund, which was slightly below our expectations. Still an incredible show of generosity but not where hoped to be. I am happy to report that after we finalized the count of all Give Day donations (the postal service must have been slow in delivering all of the mail), **we ended up raising just over \$540,000 for the Aquinas Annual Fund.** A little shy of our goal of \$600,000, but overall a really great day for Saint Thomas Academy.

Class of 1984 Crowned Champs Once Again

I must say that I was even impressed with the level of participation that my class showed during Give Day 2018. Over the previous four years, we have had a spirited competition with the class of 1985 for the top spot. But this year the young alumni pushed the Class of 1984 to whole new level. Spurred on by the competition from not just the 85ers but the likes of 2013s, 2015s and 2010s, we managed to get 60 members of each class to make a donation on STA Give Day. Congratulations to my classmates, you guys are awesome!

Young Alumni (2004-2018) Come Through Big

Young alumni, identified as the 15 most recent graduating classes, were a force unto their own on Give Day 2018. With a

little prodding from long-time STA employee and coach, John Barnes, the classes of 2004-2018 had 254 donors. That is more than twice any other Give Day from our Young Alumni.

With a competition to see which class could get the most donors and the victorious class to receive a complimentary event at Top Golf in Brooklyn Center, it was game on. There were several classes that made great effort to claim the top spot but there was one that stood above the rest.

Class of 2013 Cruises to Victory

The Class of 2013, led by the efforts of John Hanten and Alex Schleif, had 48 donors and ran away with the competition. Even before Give Day, Hanten and Schleif were confident that they would come away with the victory. Their efforts led to a very successful day for their class and The Academy.

Top Five Young Alumni Classes

2013 – 48 Donors
2015 – 31 Donors
2010 – 24 Donors
2017 – 22 Donors
2012 – 21 Donors

Highlights and stats of the day are featured on the opposite page. Please note that three classes of young alumni earned a spot in the top five classes based on participation. The Class of 2013 made a serious run at the top spot and finished runner-up overall.

Thank you to all who supported Saint Thomas Academy on Give Day 2018. We are very grateful for your love and support of our school.



SAVE
the DATE

Annual Taste of STA

Thursday, October 3, 2019

This FREE event is for all in the Saint Thomas Academy community. More details to follow.



2018 Give Day Stats

DOLLARS RAISED

\$540,000 Aquinas Annual Fund

\$61,000 All Other Giving

\$601,000

OVERALL DOLLARS RAISED

1597

TOTAL DONORS

159

NEW
DONORS

TOP CLASS

Class of 2013

with 48 DONORS

YOUNG ALUMNI GROUP (2004-2018)

254 Donors

A Matching Gift of \$25,400 was added to their donations

Top Class Ranks

1984 60 DONORS — \$2,500 matching gift for the class

2013 48 DONORS — \$4,800 matching gift for the class

1985 35 DONORS — \$2,500 matching gift for the class

2015 31 DONORS — \$3,100 matching gift for the class

2010 24 DONORS — \$2,400 matching gift for the class

Thank You!

My Journey to Saint Thomas Academy

BY **DAVID HOTTINGER '85**

DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

The feature article in this issue of *Saber* highlights the history and success of our football program — both past and present. My introduction to the Saint Thomas Academy football program was in the late 70s and 1980. I attended St. Matthew's on the West Side of St. Paul which was not a very strong draw for Academy admissions. Fortunately, Jerry Krueger, who coached football, basketball and baseball at St. Matthew's, had a brother who attended Saint Thomas Academy, **Bobby Krueger '79**, all-everything in football. Bobby had a great experience at the Academy and Jerry encouraged me to look at the school because it offered strong academics, a path to college and had great sports teams, especially at that time — football. He basically said, “you're smart enough for Saint Thomas Academy and should play football at the Academy for Gerry Brown”. The rest is history!

The friendships that originated from that first day of freshman football in the fall of '81 are still strong with my classmates. I remember those first 100-yard sprints and burpees as part of the first two a day workouts and Coach Brown looking every bit the part of STA's version of Lombardi. We had good teams through my time and were very dominant. Most importantly we cared about each other, we were prepared, we loved football, and had pride in representing the Academy as a team.

Much of these same attributes have held true with the football program at Saint Thomas Academy. My hope is that football continues to be the “front porch” of Academy athletics and our school in the fall. There is nothing in life like the practice and preparation for a football game. At the varsity level the payoff is Friday nights. To our current students, make sure to “Carry High the Blue and White”. To my teammates and friends, thanks for the memories, I know we all would love to do it all again if we could.

Go cadets!



David Hottinger '85

“The friendships that originated from that first day of freshman football in the fall of '81 are still strong with my classmates.”

— DAVID HOTTINGER '85

**SAVE^{the}
DATE**

05.16.19

Chicago Gathering of Alumni & Friends!

Visit cadets.com/Chicago for more details.

Community Auction to Emphasize Brotherhood

BY DAVID JACOBSON

APRIL 26-27, 2019

This year's Saint Thomas Academy Community Auction, set for April 26 and 27, carries the theme of "Brotherhood: Past, Present, Future" to underscore the family ties, literally and metaphorically, that unite the Academy's community. "It's really important that we use this event to bring everyone together," said Jodie Whaley, the Academy's Director of Events and Parent Stewardship. "We want people to understand that even after you leave the school, you are part of a lifetime brotherhood."

That notion is embodied in one of the auction's most attractive items — a yacht cruise for 20 on the Saint Croix River, complete with food and beverage — which comes courtesy of three alumni whose graduation dates span 15 years: yacht owner **Bill Kleinman '72**; **Mike Thomas '80**, who is donating beer and wine; and **Bill Kozlak '87**, of Jax Café, who will donate food. Those three combining their contributions to the auction "is a testament to their dedication to the success of the school," Whaley said.

Of course, that also holds true for the three couples chairing the Community Auction: **Brian and Shelley Kueppers '85**, **Vern and Jen Lovegreen '85** and **Andy and Katie Wilhoit '87**. After all, it's not easy pulling together back-to-back event nights expected to draw about 1,700 attendees and raise roughly \$500,000 for Cadet scholarships and other budgetary needs.

The first of the two events is **Family Fun Night, April 26**, an all-ages evening of fun, food, prizes and a silent auction (casual dress, with Cadet wear encouraged). **The following night, adults only will gather for a gala** ("black tie admired but not required," Whaley quipped), that includes WCCO's Frank Vascellaro leading a live auction, catering by the Saint Paul Hotel, and an after-party with DJ dancing in the "Legacy Lounge."

OTHER HIGHLIGHTED ITEMS FOR THE AUCTIONS INCLUDE:

- » A stay at a villa in Tuscany
- » A safari
- » Two nights' stay and two days of guided fishing at The Lodge at Palisades Creek (Irwin, Idaho), donated by **Justin Hays '86**

THE HIGHEST-TICKET RAFFLE ITEMS ARE:

- » A two-year lease of a 2019 Nissan Rogue S, thanks to the Walser Foundation
- » \$1,500 cash
- » An Apple Watch
- » One year's tuition for a Cadet
- » School lunch for a year for a Cadet
- » A \$500 Cadet Maker gift card

"Our vision for the event is to highlight how the Saint Thomas Academy brotherhood impacts people," said event co-chair Shelley Kueppers. "We want feelings of tradition and nostalgia."

Citing the fact that some extended families have sent dozens of their boys, including uncles and nephews to Saint Thomas, Kueppers explained, "We want to bring to the forefront the story of these multi-generational families while also embracing the newer families."



"Our vision for the event is to highlight how the Saint Thomas Academy brotherhood impacts people. We want feelings of tradition and nostalgia."

— SHELLEY KUEPPERS,
CO-CHAIR

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR
MORE DETAILS AND
TICKET INFORMATION:

cadets.com/auction



CadetWorks Internship Program celebrates its best year yet!

Our young alumni pursue degrees from some of the nation's top educational institutions, and this program aims to expand and enhance the professional careers of these young men by providing them an opportunity to apply for internship positions with a number of different companies from many different industries.

Over the long holiday break, the CadetWorks Internship Program completed its seventh annual two-day seminar and saw over 50 members from the classes of 2016, 2017, and 2018 in attendance for an opportunity to interview for 25 potential positions. The first day of the program was an interview skills workshop for our candidates and was led by Mary Kaul-Hottinger, Chief Human Resources Officer of CHS. During this two-hour program, candidates sharpened their skills in preparation for the company interview day which was held the day after the workshop.

2018/2019 Program Highlights

26 Colleges and Universities represented | 51 candidates interviewed | 15 candidates placed thus far | 200+ Interviews | 25 partnering companies

A Special Thank You to the Following Individuals

Interview skills workshop day:

Mary Kaul-Hottinger,
Chief Human Resources
Officer from CHS

Internship Planning Committee:

Jeff Tolke: Father of **Jackson '13**
George Turner '79
Greg Walsh '86

Partnering Businesses:

All Inc.	MultiTech Systems
Aris Clinic	Northwestern Mutual
Bachmans	Paramount Commercial
Bann Business Solutions	Real Estate
Colliers International	Pergola Management
Compaction Technologies	Sampair Tax and
Dual Citizen Brewing	Retirement Advisors
Fortune Financial	Scanlan International
Inspiration Medical Technology	The Guerilla Agency
Minnesota Urology	Travel Labs
Minnesota Medical Specialists	Vector Wealth Management
Mount Yale Capital Group	Virtus Law
	Walsh and Gaertner
	Wells Fargo Financial Advisors



ATTENTION COLLEGE-AGED ALUMNI!

Registration for the
2019/2020 program is
now open. Go to
www.cadets.com/cadetworks
to register!

Interested in getting involved with the CadetWorks Internship Program search committee?

To learn more contact **Luke Marks '11** at lmarks@cadets.com

JOIN US FOR ONE OF OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!

55th ANNUAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ALUMNI OPEN

Monday, June 10, 2019

Southview Country Club
239 Mendota Road East
West St. Paul, MN 55118



5th ANNUAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SPORTING CLAYS CLASSIC

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Minnesota Horse and Hunt Club
2920 220th Street East
Prior Lake, MN 55372



A portion of the proceeds from both of these events go to the Alumni Sons Endowed Scholarship Fund!

Looking for details, or have questions on either of these events? Contact Director of Alumni Relations Luke Marks '11 at lmarks@cadets.com or visit cadets.com/alumni.



All alumni are invited to join us for

ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND!

September 25-28, 2019

There is something for everybody this fall during our annual Alumni Reunion Weekend and Homecoming Week! Whether you are a member of a class celebrating a 5 or 10 year reunion or simply a Cadet Alumnus looking to take part in Homecoming festivities, including our family-friendly Party on the Plaza, don't forget to save the date for September 25-28, 2019.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

Honor Awards Dinner — Honoring the recipients of the *Opus Sancti Thomae* Medal, and the Edward G. Hames Alumni Honors Award

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

- Edward G. Hames Alumni Honors Award Recipient to address the Corps of Cadets at Formation
- Alumni Memorial Mass
- Senior Alumni Gathering honoring the Class of 1969 and all classes prior

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2019

- Alumni Association Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Dinner Reception
- Homecoming Party on the Plaza
- Alumni Reunion Gathering

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

- Off-campus Class Specific Events

Interested in helping with the planning of your class specific event? Contact Director of Alumni Relations and Student Outreach Luke Marks '11 at lmarks@cadets.com.



1960s

BERT McKASY '60 showed his immense strength and grace in the *Pioneer Press* story "Changing how we die: Hospice care surges in Minnesota".

MICHAEL CIRESI '64

was featured by *Minnesota Finance & Commerce* as one of Minnesota's Icons.



1970s

JOE NUÑEZ '77

was selected by *Latino Leaders Magazine* to the 2018 Top Latino Lawyers List.



1980s

BRIAN KUEPPERS '85

and Apex Revenue Technologies were named to the *Twin Cities Business Journal's* 50 fastest growing privately held companies due to their revenue growth from 2015 to 2017.



BOBBY MOELLER '86 and his company, R.F. Moeller Jeweler, were featured in *Twin Cities Business Magazine* for bucking industry trend, and taking the business of making people happy very seriously.



BRIAN FARLEY '87 and his wife Kara recently visited their children Kallie (Visitation Class of 2015) and **ALEX '18** at Catholic University during one of their recent swim meets.

ANDY TRADER '87 was named Operating Partner and Head of Platform at Bullpen Capital. As Operating Partner he will be part of the investment team, and as Head of Platform he will lead Bullpen's world-class CEO coaching program.

1990s



JIM LEIBEL '90 with his son Alex, and Coach Tom Ihnot with his grandson Max at the annual Cadet Classic basketball tournament a couple of weeks ago. The Cadet Classic sees hundreds of young basketball players compete here at Saint Thomas Academy!

DAVID O'DEA '97 and **PETER JUETTEN '97**, were both promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

Dave and Peter are both active-duty officers in the Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps. Peter is currently serving as the Chief of Military Justice, 8th Army, Camp Humphries, Korea, while Dave is serving as the Army's Complex Litigator in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Dave and Peter often speak fondly of their transformative experiences at STA."

Former Green Bay Packer Assistant Coach **DAVID RAIH '99** was recently hired by the Arizona Cardinals to coach their receivers.

2000s

TOM ALFORD '00 was featured in the University of St. Thomas Newsroom article "All Rise: Tom Alford '07 J.D. Rises Through the Ranks."



DAN SCHNEEMAN '02, **CARL SCHNEEMAN '99**, and **PATRICK SCHNEEMAN '01** celebrating Christmas with **CHRIS SCHNEEMAN '74**.



PARKER SCHLANK '03 and his company Travel Labs are aiming to become business travelers' executive assistants for booking their trips.

Owner of Dual Citizen Brewing Co., **MAX FILTER '04**, worked with a group of local brewers, and Habitat for Humanity in building houses for those in need. Learn more about Dual Citizen Brewing at their website, www.dualcitizenbrewing.com



MATT WICKER '08 meeting up for breakfast with **MARK WICKER '10** and Kelsey Wicker at The Coffee Company.



1980s

Frannie Hottinger, daughter of **DAVID HOTTINGER '85** recently became the all-time leading scorer at Cretin-Derham Hall with 1,654 total points. She is headed to Lehigh University to play basketball in the fall.



1980s

STEPHEN KELLY '86, **ANDY WILHOIT '86**, **JOHN MARSHALL '96** and **BOB MOELLER '86** (left to right) volunteering for Serving Our Troops at Camp Ripley for NOREX 2019.



1980s

Members of the class of 1989 got together in Vail, Colorado for their annual holiday ski trip. Pictured from left to right; **KEVIN KELLY '89**, **JON RILEY '89**, **BRIAN PERGAMENT '88**, and **STEVE NILSSON '89**. Not pictured **DANNY QUEENAN '89**.

2010s

SEAN MASCIA '10, KYLE BAUER '10, RYAN PETERS '10, Cody Kirkeide and **DOMINIC MASCIA '12** had a great canoe trip in the Boundary Waters.



Congratulations to **BILLY MORK '12** on receiving his MBA from Creighton!



Graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, **CHASE BOCKSTRUCK '13**, recently graduated from US Air Force pilot training!

KILLIAN BRACKEY '13 was featured in the *Tech(dot)MN* article "Meet A Minnesota Tech CTO" for his work with Sezzle, a company that allows consumers to purchase items from over 3500 stores and pay for it over four installments, interest free.

SEAMUS DONOHUE '15

was named the WCHA Men's Defenseman of the week back in November for having three assists and a +4 rating during a road sweep of Ferris State.

RYAN BARNES '15 was honored by the State of Missouri and the Missouri State Hall of Fame for his contribution to the Missouri Valley College lacrosse program. Ryan is a senior on the Missouri Valley College lacrosse team, and is a three time All-American, and was named the *NAIA Player of the Year* in 2017.



AIDAN GAERTNER '15 is currently playing safety for the Colgate University football team. Colgate was the #8 FCS football team in the country, and played in the 2019 FCS playoffs.

Do you know the highest-scoring Minnesotan in men's college hockey? His name is **ODEEN TUFTO '15**, a Chaska native and forward for the top-10 ranked Quinnipiac Bobcats!

Earlier this fall, MAC BROWN '16

was named the Duluth Trading Company's *Hardest Working Player of the Game* in the Ole Miss Rebel's match-up against the Auburn Tigers. Mac, the starting punter for Ole Miss, was given this honor for the work he has put into starting the Awesome Lemonade Stand, an initiative that has raised nearly \$50,000 for ALS research.



Former Cadet Colonel **MATTHEW GOLDADE '18** playing football for the United States Merchant Marines at The Catholic University of America and being supported by **ALEX FARLEY '18** who attends Catholic University as an athlete himself (swimming).



CONNOR BOLAND '17 recently earned his private pilots license from the University of North Dakota.

WILLIE REIM '17 of the West Kelowna Warriors was named the *BCHL Player of The Week* back in early December. Willie has had an amazing season, and in his last four games he has accumulated eight points!



VINNY MOTZEL '18 and **JACK KOTOK '18** met up before the Army/Navy Football game. Vinny is a freshman at the United States Naval Academy, and Jack is a freshman at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please send your contributions to Class Notes via e-mail to alumni@cadets.com, via the Internet at cadets.com (Alumni Online Community), or by mail, attention Alumni Office.



2010s

Former Cadet football players after the UST/GAC game this fall. **TOM DOLAN '17, JACKSON FINN '15, JACK SORENSON '15, ALEX ZWASCHKA '16, DAVIS DELAREM '16, and AUGUST RAARUP '16.**



Can you name these two Cadets from 2001?



In Memoriam

Please remember in your prayers these classmates and friends of the Academy who recently passed away or of whose death we were recently notified. We have made every effort to present an accurate list.

Frank Ubel '41
(January 2019)

Bob Sausen '44
(June 2017)

John Wallraff '44
(May 2016)

Thomas Monahan '45
(March 2018)

Jerry Huch '45
(April 2018)

Tom Stenger '45
(November 2018)

Philip Franklin '48
(November 2018)

Jim Sundberg '48
(January 2019)

Bill Fallon '49
(December 2018)

John Cleary '50
(May 2016)

Jim Karpus '51
(August 2013)

Larry Dotas '52
(January 2018)

Mac Hubbard '54
(February 2019)

Dave Lentz '55
(February 2019)

John LaVine '57
(January 2014)

Dave Dietz '58
(February 2012)

Frank Ditter '59
(May 2018)

Chuck Lemieux '59
(September 2018)

Joe Barrett '59
(September 2018)

Butch Weiss '59
(February 2019)

Bill Conter '60
(November 2018)

Bert McKasy '60
(February 2018)

Denny Abbott '69
(October 2018)

Bob Heath '69
(February 2006)

Todd Hoffman '69
(December 2013)

Scott Stransky '73
(November 2018)

Dave Ruiz '87
(September 2018)

Owen Loftus '21
(October 2018)

SHARON AWADA
Grandmother of **Jack Awada '18**

ALBERT BRAGA
Grandfather of **Joe Braga '05**

GEORGE BREMER BENZ
Grandfather of **Finn Benz '25**

BETTY BROWN
Grandmother of **Riley Brown '07**

CAROL CARROLL
Grandmother of **Rudolph Fuss '01**

BRONALD CHESTOLOWSKI
Father-In-Law of **Michael Hankee II '95**
and Grandfather of **Michael Hankee III '20**

THOMAS W. CURTIS
Father of **Paul Curtis '84**

DAVID DENNIS
Grandfather of **Sam Casey '21**
and **Ethan Casey '23**

SUE ECK
Grandmother of **Nicholas Battis '14**

JAMES ARTHUR ERB
Father of **Matthew J. Erb '91**

BEVERLY EVANGELIST
Grandmother of **Will Buckley '01**

LESTER FITCH
Grandfather of **Sean Brenden '06**
and **Daniel Brenden '11**

LAWRENCE FLYNN
Grandfather of **Eric Hupperts '98**
and **Brian Hupperts '02**

ROBERT FLYNN
Father of **Terry Flynn '90**

EILEEN FREEMAN
Wife of **John W. Feeman '46**;
Mother of **Mark P. Freeman '81**

MARY A. GITZEN
Mother of **Michael J. Gitzen '77**

ARLENE GOETZKE
Grandmother of **Joe Hughes '01**
and **Mike Hughes '96**

MARY ELLEN GOSWITZ
Mother of **Joe Goswitz '80**

BUSTER HART
Grandfather of **Henry Hart '13**

ANNE HICKEY-EVERETT
Mother of **Jim Hickey '71**, **John Hickey '72**,
Bill Hickey '74, and **Dan Hickey '76**;
Sister of **Joe Hamel '39**; Sister-In-Law of
TP O'Connor '48; Aunt of **Bill Ryan '64**

DEWAYNE HJERMSTAD
Grandfather of **Aaron Crandall '08** and
Justin Crandall '10

ROBERT HOLMES
Father of **Brent Holmes '93**; Grandfather
of **Aidan McSweeney '19** and **Rhys
McSweeney '22**

KENNETH JOHANNSSON
Grandfather of **John Johansson '22**
and **Matias Johansson '24**

SALLY JORDAN
Grandmother of **Daniel Staelgraeve '21**

JOSEPH KAMARA
Father of **Jaiah Kamara '00**

WILLIAM KAPPES
Father of **Christopher Kappes '05**
and **Ryan Kappes '09**

ROLAND LEUZINGER
Grandfather of **Gunnar Regan '13**
and **Brendan Regan '15**

THERESA C. LOECKEN
Mother of Current Faculty Member,
Joel Loecken

BERT McKASY '60
Brother-In-Law of **Francis J. Dieveney '66**
and **Thomas J. Dieveney '60**; Father of
Mark J. McKasy '86; Grandfather of
Connor M. O'Brien '20, **Patrick M.
O'Brien '20**, **Riley O'Brien '20** and
Finn M. O'Brien '22; First-Cousin-Once-
Removed **Patrick T. McKasy '03**

DIANE McNEARNEY
Mother of **Thomas McNearney '94**

JOHN MCSWEENEY
Grandfather of **Aidan McSweeney '19**
and **Rhys McSweeney '22**

EDWARD MIKOLAJCZAK, JR.
Grandfather of **Matt Mikolajczak '16**

BETTY MISCHKE
Wife of **Herb Mischke '45**; Grandmother
of **Jacob Mischke '15** and **Mark
Mischke '02**; Mother of **Mark
Mischke '77** and **Gregory L. Mischke '69**

DARYL NAGEL
Grandfather of **Cody Evans '08**

GENE OKERLUND
Grandfather of **Henry Okerlund '18**

RAYMOND QUADE
Grandfather of **Samuel Goaley '18**
and **Tate Goaley '22**

YVONNE REDING
Wife of **James Reding '53**; Mother of
Andy Reding '88; Grandmother of
James Reding '17, **Hayes Reding '19**,
and **Henry Reding '21**

SYLVESTER ROBERTSON
Father of **John Robertson '73**

JACKLYN ANN ROTTJAKOB
Grandmother of **Alexander P. Adams '20**
and **Thomas J. Adams '22**

VIRGIL SAHLI
Grandfather of **Scott Sahli '08**

SISTER JANE DE CHANTAL SMISEK
A Sister of Visitation Monastery

MICHAEL D. STROMWALL
Son of **Daniel Stromwall '57**

RICHARD SUMMERS
Father of **Dave Preuss '81**; Grandfather
of **John Perpich '05**

FRANK SUNBERG
Father of **David Sunberg '86**, **Jeff
Sunberg '84**, and **Mark Sunberg '85**;
Grandfather of **Alex Sunberg '19**

MARY TRADER
Mother of **Dominic Trader '86** and
Andy Trader '87

JOANNA VICTOR
Grandmother of **Tim Libertini '11**

FRED WAGNER
Grandfather of **Jon Busch '06**, **Andrew
Busch '99**, **Nick Busch '04**, and **David
Busch '97**

JANICE A. WALLRAFF
Wife of **John Wallraff '44**

PETER WELVANG
Grandfather of **Matthew Hennen '04**

JOSEPH WERNER
Father of **John Werner '03** and
Tom Werner '06



Calendar of Events

APRIL

- 4 Brigade Formal Inspection
- 13 Father/Son Banquet
- 18-22 Easter Break
- 26 Community Auction Family Fun Night
- 27 Community Auction Gala

MAY

- 1 Archbishop Review
- 3-5 VISTA Productions Spring Musical – *The Little Mermaid*
- 10-12 VISTA Productions Spring Musical – *The Little Mermaid*
- 14 Mother/Son Senior Luncheon
- 14 VISTA Choir and Orchestra Concert
- 17 VISTA Band Concert
- 18 Military Ball
- 20 Military Awards
- 23 VISTA Middle School Orchestra Concert

JUNE

- 3 Senior Eagle Awards
- 6 Graduation at Cathedral of Saint Paul
- 10 Alumni Golf Tournament
- 13 3A Smoker Event

STAY CONNECTED TO SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY

Stay up-to-date on news and events happening at Saint Thomas Academy.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



[Facebook.com/SaintThomasAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/SaintThomasAcademy)

WATCH US ON YOU TUBE



[YouTube.com/SaintThomasAcademy](https://www.youtube.com/SaintThomasAcademy)

FOLLOW US TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM



[@AllThingsSTA](https://twitter.com/AllThingsSTA)



[@AllThingsSTA](https://www.instagram.com/AllThingsSTA)

STAY CONNECTED TO US



[LinkedIn.com/groups/64649](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/64649)

VISIT OUR NEW WEB SITE



[CADETS.COM](https://www.cadets.com)



**SAINT THOMAS
ACADEMY**

949 Mendota Heights Road
Mendota Heights, MN 55120

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 857

Saint Thomas Academy Fathers' Club is hosting

JAKE OLSON

JOIN US SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019 7:00 PM



Wyatt Schmidt
Saint Thomas
Academy
Alumnus 2013

Jake Olson
USC Longsnapper



**SAINT THOMAS
ACADEMY**

Join the millions worldwide who
have been inspired by Jake's
moving story as the blind
longsnapper for the USC Trojans.

LOCATION:

Sjoberg/Flynn Arena at
Saint Thomas Academy

TICKET PRICE: \$10

Student and Group
Discounts Available

QUESTIONS:

Fathersclub@Cadets.com

REGISTER:

Cadets.com/JakeOlson