

PREP TODAY



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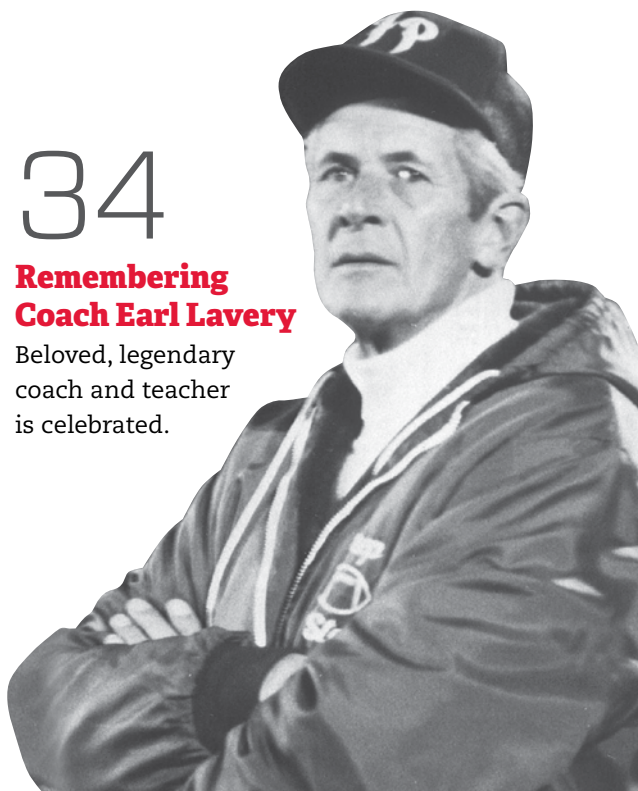


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Dear **Friends,**

Are you all in for our students? That was definitely the question running through my mind as I leaned back 230 feet in the air. There are many connections between Fairfield Prep and Wakeman Boys & Girls Club, so I very happily agreed to rappel 18 stories down the side of the People's Bank Building in Bridgeport as a fundraiser. Two minutes later, boots on the ground, I could answer, "Yes, I am all in for our students."

The same can be said for so many members of the extended Fairfield Prep community who graciously give of their time, talent, and treasure, so that young men can be educated in our Jesuit tradition. Across the pages of this magazine, you will catch a snapshot of how we form the whole person in ways that challenge their spirit, intellect, artistry, and athleticism. As you well know, a Fairfield Prep diploma speaks volumes about the personal and social development that occurs over these critical years.

I am especially inspired by the generosity of Sean O'Rourke '59, in choosing to endow the Dean of Mission and Ministry in honor of Fr. Raymond Quinn, S.J. The lifetime commitments of Mr. O'Rourke and Fr. Quinn highlight the meaningful impact made by Jesuit education. It is an honor to be with you on this journey. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and love for Fairfield Prep.

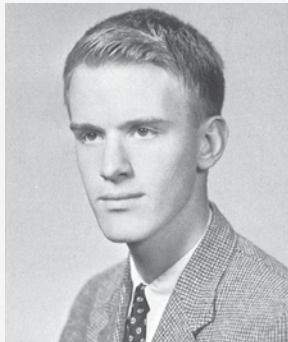
Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas M. Simisky, S.J.".

Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J.
President

Fairfield Prep is pleased to announce
one of the largest gifts in the school's history...

Prep receives \$2.5 Million Gift to endow Dean of Mission & Ministry



John "Sean" O'Rourke '59



Rev. Raymond Quinn, S.J.

A \$2.5 million dollar gift was bequeathed from the estate of **John B. "Sean" O'Rourke, Prep Class of 1959**. The gift will be used to endow the recently created Dean of Mission & Ministry position. This marks the first ever endowed position at Fairfield Prep. The endowment will be named in honor of Rev. Raymond Quinn, S.J., one of Sean's favorite educators.

"Knowing that there is a possibility of Fairfield Prep operating one day without a Jesuit on staff, the endowing of the Dean of Mission & Ministry position was a very important element of our strategic plan," said Rick Henderson, Vice President for Advancement. "This tremendous gift from Sean allows a full time position to ensure that the Jesuit Mission lives for perpetuity at the

school, without any impact to our annual operating budget. With Mission being at the core of everything we do, having this position be the first ever to be endowed is very special."

About John B. O'Rourke

John B. O'Rourke, known as Sean, passed away in January 2018 in Cambridge, MA, where he resided for many years. He was born in 1942 in New York City, and grew up in Shippan Point, Stamford. Sean graduated from Fairfield Prep and Fairfield University. At Prep, he participated in the Classical Academy, Greek Club, and Hearthstone yearbook.

After graduate school at Harvard and serving in the Army, where he was stationed in Germany, Sean taught Latin, French and English in high schools and junior colleges in the Boston area. He published dozens of articles, both scholarly and popular. *Grace Under Pressure* was his first book. It was based on archival research in libraries at Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Brandeis, as well as other universities about the life of Evan Shipman. He was also the author of *A Brief History of Harvard Eateries and Watering Holes*.

About the Dean of Mission & Ministry

The Dean of Mission & Ministry position was established at Prep in July 2017. Dr. Donna Andrade developed and currently serves in this role. The Dean supervises the Director of Campus Ministry and the Director of Christian Service. A memorial plaque honoring Sean will be hung on the wall inside St. Joseph Chapel within Xavier Hall.



John "Sean" O'Rourke (right) in Champs Elysees in Paris alongside friend Ted Mann in 1966. O'Rourke, Mann and photographer Bob Gaudio all served in the U.S. Army with the 293rd Signal Company in Fontainebleau, France, 1965-1967. (Photo courtesy of Gaudio)

SAFEGUARDING PREP'S FUTURE

A gift through your will or trust is a simple way to make a lasting statement about who you are and what you value. You can do it today — with a legacy gift. It costs you nothing during your lifetime and will not reduce your savings or your cash flow.

- It's flexible so you can make changes down the road
- It's much easier than most people realize. A simple paragraph added to your will is all it takes.
- It allows you to be far more generous than you ever thought possible.

Please contact the Prep Development Office at 203-254.4237 or email development@fairfieldprep.org. Learn more: www.fairfieldprep.org/support-prep.

FAIRFIELD PREP ANNOUNCES Entrepreneurship Institute

Today's educational landscape is constantly evolving in response to the needs of our world. More and more, higher education is collaborating with corporations to enhance student learning and readiness to enter an increasingly complex economy. Entrepreneurship programs have been a key driver in this field.



Entrepreneurship
Institute >>>>>
Prepare to Set the World on Fire!

Fairfield Prep is pleased to launch the **Fairfield Prep Entrepreneurship Institute** for the 2019-20 academic year. The program will consist of entrepreneurial studies combined with off-campus learning at manufacturing plants, venture capital firms, intellectual property law firms, and many other industries. Within the program, students will be able to bring their innovative business plans to life with the support of faculty and mentoring from successful alumni. Students will also compete in the Fairfield Prep "StartUp" competition, with the winning team moving on to Fairfield University's competition for the opportunity to win significant monetary awards toward developing their passion and business ideas.

The **Fairfield Prep Entrepreneurship Institute** is unique because it weaves together entrepreneurship learning with Jesuit tradition. As President Rev. Tom Simisky, S.J., explains:

"Jesuits have a nearly 500-year tradition of social entrepreneurship. Jesuits have been sent on missions throughout the globe, entered into diverse cultures, learned the languages and needs of various societies, built local teams, and responded creatively to people's needs through institutions that left a lasting social impact. Today, we carry that mission forward through Jesuit education. You read that in Fairfield Prep's Vision Statement: 'We are committed to graduating transformational leaders who will respond to global and ecological challenges in an interconnected world marked by profound change.' This is true entrepreneurship in the Jesuit tradition."



The program has been initiated with a seed investment from Boston-based alumnus, **Greg Strakosch, Prep class of 1980** (left). Rick Henderson, VP for Advancement states, "Greg's experience as CEO of a tech company combined with his experience in the entrepreneurship program at Boston College makes him an amazing asset to us. His guidance and support will help us impact our students for many years to come. We are truly blessed to have Greg with us."



Kevin Gallagher '17 (right) during the Fairfield University "Start Up" competition in 2017, where he won \$11,500 to fund his "Trees of Life" concept to bring clean drinking water to people in need through a desalination system using mangrove trees. Kevin attends Yale University.

The **Fairfield Prep Entrepreneurship Institute** will begin in September 2019. Henderson adds, "We are very excited to have this as a part of our curriculum. Our mission of 'Men for Others' supports our vision of forming transformational leaders of tomorrow. As a front-runner in innovative secondary education, this is another example of why young men want to attend Fairfield Prep in order to prepare for college and life beyond."

My PREP Experience

From a young age, I knew I wanted to attend Fairfield Prep. My older brother Ryan attended Prep and graduated in 2015. I witnessed him grow academically, athletically, and spiritually. While my brother's high school career inspired me, I was determined to leave my own legacy at Fairfield Prep.

At the start of my freshman year I noticed the special relationships that exist at Prep. In addition to their challenging courses, Prep teachers also provide meaningful bonds with students both inside and outside of the classroom. I can learn about the New Testament in class from my theology teacher and then have a conversation about football after class and that is something special. These genuine relationships with my instructors were absent from my time in public school. They are one of the many unique characteristics of a Fairfield Prep education.

The student body stands out because of their strong sense of community. The force that draws all 800 Prep students together is known as "the brotherhood." It is an intricate system of love and support that runs deep within the 76-year history of this Jesuit School of Excellence. A Prep tradition that exemplifies brotherhood is our fight song which is sung after sports games for both wins AND losses. "We may laugh, we may cry, but we never say die." Through triumph and tragedy, our support for each other will not waver. Last year, the Prep Hockey team competed in the state championship at the Yale Hockey Arena. After the clock hit zero and our team was victorious, our cheering section began to chant the fight song with a passion that I had never experienced anywhere else in my entire life.

Prep students become "Men for Others" through service to children, the elderly, the poor, and the disabled. In my time at Prep I have participated in a variety of community service organizations.

As a sophomore, I created a partnership with a Panera Bread restaurant in Fairfield to deliver their leftover baked goods to the Bridgeport Rescue Mission. For the past two years, I have gone to Panera every Tuesday morning before school to pick up and then deliver the baked goods. This has been a moving experience for me because I developed relationships with people that I would not have otherwise been exposed to.

Young adults with special needs are near and dear to my heart because of my eldest brother Connor. He attends a social group in Fairfield with other disabled young adults. This group was lacking opportunities for social interactions with non-disabled peers, so my brother Ryan and I decided to take action. Together, we founded "The Fairfield Connection" club at Prep where Prep students provide social outings for Fairfield teens with special needs. This club has had a profound impact on me and the club members by developing relationships with an underserved population. Service at Prep is mirrored in St Ignatius' Prayer for Generosity: "Lord teach me to be generous, teach me to serve you as you deserve..." This desire to serve others is a priority at our school and defines what it means to be a Fairfield Prep student.

One of the best ways to become part of the Prep community is to take advantage of the school's countless extracurricular activities. As a freshman, being surrounded by a new group of classmates can make the first few weeks of school seem daunting. A great way to counteract this feeling is to become involved in organizations such as theater, athletics, music groups, and clubs. Prep encourages their students not to be the "2:30 kid" who simply goes to class and then heads home after the final bell. The experiences you get out of your time at Prep are the direct result of the effort you put in. The school knows it can be hard for freshmen to take that first step, so the administration provides an Activities Fair in which clubs recruit new members. During my experience

“
Trust me, there
is something for
everyone to get
involved with at Prep.
”

as a freshman I overdid it. I signed up for a total of 12 clubs, which I strongly do not recommend! After being bombarded with club emails, I wisely decided to only join the few that truly interested me. Trust me, there is something for everyone to get involved with at Prep.

I am a four-year student government representative for the class of 2019, currently serving as the Student Body Secretary. Also, a four-year rugby player, a Eucharistic Minister, a retreat leader, a club president, a member of a nationally ranked ethics debate team, a peer tutor, a National Honor Society member, and a summa cum laude scholar all three years. But above all I am most proud to call myself a Fairfield Prep student.

Taken from a speech given by senior Owen Gannon to freshman parents at the fall reception. He is pictured with his parents Barbara and Thomas Gannon.





"Hey band?" "Hey what?"

By Ronald DeRosa, Digital Communications Manager



When you hear that exchange, you know you're in Mr. Dan

Horstmann's classroom. This is his call-and-response exchange he uses to get a room of band or choir students' attention, usually when students are individually practicing music ahead of a full band rehearsal.

"I do it because it drives home this family feel like 'we're all in this together,'" he said. "It caught on quickly with the students."

Mr. Horstmann is Fairfield Prep's new music teacher, a role he assumed in 2018 after his first year at Prep in the admissions office. He took over the music program from Mrs. Christine Evans, who left Prep after the end of the 2017-18 year and who expanded the program to what it is today.

Today, Prep offers a variety

of music ensembles: String Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Combined Symphonic Orchestra, and Select Choir. Mr. Horstmann also teaches General Music class and oversees three extracurricular clubs — Jazzuits jazz band, Encords a cappella group and Liturgical Choir.

Music And Sports

Most students continue with music all four years, and many of the students also play sports, Mr. Horstmann said.

Bobby Rotondo '22 is one such student. He plays alto saxophone in the wind ensemble and the Jazzuits, while also playing on Prep's JV hockey team. Bobby practices nearly every day with the team at Wonderland of Ice in Bridgeport, while also having to fit in regular academics, at-home music practice and Jazzuits at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays.

So how does he manage all of that?

"It's not that hard if you make time and don't procrastinate," Bobby said. "And also, Mr. Horstmann is very accommodating with both (sports and music). He understands that we have a lot of stuff going on in our lives."

Jimmy Gill '22 knows a thing or two about time management. He plays baritone saxophone in the Wind Ensemble, Liturgical Band and Jazzuits, while also rowing six days a week in the fall and the spring for the Maritime Rowing Club in Darien. A Monroe resident, Jimmy balances out his daily schedule with travel on the train from Fairfield to Darien, which are times he uses to get homework done.

With all of this, Jimmy is able to still maintain regular participation in music.



"Mr. Horstmann is very understanding," Gill said. "He's very fair, as long as you keep up with playing. And he's just looking for us to grow and get better using our instruments."

Similar to Jimmy, **John O'Keefe '21** balances not only sports and music at Prep, but also music outside of Prep. John is a member of the Fairfield County Children's Choir.

"It's been crazy but I love to sing, so I really enjoy doing that and getting involved," John said. "All of my friends I've basically met through crew and swimming and the music program."

"We got to play at the Apollo with several other jazz bands from around the country and around the world even."

—BRIAN ROONEY '20

Taking Music on the Road

Many students are attracted to the music program because of the various opportunities offered.

"We're creating opportunities for students to do more with music outside of the program,"

Horstmann said. As an example, the liturgical band and choir were expanded to include more instrumental performance. Students also participated in local jazz competitions, including a spring event in Darien.

For the past several years, musicians have gone to the Apollo Theatre in Harlem where the students partake in a music clinic, explained **Brian Rooney '20**, who plays trombone in the Jazzuits and the Wind Ensemble.

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PREP STUDENTS, MUSIC TEACHER PART OF ADL 'SHOW OF UNITY'

Prep musicians joined a number of area choirs from schools and churches for a concert as part of the Anti-Defamation League's "VOICES: A Show of Unity" performance at the Klein Memorial Auditorium on Nov. 11. Music teacher Dan Horstmann conducted the combined choir, which included Prep students, in the performance of "America the Beautiful" and "RESPECT" by Aretha Franklin. VOICES is a fundraising benefit and community gathering designed to bring people together, foster dialogue and build mutual respect.



"Hey band?" "Hey what?"

Continued from page 7

"We met with pretty accomplished jazz musicians and they gave us comments and critiques," Brian said. "The next day we went back in (to Harlem) and got to play at the Apollo with several other jazz bands from around the country and around the world even."

Brian was one of several students who participated in the Shop & Stroll in downtown Fairfield, performing Christmas jazz tunes at the Fairfield University Bookstore.

"I think that's something that Mr. Horstmann is doing really well at, is kind of pushing us to do more than two concerts a year, which is great because we practice a lot but don't have a lot of playing time in front of an audience," Brian said. "The Shop & Stroll was very casual, just on a week night like our practice, but people got to enjoy it."

A Place to Make Friends

"There are a lot of people I am friends with that I wouldn't necessarily have crossed paths with in classes or sports," Brian said. "It's really made a positive



Prep musicians recently competed in the Western Regional High School Music Festival. From left: **Eugene Lim '20**, **Brian Rooney '20**, **Josh Peiffer '21** and **Evan Jang '22**. Peiffer also advanced to the All-State Competition.

impact on my Prep experience."

Many students we spoke had similar remarks to Brian. Friendships are formed among these Prep musicians, often with long lasting results beyond Prep.

"I think it's a real nice program that just allows people to hang out and perform music together, it's not just about playing music," said **Oliver Wells '21**, who plays cello and piano. "Everyone in jazz band is friends with each other. It's more of a team. All of the ensembles are more of a team than a group of kids playing together."

 Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1

Evan Bean '19 performs jazz.



PREP PLAYERS PERFORM

Twelfth Night

"In every show that we do, I want to challenge the actors in new ways, and I am proud to say that they always push themselves to step up and embrace the challenge. This show has been no exception and I am really proud to share what they have accomplished."

— PREP ARTS CHAIRPERSON AND SHOW DIRECTOR MEGAN HOOVER

The Prep Players, Fairfield Prep's theatre group, performed its fall production, "Twelfth Night" by William Shakespeare at the Regina Quick Center for the Arts on November 8-10. Shown center is **Robbie Whitney '19**.



MR. CHESBRO'S STUDENT FANS Mr. Chesbro's AP English class turned out in force to attend the reading and signing of his new book *A Lion in the Snow* at the Fairfield University Bookstore in downtown Fairfield.

Q & A WITH **James Chesbro**

Prep English teacher and author of "A Lion in the Snow"



In the fall of 2018, James M. Chesbro released *A Lion in the Snow: Essays on a Father's Journey Home*. The book explores the intricacies of fatherhood as both a father and a son. This year, I have been lucky enough to spend time with Mr. Chesbro both inside and outside the classroom. Whether he is teaching in English class, editing *The Bellarmine Review*, moderating in the Creative Writing Club, or helping the Golf Team, Mr.

Chesbro is an integral part of the Prep community. I had the opportunity to sit down with Mr. Chesbro and have a one-on-one conversation about his recently published book.

Throughout the essay "In Pursuit of Light" you describe a father-son retreat you helped lead at Prep. Has your time as a faculty member influenced your role as a father?

I am trying to embrace the parts of all the characters I write about, including myself as a first person. I think writing, fathering, and teaching are all humbling, and I think my experiences have only enhanced my

understanding in all those different roles. I find that I'm less surprised by stuff that comes up as a teacher and as a dad. It would take a lot for something to occur for me to be surprised.

Could you elaborate on the creative process from writing the content, to contacting publishers, and editing?

I began this book writing about being a son, and later about being a father. I wanted

to create intersections and overlapping connections between both roles and I just kept writing and publishing pieces individually, all along hoping to garner some attention. This attention later got me in touch with some people from Woodhall Press, who have allowed me to put this collection of essays together.

Is there any specific piece in *A Lion in the Snow* that took the most time to craft until you felt that it was complete?

The longest piece "Sometimes We Pray Together," was the hardest to write because it gets at the most traumatic moments included in the book. As a son, reflecting on those moments with my parents and my father's passing was the hardest. It took me the longest time to craft since I had to unpack these moments in my life in a vulnerable way for the reader.

In this book you create a connection to the audience as you give them a glimpse into your conscience. To what extent has the literary device voice affected your writing?

I think I knew I was onto something when I had generated a voice that was sincere and it was really making contact with the subject in a way that speaks to readers more candidly. It is a personal connection with the reader, slightly different than how we interact with each other in day-to-day life. I didn't purposely create any particular voice with the exception of that in "On Propriety." Within that piece, I have a perfectionist voice in my head and I just want to let that voice run free as I am narrating how I feed a baby.

As an author who has been published by serious media outlets such as *The Writer's Chronicle*, *The Huffington Post*, and *The Washington Post*, what advice do you have for any aspiring writers?

My advice would be to try and write in the places that you like reading, whether that's online publications or a series by an author. If you really want to add another level of depth to your writing, then you have to read like a writer and that's probably something most aspiring writers have misjudged or underappreciated. My third suggestion would be to find other people who care as much as you do about writing and bounce ideas off of each other and help develop one another's pieces.

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***A Lion In The Snow* is composed of various essays on family, loss, and fatherhood. Many of the essays were published in literary magazines dating from 2011 to 2017. Looking back on your previous essays, have you noticed changes in your writing style?**

I think a change can be seen when I look back on my earliest stuff since I was probably less willing to be as declarative as

in the material that I created most recently. It's a good question, the benefit I have seen as the book came together is that even though I am very attached to the pieces when I am writing them, the editor in me who has had the experience of writing and reading all those years can look at my earliest stuff with a lot of distance.

Within many of the essays, you describe your family members. Were there any intricacies involved in the characterization of people you care so deeply about?

Something that I was really aware of in creating this book was to include their humanity in the writing. I really wanted to allow their characteristics to live on the page. I think if you're writing about another person, really it's the writer's job to write

about them as fairly as possible. It's really tricky, but it in the descriptions of my father I tried to show him as fully dimensional person.

Could you describe the last piece you worked on in *A Lion in the Snow*?

The last piece I wrote was the essay "Refuges and Other Forms of Repose" which is about going to the U2 concert. That essay was an attempt to write about the overall experience of being a son and then being a married man, and those intersections.



Interview conducted by Owen Gannon '19

LIVING AUTHOR SERIES

Prep's *Living Author Series*, established by English teacher Jamie Chesbro, hosted guest speaker Dr. Michael C. White, a Fairfield University professor and author of 8 books and 45 short stories on Nov. 1. He spoke about his book *Soul Catcher*, a novel that takes place during the Civil War, which is utilized in the Prep curriculum. Mr. Chesbro facilitated the conversation with Dr. White, which was open to the Prep community.



Fairfield Prep presents

writing royale

a short story contest



Finn Mangan '19 wins 1st place

Congratulations to winner Finn Mangan and the finalists for Prep's short story contest, *Writing Royale*. Sixteen students submitted stories and a panel of English teachers read the submissions anonymously and selected six finalists. The six stories were passed on to the guest-judge, Dr. Suzanne Matson, a novelist and professor of English at Boston College. All the finalists' stories will be published in the spring issue of *The Bellarmine Review*.

Dr. Matson selected senior **Finn Mangan's** story as the winner of the contest. Of Mangan's story, "I Wish I Was the Souvenir You Kept Your House Key On" Matson writes:

"It wasn't immediately apparent to me that the title of this story was a line from the Pearl Jam song later referenced. But I figured it out with a little help from Google, and the revelation brought delight. The whole song lyric is structured through repetition, just as the story is. The particular line used for the story title is perhaps the most oblique of the whole song, its power understated. It makes us want to parse its elements to get to the bottom of it: "souvenir" having to do with holding onto a sweet memory;

"house key" that thing that unlocks security and shelter; the "I wish" conjoining them only as possibility, not certainty.

Enter the speaker's wish to know "Dad" better, in all of "Dad's" plain and yet occluded ways. "Dad" works too much. "Dad" says little and reveals less. "Dad" is absent even when he's present. The speaker knows there is more to "Dad" than this, that "Dad" had a past, was young, had dreams. He even intuitively knows that although "Dad" keeps a large part of himself hidden, that, too, is in part a gesture of sacrifice and selflessness. Through short, matter-of-fact statements that accumulate rapidly and somewhat relentlessly, the speaker probes. The very rhythm of the sentences keeps sentimentality at bay, which clears a space for true emotion. The speaker *needs* to know "Dad"; he wants to belong to him and vice versa, like the souvenir and the key.

I won't give away the surprise ending. This writer may be just starting out, but he understands nuance, pacing, indirection, self-reflexiveness, and a host of other craft strategies. He has written an original and arresting short story I won't soon forget."



Excerpt from Finn Mangan's winning story:

"I Wish I Was the Souvenir You Kept Your House Key On"

Up until recently, I thought Dad was boring. Dad doesn't have many friends. Dad doesn't have many hobbies. Dad doesn't have many interesting ideas to talk about. Dad never talks about himself. I thought these were signs that Dad was just another sweater vest wearing, Excel spreadsheet filler. And while true that Dad is exactly that, I know Dad must be more complex. I know Dad must be this way for a reason.

Sometimes I wonder how strange it must feel to be Dad, to try and connect with a 17 year old 40 years younger than him. How do you have an engaging conversation with somebody who is at such a different point in their life? Does Dad feel like we get along well? Am I intellectually stimulating enough for Dad? Does Dad consider me to be his friend? I wonder what Dad thinks of me.

You see, we don't really talk a lot, Dad and I. Dad works from home. Dad works long days. When I come home from school, I stop into Dad's office and ask Dad how he's doing. Dad will reply that he's just busy working, a response that doesn't answer my question. I wish Dad would answer my question. I wonder if Dad realizes what I'm asking.

Dad goes on business trips a lot. Dad doesn't like traveling for work. Dad says he is too old for planes. Sometimes I'll send Dad a text saying goodnight. Most of the time I forget to. I'm not sure if Dad cares whether or not I text him goodnight. I wonder if Dad falls asleep quickly in hotel beds.

CONGRATULATIONS FINALISTS:

- ★ **David Jaworowski '21**, "Coffee Beans"
- ★ **Trevor Knisely '20**, "The Sand Castle"
- ★ **William Gualtiere '21**, "The Rainman"
- ★ **Benjamin Short '20**, "Where You'll Find Me"
- ★ **Liam Woods '19**, "Am Fear Liath Mor"

STUDENT EXCELLENCE



PREP ANNOUNCES...

National Merit Semifinalist and Commended Scholars



Pictured with Principal Dr. Tommy de Quesada and President Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J., from left; National Merit Semifinalist **Alex Nordlinger '19** and National Merit Commended honorees **Henry Essex '19**, **Adam Julio '19** and **Louis Guzzi '19**.

Fairfield Prep proudly announced recognition of four seniors honored in the National Merit Scholarship Program, including Semifinalist **Alex Nordlinger** and three Commended honorees. The seniors were recognized based on the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test taken in their junior year. Over 1.6 million students from across the nation entered the competition by taking the test, and the Prep winners were selected based on placement in the top five percent in the highly competitive state of Connecticut.



ETHICS BOWL TEAM DEBATES

Prep's Ethics Bowl Team returned to the annual regional competition at Manhattanville College in February. Prep brought three teams, two of which won two out of three rounds. Kudos to the teams and their efforts to debate tough topics with competitive school teams from the New York area.

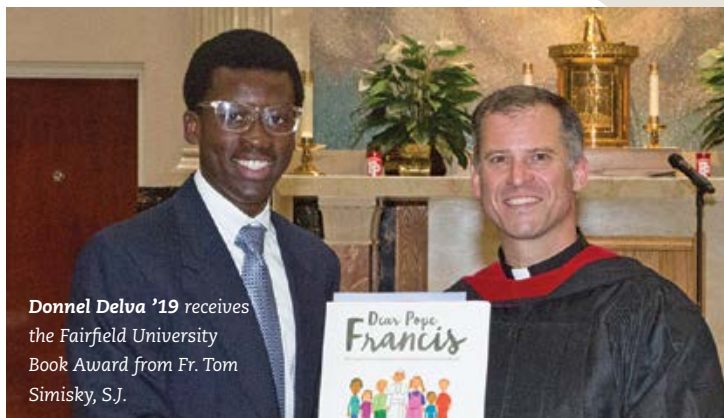


MR. SHAMROCK RUNNER UP & SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Congratulations to **Michael Fickes '19**, Mr. Shamrock

Runner Up in the Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day Parade. Michael is a summa cum laude student and dedicated member of the Cross Country, and Indoor and Outdoor Track teams.

Students honored at 2018 NHS Awards Ceremony



Donnel Delva '19 receives the Fairfield University Book Award from Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J.

Prep students were honored for their high academic achievement at the annual National Honor Society Awards Ceremony which was held on October 5 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Fairfield.

New members were inducted in the National Honor Society and seniors received special Book Awards, recognizing their outstanding school performance and leadership in key subject areas. Additionally, students were recognized for honors awards for the 2017-18 school year.

2018 BOOK AWARD RECIPIENTS

Christian A. Haranzo - The Bausch and Lomb Science Award from the University of Rochester

Alex R. Nordinger - Brown University Book Award

Samuel J. Arcamone - Bryant University Book Award

John B. O'Connor - Columbia University Book Award

Thomas C. Rudden - Cornell University Book Award

James H. Paul - Dartmouth College Book Award

Donnell L. Delva - Fairfield University Book Award

John J. Smith - Frederick Douglas and Susan B. Anthony Award sponsored by the University of Rochester

Peter J. Kavanaugh - George Washington University Book award

John J. Carroll - Gettysburg Book Award

Finn M. O'Connor - Harvard Club Book Award

Owen W. Gannon - Holy Cross Book Award

Louis T. Guzzi - Johns Hopkins Book Award

Quinn W. Sheehan - George Eastman Young Leaders Program at the University of Rochester

Jack H. Littlefield - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Award

Michael R. Rizzitelli - St. Lawrence University Book Award

Bryan S. Estrella - St. Michael's Book Award for Academic Achievement & Social Conscience

Ross K. Keblish - Tulane University Book Award

Alexander G. Gough - Villanova University Book Award

Finlay D. Mangan - William & Mary Book Award

James O. Cirilli - Xerox Award sponsored by the University of Rochester

Michael J. Fickes - Yale Book Award

Speaking in Code



Left to right front: seniors Ben Walker, Evan Bean, Maxwell DellAquila; back: Christopher Viva-Nava, Peter Lekasopo and Mr. Tim Dee

The Future is Now with Prep's Computer Science Curriculum

By Ronald DeRosa, Digital Communications Manager

Fairfield Prep's computer curriculum took a leap forward in the fall of 2018 when the school began its first class dedicated exclusively to coding — no experience required. "When we wrote the course, we purposely made it open to anyone," said Academic Dean Tim Dee, a former math teacher who teaches one of the coding classes. "There are a variety of math levels in the class."

While Fairfield Prep has readily adapted to the changes in technology — notably introducing the 1:1 iPad program in 2015 — the school expanded its offerings with this first coding course for juniors and seniors, titled Computer Programming. Students started the course with smaller projects, like using basic drag-and-drop commands to build simple animations in programs named Alice and Greenfoot. Students then used a Java-based software, Eclipse, to type out code directly to build more complex programs.

Calum Siemer '19 said he found the class accessible, with directions presented in a step-by-step manner. "I think it's super interesting to see how certain commands are used and how different things are put into procedures," Calum said. "It's very easy to follow and understand how it's all working together inside the computer. It's pretty cool." Both Calum and **Ben Walker '19** said they had very little coding experience coming into the class. But they both felt it has been an enjoyable experience. "It wasn't too difficult to jump into," Walker said.

There's a different lesson each class, usually involving utilizing different math formulas learnt from previous courses like trigonometry, said **Sean Zentner '19**, who also came into the class with no coding experience. Sean said he thought the class was hard at

first — having to learn "a new language" of coding — but Mr. Dee worked to make the lessons understandable.

"Mr. Dee was very helpful, and would go through each step carefully," Sean said.

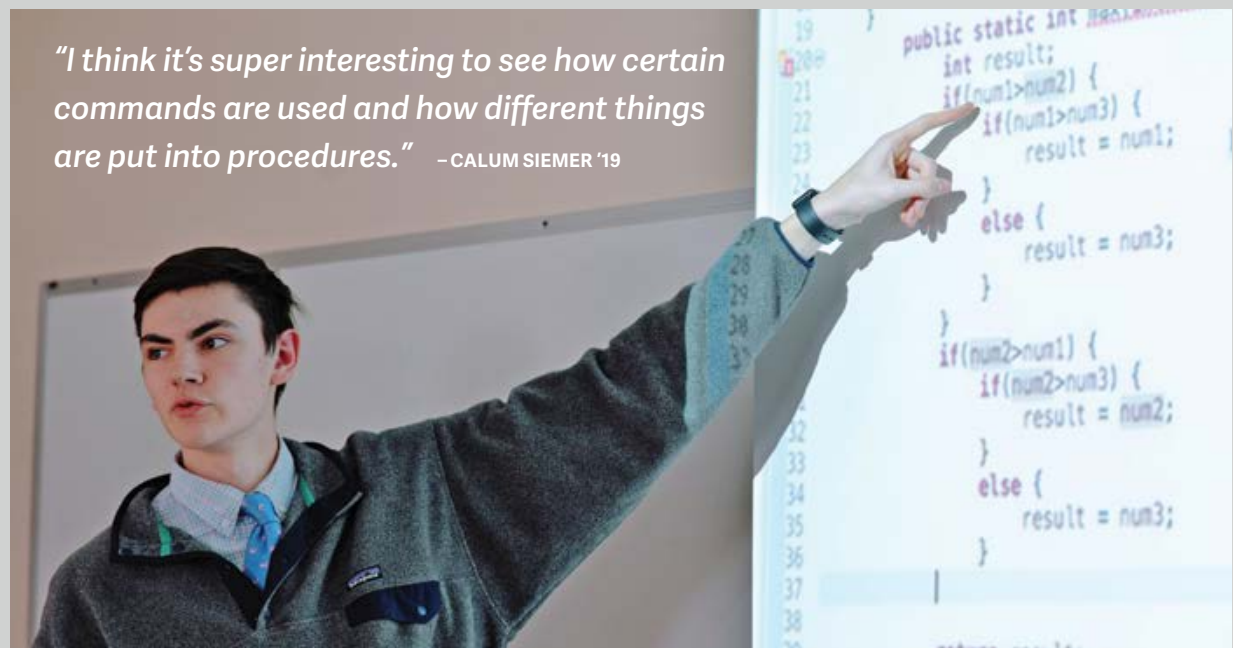
As the students learned new coding commands, they would also review code they worked on previously to shorten it and make it easier to understand, Ben said. In one example, Ben mentioned learning how to build a tax program where he went back and utilized earlier code he wrote and revised it to make it shorter and more concise for the new program. "It's always really satisfying seeing what you did, and to see how you can build upon it," Ben said.

During the middle part of the course, students even learned how to program basic video games. Calum put together a game that incorporated puzzle elements, which he spent around 8 hours to develop over the span of a week. "Mine was more of a thinking game," Calum said. "You don't have to be a gamer to play it. Just need to know how to follow directions."

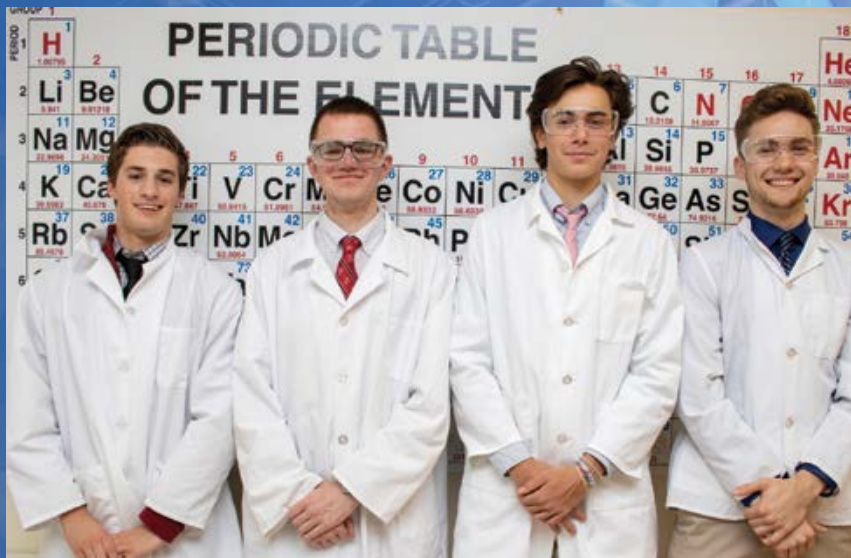
Sean said the gaming making was the most enjoyable project he worked on. He said Mr. Dee let the students get creative with the project, where they could make their own rules and add what they wanted to their games. "That was really nice to have that freedom to code freely without any actual instructions to follow," Zentner said. "At the end of the week it was really cool because we all got to go around and play everyone else's games."

Ultimately, this is just the beginning for coding at Prep. The school plans on expanding the program with more course offerings in the coming years, Mr. Dee explained. "The field is always evolving, so we're always evolving," he said.

"I think it's super interesting to see how certain commands are used and how different things are put into procedures." — CALUM SIEMER '19



The Science Guys



Seniors from left: Brody Biebel, Henry Essex, Nash Lovallo and Andrew Yanik

Prep Seniors are Partners in Science

This fall, seniors **Brody Biebel**, **Henry Essex**, **Nash Lovallo** and **Andrew Yanik** participated in a four-week after school seminar series at the Research and Development facilities of Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals and the Duracell Corporation. As participants, they gained an insider's view of how leading corporations depend on scientists from the biological, chemical, and computer science fields in order to solve challenging problems confronting society. Each seminar session involved a lecture presentation by leading scientists, as well as a tour of lab and research and development facilities.

Mr. Anthony Dotolo, science teacher, accompanied them each week to the B-I and Duracell campuses in Ridgefield and Bethel, respectively, and believes it is a great program for our science students.

Partners in Science is a cooperative program between Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Duracell Corporation, and area high schools in Connecticut. It is a two-phase program that introduces high school students and teachers to the world of drug discovery and leading-edge pharmaceutical research.

As in the past, the objectives of the program are to:

- Introduce students and teachers to the stimulating world of pharmaceutical research and development.
- Provide an opportunity for students to converse with scientists about their work.
- Enhance and complement classroom education through experiential learning.
- Expose students to a variety of careers that are based in science, technology, engineering and math.



Mike Kurylo '62 speaks to young scientists

NASA scientist **Dr. Mike Kurylo '62** presented Prep with a commemorative international plaque with flags from the US and Russia, symbolizing the countries' cooperation in global scientific and environmental research done in high altitude aircraft within Russian airspace in the Arctic. He spoke to Environmental Science classes about how his Prep experience led to an amazing science career. Kurylo pictured with, from left: seniors **Robbie Whitney**, **Jack Scholl**, teacher Bob Ford Jr., and **Adam Stone**.





Sikorsky STEM Challenge

Prep science students are competing in the Sikorsky STEM Challenge where they work with mentors from Sikorsky Engineering. The team is using 3D Design to develop a flight controller for future helicopter pilots, with the objectives of shortening the learning curve of flight and increasing onboard safety, and the benefits of being versatile, cost efficient, easy-to-learn, and space efficient. Good luck to the team!



AP Chemistry Class at Fairfield University

A group of Prep AP Chemistry students spent the morning at the Bannow Science Center at Fairfield University conducting micro pipeting and running Mass-spectrometry on proteins.



JesuBots Club

The Prep robotics team competed in three FTC robotics competitions this winter, which saw them qualify for the state championships. Club moderator Anthony Dotolo reported that, "in the finals we ran into some setbacks that were out of our control, in the end we finished the year ranked 13th. Though not our highest finish at States, I think it was our best performance ever. Our robot, nicknamed Francis, was the best we have ever built, and the boys should be proud of what they have accomplished."



TRIG*STAR The Trig*Star Club learned about Geomatics which includes surveying and mapping. Mr. Jacques from Redniss & Mead demonstrated measuring the Quad with laser instruments.



JUNIORS VISIT WITH JESUIT COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES

The Jesuit Excellence Tour (JET) of colleges visited Prep on November 7. The visiting JET representatives provided juniors with the opportunity to interact with college admissions representatives and to practice building relationships with them. Junior guidance seminars focus on getting the most value from a campus visit and on developing skills needed to assist juniors with representing themselves in their interaction with college admissions representatives. Pictured above is **Sean Seiler '20** taking a virtual reality tour of Regis University.



Words to

How best to define the mission of Fairfield Prep's Guidance Department?

Good question, and one which was put to our counselors two years ago as we constructed a “word cloud” to emphasize the specific aspects of our mission. We face our word cloud each day upon entering our offices, and as we continuously reflect on and refine our role in supporting the young men of Prep. Recently, each counselor decided to choose one powerful word which best emphasizes the aspect of our mission which is most dear to them, and to provide a few words to define their personal sense of mission more specifically. The result is a personal, creative and revealing definition of “cura personalis,” a potent mix of how we approach our work as counselors and of what we wish to promote most in our students as they experience all that Fairfield Prep offers.

— John Hanrahan, Dean of Guidance & College Advising

personalis
considerate
engage
resourceful
calm
kindness
creative
advocate
imagine
community
support
confidential
standing
open-minded

Live By



Suzanne Gorab Counselor & College Advisor

EMPATHETIC Prep counselors are **empathetic** towards their students' needs and concerns. Counselors always meet students "where they are" and advise and enable them to reach their goals. Counselors are trained to "walk in our student's shoes," and recognize how stressful it can be to be an adolescent in 2019. We are available to lend a shoulder when needed, and never judge or discipline a student.



Rick Hutchinson Counselor & College Advisor

BALANCED As counselors we encourage students to grow academically, personally, physically and spiritually. Through their classes, extracurricular activities, athletics and community service, we help students take advantage of all components of a Prep education. A **balanced** approach, not letting one component dominate their lives, allows for them to have a more enriching and fulfilling high school experience.



Peter Francini Counselor & College Advisor

DREAM As a counselor working with impressionable teenage boys, it is important for me to keep a student's goals and **dreams** alive for as long as possible. Through personal conversations, I encourage my students to work their hardest in the classroom and to get involved in extracurricular activities, sports, etc. One of the many reasons why students choose to come to Fairfield Prep is to prepare them to get into the college of their **dreams**. It is my job to help them reach their goal.



Lynne Chesbro Freshman Counselor

ADVOCATE Our main role as counselors is to serve as **advocates** for our students. Some days that means reaching out to their teachers to share a difficult situation in a student's life which may help explain a shift in academic performance or classroom behavior. It means checking in with our students, on all ends of the GPA spectrum, to offer support and encouragement. Other days it means facilitating a conversation between parent and son that was difficult for him to initiate on his own. At times it's advising department chairs of students who just missed the honors class requirement, but could excel if given the chance. On occasion it means officiating a teachable moment between students who didn't realize that what was thought to be joking was actually hurtful. To be an **advocate** means to be a conduit of and for our mission, which is at the heart of everything we do.



Li Na International Student Advisor

ENCOURAGE To **encourage** is essential to my mission as the International Student Advisor at Fairfield Prep. I encourage students to interact with their teachers in seeking their help; I **encourage** students to get involved in extracurricular activities to explore their interests and to enjoy community; and I **encourage** students to learn how to socialize with other students who come from different cultures, and to share their unique culture as well.



John Hanrahan Dean of Guidance & College Advising

REFLECTIVE The Prep experience is defined by four years of exploring interests and talents, finding direction, encountering community, experiencing God in self and in others, seeking and accepting challenges, choosing pathways, opening doors and, along the way, **reflecting** on how all of these experiences are shaping and defining their young lives. **Reflection** is that essential skill and practice which helps students to fully understand their Prep experience, to look back and to look forward, and to appreciate the value of their challenges and where they might lead. **Reflection** provides a sense of becoming. **Reflection** is growth. Encouraging students to be **reflective** is essential to the mission of a counselor at Fairfield Prep.



FULL HOUSE AT **Open House**

Hundreds of prospective students and their families toured the halls of Fairfield Prep and met with faculty and students during Fairfield Prep's

annual Open House on September 30.

Students, teachers and administrators were available to explain our Jesuit mission and curriculum, show hands-on demonstrations, and answer questions. Additionally, sports teams and clubs offered representatives in the Student Life Center to share information about their activities. Also, tours of the Fairfield University campus facilities that Prep utilizes were given.



CATHOLIC ACADEMY STUDENTS VISIT PREP

Prep gave a warm "FP" welcome to prospective students from the Catholic Academy of Bridgeport, who visited Prep and received a special tour of the school.



200+ ATTEND **Freshman Orientation**

More than 200 new students joined the Fairfield Prep brotherhood as freshmen in the 2018-19 academic year. Prep welcomed the incoming students on August 29 with the traditional Freshman Orientation. Students heard introductory speeches by Prep President Rev. Tom Simisky, S.J., and Principal Dr. Tommy de Quesada, and the upperclassmen orientation leaders led the freshmen in the Prep Fight Song. Of course, the day wasn't complete without the Freshman Olympics on Grauert Field. Students enjoyed games and activities and the ever-popular tug-of-war.

MAKING CONNECTIONS AT PREP'S ACTIVITIES FAIR

Whether it's arts, non-competitive sports, robotics or the Model U.N., there was something for everyone at the 2018 Fairfield Prep Activities Fair. Students got a chance to browse all of Prep's student-operated clubs and activities during the fair held in the Student Life Center on Aug. 29 during the Freshman Orientation. Prep offers more than 50 extracurricular clubs, not including the intramural sports offered each season.





Men for C

Food drive brings in 19,000 items

Fairfield Prep's Thanksgiving food drive was a rousing success, drawing more donations for local charities in 2018 than ever before.

The Prep community donated 19,241 items, smashing the 2018 goal of 16,000 items and the 2017 total of 11,500 items. The donations were



given to three local charities: Action for Bridgeport Community Development (ABCD), The Church of the Blessed Sacrament food pantry, and Operation Hope.

Because Prep met and exceeded its goal, Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J., declared February 4 — the day after Super Bowl Sunday — a holiday, giving students the day off.

Since 2017, Prep has participated in "The Great Ignatian Challenge," a spirited competition with five other Jesuit schools in the New York metro area. The goal is to raise awareness of hunger in our communities while filling local food banks and pantries with tens of thousands of pounds of much-needed provisions for needy families. The other participating schools are Fordham Preparatory School (The Bronx); Loyola School (Manhattan); Regis High School (Manhattan), Saint Peter's Prep (Jersey City, NJ); and Xavier High School (Manhattan).



RECORD-BREAKER COAT DRIVE!

The Spanish Honor Society collected over 570 pounds of coats, hats and gloves for the Bridgeport Rescue Mission!



IRISH CLUB TRAD FOR TRÓCAIRE

On November 11, Fairfield Prep's Irish Club and Lauralton Hall's Irish Club co-hosted their annual musical-charity fundraiser for Ireland's largest international-aid organization, *Trócaire*. *Trócaire*, which means "compassion" in Gaelic, helps to alleviate and address the causes of poverty in some of the world's most distressed places. This year's event, at Fairfield's Gaelic American Club, raised more than \$1900.

Others



ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB CLEAN-UP

Prep's Environmental Club conducted a garbage cleanup in October at Sasco Beach in Fairfield.



URBAN PLUNGE

Students spent three days learning from, volunteering and serving with organizations in Bridgeport during the fall.



TOP CHEFS

Roman Leito '19 volunteers with the children's cooking program at Hall Neighborhood House resource center in Bridgeport.



Ethan Dubrosky '20

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Hats off to our Prep volunteers who helped building projects in September, serving with Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County.

Prep Traditions



TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Halloween at Prep continues to be a day of fun and service as the Class of 2019 carried on the tradition of "Trunk-or-Treat" with students from Hall School in Bridgeport. The Prep seniors led students in a number of games on Grauert Field, such as limbo, Simon Says and a ring toss, among others. The Hall students then went "trunk-or-treating" in the Grauert parking lot where Prep seniors decorated their vehicles and gave out candy to the children. The event proved to be another rousing success, with Hall students always eager to come back to Prep for this annual event.



"If we resist giving into the divisiveness of our time, we can shape the moral conversation that we inhabit, by insisting on courtesy and compromise."

— RABBI JAMES PROSNIT

Thanksgiving Prayer Service calls on students to resist division

Rabbi James Prosnit, of Congregation B'nai Israel synagogue in Bridgeport, called on Fairfield Prep students to resist division and to practice compromise during a keynote speech at the school's annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Prayer Service on Nov. 19.

Fairfield Prep's prayer service included prayers for thanks, prayers from other faith traditions and music led by the Liturgical Music group. Rabbi Evan Schultz, also of B'nai Israel, provided music from the Jewish tradition. "There are small acts of sacrifice, trust and risk that are within our power and they signal our willingness to discipline our desires and rise above individualism for the sake of the group. I know these are core values of a Jesuit tradition; and I might add they are core values of a Jewish one as well."



Rabbi Evan Schultz

Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1



EDUCATORS HONORED

President Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J., honored Prep educators (near left) Bob Ford Jr., Matt Sather '93, Maureen Bohan, and Nora Magi (not pictured) for their decades of service to Prep. Additionally John Hanrahan (far left) was recognized at the Advent Mass.



CAROLING IN THE QUAD

Campus Ministry sponsored a Christmas Carols & Cookies get-together on Dec. 17 in Pelletier Quad and Arrupe Hall



TOY DRIVE

The annual Christmas Toy Drive collected a lobby-full of toys to benefit Catholic Charities of Fairfield County.



WELLNESS FAIR

Prep's annual Wellness Fair in March showcased professionals from Fairfield University and community. Shown: students wearing "Beer Goggles" which simulate alcohol impairment.



Chinese international students make an impact

Fairfield Prep's International Student Program is now in its fifth year, blossoming in its scope of support and in the number of students from China who have joined the Prep community.

Initially a cohort of nine students, Prep's international student population has grown to thirty-six students. The Prep Class of 2018 graduated nine international students, all enrolled in colleges including the School of Visual Arts, Dartmouth College, Georgetown University and the University of Virginia.

Our international students have not only established strong academic records, they have also invested fully in life on campus, actively participating in sports, the arts, music, robotics, retreats and service.

They have enriched the community as well, bringing awareness of China to Prep by highlighting its culture in presenting a Lunar New Year celebration during each of the past two years. Prep's international students have found a welcoming culture at Prep and have been well supported by Li Na, Prep's International Student Advisor, pictured above with student **Harry Zhai '21**.

Li Na's efforts over the past two years are closely connected to the success of our international students and the program overall. Her encouragement and support have assisted our young men from China to find a home at Prep and to engage in life on campus.

Li Na's understanding of the Chinese language and culture has also assisted our faculty and counseling staff in supporting international students as she has become an advisor to those who instruct and guide them. Clearly, Fairfield Prep's mission knows no boundaries.



Prep Family Gatherings



GRANDPARENTS VISIT PREP

The Class of 2022 and their grandparents enjoyed breakfast and fellowship in September for the annual Grandparents Mass & Breakfast at Prep. President Rev. Tom Simisky, S.J., welcomed the grandparents and thanked them for being strong guides for their grandsons.



PARENTS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Oh what fun! Prep parents gathered on November 30 in the Oak Room of the Barone Campus Center on the Fairfield University campus to kick off the holiday season. Over 250 parents attended and enjoyed an evening of music and dancing.



MOTHER AND SON THANKSGIVING SERVICE PROJECT

On November 17, mothers and sons participated in a Bellarmine Guild mother/son Thanksgiving Service Project coordinated by the DiDomenico family P'19. Families helped coordinate, assemble and deliver more than 625 Thanksgiving meals for families in need throughout Greater Bridgeport.



MOTHER/SON COMEDY NIGHT

Prep students and their mothers gathered October 23 in the Student Life Center for dinner and a night of comedy. Alumni **Joe Gerics '97** and **Beecher '97** performed along with headliner Leah Bonnema. Toys and games were collected for children in Bridgeport served by Hall Neighborhood House.



FATHER-SON COMMUNION BREAKFAST

The annual Father-Son Communion Breakfast held on Super Bowl Sunday brought dads and sons together for Mass at Egan Chapel, followed by breakfast in the Student Life Center. From left, **John Reidy '22**, **Griffin Reidy '90**, Kevin Sheehan, **Quinn Sheehan '19**.



Taken from a speech given by **José Dataram '20** at the President's Dinner on October 23, 2018.

All in the Family

My name is **José Dataram**. I attended St. Augustine Cathedral Academy in Bridgeport and now I am a very proud junior at Fairfield Prep. I am very active beyond the classroom: I am a junior leader for the freshman retreat, I play varsity football, and I am a dedicated member of the S.E.E.D. diversity program. I have a part-time job at the Fairfield Circle Inn and my hobby is welding, which I learned from my father. I have been blessed with multiple families: my biological family, my football brothers, and my S.E.E.D. family. I'd like to tell you about them.

My Biological Family

My first family — my biological family — has made me into the strong young man I am today. I learned the value of family and education from my busy mother. Being a single mom with seven kids is definitely not easy. She works six days a week cleaning houses and offices. I usually help her at work so she can come home sooner rather than later. During middle school, when I could, I helped her clean offices around Bridgeport.

I have responsibilities around the house. I do laundry, clean the kitchen, and babysit my four younger siblings when I can.

Working with her made me realize the value of a strong work ethic and enabled me to set goals for who I want to become.

I represent the first generation in my family who will go to college. Because of financial hardship, my mother stopped attending school as a child in Mexico. She never had a day of school after the third grade. My two older brothers decided not to attend college. Therefore, I stand solo in my family with no college role model from whom I can learn. My mother and I will be new to the college application process and will not know what to do when the time

comes. Thankfully, I know that the Prep community, especially Guidance and the S.E.E.D. leaders, will be there to support and guide us in the right direction.

My Football Family

My Prep football brothers are my second family. I was introduced to football during the summer of my freshman year. All of the freshman players got along great. When school started I already had several new friends. Football has taught me who I am and how far I am willing to go for my teammates and for myself. It taught me to be accountable to my teammates, coaches, and to myself. I alone am responsible for my actions and I must live up to what I say I will do.

Football also taught me to be committed not only to the team but to family, friends, school work, and my faith. I absolutely love the brotherhood we share on the field every time we have a practice or game. It has changed my life for the better and has given me friends that will be by my side for the rest of my life.

My S.E.E.D. Family

The S.E.E.D. program — my third family — gave me a great start at Prep. Without the program, I would not have been able to attend Prep. The summer before freshman year I took an iPad course at the school. That led to many basketball games in the Brissette Gym, which developed into several new friendships with my S.E.E.D. brothers.

These young men have been there for me ever since the day we met. The program has monthly meetings where we discuss our grades, time management, and where to go for extra help. Overall, Mrs. Thomas and Dr. Andrade have helped me tremendously by making life at Prep run more smoothly.

I also met inspirational S.E.E.D. alumni who have been through similar experiences as I. **Tony Fox '14**, and **Ed Gormbley '95**, have shared their lessons learned at Prep with me. Tony demonstrated his leadership as president of student government and captain of the football team. He later brought his talents to Fordham University on a football scholarship. Mr. Ed Gormbley is my mentor. I learned the importance of not being limited by our circumstances from him. Mr. Gormbley was also raised by a single mother, but today he owns the Fairfield Circle Inn and the Hi-Ho Hotel. Both of these alumni gave me the courage to embrace the brotherhood here at Prep and not be afraid to try new things.

Thanks to Prep's Generous Benefactors

Many young men here at Prep face the harsh realities of the world at a very young age. But, because of mentors and benefactors like all of you, young men like me are afforded opportunities most people from my neighborhood don't have. Without you I would not have had the opportunity to attend Prep and prepare myself for college. A benefactor's generous gift can affect a young, developing man's life by showing him that you are willing to be there and support him in things he cannot do himself.

I have been blessed with a supportive biological family, my football brothers, the S.E.E.D. community, and with a benefactor, like Mr. Gormbley. He guides me in the right direction, and by example, encourages me to be a "Man for Others."

Your generosity inspires young men to give back to the community — just like you did — and just like I intend to do one day. Never underestimate the difference you can make in the life of another. Never underestimate the difference you have made in my life. Thank you!

Prep Leader Leaves a Legacy

Tim Murphy '85 finishes his term as chairman of Prep's Board of Governors at the end of the 2018-19 school year. He leaves Fairfield Prep on solid financial ground with healthy enrollment and an innovative vision for facilities and curriculum enhancement in the future.

A high-level business professional, Tim serves as general counsel for Mastercard. In this capacity, he oversees legal affairs, public policy, corporate governance and compliance. He is also responsible for Mastercard's franchise, corporate security, privacy and global inclusion teams.

In a Q and A format, Tim talked about his experience leading the Prep board and his outlook regarding the school's future:



Tim Murphy '85 with Fr. Tom Simisky, S. J.

Can you tell us what stands out about your overall experience serving as chairman of Prep's Board of Governors for the past five years?

"For me, I think the signal achievement has been the appointment of Fr. Simisky as president, and the board's working relationship with him as he has grown as a leader of the school. His presence at the school has been a gift."

"I think one of the key roles of the chair is to be a counselor and supporter of the president. You need to ask tough questions in private, be supportive in public, and be a shoulder to lean on when times are tough. It's been an incredibly rich and wonderful experience working with Tom directly."

"If I look at what Tom and the leadership team have accomplished over the past few years, I'm very grateful for his vision and the leadership of the administration team. I think Prep has been under a remarkable transformation and revitalization agenda the past few years."

What do you identify as major accomplishments of the board in your tenure?

"A great many things have been accomplished. We have a new strategic plan that reflects the school's history and culture, and charts a plan for the future. That plan is deeply committed to Jesuit and Ignatian values. It lays out a vision for a physical transformation to improve key programs like science and the arts."

"I think the strategic plan has opened up new visions for the school. If you think about what distinguishes Jesuit education and Fairfield Prep in particular, it's the focus on giving young men access to the globe: global culture and global business. Well, the first globalists were the Jesuits."

"I think the school has been sitting on this global heritage for 75 years and Prep has cultivated that tradition more in recent years. I am so excited for the young men from China who are at the school, and the newly formed exchange programs with Latin America and Europe."

What do you believe are the major objectives for Prep's viability in the future?

"I believe the strategic plan complements where we are with global and environmental change. VP for Advancement Rick Henderson and his team have taken our development efforts to a new level. Rick is building new bridges to make education for the 21st century happen in a very positive way. Prep is building on the great work of the past, and adapting for the new challenges that will face us in the future."

"We need to constantly improve and adapt to the time. It's imperative that we invest in STEM and our life science labs. Finally, I would say at the end of the day it's all about people. Fr. Simisky has made great decisions in bringing in new leaders like Rick, and the new principal, Dr. Tommy de Quesada. I think most of us on the board worried about succession planning. There's less worry now due to Father Tom's involvement."

“

Successful private secondary education requires leadership, hustle, grit, determination, money and the love and affection of its alumni to make the place better. — TIM MURPHY '85

”

What role can the Board of Governors play going forward, to sustain Prep financially in the coming decades?

"I think one of the benefits of being on the board is to give your treasure and your time as loyal sons and friends of the school. I think we have an outstanding group of governors who can do that and who are deeply committed. One of the things we have done with the board is encourage open dialogue with school leadership and Father Simisky."

"But the real question is what can our alumni do? The simple fact is, our alumni are not as involved in the life of the school as we would like them to be. Our participation percentage compared to benchmark schools is low. There are three ways our alumni can contribute to Prep."

First: "The most important thing any alumnus can do is to care about the school and visit campus to attend an event. There are plenty of opportunities to make Prep a part of an alumnus's life. I so strongly encourage our alumni to come and be part of the community."

Second: "Contribute in any way you can, and in the best way you can. That can be in your time, your energy or your involvement. For example, if you are experienced in the engineering field, come and volunteer your skills as Prep enhances its STEM program. If you are in finance, help Prep establish and grow the Fairfield Prep Entrepreneurship Institute. Be part of the community."

Third: "Share your treasure. There is a misconception that Prep is rich. In fact, Catholic schools have endowments that are significantly smaller than other private secondary schools because people have assumed for years that the Church would take care of it. That's not the case. We need help from our alumni to make the school affordable so we can attract the young men who we want to educate. That success cannot be assumed going forward."

"Prep competes with public schools that are investing in facilities and resources — and, I might add, are free. Successful private secondary education requires leadership, hustle, grit, determination, money and the love and affection of its alumni to make the place better. Otherwise it will not succeed. If you assume someone else has got it and someone else is covering it, you are wrong. We need you!"



The newly appointed chairman is Prep parent Sally Bednar P'20, '22. In the private sector, Sally serves as Managing Director, Public Finance/Munis, Head of Strategy for Public Finance, Head of Capital Markets and Co-Head Higher Ed Group at Wells Fargo Securities.

What are your recommendations to Sally Bednar as she becomes your successor in this important role as chairman? How do you perceive that her experience as a parent and financial executive will lend itself to directing Prep's Board of Governors over the coming years?

"I am absolutely thrilled that Sally has taken on the chairmanship of the Board of Governors. I have incredible confidence in her ability to lead the governors to new heights and the board into its next chapter. Sally has a wonderful combination of being thoughtful, asking good questions and respecting the views of administration and directors. She is very insightful. Her leadership will continue the governors' growth, enhance discussions with Fr. Simisky, and will impact the entire school community."

"Sally is very committed to Prep across all avenues of school life. She is a leader who is at graduation, at our SEED diversity dinner and many of our sporting events. She's engaged through her children, through her family and through her governorship."

"Sally is exceptionally well qualified to be board chair. She has a successful career directing strategy and finance for the Wells Fargo higher education group and can certainly advise Fr. Simisky on

financial issues. She's knowledgeable about university issues and will work well with Fairfield University leadership."

"It is 2019 and it's absolutely time and appropriate for a woman to be chairing the board of governors. Sally's appointment has been historic for that reason. It's something that adds a lot of value because it enriches our experience with diverse points of views and it only makes us better."

Why does Prep mean so much to you?

"For me, Prep was a transformational experience in my life. It was a place where I felt respected as an adult by grown-ups. I was given the confidence that I could do almost anything if I put my mind to it. It did all of that, grounded in values that were about service to and respect for others. As I've led my life, I've looked around and recognized how that trait is obvious if you are in the school, but it's rare when you are outside of it. If you're imbued with those things, it's absolutely the right way to live in our interconnected world."

"The chance to come back and serve Prep, initially, was an honor. But then, what I quickly realized was how I got pulled in and captured by the magic of the place again. For me that often came up with the chance to interact with some of the students, particularly the seniors through the board 'shadow days.' I saw these young men - so bright, and so positive and thoughtful - and I realized that every day at Prep is actually a miracle. Prep delivers the transformation of a boy into a young man, but not just any young man, a young man of purpose and passion. A young man who can talk about faith, who can talk about brotherhood and love of friends."

"When I had the chance to talk to the seniors at their commencement a few years ago, I talked about faith, brotherhood and service. Those are all things that trip off the tongue of a Prep brother. They are natural because they were what you grew up with and are taught. But they are also the things that are the most needed and most hard to find in the world. It is, therefore, a really precious thing that the school's values have been able to sustain themselves over time. Faith, brotherhood and service."



SCHOLAR ATHLETES

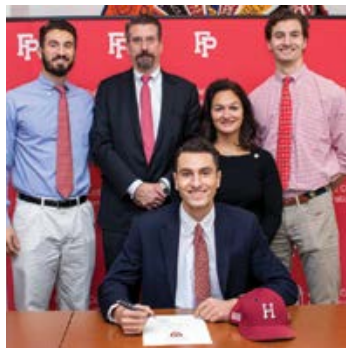
These seniors have demonstrated leadership qualities by being positive role models for others both on and off the field while maintaining top grades in all of their classes.

COMMITTED TO PLAY COLLEGE LEVEL SPORTS

HARVARD

ADAM STONE

Adam Stone (P/OF) committed to play baseball at Harvard University. Stone was named All-SCC for his pitching/hitting in Prep's historic 25-2 season and first SCC championship. He will serve as captain this spring. Stone is a magna cum laude student and National Honor Society member. He volunteers at the Stamford Boys and Girls Club. He is the third Stone brother to attend Harvard and play baseball. Shown with his parents and brothers **Kevin '15** (left) and **Grant '16** (right).



BASEBALL

ROGER WILLIAMS

MATT MASSARO

DAN MASSARO

Matt Massaro (INF) and **Dan Massaro** (INF/OF/RHP) committed to play baseball at Roger Williams University. Both players were instrumental in Prep's historic season this past spring as the team finished with a 25-2 regular season record, won the SCC Oronoque Division and won the school's first SCC Tournament. Both will serve as captains this upcoming season. In the classroom, Dan Massaro is a cum laude student. Both Massaro brothers volunteer at the Cardinal Shehan Center in Bridgeport.



BASEBALL

LEHIGH

HENRY HOUGHTON

Henry Houghton has committed to play college football at Lehigh University next fall. Houghton was a captain and linebacker for the Jesuits who helped the team to a 10-2 record and back-to-back playoff appearances his junior and senior year. Houghton made 33 solo tackles and 68 total tackles on the season. Houghton is a cum laude student and member of the National Honor Society. He is also a member of the Prep Student Government and Media Club. Henry volunteers at the Cardinal Shehan Center.



FOOTBALL

CORNELL

JAMES BRADY

Jimmy Brady has committed to row crew at Cornell University next fall. Brady has been a four-year member of the crew program and will row for the Cornell lightweight squad. Brady has helped the Jesuits to back-to-back Grand Finals at the NEIRA championships and will look to bring the team back for a third time this spring. Brady is a summa cum laude student and volunteers at the Operation Hope center in Fairfield and XLR8 Urban Impact in Bridgeport.



ROWING

DREXEL

SAM DESILVA

Sam DeSilva has committed to row at Drexel University in Philadelphia. DeSilva is a four-year member of the crew team that finished first at the 2017 Fall New England Championships and reached the 2018 Grand Final at the spring NEIRA Championships. DeSilva attended the U19 National Selection Rowing Camp in Chula Vista, CA this past summer. Sam has participated in a summer service trip each year he has been at Prep and has volunteered with Urban Impact.



ROWING

LAFAYETTE

NASH LOVALLO

Nash Lovallo has signed a National Letter of Intent to play tennis at Lafayette College. Lovallo will be senior captain this spring for the Jesuits and helped the team to an SCC Championship his sophomore season. In his junior season, Lovallo was named First Team All-SCC and earned the #14 seed in the Class LL State Tournament. Nash is a member of the creative writing, media club and the National Honor Society. He is also a magna cum laude student. He volunteers at the Norwalk Grassroots Tennis and Education program.



TENNIS

SCC SCHOLAR ATHLETES



Campbell Halloran is a four-year member of the Fairfield Prep football team and serves as a captain of both the football and rugby teams. Campbell has helped the Jesuits to 3-1 record to start the season and has recorded 11 tackles and one sack while playing both offensive and defensive line. Off the field, Halloran is the President of Student Government and a member of the National Honor Society. Halloran volunteers at the Gary Crooks Community Center in Bridgeport and also participated in a nine day mission trip with his church group.



Sean Zentner is a four-year member of the Prep wrestling team and finished runner-up at the SCC Championship. He serves as a captain for the Jesuits and finished as a finalist in the Fairfield Ludlowe Invite. He recently went 5-0 at the Staples duels. He has helped the Prep wrestling team to 8 team victories so far this season. In the classroom Zentner is a summa cum laude student and a member of the Stock Market Club. Sean volunteers at the Beardsley School for his community service.



Eddie Tristine is a four-year member of the Fairfield Prep cross country, indoor track and outdoor track teams. Tristine serves as a captain of the cross country team and has had a standout senior year, finishing 5th overall at the Wilton Invitational and also finishing 1st overall in a 4 team SCC league race. Off the track Tristine is a member of the Jazzuits music ensemble, Gaelic Football Club, Irish Club and a member of the Music Ministry for Liturgical Music. Tristine volunteers with the Kennedy Center bowling program at Nutmeg Lanes in Fairfield.



Alec Keblish is a four-year member of the Prep swim team and has helped the team capture the past 3 SCC Tournament Meet Championships. Keblish also serves as a captain for the Jesuits and was a State Open Qualifier last year as well as an All-SCC swimmer in the breaststroke. Alec has helped the team to a 3-1 record to start this season. In the classroom Keblish is a summa cum laude student and a member of the Spanish Honor Society and the Fairfield Connection Club. Keblish volunteers with the Bridgeport Urban Impact project.

VERMONT

CONNOR BOYLE

Connor Boyle has signed a National Letter of Intent to play



lacrosse at the University of Vermont. Boyle is an All-SCC and All-State midfielder

and helped the Jesuits to SCC Championships in his sophomore and junior seasons. This spring Boyle will serve as a captain. Boyle is also a member of the football team and a captain for the hockey team. Boyle is a magna cum laude student and member of the National Honor Society and volunteers at the Cardinal Shehan Center.

LACROSSE

MIDDLEBURY

FINN O'CONNOR

Finn O'Connor has committed to play lacrosse at Middlebury College.



O'Connor, a goalie for the Jesuits, is a four year member of

the lacrosse team and has helped Prep to the past three SCC Championships. He is a summa cum laude student and received the Harvard Club book award this past fall. Finn has served as a Kairos leader and volunteers for the Boys and Girls Club of Stamford.

LACROSSE

VILLANOVA

MASON REALE

Mason Reale has signed a National Letter of Intent to



play lacrosse at Villanova University. Mason has helped the Jesuits to

back-to-back SCC Tournament Championships and quarterfinal appearances in the CIAC State Tournament. Reale was named a US Lacrosse All-American as well as All-State, SCC Player of the Year and New Haven Register Player of the Year. Reale volunteers at the Giant Steps school in Southport, Stamford Boys and Girls Club and the Westport Rec Basketball league.

LACROSSE

QUINNIPIAC

TJ ROHACH

TJ Rohach has signed a National Letter of Intent to



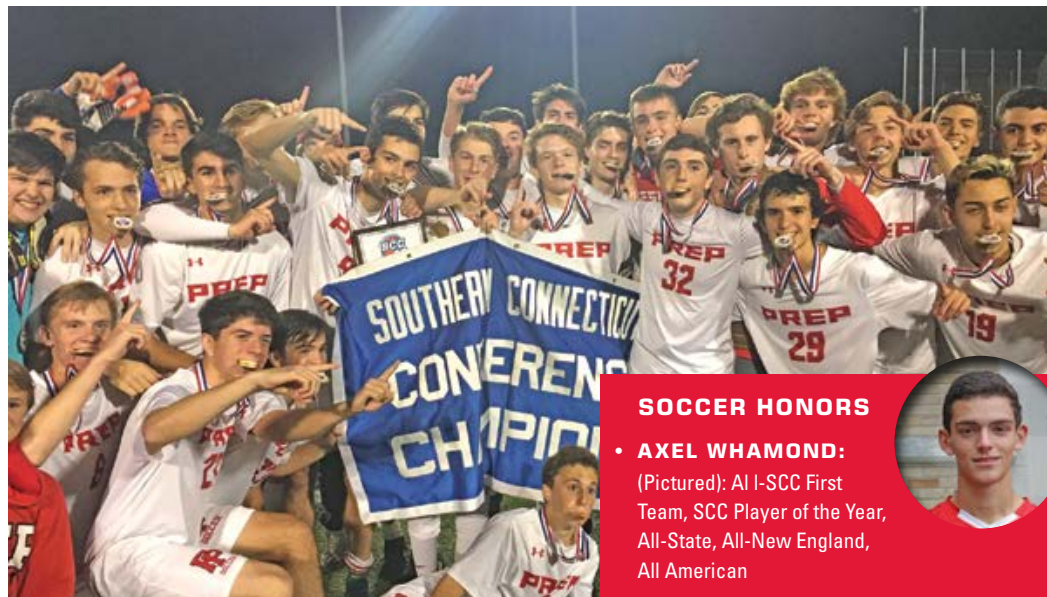
play lacrosse at Quinnipiac University. TJ helped the Jesuits to back-

to-back SCC Tournament Championships and quarter-final appearances in the CIAC State Tournament. Rohach, a cum laude student, is also a wide receiver for the Prep football team, and volunteers weekly at the Urban Impact after school program.

LACROSSE

FP SPORTS

FALL
2018

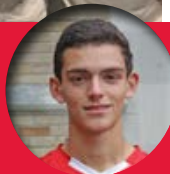


SOCCER

The Fairfield Prep soccer team completed one of the best seasons in Prep soccer history, finishing the regular season with a 14-1-1 record and winning the schools 5th SCC Tournament Championship. The Jesuits started out the season with thirteen straight victories, including a sweep over out of state opponents St. Anthony (LI) and Boston College HS (MA). The Jesuits defeated Amity and Shelton in the opening rounds of the SCC Tournament before a showdown with Xavier High School in the final. After a scoreless first half and no score deep into the second half, the Jesuits capitalized on an Andrew Nuemeyer penalty kick with only seconds left to win the championship. The strong regular season record earned the Jesuits the #3 seed and home field advantage in the CIAC Tournament. They defeated Stamford High School in the first round and fell to East Hartford in the second round to end their season with a final record of 18-2-1. The Prep soccer team was led all season by All-American **Axel Whamond** and seniors **James Finnerty, Ross Koblisch, Luke Finnigan, Alex Nordlinger, Lucas Ojea Quintana** and **Nate Montani**. With many underclassman earning significant playing time this season, the Jesuits will look to reload next season after graduating such a strong senior class.

SOCCER HONORS

- **AXEL WHAMOND:** (Pictured): AI I-SCC First Team, SCC Player of the Year, All-State, All-New England, All American
- **ROSS KEBLISH:** All-SCC Hammonnasset Division, News 12 Scholar Athlete
- **JOSÉ GARCIA MINA:** All-SCC Hammonnasset Division
- **ANDREW NUEMEYER:** SCC Tournament MVP



Azaan Dawson All-SCC
First Team, All-State

Edward Tristine All-SCC
First Team, SCC Scholar-Athlete, All-State

CROSS COUNTRY

The Cross Country team finished its dual meet season with a 6-3 record and a 7th place finish in the SCC Championship. Senior captain **Eddie Tristine** and sophomore **Azaan Dawson** placed 8th and 9th to earn first team SCC honors. In the class LL championship Tristine (12th place, LL-medalist) and Dawson both gained individual berths at the state open. There Azaan Dawson placed 7th to earn all-state honors for the second year in row, and a berth in the New England Championships.



CREW

Led by senior captains **Jimmy Brady, Erik Spinka** and **Jake McCarthy** the fall crew team took in the usual race schedule starting with the Head of Riverfront, Head of the Housatonic, New England High School Championships, Head of the Passaic, Head of the Charles and Head of the Schuylkill. After the season, Spinka won the 25th annual Connecticut Indoor Rowing Championships by an amazing time of 6:02 making Spinka the Men's U19 winner and overall event record holder. With that time Erik is very likely has the fastest high school time in the country! The 2018 fall season also marked the end of Coach Sean Blaney's tenure as JV coach. Sean began with Prep in 2014 and deserves a great deal of credit for developing athletes to the level we see on the team today. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication Coach!

SAILING

The Prep sailing team had a successful fall competing in the Great Oaks Qualifier, the Gleekman Trophy, and the Catholic Cup over the course of the season. The Jesuits sailors won both the Gleekman and Catholic Cup and in doing so qualified for the Atlantic Coast Championships in Annapolis Maryland. **Jamie Paul, Chase Reynolds, Garrett Cutler, Quinn Sheehan, John Sisk** and **Will Donovan** represented Prep in the event at the Naval Sailing Academy. This coming spring the Jesuits will return to the Fairfield County Sailing League for team competition action with local high schools.





The 2018 Fairfield Prep football season brought the Jesuits to new heights as the team achieved a 10-2 record and returned to the Class LL playoffs for the second consecutive year. The season was dedicated to former Prep head football coach **Earl “Duke” Lavery ’50** who sadly passed away in August. Coach Lavery was with the program 37 years in total – 28 of which at the helm – winning 231 games, 3 LL state championships and never having a losing season (see story on next page). Earl’s larger than life presence and calm demeanor fostered respect from his players and the confidence to be at their best working together. The 2018 team performed with this same ideal by becoming a whole greater than the sum of its parts.

The season opened with a sound thrashing of longest played rival Notre Dame West Haven (42-20) at home. This followed with a Week 2 win versus a competitive opponent in Norwich Free Academy (24-12). It was a back and forth contest until Prep pulled away in the fourth quarter. A Week 3 loss to Shelton (10-7) was disappointing due to a high number of penalties against the Jesuits and our opponent scoring its only touchdown on a questionable special teams mistake.

The Jesuits rebounded to win eight straight games with a focus on purpose, accountability and work ethic. Weeks 4 and 5 would see us win tightly contested games against Class M playoff qualifier Sheehan (23-14) and SCC Tier I program Cheshire (28-14). From there Prep would rip off three stand out wins versus rival Xavier (34-0), Hamden (35-0) and nearby Harding High School (49-6) to create tremendous momentum heading into the end of the regular season.

Week 9 would be a home contest against a strong North Haven program that had experienced

success at our expense two out of the last three seasons. The Prep team displayed an intensity of execution that led to a powerful performance — both offensively and defensively — in a resounding win (42-20). This would drive us into Thanksgiving versus rival West Haven. The Jesuits punched their ticket for the post season by achieving the most lopsided and dominating victory in the series ever (63-12).

An incredibly emotional and thrilling come from behind victory against Southington High School (28-21) in the Class LL quarterfinals was one of the proudest moments of the season. Prep dispatched

some ghosts from the 2013 Championship game loss to the Blue Knights while dealing them only their 5th loss in five seasons. Unfortunately, the journey would end in a semi-finals loss (38-7) against an always strong New Canaan squad. It was a day when our opponent clearly performed better than Prep but the score did not necessarily show how close the game was at times.

The 2018 football team has much to be proud of: averaging close to 33 PPG scored while surrendering just under 9 PPG during the regular season, and making two consecutive trips to the LL playoffs which was a first since joining the Southern Connecticut Conference. Our program-wide standard of accountability and excellence will fuel the 2019 Prep football team.

Tradition doesn’t graduate when the bond of brotherhood — on and off the field — always comes first. Hail Fairfield!



By Keith Hellstern, Social Studies teacher and Head Football Coach



- **FINN DURAN:** All-SCC Division 1, WR; CHSCA All-State WR - Top 26; Walter Camp All-CT Football Team, WR - 1st Team; Mark Massiello Memorial (Offensive Player of the Year); NH Register All-State, WR - 2nd Team
- **CONNOR BOYLE:** Chris Boyle Memorial Coaches Award
- **CAMPBELL HALLORAN:** All-SCC Division 1, OL; SCC Scholar Athlete
- **DOUG HARRISON:** CHSCA All-State, RB - LL Offense; All-SCC Division 1, RB
- **JP IAROPOLI:** All-SCC Division 1, QB
- **PETER KAVANAUGH:** All-SCC Division 1, DB; Walter Camp UCAN Inspire Award Recipient; National Football Foundation Scholar Athlete; Reverend Eugene C. Brissette, S.J. Award (Defensive Player of the Year)
- **CONNOR MURRAY:** Richard Magdon Most Improved Player Award
- **JACK SCHOLL:** Chris Boyle Memorial Coaches Award
- **CHARLIE WILCOX:** Reverend Eugene C. Brissette, S.J. Award (Defensive Player of the Year)
- **KEITH HELLSTERN:** SCC Tier 1 Coach of the Year

Gentleman. Motivator. Winner.

The plaques that stand in the corner of the Fairfield Prep practice field have a brief description of the Jesuits greats that worked to make the Prep football program the elite program it is today.

Earl Lavery's plaque has just three words to describe his contributions.

Gentleman. Motivator. Winner.

Lavery — the head coach at Fairfield Prep for 27 seasons, from 1965 to 1992 — died at 86 the team announced. Overall, Lavery won 231 games, lost just 53 and tied 8. He won three CIAC championships — 1977, 1982 and 1988 — and was state runner-up in 1976.

"I had the chance to play for him and coach with him on the first state championship team (1977), I was just out of college and Earl was always three yards and a cloud of dust kind of coach," said Tom Shea, who was the head coach at Prep for five seasons from 2010-14 and is currently the junior varsity head coach and the varsity tight ends and defensive line coach. "We were a straight T offense, but boy, he would scheme the defense ... Man, he would go into tremendous detail every week. Our

defense was designed to specifically stop what the opponent was going to do. The offense never changed. But the defense ... he knew. Defense wins championships."

And Prep won three CIAC titles, winning the Class L crown in 1997, winning the 1982 L-I title and the 1988 Class LL championship. Prep also won as the Class L runner-up in 1976.

"I played for him from 1970 to 1972 and after I got out of college I coached with him from 1977 to 1979," Shea said. "A little known fact about Earl was he was a great singer. He had a beautiful singing voice, a tenor, but he never sang in practice, in fact, he used to have a couple of assistants that weighed at least 250, and Earl had to be around 280, and

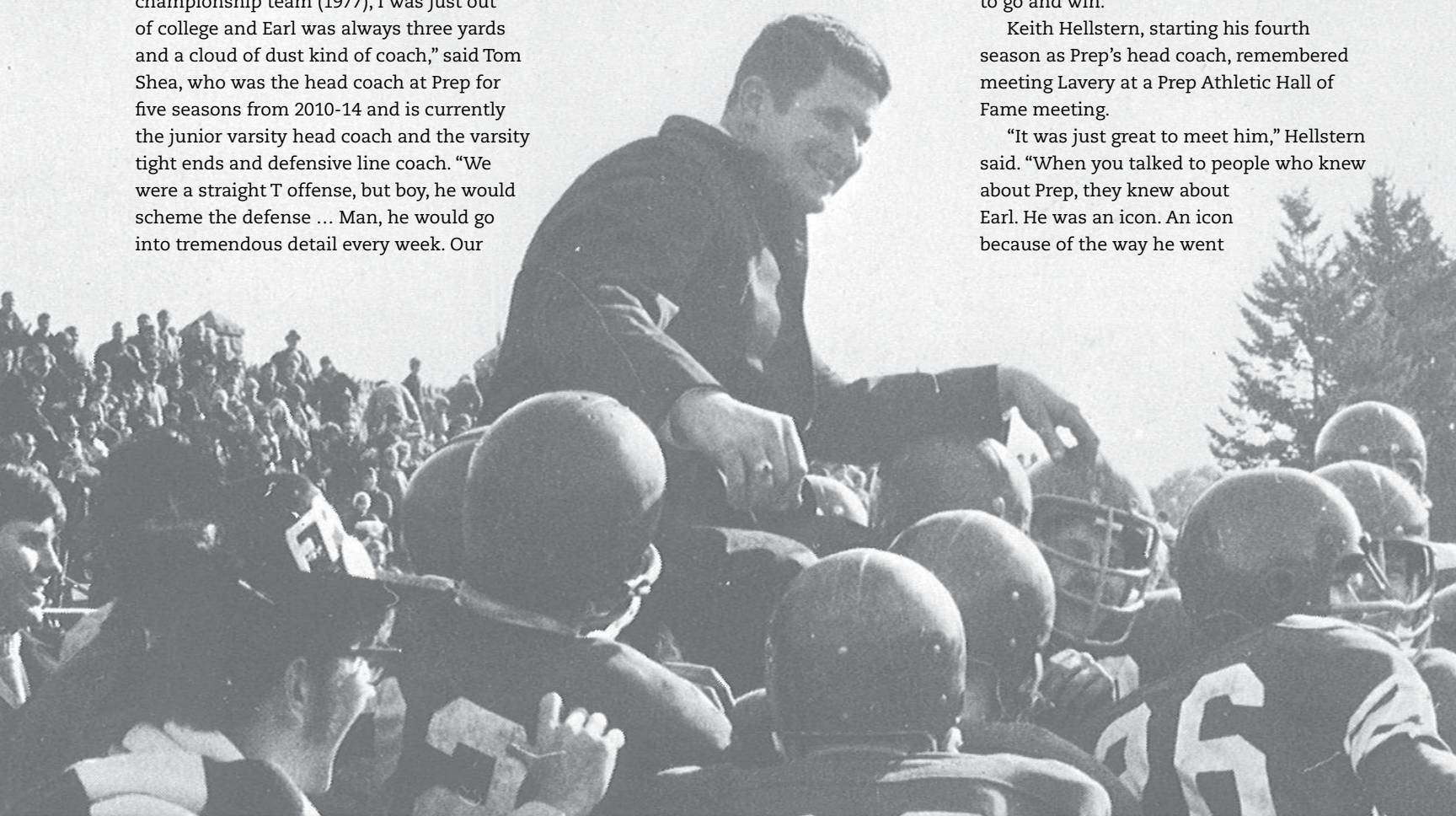
those three would get on the blocking sled and we'd have to push them through the dust and all I can remember is Earl saying, 'again ... again ... again.' "

At the end of practice Monday, Shea addressed the squad to tell them about Lavery, a dear member of the Prep football family.

"What I told them was, look, we have the Prep football family, players, families and coaches that go back 60 years and this is a great loss. I told them a bit about Earl and despite the 231 wins, for Earl, it wasn't about victories, it was about doing things the right way and having that selfless attitude, willing to sacrifice ... you can't win unless you have that. When that's in place then you're going to go and win."

Keith Hellstern, starting his fourth season as Prep's head coach, remembered meeting Lavery at a Prep Athletic Hall of Fame meeting.

"It was just great to meet him," Hellstern said. "When you talked to people who knew about Prep, they knew about Earl. He was an icon. An icon because of the way he went



... for Earl, it wasn't about victories, it was about doing things the right way and having that selfless attitude, willing to sacrifice ...



about his business, and it was more than just his success, it was his impact and if that isn't the lasting mark for what you think a high school coach should be, I don't know what is."

Over his 27 seasons as head coach, Lavery molded hundreds and hundreds of players' lives, making sure they stayed on the straight and narrow path.

"From my end, that's part of the reason why I got into coaching having people like that in my life," Hellstern said. "This job is an honor because of having paths blazed by some amazing men long before I got here. It's a loss we will mourn."

By Chris Elsberry, reprinted with permission by the Fairfield Citizen News, August 27, 2018

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 37 years coaching at Prep (28 as head coach)
- Career Record 231-53-8
- 6 CIAC Merit Awards
- 17 League Championships
- 3 CIAC State Championships
- 5 Undefeated Teams
- 0 Losing Seasons
- Fairfield Prep Hall of Fame 1984
- CHSCA Hall of Fame 1991
- Fairfield County Sports Hall of Fame 2013
- Fairfield Prep Athletics Hall of Fame 2017



Photo credit Mark Conrad

FIRST AND LAST At the 2013 annual Fairfield County Sports Hall of Fame Sports Night, former Fairfield Prep football coach and recipient of the J. Walter Kennedy Community Service award Earl Lavery (center) with former players **Brendan Froehlich '94** (left) and **Craig Froehlich '67** (right). Craig played on the first team Lavery coached at Prep, and his son Brendan played on the last team he coached there.

Player Kevin Doyle '67 Remembers "The Duke"



From 1963-1967 I attended Fairfield Prep. I played Varsity Football my junior and senior year under head coach Earl Lavery. My skills were far from exceptional.

Coach passed away at the age of 83. I spoke with him at my 50th class reunion. I was a little disappointed that he did not immediately recognize me and relate some boneheaded thing I had done — a broken play, a flunked algebra quiz, an infraction that landed me in detention. As I read his obituary it occurred to me why he might not have remembered me. I was literally one of thousands of students he taught and players he coached during his 30+ years at Prep.

Although an intimidating physical presence, Earl did not shout or swear to motivate. He never relied on fear or bullying to get the most out of his players. He was smart and strategic. We all respected that and wanted to please him.

Earl was always the teacher. Mondays we watched films of Saturday's game. One Monday, after a particularly difficult loss, we were down on ourselves. The film came to a

play I did not want to watch. I was the right guard on the offensive line. Our bread and butter play was an off tackle run with a pulling guard leading the runner into the line 44 to the right 13 to the left. Play 44 had been called. Suffering from my own brand of dyslexia, I pulled left and ran into the left guard pulling right. We collided at full speed and landed on our backs. The runner without any blockers was thrown for a loss. The room hushed waiting for me to get chastised.

Earl reversed the film. We got off the ground and went backwards to our positions on the line and then without comment he ran it again, except this time there was a titter of laughter. Again and again he replayed the collision. Each time the laughter grew louder ending in mild hysteria after the fifth or sixth repetition. "All right gentlemen let's go to work." We filed out of the classroom and onto the practice field our mood lifted. Earl knew what the team needed at this particular time.

Earl taught thousands algebra, football and life's lessons. The things I learned under his tutelage made me a better person. He was a good man. Thanks Coach.

— Tribute posted on FP Facebook page



Remembering Bob Skoronski '51

Bob Skoronski '51, an esteemed figure in sports, business and family, died October 30, 2018, in Madison, Wisconsin following a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. He was 84.

Bob was born in 1934 in Ansonia, Connecticut, second of five children. To help feed the family, his father taught him to hunt, trap and fish. Those practical skills became pursuits that Bob loved his entire life. Attending Fairfield Prep, Bob often hitchhiked the 20 miles between home and school. At Prep he played center and linebacker. He was recruited by numerous colleges, including Holy Cross, North Carolina and Notre Dame. However, Bob chose Indiana University - because IU offered his older brother Frank a football scholarship as well. Bob was a two-way starter for Indiana for three seasons, and was named a team captain and MVP. A Dean's List student, he graduated with a business degree in 1956.

The Green Bay Packers picked Bob in the fifth round in 1956. Skoronski started at right tackle as a rookie. Early in that rookie season, Bob persuaded Ruth Ann Asher to leave school at IU and join him in Green Bay where they married. They spent most of the next 62 years in Wisconsin, where they raised four children. Skoronski was one of just nine men to play all nine seasons of the Lombardi era in Green Bay. A regular his entire career, Skoronski played mostly



In 1964 Lombardi named Skoronski his offensive captain — something Skoronski called “the greatest honor I’ve ever had.”

at left tackle with a brief stint at center. He was part of five NFL championships, including the first two Super Bowls, and he was named to the Pro Bowl in 1966. In film reviews, coaches graded him as the No. 1 or 2 lineman in nearly every season. Bart Starr often praised his blind-side protector, and pushed for Skoronski's nomination to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Bob was never concerned about the lack of recognition; for him it was enough to know teammates relied on him and opponents respected him.

In 1964 Lombardi named Skoronski his

offensive captain —something Skoronski called “the greatest honor I’ve ever had.” Football was only a part-time vocation: Bob put his business degree to work every off-season. He worked for Marathon Paper and then managed a class-ring sales territory for Jostens. He helped design and sell the Packers' first two Super Bowl rings. Skoronski retired from the Packers following the 1968 season and took up the reins of two distribution businesses in Appleton, Wisconsin.

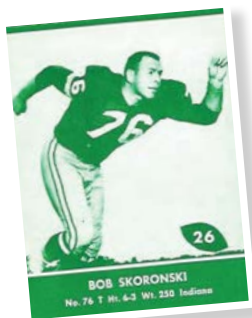
An excellent public speaker, Skoronski gave motivational talks for most of his professional life. Bob made the acceptance speech on behalf of the charter class of the Indiana University Athletic Hall of Fame. He also was inducted into the Packers, State of Connecticut, Polish-American National Sports, and Fairfield Prep Athletic halls of fame. Football and business accomplishments were the easily recognizable portions of his life, but to him nothing was more important than his family. He conveyed values and life lessons that will never be forgotten. His was a living example of hard work and bringing passion every day to every task whether it was in sports, school or business.

Robert Skoronski '51 had several Prep alumni in his family, including brothers **Eugene A. Skowronski '61** and **Theodore E. Skowronski '64**. He was the cousin of the late **Walter E. Skowronski '62**.



SENIORS ON THE SQUAD: First Row—Shannahan, Sarno. Second Row—Incerto, Ford, Skoronski, Sisk, Gaboury, F. Lane, G. Bodell, Murphy, Sikora, Donahue. Third Row—W. Cronin, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Toal, Rev. Mr. Murphy, Hyde, Neverdousky, Rev. Mr. Tucker, Mr. Gintoff, Mr. Yabrosky, R. Cronin.

Correction: #18 is Ted See



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

Fairfield Prep, past, present and future, is always with me

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

I would never have been able to learn and grow without their never-ending support, encouragement, help and inspiration. Fairfield Prep gave me my start. It all began here on this playing field and at McAuliffe and Berchmans. It was here that I got that great, classical, Jesuit education with its strong emphasis on Latin,

English, foreign language and religion. It was here that the Jesuit priests tried valiantly to teach me how to think critically and independently. Occasionally they had modest success. This education and the values I learned here were transformative and guided and sustained me throughout my life.

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

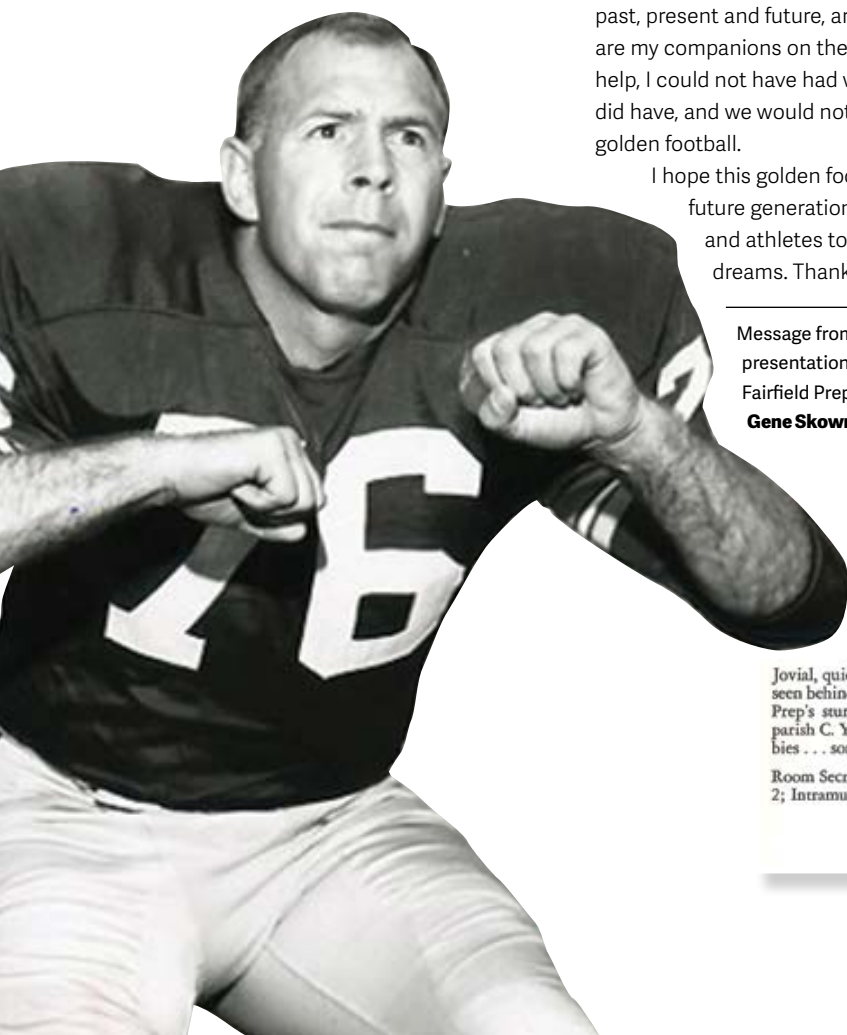
I am profoundly grateful for the start I got here at Prep. There is a famous song entitled, "You never walk alone." I know I never walk alone. I know that as I walk, the priests, teachers, coaches, students and athletes of Fairfield Prep, past, present and future, are always with me. They are my companions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

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

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



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



ROBERT FRANCIS SKORONSKI

Derby

Jovial, quick-witted Bob . . . a regular fellow in anyone's book . . . often seen behind the wheel of a sporty black Mercury . . . a standout center on Prep's sturdy line this past season . . . and an active member of his parish C. Y. O. . . . Bob claims trapping, hunting and fishing as his hobbies . . . some college will enroll Bob soon.

Room Secretary 4; J.V. Football 2, 3; Varsity Football 4; J.V. Basketball 2; Intramurals: Basketball 3, 4; Football 3.



CLASSES OF '44, '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, '94, '99, '04, '09, '14



Reunion Weekend

Register online: www.FairfieldPrep.org/reunion

FRIDAY, May 31



FAIRFIELD PREP GOLF OUTING

Great River
Golf Club

www.FairfieldPrep.org/golfouting



ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY

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

www.FairfieldPrep.org/ahof



SATURDAY, June 1

- ★ "BREAKFAST IN THE QUAD" - State of the School address by Principal, Dr. Thomas de Quesada.
- ★ VARIETY OF EVENTS ON CAMPUS such as tours of the school, reconnecting with Prep faculty, activities for the family, and Prep athletic events.



The course through the Prep/Fairfield Univ. campus is fun and easy even for the youngest runners!



www.FairfieldPrep.org/5K

- ★ FAIRFIELD PREP REUNION WEEKEND MASS followed by...



THE REUNION WEEKEND PARTY!

Food, music, dancing, spirits and Prep memories!

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1969 50TH REUNION WEEKEND

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FRIDAY, May 31
SATURDAY, June 1
SUNDAY, June 2

FAIRFIELD PREP'S ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Celebrate!

All alumni, family and friends are invited to a special dinner on **Friday, May 31, 2019** in Fairfield Prep's Quad beginning at 6 p.m. Register at: www.FairfieldPrep.org/ahof

Prep is proud to announce the **2019 inductees...**



1968-69 BASKETBALL TEAM

The 1968-69 Prep state championship basketball team, the first in school history, was not only No. 1 in Connecticut that season, it is widely regarded as one of the best teams in state history. Under the direction of Athletic Hall of Fame coach Bob Sylvester and anchored by All-American and Athletic Hall of Famer Jim Fitzsimmons '69, the Jesuits finished with a 23-1 record and were ranked No. 1 in New England.

CHUCK BERKE '70



Charles (Chuck) Berke might be the most decorated swimmer to ever compete for Fairfield Prep. Not only was he a three-time state champion who set a host of school and state records, but he became the Jesuits' second athlete to be named an All-American (following fellow Hall of Famer Jim Fitzsimmons '69). Berke was in the pool from 1967 through 1970, co-captained the team his senior season and helped lead Prep to three consecutive MBIAC titles from 1968-70.

JOE BROSLEY



Coach Joe Brosley was an educator first and foremost, but he found considerable success on the sidelines as well. He coached football and baseball for Prep from 1947 until his promotion to Athletic Director in 1965. An assistant under both Fella Gintoff and Tom Seymour, Brosley took over as head football coach in 1956. His inaugural team went 8-0, one of two undefeated and untied teams under his tenure (the other was the heralded 1960 title team that was inducted en masse into the Prep Athletic Hall of Fame in 2017).

TED DRURY '89



Ted Drury was as decorated a hockey player to have ever played for Fairfield Prep. The older of the Drury brothers (younger sibling Chris is also a Prep Athletic Hall of Famer) skated for the Jesuits from 1986-1989 and was a three-time All State selection (1987-89). The 6-foot forward was also named CIAC Division I Player of the Year in 1989, after which he was selected 42nd overall by the Calgary Flames in the '89 NHL Draft. He played eight seasons totaling 414 career games in the NHL from 1994-2001, scoring 41 goals and adding 52 assists for six different teams, including the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim, the Hartford Whalers and the Islanders.

EMIL GAROFALO '45



Emil Garafalo was one of the first star athletes for Fairfield Prep. After spending his freshman year at Ludlowe High in Fairfield, he transferred to Prep when it opened in 1942. Garafalo played three years of basketball and baseball for the Jesuits and was a two-year captain in both sports. In baseball, Garafalo was a star shortstop and actually had five offers to play professionally. However, he opted to go to college, where he manned shortstop for three seasons at Notre Dame.

MIKE SPROUSE '92



Mike Sprouse was one of the premier tennis players not only at Fairfield Prep but nationally as well. He was so dominant as a singles player that he was undefeated in all four regular seasons for Prep. In fact, Sprouse did not lose a set from the quarterfinals of the state tournament as a freshman until the state final as a senior, a span of more than three years. He won three consecutive CIAC Class LL singles championships, and was awarded All-America status from 1990-92. He was the top-ranked doubles player in the country at age 17.





Alumni Class News

Submit your news and photos easily online at www.fairfieldprep.org/alumniupdate.

Email us at development@fairfieldprep.org or mail to Fairfield Prep Alumni Office, 1073 North Benson Rd., Fairfield, CT 06824.



LATIN SCHOLARS LUNCHEON

Over 150 Fairfield Prep alumni, spanning many decades, gathered together for the annual Latin Scholars luncheon at the Gaelic American Club in Fairfield on December 13. This year the crowd was addressed by the ever-popular Fr. Charles Allen, S.J., who shared a host of memories of Prep over the years. This loyal and fun-loving group has raised a significant amount of money for Prep over many decades, and we're grateful for their enthusiasm and generosity. From left: **Steve Jakab '58, Sandy Sulzycki '64, Emil Garofalo '45, Mike Dowley '59, Jack O'Connell '51 and Bob Walsh '46.**

1970s



Fr. Skip Karcinski '70, Pastor Blessed Sacrament Parish, made multiple trips to pick up food collected as part of the Great Ignatian Challenge Thanksgiving Food Drive. The parish stocks a food pantry to support the parishioners and greater surrounding community

Christopher Lyddy '78 was promoted to Chief of Police in the town of Fairfield. (See Page 48)

1940s



Members of the **Class of '46** visited the Prep campus and explored the new multi-media timeline in Xavier Hall. Pictured with Rev. Tom Simisky, S.J., from left: **Leo Gallagher, Earl Cote and Bob Walsh.**

1950s

Philip J. Goscienski, M.D. '52 is the medical director of the CPR Program at the St. Thomas More Church, Oceanside, California. More than 600 members of the

parish have been trained and certified in CardioPulmonary Resuscitation since 2001. Dr. Goscienski is a retired Clinical Professor of Pediatrics with a subspecialty in Infectious Diseases.

1960s



Jim Woods '69 attended the Prep Father-Son Communion Breakfast, as son-in-law and Prep English teacher and author Jamie Chesbro was the guest speaker. Also in attendance was Prep Guidance Counselor Lynne Woods Chesbro and son/grandson James Chesbro – Prep Class of 2025!



Several members of the **Class of 1960** recently had lunch with **Bryan Santiago '14**. Bryan was selected to receive the 4-year Prep scholarship funded by the class of 1960, as its gift to Prep on the occasion of their 50th anniversary in 2010. Bryan will graduate from UConn in June. The 1960 class members have been getting together with him on a regular basis while he was at Prep and afterward in college. They have provided him with career advice as well as some financial support. Pictured from left: **Joe Connolly MD, Ed Krygier, Nick Perna, Bryan Santiago, Bernie McGovern and John Santa.**

1980s

1990s

2000s



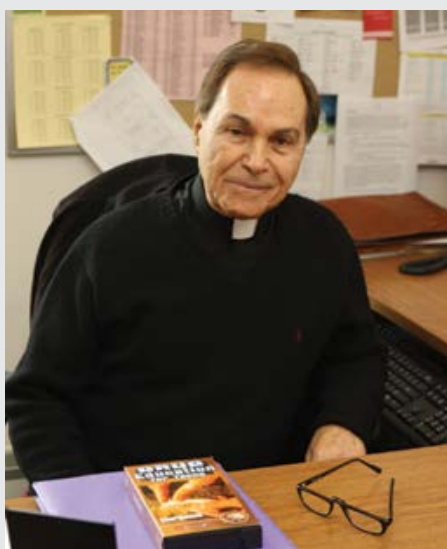
On October 16, **James Castignoli '03** summited Mount Katahdin in cold weather to complete his six month northbound thru-hike of the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine.

Remembering Father George A. Gallarelli, S.J.

Fr. George A. Gallarelli, S.J., was called to eternal life on Feb. 18, 2019. Fr. Gallarelli was 91 years old and died peacefully at Campion Health Center in Weston, MA. He was a beloved member of the Prep community and served for 26 years in guidance and counseling.

George Gallarelli was born in the Charlestown section of Boston in 1927. His father and mother had emigrated from Italy. He was proud of his Italian roots and the family spoke Italian at home. Fr. Gallarelli attended Boston public schools. He wanted to be an accountant, so he went to the Boston High School of Commerce. When he graduated, in 1943, he was drafted into the army. There he got to know Jesuits who visited to say Mass on bases which had no regular chaplains.

When he was discharged, he entered Northeastern University to study business. He regularly attended Mass at a Passionist monastery in Brighton, and one day he got into a conversation with one of the Passionists about a possible vocation. He had considered the Jesuits, he said, but all the Jesuits he knew were tall men and he had somehow concluded that they wouldn't accept someone as short as he was. The sensible Passionist recommended he enroll at Philip Neri, the Jesuit-run school for older men, where he could get to know Jesuits and at the same time take accelerated versions of the



Latin and Greek courses that would be required for admission to a seminary.

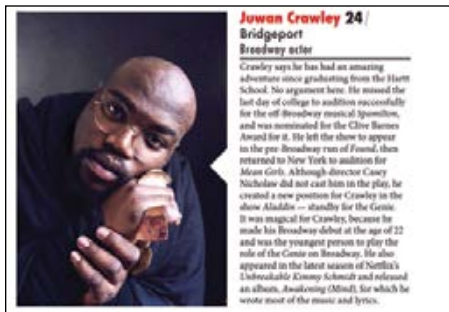
In 1950, he entered the novitiate at Shadowbrook, followed by philosophy studies at Weston College. He was ordained a priest in 1962. For tertianship he went to Florence, in the land of his family's origins. After tertianship he was assigned to Fairfield University (1964-1977). He first had charge of residential life, then took over the supervision of the new campus center, followed by nine years as dean of admissions. At the invitation of a priest friend who was appointed principal at St. Joseph's High School in nearby Trumbull, George became director of counseling there and spent the next nine years at the school. In 1986, he

moved back to Fairfield, this time to the Prep, where he spent the longest assignment of his Jesuit life, 26 years as assistant director of counseling, from 1986 to 2012.

Mr. John Hanrahan, Dean of Guidance & College Advising reminisced about Fr. "G":

Fr. Gallarelli brought a warmth and a calm to the Guidance office at Prep, supporting students and fellow counselors with his welcoming presence. Those who came to know him well for his sharp dress and winning smile knew him as Fr. GQ. Students who struggled a bit academically knew him for his patient way of assisting them in constructing a path to success. Many loved talking about food with Fr. G as he was a fantastic cook and those who loved tennis admired his energy as he was an avid tennis player. And then there were those who marveled at the skill with which he took on the daily *New York Times* crossword puzzle, daring to fill it out in pen. He had quite a daily following of crossword puzzle challengers and fans as he made copies available to any and all in the community each day. Fr. G touched so many in so many ways, all admiring him for his gifts and for his generosity and energy in giving them. Rest in Peace Fr. G.

2010s



Juwan Crawley '12 was featured in *Connecticut Magazine's* February issue highlighting "40 under 40" accomplished individuals in Connecticut. Juwan was noted for his role in *Spamilton*, for which he nominated for the Clive Barnes Award. The Magazine also mentions his work in the Broadway version of *Aladdin*, his role in

The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt on Netflix and his debut album *Awakening (Mind)*.

Gage Frank '10 is serving as campaign manager to Justin Elicker, who is running as the Democratic candidate in the 2019 New Haven mayoral election.



Gage has managed campaigns for Bridgeport State Sen. Marilyn Moore and State Reps. Jack Hennessy and Steve Stafstrom and co-founded an effort to revive Bridgeport's Young Democrats group.

Jean-Alexis Montaudy '15 is serving, since February 2017, as a Specialist in the Army's 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne) based in Vicenza, Italy. He has been awarded an Army Achievement Award, and earned the Expert Infantry Badge, and Battalion Soldier of the Month (October 2018). He graduated from Infantry basic training (OSUT) in January 2017 (Company Iron Man Award) and from Fort Benning's U.S. Army Airborne School in February 2017.



engagement

Kevin Cahalane '07 and Eleanor Anaclerio got engaged on July 27th 2018 while vacationing in Portland, Maine. The wedding date is set for October 12th 2019 and the ceremony will be held in Eleanor's hometown of Winnetka, IL. Kevin and Eleanor met in Washington, D.C. in 2013 while working at The Advisory Board Company.

BIRTHS

Stefan Tropsa '06 and his wife Amanda welcomed baby girl Arden Rose Tropsa on September 21, 2018. Arden joins big brother Graham at home.



WEDDINGS



Nevins Wedding

Colin E. Nevins '08 married Catherine Maureen Philbin October 20, 2018 in New York at Grace Episcopal Church. The bride and groom, who both serve in the Navy, met at Harvard, from which she graduated and he received a medical degree. Other Prep alumni in attendance pictured from left to right: **Casey Mott '08, Timothy Roach '78, Peter Lacerenza '08, Kyle Nevins '04** (brother of the groom), **Colin, Catherine, Luke Kerrisk '08, Kevin Foley '04, Patrick O'Boyle '08, Reed Perry '08.**



D'Amato Wedding

Robert D'Amato '01 married Caitlin Simses on Sept. 1, 2018 at St. Anthony's Church in New Haven. Prep alumni pictured at the celebration included, from left: **Rob D'Amato '01, Will Bergen '08, Vincent O'Hara '01, Kevin Altieri '00 and Jon Motl '01.**



Kleber Wedding

Matthew James Kleber '05 married Emily Elizabeth Bigham on August 4, 2018. The wedding took place at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Coronado, California. The couple will honeymoon in Greece and reside in Arlington, Va.



Rose Wedding

Geoff Rose '06 married Kristen McElhone on July 28, 2018, in Long Beach Island, NJ. The ceremony and reception were held at Bonnet Island Estate. Pictured L to R: Rev. Jim Hederman, S.J., **Myles Dempsey '06, Austin Ryan '06, Lou Benedetto '06, Geoff Rose '06, Kristen McElhone, Sean Roland '06, Tim Ryan '06, Rob Maiorano '06, Jack Wallace '06, Rob Preston '06, Kenneth Stern '06, Kevin Considine '06.**



Panza Wedding

Scott Panza '06 married Maura Panza on June 30, 2018 at the Darien Country Club. Pictured from left to right are **Brian Clark '04, Severin Carlson '04, Robert Panza '03, Ryan Carlson '05, Maura Panza, Scott Panza '05, Cory Burns '05 (Best Man), Jack Phillbin '04, Robert Desena '02, Tommy Donahue '18, Jake Donahue '13, and Shea Burns '03.**





Ford Wedding

Andrew Ford '06 married Alexandra Fiber on August 18, 2018, in Albuquerque NM. The ceremony and reception were held at the home of the bride's parents in the foothills of the Sandia Mountains. Andrew and Alexandra live in Los Angeles and work in film and television. They honeymooned in Vietnam in January. From left: Colleen Ford, Emma Ford, Bob Ford Sr., **Daniel Ford '03**, Alexandra Ford, **Andrew Ford '05**, Bob Ford Jr., and Peggy Ford.



Ryan Wedding

Austin Ryan '06 married Melissa Fett on August 11, 2018, in Chicago, IL. The ceremony was held at Queen of Angels Church. Reception was held at The Congress Plaza Hotel. 1st Row: **Austin**, Melissa, **Michael Ramirez '21** 2nd Row: **Stefan Tropsa '06** (Best Man), **Kevin Considine '06**, **Tim Ryan '06**, **Paul Tropsa '08**, **Lou Benedetto '06**, Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J. (celebrant). 3rd Row: **Geoff Rose '06**, **Jack Wallace '06**, **Rob Maiorano '06**, **Myles Dempsey '06**. Not pictured but in attendance: Elaine Clark



Fabbri Wedding

John O. Fabbri '07 married Bella Dennis in Rye, NY on September 19, 2018. Pictured are **Jack Philbin '04**, **Kevin Cullinane '05**, **Nick Lehn '07**, **Mike Fabbri '04**, **Kevin Fabbri '10**, **Dan Fabbri '02**, **Jack**, **Tim Kiernan '14**, **Michael Schinella '07**, and **John Cunningham '08**. Those in attendance but not pictured are **Kevin Mulrenan '69**, **Jack Collins '69**.

Thomas B. Allen '47 on December 11, 2018. He was the brother in law of **Ronald P. Bertasi Sr. '57** and the uncle of **Richard S. Bertasi II '80** and **Ronald P. Bertasi '82**.

Richard P. Boivin '56 on July 10, 2018. He was the uncle of **James J. Chishom '89**.

Philip H. Broadhurst III '64 on November 12, 2018. He was the stepfather of **David M. Sikorski '80**.

James Bucci '56 on October 20, 2018.

Anthony M. Canto '51 on December 5, 2018.

William P. Carroll '49 on August 12, 2018. He was the grandfather of **John W. Carroll '15**.

Jean Cass on September 7, 2018. She was the mother of **Albert "Tiger" Cass III '84**.

Catherine Cingari on October 6, 2018. She was the mother of **John F. Cingari '73**, **Michael Cingari '74**, and **Thomas F. Cingari '77**.

Gerard K. Coiley Sr. '51 on January 23, 2019.

Thomas P. Collins on October 4, 2018. He was the father of **John R. Collins '69** and the late **Kevin M. Collins '75**. He was also the grandfather of **Thomas P. Collins IV '98**, **Bryan T. Collins '00**, **Matthew H. Collins '04**, **Ryan T. Collins '11** and **John P. Collins '16**.

John Y. Connolly '64 on July 30, 2018. He was the brother of **Joseph P. Connolly '60**.

Arthur R. Cooney '49 on January 29, 2019.

William L. Cotter '76 on August 5, 2018.

William T. Daly on February 13, 2019. He was the father of **Scott F. Daly '87** and former Prep Director of Development and Alumni.

Thomas M. Dever '73 on December 4, 2018.

John J. Devine on September 12, 2018. He was the father of Deborah Kiel of the Prep Science department and grandfather of **Ryan M. Kiel '15**.

Nicholas E. DeVita '03 on September 13, 2018.

Edward "Mickey" Donahue '51 on July 21, 2018. He was the father of **Timothy M. Donahue '80**. He was the uncle of **Frederick W. Haffner '81**, and **Kurt E. Haffner '85**.

Louise Donnarumma on August 11, 2018. She was the mother of **Francis M. Donnarumma '71**.

John Eustace on August 6, 2018. He was the father of **Patrick J. Eustace '20**.

John R. Finn '46 on February 18, 2019.

James J. Finnerty, Jr. on September 16, 2018. He was the grandfather of **James J. Finnerty IV '19**.

Ralph Fisco Jr. on November 11, 2018. He was the grandfather of **Donald R. Maselli Jr. '03**, **Andrew F. Rothe '17**, **Nicholas R. Rothe '19** and **Morgan T. Rothe '20**.

Patricia McGillicuddy Foley on September 2, 2018. She was the wife of **Tim Foley '81**. Sister of **Steve McGillicuddy '77** and **Brian McGillicuddy '81**. Sister-in-law to

D.P. Foley '68 and **Kevin Foley '73**. Aunt of **Kevin Foley '04**, **Michael McGillicuddy '09**, **Max McGillicuddy '20**; and the daughter of the late Thomas W. McGillicuddy, longtime administrator at Prep.

Richard E. Gavlick '48 on November 15, 2018. He was the grandfather of **James P. Cannon '13** and **William P. Cannon '15**.

Andrew J. Griger Jr. '64 on December 12, 2018.

John W. Hughes on February 3, 2019. He was the father of **John "Britt" B. Hughes '77**.

David L. Ivanovich Sr. on September 2, 2018. He was the grandfather of **Dante Picarazzi '19**.

Arnold G. Kavulich on December 14, 2018. He was the grandfather of **Michael J. Kavulich '04**, **John S. Kavulich '06**, **James M. Kavulich '13**, **Thomas M. Kavulich '14**, and **Jospeh A. Kavulich '18**.

Daniel H. Kiely '50 on September 23, 2018.

John A. Lannon '48 on August 11, 2018. He was the brother of **William C. Lannon '50**, father of **John C. Lannon '77** and grandfather of **Brendan C. Blees '15** and **John Wyatt Lannon '15**.

Patricia C. Lannon on October 13, 2018. She was the wife of the late **John A. Lannon '48**, sister-in-law of **William C. Lannon '50**, mother of **John C. Lannon '77** and grandmother of **Brendan C. Blees '15** and **John Wyatt Lannon '15**.

John M. Lashar Jr. on August 6, 2018. He was the father of **John M. Lashar '89** and **William E. Lashar '15**.

James Earl Lavery '50 on August 25, 2018. He was the father of **James M. Lavery '84** and the brother in law of the late **John A. Creatura '50**. He was also a longtime teacher and beloved football coach here at Prep. (See page 34.)

Philip J. Leeney '50 on February 3, 2019. He was the brother of the late **John P. Leeney '53**, brother in law of the late **Richard J. Agonis '61**. He was the father of **Patrick P. Leeney '82**, **Michael J. Leeney '84**, father in law of **Richard C. Capasso '76**, **David H. MacKenzie II '77**, and grandfather of **David H. MacKenzie III '02**, **Alexander J. MacKenzie '03**, **Roderick J. MacKenzie '08**.

Lucille Leitao on January 19, 2019. She was the mother of **Kevin D. Leitao '82** and the grandmother of **Kevin M. Leitao '10**.

Veronica Lesko on October 1, 2018. She was the mother of **Ronald V. Lesko '59**, and the grandmother of **Jeffrey S. Lesko '85**.

Edward Luchansky '59 on September 3, 2018.

Joseph P. Lyons '61 on December 31, 2018.

Peter G. Mack '63 on September 11, 2018.

Carol Mata on August 10, 2018. She was the mother of **Pedro P. Mata '92**.

Continued on next page >



CARLUCCI & BAND

Dan Carlucci '98 leads his band Hitch & The Giddyup, who have just released their new album, titled "II." The band's genre is described as "moving skillfully between original bluegrass, soulful Americana, and honky tonk country." Their harmonious singing, hot picking, and deft song craft make them a unique presence in the folk music sphere. The group took shape in 2013 as a collective of several well-known Connecticut acoustic bands that share an interest in writing and performing original American music. Learn more: www.hitchandthegiddyup.com



Continued from page 43 >

William J. McLeod '58 on October 26, 2018. He was the uncle of **Christopher K. McLeod '73**, **C. Scott McLeod '76**, **Gavin X. McLeod '77**, and **Marc C. McLeod '85**. He was the great uncle of **Colin M. McLeod '04** and **Brendan C. McLeod '10**

James W. Michaelk '64 on December 30, 2018.

Ronald P. Mihalovic '60 on December 10, 2018.

Polly Minogue on December 1, 2018. She was the mother of **Brett Minogue '89**.

John T. Morris on August 30, 2018. He was the father of **Jason T. Morris '91** and **Ryan W. Morris '93**.

Alice Nealon on September 21, 2018. She was the mother of **James P. Nealon '81** and **Timothy J. Nealon '84**.

John F. Noonan Jr. '59 on December 16, 2018.

Richard T. Oberg '54 on September 8, 2018.

Jonathan Ochsner on February 2, 2019. He was the father of **Eric F. Ochsner '19**.

Dorothea Paoletta on August 14, 2018. She was the grandmother of **Samuel Auray '16**, **Biagio Paoletta '17**, **Jack Auray '18** and **Luciano Paoletta '22**.

Joseph Varhidi '76 on August 6, 2018.

Ronald S. Pavlucik '65 on December 4, 2018. He was the brother of **Thomas Pavlucik '61**.

Anthony D. Pellegrino '48 on December 30, 2018. He was the father of the late **Matthew A. Pellegrino '91**.

Richard J. Piazza '63 on December 11, 2018. He was the brother of **Anthony A. Piazza '60** and **Michael Piazza '61**.

Beatrice A. Preto-Rodas on November 9, 2018.

She was the mother of **Richard A. Preto-Rodas '54**.

James D. Reilly Jr. '50 on January 21, 2019. He was the father of **Timothy P. Reilly '73** and **James D. Reilly '78**.

James J. Reilly '55 on October 24, 2018. He was the father of **Patrick J. Reilly '84**.

John P. Reilly '46 on November 14, 2018.

Betty Giddens Robertson on September 19, 2018. She was the grandmother of **Connor Robertson '22**.

Theresa Marie Dagostino Rizzo on December 12, 2018. She was the mother of the late **Ernest Rizzo '75** and the grandmother of **Christopher E. Gutierrez '14**.

Wilfred J. Rodie Sr. '51 on October 8, 2018. He was the father of **Wilfred J. Rodie Jr. '79** and **Geoffrey P. Rodie '83**. He was the grandfather of **Chase M. Rodie '18**.

Donald Rossbach on October 8, 2018. He was the father of **Andrew T. Rossbach '15**.

Robert Skoronski '51 on October 30, 2018. He was the brother of **Eugene A. Skowronski '61** and **Theodore E. Skowronski '64**. He was the cousin of the late **Walter E. Skowronski '62**. (See Page 36)

Michael D. Strouch '85 on November 5, 2018.

Lou Tassinary on October 15, 2018. He was the father of **Louis G. Tassinary '72**.

Mark Taylor '72 on January 4, 2019.

Robert F. Terifay '47 on September 30, 2018.

George W. Thomas '81 on December 21, 2018.

Michael A. Voytek '57 on August 16, 2018.

Walter Zackrison on July 29, 2018. He was the father of **Walter J. Zackrison '78** and step father of **Colin C. McQuaid '91**.

FACULTY/STAFF

Births



Ron DeRosa (Digital Communications Manager) and wife Kadian welcomed a baby boy, Lucas Ronald DeRosa on September 21, 2018.



Alecia Thomas (Director of Diversity and Academic Support Services) and husband Shay welcomed baby boy Micah Jayce Thomas on August 21, 2018. Micah joins big brother Eli at home.



Patty Veno (Office of the Principal) and husband Dean welcomed their fifth grandchild, baby girl Olivia Katherine Bailey on October 1, 2018. Their daughter Katie and son-in-law Eric are the proud parents.



Mary Wooley (English Department) and husband Brian welcomed baby girl, Annemarie Judith Wooley on February 1, 2019.



Nicole Zuraw (Accounting Supervisor) and husband Chris welcomed baby girl Emma Rae Zuraw on August 23, 2018. Emma joins big sister Avery at home.

In Memoriam

Jacquelyn Baker on November 14, 2018. She was the mother of **Patty Veno** of the Office of the Principal.

John Brucoli on January 1, 2019. He was the brother of **Cindi Fortunato** of the Office of Discipline.

John J. Devine on September 12, 2018. He was the father of **Deborah Kiel** of the Science department and grandfather of **Ryan M. Kiel '15**.

Richard Hellstern on November 26, 2018. He was the father of **Keith Hellstern** of the Social Studies department.

Fr. George A. Gallarelli, S.J. on February 18, 2019. Fr. Gallarelli was a guidance counselor at Prep, he oversaw the Academic Center and was a Latin tutor as well. (See Page 41)

Joyce Norell on February 13, 2019. She was the Mother in Law of **Kathy Norell** of the Development Department.



NEW YORK CITY RECEPTION

Over 50 Prep alumni gathered together to raise a glass on September 20 at RARE Rooftop in the heart of NYC. Special guests included Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J., Principal Dr. Tommy De Quesada and crowd favorite, former housemaster John Brennan. The group enjoyed a beautiful summer night of reminiscing with friends, while feasting on award winning sliders, all while overlooking the Empire State building-which was aptly lit up in Prep red & white for us!!



FLORIDA RECEPTION

The sun was shining brightly once again at the Prep Alumni reception in Naples, FL. The luncheon was graciously hosted by Pat and **Don Kiernan '58** (far left) and was held at the majestic Club Pelican Bay. Area alumni from the '40s, '50s, and '60s got an update on all of the exciting happenings at Prep from Dr. Tommy De Quesada and Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J., and got a chance to catch up with each other on a glorious Gulf Coast afternoon.



CLASS OF 1969 REUNION KICKOFF

The Prep **Class of 1969**, who will be celebrating their 50th Reunion this year, had a kick off cocktail reception at historic Bellarmine Hall on October 26. This group of classmates fondly recounted many great stories from their time at Prep while looking at a slide show from their years at the school. This standout FP '69 Class is sure to have a fantastic turnout at their 50th Reunion weekend, which is just a few short months away!





BASKETBALL PAST & PRESENT

Prep Athletic Hall of Fame basketball coach Bob Sylvester met the new Prep basketball coach Mike Papale, shown with Fr. Tom Simisky, S.J.



TURKEY TROT

Prep alumni, families and friends ran in the traditional Pequot Road Race on Thanksgiving!



RUGBY COACH DECKER IN HALL OF FAME

Prep Rugby coach Frank Decker received the inaugural Connecticut Rugby Hall of Fame award in October. Decker is the longest serving coach for a single program in the history of rugby in the USA! From left: **Bill Bishop '85**, **John Broker '88**, Coach Frank Decker and **Mark Stepsis P'18**.



SIMON WHITEMAN EARNS YALE HONOR

Simon Whiteman '15 was honored with one of Yale's highest undergraduate accolades, the Francis Gordon Brown Prize. The award, selected by the Committee on Honors and Academic Standing from nominees in the junior class at the end of each academic year, goes to the student in Yale College "who most closely approaches the standards of intellectual ability, high manhood, capacity for leadership, and service to the University set by Francis Gordon Brown." Whiteman, who is captain of the Yale Baseball team, received the award on December 10. Whiteman was also inducted into Yale's Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. Pictured are (left-right): Marvin M. Chun, Dean of Yale College; Vicky Chun, Yale Athletic Director, Simon Whiteman, John Stuper, Head baseball coach.



CLASS OF 1994 ENJOY THE SKYBOX

An early kick-off to this year's 25th Reunion celebration was held on November 2. Some of the Class of 1994 socialized from the comfort

of the President's Hospitality Box at the top of Rafferty Stadium. The alums and their families enjoyed good food and a great view of the game as the Prep Jesuits beat the Harding Presidents 46-6. Reunion Class Leaders featured from left to right, **Scott Callahan**, **Chris McManus**, **Rudy Mauritz**, **Alex Oracheff**, and **Rob Steczkowski** (not photographed).



CLASS OF 1972 Birdies, bogeys and old Prep stories highlighted the Class of '72's fifth annual golf outing and dinner on Sept. 1. Some two dozen players -- including a few first-time attendees -- enjoyed golf at Fairchild Wheeler followed by dinner and cocktails with their wives or significant others at the Gaelic American Club in Fairfield. The sixth annual get-together is tentatively slated for Saturday, August 31 and all Class of '72 alumni are invited to attend.



ALUMNI SOCCER MATCH

Prep Soccer alumni and current team members joined for a fun game on the field in Rafferty Stadium, with approximately 30 playing and socializing. Alumni won 5-2 under the coaching of **Biagio Paoletta '17**, who plays for the D3 Tuft's University Men's Soccer team, which won the D3 Championship this year. JV Soccer Coach **Griffin Reidy '90** helped organize the event. Everyone's looking forward to making this an annual tradition at Prep!!



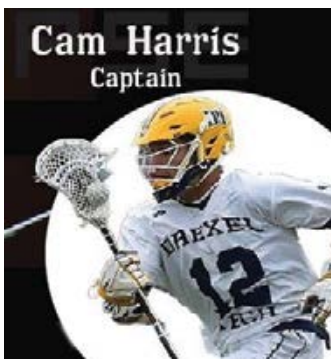
ALUMNI SWIMMERS & DIVERS MAKE A SPLASH!

A big group of alumni gathered at the RecPlex on Dec. 22 to watch the Prep meet, and then swim and dive for fun!



BIAGIO PAOLETTA TUFTS SOCCER

Biagio Paoletta '17 and the Tufts University Jumbos won the DIII soccer national championship. They defeated the Calvin College Knights 2-1 at UNC-Greensboro.



CAM HARRIS NAMED DREXEL LAX CAPTAIN

Cam Harris '15 was named Drexel Lacrosse Captain for the spring season. He appeared in all 13 games last season and is one of the team's top defensive midfielders. He also chipped in 3 goals.



BASKETBALL BROTHERS

Aidan Harding '21 and brother **Patrick '15** reunited at a Prep basketball game. Patrick was a member of Prep's 2015 State Championship team, and plays for Bryant University.



RUGBY ALUMNI REUNITE

A few FP alumni squared up in a D1A rugby fall match. Pictured left to right are: **Jack Clarke '16**, **Patrick Byrne '16**, **Sean Leary '17**, **Tom Hurst '17**, and **Connor Sendzick '17**.



FOOTBALL ALUMNI CONNECT

Prep Football Alums **Sam Opont '16**, **Jake Buckley '15**, and **Allen Gibson Jr. '15** bonded after the Endicott and Curry game this fall.



COLLEGE FOOTBALL MATCH-UP

Prep alumni #70 **Connor Roche '15**, #53 **AJ Mansolillo '15**, and #57 **Anthony Petrosinelli '17** play as college linemen, and battled it out as Middlebury defeated Bowdoin 37-24 in a fall match.

Christopher Lyddy '78 Named Fairfield Police Chief

Fairfield has a new police chief, the 10th in the town's history, with the promotion of Christopher Lyddy, who has been serving as acting chief since last October with the departure of former Chief Gary MacNamara. Lyddy's promotion was one of six in the department during a special ceremony.

A town of Fairfield native, Lyddy graduated from Fairfield Prep in 1978 and is a graduate of Bryant University with a



bachelor degree in Criminal Justice in 1982. He was hired by Fairfield Police Department

in 1982, and since then has served in a variety of positions from patrol officer, detective, patrol sergeant, lieutenant, and captain. He has served the last eight years as Deputy Chief of Police.

Lyddy is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy, 215th session, an 11-week program in Quantico, Virginia.

In addition to his normal duties, Lyddy serves as executive advisor to the Fairfield Police Explorer Post,

an educational program sponsored by Learning for Life, servicing youth between the ages of 13 and 21. He's also co-chairman of the Agape Society, a charitable organization committed to providing resources to disabled children in the greater Fairfield area. He also serves on the Board of Directors of LifeBridge, CT Yankee Council, Boy Scouts of America and the Board of Directors of Operation Hope.

Source: Fairfield Citizen News

An Amazing Coincidence

While the odds were not at 'a needle in a haystack' level, the deck wasn't particularly stacked in favor for two Prep alumni running into each other in the United Arab Emirates on separate ships. **Mike Kirk '10** and **Dan Diotalevi '05** are seen together on the pier of the Jebel Ali Free Zone standing in front of the USNS Catawba (T-ATF 168) and the USS Lewis B. Puller (ESB 3).

Mike's older brother, **Danny Kirk '05**, and Dan graduated both Prep and then US Merchant Marine Academy in 2009. Mike was not far behind and graduated from USMMA, also known as Kings Point, in 2014. While Danny and Dan each started their civilian careers with Military Sealift Command, they both left the company for careers on oil tankers and drillships, respectively. Mike has been shipping with MSC since graduating. All three are also commissioned reserve officers in the Navy's Strategic Sealift Officer Program.

Mike has been sailing on board the Catawba, a fleet ocean-tug owned by the US Navy and operated by

Military Sealift Command, for five months as the Second Assistant Engineer. The Catawba is the forward deployed duty tug of the 5th Fleet Command, based out of Bahrain. The Catawba notably towed the damaged USS Cole after it was suicide bombed off Yemen in October 2000. The Powhatan-class vessel can conduct towing operations, aircraft recovery, and other special missions. While Mike was onboard, the vessel was engaged primarily in mine countermeasure operations in the Persian Gulf.

As the Second Engineer on board, Mike is responsible for operating, maintaining, and repairing all main propulsion systems, including two V20 EMD main engines (3,600 HP each), three Detroit 16V-71 diesel-generators, and all auxiliary shipboard systems. Due to the vessel's smaller size and crew contingency, Mike is part of a 3-person engine department. This is very uncommon among MSC vessels, and while it may leave him spread thin, it allows him the advantage of having to learn, troubleshoot, and repair a wide array of systems and



machinery that will only help his career.

Dan is on ADT (Active Duty Training) orders through the US Navy Reserves as an assistant port engineer for the USS Puller's repair availability. His civilian career mimics his responsibilities while in the UAE, which has aided him immensely. The USS Puller is named after USMC Lieutenant General Lewis Burwell 'Chesty' Puller, the most decorated (and possibly well-known) Marine of all time. USS Puller is an Expeditionary Mobile Base that supports the US Navy as a landing platform in multiple areas of operation. The vessel is also owned by the US Navy and operated by Military Sealift Command. On

board is a combined Navy and Civilian Mariner (CIVMAR) crew. The CIVMARS operate and maintain the vessel, while the Navy is responsible for all flight and small boat operations that support different Special Operations missions in the 5th Fleet AOR.

Dan is currently a port engineer for Crowley Maritime in Jacksonville, FL and living in Neptune Beach. He shifted to a shoreside position in 2017 and is responsible for maintaining/repairing two US flagged container vessels owned by Hapag Lloyd. He is consistently in Charleston, Savannah, and Houston for work, so he advises if you are in the area and want to grab a beer feel free to give him a shout!

Dr. Perrotta receives Ignatian Educator of the Year Award



At the annual Mass of the Holy Spirit in September, Dr. Robert Perrotta, former longtime principal at Fairfield Prep who retired this past June, was presented the Fr. Martin Shaughnessy, S.J., Ignatian Educator of the Year Award. This award is presented to a faculty member or administrator who exemplifies the five ideals of a Jesuit high school educator: Open to Growth, Intellectually Competent, Religious, Loving and Committed to Doing Justice.

Watch video highlights
youtube.com/fairfieldprep1



WEST POINT PROUD

Sean Paul Stolarski '17, a West Point U.S. Military Academy cadet, stopped by Prep to share his experience with some current students. Sean is pictured with **Louis Guzzi '19** (on the right), who will also be attending West Point next year!



JAR ON THE BAR TO BENEFIT RYAN BRENNAN SCHOLARSHIP

Prep alumni, friends and families gathered on Feb. 23 at Brennan's Shebeen (owned by **Mike Brennan '92**) in Black Rock for an annual event to raise funds to benefit the **Ryan Charles Brennan '11** Scholarship at Prep. Also, **Dan Carlucci '98** and **Billy Ruegger '07** performed music.



CHAZ KACHMAR '80 was elated to win a Teaching Excellence Award to benefit his school, Maxwell High School of Technology, Lawrenceville, GA.



ALUMNI SERVE AT THOMAS MERTON CENTER

This big group of Prep Alumni provided a lunch to the guests at the Thomas Merton Center on New Year's Day.

David Hughes '98 teaches young Gregorian chanters

NORWALK — “Oh pray tell — what is this neume?” asked David Hughes jovially, melodically, as he held up a paper covered in rectangles and lines. “A torculus!” cried a chorus of small voices gathered in the yard of St. Mary’s Roman Catholic Church.

And what is a neume, you may well ask? Neumes are notes sung on a single syllable. They’re the building blocks of Gregorian chants — ancient, sacred music that is still a part of Mass in many Catholic churches. And the three dozen children gathered for the 10th year of Chant Camp, run by Hughes, of Norwalk, can tell you all about them.

“I’d say it’s lovely music — and fun,” said 10-year-old Mary Kelley, of Mount Kisco, N.Y. “It’s a really big part of our religion, too,” added her older brother, Gus Kelley, pointing to the words written in gold across the hearts of their camp T-shirts: “Bis orat qui

bene cantat.” The 14-year-old translated, “He who sings well prays twice.”

“
*Bis orat qui
bene cantat.*

He who sings well prays twice.

Hughes can still remember the first time he experienced a Gregorian chant. He was a junior at Fairfield Prep, where Richard Cipolla, recently the reverend at St. Mary, was his chemistry teacher at the Jesuit prep school. Cipolla roped him into singing a chant for Holy Week at a convent in Darien.

“And hearing that chant — it really changed my life,” Hughes said. “It was an encounter with beauty that I had never seen or heard before



Church choir master and organist David Hughes gets the kids singing during Chant Camp at St. Mary’s Roman Catholic Church in Norwalk in August. The camp gives children the opportunity to learn about singing and reading music, with a basis in Gregorian chant.

in that way.” Now, he’s helping children discover it much earlier than he did. “This type of singing is very rare for kids to do these days,” said the mother of Gus and Mary, Amy Kelley. “Only at Chant Camp would kids willingly sit in this extremely hot gym to eat and sing and play.”

Every day, the children meet for practice, sing Mass, then break for lunch and games before an afternoon practice. The games took place outdoors, with the children,

as young as 5, in four lines. “I love the neumes races!” said 9-year-old Audrey Marvell of New Jersey. Every neume has a name denoting a distinct progression of notes, and for the neumes race, each team was assigned a neume to mimic. Because a torculus’s second note is the highest, that team raced with sideways jumping jacks, and because quilisma trills, that team raced with a wriggling prance.

Source: Norwalk Hour

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Prep Alumni in “Funny Business”

It's 9 on a Saturday night and the lobby of the Circle Hotel is set up as a small theater. A hundred folding chairs face the fireplace, and a wall of drapes separates the makeshift venue from the business side of the hotel. People stream in, happy, chattering, sharing BYOB wine, ready for an evening of standup comedy at the Fairfield Comedy Club.

It's a type of entertainment that was uncommon in eastern Fairfield County until the club opened in April 2017. And a hotel lobby is an unlikely place to double as a standup venue. But here it is, on the edge of a traffic circle near the Fairfield-Black Rock border, with regular performances on Fridays and Saturdays and a summer comedy series at nearby Penfield Pavilion.

Tonight's host is Trumbull resident **Joe Gerics '97**, a Trumbull native who moved back to the suburbs from New York City 21 months ago and is a co-founder of the club.

Gerics, 39, saw an opportunity when he moved back to Connecticut. He teamed up with Fairfield Prep classmates **R. Beecher Taylor IV '97** and **Emilio Savone '96**. Taylor, also a Trumbull native, is a comedian and actor. Savone, from Milford, is a promoter and co-owner of the New York Comedy Club.

"In New York, I was producing monthly shows at the New York Comedy Club," Gerics says. "When I came back to Connecticut, I needed somewhere to perform. I knew **Ed Gormbley '95**, owner of the Circle Inn and the Hotel Hi-Ho. Ed said, 'Why not the hotel?'"

Savone describes the Fairfield venue as part of a larger network of comedy clubs he's building. "Comedians need stage time," he says. "We wanted to provide a platform outside of New York City. The Atlantic City Comedy Club was running very well. This was serendipity. We thought this was an opportunity to start something special."

All three partners are bullish on the prospects of the club and believe there's potential for significant growth. The room's capacity is 110 and sellouts are common. Marketing is done through social media and word of mouth. Community outreach in the form of performances for charitable



Joe Gerics '97 (left) and R. Beecher Taylor IV '97 are two co-founders of the Fairfield Comedy Club.



causes and civic organizations also plays a key role. A website and ticketing platform were supplied via infrastructure Savone already had with his other clubs.

Gerics says an initial startup investment of about \$1,500 was paid off after the first week. "This is the first time I've ever made money in comedy," he says. "I didn't care about the money, I just wanted to perform." Now, he says, he sees a path to a full-time pursuit of comedy as a profession.

Of the three partners, only Gerics isn't an entertainment-industry professional — he's got a hospitality and customer-service background. Taylor, who has a degree in political science and economics, was drawn to performing early. "I started out at the Cedar Point Yacht Club in Westport," he says. "From there, I started doing open mics. It's how most comedians do it. I had this kind of cultural overlap — if you make people laugh, they like you," Taylor adds. "Humor is a tool."

"It's a weapon," Gerics interjects before continuing: "Beecher is a pro performer. It's what he does. For me there never was an opportunity to make comedy a job. I got started too late."

Taylor comes from a line of pastors, at least some of whom had the gift of comedy. He carries a photo of a 110-year-old poster announcing a lecture at a church in Petersburg, Va., by his great grandfather, Rev. R. Beecher Taylor, who was pastor of Friendship Baptist Church in Richmond, Va. The lecture was called "Uncle Jerry at Forks in the Road." Admission was 10 cents. "The lecture is full of humor and advice," the poster promises. "You can laugh and grow fat."

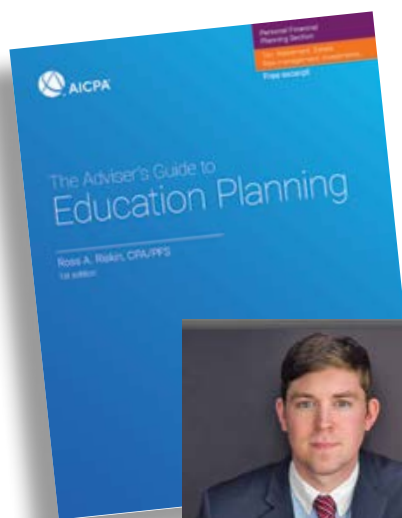
Savone, for his part, started in event marketing, organizing street teams and flash mobs, and generally doing guerrilla marketing for comedy clubs and other venues. Eventually he and a partner took over the New York Comedy Club, a well-known venue that had fallen on hard times. They turned around that venue in the Gramercy Park area, added a second club in the East Village, then Atlantic City and now Fairfield.

"Can Fairfield support a weekly comedy club model?" Savone asks. "It's gained a lot of support. People want us to do well there. It's becoming a cool little comedy ground. We can do better in reaching more outside towns. There's room for growth."

Learn more: FairfieldComedyClub.com
Source: CT Post

Photos: David Gurm Photography

AUTHOR'S CORNER



Ross Riskin '09 publishes book on education planning for CPAs

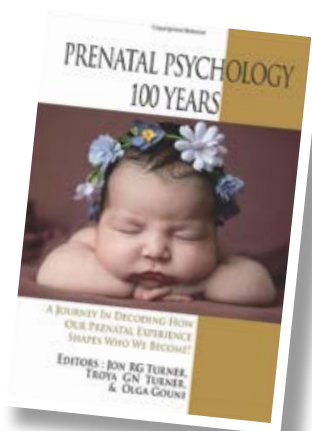
Ross Riskin '09, a college and student loan planning expert, recently published a guide on education planning for CPAs and financial advisors titled, "The Adviser's Guide to Education Planning" for the AICPA, the American Institute of CPAs which is the world's largest member association representing the accounting profession. The guide is made available to members of the AICPA Personal Financial Planning Section and CPAs who have the Personal Financial Specialist (PFS) designation. Ross is considered to be one of the youngest thought and practice leaders in the accounting and finance industries. Ross serves at Assistant Professor and CFP Program Champion at the American College of Financial Services, and Vice President of Riskin & Riskin, PC. **Learn more:** rossriskin.com

Jon RG Turner '52 publishes Prenatal Psychology 100 Years

Jon RG Turner '52 and his wife Troya GN are recognized pioneers in Prenatal Psychology. Together with Olga Gouni of Athens Greece, they have edited and published *Prenatal Psychology 100 Years: A Journey in Decoding How Our Prenatal Experience Shapes Who We Become*. The book is a centenary publication to honor the contribution of all the pioneers in the field of Prenatal Psychology.

During the course of about 100 years, Prenatal Psychology developed from an initially intuitive insight within the scope of psychoanalysis into a broad interdisciplinary field of science. Due to the dedicated work of pioneers in the field, what was once a hidden mystery now is common knowledge. The finding is that: prenatal life matters. Today, there is more and more evidence on how early beginnings from pre-conception to early after birth can affect health, relationships and quality of life. The book is a complete guide to what is now known in the field of Prenatal Psychology, and includes vital keys to understanding how our primal experience shapes who we become. The book is available on amazon.com.

The Turners are pioneers in Prenatal & Perinatal Psychology dating back to 1970. Their Whole-Self Discovery & Development Institute was incorporated in Santa Fe, New Mexico in 1988. They married in the Netherlands, from which they have presented Whole-Self Prebirth Psychology, Philosophy and Education in some 30 countries. The Turners have brought a balance of psychological experience, spiritual wisdom, light and humor to these whole-self transformational educational and psychological processes through lectures, workshops, individual sessions & professional certification trainings. **Learn more:** amazon.com



PREP TODAY

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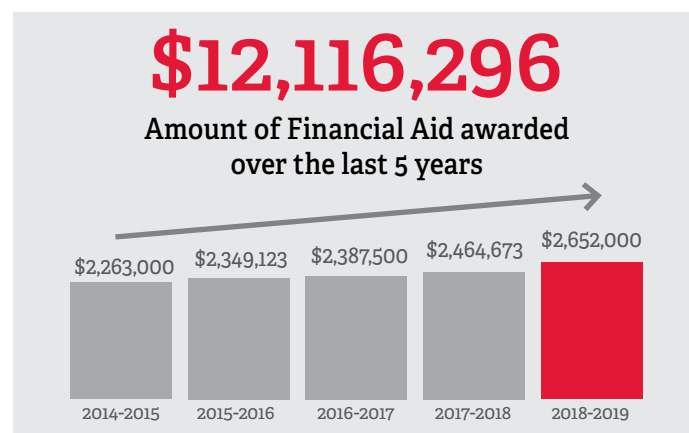
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