

Fwd: 2021 Summer Alumni Newsletter

1 message

Paul Cronin <pcronin@riordanhs.org>

To: Victoria Terheyden <vterheyden@riordanhs.org>

Wed, Jul 14, 2021 at 11:52 AM

Here you go!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Archbishop Riordan High School** <pcronin@riordanhs.org>

Date: Tue, Jul 6, 2021 at 8:44 AM

Subject: 2021 Summer Alumni Newsletter

To: pcronin@riordanhs.org <pcronin@riordanhs.org>

FROM THE ALUMNI OFFICE



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Riordan Graduates First Coed Class



June 5, 2021 will go down as one of the most historic Riordan events when the school graduated its first coed class outdoors on Mayer Family Field. We were blessed with a nice sunny day and the setting could not have been more beautiful for the resilient and triumphant Class of 2021. The ceremony included the presentation of the President's Award to alumni parent and outgoing Trustee John Palmer and a wonderful commencement address from Tony Rodoni '82. See photo highlights [here](#) and [here](#).

Two days prior, we held the Baccalaureate Liturgy and Senior Awards Ceremony for the Class of 2021 in the Lindland Theater. The Awards Ceremony was punctuated by the first female [Salutatorian speech](#) from Coral Shafer (pictured above). Coral also was the recipient of the Bill Blanchard Award. We congratulate and are very proud of the Class of 2021.

First Spring Golf Tournament Drives Results



Riordan held its first-ever Spring Golf Tournament at Lake Merced Golf Club in late April which was a tremendous success. Alumni and friends of the community gathered on a beautiful day to enjoy each other's company and swing the clubs. Members of the golf team were also present and performed long drives that resulted in good fundraising for the tournament. The event raised \$22,000 for the [Tyrone McGraw '06 Scholarship](#), and helped us cross the \$400,000 mark for this scholarship. View pictures from the day [here](#).

The annual Fall Golf Tournament is scheduled for **Friday, October 8 at TPC Harding Park**. Stay tuned for details.

2021 Giving Day Delivers

We are happy to announce Riordan had another successful Giving Day campaign! Our generous community delivered **704 gifts** totaling over **\$241,000**. A fun component of Giving Day was a class competition among our alumni who contributed over 60% of the total funds raised. Congratulations to the **Class of 1964** for raising the most money and to the **Class of 1975** for having the highest participation.

A celebration for these two classes at Original Joe's is on the horizon!



Alumni in the News

Home Dugout Named in Honor of Ron Isola '61



Long time educator, coach and Athletic Director, Ron Isola, was honored and recognized for his 45 years of service to Riordan. Well deserved Coach Isola! Please read the article [here](#).

Remembering Eugene Mullin '55

In April Riordan lost Gene Mullin, a dedicated Crusader and first-ever Alumnus of the Year in 2010. He was part of the Class of 1955 Committee and also the editor of their exceptional newsletter, ***Spirit of '55***. Gene also was a mainstay of the Senior/Alumni Farewell Breakfast and acted as guest speaker more than once. Please read his obituary [here](#) that shows he lived a full and active life inside and outside the Riordan community.



Riordan Breakdance King, Kenny McCardie '87

In the 70's & 80's, breakdancing became very popular in cities across the country. Riordan alumnus Kenny McCardie introduced this artistic sport to the school and was a founding member of "Riordan's Breakers" who would perform at halftime shows and special school sponsored events. This club would compete against rival high schools from the 80's into the early 2000's. Recently, the art of breakdancing has been declared an official sport at the 2024 Paris Olympics. Read full article [here](#).

Grandson/grandfather **Tony Kent '21** and **Tom Redmond '61** share Riordan memories in this [article](#).

Michael Schwartz '06 was recently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy. He is currently serving as an Information Warfare Officer for the U.S. 7th Fleet staff based in Yokosuka, Japan.

Alumni Track & Field star, **Jason Smith '16**, was 1 of 12 to make it to the finals for the High Jump at the U.S. Olympic Trials. Jason holds many records at both Riordan and Long Beach State.

Fr. Mike Quinn '70 is excited to be back on campus this fall as Riordan's Chaplain.

Rob Vaihola '21 earned a basketball scholarship to Fresno State.

Have some alumni news to share? We'd love to hear from you.

Email alumni@riordanhs.org

40 Crusaders Club Launch Off To A Great Start

Recently launched by the Riordan Alumni Association, the 40 Crusaders Scholarship Club is a new initiative that unites 40 members of the Crusader community to fund four years of tuition for 1-3 qualified students by committing \$500 per year (\$1.37 per day). In just a short time, 17 generous Riordan community members have made commitments totaling \$40,000.

If you are interested in being a part of this exclusive and dedicated group, please contact Alumni Director, Paul Cronin '93 at pcronin@riordanhs.org.

News From the School

The season of "firsts" for **Riordan Athletics** continued in the Spring with many accomplishments. We are happy to announce the community was able to get back to some normalcy and enjoy sports once again. A big highlight was the **first girls' WCAL victory** with the varsity basketball team beating Sacred Heart Cathedral, 41-40. The **boys' golf team qualified for CCS finals** for the first time in 10 years. There were also firsts for girls' Soccer

and Track & Field in competition. Lastly, the boys' varsity basketball team had another successful season going 14-4 and advanced to both the WCAL and CCS Championship games. We look forward to getting back to a full season of sports starting in the fall.

Classroom Renovations & Admissions:

During the summer Riordan will make upgrades to multiple classroom that include new blinds, carpets, lighting, desks and technology. Also, we are excited to have an incoming freshman class of 275. The international Boarding Program will benefit from a spike in attendance with 25+ students coming to live on campus. Thanks to **Danny Curtin '08, Sally O'Connell, and Joe Kopp** on the admissions team for their dedication. The future looks bright, and Riordan continues to rise in a big way.



Other News

Alumni, we want your feedback!

Archbishop Riordan High School is beginning the process of creating a new strategic plan for the school. Strategic planning develops a shared vision and a common path among the stakeholders of an organization and produces a blueprint for how to achieve that vision.

The feedback you provide in this survey is an important part of the strategic planning process and will be reviewed by the school as part of the planning. We hope you will take this opportunity to participate in this planning process and complete [this survey](#) by July 30, 2021.

Coach Liam Watters Retires after 40-Year Run, read more about his final lap around the track [here](#).

President Currier Concludes 4-Year Term. Read article [here](#).

Submit an Alumni Note

Interested in a reunion?

Any new baby Crusaders come into the world?

Have a personal or professional update to share with the Riordan community for the next Alumni Newsletter or Future Magazine?

Email pcronin@riordanhhs.org. Go Crusaders! #WeR

View a copy of the latest edition of *The Crusader* [here](#).

Enjoy music from the [Crusader Choir](#).

Upcoming Riordan Events

Golden Graduate Luncheon August 25

Class of 1958 Annual Luncheon October 28

Class of 1960 Reunion Luncheon October 28

Class of 1970 Golden Reunion Fall 2021

Class of 1971 & 1972 Reunion Fall 2021

Class of 1986 Reunion Fall 2021

Fall Golf Tournament October 8 @ TPC Harding Park



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