

# PREP TODAY



FAIRFIELD COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL | FALL 2021

## Class of 2021 Graduation

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## Prep Sports Triple Crown

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## The Boys Are Back in Town

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# INSIDE **PREP**TODAY

## 6 Commencement 2021

The Class of 2021 celebrated their graduation at Prep's 79th Commencement Exercises on Sunday, June 6, 2021. The ceremony was held on the south side of Arrupe Hall where 174 graduates received their diplomas in front of family and friends. Hundreds watched via livestream.



ABOVE: **Matt Delach** receives his diploma from President Christian Cashman. PHOTO CREDIT: ROBERT TAYLOR PHOTOGRAPHY

COVER: Photo shared by the Woodward family, including **David '91** and **Colin '23**. Show your Prep Pride!



## 4 Q&A: Inside Prep

In an interview format, Christian Cashman asks Tim Dee questions about Prep's Jesuit mission and his goals for this year and beyond.



## 25 Dr. Donna Andrade Named Ignatian Educator of the Year

"Ignatian Visionary" makes an incredible impact on Prep's growth and development over the decades as a top Jesuit institution.

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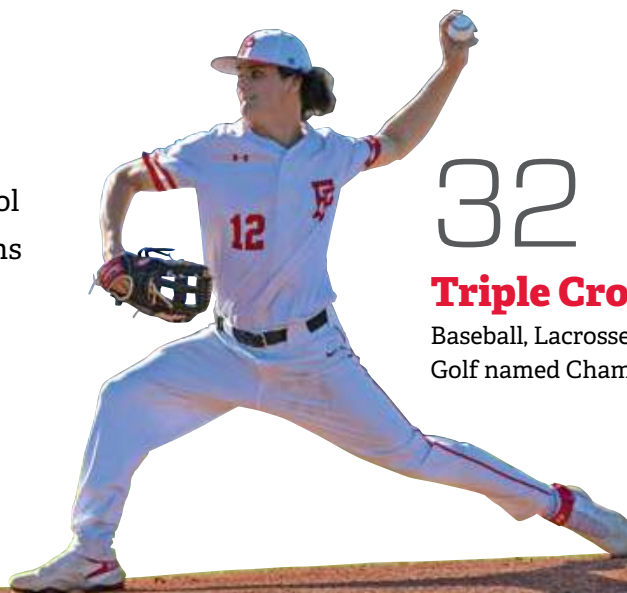
## 30 Little Shop of Horrors Is a Hit!

The Prep Players win a Halo award for Best Classical Musical with their outdoor production staged creatively in the Pelletier Quad. Bravo!



## 36 Golden Reunions Celebrated!

The Classes of 1970 and 1971 came back to campus for a joyful reunion in Pelletier Quad.



## 32 Triple Crown

Baseball, Lacrosse and Golf named Champions.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



### Dear **Friends,**

Warm greetings to you from North Benson! I write to you with tremendous hope and consolation as we enter Prep's 79th year, and the global Ignatian Year being honored by Jesuit schools everywhere. As we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the conversion and wounding of St. Ignatius of Loyola at the Battle of Pamplona, we too find ourselves emerging from the proverbial battle of the global pandemic and the accompanying upheaval it caused in our lives. But like St. Ignatius, the Prep Community is resilient and focused on the graces and opportunities that stretch out before us in this historical moment.

At our beautiful opening Mass of the Holy Spirit in the Pelletier Quad, we gathered for the first time as a full Prep community in nearly two years. The presence of the Spirit was palpable and the blessing upon all our works this year was as important as ever. Prep legend and Chaplain, Fr. Ron Perry, S.J., reminded us of the importance of "seeing all things new in Christ," in this Ignatian year as we emerge from a time of unprecedented challenge and seek to apply our faith and ingenuity to the days ahead.

As you enjoy the stories and images of this edition of *Prep Today*, I hope you will share my first impression of the magazine, which was, "Wow! How did Prep manage to thrive and grow so passionately and creatively in the midst of the pandemic?" We graduated the gifted Class of 2021 in person and began this year at Prep with the largest freshman class in seven years. More than two hundred strong, the Class of 2025 sets Prep on a trajectory of growth and sustainability that we seek to ensure for years to come.

The pages which follow give witness to the core Jesuit mission that has animated our lives at Prep for nearly eight decades. The fundamentals of our way of proceeding have never been stronger or more needed in our world. Now more than ever, we call upon our Prep families, our students, our alumni, friends and benefactors to "Be Ignited" in the way that only Prep can be. Digging deep into stores of resilience, faith, discernment and love in action, "Fairfield men are never done." As we approach our 80th anniversary of Fairfield Prep in 2022, I look forward to sharing with you a strategic plan and case for Prep that will truly speak to this historical moment. We are ignited for all that Prep can be—stay tuned!

Enjoy the inspiring images of a vibrant and resilient Fairfield Prep and know that we hold each of you in our daily prayers. May God bless you all for your heroic generosity. Hail Fairfield! **•AMDG**

In gratitude,

Christian J. Cashman, P'15, CP'23  
President

# Theresa Napoli Named Fairfield Prep Academic Dean

Following a thorough search which evaluated top candidates from Catholic and Jesuit schools across the region, Fairfield College Preparatory School named Theresa Napoli as the new Academic Dean effective July 1, 2021. Napoli is a talented and highly experienced Ignatian educator with a long tenure in the former New York Province, now the USA East Province of the Society of Jesus.

For the last three years, Theresa Napoli has served as Principal and Head of School at St. Barnabas School in the Bronx, New York. There, she has led every aspect of the academic, advancement and mission life of the school. Prior to her leadership at St. Barnabas, Napoli served for over twelve years as Assistant Principal for Academic and Student Life at Fordham Prep, adjacent to the campus of Fordham University.

In her distinguished career at Fordham Prep, Napoli supervised faculty, developed curriculum, led professional development in Ignatian pedagogy, and was active in the national Jesuit Schools Network for professional formation. At Fordham Prep, Napoli also collaborated with Fordham University to create dual credit courses for seniors. She additionally served as the Director of the Higher Achievement Program (HAP), where she focused on academic summer enrichment for middle school boys. Early in her career, Napoli taught grades 6-12 in the Science Department of the Ursuline School in New Rochelle, New York.

President Cashman praised Napoli's background and abilities: "Theresa Napoli's wealth of teaching and leadership experience in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition brings a welcome depth and richness to Prep's leadership team. Her fluency in Jesuit pedagogy and experience at a brother Jesuit school, which has a strong University collaboration, is of tremendous benefit. Her recent role as a principal brings an added layer of professional knowledge that makes her a key collaborator and partner with our new principal, Tim Dee."

In her new position, Napoli partners with Principal Dee to address key areas of strategic growth in Prep's academic program. With the opening of the McLeod Innovation Center, she will build upon Prep's 21st century curriculum offerings in the Jesuit core as well as in Innovation, Entrepreneurship and STEM. She will also work closely with the Guidance and Academic Support staff to ensure growth of the Jesuit focus to care for the whole person and assure the future success of every Prep boy. All of this will support the strategic vision for Prep's 80th Anniversary beginning in 2022.

Principal Dee commended Napoli's talents: "We are honored to have Theresa join our community at Fairfield Prep. Her knowledge, love of students, and commitment to the Jesuit mission will allow our academic programs to flourish and our students to feel challenged and supported. Theresa's experience will be invaluable to our tremendous faculty as we look ahead to introduce even more engaging and creative



*"I am looking forward to collaborating with our partners at Fairfield University in order to expand academic avenues at Prep."*

**THERESA NAPOLI, ACADEMIC DEAN**

opportunities for our students. I am excited to work with Theresa, and I know that our students and faculty will benefit from her dedication to academic excellence and passion for Jesuit education."

Excited about her new role, Theresa Napoli expressed her love of Jesuit education: "It is my honor and privilege to join the Fairfield Prep Community in order to continue its strong Jesuit mission. I am excited about the teaching and learning opportunities we will implement with state-of-the-art curriculum, enabling us to prepare the young men of Prep for the future. I am looking forward to collaborating with our partners at Fairfield University in order to expand academic avenues at Prep. I am ready to work with Christian Cashman, Tim Dee and the talented faculty and staff to support Prep's Ignatian identity as we move into our 80th Anniversary and many years to come."

Napoli brings a highly-qualified educational resume which includes a B.S. in Science and M.S. in Administration and Supervision from Fordham University. She has engaged in extensive post graduate professional development in Science education, Bioethics, Anatomy, Physiology and Ignatian leadership and teaching. Theresa Napoli is an active participant in the spiritual offerings of the Murphy Center for Jesuit Spirituality at Fairfield University along with her husband Ron Troyer.

# ‘Why **PREP?**’ and ‘Why Now?’

*On a late September school day, President Christian Cashman sat down to interview new Principal Tim Dee in the McLeod Innovation Center. Mr. Cashman asked questions regarding what makes Jesuit education unique, how Fairfield Prep offers a personalized learning environment where young men are transformed, and what Mr. Dee's goals, aspirations, and insights are for the Prep of the future.*



**You were named Principal last March, and while you are new to the position, you are a veteran teacher, coach and leader here at Prep. As Principal, what are your main goals and priorities?**

Overall, my goal is to lead the academic, co-curricular, arts, athletic, ministry and service life of the school by basing everything we do in the Jesuit mission and with the development of our students at the center of every decision we make. As a Jesuit institution, we must always strive to weave our tradition and core values into everything that we do inside and outside of the classroom. Our students are the reason why we do what we do — we must keep their development into young men who are open to growth, intellectually competent, religious, loving and committed to doing justice at the forefront of our decision making. Additionally, I want to be as present as possible for our students — I love sitting in classrooms, going to performances and going to games to show my support for the varied interests of students here at Prep.

**You yourself are a product of Jesuit education — both Boston College High and Fairfield University. What were the most important formative experiences for you as a student in Jesuit schools? How do you hope to pass those along to our young men at Fairfield Prep?**

As a student, the most formative experiences I had were from my mentors. At BC High, I had coaches, teachers, advisors and mentors who gave me responsibility and opportunity — I was the Captain of our soccer team during my senior year, I was the Rector of a Kairos, I was a Senior Mentor, and I took some great courses. In all of these situations, there was someone from BC High who gave me the opportunity to grow and develop. They

were there to offer consolations when I did well, but most importantly, they were there to offer support, encouragement and guidance when things did not go so well. That is how I grew, and I am forever thankful for these people. I hope to do the same for the students here at Prep — give them opportunity to succeed, remind them to ground everything in our Jesuit mission, congratulate them when they do well, and give them guidance in order for them to become better. I would not be the person I am today if it were not for the guidance from these mentors, and I hope to be as impactful for our students here at Prep so that they go out into the world and be Men for Others.

**In Jesuit schools like Prep we often speak of building transformative leaders, “Men for Others.” You were trained in the Seminars in Ignatian Leadership yourself. Do you have some initial thoughts about growth areas in leadership formation for our boys? What Ignatian tools do you want our boys to receive in their time at Prep?**

There has never been a more important time for young men to learn skills they will need to be leaders in our society, and here at Prep we need to be more intentional about making leadership an area that we address through academic classes and through special school programming. I think the biggest area of growth our students need now is intentional time to identify their core values and beliefs. From there, we need to challenge them to develop a mission statement for themselves — how will they incorporate and act on these values in their everyday lives? Being a teenager is not easy these days — we need to continuously give them experiences and time to reflect on who they are and what they stand for, and also need to give them opportunities

to act and reflect on their actions. The Ignatian concept of reflection is an incredibly important tool for leadership development.

**Academic excellence is a 500-year hallmark of Jesuit education. What is your vision of academic excellence? How do you propose to build on the academically excellent program and reputation of Prep?**

My vision of academic excellence is to continue moving from viewing classrooms and academic experiences as a time of student consumption to student production. To produce young men who are going to succeed in a collegiate environment and go on to change the world, we need to re-vision how we think of the classroom — we need students to critically analyze, argue their opinion, research, collaborate, and most importantly, create. When students are given opportunities to create and innovate in their classrooms, they need to show mastery of content at a much deeper level than just taking a test. We are extremely lucky that we have faculty members who are knowledgeable, inspirational and focused on our Jesuit mission as a school. I'm looking forward to seeing students take this step in their classes in the future.

**Thanks to McLeod '73 and Barrett '60, we are all aware of the \$11.5MM renovation to Xavier Hall for STEM, Entrepreneurship and Media education. “Innovation” is a buzzword these days in education and industry. However, I would suggest that Jesuits and Jesuit educators have always been innovative — it's in our DNA. How do you envision the best of Jesuit academic mission through the lens of innovation?**

The Jesuits have been innovating for 500 years — they created schools, a different way of learning, and a mission that focused not



only on developing students academically, but as a full person. I think that our academic mission is enhanced through encouraging students to innovate. I am a firm believer that a student learns more when he has to create something — a video, an artifact, an argument, a research paper — than just taking a test. The creation of anything requires innovation on many different levels. It's also a different type of learning. Creating something with a group of classmates requires a mastery of content but also the development of skills of collaboration, communication, presentation, and many more. If we are sending more students into the world with better content knowledge, better communication and collaboration skills, better creativity, then we are making the world a better place — this is the ultimate goal of our Jesuit institution.

### **What is the singular reason for a family to come to Fairfield Prep? In other words, "Why Prep?" and "Why Now?"**

**Why Prep?** Because we will form fourteen-year-old boys into eighteen-year-old men who are men of competence, conscience, compassion, and commitment, who will go out into the world and will make a positive change. We are committed to offering student experiences that will challenge them to be the best version of themselves. We are a community that is grounded in a Jesuit mission that we incorporate into everything that we do as a school. Our alumni network is second to none — once a student graduates and enters the collegiate and working world, doors to opportunities that students never thought would ever exist will not only exist, but be opened for them because of our tremendous alumni network.

**Why Now?** Because the world has never



*New Principal Tim Dee (left) responds to President Christian Cashman's questions in a Q&A session.*

## **RAPID FIRE...**

**AM or PM person?:** AM

**Favorite PREP athletic moment in your time here?** As a coach,

**Favorite grade level/course you ever taught?** AP Calculus BC and Honors Pre-Calculus with Introductory Calculus

**Red-out or White-out?** Red-out

**Preferred Social Media Outlet (Insta, Twitter, Snap, etc)?** Not a huge fan of any, but I would have to say Instagram

**Favorite Podcast?** The Ed Mylett Show, The Burn Podcast by Ben Newman, The Darren Woodson Show, The Cult of Pedagogy

**Cow or Garden Catering?** Country Cow

**Red Sox or Yankees? (Had to do it):** Red Sox

needed young men to be leaders in society more than they do today. We need young men in the world who have the courage to stand up for their beliefs, who will lend a hand to those in need, and who will work to be a voice for those on the margins. We need leadership in our world that is grounded in our Jesuit values — leaders who are open, loving, intelligent, compassionate and committed. At Prep, this is what we do every day with our young men.

### **Can you describe the gifts of the "Prep Brotherhood" you have experienced?**

This summer, we gathered with a small group of members of the Class of 2022 to talk with them about their year ahead and to give them an opportunity to develop leadership skills to be the student leaders that Prep needs. We asked each young man to identify someone who he felt was a leader in his eyes at Prep. Each spoke so passionately about other students, some who had already graduated from Prep and others who were classmates they viewed as leaders. Their answers were deep, powerful, and reflective of our Jesuit mission. For me, this is a perfect example of the Prep brotherhood — it's not just about sitting at the lunch table or watching a game or performance together; it's about impacting and challenging one another to be better people.

### **If you could go back to your 9th grade year at Boston College High and give yourself some wise advice, what would it be?**

Take advantage of every opportunity that is presented. Always assume the good in other people. Be open to learning from mistakes — the greatest lessons are often learned through an experience of failure. Take time to reflect every single day.

### **Your Quintessential "Prep Moment"?**

My favorite thing to do is to walk around right after the bell to end the day. I see so many things on this walk — students working with each other on projects; students in a classroom getting help from a teacher; co-curricular group meetings getting started and led by student leaders; students participating in intramurals in the Quad; our musical groups beginning their rehearsal; our Prep Players getting ready for a day of rehearsal; students getting changed for practices and games; and teachers transitioning from their role as classroom teachers to coaches, advisors, and mentors. It's a moment where everything that we talk about doing — giving students a variety of experiences and opportunities for them to develop into young men — seems to all be happening at once.



*"Wow, I really am a completely different person than when I first stepped through those front doors."*

**Desmond Brown '21**

## Being Open to Growth

**I**t all hit me when, in the weeks leading up to graduation, I became fully aware of how I have grown in my Prep years. I came to understand entirely what it meant to be a Prep brother, which is so much more than just progressing through my high school years. It means becoming a Man for Others and serving in many ways: community service, participating in retreats and devotion to improving yourself and others every day.

Walking to my seat on the day of graduation, memories of my four years rushed back to me. I have loved my time at Fairfield Prep, and in a sense always had the naive yet welcome feeling that I would be at Prep forever. As I approached graduation and reflected on my Prep experience, I truly felt ready to move forward as I came to realize the many gifts I had gained and how I had grown in countless ways.

As much as I have loved Prep, I realized that the growth that I have achieved was guiding me and that I was ready for the challenges ahead. I thought of my growth as a writer. I always had little confidence in my essay writing skills, and even said to my junior year English teacher, Mrs. Hoover, that I was not a good writer. I don't remember her exact response, but it was something along the lines of, "I don't believe that. Even so, I'll make you a good writer."



She encouraged me throughout the year, providing me with the skills and practice to develop my writing ability. This is just one of many examples that I could share about Prep pushing me to be open to growth. Additionally, I chose to participate in the Kairos Retreat, provided leadership in clubs and I even joined the Prep Players, performing in "Little Shop of Horrors" my senior year.

In those final weeks of my Fairfield Prep journey, I clearly saw the real growth that I had achieved. As I reflected on my experiences I thought, "Wow, I really am a completely different person than when I first stepped through those front doors." I have matured personally and intellectually, and I have

learned how to discern what to do in making choices and how to respond to different challenges. It truly is bittersweet that I will be leaving Fairfield Prep, however, I know also that I am taking my Prep experiences with me — and all that Prep has offered me will live on in me. Prep is in every single one of us, as we continue to pursue the betterment of ourselves and others.

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*Reflection by **Desmond Brown '21**, who was awarded the Rev. Mateo Ricci, S.J. Academic Award for Theology at the Baccalaureate Mass, and the St. Peter Claver, S.J., Award which honors the senior who has distinguished himself by his leadership and his commitment to the preferential option for the poor.*



Watch video highlights on the Prep YouTube channel  
[YOUTUBE.COM/FAIRFIELDPREP1](https://www.youtube.com/fairfieldprep1)

Find more graduation photos at [FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG](https://www.fairfieldprep.org)

## EXCERPTS FROM THE 2021 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS



### Christian Cashman

*President*

Gentlemen, or can I now say, "Brothers!?" My brothers, allow me to congratulate you on your most heroic achievements, both as individuals and as a class! Prep will never forget the Class of 2021 and the Jesuit leadership and resilience you have shown us all.

You are all Ignatian Spiritual Warriors in the unbroken chain of brotherhood leading back 480 years to Saint Ignatius himself.

The world desperately needs the gifts of Prep's Class of 2021, especially in the aftermath of a global upheaval and pandemic. As I have shared with you many times this year, you have ALL been given the unique tools of our Jesuit way of proceeding. They are yours and can never be taken away, for they are gifts of the Holy Spirit within you. And I implore you to use these tools every day of your lives — Examen, Discernment, Finding God in all things, Contemplation and most of all your Love, shown not in words, but in action!



### Gregory Marshall '73

*Special Assistant to the President*

In this Ignatian Year, we have already heard reference made to Ignatius's cannonball conversion as an instructive metaphor for how we ourselves may respond to adversity. No doubt we can think of the adversity of these past fifteen months as a sort of prolonged cannonball experience for us all. The question, then, becomes how do we respond to that adversity? Going back to the battle of Pamplona, we don't normally think about the hundreds of other soldiers who were wounded that day, and who, like Ignatius, subsequently recovered.

Only one of those wounded soldiers, however, made the choice to turn that experience into something profound that now spans the globe and that has endured for five hundred years.

Today I challenge you to consider following Ignatius's example: When faced with adversity, whether past, present or future, turn it into your own conversion experience, your own cannonball moment.



### Caleb Bolden '21

*Senior Commencement Speaker*

A pandemic and all of the other changes we faced did not stop the senior class from being itself. We never stopped caring about one another, caring about our school, and being proud to represent Fairfield Prep wherever we go. The men who you are graduating with will always be there for you despite the changes in your life. Remember how we were there for each other during these last four years.

Change did not stop us from winning a Baseball and Lacrosse SCC Championship in one day. Change did not stop the Bombsquad from showing up to events when we could. Change did not stop us from having a great prom. Change did not stop us from being here today to celebrate this moment together fully in person.

We will be the next leaders and change makers of our world. Let's make sure to set the world on fire in the way we learned at Fairfield Prep.



# 2021 BACCALAUREATE MASS AWARDS

## Rev. Mateo Ricci, S.J. Academic Awards

Members of the Fairfield Prep faculty have selected outstanding students in each academic subject area to be honored for academic excellence, openness to growth, and a willingness to share their talents with others.

### English

- ★ **Nicholas J. Katsetos**
- ★ **Karl G. Elias**

### Visual Arts

- ★ **John C. Willcox**

### Instrumental Music

- ★ **Aaron E. Lane**
- ★ **Joshua H. Peiffer**

### Choral Music

- ★ **William T. Gualtiere**

### Theatre

- ★ **Tomas V. Lignore**

### French

- ★ **Aidan W. Shannon**
- ★ **Charles R. Scholl**

### Latin

- ★ **William J. Weber**

### Spanish

- ★ **Javier Gil**
- ★ **Hairo J. Vivas-Nava**

### Mathematics

- ★ **Matthew C. Hansen**
- ★ **Thomas M. Ganim**

### Computer Science

- ★ **Alexander L. Joliet**

### Biological Sciences

- ★ **Abdulah R. Chaudhry**
- ★ **Ford E. Young**

### Chemical Sciences

- ★ **Christopher J. Hill**
- ★ **Matthew C. Hansen**

### Environmental Science

- ★ **Collin J. Rydecki**

### Physical Sciences

- ★ **Connor B. Lardi**
- ★ **Ian Whamond**

### Social Studies

- ★ **Matthew J. Flynn**
- ★ **Brett T. Cattano**

### Theology

- ★ **Desmond A. Brown**
- ★ **Javier Gil**
- ★ **Matthew C. Hansen**

## The Rev. Eugene C. Brissette, S.J.

**Award** honors the senior who is Prep's most representative scholar/athlete.

- ★ **Mason A. Whitney**

## The St. John Francis Regis, S.J. Campus Ministry Award

honors five seniors who have shown outstanding leadership and generosity in their contribution to the enhancement of the spiritual life of Fairfield Prep.

*For outstanding dedication and leadership in the promotion of the Fairfield Prep retreat program*

- ★ **William T. Gualtiere**
- ★ **Stephen K. Wong**

*For outstanding leadership and generosity in their contribution to the liturgical life of Fairfield Prep*

- ★ **Matthew C. Hansen**

*For outstanding leadership and generosity in his contribution to the Liturgical Music Program at Fairfield Prep*

- ★ **Yuhao Zhai**

**The St. Isaac Jogues, S.J. Award** is given in memory of Mark Masiello, Class of 1983. A plaque and a check are presented to a senior who has shown tremendous courage during their years at Prep.

- ★ **Brian J. Wenzel**

## The Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J.

**Award** is given in memory of John Lambert, Class of 1994. A plaque and a check are presented to two seniors who have been key to the success of our literary publications.

- ★ **Charles R. Scholl**
- ★ **Matthew A. Ionescu**

## The Cardinal Key Society Award

is presented to two members of the Cardinal Key Society who have distinguished themselves through their leadership and service to the Prep Community.

- ★ **Terence M. Falvey**
- ★ **Jacob C. Morton**

## ROTC Scholarships

- ★ **Anthony M. Dorazio**
- ★ **Aidan R. Derby**

## The Rev. Arturo Sosa, S.J.

**Leadership Award**, named after the current Superior General of the Society of Jesus, is presented to the senior class officers for their outstanding efforts in service to the Prep community.

- ★ **Caleb M. Bolden**
- ★ **Ryan M. Carroll**
- ★ **Edward N. Gravanis**
- ★ **Oliver Y. Kwon**
- ★ **Benjamin Ukehaxhaj**

## The Medal of St. Ignatius Loyola

is awarded to the students in the top 5% of the Class of 2021 in honor of their outstanding academic achievement.

- ★ **Caleb M. Bolden**
- ★ **Griffin M. Coffey**
- ★ **Javier Gil**
- ★ **Matthew C. Hansen**
- ★ **Christopher J. Hill**
- ★ **Oliver Y. Kwon**
- ★ **Connor B. Lardi**
- ★ **Shanxu Li**
- ★ **Conner D. Moore**
- ★ **William J. Weber**

## Excellence in Math & Science

Through the generosity of Paul Vanderslice, Prep Class of '76, and his wife Lynne Vanderslice, former Prep Board of Governor; a new Scholarship Fund has been established. As part of this Vanderslice Family Scholarship Fund, an annual award for Excellence in Math & Science has been created and will be given to a graduating senior each year in the amount of \$5,000 who has exhibited outstanding achievement in the Math/Science subject area.

- ★ **Matthew C. Hansen**

**The Principal's Award** is presented to outstanding student leaders.

- ★ **Ryan M. Carroll**
- ★ **Benjamin Ukehaxhaj**

**The President's Award** is presented to a student for providing outstanding leadership to the Fairfield Prep Community throughout the year.

- ★ **Caleb M. Bolden**

## Special Awards at Commencement

### The St. Edmund Campion, S.J.

**Award** honors that senior who has demonstrated an enthusiastic quest for academic excellence which leads him to explore the possibilities of self, faith, goodness and justice in the world.

- ★ **Christopher J. Hill**
- ★ **Cameron E. Gough**
- ★ **Javier Gil**

### The St. Francis Xavier, S.J. Award

honors that student who has taken advantage of the full array of opportunities and experiences offered at Prep.

- ★ **William T. Gualtiere**
- ★ **Zachary P. Conn**
- ★ **Mason A. Whitney**

### The St. John Berchmans, S.J.

**Award** honors that senior whose faith has led him to become a man of conscience, compassion and action in service of others for the greater glory of God.

- ★ **William J. Weber**
- ★ **Nicholas M. Mancuso**

### The Reverend Pedro Arrupe, S.J.

**Award** honors that senior whose vitality of faith frees him to be a "Man-for-Others."

- ★ **Matthew A. Ionescu**
- ★ **Connor D. Moore**

### The St. Peter Claver, S.J. Award

honors that senior who has distinguished himself by his leadership and his commitment to the preferential option for the poor.

- ★ **Desmond A. Brown**
- ★ **Stephen K. Wong**

### The Jesuit Schools Network

**Award** honors that senior who has distinguished himself as a well-rounded, intellectually competent individual who is open to growth, religious, loving, and committed to doing justice in generous service to the people of God. Included in this award is a cash stipend sponsored by the Tymniak family in memory of Paul Tymniak, father of Paul, Chris, and Tim, all Prep graduates.

- ★ **Matthew C. Hansen**
- ★ **Caleb M. Bolden**

# SCC SCHOLAR LEADERS

## Ryan Carroll and Javier Gil Honored

*Ryan Carroll and Javier Gil were selected by Principal Dr. Tommy de Quesada as Prep's SCC Scholar Leaders for their leadership and excellence in the classroom, in their school and local communities. Considered the "Best of the Best," the honorees have many talents which include mentoring, athletic prowess, artistic talents, social activism, decision making, and music.*



**RYAN CARROLL** is a summa cum laude honor student with a 3.9 GPA, a member of the National Honor Society, and Student Government President. He is a member of Prep Baseball and Cross Country teams, and involved in the Irish Cultural Club. Ryan has served as a Prep Open House Guide and spoken at key school events in his role as president. Through the Trumbull Little League Challenger Baseball program, which his family started, Ryan helps special needs students play baseball. He received the Principal's Award at graduation. Ryan will attend Providence College.



**JAVIER GIL** is a summa cum laude honor student with a 4.0 GPA and is a member of the National Honor Society. He served as captain of the Fairfield Prep Soccer Team. Very active in service, Javier volunteered for the Appalachia Immersion Trip, served as a Sophomore Retreat Leader, and attended the Christian Leadership Retreat and Notre Dame Vision Trip. He also volunteers in the community at the Stamford Boys and Girls Club. Javier received the St. Edmund Champion, S.J. Award at graduation, and will attend the ICADE Business School at Universidad Pontificia de Comillas in Madrid.

## Colucci and Rydecki named SCC Scholar Athletes

**Kyle Colucci** (lacrosse) and **Collin Rydecki** (crew) were both named SCC Scholar Athletes for the spring season sponsored by Great Blue Research. Both are standouts in the classroom and leaders of their teams.

**Kyle Colucci** is a four-year member of the varsity hockey and lacrosse teams, served as captain of varsity lacrosse, and was named All-SCC lacrosse. Kyle is a summa cum laude honor student and a member of the National Honor Society.

Kyle volunteered with the Connecticut Storm hockey program for youth with disabilities. He also participated on an Appalachian Service Immersion and volunteered with Habitat for Humanity. Kyle is attending Villanova University this fall.

**Collin Rydecki** is a summa cum laude honor student and a key team member on Prep's top-scholastic 8 Crew team who ranked 1st in the Northeast. Collin is a member of the Model United Nations Club, the Environmental Club, and served as a host in Prep's German Exchange program. He also tutored and mentored in a Bridgeport after-school program. Collin received the Environmental Science Award at Baccalaureate Mass. He will attend Northeastern University to study Environmental Science.



*Pictured from left to right: Phil and Elaine Lauria, Will Gualtiere '21, Maura and Elliott Gualtiere*

## William Gualtiere '21 is awarded the Phillip A. Lauria Scholarship

By his enthusiastic engagement in the mission of Fairfield Prep, **William T. Gualtiere '21** has been awarded the **Phillip A. Lauria Scholarship**. Through the generosity of the Lauria Family and in the name of Phillip (Phil) A. Lauria of the Prep Class of 2005, this scholarship was established in Phil's memory. Phil was a true "Man for Others" who lived with integrity, ethics, kindness, religious values and respect for others, as Will has in his Prep years.

As a giving and faith-filled young person, Will's record of ministry service in support of others and his scholarship are exemplary. He has served the Prep community by his dedication to Campus Ministry and Retreat Leadership, having led Prep's Freshman Retreat, Sophomore Retreat, Kairos Retreat and Senior Ignatius Movie Retreat. He was Co-director for this year's Freshman Retreat in developing and directing a multi-day retreat.

Will has served as a Peer Tutor and Open House volunteer, and has shared his acting and musical talents as a fixture in Prep's Drama, Select Choir and Music Ministry programs. Will has volunteered at Spooner House and with the CT Challenge. His openness to growth and vitality of faith were recognized at his recent graduation in being awarded the St. Francis Xavier, S.J. Award, which honors a student who by his choices and actions has taken advantage of the full array of opportunities and experiences offered throughout his four years at Prep. William will continue his mission to learn and serve others as he begins his college years at Fordham University in the fall.



## Congratulations Eagle Scouts

**Joshua Bacon**  
**Colin Hoben**  
**Adam Jehle**



From left: Academic Dean Theresa Napoli, Nathan Ertl '21, Principal Tim Dee, Matthew Marsden '21; and President Christian Cashman

## Nathan Ertl and Matt Marsden are National Merit Scholar winners

Congratulations to seniors Nathan Ertl and Matt Marsden, named Commended honorees in the National Merit Scholarship Program, who are being recognized for their outstanding potential for academic success.



Front Row: Ben Ukehaxhaj '21, Diana Ukehaxhaj, Miliam Ukehaxhaj, Officer Keith Broderick and Captain Robert Kalamaras. Back Row: Principal Tommy de Quesada, Academic Dean Tim Dee, President Christian Cashman, Fairfield Police Union Scholarship Fund Board Member Charles F. Chiusano, Officer Mike Paris

## Ben Ukehaxhaj '21 Awarded Fairfield Police Union Scholarship

Prep senior **Benjamin Ukehaxhaj** was awarded the Fairfield Police Union Scholarship in the name of Judge Daniel Caruso, who passed away unexpectedly in February 2018. Caruso, Fairfield Probate Judge, was an advocate for anyone who needed help. He was a man of strong faith. Due to the generosity of the Fairfield Police Union Scholarship Board, Judge Caruso's legacy is celebrated each year with a scholarship award.

Ben has served the student body through his leadership in student government. During this pandemic year, Ben and the executive council contributed to creating a safe environment by drafting and delivering a safety pledge for all students. He acted as a spokesperson for many student and school initiatives. He helped to keep school spirit high, urging his classmates and underclassmen to maintain a positive outlook in spite of a challenging pandemic year, even leading cheers!

Ben has served in a soup kitchen, an elder care center, an after-school recreational center and as a Peer Tutor. Ben has achieved an outstanding academic record. He begins studies in the fall at Fordham University.

## Caleb Bolden '21 named 2021 CIAC Scholar-Athlete



**Caleb Bolden '21** was named Prep's CIAC Scholar-Athlete. Caleb is a senior captain and standout athlete on the FP Indoor and Outdoor Track teams. As a junior he was a member of the CIAC Class LL State Championship team in the 1600 Sprint Medley Relay. Caleb is a summa cum laude honor student, maintains a 4.041 cumulative GPA and is a member of the National Honor Society and a Peer Tutor. He is a dynamic leader, solid

communicator and excellent public speaker. When he speaks, people listen. One of Caleb's best traits is his empathy, which allows him to be a great leader who connects with people of all different backgrounds. He is best known at Prep through his public service and representation in student government the past four years. Caleb mentors other minority students in Prep's S.E.E.D Brothers for Others Program and has helped students from New Haven (his home) get acclimated to Prep. Caleb is also president of the African American Cultural Club. He has a true desire to help people and serve others. Caleb will attend Harvard University in the fall.

## Sawyer and Straker honored as Wakeman Youth of the Year

Fairfield Prep is both pleased for and proud of the exemplary contribution made by **Matthew Sawyer '21** and **Jonathan Straker '22** in their being named Wakeman Youth of the Year 2021. Matthew and Jonathan have each distinguished themselves by their character and by their commitment to support positive growth in the lives of others by their outreach through the Wakeman Boys and Girls Club.



**Matthew Sawyer** is a honor student and National Honor Society member. A standout baseball athlete and captain of the SCC Championship baseball team, he was named All-SCC First Team, CHSCA All-State, CHSCA Academic All-State, Gametime CT All-State, and CHSCA District II Senior All-Star.

At Wakeman, Matt is a member of the Junior Staff at the Southport Clubhouse and plays in the Red Baker Basketball League. He has been a part of the Torch Club, Keystone Club, Great Futures Mentoring Program, and a pee-wee basketball coach. Matt will attend Santa Clara University in the fall.



**Jonathan Straker** is completing his junior year at Prep. He is a member of the Smilow Burroughs Clubhouse, the Keystone Club and the Diplomas2Degrees Program. Jonathan is a member of the Chess Club, a participant in the intramural sports programs and a student ambassador. He is also a member of Prep's Bowling Team. Jonathan anticipates a career in business where he would create products to benefit others.

As Jonathan continues his Prep journey, he does so as a young person who confidently seeks personal growth and excellence. He is a giving young man who serves others on and off campus and one who has made a significant contribution to ministry in his church.



## Together Again at Senior Prom!

At Senior Prom, the Class of 2021 enjoyed an awesome night of food, friendship, dancing and fun! The prom was held on May 29 in the Student Life Center. #PrepForever #PrepBrotherhood



## SENIOR WEEK PICNIC BUILDS CLASS BONDS

During Senior Week, the soon-to-be grads enjoyed a Super Duper Weenie picnic and relaxing get together with pickup games and fellowship on Grauert Field.





## Top Scholars of the Class of 2021

At the Baccalaureate Mass, President Christian Cashman, recognized the outstanding academic achievement of students in the top 5% of their class by awarding them the Medal of St. Ignatius Loyola. Pictured from left: **Javier Gil, Christopher J. Hill, Griffin M. Coffey, Connor B. Lardi, Caleb M. Bolden, Oliver Y. Kwon, Matthew C. Hansen, Conner D. Moore and William J. Weber.** Missing from the photo is **Shanxu Li.**

## READY TO PLAY

*Fairfield Prep proudly announces that by their strong character, academic success, and athletic efforts, many senior student-athletes have earned the opportunity to compete in sports while achieving their college degrees.*

### BASEBALL

#### Jack Bowery

– Marist College

#### Davis Wallon

– University of Richmond

#### Jonathan Fallacaro

– Adelphi University

### CREW

#### Conor McNichols

– Bucknell University

#### George Elias

– College of the Holy Cross

### CROSS COUNTRY

#### Azaan Dawson

– Virginia Tech

### FOOTBALL

#### Dean Tsiranides

– Sacred Heart University

#### Kyle Vaccarella

– Auburn University

### HOCKEY

#### Joseph Bisset

– Miami University, Ohio

### LACROSSE

#### Kyle Stevenson

– Franklin and Marshall College

#### Mason Whitney

– Taft School/  
University of Michigan

### RUGBY

#### Matt Delach

– St. Bonaventure University

#### Josh Pianto

– University of Delaware

#### Ian Hanna

– St. Bonaventure University

### SAILING

#### Will Donovan

– Fordham University

### SOCCER

#### Remi Maher

– Colorado College

### SWIMMING

#### Tim Turnbull

– Franklin & Marshall

### TRACK & FIELD

#### Caleb Bolden

– Harvard University

#### Josh Bacon

– Saint Joseph's University

#### Darren Blount

– Southern Connecticut  
State University



Zachary Conn with his parents Christopher and Jen, scholar athlete chairman Kevin O'Brien and coach Keith Hellstern. (Photo by Bill O'Brien)

## Zach Conn Football Scholar Athlete

**Zachary Conn**, was honored as a National Football Foundation Scholar Athlete by the Casey-O'Brien New Haven County Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. Zach was a four-year member of the football and lacrosse teams at Prep and served as a captain of the football team this past fall. He was named a SCC Scholar Athlete. Conn is a summa and magna cum laude student, member of the National Honor Society and a recipient of the Bryant University book award. A member of the Stock Market and Habitat for Humanity clubs, Zach has been a tutor for the Urban Impact program and a volunteer helping disabled adults at the Kennedy Center. Zach will attend Miami Univ. of Ohio.



## CLASS OF 2020 HOMECOMING

It was a true joy welcoming back dozens of Class of 2020 young alumni to a homecoming event in Pelletier Quad on June 29. Classmates enjoyed food, friendship, and tours of the "Class of 2020 Lounge" in the new Barrett Science Center and the new McLeod Innovation Center!



Honorees with Student Govt. officers, from left: Oliver Kwon, Ryan Carroll, Paul Denby, Kevin Kery '00, Teddy Gravanis and Ben Ukehaxhaj

## Class of 2021 names **Inspirational Teachers**

By Joe Pisani. Reprinted with permission by the Fairfield County Catholic

**A**t the Class of 2021 Sendoff Luncheon, Student Government President **Ryan Carroll** and fellow officers named Theology teacher **Kevin Kery '00** and English teacher **Paul Denby** as the Inspirational Teachers of the Year in recognition of their commitment and the models they provided for students of Fairfield Prep.

Carroll thanked members of the administration and faculty and his classmates for everything they did to help students endure a year marked by the COVID pandemic and numerous challenges. He told them that the 79th graduating class of Fairfield Prep would now become members of a distinguished group of 15,000 alumni who live and work all over the world. He then awarded plaques to Kery and Denby, who had been selected by the senior class to receive the awards.

Timothy G. Dee, principal, said: "Paul Denby and Kevin Kery are two Jesuit-educated and inspirational models of 'a man for others' for the students of Fairfield Prep. In the classroom, on the fields, on mission trips and retreat experiences, these two men dedicate themselves to giving students opportunities to grow and develop into young men of competence, conscience, compassion and commitment. We are privileged to have these two Ignatian educators as a part of our community, and we congratulate them on this well-deserved recognition."

Kery, who is a member of the Class of 2000, currently serves the Prep community as a Theology teacher for 10th, 11th and 12th grade students. He is active in the immersion and ministry program, having served on numerous immersion trips to the Appalachia region and as an adult facilitator on the Kairos and Freshman retreat. He is also the Head Coach of the Freshman Football team and Assistant Coach of the Varsity Rugby team.

Denby was educated in the Jesuit tradition at Boston College and joined the Prep community in 2014, where he teaches English to 10th, 11th and 12th grade students. "Paul is active in our service program, having served as an adult facilitator on multiple Urban Plunge experiences, and he is the moderator of the Model UN club and a dynamic facilitator for the Philosophy Club," Dee said.

Kery said, "This is really, truly a wonderful honor, and from this group of students, it means an incredible amount." Kery recalled his

own graduation. "I was definitely shook up 21 years ago about leaving Prep," he said. "Truthfully, I didn't even know if anything would be better than high school....There are some amazing things ahead of you as you head off to college. You are going to meet some wonderful people who will change your life. You are going to learn who you are and what you love. Many people and places are going to challenge what you've known up until now ... and that's a good thing. You're going to laugh and you're going to cry, but most of all, you're going to grow."

Denby said, "You've been through a tremendous amount and ultimately you've succeeded, and you should be hugely proud of yourselves." He then discussed Theseus, the mythical king who killed

the Minotaur and united different communities to create Athens. In the succeeding years, a ship retraced his voyages every year to commemorate his victory. Four hundred years later, the philosopher Socrates wondered whether Theseus' ship was actually still the same ship after hundreds of voyages, since every single piece of the ship had been replaced. "If not one original part still existed with what right can we still call it Theseus'

ship?" Socrates asked. Denby applied the metaphor of "Theseus' Paradox" to the school and the seniors.

"Think of all the changes that you have undergone from the boys you were on the first day of your freshman year," he said to the seniors. There were differences physically but more importantly he said, "Think of the beliefs that have been replaced. Think of the new skills you have acquired, the friendships that were lost and made, the memories that were made and have faded and even been lost....Little by little, plank by plank, oar by oar, you have all become very different human beings from the ones you were four years ago."

What made Theseus' ship, Denby concluded, was not its material parts, but its mission and what it stood for. He emphasized the importance of Prep's Jesuit mission and said, "The moment Fairfield Prep abandons its Jesuit mission, it ceases to be itself even with all its fancy new buildings and labs ... and the same applies to you, gentlemen, and to all of us. We continue to be who we are because we stand for something," he said. "Because we have a mission, something greater than ourselves that we devote ourselves to." He said, "It is our hope here at Prep that as you venture off on your new beginning that you stay true to the beginnings that made you the men you are today."

*The moment Fairfield Prep abandons its Jesuit mission, it ceases to be itself even with all its fancy new buildings and labs ... and the same applies to you, gentlemen, and to all of us. ...*

*We continue to be who we are because we stand for something greater than ourselves.*

**PAUL DENBY**

# “Run to the Fire”

When visiting the office of Dr. Tommy de Quesada, one can't help but notice the Miami Dolphins autographed jerseys, the inspirational quotes from the Jesuit educated Vince Lombardi, and the pictures of our home, Fairfield Prep. In the corner of the room is a simple phrase that has defined not only Dr. dQ's time at Prep, but his time in Jesuit education — “Run to the Fire.”

In his very first address to the Prep faculty, Dr. dQ spoke these words which have come to define him and his time as the Principal of Fairfield Prep.

Dr. dQ has run to the fire for Prep students — he has dedicated his time, talents and energy to providing support and creating experiences for students to develop their talents and go forth and set the world on fire. Dr. dQ has run to the fire for his colleagues — his door was always open and his phone only a call away as he worked tirelessly to do whatever possible to support the efforts of his colleagues. Dr. dQ has run to the fire for his family — providing a model for all as the type of man, father, husband and son we should all aspire to become.

Dr. dQ has been everywhere during his three years with us. Each day, he walked the halls, greeting students with a warm welcome and a gentle reminder to tuck their shirts in.



The Class of 2021 dedicated their yearbook to former Principal Dr. Tommy de Quesada shown here with current Principal, Mr. Tim Dee.

With great energy he taught Global Studies, sharing stories which infuse his love of travel and exploration in bringing content alive.

He loved prowling the sidelines, sitting in stands and in bleachers across the state and

region to cheer on Prep's student athletes.

He was present in auditoriums and concert halls proudly watching his students perform.

He traveled to Jamaica in solidarity with Prep students and in service to the orphans at Blessed Assurance.

During our lockdown last spring, he walked our halls each day, keeping our school safe while we were away. He has selflessly given every ounce of himself to Fairfield Prep every single day.

Dr. dQ's time at Prep has been all too brief. However, in just three short years, his inspiration, motivation and dedicated instinct to run to the fire leaves an impact that will last generations.

You will be missed Dr. dQ, but know this — Fairfield Prep is in a better place because of you. You have taught us all valuable lessons, and as you return to Miami, please know that the lifetime of memories and lessons you leave behind will inspire us as we live out the Jesuit mission “running to the fire.”

Mr. Tim Dee, Academic Dean, named succeeding Prep Principal, wrote this 2021 *Hearthstone* yearbook dedication.



Former Principal Dr. Tommy de Quesada with Prep students on a mission trip to Jamaica.



# The Trip of a Lifetime

## Science Teacher Bob Ford Jr. Explores Alaska

**W**hat does an Environmental Science teacher do on summer break? Go on a dream Environmental Science excursion of course. Many years in the making — and delayed one year by COVID — my wife Peggy and I traveled for 18 days in Alaska's natural beauty. These pictures show some of our trip.

Starting top left, hiking above the Lamplugh Glacier in Glacier Bay National Park; top right: a view of the Chugach Mountains from Eagle River, AK; bottom right: a bighorn Dahl sheep horn in Denali National Park; bottom center: avoiding bear attack in Sitka National Historic Park; bottom left: kissing a banana slug for good luck in the Tongass National Forest; and center: Peggy and I leap into the 37 degree waters of Glacier Bay.

We also visited Kenai Fjords National Park and went fly fishing in Willow, AK. We saw moose, grizzly and brown bears, caribou, mountain goats, bald and golden eagles. We observed several different types of salmon heading upstream to spawn and feed — whole ecosystems depend on them to fatten up for winter.

We planned this trip to feel like we did justice to all Alaska has to offer — if we go back, there is still plenty to see — but for now, it was the trip of a lifetime.

Next stop? The Sea of Cortez, what Jacques Cousteau called "the world's aquarium." — *Bob Ford Jr.*





# PREP is Hands-On



## CREATIVITY WINS!

In the last school days, **Matt Murphy '24** created a math version of cornhole for his review project covering major topics in Algebra 1. Each cup corresponded to a different question, grouped by difficulty in color sections – red was the most challenging! Who said Math can't be fun?!



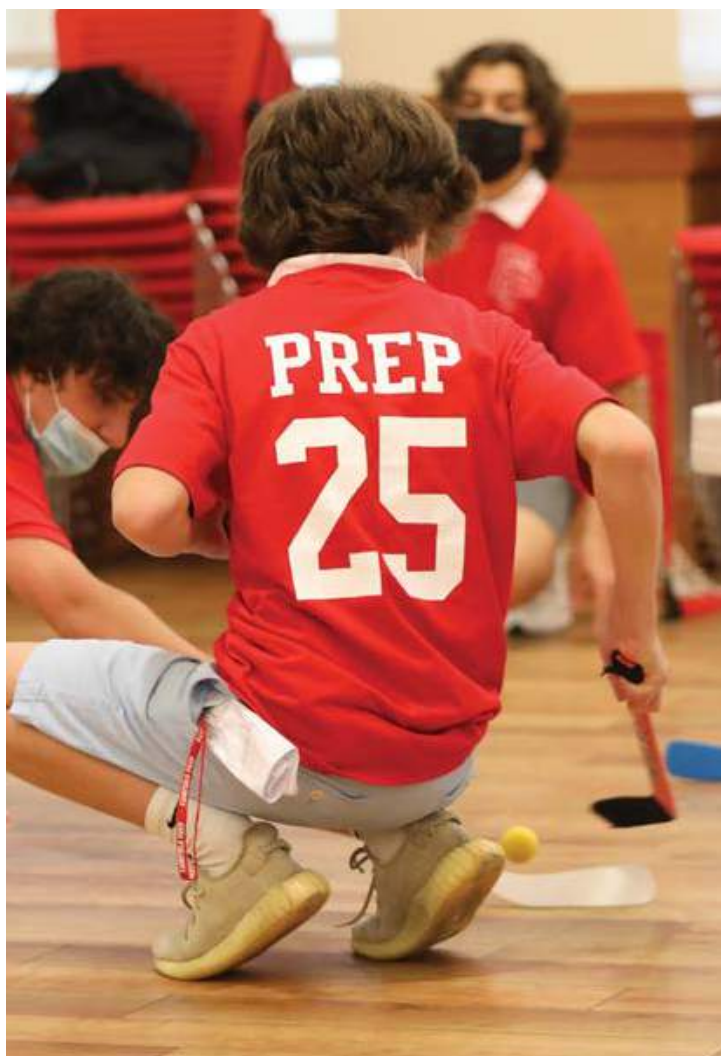
## AP CHEMISTRY STUDENTS GET SHOCKED!

AP Chemistry had a shocking experience in May! Students built their own batteries (Galvanic/voltaic cells) and calculated the voltage produced to finish up their chapter on Electrochemistry.



## ANNUAL EARTH DAY IS CELEBRATED

On Earth Day, April 22, Prep's Chemistry class planted wildflowers on the school campus to benefit our natural environment and ecosystem for the future.



## WELCOMING THE CLASS OF 2025

The Freshman Orientation moved indoors this year due to the weather, but this didn't damper the spirit of the boys who played games and bonded as brothers. Events included a Knee Hockey tournament, Basketball, Cornhole and Ping-Pong.



## Ben Stokes '23 Competes in CT Road Bike Racing

In mid-August, 197 cyclists from across Connecticut gathered at Rentschler Field, East Hartford, to ride their final criterium of the summer. **Ben Stokes**, a junior at Fairfield Prep, rode in the B race, which consisted of 72 riders. He finished second to teammate David Thompson. "It is a different aspect of normal friendship because we get to see each other working really hard, and there's comradery because we have to work together in races," Stokes, 16, said after his race.

The Connecticut Cycling Advancement Program has over 45 programs across the state with various bike events for each season: spring mountain biking, summer on the road, fall cyclocross and winter including a virtual riding program. Stokes, from the TT Endurance team, and his teammates were regulars at the weekly CCAP series at Rentschler Field this summer. He began riding when he was 3 and started competitive bike racing in 2015 with the CCAP Ridgefield Bicycle Company Junior Team. He then trained and raced for years on the CCAP Fairfield County Youth Cycling Team.

"The kids on the TT Endurance team are great kids. They have been riding together through the pandemic, socially distant, and they have scheduled rides with their coach. They ride and they cross train with some breaks all year round," said Monika Stokes, Ben's mother and director of Youth Program Administration for CCAP.

Source: Hartford Courant



Ben Stokes, right, finished second in the Juniors 15-18 race as the Connecticut Cycling Advancement Program criterium series at Rentschler Field in East Hartford concluded.

FAIRFIELD PREP OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED A . . .

# No Place For Hate School

In May 2021, the Connecticut ADL (Anti-Defamation League) officially designated Fairfield College Preparatory School as a 2020-21 **No Place For Hate® School!** Fairfield Prep is one of only eight schools in Connecticut to achieve this designation, accomplishing this during a global pandemic over the past school year.

In a press release, the ADL applauded Fairfield Prep for our commitment to promoting equitable and respectful learning environments, having achieved a No Place for Hate® (NPFH) designation. Prep is one of the first schools in the state to have participated and completed ADL's NPFH program. In the coming year, ADL will be expanding the initiative into a greater number of communities across the region.

The initiative is a school climate improvement program that provides staff, students and their families with a framework to take a stand against all forms of hate and communicate a clear, unified message that all students have a place where they belong.

Ruben Goodwin, Prep's Director of Diversity, led the initiative at Prep. One activity included joining with a group of Fairfield University students in a book club which read a book about hate and inclusion, and joined with Fairfield University students in a live discussion with the author.

No Place for Hate first



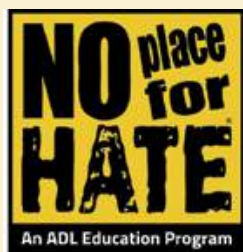
Prep students from the African American Cultural Club (AACC) and Fairfield University's Black Student Union members collaborated to host a virtual campus visit from New York Times Bestselling author Nic Stone. Prep's AACC and the student union participated in a joint book club that culminated in a visit from the "Dear Martin" author. Students were able to listen to Stone's perspective and have a Q&A session with her about the novel.

launched in CT in 2019-20 with a pilot program at Hamden High School. Since the full launch of the program in the Fall of 2020, students, teachers, and administrators from each school completed a series of schoolwide initiatives designed to build more inclusive and equitable communities. As part of their

participation schools were required to form a committee, host a schoolwide pledge signing, and hold at least three activities that involve active learning that focus on recognizing differences and promoting respect.

"At a time when the number of bias incidents in our schools and communities continues to

proliferate, No Place for Hate® provides schools with tools and resources to actively engage the school community and to affect positive social change," said Steve Ginsburg, ADL Connecticut Regional Director.



*"Fairfield Prep is elated to become an official No Place for Hate school. As a Jesuit, Catholic school, we have enjoyed a longstanding relationship with the ADL for over three*

*decades. Our designation as a No Place for Hate school only serves to reinforce our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion to the ends that we foster peace in our world."*

**RUBEN GOODWIN, DIRECTOR OF DIVERSITY**

# Leadership



## LEADERS IN TRAINING

On August 23 and 24, nearly 30 Prep students from across all grade levels gathered to pray, learn, reflect and discuss what it means to be a leader in life. Students also developed personal leadership mission statements. Here are some excerpts:

- *It takes a true leader to make words into actions.*
- *Being in the mindset and having the drive to carry out my leadership mission statement is the most challenging aspect.*
- *A leader doesn't achieve his goals in just a day.*
- *To truly listen is to be present.*
- *A leader serves others.*



# Kairos



JUNIORS

## KAIROS RETURNS!

In the spring, Kairos retreats returned and a group of Juniors and Seniors participated at the Wisdom House in Litchfield. At Kairos, the retreatant learns to see the value of his Christian faith as experienced in community. With the support of that community, he can more effectively find his true worth as a person in relationship with God, his family and his friends.



SENIORS

# A Season of Socially-Distant Service

Despite the ever-changing conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, Fairfield Prep's unwavering dedication and passion for service remains unstoppable.

This past spring, our efforts were committed to taking care of local communities through **beach clean-ups** and **conservation efforts**, established through Prep's recent partnership with NAMEPA, the North American Marine Environment Protection Association.

In addition, Prep students partnered with students from Belen Jesuit in Miami, Florida, to pilot the **first-ever virtual Ecuador service immersion and retreat program** in place of the

standard in-person experience.

Prep hosted collections for **Homes for the Brave**, a Bridgeport organization that provides transitional housing and support for homeless veterans, and **Camp Hope**, a summer program sponsored by the **Center for Family Justice** that serves as a healing opportunity for children who have been physically or sexually abused.

The pandemic restrictions compelled Prep students to find innovative and creative ways to define service and act as Men for Others. While not all of these service opportunities were hosted in person, they were meaningful experiences.



## Beach Cleanup at Stratford Point

In an effort to do their part caring for our common environment, Prep students worked with local nonprofit (NAMEPA) North American Marine Environment Protection Association to collect 64 lbs. of garbage at Audubon Connecticut at Stratford Point.



# First-Ever Virtual Ecuador Service Immersion and Retreat Program

Prep students took part in a virtual service experience with Belen Jesuit Preparatory School in late March. Here are excerpts from some of the testimonials following their service experience.

“ Although we were all online during the retreat, I was able to make new friends with students out of state and across the country. I am thrilled to have learned new information and strategies from the Jesuit community. I am thankful to have heard many great presentations that have helped me become a better person. Because of this retreat I am now more open to the people around me in my life and community. ”

“ What I took away from this experience was the difference between long-term and short-term service. Providing someone with food for a day is a temporary solution — it won't last forever — compared to a long term solution like providing a job or housing for a person. ”

“ I learned about service to others and how you can make a difference — no matter how insignificant it may seem. You can change someone's life forever if you are willing to try. ”

“ Over the course of the retreat I learned how impactful our service hours are. They are not simply a school requirement but a strong pillar that helps to support those in need. ”

“ Initially, I only wanted this experience because I was in desperate need of service hours. However, I gained much more than that. Caring for the elderly is something that I have come to take interest in. I had never considered how lonely elderly people are due to societal neglect. I also learned to walk with the people you are serving. Sure, it is great to donate or buy someone food, but compassionately listening to the people you are serving will give the fulfillment we need, and more importantly, the connection and sympathy they need. ”



## Spikeball Mania!

To benefit the work of Full Court Peace, Prepsters competed in a Spikeball tournament on McAuliffe Hill. Congratulations to "The Hitmen" who won plus all the teams who helped raise funds to aid others in our local communities!

# MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



Photo Credit: Joni Medzadourian of Fairfield University

## Church in the Quad

On September 10, Fairfield Prep celebrated its annual Mass of the Holy Spirit which marks the beginning of the academic year. The Mass is a tradition among Jesuit academic institutions dating to 1548, in which the community gathers to thank God for the gifts of creation and salvation, and to seek the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit in the coming year. Mass was celebrated in the Pelletier Quad with the entire student body. The Principal Celebrant and homilist was Fr. Ron Perry, S.J. Concelebrants: Paul Holland, S.J., Brian Konzman, S.J., and Fr. John Mulreany, S.J. Dr. Donna Andrade was honored with the Rev. Martin G. Shaughnessy Ignatian Educator of the Year Award.





*President Christian Cashman presents the award to Dr. Donna Andrade.*

## Dr. Donna Andrade Named Ignatian Educator of the Year

At the Mass of the Holy Spirit, the Prep Community recognized **Dr. Donna Andrade**, Director of Mission & Ministry, with the Rev. Martin G. Shaughnessy, S.J., Ignatian Educator of the Year Award. Dr. Andrade was nominated by her peers for her guidance with and for students on their formational journeys in a Jesuit school. The "Ignatian Educator" engages in ongoing personal, professional and religious development in order to sustain a vibrant community committed to the mission of Jesuit education.

Following are excerpts taken from nominations, testament to why students and colleagues are inspired by Dr. Andrade's professionalism, dedication and leadership.

- Donna fulfills all of the characteristics of an Ignatian Educator - directly and indirectly - and inspires all around her to do the same. She inspires by her faith in action and by her tireless work, enormous energy, remarkable creativity and giving spirit. She helps students to be conscious of their well-rounded growth as Men for Others - challenging them to be their best selves always. She sets the standard in valuing students as individuals, and she treats them with empathy. Donna teaches in the classroom of life, interacting with Prep teachers to challenge them directly and by her inspiration - affects the lives of Prep students as Ignatian learners. As a figure in Jesuit education worldwide, she collaborates with educators in and beyond the school community to enrich teaching and learning.
- Donna offers her gifts to the Prep community so very generously - and in doing so, models Ignatian Pedagogy perfectly. As Donna prepares and presents programs to the faculty, students and to the parent community she models the interplay of experience, reflection and action, and challenges those she is leading to do the same. In steering the Call to Action Donna has guided inquiry into subject matter for an awareness and a deeper understanding of significant justice issues and complex values that calls our community to action.
- Perhaps Donna's strongest area of contribution is her deep understanding of community and its importance. She is an insightful and extraordinary planner - always looking to challenge all around her to deeper and fuller understanding of and involvement in Prep's mission. She has guided many to the Leadership Seminars, encouraged many to attend symposia and colloquia and in doing so she has encouraged Ignatian values to grow in all areas of life at Prep. Donna works in partnership with Jesuit and lay colleagues on campus, regionally, nationwide and worldwide in planning the educational and formational program to ensure the future of Jesuit education. She recognizes and works to overcome prejudices that impede the building of an Ignatian learning community, and inspires students and colleagues to collaborate with others in seeking the greater good for all.
- Donna has given voice to Ignatian values with grace and enthusiasm for decades. Her ability to animate our Ignatian vision has encouraged it to grow ever stronger. Donna shares and helps to shape the school's vision and mission. Her thumbprint is on so many seminal documents and Ignatian movements past and present, and her efforts ensure the continual renewal of the institution. Donna values her work as a vocation to the ministry of teaching and works to promote a faith that does justice
- Donna Andrade is an "Ignatian Visionary." She has played a huge role in moving Prep forward in Ignatian growth and her impact is visible everywhere on the Prep campus and in the community. Donna is a most extraordinary representative of the ideals of the Profile of and of the characteristics of an Ignatian Educator.

Congratulations to Donna Andrade as this year's Rev. Martin G. Shaughnessy Ignatian Educator of the Year honoree. +AMDG



# BUILDING BROTHERHOOD



## Bowling Club Takes 2nd in County

Way to go Prep Bowling Club! The team capped off a great season by finishing second in Fairfield County. The team hopes to have a chance at states next year. Many thanks to Mr. Whalen and Ms. Tiberi for coaching the team this season.



## NYCBOYZ ARE UNDEFEATED

The 2021 Intramural Flag Football Season concluded with another undefeated squad earning their t-shirts on The Hill! The NYCBoyz saved their closest game for the Championship vs. the Ringys, but ultimately could not be stopped on their quest for immortality. NYCBoyz are the 2nd team in intramural history to go undefeated in Flag Football.

## WORK HARD, PLAY HARDER

**Spring Field Day** was a great success and a way to spend time with Prep brothers! The guys enjoyed Basketball, Flag Football, Spikeball, Can Jam, Ping-Pong, Table and Video Games, plus a food truck!





## Students De-Stress At Wellness Fair

Yoga? Therapy dog? Stress reduction? Healthy habits? At the Prep Wellness Fair students participated in and learned tips to help their busy lives. Special thanks to the Fairfield University Nursing School for partnering on this great event!



## SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT THE ACTIVITIES FAIR

In the spring, Fairfield Prep students gathered in the Quad outdoors for the Activities Fair. Prep offers a large variety of clubs and activities, including "Jesubots" robotics club, the Prep Players theatre group, chess, intramurals and more!



## 'WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES' ACROSS FAIRFIELD U. CAMPUS

On April 20, dozens of Fairfield Prep students gathered in the Pelletier Quad for a "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event. The event focused on raising awareness about domestic abuse against women and children, and was sponsored by The Center for Family Justice. The students walked from the Prep Quad through the Fairfield University campus to Egan Chapel and back.



## Reflecting on the Outdoor Spring Concert

# Prep Gets Back to the Music

While reflecting on the pandemic year, it is easy to focus on the disruptions and missed traditions. Instead I'd like to focus on how the music students experienced moments of grace culminating — for the first time — in an Outdoor Spring Concert on the side of Arrupe Hall.

Producing a full hour-and-a-half concert in the open air was not easy. It would be a challenge, but one that would be worth it! There were so many concerns: How big should the stage be? How will the sound work with cars driving by on North Benson Road? Will the sheet music blow away? What styles of music will be well-received both in-person and through livestream?

At dress rehearsals, our questions were answered and our fears calmed because **all**

**students had a chance to rehearse together for the first time that year.** Prep President, Mr. Christian Cashman, accompanied the choir on piano and the look on everyone's face was one of joy and gratitude. We were outside in the parking lot, but it felt "normal!"

The theme for the concert was **"Back to the Music."** The goal during the semester was to challenge the student musicians in as many ways as possible and get **"Back to the Music."** Performing music and being present with others has been a grace-filled gift this past year.

The performance of the repertoire was truly a testament to their hard work, dedication, and passion for music. The concert included performances from all the ensembles available at Prep. Some of the highlights include the Jazzuits' performance of *I Wish* by Stevie

Wonder, the Blues Band's performance of *Get Lucky* by Daft Punk, the Select Choir's Performance of *Do You Hear The People Sing* from *Les Misérables*, the String Orchestra's performance of music from *Hamilton*, and the combined band's performance of *Carpe Diem* and *Capstone*.

I sincerely thank my colleagues, Megan Hoover and Bob Fosse-Previs, in the Visual and Performing Arts Department, and Prep's administration for their support in the planning and execution of Prep's Outdoor Spring Concert. Without the support of



everyone, this wonderful and grace-filled event would never have happened. Go Prep!

By **Daniel J. Horstmann**, Director of Music



Watch video highlights on the Prep YouTube channel  
**YOUTUBE.COM/FAIRFIELDPREP1**



*The Prep Players performed a scene from "Little Shop of Horrors."*

## Arts & Ideas Showcase

The Arts & Ideas Showcase held on April 26 was a tremendous display of talent from Fairfield Prep musicians, fine artists, stage performers and creative writers. Students moved indoors and outdoors throughout campus to view fine visual arts created by students, hear a reading by the winner of the creative writing contest, and watch performances by Prep musical ensembles and the Prep Players (with a sneak peak performance of the spring musical "Little Shop of Horrors"). Bravo!



*Prep's art classes displayed original works created by students.*



### PREP JAZZUITS PERFORM AT PARADE

After many decades, the **Fairfield Prep Jazzuits** once again performed in the Fairfield Memorial Day Parade! The band traveled on a Fairfield Prep float, playing both patriotic and classic jazz tunes. The look on not only the students' faces, but also the community members along the route, was one of joy and excitement. The Jazzuits were well-received and we plan to be in the parade again next year!



*Finalists in the Writing Royale competition read their essays.*



*Prep's String Orchestra played music from Broadway's "Hamilton."*



In the spring, the Fairfield Prep Players theatre group put on its first live production since the fall of 2019. The theatre group performed *Little Shop of Horrors* in the Pelletier Quad — the outdoor performance also being a first — to a live audience from May 13-15. At right is a reflection about the experience by Theatre Director Megan Hoover.



Watch video highlights on the Prep YouTube channel  
**[YOUTUBE.COM/FAIRFIELDPREP1](https://www.youtube.com/fairfieldprep1)**

Reflecting on “Little Shop of Horrors”

# Unexpected Gifts

We spent a lot of time this year talking about the unexpected gifts of the pandemic — how the adapting and reimagining we had to do often brought new life to our work. For Prep Players, being forced to find new ways to make theatre certainly did just that.

Moving a full musical production out of doors was no easy feat. We knew it would be a special challenge to bring the technical elements to life; our approach to lights, sound, and set had to be fundamentally different from what it would have been indoors, and we adjusted accordingly.

The unexpected gifts in mounting our spring production of *Little Shop of Horrors* came in the less obvious ways it forced us to be creative. Outside in the Quad, we had none of the familiar amenities of our indoor theatre spaces. There was no red curtain to hide behind; there were no walls to enclose us in a true blackout. How, then, could we get our actors onto the stage, carry out a basic scene change, or roll out an eight-foot, man-eating-plant puppet without spoiling the sight gag?

The Prep Players, always willing to take a leap, explored and experimented together, and their inventiveness led to some of my favorite simple moments. The world we created encompassed more than the skid row flower shop tucked



into the corner between Arrupe and Berchmans. It extended beyond to include the way these characters moved within their world, wheeled in a chair, or brought on a telephone. As much as we invested in resources to bring this production outdoors, the students invested just as much in resourcefulness to bring it all to life.

When it all came together on opening night, the energy in the Quad was yet another unexpected gift. We were reminded of how

vital it is to participate in a shared experience; to hear Mr. Cashman or Mrs. Clark laugh and laugh louder as a result; to join one another on our feet for an ovation; to have an actor look right in our direction and acknowledge it. We had been hungrier for it than we perhaps had even realized. So many people came up to me that week to

thank me for the first live theatre they had seen in over a year. What an honor and a gift for us to have been a part of its return.



By **Megan Hoover**, Theatre Director and Chair of the Visual & Performing Arts department



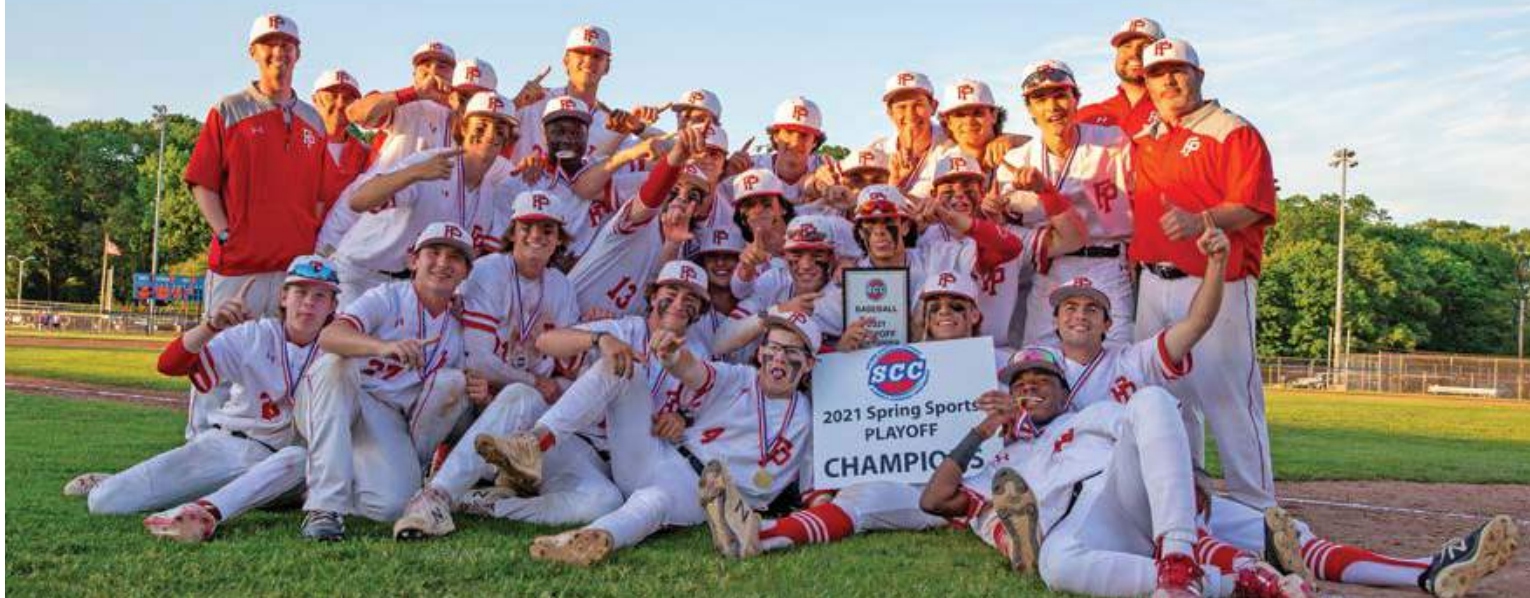
Congratulations to the Prep Players who gained 13 Halo nominations and won two Halo Awards: **Best Classical Musical – Fairfield Prep Little Shop of Horrors** and **Best Performance by a Leading Actress in a Classical Musical – Jenny Silence as Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors** (pictured right). Special recognitions were also named: **No Small Parts Award – Spencer Spellane as Bertstein/Mrs. Luce/Skip Snip in Little Shop of Horrors** and **Student Directors – Will Gualtiere and Jack Colabella for ‘Check, Please!’** Bravo to the Prep cast, crew and directors!





Baseball, Lacrosse and Golf Have Stellar Seasons

## Prep Sports SCC Triple Crown



### Baseball Wins 2nd SCC Championship

The 2021 Fairfield Prep Baseball Jesuits were grateful to get on the field and determined to leave their mark at Fairfield Prep. Led by strong performances on the mound by Seniors **Jack Bowery '21**, **Davis Wallon '21** and **Jonathon Fallacaro '21** and record setting season at the plate from **Matt Sawyer '21** the Jesuits finished the regular season with a record of 15-3 earning the team the #3 Seed in both the SCC and CIAC LL tournaments, while also winning the program's second SCC Baseball Tournament title.

The Jesuits opened the SCC tournament with a thrilling come from behind victory over Amity. Trailing 5-1 in the bottom of the fourth inning **Pierce Cowles '23** hit a grand slam to right to tie the game at five. The Jesuits fell behind after Amity scored a run in the top of the sixth. The Jesuits loaded the bases with two outs in the bottom of the inning where **Joe D'Elia '22** drove in the tying and go ahead runs with a single to put the Jesuits in the lead for good. **Davis Wallon '21** closed the door on Amity in the seventh with a 1-2-3 inning sending the Jesuits to the SCC Semifinal. The Jesuits then traveled to Hamden where a fifteen hit attack and great performances on the mound by **Davis Wallon '21**, **Ryan Preisano**

#### BASEBALL HONORS

- **Matt Sawyer '21:** All-SCC First Team, CHSCA All-State, CHSCA Academic All-State, Gametime CT All-State, CHSCA District II Senior All-Star
- **Jack Arcamone '21:** All-SCC Second Team, CHSCA All-State
- **Jack Bowery '21:** All-SCC First Team
- **Davis Wallon '21:** All-SCC First Team
- **Michael Coyne '22:** CHSCA Junior All-Star
- **Joe D'Elia '22:** All-SCC Second Team, CHSCA Junior All-Star
- **Matt Flynn '21:** Southern Connecticut Diamond Club, No 1 in Team Award Recipient
- **Tim Pearson '22:** All-SCC Second Team

**'23** and **Jonathon Fallacaro '21** resulted in a 12-2 victory landing the Jesuits in their fifth SCC final in school history where they would meet West Haven. The Jesuits took the lead with a run in the first, and put the game out of reach in the fifth on a bases-loaded triple by **Jacob Strazza '21**. **Jack Bowery '21** pitched five strong innings and

**Grady Golier '22** came on with one out in the fifth and when he struck out his fifth batter of the outing, the Jesuits were crowned SCC Baseball Tournament Champions.

After securing the SCC Championship the Jesuits hosted Fairfield Ludlowe. **Jack Bowery '21** and **Davis Wallon '21** held Ludlowe to one run. Trailing by one going into the sixth the Jesuits tied the game on a sacrifice fly by **Jack Arcamone '22** which scored **Michael Coyne '22**. The Jesuits won the game in the seventh on a base hit to centerfield by **Tim Pearson '22** which scored **Jacob Strazza '21**. The Jesuits' season came to an end with an 11-10 loss to Westhill of Stamford.

The Jesuits ended the season with a record of 19-4, an SCC Championship and ranked #10 in the Final New Haven Register/Gametime CT Baseball Poll. The season was a great success. All of this was possible because of the leadership of our Senior class. The Class of 2021 demonstrated to all the importance of hard work and determination



and their welcoming attitude made being part of the team a special experience for all.

**Rudy Mauritz '94**, Head Baseball Coach, Asst. Hockey Coach, Social Studies

# Lacrosse Wins 5th Straight SCC Championship



The 2021 Fairfield Prep Lacrosse team finished the season 17-5, winning their 5th straight SCC Championship and playing in the CIAC State Championship game for the first time since 2013. The Jesuits were led on the field by team captains **Kyle Colucci**, **Aidan Derby**, **Brendan Dunleavy** and **Mason Whitney**. After starting the season 2-2 the team went on to win 10 of its next 11 games before losing 8-6 to Wilton in the regular season final. The postseason began with the Jesuits winning their fifth straight SCC Tournament Championship by defeating Daniel Hand 8-5. The 8th seeded Jesuits then went on a strong run in the playoffs by defeating #9 Greenwich 9-8 in the 1st round game on Marco Firmender's '23 buzzer beating goal.

In the quarterfinals the team faced #1 seeded Darien and defeated them 14-10. **Sam Cargill '21** led an incredible defensive effort while midfielders **Kyle Stevenson '21**, **Peter Grandolfo '23** and **Marco Firmender '23** combined for 10 goals on the day. The semifinal was a rematch of the season-ending loss to Wilton, and the Jesuits jumped out to an early 5-1 lead that resulted in a 14-5 victory. The defense once again was led by **Sam Cargill '21**, **Brendan Howard '21**, **Kyle Colucci '21** and **Mason Whitney '21**.

The Jesuits ultimately lost a tough 8-5 game in the State Championship but showed great heart and teamwork throughout the impressive postseason run and will only graduate 10 seniors and return 30 players from the 2021 playoff roster.

## LACROSSE HONORS

- **Mason Whitney '21**: All-SCC First Team, SCC Player of the Year, 1st Team Class L All-State, 1st Team GametimeCT All-State, US Lacrosse All American
- **Aidan Derby '21**: All-SCC Second Team, 2nd Team Class L All-State
- **Ted Bednar '22**: All-SCC Second Team
- **Marco Firmender '23**: All-SCC First Team, 1st Team Class L All-State, 1st Team GametimeCT All-State
- **Sam Cargill '21**: All-SCC Second Team
- **Kyle Colucci '21**: All-SCC Second Team
- **Peter Grandolfo '23**: All-SCC First Team, Honorable Mention GametimeCT All-State 1st Team Class L All-State
- **Kyle Stevenson '21**: All SCC First Team
- **Tim Shannehan '24**: All-SCC First Team, Honorable Mention GametimeCT All-State, 1st Team Class L All State
- **Zach Conn '21**: US Lacrosse Academic All American
- **Graham Niemi**: Class L Coach of the Year, US Lacrosse CT Coach of the Year
- **Cooper Callahan '24**: All-SCC First Team, 2nd Team Class L All-State

# Golf Team Wins SCC and Division 1 State Championships



## GOLF HONORS

- **Will Huntington '23**: All-SCC, CHSCA All-State, GametimeCT All-State 1st Team, NH Register All-Area Team
- **Mike Rothberg '22**: All-SCC, NH Register All-Area Team
- **Charlie Duffy '22**: All SCC
- **Bob Bernier**: NH Register All-Area Coach of the Year

Fairfield Prep won the SCC (Southern Connecticut Conference) championship, defeating Daniel Hand HS (Madison) by a single shot, 323-324 on May 24 at Race Brook CC. Leading the way for

Prep were **Mike Rothberg** (78), **Charlie Duffy** (80), **Will Huntington** (81) and **Jack Gifford** (84). For their efforts, **Rothberg**, **Duffy** and **Huntington** were named to the All-SCC team. Fairfield Prep also captured the

Division 1 State Championship on June 7 at Tallwood CC (Hebron, CT) with a team score of 296 (+8). It was Prep's 6th state championship and its first in 26 years. **Will Huntington** carded an even-par round 72,

followed by **Charlie Duffy** (73), **Mike Rothberg** (75) and **Mark Valus** (76). Conard HS (West Hartford) finished second with a score of 300 (+12), followed by Glastonbury (301) in third place and Darien (304) finished fourth.



## Crew

Fairfield Prep Crew made the 2021 spring season one to remember! The Jesuits opened their season with a signature win against the Kent School. Three Prep boats took to the Housatonic River in Kent under ideal conditions and turned in a clean sweep of Kent. All three eights rowed with precision and poise and took down the oldest scholastic rowing program in the country. The Jesuits continued the tradition of racing again in the Kulaga Cup against Brunswick School in memory of Prep rower **Joey Kulaga '19**. As always the event provided great competition and a great cause. In lieu of the New England Interscholastic Rowing Association Championships which were canceled due to COVID, the Jesuits competed in the SRAA National Championship in Philadelphia. Fellow Jesuit schools Gonzaga, Belen, BC High, St. Ignatius (OH) as well as multiple Washington D.C. and mid-Atlantic programs participated.

Led by freshman cox **Corey Guilfoyle** the crew conserved energy in the preliminary heat with an efficient 3rd place finish and advanced to the Friday afternoon repechage. All but last place in the repechage would advance to the semi-final Saturday morning. Captains **George Elias** and **Chris Hill** kept the crew calm and focused as they advanced into the semi-final with another 3rd place finish.

A quick start by the officials left the Prep boat behind a few seats at the start to eventual champions St. Alban's School (D.C.) but the senior leadership of **Elias**, **Collin Rydecki**, **Connor McNichols** and **Hill** stayed calm and the boat stormed back in contention; pulling even with the field by the half way mark. Powerhouse juniors **Nathaniel Duffy** and **Jack Mullen** and **Cameron Petrelli** would not be denied as they continued the charge to the finish line. Needing every inch of the race course to prevail, the men of Prep surged to the line and beat out fellow Jesuits Belen for the 3rd place finish and a spot in the Grand Final.

Taking the 6 boats to make the Grand Final and their times in the semifinals, Fairfield Prep placed 4th behind St. Albans, Gonzaga and Bethesda-Chevy Chase, making Prep the top scholastic eight in the Northeast and 4th in the country.

Captains **Elias** and **Hill** passed the baton to the 2021-22 Captains seniors **Nathaniel Duffy**, **James McGarry** and **Jack Mullen**.

## Outdoor Track & Field

The 2021 Fairfield Prep outdoor track team experienced record sign-ups and participation levels with many freshmen and first time runners. During the course of the season there were many record setting individual and team accomplishments. The Jesuits took 2nd place at the SCC West Sectional meet and followed that up with a 4th place finish at the SCC Championship.

At the CIAC Class LL State Championship, Prep senior **Azaan Dawson** finished 2nd in the 1600m run, setting a new school record of 4:12, eclipsing the mark set by **Christian Alvarado** in 2014. Senior **Darren Blount** ran to a 2nd place finish in the 100m run, with fellow senior **Joshua Bacon** taking 3rd place in the long jump with a mark of 21-08. The team finished in 8th place out of 22 teams.

The State Open meet would be the last event for our senior team members and again **Azaan Dawson** turned in a Prep record running a 1:52.08 in the 800m championship finishing 3rd in the state. In addition to **Dawson**, **Joshua Bacon** finished 4th in the state in the long jump helping our team to finish among the top half of the state. Many fine young men contributed to this extraordinary year including senior captain **Caleb Bolden** (Harvard Univ.), **Charles Scholl** (St Joseph Univ.), **Joshua Bacon** (St Joseph Univ.), **Darren Blount** (Southern CT State Univ.) and **Azaan Dawson** (Virginia Tech Univ.).

## Rugby

The Fairfield Prep Rugby program experienced a great spring season, fielding three teams with large rosters and plenty of competition. Seniors **Matt Delach**, **Tom Ganim**, **Ian Hanna**, **Colin MacNeill**, **Joshua Pianto**, **Tino Rugani**, **Matt Scully**, **Henry Tiernan**, **Patrick Tiernan** and **Trevayne Whyte** guided the program after missing the 2019-20 season. The Jesuits will look to reload next year and compete in the CT Rugby Conference with plenty of underclassmen ready to step up.

## Sailing

The Fairfield Prep Sailing program turned in another successful spring at Pequot Yacht Club racing in the Fairfield County Sailing League. The Jesuits had great success against neighboring high schools. The MVP of the team was senior **Will Donovan** while the Coaches' Award went to **Ryan Costikyan**.

## Tennis

The Fairfield Prep Tennis team had another strong season finishing with a 10-6 regular season record and advancing to the SCC semifinals. The Jesuits split regular season matches against rivals Guilford and Amity while sweeping fellow SCC Catholic rivals Xavier and ND West Haven. The Jesuits were led all season by senior captain **Charlie Youngs** and received contributions from sophomores **Vishnu Kumar**, **Brando Savi**, **Harrison Lent**, **Matthew Kelly**, **Charlie Wiele**, **Robbie Donahue**, **Brady Day**, **Jason Gong** and **Thomas Nardone**. Juniors **Matthew Marsden** and **Bobby Rotondo** were also mainstays in the lineup for the Jesuits who will return a strong squad next year. Head Coach **Harold Prather** was named the SCC Coach of the Year.



Prep Head Basketball Coach Writes a Book on His Transformative Journey

# Turning Trauma Into Triumph

Prep basketball coach **Mike Papale** recently published a memoir, *A Big Heart*, about his journey living with heart disease. As a teen, Coach Papale had one dream: to play college basketball. He was laser-focused—training like an Olympic hopeful to make his dream reality. Out of nowhere, his world changed. August 24, 2006, while coaching a summer camp basketball game, he slumped over, unresponsive, turning blue within minutes. He was 17, and had gone into cardiac arrest. With no AED (Automated External Defibrillator) on site, he was given a one in a million chance to survive.

He was soon diagnosed with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy, or HCM, which, left undiagnosed and untreated, can lead to sudden cardiac arrest. At the time, he was crushed—processing the life-altering news he would never be able to play competitive basketball again. He quickly realized he was fortunate to be alive, and redefined his life's purpose.

In 2016 he founded *In A Heartbeat*, a nonprofit organization with the mission to prevent death from sudden cardiac arrest. *In A Heartbeat* donates AEDs, provides CPR & AED training, raises money for research, supports patients, and offers free electrocardiograms (ECGs) to children, teens, and young adults.

Coach Papale's book, *A Big Heart*, brings the reader on Mike's story of reinvention, hope, and survival. It is guaranteed to inspire readers to battle adversity and attack their dreams!



## 'In A Heartbeat' Giving:

- \$35,000+ donated for research
- Trained over 2,000 people in CPR and in how to use an AED
- Given over 1,500 free ECGs
- Donated over 185 AEDs
- Supported patients all over the world
- 15% of the sales from *A Big Heart* benefit *In A Heartbeat*
- Learn more: [inaheartbeat.org](http://inaheartbeat.org)



Top: In A Heartbeat raised \$10,000 for the Tufts Medical Center.

Above: Coach Papale's In A Heartbeat foundation donates a AED to the Prep Sports Department. Accepting is Athletic Director Tom Curran '06.



Coach Papale coaching the Prep Jesuits basketball team



# The Boys Are Back in Town!



## Classes of 1970 and 1971 Celebrate 50th Reunion

Prep classes of 1970 and 1971 returned to campus to celebrate their 50th class reunion milestone on Saturday, June 5. The evening consisted of a Mass in the new McLeod Innovation Center celebrated by **Msgr. Andy Varga '70**, followed by cocktails and dinner in the Pelletier Quad. Members of these jubilee classes renewed and celebrated lifelong friendships in this great event for the Prep Brotherhood. Several alumni from this class and other classes also enjoyed rounds of golf during Prep's annual Golf Outing on Friday, June 4.





# Legends Do Lunch



## Alumni Enjoy 'Legends Luncheon' Reunion

Members of Fairfield Prep classes from **1945 to 1966** returned to campus to celebrate their class

reunion at a "Legends Lunch" hosted on Sunday, June 6. Approximately 80 alumni and their guests reconnected and reminisced with lifelong friends in the McLeod Innovation Center on the Prep Campus. The Prep Brotherhood is still strong and thriving!





## Fairfield Prep Golf Outing at Great River Golf Club

# Playing Around

More than 135 alumni, parents and friends of Fairfield Prep enjoyed a great day of golf at Great River Golf Club in Milford on June 4 to support Prep's scholarship fund in honor of former head golf coach and past Athletic Hall of Fame recipient, **Roger Ratchford '51**. Special thanks to the tournament committee chaired by **Alex Oracheff '94**, and committee members **Greg Chiota '93**, **Kevin Foley '73**, **Matt Gifford '92, P'22**, **Kevin Kozlowski '99**, **Kevin McQuade '73**, **Rob Weiss '09**. Special thanks to **Shawn McDonnell '72** who helped at the event. Also thanks to **Curran Volkswagen** in Stratford, CT – **Chris '77** and **Jim '78** for our Hole in One contest. The tournament was set up as a shamble and offered breakfast, lunch and reception afterward.





## 2020-2021 FAIRFIELD PREP ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

# Honoring the Achievements of Prep Giants



On June 4, 2021, Fairfield Prep welcomed five individuals and one championship team into the school's Athletic Hall of Fame in a special ceremony with family, friends, teammates and coaches held in the

Student Life Center. **Rev. Eugene Brissette, S.J., Matt Merullo '83, Jack O'Connell '51, Rob Rotanz '08, Peter Tolk '86** and the **1969 Football Team** were inducted into the 2020/21 Fairfield Prep Athletic Hall of Fame.

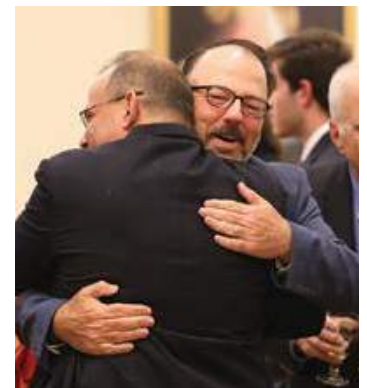
The Inductees were originally to be honored in 2020, but the ceremony was postponed a year due to the global pandemic. The inductees were recognized with a tribute video recounting their tremendous athletic accomplishments and contributions. The honorees then accepted their awards and spoke about their Fairfield Prep experience. Prep Teacher/Coach **Tom Shea '73** spoke on behalf of the late Fr. Eugene Brissette, S.J., sharing stories of his impact on the football program. Football Captain **David Lincoln '70** accepted the award on behalf of the 1969 Championship Football team. The evening offered a great opportunity to reminisce about some of Prep's great sports legends and moments. Go Prep!



*Prep legends Emil Garofalo '45 and Bill Lavery '55*



*Traug Keller '78, Master of Ceremonies*



*Happy Reunions*

# THE 2020-2021 HONOREES



Jack O'Connell '51 accepts the award from Prep President Christian Cashman

## JACK O'CONNELL '51



One of the best playmakers of his era, Jack O'Connell was a three-year basketball starter for coach Fella Gintoff. He was named team captain for his senior season, was a first-team all District (Bridgeport, Stratford and Fairfield) selection and finished third among all scoring leaders at 15 points per game. The Jesuits went 34-13 in O'Connell's three varsity seasons and he was named to Prep's All-Decade Team (1942-1951). After graduation, O'Connell starred at Fairfield University, where he started for four seasons and compiled 1,016 career points, averaging 20.6 per game. He captained the Stags his senior season.



Jack O'Connell '51 (center) and family



Tom Shea '73 accepted the award on Fr. Brissette's behalf



## REV. EUGENE BRISSETTE, S.J.

Perhaps no one was more visible for more seasons on the sideline than the Rev. Eugene Brissette.

Fr. Brissette was a teacher and administrator at Fairfield Prep from 1956-1992, but he also served as chaplain for the football team during the tenure of both AHOF coaches: the late Joe

Brosley and the late Earl Lavery.

Illness forced Fr. Brissette to the sidelines in the early 1990s and he passed away after a long illness in 2002. The school honored his memory by naming its new athletic center after him.



Matt was joined by his family and by (shown above) Prep classmates and friends.



## MATT MERULLO '83

Matt Merullo was a talented quarterback for Prep in the early 1980s, but his true calling came on the baseball diamond.

He starred behind the plate for the Jesuits, wielding a dangerous bat as well as a strong throwing arm. He was offered a scholarship to North Carolina, where he continued to excel and wound up being drafted by the Chicago White Sox in 1986.

Merullo played parts of six seasons with the White Sox, Indians and Twins, compiling a lifetime .234 batting average with seven home runs and 34 RBI in 223 games. His best season was in 1991 with Chicago, when he hit .229 with five round-trippers and 23 RBI in 80 games.

Continued on next page >

# THE 2020-2021 HONOREES CONTINUED



Peter was joined by his family, including brother Josh Tolk '85.



## PETER TOLK '86

Peter Tolk was another of those gifted athletes who made their mark in more than one sport for Fairfield Prep.

As a football player, Tolk was a three-year starter at linebacker and was an all-league and all-state choice in his senior season.

But Tolk's forte was wrestling, a sport still in its halcyon days at Prep. But Tolk helped bring it to the forefront. Often competing against much heavier competition in terms of weight class, Tolk was a two-time Class LL state champion and a three-time Class LL finalist. After graduation, he wrestled for four seasons at Franklin & Marshall and was the team captain his senior year.



Rob was joined by his family, including brother Brendan Rotanz '10.



## ROB ROTANZ '08

Fairfield Prep lacrosse took a major step into elite status in Connecticut thanks to the talents of athletes like Rob Rotanz.

The midfielder was a part of Prep's first three of four consecutive Class L state championships. He compiled career marks of 153 goals and 67 assists, including 51 goals and 18 assists in his senior season. He earned a scholarship to Duke University, where he helped the Blue Devils win the 2010 NCAA championship.



## 1969 FOOTBALL TEAM

The 1969 football team was the fifth undefeated and untied team in school history and the second 10-0 squad coached by late Prep Athletic Hall of Fame coach Earl Lavery.

"To win takes a complete commitment of mind and body," Lavery was quoted as saying. "When you don't have the desire to make that commitment, they don't call you

champ any more."

That team backed Lavery's words, rolling to Prep's fifth consecutive MBIAC title and winning by two touchdowns or better in all but one game, a nail-biting 6-0 triumph over then-arch rival Law in Milford in Week 4.

Led by junior quarterback Chuck Lemieux, all-MBIAC center and co-captain Dave Lincoln, all-MBIAC running back and



L to r: Dave Lincoln '70, John Rounds '70, Tom Roche '70, Greg Barron '71, Dave O'Connor '70, and John Ramos '70

co-captain Pete Brawley, all-league fullback Greg Gintoff, speedy running back Paul Mitchell, and ends John Ramos and Tim Burns, the Jesuits outscored the opposition 290-56. The defense, anchored by all-MBIAC nose guard Walter Welch and tackles Rich Ryan and Ken Pruzinsky, posted five straight shutouts to start the season and six overall.



Macklin Berry, James Roach '50



Ryan Carroll, Sean Carroll '17



Art Gravanis '85, Ted Gravanis



William Hansen, Kristopher Hansen '87

## CLASS OF 2021 LEGACY FAMILIES

# A Prep Pedigree

Alumni fathers, grandfathers, brothers and graduating seniors gathered after the Baccalaureate Mass on May 27, 2021, for family legacy photos.

### Anthony Bartiromo

Vincent Bartiromo '18, Brother

### Macklin Berry

James Roach '50, Grandparent

Aidan Berry '22, Brother

### Thomas Brennan

Michael Brennan '17, Brother

### Matthew Browne

Patrick Browne '18, Brother

### Samuel Cargill

† Harris Russell '52, Grandparent

### Ryan Carroll

Sean Carroll '17, Brother

### Abdulah Chaudhry

Shahzaib Chaudhry '19, Brother

Karum Chaudhry '22, Brother

### Griffin Coffey

Flynn Coffey '19, Brother

Riley Coffey '23, Brother

### Ian Connelly

† Paul Connelly '48, Grandfather

Shaun Connelly '15, Brother

### William Coolidge

William Devine '47, Grandfather

Colin Coolidge '87, Father

### Terence Falvey

Timothy Falvey '14, Brother

Patrick Falvey '18, Brother

### Ted Gravanis

Art Gravanis '85, Father

### Javier Gil

Santiago Gil '19, Brother

Inigo Gil '23, Brother

### William Hansen

Kristopher Hansen '87, Father

### Christopher Hill

Harry Hill '58, Grandfather

### Brendan Howard

John Howard '19, Brother

Kevin Howard '22, Brother

### William Iacono

Jack Iacono '18, Brother

Charles Iacono '24, Brother

### Richard Kral

Richard Kral '57, Grandfather

Richard Kral '82, Father

Andrew Kral '23, Brother

### Garret Lutzo

† Raymond Keogh '49, Grandparent

### Nicholas Mancuso

Joseph Mancuso '15, Brother

Michael Mancuso '17, Brother

### Tom Martin

Kevin Martin '81, Father

### Conor McNichols

† Walter McNichols '50, Grandparent

### Charles Scholl

Matthew Scholl '14, Brother

John Scholl '19, Brother

Thomas Scholl '23, Brother

### Jack Stenz

† Christopher Stenz '87, Father

William Stenz '18, Brother

### Alex VonEhr

Joe VonEhr '70

### John Willcox

Bradford Willcox '90, Father

Cameron Willcox '24, Brother

† Deceased



Harry Hill '58, Christopher Hill



Richard Kral Jr. '82, Richard Kral III,  
Richard Kral Sr. '57



Tom Martin, Kevin Martin '81



Joe VonEhr '70, Alex VonEhr

# PREP ALUMNI

Submit your news and photos easily online at [www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/ALUMNIUPDATE](http://www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/ALUMNIUPDATE).  
Email us at [development@fairfieldprep.org](mailto:development@fairfieldprep.org) or mail to Fairfield Prep Alumni Office, 1073 North Benson Rd., Fairfield, CT 06824.



## A Great Gift

A true Man for Others! In August, we welcomed back **Todd Ulman '96**. Todd and his production company donated state-of-the-art equipment to Fairfield Prep's media production studio in the McLeod Innovation Center. He arrived in person to help set it up as well as take some time to reminisce with Rev. Ron Perry, S.J.

## A Doctor in the Family



**Rich Sekerak '13** recently received his medical degree after graduating from Albert Einstein College of Medicine this past May. He is currently an Internal Medicine resident physician at New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center. Dr. Sekerak plans to pursue a career in Interventional Cardiology.



## Transforming Inmates Into Entrepreneurs

**Brian Hamilton** is an American entrepreneur and philanthropist. He is the co-founder of Sageworks, a fintech firm that was acquired by Accel-KKR in 2018. He founded the philanthropic organizations "Inmates to Entrepreneurs" and the "Brian Hamilton Foundation."

In addition, he based the Brian Hamilton Foundation, a corporation that gives recommendations for younger individuals and others who need to change into entrepreneurs. He has offered commentary for The Wall Street Journal, MSNBC and Fox Business Network, and in addition sat on the board of trustees for Sacred Heart University.

Hamilton was a lecturer at prisons, being on contract with the SBA to assist with a minority program. One of his purchasers, Rev. Robert Harris, requested him to be a part of a jail ministry, the place Hamilton would focus on entrepreneurship. This led to Hamilton founding "Inmates to Entrepreneurs," a program that gives coaching and mentoring for aspiring entrepreneurs. Graduates usually go on to begin their very own companies.

Hamilton grew up in Milford, CT and attended Fairfield Prep. Brian earned a bachelor's diploma from Sacred Heart University. Later he earned an MBA from Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

## Prep Alumni Speakers



**Thomas Conway '16** came back to Prep and spoke to our AP science classes about his experience studying bioengineering in college and his decision to pursue a PhD in immunology. Thomas also spoke about how his experience at Prep helped form him for college: "Prep's a great place. Take advantage of it. Some of these things that you're learning here I also learned, and they actually helped me out later in life in ways that I could not have foreseen."



**Ben Martinez '17** speaks to Mr. Ford's AP class about completing his undergraduate degree in Physics (Wesleyan '21) and moving on to a Physics PhD program.



**Dr. Dan Hodson M.D. '05** speaks to Mr. Ford's AP class about his experience in pursuing a medical degree (Yale '21) after serving for several years in the Peace Corps.



## Class of 1972 Reunite for Golf

On Saturday, Sept. 11, 24 classmates gathered for golf at Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course, and others joined the group afterward for dinner at the Gaelic American Club. The class will celebrate their 50th Reunion this coming June, and we hope to see them all back on the Prep Campus to reconnect and reminisce.

## In Memoriam

Margaret Abbazia on March 27, 2021. She was the grandmother of **Anthony M. Abbazia '14** and **Dominic J. Abbazia '23**.

**Thomas J. Bepko Jr. '70** on June 5, 2021. He was the son of the late **Thomas Bepko '45**.

**J. Vincent Burns '48** on August 28, 2021. He was the brother of the late **James T. Burns '44**, the late **William F. Burns '51**, and the late **Robert J. Burns '58**. He was the uncle of **Gregory J. Burns '82** and **Matthew L. Burns '89**.

Louisa Calka on July 6, 2021. She was the mother of **James A. Calka Jr. '82**.

**Francis W. Carroll Jr. '50** on May 27, 2021.

**Kenneth F. Catandella '53** on June 21, 2021. He was the father of **Kenneth M. Catandella '79**.

**Vincent D. Colonna '89** on April 5, 2021. He was the brother of **Jeffrey D. Colonna '93**.

**John J. Connell '46** on June 1, 2021. He was the brother of the late **Robert J. Connell '44**.

**Donald R. Cozzolino '66** on May 2, 2021.

**William J. Csontos '59** on June 8, 2021. He was the father of **William L. Csontos '83**, the father in law of **Thomas E. Devine '85**, and the grandfather of **Jonathan T. Devine '23**.

**Thomas J. Cummings '60** on June 16, 2020.

**Albert A. Curt '56** on June 20, 2021.

**James Duffy III '61** on June 16, 2021. He was the father of **James C. Duffy '94**.

Margaret Dunn on April 19, 2021. She was the wife of **Thomas L. Dunn '50**.

Elizabeth Flynn on May 28, 2021. She was the mother of **Thomas G. Flynn '77**, **William T. Flynn '78**, **James F. Flynn '79**, **Robert B. Flynn '81**, **Brian J. Flynn '83**, **David S. Flynn '88**, **Gregory D. Flynn '88** and **Andrew K. Flynn '89**. She was the grandmother of **Gregory G. Flynn '22** and **James E. Flynn '23**.

**Leo P. Gallagher Jr. '46** on July 14, 2021. He was the stepfather of **Shariff M. Hassan '89**.

**George C. Gardiner '53** on August 20, 2021.

**Robert M. Gilligan '71** on May 4, 2021.

Kim Hoover on June 23, 2021. She was the mother of **Charles B. Hoover '17** and **Thomas M. Hoover '20**.

William C. Hummel on March 26, 2021. He was the father of **William Hummel Jr. '78** and **John Hummel '80**. He was the father in law of **Kevin D. McMahon '87** and the grandfather of **William H. McMahon '24**.

Jose Maria Silva Jorge on April 27, 2021. He was the father of **Jason Jorge '21**.

**Frederick A. Judd '51** on March 31, 2021.

Eugene D. Karpinski on April 27, 2021. He was the father of **Gene B. Karpinski '70**.

**George F. Keane '47** on May 20, 2021. He was the brother of the late **James R. Keane '46**.

**James H. Keenan Jr. '49** on July 22, 2021.

Sandra Keller LaChioma on April 15, 2021. She was the wife of the late **Charles Lachioma '51**.

**Robert Lanese '56** on January 10, 2020.

**Donato Leone '66** on June 21, 2021.

**Peter D. Mauritz '77** on June 4, 2021. He was the brother of **Donald L. Mauritz '79**, the cousin of **Rudolph J. Mauritz '94**, and the brother-in-law of **Scott F. Daly '87**.

**Charles McGould '51** on August 16, 2021.

**David J. McHugh '79** on February 13, 2020. He was the brother of **Mark J. McHugh '80**.

**Robert McLean '48** on July 7, 2020.

**Edward A. Meglio '70** on April 7, 2021.

Brendan Miles on May 6, 2021. He was the father of **Keegan T. Miles '10** and **Patrick J. Miles '13**.

**John P. Moehring '94** on April 30, 2021.

Lt. Col. Edmund P. Murphy, USAF Ret. On April 24, 2021 at age 98. He was the brother of **J. Kendall Murphy, '48**.

**Vincent P. O'Connor '63** on August 18, 2021.

**Daniel M. Philbin '53** on August 14, 2021.

**Thomas M. Pura '65** on March 18, 2021.

Dariusz Pysk on August 23, 2021. He was the father of **Adam Pysk '18** and **Alexander N. Pysk '20**.

**Thomas F. Quinn '59** on April 26, 2021.

**Frederick G. Reichert IV '55** on July 8, 2021.

**James D. Reilly '67** on May 9, 2020.

Lorraine K. Riccio on July 26, 2021. She was the wife of the late **Frank J. Riccio '60**, the mother of **Frank J. Riccio II '92**, and the grandmother of **Ryan S. Riccio '23**.

**Stephen J. Roach '47** on August 27, 2021. He was the brother of the late **David L. Roach '47**, **James P. Roach '50** and **Thomas J. Roach '55**. He was the uncle of **Timothy S. Roach '78**, **Daniel S. Roach '79** and the great-uncle of **Thomas P. O'Connor '14**.

**Edwin J. Rogalewski '81** on July 8, 2021.

Robert M. Russell IV on April 20, 2021. He was the father of **Robert M. Russell '99**, **Matthew M. Russell '01** and **Kevin P. Russell '04**.

**Jeremiah A. Sarno Jr. '51** on April 24, 2021.

**Harold J. Savard '44** on July 17, 2021. He was the father of **Thomas H. Savard '72**, **Rev. John D. Savard S.J. '74**, and **David P. Savard '85**.

**William F. Schlenk Sr. '47** on May 16, 2021. He was the father of **William Schlenk '76** and **Leonard F. Schlenk '78**.

Angelina Scifo on June 13, 2021. She was the mother of **Francis R. Scifo '70** and the grandmother of **Peter A. Scifo '98**.

Ted Seelye on March 9, 2021. He was the father of **Michael Seelye '12**.

**Victor R. Serino '75** on April 25, 2021. He was the brother of **Joseph A. Serino '71**.

Andrew Robert Tarczali on February 13, 2021. He was the father of **Michael A. Tarczali '72** and the grandfather of **Ryan M. Fisher '99**.

**Neil J. Unger '73** on April 3, 2021. He was the brother of **Louis A. Unger III '60**.

**Kenneth F. Ward '54** on August 16, 2021. He was the brother of **Allen T. Ward '58**.

Fredric C. Wheeler on August 27, 2021. He was the father of **Brian P. Wheeler '98**.

Richard Whitcomb on July 6, 2021. He was the grandfather of **Richard M. Whitcomb '23**.

Laurie Zingo on July 29, 2021. She was the mother of **Christopher J. Zingo '90** and **Randy J. Zingo '92**.



## D'Amore Wedding

**Vincent D'Amore '15** married Taylor Matthews on September 6, 2021. The wedding ceremony was at St. Patrick's in Bridgeport, CT and the reception was held at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven, CT. Taylor is the daughter of **Joe Matthews '83** and Vinny is the son of **Bill D'Amore '84**. Best men were brothers **Billy D'Amore '13** and **Matt D'Amore '18**. Pictured left to right are: **Jack Quinn '15**, **Billy D'Amore '13**, **Matt D'Amore '18**, **Joe Matthews '83**, **Vinny D'Amore '15**, **Taylor Matthews**, **Bill D'Amore '84**, **Frank D'Amore '77**, **Al D'Amore '74**, **Ron Darbisi '75**, **Justin Blanchette '16**, and **Wyatt Lannon '15**.



## Prep Grads at Paliani Wedding

**Rico Paliani '10** married Lindsey Zanchetti, Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, Luralton Hall, class of 2010. Prep grads in attendance pictured left to right: **Dustin Fidaleo '10**, **Darren Mitchell '10**, **Quinn Kenning '10**, **Enrico Paliani '10**, **John Paliani '05**, **Will Quincy '22**, **Christopher Paliani '07**.



## McGeady Wedding

**Harrison McGeady '08** married Catherine Hannum on June 8, 2020. A reception was held on August 28, 2021, where family and Prep grads joined to celebrate the newlyweds. Pictured above are the Prep alumni in attendance **Sean Curtis '08**, **Riley McGeady '18**, **Harrison McGeady '08**, **Patrick McGeady '12**, **Rudy Klein '08**, and **Baj Ahtchi '08**.



## Birth

**Austin M. Ryan '06** and his wife **Melissa Ryan** welcomed baby girl **Grace Marie Ryan** on April 9, 2021. Grace is modeling a Prep onesie.

# Faculty/Staff

## In Memoriam

**Reshaun Kyell Andrade** on June 24, 2021. He was the nephew of **Donna Andrade (Dean of Mission & Ministry)**



## Birth

**Patti Veno (Office of the Principal)** and husband **Dean** became grandparents of their sixth grandchild! Their daughter **Katie** and son-in-law **Eric** welcomed **Grace Lorriane Bailey** on July 29, 2021.

## Best Wishes!



Retiring **Greg Marshall '73** (top: center) and **Maureen Bohan** (center: seated), as well as 2020 retiree **John Szablewicz**, (bottom: center) were celebrated at a party held on June 9 in the Student Life Center. Guests included current and former Prep colleagues for a fun reunion and sendoff! Godspeed retirees!



**Huntley Baptism** Matt Huntley '01, and his wife Ashley (left), had their son Connor baptized at Egan Chapel by Fr. Ron Perry, SJ. Matt's sister Megan and her husband Tyler Kupper had their son, Andrew, baptized as well.

## Douglas Lanzo '90, Lawyer, Poet and Author

**Douglas Lanzo '90**, has pursued a successful career as a lawyer, currently serving as the Executive Vice President and General Counsel of a FinTech lending and factoring company based in McLean, Virginia. He graduated as the scholar-athlete of Prep, top in his class and as a Presidential Scholar. He attended Harvard College, graduated magna cum laude in Government and ran cross country and track (named scholar-athlete of the mens' varsity cross-country team). He attended Harvard Law School, graduating with honors in 1997.

Doug always enjoyed creative writing but had not made many efforts to publish until recently. He writes, "Feeling inspired and led by God to help uplift people during the Pandemic, I began prolifically writing and submitting inspirational poetry of all types in 2020 and 2021." His poems (religious, tributes, sonnets, hybrid, free verse, haiku, senryu and tanka among them) have now been published in over 40 literary journals and anthologies worldwide on five continents, including in the U.S., Austria, England, Wales, Canada, Australia, India, Mauritius and The Caribbean. His poetry has been included in *Vita Brevis Press* 2021 Poetry



Anthology, *Brought to Sight & Swept Away* and in *Cafe Haiku's* upcoming Fifth Poetry Anthology on relationships. His first novel, *The Year of the Bear*, is accepted for publication. He adds, "My novel, *The Year of the Bear*, is a coming of age story featuring a cross-country runner who becomes a community hero, has also recently been accepted for publication by Ambassador International. I have been honored to be featured as the issue's poet in *WestWard Quarterly* and to have won an award for my haiku and to have been featured as a poet in a number of other publications." Doug resides in Chevy Chase, Maryland with his wife and 12-year old identical twin sons, fellow internationally published poets, enjoying nature, traveling, biking, tennis and chess.

## McCarthy '69 Writes About Extraordinary Things

**Michael F. McCarthy III '69** fully retired in 2014 from 30 years in the USAF as an aviator, Pentagon Staff Officer and overseas Human Intelligence Collector; then 10 years as a Program Manager within the Intelligence Community. Mike started reading 70-75 books a year to add to his 1000-volume library, and realized he had a tale to tell and wrote his first book. The novel, *Memories of a Jane Street Boy*, unfolds a story about a boy growing up in a small Connecticut town and details his life until his first day of college in 1969. With the help of ordinary people often doing extraordinary things he confronts a number of physical and emotional challenges. Helping him find his way are his seven best friends, who become known as the "Jane Street Boys." They become closer than brothers and get themselves in and out of a number of misadventures.

Learn more: [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



# PREP TODAY

The Magazine for  
Fairfield College Preparatory School

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**Colleen Adams, P'08, '11**  
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Editor, "Prep Today"

**Ronald DeRosa**  
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## SUBMIT INFORMATION AND PHOTOS

[www.fairfieldprep.org/alumniupdate](http://www.fairfieldprep.org/alumniupdate)  
or email [cadams@fairfieldprep.org](mailto:cadams@fairfieldprep.org)

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Margaret Galeano

### PHOTOGRAPHY & IMAGES

Colleen Adams, P'08, '11	John Hanrahan, P'98
Michael Connelly '83	Kathy Norell
Tom Curran '05	Mike Papale
Bob Ford Jr., P'03, '05	Rev. Ron Perry, S.J.
Tommy de Quesada	Julie Pollard, P'15
Ronald DeRosa	Laura St. John
Anthony Dotolo	Photography
Ruben Goodwin	Robert Taylor Photography
Elliott Gualtiere, P'21, '24	Ashley Woodworth
Deborah Kiel, P'15	Steve Yingling
Hearst Media	Plus contributed photos

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Fairfield Prep Alumni Network  
Fairfield Prep Parent Network

## Matthew Torres '19 Wins Bronze in 400-Meter S8 Freestyle at Paralympics

**Matthew Torres**, Prep alumnus and current sophomore and swimmer for Fairfield University, won his first Paralympic medal on August 31, earning the bronze in the men's 400-meter S8 freestyle final with a time of four minutes, 28.47 seconds. "It was a pretty tiring and long race — definitely one of the longer races I've felt even though I've swum the 400(m) so many times," Torres said following the final. "But it feels good to finally know that all the hard work over the last 13 years has paid off. And I am so grateful to everyone who has supported me along the way, whether it's my parents, my coaches, my teammates, people just in the community overall, just supporting me."

Torres began the final right behind lead swimmer Andrei Nikolaev from the Russian Olympic Committee. While Nikolaev led from start to finish, Torres was close behind, staying within a second from the first 50-meter turn (30.53) to the 250-meter mark (2:44.35). "I have studied Andrei Nikolaev's swims a lot over the last few months, especially knowing that he is going to be one of the top contenders here in Tokyo," Torres said. "I was just trying to study him and figure out his strategy overall as to how he races. I think as a person with one leg, I have relatively strong turns and I noticed that turns were also one of his weak spots."

However, it was at the wall for the 300-meter turn that Italy's Alberto Amodeo passed Torres by over a second to push him to third place. Torres wasn't able to sprint fast enough to beat Amodeo and reached the 350-meter mark almost two seconds behind him. Torres kept his pace through the final 50 meters to finish in third and win his first Paralympic medal. Nikolaev won gold in 4:25.16 followed by Amodeo with silver in 4:25.93.

Torres, from Ansonia, will graduate Fairfield University in 2023 and still has at least two years of eligibility remaining to

*"I am so grateful to everyone who has supported me along the way, whether it's my parents, my coaches, my teammates, people just in the community overall, just supporting me."*



compete for the Stags' swim team. In 2019, he won the 200-meter IM title at the World Para Swimming World Series and now the Fairfield Prep '19 graduate has also made his mark at the Summer Games.

Source: [hearstmediact.com](http://hearstmediact.com)

## Chris Drury '94 Named General Manager of the NY Rangers

**Chris Drury '94**, one of Connecticut's most accomplished sports figures and a Prep Athletic Hall of Fame honoree, is taking control of the New York Rangers. The Rangers announced that Drury was promoted from associate general manager to president/general manager. The 44-year-old Trumbull native has been rising in the executive ranks and was reportedly a candidate for GM positions throughout the NHL, but he'll remain with the franchise he ended his playing career with as captain. "Chris is a very sought-after executive and a strong leader, who has proven himself to be one of the top young minds in hockey," MSG executive chairman Jim Dolan said in a statement. "We are confident he will effectively guide the team to ensure the long-term success we promised Rangers fans."

The new job comes 32 years after Drury first gained notoriety as the star pitcher for the Trumbull Little League team that won



the 1989 Little League World Series. Drury became a standout hockey player at Fairfield Prep in the early 1990s. He won a state title in 1991 and was twice state player of the year before he was drafted out of high school in 1994 by the Quebec Nordiques in the third round. He entered Boston University that fall and played in the Frozen Four three times, winning the NCAA title in 1995. Drury also won the Hobey Baker Award as the nation's best player in 1998.

The winning continued in the NHL. Drury would play 12 seasons in the NHL, moving from Colorado to Calgary to Buffalo before spending his final four seasons with the Rangers. Drury, played in the NHL from 1989 to 2001, and moved into a management role with the Rangers in 2015. Chris's brother Ted '89 enjoyed a professional hockey career and was also named to Prep's Athletic Hall of Fame,

Source: [hearstmediact.com](http://hearstmediact.com)

# Adam Stone '19 picked for USA Baseball Collegiate National Team



**Adam Stone** got his chance to show he belongs among the nation's top collegiate baseball players. Stone, a Stamford native and rising junior at Harvard, Fairfield Prep 2019 graduate, played this past summer for the 2021 USA Baseball

Collegiate National Team. Stone is the first player from Harvard to be selected for the team and only one of two players from schools in the Northeast.

Stone did this despite having not played a full baseball season since his junior year at Fairfield Prep. Suffering an ulnar collateral ligament (UCL) tear prior to his senior high school baseball season in 2019, Stone missed his entire final year on the diamond at Prep. Then his freshman and sophomore seasons at Harvard were canceled due to COVID-19.

Stone was able to work out with the Harvard team this spring and the team played live games against themselves for five weeks, giving Stone opportunities to get film to the coaches. He also played in the Cape Cod League, making two appearances



Harvard pitcher Adam Stone, a Stamford native and Fairfield Prep alum, is currently playing for the USA Baseball Collegiate National Team. June 2021

for Falmouth before joining the USA team in North Carolina. The 48-man Collegiate National Team was split into two 24-man squads for the traveling tour with one team being called the Stars, the other the Stripes.

Stone impressed so much that he was named the starter for the first game of the

series. "It's pretty sweet getting the start opening night," Stone said. "I am here with the best dudes in the country. To get the ball in game one is definitely an honor. My body feels good, I feel fresh."

Source: Stamford Advocate



## Baseball Champions

**Alex Giobbi '11** (left) and **Matt Zaffino '17** (right) both were part of the Danbury Westerners historic first ever New England Collegiate Baseball League championship. Matt, who was the starting second baseman for the entire playoff run played a key role in the final game, hitting a three-run home run to give Danbury the lead for good. Alex is the Director of Player Personnel with the Danbury Westerners and Matt plays baseball at Fairfield University.

## Tom Simonetti's Shakespeare Delights Audiences



The Valley Shakespeare Festival performed its ninth annual Shakespeare In The Park at Veteran's Memorial Park in Shelton and at Quarry Walk in Oxford during July. This year's free offering was *The Adventures of Pericles*, by William Shakespeare and George

Wilkins, directed by festival Founder and Executive Director **Tom Simonetti**, Prep Class of 2001.

"We toured a production of *Pericles* in 2016 to libraries and fourth to eighth graders who fell in love with the play," Simonetti said. "They applauded and responded to how wild the show was. If you hate Shakespeare, this is probably the one you have to see."

Valley Shakespeare Festival tour schools, farms, libraries, homeless shelters and, in normal times, the popular Shakespeare in the Bar series. Tom Simonetti has been Executive Director since 2013. He has recently become the Director of Drama at Masuk High School in Monroe, CT. Visit [www.vsfestival.org](http://www.vsfestival.org).

## Simon Whiteman '15, Major League Infielder, Plays Game Based on Speed

In one aspect of his life, Richmond Flying Squirrels shortstop/second baseman Simon Whiteman enjoys being a problem-solver. He graduated from Yale with a degree in chemical engineering and was a Rhodes Scholar candidate. In another aspect of his life, Whiteman enjoys being a problem-creator. His tool in baseball is speed and using it to put pressure on opponents.

Whiteman can get from the right-handed batter's box to first base in about 4 seconds. That rates near the top of the scouting scale for speed and is in line with some of the fastest runners in the major leagues, according to Statcast. Baseball America tabbed Whiteman the fastest baserunner in the San Francisco Giants organization.

Whiteman loved chemistry in high school, and combining it with engineering gave him a way to break things down, find solutions and apply them. Finishing with a 3.97 GPA, he studied renewable energy and solar energy at Yale. "I think [speed] is something that ... baseball in general is lacking these days," Whiteman said. "Whenever you have a good or commodity that is lacking in the market, you're going to be worth a little bit more."

Clearly, the Giants value the speed of the 5-foot-10, 165-pounder. They drafted him in the ninth round in 2019 after he hit .337 as a senior at Yale and stole 34 bases in 34 attempts. In what amounts to a little more than a full season of at-bats (536) in 2019 and this season, Whiteman, 24, has stolen 58 bases in 71 attempts. He's 27 of 29 this season with Class A Eugene and Double-A Richmond. In those two seasons, Whiteman has a .262 batting average, two homers, 38 RBIs, 19 doubles, two triples, 77 walks, 128 strikeouts and a .375 on-base



percentage.

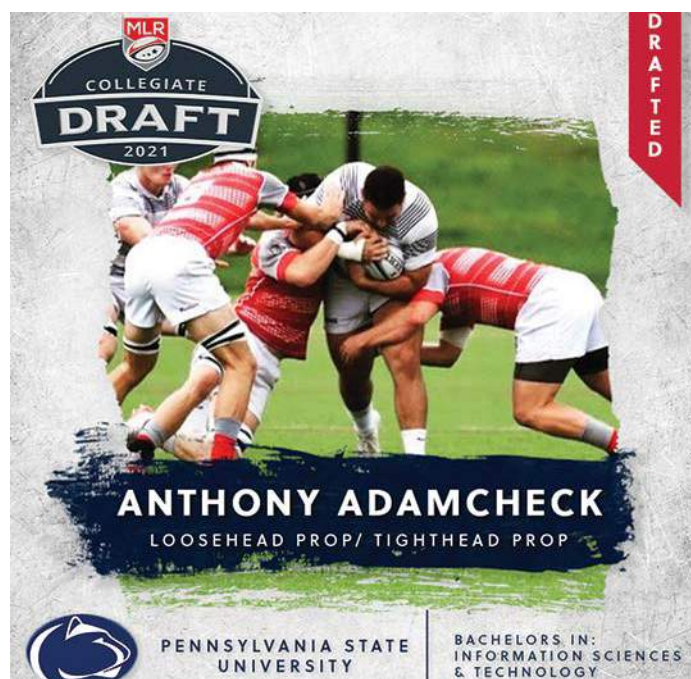
"I pride myself in addition to being a plus baserunner [being] a plus defender, make all the plays that come to you and make the ones that other people can't," said Whiteman, who may pursue a law degree after baseball. "I'm figuring it out at the plate. Hitting is hard. Hitting is just going to keep getting harder, but we work day-in and day-out. My No. 1 goal is to get on base. I can't create chaos and I can't score runs if I don't get on base. I'm finding ways to do that."

Source: [Richmond.com](http://Richmond.com)



## Fitzgerald '17 is All-American

**Dan Fitzgerald '17** was named to the 2021 American Collegiate Rowing Association All-American Team. He has also served as the captain for the UCONN Men's Crew Team for the past two years.



## Adamcheck '17 Drafted

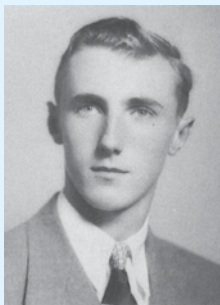
Congrats to Prep rugby alum **Anthony Adamcheck**, drafted by the New England Free Jacks professional rugby team! He was the second selection of the 2022 MLR Collegiate Draft, after an impressive college career at Penn State University, graduating with a Bachelors in Information Services & Technology.

## JOHN PHELAN, SR. '50

# BUILDING A LEGACY

Few alums know more about the architecture here on campus than Prep "legend" **John Phelan, Class of 1950**. After graduating from Prep, John received a degree in Physics from College of the Holy Cross, served in the Navy, then graduated from Yale with B.S. in Engineering. He was a field engineer on the original Alumni Hall Gym built in 1959, and went on to a storied career with architectural firm Fletcher Thompson, who designed a number of beautiful buildings here on campus over the years.

John and his family have had a multi-generational connection to Fairfield Prep and the university spanning many decades. In addition to having a son, grandsons, and a son-in-law attend Fairfield Prep, John's daughter Betsy



*John Phelan from the 1950 Hearsthorne yearbook*

Blagys is presently assistant director at the Quick Recreational Complex on campus. John and his late wife Nan raised their family in the Black Rock section of Bridgeport and have been an integral part of the community.

John was a former Prep Board of Governor and Hall of Fame honoree, member of the famed Latin Scholars, on the board of the Cardinal Shehan Center and United Way, and a dedicated volunteer at many service-oriented events over the years. In addition, John initiated the **Phelan Family Scholarship** at Prep which provides tuition assistance to those in need, further building a legacy of generous support for years to come. The Phelans are truly a "family for others."



L to R: **John G. Phelan, Sr. '50**, with his grandsons, **William Blagys '17**, **Caleb Blagys '15**, and son **John G. Phelan, Jr. '84** at Alumni Hall for another Prep graduation.



### Alumni Hall Coming Down!

The last arches of Alumni Hall were still visible, like desolate dinosaur bones, as the building was demolished in spring 2021. **John Phelan '50**, a field engineer on the original Alumni Hall, was present during the first day of demolition of the structure on April 26. Here he is (sporting an FP hat!) alongside President Christian Cashman (left) and Leadership Gift Officer **Mike Connelly '83**. The new Fairfield University Convocation Center & Arena will be constructed in its place, with a projected finish date of fall 2022.

# KICK OFF PARTY IN THE QUAD



On September 10, the Bellarmine Guild and the Fathers' Club welcomed the Prep Community back to campus with a Kick-off in the Quad to celebrate the start of the school year and fall sports season. Families enjoyed food trucks and fellowship in our first full return to campus event.

# FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL IS BACK!



The Prep Community came out in droves to support the Jesuits in their first home football game since 2020.

# PREP IS FAMILY



## SUNSET AT SASCO

Class of '25 moms gathered for a meet and greet at Sasco Beach in Fairfield.



## Prep Marketplace Raises Funds

What do you do with Prep attire that is no longer needed? Prep moms organized a planet-friendly solution. The resale of donated lightly-used, dress code clothing was called Prep Marketplace. On the first two days of the sale, the resale pop-up shop raised over \$3,000 to benefit the "Beyond the Classroom Fund," a mission-driven helping hand for Prep families with specific needs beyond tuition.



## BELLARMINE SENIOR MOTHER/SON COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Last spring the Bellarmine Guild continued the tradition of Mass and Breakfast with their sons. Mass was celebrated virtually as Senior Mothers/Sons participated in small groups from their homes.



## FAMILY MASS & SOCIAL

Fairfield Prep families were invited on campus for an outdoor Mass celebrated in Pelletier Quad on September 12, 2021. The Mass was concelebrated by Rev. Ron Perry, S.J., and Rev. Brian Konzman, S.J.



## BELLARMINE SENIOR MOMS DINNER

On June 7, senior moms gathered to celebrate their sons' graduation and the friendships made at Prep.





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**[www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/ALUMNI](http://www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/ALUMNI)**

Your username is your first initial last name grad year.

(For example, John Doe Class of 1991 is **jd91**)

Your password is the code printed above your name.

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PHOTO CREDIT: REV. RON PERRY, S.J.

## SAVE THE DATES!



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021**

**AUCTION**

Student Life Center

**[www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/AUCTION](http://www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/AUCTION)**



**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2021**

**RESCHEDULED REUNIONS**

'75, '76, '80, '81, '85, '86, '90, '91, '95,  
'96, '00, '01, '05, '06, '10, '11, '15 '16

**[www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/REUNION](http://www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/REUNION)**



**FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2022**

**GOLF OUTING**

**[www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/GOLFOUTING](http://www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/GOLFOUTING)**



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