

Benilde-St. Margaret's

Graduation Issue

For the Class of 2017 valedictorians,
it was
lucky number 13



CROWN & SHIELD

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Dr. Ehrmantraut shakes hands with each member of the Class of 2017.

Benilde-St. Margaret's

A Catholic, college preparatory school, grades 7-12

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The BSM crest:
Veritas: truth; **Pietas:** holiness, dutiful conduct;
Scientia: knowledge; **Crown:** St. Margaret's;
Knight: Benilde; three Benedictine Crosses

The *Crown & Shield* is published by the Benilde-St. Margaret's (BSM) marketing department for graduates, students, families and friends of BSM. Please send news and photos (at least 1 mb in size) to alumni@BSMschool.org.

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At Benilde-St. Margaret's, the middle of June marks the end of another academic year. As such, it demands a look back. Each year at BSM includes a multitude of incredible student accomplishments, formidable challenges, and significant changes within the school. The 2016-2017 school year was uniquely defined in each of these areas.

First, three longtime Benilde-St. Margaret's employees – Mary Glover, Al Liekhus, and Tom Backen – retired after decades of service to our students and families. Each one left their mark at BSM, which was clear during our awards ceremony in May when each was honored with a rousing student ovation. Mrs. Glover worked with hundreds of students in mathematics while Mr. Liekhus connected with a variety of stakeholders as a member of the maintenance department for over twenty years. Mr. Backen made his mark at BSM in the English department but also as an adviser and school leader for 33 years. It was bittersweet to see them all embrace their new chapter in life, but we wish them the best.

This year, our students once again expanded their influence beyond the walls of our school. The collective student body at BSM completed nearly 20,000 hours of service work across a range of organizations throughout the Twin Cities. Several of our 8th graders worked with the Center for Disease Control conducting a research project regarding environmental shifts. A high school junior created a nuclear fusor as a part of a science competition. A 2017 graduate was honored nationally for her contributions to the arts and positive influence on others. Several of our Red Knights started small business partnerships as high school students. Also, seven graduates have committed to serve our country, a historically astounding figure. The stories go on and on, but when all is told, BSM students truly put their learning into action.

The extracurricular accomplishments of our students, also an important element of the BSM experience, matched their academic prowess. This year, our school celebrated an impressive number of state championships in dance, girls' soccer, football, swimming and math league. Students also advanced to national levels of performance in speech and art competitions. Additionally, theatrical performances were recognized statewide through the Hennepin Theatre Trust.

At the end of a school year, we reflect and remember how important it is to acknowledge those who make these stories come to life. We are certainly blessed to have committed and talented faculty and staff members who devote their professional lives to our students. I am incredibly grateful to all of our benefactors and volunteers who keep the BSM mission close to their hearts. Thank you all for creating another year of success at Benilde-St. Margaret's.

May God bless you in the months ahead,

Dr. Adam Ehrmantraut
President



ON THE COVER | Class of 2017 Valedictorians: front row (l to r) Anna Luong, Morgan Bettin-Coleman, and Marit Gulbrandson; middle row (l to r) Maria Van Hove, Maya Berg, Thomas McGinn, Kathryn Marusich, and Tyler Metz; back row (l to r) Carston Swenson, Stephanie Wallace, Alexander Johnson, Bryan Sauer, and Eric Wilson.

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Stay Connected:



Once an Eagle Scout, always an Eagle Scout

By John Sabol, Business Teacher and Bowling Coach

Attaining the rank of Eagle Scout is more than a one-time service project you organize in high school. Instead, it represents a lifetime of dedication to the principals of scouting reinforced through numerous challenges while camping, volunteering, and learning. It is an external representation of a life lived in duty to God and country, committed to personal growth and helping others.

Reflecting on scouting and the BSM community, it is not surprising that these two organizations complement and reinforce each other. The Boy Scout Oath and Law seamlessly align with BSM's mission to develop our students to their fullest potential as thoughtful and compassionate servant leaders. Within Boy Scouts, the Eagle rank represents those individuals who have reached the highest levels of these ideals.

With this as background, I am not surprised that the BSM community is home to a large number of Eagle Scouts; however, our current high school population stands out as exceptional. According to the National Eagle Scout Association, only 5% of all individuals who enter Boy Scouts ever become an Eagle Scout. BSM's Class of 2017 has the impressive distinction of having 7% of its entire male population, not just those who had been in Boy Scouts, having reached Eagle. This is an incredible collective achievement and one that we can all be proud of as Red Knights. Additionally, we already have two rising seniors and even one rising junior who have already earned their Eagle!

The Scout Oath:

On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

Scout Law:

A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.



As a teacher, I begin each year not knowing who in my classes is an Eagle Scout, but I am not surprised when I learn who is. Consistently, they are the students who quietly clean up after others without being asked and volunteer to take on more work than assigned to help a struggling classmate. They are the students who enrich the classroom with their daily participation. In sport, they listen to me as their coach and are willing to take on a lesser role for the good of the team. They do not ask what they can get, but instead seek out ways they can give. They happily take on leadership roles without expectation of reward and lead through example.

I find it particularly rewarding to teach Eagle Scouts at BSM because I myself am an Eagle Scout. It is hard to summarize everything I received through scouting, but a few things readily come to mind. I learned the importance of always striving to do my best while also understanding my limits and finding happiness in my personal accomplishments without the need to compare myself to others. I also realized the importance of respecting others and the environment simply because it is the right thing to do. Finally, I found a love for nature that has continued into my adult life where, to this day, I continue to backpack, canoe, and camp.

As **Leif Anderson '18** echoed, "Participating in Boy Scouts has taught me countless life skills. I have made friendships that will last a lifetime, and I have learned things about myself, particularly my leadership ability. Scouting has definitely changed my life!"

Being an Eagle Scout is very much like being a Red Knight. Once an Eagle Scout, always an Eagle Scout. Deep down, you know it is a part of who you are. It gives you a sense of pride, but it also fills you with a sense of responsibility to uphold all that it represents.



Photo at left: Connor Lawlor '19, received the rank of Eagle Scout a few weeks after the group photo was taken.

Eagle Scouts: back row (l to r) Patrick Binnish '18, Michael Dickson '17, Ryan Tucker '17, Leif Anderson '18, and Liam Long '17; front row (l to r) Matthew Tucker '17, James Libbey '17, Cole Solomon '17, Andrew Ormsby '17, and Charles Linder '17.

I am confident the Eagle Scouts in the Class of 2017 will represent both scouting and BSM exceptionally well as they move on to new challenges, and I wish them well as they do. I am also excited to witness the leadership of our returning Eagles continue to grow. Additionally, I would like to encourage all Boy Scouts in BSM's younger grades to continue on the road to Eagle. It is not easy, but the lessons learned and the friendships made along the journey are invaluable.

"Being an Eagle Scout is a big accomplishment. All the hard work is extremely worth it in the end," shared **Andrew Ormsby '17**.

My advice to those Eagles who have turned 18 and will no longer be in Boy Scouts is to continue to live the ideals instilled by scouting and pay forward all that you were blessed to receive. If you do this, similar to how your teachers were not surprised, someday coworkers and associates will not be surprised to find out you are an Eagle. In my opinion, this is the ultimate outward sign of your inner character.

What was your Eagle Scout project?

I lead a book drive in Saint Louis Park and then constructed an outdoor library that I filled with the books from the drive.
—**Leif Anderson**

I made a 20' x 30' garden at Good Shepherd, my grade school.
—**Patrick Binnish**

I put together Medical Fun Boxes for kids with epilepsy to play with while they receive EEG treatments. The boxes have all kinds of toys and coloring books to help pass the time.
—**Connor Lawlor**

I built picnic tables for my middle school's cafeteria.
—**James Libbey**

I built six 8' benches and two 4' x 8' stages at St. Davids Child Center.
—**Charles Linder**

I built 15 gilwood bluebird houses for Three Rivers Park District
—**Ryan Tucker**

I designed and built produce shelves for PRISM. I decided on my project after volunteering there and seeing the need for the shelves. Originally the produce was stored on the ground which took up a lot of room, but the shelves fixed this problem.
—**Liam Long**

I built garden planters for the administration building outside of the Medina Housing Complex.
—**Andrew Ormsby**

I ran a board game drive and gave all donations to an assisted living home, a camp for children with disabilities, and Our Lady of Grace's after school program.
—**Cole Solomon**

I built wood duck houses for the Three Rivers Park District. I was given specific instructions and requirements for building the houses and was responsible for all the logistics and planning of the entire project. I ended up revising some of the instructions to make it easier for any future Scouts building wood duck houses.
—**Matthew Tucker**

Congratulations Class of 2017

On Friday, June 2, 2017, commencement for the Class of 2017 took place in BSM's Haben Center. The 220 graduates were led by many outstanding scholars, athletes and role models. The next few pages highlight just some of these amazing young adults, starting with this year's group of 13 valedictorians.



Thomas McGinn

College or University Attending:
University of Notre Dame
Intended Major: Mathematics
Favorite BSM class: AP Calculus AB

If you could only listen to one musician for the rest of your life, who would it be and why? I would listen to Calvin Harris because his music is so catchy and upbeat.



Maya Berg

College or University Attending:
Loyola University of Chicago
Intended Major: English
Favorite BSM class:
AP Literature

If you were a color, what color would you be and why? Maroon, because I'm a mix of red and purple. Red is the part of me that is energetic, fiery, and passionate. Purple is the part of me that is thoughtful, creative, and empathetic.



Tyler Metz

College or University Attending:
University of Southern California
Intended Major: Economics/Mathematics
Favorite BSM class: Honors Chemistry and 20th Century Drama.

You have one super power. What is it and why? I would want the ability to teleport because I love traveling, and teleportation would allow me to explore all the world has to offer.



Morgan Bettin-Coleman

College or University Attending:
Carleton College
Intended Major: Psychology, possibly a Spanish minor
Favorite BSM class: Mythology

If there were a movie about your life, who would be cast in the leading role and why?

It would be an honor to have Tracee Ellis Ross cast as me in a movie about my life. Not only is she multiracial like me, but Ross uses her high social standing and popularity to bring awareness to and advocate for multiple important causes (e.g., increasing the self-esteem of black women) for which I am also a strong advocate.

Bryan Sauer

College or University Attending:
University of Michigan
Intended Major: Business/Finance
Favorite BSM class:
AP Calculus AB with Mr. Bowler

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three items would you want to have with you and why? I would bring water because there is probably not very much of that on a desert island. I would also bring my phone to keep me entertained and to call for help, assuming that I have signal. And, I would bring the entire Harry Potter series so I would have something to do while I waited for help to come.





Marit Gulbrandson

College or University Attending:
University of Michigan
Intended Major: Philosophy,
Politics, and Economics
Favorite BSM class:
AP Statistics

If you were a candy bar, which one would you be and why?
Twix because it's a combination of my two favorite desserts – caramel and chocolate!

Carston Swenson

College or University Attending:
The United States Naval Academy
Intended Major: Engineering and Chinese
Favorite BSM class: Chinese or American Studies

If you woke up tomorrow as an animal, what animal would you choose to be and why? I would become a cheetah so that I could outrun my competition and be a feared predator in the wild.



Alexander Johnson

College or University Attending:
University of Minnesota,
Twin Cities
Intended Major: Finance or Accounting
Favorite BSM class:
AP Calculus BC with Mr. Bowler

If you could meet any historical figure, who would it be and why? I would like to meet Oskar Schindler. He spent nearly his entire fortune to save the lives of over a thousand Jews during the Holocaust, and his transformation from hiring Jews for cheap labor to bribing Nazi officials for the safety of his workers was incredible.



Maria Van Hove

College or University Attending:
College of Saint Benedict
Intended Major: Accounting
Favorite BSM class: Psychology and Personal Financial Management

If you could live anywhere on this planet and take everything that you love with you, where would you choose to live? I would live in Italy because of the beautiful architecture and scenery. There is so much to do and see, not to mention the unique culture and food.



Anna Luong

College or University Attending:
University of Notre Dame
Intended Major: Engineering
Favorite BSM class: Engineering

If you had to choose one season to live in forever, which one would it be and why? I would choose summer because I love the warm weather and being outside.

Stephanie Wallace

College or University Attending:
University of Notre Dame
Intended Major: Mathematics
Favorite BSM class: Biomed II and ALL my math classes

If you had to live during the same time of day (morning, afternoon or evening) every day forever, which would it be and why? It would have to be the morning because of the sunrise. I wouldn't want to start my day off any differently than sitting outside by the lake, a cup of coffee in my hand, just gazing at one of the most beautiful sites I've ever seen. It's the perfect escape from reality. However, the sunrise also symbolizes a new day, a new start, a new opportunity to live a full life and reach new dreams.



Kathryn Marusich

College or University Attending:
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Intended Major: Engineering
Favorite BSM class: Honors English 9 and AP Literature

What is the funniest joke you've ever heard? How did the scientist invent bug spray? He started from scratch!

Eric Wilson

College or University Attending:
Harvard University
Intended Major: Undecided
Favorite BSM class: AP Literature

What are your top five favorite foods?

1. Manicotti
2. Pasties
3. Enchiladas
4. Chicken Fried Steak
5. Santa Fe Rice Bowl





2017 Salutatorians—back row: Lauren McDonnell, James Libbey, Maria Satre; front row: Jack Will and Brooke Ferrer.

Salutatorians

The salutatorians were asked three questions:

- What was your favorite class at BSM?
- What's the most important thing you've learned while at BSM?
- What is one thing that most people might not know about you?

Maria Satre

*College or University Attending: United States Naval Academy
Intended Major: Mechanical Engineering or Pre-Med*

- Honors Chemistry with Ms. Roushar
- I learned how to be resourceful and manage my time well.
- I love to read, and my favorite books are the Harry Potter series.

Jack Will

*College or University Attending: Boston College
Intended Major: Biology and/or Chemistry*

- Forensic Science
- I learned to stay true to myself and my values above anything else. It is better to be yourself than anyone else.
- I enjoy participating in triathlons in my free time!

Lauren McDonnell

*College or University Attending: United States Naval Academy
Intended Major: Neuroscience or Biomolecular Science*

- It's a tie between AP US History with Sister Jeanne, AP Literature, AP English Composition, and AP Calculus with Mr. Bowler
- I learned how to manage my time and take on multiple responsibilities at once. I also learned how to make amazing friends and have a fun but productive time in class.
- My favorite thing in the world is a good nap, and I try to take at least one per day. I became a master of the power nap while at BSM.

James Libbey

*College or University Attending: University of Notre Dame
Intended Major: Electrical Engineering*

- Shakespeare
- I learned how to balance my time.
- I am a pack rat; my closet is filled with odd knick-knacks and memories that I just can't let go.

Brooke Ferrer

*College or University Attending: University of Notre Dame
Intended Major: Marketing*

- AP Literature with Mr. Backen
- I learned to work hard, take risks, and treat others well.
- I am extremely superstitious.

Honor Graduates

Summa Cum Laude

Maya Berg
Morgan Bettin-Coleman
Michael Dickson
Leo Driessen
Brooke Ferrer
Morgan Frank
Anne Marie Griebbe
Taylor Grossman
Marit Gulbrandson
Katherine Janda
Jonah Jerabek
Alexander Johnson
Carson Knoer
James Libbey
Anna Luong
Kathryn Marusich
Lauren McDonnell
Thomas McGinn
Ryan McTigue
Tyler Metz
Macy Rooney
Josephine Ross
Maria Satre
Bryan Sauer
Colin Segner
Katherine Sohm
Carston Swenson
Madeline Turk
Maria Van Hove
Stephanie Wallace
Michael Wexler
Jack Will
Eric Wilson
Cora Wyvell

Magna Cum Laude

Nolan Arostegui
Megan Benson
Holly Caboti-Jones
Jiayi Chen
Peter Christenson
Alma Godinez
Grace Gyolai
Ty Hansen
Helena Hickok
Edmond Hoes
Max Jablonski
Carolina Jimenez
William Madden
Tyler Matson
Peyton Melin
Hannah Miller
Marin Noble
Matthew Nyberg
Grace Peluso
Yongui Peng
Veronica Scott
Lillian Smith
Mary Sullivan
Mackenzie Swanson
Yilan Tang
Colleen Wagner

Cum Laude

Elsa Beise
John Boase
Nicholas Bolin
Sedona Brown
Nicholas Burns
Megan Cornell
Kasey Desmond
Laura Deutz
McKenzie Dunleavy
Jack Feyereisn
Xinyue Hao Connor
Lamb Anna
Latourelle Liam
Long
Taylor Lowenberg
Sean McCullough
Carlos McMerty-
Brummer
Dario Orr
Lucy Scherer
Madison Semler
John Stone
Matthew Tucker



Representing the best in body, spirit, and mind

Dr. Adam Ehrmantraut presented his first-ever President's Award to seven members of the Class of 2017: Nathanael Ashton-Piper, Claudia Elsenbast, Zipporah Kaffey, Charles Linder, Peyton Melin, Mark Racchini, and Carston Swenson. These Red Knights showed up in a variety of ways throughout the entire BSM community. From lacrosse to baseball to track & field to student council to speech to *Knight Errant* to band to Red Knight Volunteer Corps and much more, they led their class and our school for the better.



President's Award winners—back row: Mark Racchini, Nathanael Ashton-Piper, Peyton Melin, and Carston Swenson; front row: Claudia Elsenbast, Charles Linder, and Zipporah Kaffey.

Senior Awards

Academic-Arts-Athletics Nominee – **Gracey Scott**
 Academic-Arts-Athletics State Winner – **Eric Wilson**
 Al Blasing Memorial Award – **Eric Wilson**
 Al Reger Award – **Josephine Ross, Eric Wilson**
 Army Scholar/Athlete Award – **Megan Cornell, Colin Segner**
 Athena Award – **Claudia Elsenbast**
 Athletic Director's Award – **Will Whitmore**
 Band Award – **Sean Lynch, Olivia Rossman**
 Band Director's Award – **Spencer Becker**
 Best Lead Performance (Actor) – **Carson Knoer**
 Best Lead Performance (Actress) – **Madeline Turk**
 Best Supporting Actor – **Leo Driessen**
 Best Supporting Actress – **Josephine Ross**
 Business Leadership Achievement Award – **Cole Solomon, Maria Van Hove**
 Catherine Harris Award (Knight Errant) – **Kasey Desmond, Laura Deutz, Leo Driessen, Brooke Ferrer, Carolina Jimenez**
 Choir Award – **Amira Carter, Noah Twesten**
 Choral Director's Award – **Alexander Johnson, Macy Rooney**
 Cone 05 Award – **Bryan Sauer**
 DaVinci Award – **Maya Berg**
 Drama Technician of the Year – **Carolina Jimenez, Sean Lynch**
 English Award – **Lucas Latterell, Josephine Ross, Elanna Tang**
 Faith Formation Award – **Lillian Smith, Carston Swenson**
 Four Years of Excellence in English – **Alexander Johnson, Kathryn Marusich**
 French Award – **Coleman Reis, Thomas McGinn**
 Henry David Thoreau Award – **Nolan Arostegui, Grace Gylai**
 Jerry Miller Faith in Action Award – **Alma Godinez, Elizabeth Rude**
 John Haider Career Achievement Award – **Marit Gulbrandson, Alexander Johnson**
 John Phillip Sousa Award – **Eric Wilson**
Knight Errant Video Journalist of the Year – **Joey Simpson**
Knight Errant Writer of the Year – **Nathanael Ashton-Piper**

Kopp Scholars – **Carolina Jimenez, Zipporah Kaffey, Anthony Kalb, Andrea Ochoa, Andrew Ormsby, Maya Berg, Maria Van Hove**
 Latin Award – **Bryan Sauer**
 Lettering for Excellence – **Nicholas Burns, Alma Godinez, Anne Marie Griebie, Jonah Jerabek, Ryan McTigue, Madison Semler, Michael Wexler**
 Lynch Leadership Award – **Mark Racchini**
 Mathematics Award – **Tyler Metz, Stephanie Wallace**
 National Choral Award – **Carolina Bather, Ty Hansen**
 National Heart of the Arts Award – **Josephine Ross**
 National Honor Society Award – **Macy Rooney**
 National Merit Commended Scholars – **Morgan Bettin-Coleman, Marit Gulbrandson, Alexander Hyjek, Alexander Johnson, Lucas Latterell, James Libbey, Greta Peavy, Eric Wilson**
 National Merit Finalist – **Kathryn Marusich**
 Orchestra Award – **Ty Hansen**
 Paul Seppelt Award – **Jack Will**
 Philip Steffen Campus Ministry Award – **Cole Carlston, Morgan Frank, James Libbey**
 President's Award – **Nathanael Ashton-Piper, Claudia Elsenbast, Zipporah Kaffey, Charles Linder, Peyton Melin, Mark Racchini, Carston Swenson**
 Principal's Leadership Award – **Ty Hansen, Elizabeth Kupchella**
 Pro Lingua Award – **Macy Rooney, Teagan Wold**
 Rita Busch Memorial Award – **Amira Carter, Carlos McMerty-Brummer**
 Science Award – **Kathryn Marusich, Matthew Nyberg**
 Senior Drama Awards – **Ty Hansen, Teagan Wolf**
 Social Studies Award – **Morgan Bettin-Coleman, Katherine Janda**
 Spanish Award – **Kathryn Marusich**
 Student Council Adviser's Award – **Cora Wyvell**
 Sundrum Social Studies Award – **Max Jablonski**
 Wet Paint Award – **Kathryn Sohm, Cora Wyvell**
 William Haben History Award – **Lucas Latterell**



AI Reger award recipients Josie Ross and Eric Wilson

The AI Reger Award is given out each year to two students, one male and one female, chosen by the BSM faculty and staff, for “outstanding dedication and zeal to the service of God and school.”

Ready for their closeup and able to tackle anything, two students exemplify the Red Knight spirit

Josephine Ross – AI Reger Award

Josephine (Josie) Ross is a force to be reckoned with. In everything she does, she brings a sense of purpose to positively influence those around her. “Josie’s talents are matched by her boundless energy and enthusiasm. There is never a task too small or too great for her to undertake in her pursuit of excellence,” shared English teacher and speech adviser Maura Brew.

As one of the 2017 AI Reger Award winners, Ross has accomplished a lot in her time as a Red Knight. In addition to being an excellent student (Ross graduated with summa cum laude honors), she used her energy and enthusiasm to participate in a myriad of extracurricular activities at BSM and in the greater community. Since coming to BSM in 7th grade, Ross has participated in drama, speech, debate, swimming, Red Knight Volunteer Corps, Knight Errant, One Act, NHS, and multiple choirs. Outside of school, she was heavily involved with community theatre having been part of 20 productions with the Chanhassen Valley Family Theatre (CVFT) company.

Per usual, Ross did more than just participate. In more than one instance, she served as a captain or in a leadership role. For example, at CVFT she was chosen as the organization’s student representative



for their board of directors. After learning one of her fellow cast member's parents were deaf, Ross used her position to raise funds for ASL interpreters to accompany every show.

When asked how she found time for it all, Ross was quick to point out the support she'd received from others: "Well, I definitely could not have done it without my parents and the BSM community. My parents have always allowed me to pursue my passions, and at Benilde-St. Margaret's, I was encouraged to further explore the things that interested me and helped me grow as a person. Oh, and I also learned how to function on just enough sleep."

Whether it was qualifying for the National Speech and Debate Association's national tournament or personally inviting a First Amendment Rights Activist to speak at school or being the first Minnesotan to win the National Heart of the Arts Award, Ross did it all with grace, humility and an unceasingly upbeat attitude. "I set a lot of goals for myself, and do my best to reach them. However, I try never to take myself too seriously because it ruins the journey," she revealed.

"When Josie is around, you are just drawn to her. She could be performing in a lead role on stage, or she could be pumping up a group of underclassmen before a big speech tournament. No matter the case, you feel her energy and can't help but embrace it. Additionally, Josie possesses empathy and compassion beyond her years, and that makes her a great role model for teenagers and adults alike," choir teacher Nancy Stockhaus explained.

Brew summed up Ross's impact perfectly: "Josie has been an inspiration for me, and I'm sure for many others here at BSM. She is the embodiment of drive, enthusiasm, and sheer talent; she is also generous, kind, and caring. She is the shining example of so much that is inherent in our mission at BSM: Josie is a gifted student who is happiest when she's sharing those gifts for the good of others."

As she heads off to Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania this fall, we know she is ready to embrace this new challenge. Ross plans to double major in education and theatre. Whatever it may be, there is no doubt she will continue to do great things.

Eric Wilson – AI Reger and AI Blasing Awards

To be successful in one sport takes a lot of hard work, dedication, and perseverance along with some God-given talent. To excel in multiple sports requires even more of all the above and then some. The athleticism seemed to come naturally for **Eric Wilson**. As for those other attributes, he has those in spades as well. For these reasons and more, he was recognized with this year's AI Blasing Award.

During his time as a Red Knight student-athlete, Wilson was a dominant force in both football and track & field. As a football captain, he led the team to its first-ever state championship. Along the way he earned multiple awards and recognition from across the state – a First Team All State Award, Academic All State Award, KARE 11 All Metro Team Award, and the Jerry Miller Christian Service Award to name a few. On the track & field team, he used his mental and physical strength to reach the state tournament in the shot put and discus events in both 2016 and 2017. In 2017, he placed 5th in the shot put and 6th in discus. Wilson holds the BSM records in both events – 57'4.5" in the shot put and 165'5" in discus.

As Co-Head Coach and business teacher Pat Krieger shared, "It has been a privilege to work with Eric these past four years as his football coach. Eric is very deserving of all the accolades he has received on the football field and in the classroom.

continued



Eric Wilson continued

More importantly, Eric is an outstanding young man and role model. His leadership, positive attitude, and work ethic will lead him to success in whatever path he chooses in life.”

This fall, Wilson will continue on the gridiron at Harvard University. As he prepares for life as a student-athlete at the collegiate level, he reflected on his time as a Red Knight: “I’m lucky to be part of the Benilde-St. Margaret’s community. My family, teammates and coaches have been so supportive, and I would not have been as successful without them. My experience at BSM has prepared me to take on any challenge the future may have, and I’m excited to see what’s next.”

To only talk about Wilson as an athlete merely scratches the surface of his character. Some of the same attributes that made him successful in football and track & field also translated well into the classroom and broader community. In addition to earning a perfect GPA, he participated in band, NHS, Link Crew, Red Knight Volunteer Corps, the Red Knots acapella group and has been a member of the MN boychoir for 10 years. This well-rounded approach to school and life also earned Wilson the 2017 AI Reger Award.

A key part of BSM’s mission is to help each student develop his/her fullest potential – in body, spirit and mind. Wilson is an excellent example of this mission in action. He gave 110% in his athletic endeavors, was actively involved in BSM’s faith life and commitment to service, and always made academics a priority. As Wilson stated, “There are so many opportunities to take advantage of at BSM. I wanted to make the most of my school experience, and I know no school could have allowed me to do this better than Benilde-St. Margaret’s.”

Outside BSM, he made a particular impact on a young man with disabilities. As a volunteer at Hammer Residences, Wilson gave this young man a stronger, louder voice and helped him craft his message to share with state politicians. He even went to the Capitol with this young man to meet with elected officials. “Eric is an amazing young man. As a Hammer volunteer, he was responsible, empathetic and committed. We have seen a number of students come to us from Benilde-St. Margaret’s, but Eric stands out in my mind. You just know he is going to do great things in life. His parents should be proud,” said Director of Advocacy & Volunteer Resources Terriann Thommes.

Perhaps band teacher **Paul Keefe** ’74 said it best: “Eric is a student who takes joy in participating. Whether it be football, jazz band, Red Knots, Campus Ministry or academics, Eric gives 100% and is focused. His broad range of talent is outmatched only by his genuine, sincere character. Beyond his many distinguished awards and accomplishments, he is probably one of the nicest young men to walk the halls of BSM.”

Multi-sport athletes

The AI Blasing Award and Athena Award are presented annually to the top female and male athlete in the senior class.

Claudia Eisenbast (below) and Eric Wilson (previous page) are this year’s athletic awards recipients.

Claudia Eisenbast – Athena Award 2017

Following in the footsteps of her older sister, **Claudia Eisenbast** decided to join the cross country and track & field teams here at BSM. With her fall and spring seasons full, she was looking for a winter sport. Her friends encouraged her to join them on the Nordic ski team. Being the go-getter that she is, Eisenbast did not mind stepping out of her comfort zone and quickly agreed to try out.



leave it all on the field

Even though she joined these sports at the suggestions of others, Elsenbast quickly became a skilled athlete in all three. As a Red Knight, she received 13 varsity letters, an All Conference Academic Award (2016) in Cross Country, an All Conference Award (2016) and two All Conference Honorable Mentions (2015, 2017) in Nordic skiing, and an All Conference Honorable Mention (2014) in track & field.

Upon receiving the 2017 Athena Award, Elsenbast felt “very grateful and shocked to be honest.” However, one of her longtime coaches, Jim Wander, was not at all surprised that she received this award. “Claudia is one of those people who no matter what team she is on really makes a difference as an athlete. Some people are striving to win awards, and she is just there to do the best she can. Claudia is also very humble; it is just part of who she is as a teammate and person,” he shared.

When asked what her fondest memory as a Red Knight athlete was, she quickly answered: “I don’t have just one, but I can say that my teammates gave me the most enjoyment.” In fact, Elsenbast says that her mentors and role models were her teammates. The feelings were clearly mutual as she was named a captain in all three sports and crowned the Homecoming Queen all this past school year.

Casey Hanson, Elsenbast’s cross country and track & field coach of five years further confirms her leadership ability. “What makes Claudia a great captain is her level of energy and wit. Racing in cross country, Nordic skiing, and track & field takes a lot of commitment and drive. Claudia brings an intense work ethic to each sport all while looking at the big picture in life making sure to enjoy the moment and the people around her.”

In addition to athletics, Elsenbast had quite the successful career as a Red Knight student. She was a member of the *Knight Errant*, Red Knight Volunteer Corp, Knightlife, National Honor Society, and also founded the Women Advocating for Action Club. Elsenbast credits the BSM community of teachers, coaches and her peers for her opportunities and success. Her teachers likewise couldn’t say enough about her contributions in their classrooms.

“I always enjoy her fresh sense of humor; she lightens up most any situation. Additionally, Claudia is a reliable student with a solid work ethic. She’s just a delight to be with, and that shows with the respect she has earned from her classmates and teachers alike,” said English teacher Tom Backen.

Elsenbast has come a long way and accomplished many goals since her friends and family influenced her to become a three-sport athlete. She worked hard to earn many athletic accomplishments, stayed involved in her community through service, and maintained a high level of academic success. Elsenbast is an excellent example of how we want all of our Red Knights to reach their fullest potential – in body, spirit and mind.

This fall, Elsenbast will be attending The University of Puget Sound in Washington. She is looking forward to continuing her education and “getting out of her comfort zone.”



Hall of Fame

**2017 BSM Athletic Hall of Fame
Awards Ceremony
Friday, October 6, 2017**

The Minikahda Club
3205 Excelsior Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN 55416

11 a.m. social • 11:30 a.m. lunch
12:30 p.m. program

Athletic Hall of Fame Mission Statement

To instill and preserve pride in the outstanding athletic accomplishments or contributions to the athletic history and traditions of St. Margaret's Academy, Benilde High School, and Benilde-St. Margaret's School by alumni athletes, their coaches, directors, and loyal supporters.

**John Jordan '67
Matthias Jordan '68
John Reger '70
Mark Graham '72
Elizabeth Winter Braun '95
Nic Marx '99
Mary Winter Reed '00
Colleen Powers '04
Kachine Alexander '07
Adam Weisenburger '07**

Future inductees will be selected by a committee from nominations submitted by May 15, 2018. Download the nomination form at www.BSMschool.org/athletichalloffamenomination.

**Register for the luncheon and ceremony at
www.BSMschool.org/athletichalloffame.**

The honored faculty and staff are
Joanie Sauer, Amanda Anderson,
Tom Backen and Debbie Martinson.



No surprise,
these honorees have perfected
the art of making a
personal connection

*The 2017 end-of-the-year awards ceremony took place on Tuesday, May 23.
Each year, BSM honors outstanding faculty and staff by presenting several awards:
Staff of the Year, Faculty of the Year, Apple Polisher Award, and the Parents' Choice Award.
This year's winners show how simple, personal connections can make all the difference.*

Debbie Martinson |

Staff of the Year

Since 1988, Debbie Martinson has been one of the first faces you see when you walk into Benilde-St. Margaret's. And, for the past 28 years, she has greeted thousands of people with a smile that practically never leaves her face. It is one of her defining attributes and one of the many reasons she received the Staff of the Year Award.

When she started at BSM, Martinson was the receptionist in the Main Office. In addition to greeting every visitor with her smile and positive demeanor, she also managed the school calendar. The job was a perfect fit because it still allowed her to be home for her school-aged children. Eventually, Martinson's kids, **Kathleen Martinson Stutzman** '96, **Andrew Martinson** '99 and **Susan Martinson Biber** '02, joined her at BSM where she was able to watch them all as they went from Red Knight students to alumni.

All these years later, Martinson, now Assistant to the President, still enjoys being a Red Knight. "I look forward to coming to work every day. The energy of the students is contagious, and every year is different. The students, families, alumni and my colleagues (friends) all contribute or have contributed to making the BSM community such a great place to be!"

Although much of her work is behind the scenes, it is clear her colleagues (friends) have noticed. As Registrar and longtime friend **Patrice Miller Carlson** '78 shared, "Debbie is an integral part of our school community. She's great at making everyone feel welcome, and she knows how to keep a million things organized at once. Debbie is an incredible asset, not only to our President and front office staff, but to the entire BSM community."

We are thrilled to honor her with the Staff of the Year Award, and we are blessed that she has remained a Red Knight for all these years. Thank you, Debbie Martinson!

Amanda Anderson |

Faculty of the Year

When asked how she became a high school counselor, Amanda Anderson gave a very matter-of-fact answer: "I have always known that I wanted to work with people in a helping profession. After graduating from college with a psychology degree, I was lucky enough to work in a college and career center. I realized that I really liked working with high school

students, and I loved talking with them about their futures. I decided to apply to grad school for K-12 school counseling, and I've been doing what I love ever since!"

It is clear that Anderson loves her job, and her peers have noticed. So it was no surprise that she was recognized with the 2017 Faculty of the Year Award.

Since 2000, Anderson has been counseling Red Knights to successful futures. She has been a driving force in BSM's College & Career Center, and has seen the guidance department grow from three to seven. Through it all, she has always kept the students first. "Working with the students is by far the most favorite part of my job; they are amazing! Watching them grow and change and learn challenges me to keep growing, changing and learning too. I can honestly say I've never been bored doing my job, and I absolutely love every minute of it," she shared.

The work she does very literally puts students on paths to be their best selves, but her compassion, patience and kindness are what really make a difference. As a colleague explained, "Amanda knows how to connect with her students. The way she individually supports each of them shows how much she truly cares. This is much more than a job to her."

At the end of each year, Anderson has made a positive difference in the lives of many graduating seniors. Although she may end up crying at every commencement, the tears come from a happy place.

Tom Backen |

NHS Apple Polisher

Aside from a parent, few individuals are able to influence the lives of teenagers like a teacher. Even fewer are able to do this year after year. However, for the last 33 years, Tom Backen has made this his life's work at Benilde-St. Margaret's.

Since 1984, Backen has been a staple in the BSM English department. As a teacher, he has helped hundreds of students refine their ability to read, write and think critically. As an adviser, he started the debate team and led students to national championships. As a department chair, he has led the English faculty through decades of change. Through all of this, Backen has remained passionate and dedicated to his profession and to our community.

continued

Tom Backen continued

Therefore, it comes as no surprise that as he ends his final year at BSM, the students felt it necessary to honor him with the Apple Polisher Award. Given this award is student-nominated and selected, it truly is a fitting way for such an amazing educator to close out his career. As some students shared, “Mr. Backen pushes students to do their best, and is one of the best, most caring, intelligent and organized teachers I have ever had.” or “He is always honest with his students and does his best to help them become better readers, writers, and better people.”

Reflecting on his own career, Backen feels truly blessed: “I am so very glad I became a teacher and not a lawyer (as was my plan in college). Teaching has been so life-giving to me, and BSM was a great place to build a meaningful, rewarding career. I will always treasure my time as a Red Knight as well as the laughter and smiles my students have given me over the years.”

As he “Thoreaus” himself into retirement in rural Wisconsin, Backen offered some final words of wisdom for the BSM community: “Remember that you learn something new every day – that’s what makes life worth living!”

And to you, Mr. Backen, the entire BSM community says thank you! Congratulations on your Apple Polisher win. Congratulations on an incredible career. And, congratulations on a much-deserved retirement.

Joanie Sauer | *Parents’ Choice*

Back in 1975, Benilde High School and St. Margaret’s Academy had just merged to become Benilde-St. Margaret’s School. That same year, Elmer and Bev Kopp enrolled their eldest Jeanmarie as a freshman. The family was heavily involved at school. Elmer served on the BSM Board, and Bev played an integral role in the Mother’s Club. At the time, their youngest, Joanie, was only four years old.

The Mothers’ Club still exists today; however, it goes by a different name – the Parent Association (PA). From social activities, events, and parenting and faith speakers to fundraisers and student wellness and prayer opportunities, the PA helps our community thrive. Another important duty of the PA is to present the Parents’ Choice Award. For this year’s recipient, **Joanie Kopp Sauer** ’88, the award came with a little extra meaning.

Sauer has been coming to BSM for nearly her entire life. First, it was as a younger sibling, then as a student, and now, more than 40 years later, she is back as a math teacher and parent. Though she has only been back a short time, her impact has been great, and the parents have noticed.

As one shared when nominating Sauer, “Through her development of the online math curriculum, along with her positive approach to

**You Can’t
RETIRE
From Being
GREAT!**

**Congratulations to
three great Red Knights**



Tom Backen, Mary Glover and Al Liekhus

After a combined total of almost 75 years dedicated to Benilde-St. Margaret’s, three longtime employees are moving on to the next adventure. English teacher Tom Backen started at BSM in 1984. Al Liekhus joined BSM’s maintenance department in 1993.

Math teacher Mary Glover began teaching at BSM in 2000. Each of these three has made a lasting impression on the Red Knight community, and we wish them well in their retirement.

teaching, Joanie has empowered our son to embrace learning math. She is always available to students with questions and is so supportive of their individual learning process. Thank you Joanie!”

To Sauer, the ability to work at BSM “is a true blessing.” She realized early on that “teaching and making connections with teenagers feeds her soul,” and being able to do this at BSM just feels right. “It’s like coming home, and I find it very comforting that I get to celebrate Jesus at work. Plus, I finally get to call Mr. Bowler, Dan!”

BSM is happy to have Sauer home, and we know she will continue motivating her students to do their best. “She has the ability to teach to students’ strengths which gives them confidence and helps with their overall approach to school. We cannot thank her enough.”

1948

St. Margaret's Academy alumnae met at Park Tavern for lunch on May 18 to celebrate their 69th reunion: clockwise **Jerry McMullin Grazzini, Terry Miller Haak, Phyllis Cotton Fahey, Joan Gormley Belanger, Nan Winslow Fraser, Bobbi Wilson Kenney, Jeanne McLaughlin Barron, and Rosemary Kieve Madden.** ▶

1952

A 65-year reunion from St. Margaret's Academy brought classmates together on Tuesday, June 13, for a luncheon at Jax Café in Minneapolis: front row (l-r) **Marlene Beriow Dowson, JoAnne Nilan Anderson, and Dorothy Buchanan Lodahl;** second row (l-r) **Patricia Coulombe Thompson, Maxine Miles Prokop, Helen Sammon Peterson, Janice Pull Peters, Mary Delaney Larson, Kathleen Siede Nelson, Mary Kummer Ingaldson, Geraldine Miller Maloney, Mary Mach Peterson, Bonnie Mell Koehler, Rita Lorsung Peller, Lorraine Michaels, and Anna Mrisch Glynn.** ▶

1963

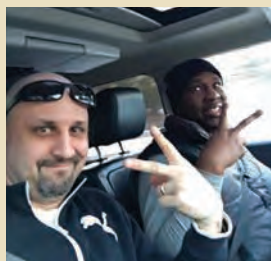
Mike Scherer received the prestigious 2017 Fr. Walter Reger Distinguished Alumnus Award from Saint John's University Alumni Association for service to the Saint John's community. He has been a loyal supporter of SJU and provided tremendous business and community leadership over the years.

1965

Tim Munkeby has published a third book, a novel: *Will*. "Through the story of an unlikely friendship, *Will* addresses our most inner conflicts of love, death, and the legacy we choose to leave behind." To order, go to www.timmunkeby.com or to Amazon (rating 4.8 out of 5) or any bookstore. If you are interested in a book club, contact Tim through his website.

1970

Brad Peterson received an Outstanding Achievement Award, the highest recognition the University of Minnesota bestows on alumni, for research, teaching, and his service to the profession. He is a member of the NASA Advisory Council and chairs its science committee. He is also chair-elect of the astronomy section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is currently on appointment as a Distinguished Visiting Astronomer at the Space Telescope Science Institute (which operates the Hubble Space Telescope) in Baltimore, Maryland.

**1993**

Jason Doll and Victor Ferguson met up for a trip in March. Jason is a senior recruiter at Polaris Industries and Vic drives a limo in Minneapolis. ◀

1994

Ann Shallbetter Rivera married Enrique Rivera in November 2014. They are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, Benjamin, in December 2016. Ann is a national account manager with Kelly Services, and Enrique is an accounting supervisor with Ramsey County. The Rivera family lives and works in St. Paul.

**1995**

Chris Culp is CEO and a partner of The Excelsior Group (TEG), as well as a board member of Opportunity Advisors, a real estate investment fund affiliated with TEG. During Chris's tenure at TEG, the company has grown from 22 to approximately 100 employees, and annual revenues have grown exponentially. The Excelsior Group was featured in last fall's Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal as a Fast 50 Award winner. This recognition ranks the fastest-growing privately held companies in the Twin Cities.

Chris Staley's company, Horizontal Integration, was featured in last fall's Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal as a Fast 50 Award winner. Chris is the executive vice president and founding partner of Horizontal Integration. The company staffs about 150 employees and works daily to connect the dots between technology and marketing through the firm's digital agency and staffing arms. St. Louis Park-based HI saw \$82 million in revenue in 2016, a jump of 25 percent. Since it moved into its modern space last fall, it has hired about 40 employees.

1997

Jeff Zajac and his wife, Vanessa, are proud to announce the birth of Harrison Robert on December 16, 2016.

1999

Leah and **Mike Ryan** announce the birth of Rita Ryan on April 5. Mike is the senior vice president, Market Leader North Region, and President of RYAN A+E, Inc. The Ryans live in Minneapolis.

After studying sustainability and permaculture in Xalapa, Mexico, **Curtis Wilson** moved back to St. Louis Park and is now the executive director of

SEEDS. SEEDS is a food and wellness nonprofit whose mission is to "grow wellness and resiliency in St. Louis Park by empowering youth and community members through action and education." For social equity, SEED collaborated this spring with Cooking Matters for a series to help low-income families develop healthy cooking strategies when organic gets expensive.

2000

John Kozak and wife Karen announce the birth of Andrew Victor on April 10.

2002

Clare Diegel and Andy Crowder were married in Seattle in September 2016. Many friends and family celebrated with her, and world-renowned tenor and classmate **Michael Fabiano** sang "Ave Maria" at the ceremony.

MaiNhia Kang was featured in the "People on the Move" section in the March issue of Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal. MaiNhia was named president and CEO at Twin Cities Center for Psychology and Wellness. Owner of this clinic, MaiNhia is planning a renovation and fall move into a new facility three times the size of the current location.

Ryan and **Anne Suddendorf Seibert** announce the birth of Adalynn Grey on September 25, 2016. Anne is the director of biological process development at TeleFlex Inc. and Ryan is the administrative sergeant for the Robbinsdale police department. The Seiberts live in Chanhassen.

Stephanie Anderson Stabinger and husband Brian welcomed Emily Sue on February 11. The Stabingers live in Minnetonka.

2003

Jo Jacobson Shultz and husband Mark are excited to announce the birth of their son, Taylor Richard, born April 29. Stella (4) and Landon (2) are excited to have a new baby in their family. The Shultz family lives in Fridley.

2004

Colleen Powers led the St. Catherine University Wildcats to a winning season on the softball field. She took over as head coach in 2014 after two seasons as the head coach at Lakeville South High School and stints as a college assistant at West Texas A&M and Central Michigan. In her first season with the Wildcats (2014), the team went 8-25 but that record improved to 28-10 the following year. St. Kate's won 38 games in 2017, a program record, and won both the NCAA Regional and Super Regional Championships, moving to the NCAA Division III Women's College World Series. Powers became the youngest coach in program history to reach 100 wins and now has a career record of 108-61.

2005

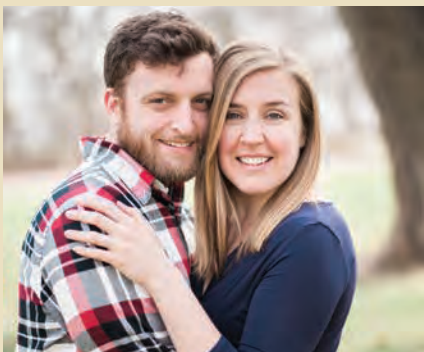
Claire Goodrich Huerter and husband Jack announce the birth of their first child, Lucy Day, born March 1. Lucy is lucky enough to share her birthday with her mom, Claire. The HuerTERS moved to Plymouth in July.

Jake Wegleitner and wife Tara welcomed second daughter Piper Anne to their family in May 2017. Cora (3) is loving the big sister role.

Britta and **Bennett Lang** are very excited to announce the birth of their daughter, Lillian Irene Lang, on April 25.

Natalie and **Mike Evans** welcomed Nell Charlotte on May 1. The family lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Max Neraasen and Katherine Franz were married in Milwaukee on Friday, June 2. ▼



2007

Tannica Jacobson and Sam Larson were married on September 24, 2016. Tannica works in development for Common Hope and Sam works in water plant technology for the City of Minneapolis. ▼



Maddy and **Nick Wegleitner** announce the birth of their son, Emmett Lawrence, on April 6. Nick owns Innate Health Chiropractic and the Wegleitners live in Plymouth.

2008

Ryan Shaver returned to BSM to speak to a journalism class in May. Ryan joined KARE 11 in August of 2015 and works as a sports reporter. ▶

TIME magazine featured a cover story on May 25, written by **Alexandra Sifferlin**, entitled "The Weight Loss Trap: Why Your Diet Isn't Working."

2009

Marielle Mohs moved from Little Rock, Arkansas, where she was a CBS affiliate reporter and weekend evening anchor to KMOV in St. Louis. At KMOV Marielle will be a multimedia journalist. She is a graduate from the University of Denver.

Alum and current BSM English teacher **Kaia Preus** recently had her short story, "Dead Woman's Pass" published in the Summer 2017 edition of *Pleiades*, a literary journal where Kaia is listed as a "New Literary Discovery." Her story is also introduced with high praise by one of her mentors at St. Olaf College.

2010

Drew Frenz married Melanie Brylow on April 29, at St. Augustine Church in Milwaukee. Melanie is a paralegal at Meshbesh & Spence, and Drew is a city planner for the City of Minneapolis. They recently purchased a house in South Minneapolis. ▼



Jay Roane and **Emily Roberts** were married on August 13, 2016, at the Basilica of St. Mary. Many Red Knights were in attendance. ▼



2011

Jordyn Burns helped her hockey team, the Buffalo Beauts, win the Isobel Cup, beating the heavily favored Boston Pride, 3-2 on March 19, in Lowell, Massachusetts. The Beauts are part of the women's hockey league (NWHL) established in 2015. The league's championship trophy is the Isobel Cup, named after Lady Isobel Gathorne-Hardy, the daughter of Frederick Stanley (donor of the Stanley Cup).

Payton Goodrich is pursuing his Masters/PHD at Berkely. He was awarded the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship that will fund his research in developing sensor nodes that monitor the nation's electric grid to prepare it for the anticipated increase in local renewable energy resources.

2012

Plenty of "plant-based" menu items from the Herbivorous Butcher in Minneapolis will be featured on the menu at J. Selby's, a new restaurant in St. Paul. Herbivorous Butcher is the first vegan butcher shop in the U.S. and specializes in offering 100% vegan, cruelty-free meat and cheese alternatives that capture the best flavors, textures, and nutrients without negative impact on health, animals, and the environment. Herbivorous Butcher is owned and operated by **Kale Walch**.



2013

Haley Jerabek graduated magna cum laude from the honors program at Xavier University with a biology major and chemistry minor. Haley was captain of the cross country and track teams her senior year. She has accepted a position as an associate chemist at Medtronic. She is pictured with her mom and dad, Angie and John, and her brother **Jonah** '17, a recent BSM graduate. ▲

Graduate **Jarred Oftedahl** completed his 3rd varsity season for the St. Cloud State Huskies. The team won the D2 National Duals in Indiana, were named NSIC Champions, and finished second overall at the National Tournament in Birmingham in March. Oftedahl was named to the NSIC All-Conference first team and was a national qualifier.

Amanda Semler graduated as a salutatorian from USC and is headed for a PhD program at Stanford University next fall. Amanda will study earth systems science, focusing on the microbiology of the deep ocean. To aid in her marine biology studies while at USC, Amanda spent time scuba diving off Palau and Madagascar, was an educational diver for a L.A. aquarium and helped researchers by doing fieldwork under water.

Three Red Knights were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa at the University of Notre Dame prior to their graduation on May 21: (l-r) **Anne Arnason** (BS, magna sum laude), **Caitlin Sisk** (BA, summa cum laude), and **Michael Kohler** (BS, summa cum laude). ▼



2014
Callaghan Commers visited India recently as part of the Notre Dame Student International Business Club. Besides visiting the Taj Mahal, they saw two extremes in India by visiting the affluence represented in the Mumbai Stock Exchange and the desperation of the Mumbai slums. The slums in Mumbai are home to nearly 1,000,000 people. ▼



Kathleen Marinelli, a junior at Creighton University, has earned one of the nation's most prestigious awards for students in mathematics, science and technology. She was named a scholar in the 2017 Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program. She is a biology major with a minor in Italian. Kathleen is planning to earn a MD/PhD in translational science to conduct biochemical research of disease mechanisms at the molecular level.

Junior Gopher center **Kelly Pannek** was named CCM First Team All-American at the NCAA Awards banquet before the NCAA Frozen Four began.

She will receive the honor of being added to the Ridder Arena mural over the summer. Pannek came into the NCAA Frozen Four as the nation's scoring leader with 61 points, 1.61 points per game, 42 assists, and 1.11 assists per game. This season, Pannek became the 32nd Gopher all-time to reach 100 career points. Kelly was also named to the USA National Team and will head to Florida to train for the 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea.

2017

Recent grads ran one final marathon together in June; (l-r) **Tony Valerius**, cross country coach Mark Snell, **Skyler Burns-Goetzmann**, **Jonah Jerabek**, and **Mark Racchini**. ▼



In Memoriam

Dale Alberts
Father of Gretchen
Libby
Andrew '99
Stephen '03

Vera Haraburda Bednarczyk '31

Patricia Calder '67
Sister of Catherine '76
Judy Calder Raum '58 – deceased
Bill
Jim
Mike
Daughter of Dorothy Kelvie Calder '35 – deceased

Dennis Clifford '69
Brother of Sheila Clifford Lind
Cathy Clifford Brennan
James '73
John
Mark '78
Brian

Oliver Cohen
Son of Bridget Mary Murphy '86

Christine Drahos
Mother of Greg '68
Cookie Drahos Dumas
Cheri Drahos Dixon '78

Lenard Eichten
Father of Chris '99
Jon '02

Paula Kozlak Evan '82
Daughter of Kathy Greeley Kozlak '61
Sister of Ann Kozlak Moore '81
Sue Ann Kozlak Richards '84
Katie Kozlak Graif '86
Bill
Joe

Margaret Hagerty
Mother of Bridget '78
John
Ann Hagerty Hicks '81
Catherine Hagerty Kirchner '84
Nora
Michael

Hazel (Spence) Hastings
Mother of C. Thomas, Jr.
Jill Hastings-Storer
Michael
Maureen Hastings Shaver '79

Elaine McRaith
Mother of Peg '67
Jeanne McRaith Sheriff
Shannon McRaith Campbell
Patrick
Thomas '79
Molly McRaith Sigel '83

Lorraine Cavanaugh Meehan '46
Mother of Elaine Meehan Pellish
Richard '77
Robert

Carole Pence Miller '62
Sister of David '64
Ellen '66 – deceased
Diane Pence Van Valkenburg '64 – deceased
Frances Pence Myran

James Mills
Husband of Kathy Moccia Mills '69

George Mogush
Father of Tom '76
Dave '79
Barbara Mogush Hill
Mary Margaret Mogush Hillan

Lori Campbell Mullarky '86
Sister of John '78
Michael '79
Cathy Campbell Weisenback '83

James Nordstrom
Husband of Kathleen Williams Nordstrom '65

L. Jane Pattee
Mother of David – deceased
Margaret – deceased
Ann Pattee Widseth '65
Michael '66
John '67
Mindy '68
Lisa '76
Laurie Pattee Russ '77

Jack Ruder
Son of Tim '80

Carol Wren Shallbetter '50
Mother of Paul '75
Timothy
Todd

Alan Tennesen
Father of Eric '90
Nate '92
Corinn Tennesen Cella '95

Rosemary Boyland Thiel '40
Mother of Paula Wagner Caldwell '66

Ethel Varner
Mother of Mary Varner Pelant '57 – deceased
Sharon Varner Pelant '60

Nash Wicka
Brother of Coco '20

Steve Zajac
Father of Jeff '97

"At Benilde, I was taught to live by a set of values and to believe in myself. I want future generations to be able to experience something similar."

—Dr. Richard Peterson '65



'65 alum gives million dollar gift to transform school

Benilde-St. Margaret's School received a gift of one million dollars from **Richard J. Peterson, MD**, Class of 1965. Peterson was raised in South Minneapolis and attended Annunciation grade school before Benilde High School.

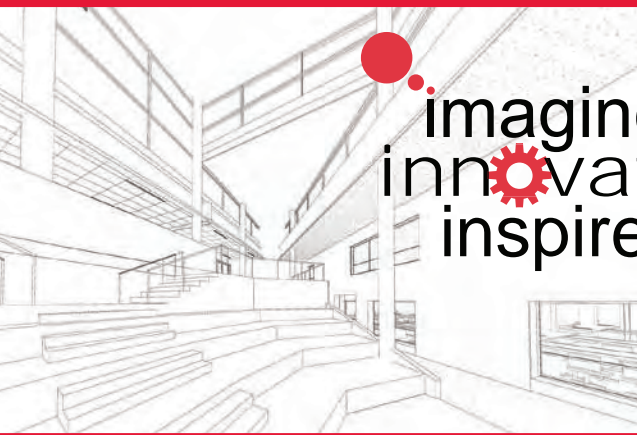
During his time at Benilde, one of Peterson's favorite classes was chemistry with Earl Thompson. He went on to study chemistry at the University of Minnesota and medicine at Temple University. Peterson had a successful career practicing gastroenterology in Chicago, and on the side, he became a savvy real estate investor.

Describing what moved him to make this large gift, Peterson shared, "I got to thinking, 'I can't take the money with me.' It just made sense to contribute to a worthy cause." He went on to reminisce how the Christian Brothers were transformative during his youth. Brother Bernard was a particular mentor to Peterson. "At Benilde, I was taught to live by a set of values and to believe in myself. I want future generations to be able to experience something similar."

Peterson appreciated learning philosophy and has fond memories of performing in the Glee Club with his classmates. To this day, he enjoys opera, orchestra, and theatre – Shakespeare specifically. Peterson has travelled to more than 80 countries and has attended Shakespeare performances all over the world.

BSM President Dr. Adam Ehrmantraut explains how the school will use Peterson's gift: "This is a transformational gift for the 'Imagine, Innovate, Inspire' capital campaign. It will go toward constructing a new science center. We will create three STEM classrooms in the lower level, with one built specifically for Biomedical Sciences."

The fundraising campaign will create additional opportunities for all BSM students. As a result, students will experience new curricula, renovated classrooms, new STEM labs, an amphitheater entrance to the lower level, and a large interactive learning center. Peterson hopes his gift will inspire other alumni to give back to BSM. "Whether it is \$10 or one million dollars, everyone can do their fair share to make a difference."



imagine
innovate
inspire+



Construction of the new science center will begin summer of 2018. If you have questions about the campaign or want to get involved, contact Chief Advancement Officer Rebecca Kolis at 952-915-4351 or rkolis@BSMSchool.org.

Bulletin Board

Reunion Information

Whether celebrating 10 years or 50, classes from SMA, Benilde, and BSM embrace the opportunity to get together and reconnect with their classmates. **If you graduated in a year ending in a 2 or a 7, it is your reunion year.** For additional information about your reunion contact Mary Fran O'Keefe, at mfokeefe@BSMschool.org or 952-915-4360. **For additional details or to RSVP to your reunion, call or e-mail the reunion contact listed below.**



SMA 1947 • Tuesday, August 22, 11a.m. – 4 p.m., Party Room at St. Therese Home, 8008 Bass Lake Rd., New Hope, 55428. RSVP to reunion contact: Mary Joan Tracy Larsen at 763-531-7936.

SMA 1961 • Saturday, August 26, 11:30 a.m. cash bar and social, 12:30 luncheon (order from the menu, individual checks), Jax Café, 1928 University Ave. NE, Minneapolis, 55418. RSVP by August 18 to reunion contact: Jeanne Warner Nelson nelsonjeanne11@gmail.com or 612-750-2207.

SMA 1962 • Saturday, August 26, Noon, Woman's Club of Minneapolis, 410 Oak Grove St., Minneapolis, 55403. RSVP to reunion contact: Mary Cay Longley 507-645-2965 by August 11.

SMA 1967 • Saturday, September 16, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., Jax Café, 1928 University Ave. NE, Minneapolis, 55418. Reunion contacts: Sue Meyer Colten at suecolten@gmail.com and Kathy McGonagle at kmcgonagle2012@gmail.com.

Benilde 1967 • Saturday, September 16, 3 – 5 p.m., Jax Café, 1928 University Ave NE, Minneapolis, 55418. RSVP to reunion contact: Roger Renner rerenner@ehrenner.com or 763-427-6100. Attend the reunion only or join classmates for a Twins game following the reunion at 6:10 p.m.

BSM 1977 • Saturday, July 22, 7 p.m., Lord Fletcher's, 3746 Sunset Drive, Spring Park, 55361. RSVP to reunion contact: Connie Kane McClurg ckmclurg@q.com or 612-819-1860.

BSM 1982 • Date to be determined. Reunion contacts: Lisa Fitzgerald Miller wearthemillers@comcast.net or 612-964-7448 and Scott Simonett scott@epicpropertyervicesinc.com or 952-484-8503.

BSM 1987 • Date to be determined. Reunion contacts: Heidi Teclaw Wolf at hwolf@BSMschool.org, Sharon Ness McGrann at m McGrann@mac.com, Tony Kuczek at tkooch1@mac.com and Michele Labore at Michele.labore@results.net.

BSM 1992 • Date to be determined. Reunion contacts: Adrienne Guze Fitzmaurice at aceguze@gmail.com, Jeff Kaster at jfkaster1@gmail.com, Meaghan McClellan at mcclellan_meg@yahoo.com, Anne Loeper Schultz at anne.e.schultz@gmail.com and Josh Zuehlke at JWZuehlke@cbburnet.com.

BSM 1997 • Date to be determined. Reunion contact: Laura Hanson Conlon Ihconlon@gmail.com or 612-406-5825.

BSM 2002 • Saturday, September 30, 5 – 7 p.m., Excelsior Brewing Company, 421 3rd Street, Excelsior, 55331, Cash bar. RSVP to reunion contact: Sarah Rauth Polovitz at 612.743.6801 or sarah.polovitz@gmail.com.

BSM 2007 • Wednesday, November 22. Reunion Contacts: Kaylee Arostegui at kayleearostegui@gmail.com and Lauren Walsh Jensen at lauren.d.jensen@gmail.com.

BSM 2012 • Saturday, November 25, 2017. To help, please contact Julia Weber at 952-221-2050, julia.m.weber3@gmail.com or Hannah Morin at 952-905-8809, hannahmaemorin@gmail.com.

2018 Reunion—BSM 1998 • Saturday, June 23, 2018, 6 – 10 p.m., Stella's Fish Café, 1400 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, 55408. Reunion contact: Stacie Garvert Shea at staciemshea@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

Alumni Soccer

Thursday, August 10

6:30 p.m. BSM Stadium

Bring family and friends, and stay for a barbeque after the game.

Alumni Cross Country

Saturday, August 19

10 a.m. Bass Lake Park • 1-mile run

SMA 1960

Touch base with friends and celebrate our 75th birthdays! Meet me on

Friday, August 4, 5 p.m.

Kip's Irish Pub

Minneapolis Marriott West
9960 Wayzata Blvd., 55426

Food and drink available for purchase

Let me know if you can join me.

Judy

Judy Merchant Nelson,
mjudenel@aol.com

**1965 Alums
Take Note**

**Put September 16,
2017, 7 p.m.
on your calendar.**

Local high school classes of 1965 will be hosting an "AROUND 70 BIRTHDAY BASH" at the Knights of Columbus, Marian Hall, at 1114 American Blvd West, Bloomington. The evening will include rolling to "The DelCounts," appetizers, cash bar and lots of memorable conversation. Other schools receiving information are Holy Angels, DeLaSalle, Regina, St. Thomas, Washburn, Southwest, St. Louis Park, Edina and Visitation. Any questions please contact De LaSalle graduate John "Bud" Lilly at jlilly2@comcast.net.

Homecoming 2017

The Red Zone

Benilde-St.Margaret's

7 p.m. BSM Stadium • BSM vs. Holy Angels

Friday, October 6

The Red Zone • Homecoming Cookout

Students, families, alumni, faculty and staff are invited to attend the pregame Homecoming Cookout.

4:30 - 6:30 p.m. • Haben Plaza

<10 <20 <30 <40

Event details and online registration information coming soon.

Alumni ALBUM

Seattle Celebration—In September of 2016, Clare Diegel '02 and Andy Crowder were married in Seattle surrounded by family and friends. Pictured here at the reception are Red Knights Michael Fabiano '02, John Dugan '02, Cate Lombardo Dugan '02, Tim Diegel '63, Clare Diegel '02, Andy Crowder, Maggie Martyn Kumbalek '02, Jackie Noack Hillman '02, Andrew George '02, Robbie Gustafson '02, and maid of honor, Shannon Diegel '03.



Under the Lights—BSM showed off the new lights on the baseball field with a night game and alumni reunion on May 11. Mike DesLauriers '05 threw out the first pitch in honor of his Red Knight record of highest batting average in a season.



1

1— Mike DesLauriers '05, Bennett Lang '05, Alex Zeman '05 and Greg Zeman '11.

2— back row (l-r) Maria Sullivan, Katie DesLauriers Sullivan '99, Meghan Lind DesLauriers '99, Rick DesLauriers holding Jane DesLauriers; middle row (l-r) Amy DesLauriers Crowther '01, holding Beckett; front row (l-r) James Sullivan and Mary DesLauriers.

3—John Duda '10, Riley Simonetti '16 and Tyler Wyvell '15.



2



3

Day of Giving was a Huge Success!



#RedKnightsUNITE

Thank you, Benilde-St. Margaret's community, for coming together to support the Annual Fund with your gifts on BSM's Annual Day of Giving, May 18, 2017!

A special thank you to the generous group of donors who provided the \$100,000 dollar for dollar match!

\$270,305 Total – 23% increase (includes matching gift fund)

423 Donors – 32% increase

Current or Former Parents	195
Alumni	200
Current or Former Grandparents	38
Current or Former Faculty/Staff	34
Friends	8

(Donors can be designated in more than one category)

Top 5 Alumni Classes by participation:

BSM 1986, Benilde 1968, BSM 1993, BSM 1978, BSM 1982

Alumni/Senior Breakfast at BSM—
On Monday, May 1, alums celebrated their BSM roots and returned to have breakfast with the graduating seniors. They shared their college and work experiences with students and added to the excitement of national college decision day for our Red Knights.



1— Josh Hollie '03, Charlie Daum '01, Dave Tolbert '01, Joe Burns '01, John Klinsenberg '01, and Steve Dunbar '01.
2— Angie Allen Waccholz '94, Mike Allen '99 and biology teacher Mr. Mark Peterson.
3— Caroline Hittler '06, Bennett Lang '05, and Alexandra Campion Young '04.
4— Lisa Brintnall Cronk '99 and Michelle Brintnall Chester '04.



CSCOE Bash—The Class of '83 was well represented at the gala for the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence (CSCOE): (l-r) Michelle Fournier Weber, Steve Pellegrine, Kevin Weber, Dan Murphy, and Mike Pellegrine. In addition to raising valuable funds for CSCOE, the event honored visionaries Connie and John Pellegrine.

Fall Wedding—Tannica Jacobson '07 and Sam Larson celebrated their wedding on September 24 with many family and friends: first row (l-r) Katie Eckerline '07, Laura Scherer '07, Katherine Poley '07, Jess Palkert '07, Tannica, Kathy Jacobson, Mary Rivero '07, Jill Somers Rivero '77, and Kelsey Jacobson '10; second row (l-r) Sam Gondeck '07, Peter Scherer '82, Pat Hamilton '77, Sue Higgins Hamilton '77, Mike Jacobson '05, Danny Miller '07, Ellie Hawkinson O'Brien '07, and Kathy Hawkinson.



Ataxia Award—The Sweeney family accepted an award for raising over \$500,000 and increasing awareness of Ataxia. The disease has affected three members of the Sweeney family. The award was given by The National Ataxia Foundation: back row (l-r) Kathleen Sweeney Schnobrich '65, Bill Sweeney '64, Maryann '65, and Terry Sweeney '76; front, Tom Sweeney '75. Mike Sweeney '62 missed the photo. The 8th annual Walk for Ataxia will be held on Saturday, September 9 at Wolfe Park in St. Louis Park.



Alumni ALBUM

Baseball Visit—
Adam Ehrmantraut visited with
Adam Weisenburger '07 at a
section baseball game in May.
Adam Weisenburger is still living
the dream in the major league
baseball world.



Lacrosse Reunion—Players from the first state championship team returned to campus to reminisce and watch the 2017 team: (l-r) coach Andy Michog, Patrick Johnson '07, Matt Nanne '09, Justin Berrett '07, Monroe Vibbard '07, Sam Gondeck '07, Michael Gilligan '07, Matt Draxler '07, Conor Dillion '07, and John Biglow '07.



Happy Grads—Holding their hard earned diplomas and carrying their flowers in the St. Margaret's tradition are: back row (l-r) Mackenzie Morris, Lexi Gay, and Amira Carter; front (l-r) Erin O'Shaughnessy and Megan Cornell.



Proud Alums—Valedictorians Stephanie Wallace and Maria Van Hove sported their new alumni t-shirts at the all-night graduation party.



Wedding Fun—The wedding of Max Neraasen and Katherine Franz brought many alums together: back row (l-r) Donna Joranger Himmel, Mary Joranger Neraasen '76, Joe Bowen '05, Nick Hittler '05, and Megan Mura Ward '05; front Peter Neraasen '07, Max Neraasen '05, Dave Sawnsen '05, and Peter Lucke '05.

Red Knights Return—Several alums returned to school in May to say hi to friends and visit with teachers: Mr. Tom Backen, Giulia Imholte '13, Jackie Lawyer '15, Hannah Scherer '15, Sofie Madden '15, Ms. Maura Brew, Luke Guidinger '15 and Ryan Shaver '08 (front).

Graduation 2017

Fitzgerald Celebration—Coke Fitzgerald led the celebration for her granddaughter Gracey Scott. Also there to celebrate were: back row (l-r) Elle Scott '14, Breanna Gaffney, Gracey, Sandy Gaffney, Sheila Fitzgerald Steichen '90, Thomas Steichen; front row (l-r) Coke, Frances Steichen, Maeve Steichen, Sofie Scott '15, and Beth Fitzgerald Scott '82.



End of the Line—Chris Hickok '83 and his wife, Liz, saw their last BSM graduate cross the stage. Chris is pictured with Jessica '12, Helena '17, and Liz.

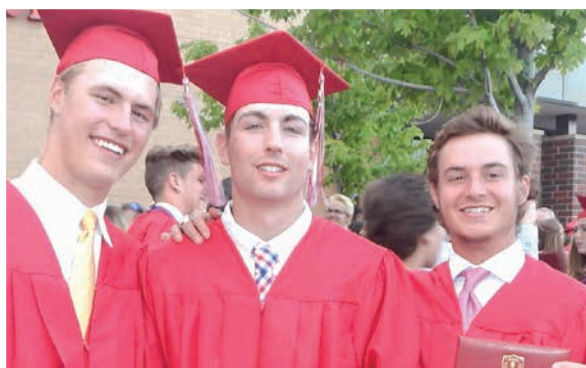


Arostegui Grads—Marielle '13, Nolan '17, Mary Fran O'Keefe, Kaylee '07 and Zach '09 celebrated Nolan's graduation from BSM.



Legacy Graduate—James Libbey '17 has a long history at BSM. He is pictured with his grandmother, Mary Anne Carter '63, and mother Amy Alcorn Libbey '89. James's great-grandmother, Grace Smith Carter, graduated from St. Margaret's Academy in 1938.

Valedictory Tradition—Valedictorian Bryan Sauer posed with his sisters who also finished at the top of their class: Nicole Sauer '12, Bryan, and Michelle Sauer '14.



Final Hurrah—Derek Drees, Matt Brooks, and Alex Houlihan were all smiles after their graduation on June 2.

Alumni ALBUM



Next Generation—Sean Lynch '17, celebrated with family after his graduation on June 2: back row (l-r) Nancy Lynch, Patty Lynch Stapleton '76, Ellen Lynch Reader '80, Tom Lynch '85, Maureen Gallagher Shurson '88, Anastasia Gallagher Lynch '85, and Ann Lynch Pittman '77; front row (l-r) Sean Lynch '17, Anna Shurson '19, Frankie Lynch '20, Michael Shurson '22, Patrick Mullin '22, and Thomas Lynch Jr. '22.



Class of '93—Friends gathered at the home of Kara Hanrahan Spike for an evening of fun; (l-r) back row Kate McNally, Holly Henn Kangas, and Peter Spike; front row (l-r) Kara Hanrahan Spike, Rachel Kuzma Olson, and Laura Grendahl.

Special Cross—Mark Fleischhacker '70 and Steve Beddor '78 constructed a very unique cross with scripture passages for the Outdoor Learning Center at St. Therese grade school in Deeaphaven.



Joranger Open

BSM Golf Tournament—The 25th annual Joranger Golf Open was held at Deer Run on Monday, June 12. Many alums supported this event and joined classmates and BSM community members for a day on the links. The winners of the tournament this year are pictured in photo one;



Michael Kosiek '05, Ryan Ball '05, Adam Ehrmantraut, Bennett Lang '05, and Tom Lang.



Wedding Bells—Many Red Knights helped Drew Frenz '10 and Melanie Brylow celebrate their wedding on April 29 in Milwaukee; front row (l-r) Sarah Frenz '19, Rachel Frenz '13, Melanie, Drew Frenz and Steve Frenz '82; middle row (l-r) Ellen Grace Westin '01, Emily Grace Goenner '97, Mary Frenz Paquette '84, Joe Kramer '10, and Patrick Black '10; back row (l-r) John Frenz '73, John F. O'Leary '69, Peter Frenz '72, Paul Frenz '76, Brian Grace '93, and Niklas Frenz '03.



Tony Nelson '91, Bill Doll '87, Adam Ehrmantraut, Greg Doll '91, and Derek Clements '86.



Joe Burns '01 and Becca Burns Paulson '03.



Patrick Daly '11, Eric Bigham '05, Adam Ehrmantraut, Greg Palm, and Brett Draxler '11.



Kirk Fossum '93, Joe Donato '93, Jason Doll '93, and Aaron Wheeler '95.

25th Annual Joranger Golf Open—Some members of the Weber family played as a foursome in the BSM Golf Tournament at Deer Run on June 12. Pictured here from left-right Ron '76, Maureen Weber Grazzini '86, and Kevin '83. Paul '81 missed the photo.



William Harding '74, Tim Lutz '75, Greg Kemp '75, Pat Walter '75, John Dwyer '75, and John Cich '75.





Graduates from SMA, Benilde, and BSM are everywhere, and often they find each other through work, travel, or common projects. In recent years, the chant has been, "Once a Red Knight, Always a Red Knight," and the project featured in this issue of the *Crown & Shield* has Red Knight roots in the '70s that will hopefully bear fruit well into the future. **Katie DesLauriers Sullivan** '99, mother of three St. Therese students, shares the story.

God and the

There's an old Greek proverb that says, "A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in." Alums **Steve Beddor** '78, **Mark Fleischhacker** '70, and **Dave Paquette** '74 planted 13 trees and over 700 plants, to be exact. They did this to benefit St. Therese Catholic Parish and School in Deephaven, Minnesota – even though their children are all long gone from the school.

St. Therese is the home of a new Outdoor Learning Center (OLC) thanks to the efforts of many Red Knights. These leaders all stepped up in gratitude for what Catholic schools did for them and their children. St. Therese's OLC is one-of-a-kind in the western suburbs; it is a differentiator that hopes to be the catalyst to grow the early childhood program that will in turn grow both the parish and school.

This project brings God and the great outdoors to its pre-K – 8th grade students. The OLC has 10 unique learning areas: climbing, music & movement, garden, dirt digging, nature art, water & sand, race track, building, gathering space, and messy learning.

One group of kids may be learning patterns and sorting with acorns and pinecones, another group of students might be acting out the life cycle of a butterfly, and all of this while the music-lovers are playing the marimbas in the music area. Tiny Picassos may be painting in the art station while the builders are creating sand castles or forts. The OLC was created to transform children's lives through research-based outdoor classroom design. Research is clear that students who spend time outside are happier and healthier. Students in schools with environmental education activities score higher on standardized tests in math, reading, writing and listening.

Steve Beddor was the project manager who donated literally thousands of hours to the project. His perfectionism, generosity, good taste, and devotion to his faith resulted in a true masterpiece. When asked to lead the effort, Steve readily said yes. As he shares, "I was just following the example fellow Red Knight and super volunteer Dave Paquette had set when my family first joined the St. Therese community. That combined with the great experience



Celebrating—A large group of Red Knights gathered for the grand opening of the Outdoor Learning Center: back row (l-r) Michael Sullivan, J.J. Brackin, Chris Boe, Mary Boe, Clare Hamill, Katherine Kyle, and Katie DesLauriers Sullivan '99; middle row (l-r) James Brackin '99, Catie Scherer Brackin '99, Beckett Crowther, Amy DesLauriers Crowther '01, Mike Scherer '63, Nolan Jacobson '02, Corbet Jacobson, Desiree Brose Jacobson '01, London Jacobson, Sara Klis Boe '91, Jeanne Ferrian '72, Mary Ford Bielski '78, Kate Kuffel Hamill '96, Erin Faulhaber Kyle '94, Matt Hansberry '19, Steve Beddor '78, and Dave Paquette '74; front row (l-r) Maria Sullivan, Cooper Brackin, Ella Brackin, Howie Crowther, Nell Cari, Erin McNaught Cari '04, and James Sullivan.

great outdoors

we had with sending our children through St. Therese School.” Support for Catholic education runs deep in Steve’s family. He explains: “Catholic schools produce critical thinkers with mature moral values. Our world needs these kids. Our church needs these kids. Catholic schools form a student, they don’t just educate them.”

Mark Fleischhacker and Dave were Steve’s right hand men in volunteer efforts. A highlight for Dave was the “opportunity to work with so many great people. You know each and every time you were there you would get to work with a group of people who have their heart, mind and soul in a good place.” His reason for giving back is also personal, “I was raised in a large family on a small income, but my parents found a way to send us all to a Catholic elementary school. Of the many gifts we share with our children, there has not been one more important to my wife and me than the gift of a Catholic education. It is that foundation of faith that my children will have for a life time and one they can build a fulfilling life from.” Dave and Debbie’s children, **Sam** ’11, **Jonathan** ’14, and **Emma** ’19 are all Red Knights.

Mark said yes to helping with this project because he admits, “I guess I don’t know how to say no. Truthfully, my reason is education. One of the many outcomes that comes from this outdoor classroom is the early education on our environment and how to protect it. I am a die-hard supporter of Catholic education, especially St. Therese School.” Mark and Terri Fleischhacker’s children, **Katherine** ’02, **John** ’05, and **Maria** ’09, followed in their father’s Red Knight footsteps.

Successful career woman, mother of two young kids at St. Therese, and BSM alum **Sara Klis Boe** ’91 chaired the auction in which the money was raised to build the outdoor classroom. Despite her very full plate, she said yes because “I thought it would be great to be involved in something so fun that raised money for something that means so much to my family.”

Catie Scherer Brackin ’99 is one of the teachers in the Pre-K program that utilizes the outdoor classroom every day. “How lucky am I that I get to spend my work days outside, enjoying God’s creation, and watching children discover nature. My students get to learn their ABCs and 123s in an innovative, wall-less classroom. They also get to build their problem solving, critical thinking, and interpersonal relationship skills all while exploring their curiosities outside.” **Mary Ford Bielski** ’78 and **Jeremiah Miller** ’89 are also teachers at the school.

These generous Red Knights are leaving a legacy honoring their Catholic school roots, God, and His magnificent creation that will benefit children for many years to come.

Steve Beddor ’78 led the project with passion and generosity.



Share your “connections” story
for future issues of the
Crown & Shield. Contact Mary Fran
O’Keefe at mfokeefe@BSMschool.org
or 952-915-4360.



BSM BUZZ



Alec Johnson '17, James Libbey '17, Matt Nyberg '17 and Alex Hyjek '17 entered the annual Moody's Mega Math Challenge, spending 14 hours creating a math model that solves a specific real-world problem. The group received an honorable mention for their solution paper.

Julia Hoover '20, Ava Lundberg '19, Ashley Ortizcazarín '19 and Kailyn Pederson '19 of our Students for Human Life group attended the Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Student Day at the Capitol on March 14.

Congrats
Knight Errant

The 2016-2017 *Knight Errant* (KE) staff received one of the highest honors in scholastic journalism, the Online Pacemaker award. The *Knight Errant* was one of nine online publications across the entire nation to receive this award in the small school (under 1,500 students) division.

Four students on BSM's Speech team made it to the state tournament. **Claire Shinnors '18** competed in Creative Expression, **Ben Larson '18** in Discussion, **Sam Luo '17** in Prose and section champion **Josie Ross '17** in Humor. Additionally, Sam took home a quarterfinalists' trophy from the National Catholic Forensics League tournament for his top 24 finish in Dramatic Interpretation.



40 students attended the Spanish Model UN conference at Macalester College where they proposed solutions on the refugee crisis. The Director of the Spanish MUN program visited BSM to share the awards for the best position papers. She was so impressed with our students' papers, that she created a new category – "Sobresaliente" (Above and Beyond) – specifically for our Red Knights. **Sophia Williamson '21, Kelly Dempsey '20, Theodore Pohlen '21, Peter (Frankie) Lynch '20** took home this new award. ▶



77 students earned national recognition on this year's National Spanish Exam. **Kathryn Marusich '17** was the only National Spanish Exam participant in the state to win Gold Level 6.

U.S Figure Skating's Program Development Committee gave **Kathryn Ercolani '17** the Silver level Graduating Seniors Award for her skating and academic accomplishments.

In April, **Charlie McNamara '17** attended the National Convention of the Children of the American Revolution in Arlington, Virginia. Charlie has served on the National Board for the last three years.

Carson Knoer '17 was selected as a Hennepin Theatre Trust's Spotlight Education Triple Threat Award finalist for the second year in a row. Carson was the Mad Hatter in the spring musical *Wonderland: Alice's Rock & Roll Adventure*. The *Wonderland* cast performed at the Spotlight Showcase in June.



John Landry '19 and Joey Simpson '17 took 2nd in the high school division of the national Stossel in the Classroom student video contest. The two earned \$750 for their winning submission.

After winning the Section Championship, the **boys' lacrosse team** ended their great season with a 2nd place finish at State.

Morgan Bettin-Coleman '17 received a Cecil E. Newman Scholarship for her essay in the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder's Essay Contest.

Saint Therese, a faith-based senior care and housing organization, awarded **Kylie Nevells '18** a \$2,000 scholarship for her outstanding service and commitment to volunteering with seniors.



Benilde-St. Margaret's senior high spring musical production of *Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure* was recognized as an Outstanding Performance by the Spotlight Education team.





Alexa Reynders '18 (above) and **Ben Scherer '17** (below) were honored with a St. Louis Park Caring Youth Award this past spring. The award recognizes young adults who demonstrate good character and maintain strong interests in volunteer and service work.



Over 50 junior high students were recognized at the Junior High Awards Ceremony, Tuesday, June 6, for their excellence in the classroom. The Red Knight Award winners were **Emma Leider '21** and **Johan Dominguez-Lopez '21**. ▼



Maria Satre '17 was crowned Prom Princess at the Grand March on April 29. The other nominees this year were seniors, **Maddie Turk**, **Kat Behnke**, **Lillian Smith** and **Maggie Sullivan**.



Prom Princess Maria Satre with her date, Matt Nyberg.

Student Council Executive Board 2017-2018



President **Quinn Ehlen '18**, Vice President **Benji Barry '19**, Secretary **Abby O'Neil '19**, Commissioner of Publicity **Jane Hoyt '19**, and Commissioner of Student Activities **Mary Youngblut '19**.

Student leaders for the 2017-2018 school year have been elected. Leading the senior class will be **Eric Weber** (President), **Michael Hunter** (Vice President), **James Norkosky** (Secretary) and **Ben Larson** (Treasurer). Junior officers include **Connor Lawler** (President), **Sally Calengor** (Vice President), **Sarah Kinney** and **Stella Fortier** (Co-Secretaries), and **Kate Hancuch** (Treasurer). The sophomores chosen to serve are **Maria Hernandez** (President), **Tommy Beutz** (Vice President), **Hope Wang** (Secretary) and **Joe Marinaro** (Treasurer).

The National Honor Society officers for the 2017-2018 school year are President **Ben Larson '18**, Vice-President **Hattie Hoffman '18** and Secretary **Claire Grazzini '18**.

James Libbey '17 received a Samsung American Legion Scholarship for his participation in Boys State last summer.

Madison Johnson '19 placed 3rd in the high jump at the Class AA State Track & Field Tournament. She broke her own record with a jump of 5'7". ▼

Eric Wilson '17 broke BSM's oldest Track & Field record – Matt Jordan's 1968 shot put throw. Eric's throw of 57' 4.5" beat the record by nearly 3 feet! Eric competed at the state tournament this year placing 5th in shot put and 6th in discus with another school record of 165' 5". ▼



Tristan Fjelstad '18 and **Ryan Frost '18** placed 3rd in the State AA Doubles tournament. The boys defeated the team from Minnetonka 6-3, 6-4.

Dayton Gonyea '18, **Morgan Frank '17** and **James Norkosky '18** accepted a \$5,000 check from the MN SCI (Safari Club) for the Clay Target team. Clay Target coach and current BSM parent, Greg Grazzini, is an active MN SCI member and nominated the team.



The 43rd Annual Play Ball Minnesota High School Baseball All-Star Series was held at Chaska Athletic Park June 23 and 24. One hundred and four of the best baseball players graduating seniors in the state, were invited to participate. This year, **Derek Drees '17** was selected to be a part of the Metro West All-Stars team.



Ellie Krueger '19, **Shannon Carney '20**, **Ananya Yogarajah '21**, **Sydney Johnson '19**, **Kara Gerads '19**, and **Rémy Tremblay '18** at the National French Exam.

Fourteen students received an honorable mention and 7 were awarded medals for the National French Exam.

Ananya Yogarajah '21 earned silver in level 1, **Ellie Krueger '19** earned bronze in level 2, **Sara Ben '19** and **Kara Gerads '19** earned silver in level 3, **Shannon Carney '20** earned bronze in level 4 and **Rémy Tremblay '18** earned bronze in level 5.



Treasure Hunt Success!

This year's Treasure Hunt was a huge success breaking its fundraising record by more than \$7,000 for a 2017 grand total of \$22,000! Thank you to the BSM community for the incredible donations and to our volunteers who made it all happen. And, a special thank you to our sponsors: PK Kriha, Breakaway Test Prep, Envy Skin Clinic, Park Tavern, Twill, and The Wille Group Real Estate. We can't wait for even more success in 2018!



Benilde-St. Margaret's

A Catholic, college preparatory school, grades 7 - 12

2501 Highway 100 South, St. Louis Park, MN 55416

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A Knight for All Seasons



Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, November 11, 2017

Minneapolis Marriott Southwest

A Knight for All Seasons, our annual fundraising event, extends a warm welcome to the broad Benilde-St. Margaret's community. Its proceeds directly benefit our students through enhanced programming and enriched education opportunities.

We invite you to support Benilde-St. Margaret's.

**Early bird tickets will be available online
and at Round-up beginning Wednesday, August 2.**

*Questions/volunteer opportunities:
contact Mary Fran O'Keefe
952-915-4360
mfokeefe@BSMschool.org*