

FAIRFIELD COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL | SPRING 2023

Prep Hockey Wins 19th State Championship

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Dr. Donna Andrade Retires, Impacts Jesuit Education and Diversity

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16 **Uncovering Yellowstone's Winter Ecology**

Prep students participated in an Ecology Project International program to study winter ecology in the world's first national park. They researched the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and participated in the National Park Service's "Home on the Range" study, which looks at patterns of movement and feeding in migrating herds of bison, elk, mule deer, prong horn antelope, and their major winter predators, the grey wolves.



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Dr. Donna Andrade Leaves a Legacy of Diversity

Donna retires after more than four decades of service to Fairfield Prep, having created Prep's thriving S.E.E.D. program.



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How to Build a Guitar

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Following a rough start to the season, the Jesuits defeat ND-West Haven to claim the 19th state championship.





Dear Friends,

Greetings from Prep! As the cover of this *Prep Today* so elegantly captures, we ended our winter season with the resounding exclamation of Fairfield Prep's 19th Hockey State Championship. The sense of community at that game was electric and a decisive reminder of the power of Prep's remarkable brotherhood. Congratulations to newly minted Head Coach **Vin O'Hara '01**, to his staff, and to the boys in their first season together. Hail Fairfield!

State championships always make the headlines, as well they should. However, what you can only read in the fine print is that, a few short days following the hockey championship, three varsity hockey seniors climbed on a bus to lead our final Kairos retreat of the year. As the fight song reminds us, "*Fairfield men are never done!*" I am so terribly proud of the way our young men, especially the Class of 2023, continue to live the full witness of what it means to be a Prep man for others in the Jesuit tradition.

While Fairfield men are never done, there are natural beginnings and endings to the chapters of every journey at Prep. This year we will bid a fond farewell to two giants of Fairfield Prep, **Dr. Donna Andrade** and **Mr. Robert "Bob" Ford, Jr.** For my part, I will simply offer that my own life as an Ignatian educator and Prep Dad have been profoundly impacted by Donna Andrade and Bob Ford, Jr. Donna has been a mentor, counselor, and friend beyond compare to me and hundreds of Prep faculty, along with thousands of our young men, who have had their lives changed by her fierce intellect, her impeccably high standards, and her boundless compassion. Donna was a trailblazer in every aspect of her Ignatian vocation and her lifelong contributions are never to be repeated at Prep or in the national and global Jesuit Schools Network.

Bob Ford, Jr. was one of the first faculty members I ever met at Prep. I knew immediately that he represented the "great generation" of Prep teachers. His wry wit and keen intellect have long been a tonic for veterans and new faculty alike. As a parent, I owe Bob a debt of gratitude for his unmatched skill as a motivator and cross-country

coach to hundreds of our sons. Bob's legendary coaching career, the majority of which was assisted by his beloved father "**Ford Senior**," is one of the most indelible athletic legacies at Prep. Bob leaves us at the peak of his game, as coach, teacher and avid outdoorsman and traveler. To Donna Andrade and Bob Ford, Jr., for over eighty years of combined service, I say well done good and faithful servants. Prep is profoundly better for your contributions, and you will be sorely missed. God bless you!

As prompted by Father Ignatius, I am filled daily with gratitude at the myriad ways in which our young men, our faculty, coaches, mentors, and staff give selflessly to our mission. I am equally humbled and filled with awe at the resounding support given by our parents, past parents, and our alumni brothers. Prep is strong today because of this remarkable spirit of excellence, generosity, and philanthropy.

We continue to garner remarkable support for "**Be Ignited! The Strategic Plan for Fairfield Prep.**" Since last year at this time, we have secured philanthropic support in direct gifts and bequests of over \$15 million toward our strategic objectives, led prominently by our Prep alumni and friends. In Jesuit life, we call this spirit of generosity the *Magis*, which comes from the Latin for "the more," or "the greater," as in the greater glory of God!

My heart is overflowing for the graces we all share in our life at Prep. Thank you for continuing to shower your prayers and support on Prep's vital mission. May God continue to direct all our thoughts and actions to the greater glory of God and God's people most in need. Go Prep!

+AMDG

In peace,

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



Be Ignited!

The Strategic Plan for Fairfield Prep

In spring of 2022, we celebrated the 80th anniversary of our founding and renewed our commitment to educating our sons in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition with the announcement of our strategic plan and a preview of its five pillars. Today, I am pleased to share with you in full **Be Ignited: The Strategic Plan for Fairfield Prep**.

Be Ignited is a comprehensive framework for growth and Jesuit excellence over the next five years. These pillars will guide the investments we make in the young men of Prep – informed and inspired by the call of St. Ignatius Loyola to go forth and “set the world on fire” with lives of passionate faith and service.

We are motivated each day by the greater glory of God, and the support of our Prep community. We invite you to explore the pillars, learn more about some of the early investments in our strategic plan, and reflect on how you might **Be Ignited** for Prep.

Our Five Strategic Pillars



Sustain Our Jesuit, Catholic Mission and Commitment to Justice

We will expand access to Fairfield Prep for the many qualified young men desiring a transformative Jesuit, Catholic education, and work to sustain excellence and diversity through maintaining strong enrollment.



Ensure Jesuit Educator Formation and Excellence

Our mission-driven faculty love what they do and educate young men who leave Prep well prepared to succeed. It is our responsibility to the dedicated faculty of Fairfield Prep and our boys to invest back in them.



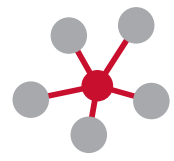
Deepen Ignatian Engagement of the Whole Person

We strive to help young men grow in their faith and understanding of the teachings of the Church, and to learn to put their faith into action in the service of others. Continuing our work to form our students in the Ignatian tradition, we seek to expand opportunities for formation and service across academic, athletic, co-curricular, and student activity offerings.



Expand Academic Success and Support

We will address the urgent social-emotional, wellness, and academic supports needed by our boys in light of our Jesuit mission to care for the whole person, so that our boys can engage with the curriculum, overcome academic challenges they may face, and thrive.



Invigorate the Fairfield Prep Alumni Brotherhood

Our talented alumni greatly enrich the school and the experience of today's students. We're expanding the ways in which Prep's vibrant alumni might come back to campus to share their talents with current students, reconnect with each other, and enjoy the Prep of today.

**To learn more, scan the QR code
or visit beignited.org.**



PREP TODAY

The Magazine for
Fairfield College Preparatory School

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The latest on Prep athletics
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Donna Andrade, Ed.D. Retires After 42 Years



Visionary leader defined and institutionalized many aspects of Fairfield Prep's Jesuit Mission

*By Gregory H. Marshall, Class of 1973, Retired Special Assistant to the President, and
Robert A. Perrotta, JD, Ed.D., Retired Principal of Fairfield Prep*

Many wonderful teachers and administrators have graced the halls of Fairfield College Preparatory School during its eighty years; few have had an impact as profound and as long lasting upon the school that Dr. Donna M. Andrade has had. Among those few, Donna Andrade stands alone in her singular, unique impact, whose effects remain embedded in Fairfield Prep's very fiber of being. And now, after forty-two years of dedicated service in leading Fairfield Prep in defining and implementing programs that together make the school a ministry of the Society of Jesus, Donna has begun to enjoy life in retirement. Fairfield Prep and the extended Fairfield Prep community rightly acknowledge and celebrate her great work, and thank her for it.

Her career at Prep began inauspiciously enough. After serving as an English teacher at Bridgeport's Bassick High School for two years, Donna was hired as a full-time teacher of English at Prep for the 1980-1981 school year. She had grown up in Bridgeport's East End, a child of the vibrant Cape Verdean immigrant community. Four years after graduating from Harding High School, she graduated from the University of Connecticut in the class of 1977.

Two aspects of Donna's personality have helped guide her decades of success in her education career: her devotion to the Catholic faith

and her tenacity in effectuating change in pursuit of the common good. In her early years at Prep as an English teacher, she was known as an excellent classroom teacher, with a knack for motivating her students to derive life lessons from literature. As time went on, she channeled her passion for teaching her students into the cause of educating the adult members of the Prep community in how to realize the directive of Father General, Pedro Arrupe of the Society of Jesus that Jesuit schools ensure that their educational philosophy be based on educating men for others. Based on this global directive, in the United States, The Jesuit Secondary School Association set two major guiding principles for all of its member schools: "Educating to Diversity" and embracing a "Preferential Option For the Poor."

In 1985, in response to these challenges, Donna Andrade submitted a proposal to the Prep administration for the creation of the first diversity program in a Jesuit school. The purpose of this program was to increase the representation within the Prep student body of groups historically underrepresented (or nonexistent) and to provide support services for both these students and their families in navigating a very challenging and

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



DONNA ANDRADE, ED.D. RETIRES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

many times foreign cultural and educational environment. At the time of the Program's initiation, no one could have envisioned the profound affect it would have on the future of Fairfield Prep and that of Jesuit schools throughout the country.

Donna's creative genius is exemplified by the name she chose for the new program: Students for Educational Excellence through Diversity, which, with its catchy acronym of S.E.E.D., became a brand-within-a-brand for Fairfield Prep. The acronym also points to the program's fundamental purpose as an educational tool for fulfilling the school's Jesuit mission, for it calls the Prep community to gather, plant and nurture to maturity a diverse student body.

Donna's vision as realized in S.E.E.D. is so successful, and is so ingrained within Fairfield Prep, that it is easy from our vantage in the third decade of the twenty-first century to imagine that the new program, when it was established in the mid-1980s, was immediately and eagerly embraced by all, which it was not. As with any major change, many worried that diversifying the student body would result in a lowering of Prep's academic standards, or that the school already had a full plate of requirements to deal with, and no additional time for whatever this new program might need. Nevertheless, to Donna's credit and Fairfield Prep's everlasting benefit, she did persevere and the program continued to grow.

Readers who know Donna Andrade well should not be surprised by this account of her tenacity in envisioning the new program, and her strength, in meeting and overcoming any opposition she encountered. Thanks to her vision and her passion, S.E.E.D. not only blossomed and prospered at Fairfield Prep, but went on to become a model for student diversity programs throughout the national Jesuit school network. Not surprisingly, as S.E.E.D.'s success became known, Donna found herself called upon to share her vision and her mechanism for achieving it with Fairfield Prep's brother Jesuit schools around the country.

The main focus of Donna's passion for education: her students, and her profound love for them. Anyone who might doubt that should have been in the Fairfield Prep Student Life Center on the evening of Saturday, November 12, 2022, when Fairfield Prep hosted a celebration of Donna's career. The ever-humble Dr. Andrade had insisted

that the event celebrate S.E.E.D. and not focus on her personally, but those in attendance insisted otherwise.

Donna's love for her students, extended limitlessly through four decades of dedicated effort, first as a teacher, then as an administrator, was returned to her that evening, as four decades of Prep alumni and their parents showed her their love and gratitude for all that she has accomplished. If any lifetime educator were to witness even a fraction of the affection and gratitude that she received that night, we should consider that person's career to have been a great success.

When Donna was named Fairfield Prep's academic dean, she proceeded to bring her penchant for visionary innovation to this role, so vital in ensuring that academic department chairs, who directly report to the Academic Dean, always keep the school's Jesuit mission at the center of their roles in supervising teachers and structuring curriculum. Toward this end, Donna envisioned, created and then implemented the Jesuit Educators Academy, which included a highly structured teacher-training program designed to help new teachers complete their first five years at Prep successfully and within an Ignatian framework, assisting them to become tenured members of the teaching faculty. Donna's innovative process for assisting new teachers in their professional development has been very successful and has become another example of her brilliantly visionary approach to the formation of Jesuit educators.

Another example of Donna's leadership in the Jesuit network was her integration into teacher and administrative development the initiative of Father General's Secretary of Education known as the Ignatian Paradigm Project (IPP). The use of the IPP model in both the classroom and in teacher training assured that the educational philosophy of the Jesuits was integrated into the ethos of the curriculum and teacher methodology. As part of this integration, Donna developed a model to review and evaluate the school's curriculum and teaching methodology through the lens of Jesuit Pedagogy known as the Curriculum Review and Development Process (CDRP), which once again she shared with Jesuit schools throughout the country.

Within the nationwide network of Jesuit schools formerly known as the Jesuit Secondary Education Association (JSEA),



Dr. Andrade with the 2009 Jesuit Secondary Education Association Diversity Lifetime Achievement Award. Celebrating with her are (left) SEED Moderator Kristin Ancona and SEED Co-Director Alecia (Watson) Thomas.

Donna's stellar reputation as a mover and driver of Jesuit education in the twenty-first century eventually made its way around the globe and ultimately to the worldwide headquarters of the Society of Jesus in Rome.

Donna became a favored presenter as well as someone who could be relied upon to serve on JSEAs Board and its many committees. There shouldn't be any surprise, either, that Donna has been so popular in this way; after all, to any endeavor of which she is a part, she brings vision, passion, knowledge, experience and deep-seated work ethic. Whether it was S.E.E.D., or IPP, or the CDRP, Donna always played a formative or substantively supportive role for colleagues in other Jesuit schools around the country... or, indeed around the world! Yes, Donna's stellar reputation as a mover and driver of Jesuit education in the twenty-first century eventually made its way around the globe and ultimately to the worldwide headquarters of the Society of Jesus in Rome.

Even outside of the Jesuit order's ministries Donna Andrade's contributions have been sought. For many years she served as an adjunct professor at Fordham University, the University of Connecticut, the New School, and Southern Connecticut State University. Nevertheless, notwithstanding the many professional opportunities that have been open to her, her choice was always to stay at Fairfield Prep, much to Prep's everlasting good fortune.

The capstone to her storied professional career is two-fold. As Fairfield Prep's first Dean of Mission & Ministry, she set the tone

for all future appointees to this endowed position, as stipulated by the donor who envisioned this position as one that will endure for as long as Fairfield Prep itself endures. Given Donna's long and passionate embrace of Prep's Jesuit mission, the bedrock of the school's philosophy, and indeed its very *raison d'être*, no better person could have received this new position's inaugural appointment.

Complementing Donna's appointment to the last position she would hold at Fairfield Prep was her appointment by Father General Rev. Arturo Sosa, S.J., as the Society's North American representative to the Commission on the Role and Responsibilities of Women in the Society of Jesus. Simultaneously prestigious, ground-breaking and demanding of her time and effort, her appointment to the Commission is the last in a long line of recognitions of her unique experiences, skills, knowledge and passion for Jesuit education.

Creative, passionate, spiritual, committed and visionary are some of the adjectives that come to mind in describing Dr. Donna Andrade. Donna, Fairfield College Preparatory School is a better place because of you; as you enter your well-deserved retirement, know that you leave Fairfield Prep secure in its position as a leader among Jesuit schools and as a ministry in service to others of the Church you love so much.





President Christian Cashman presents the Ignatian Educator of the Year award to Dr. Andrade on Sept. 9, 2021.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS: 1980-2023

Career-Related Experience

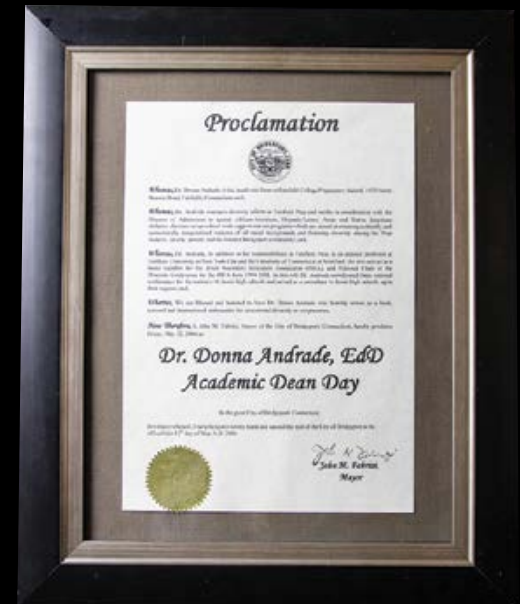
- 1985 Wrote the proposal for the first diversity program in Jesuit schools
- 1994-2001 National Director of Diversity: Created and executed the first three National Conferences for Jesuit high schools
- 2001-2016 Academic Dean and Part-time Director of Diversity, Fairfield College Preparatory School, Fairfield, CT
- 2002 Created & Implemented the Jesuit Educators Academy
- 2005 Implemented the Curriculum Design & Review Process

Ignatian and Educational Leadership, Service, and Affiliations

- 2021 Commission on the Role and Responsibilities of Women in the Society of Jesus. Appointed by Fr. General, Rev. Arturo Sosa, S.J., as the female representative for North America
- 2014-2022 Board of Directors, Center for Ignatian Spirituality, Fairfield University
- 2014 North American Delegate, International Seminar in Ignatian Pedagogy and Spirituality, Manresa, Spain
- 2013-2017 National Board of Directors, Jesuit Schools Network (JSN), (Formerly the Jesuit Secondary Education Association-JSEA), Washington, DC
- 1994-2000 National Board of Directors, Jesuit Secondary Education Association, Washington, DC

Awards and Achievements

- 2021 Ignatian Educator of the Year Award
Fairfield College Preparatory School, Fairfield, CT
- 2010 National Ignatian Educator Award: Outstanding Service and Distinguished Leadership, Jesuit Secondary Education Association, Washington, DC
- 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award for Diversity
Jesuit Secondary Education Association, Washington DC
- 1994 Phi Delta Kappan Award for Scholarly Achievement (doctoral dissertation)
Fordham University, New York, NY





THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ALUMNI OF COLOR & ALLIES NETWORK. Front Row L-R: Damian Elias '92, Dr. Donna Andrade, Courtney Hamilton '92. Back Row L-R: Pablo Colon '90, Anthony McKinney '92, Tony Fox '14.

A Great Night to Honor Dr. Andrade and S.E.E.D.

Fairfield Prep honored **Dr. Donna Andrade** for her 42 years of service to our school during a dinner with SEED alumni, colleagues, and friends on Saturday, Nov. 12, in Prep's Student Life Center. Dr. Andrade was recognized for development of the SEED program which has impacted Prep's diversity level to climb from single digits to now 26% of our student body. The evening also marked the first meeting of the SEED Alumni of Color & Allies Network, with plans for future growth. The Prep Community is blessed by Dr. Andrade and her exemplary career as teacher, administrator, mentor and leader of diversity!



The Dr. Donna M. Andrade Scholarship was established in 2001. Contributions can be made at FairfieldPrep.org, note the Andrade Scholarship name. Pictured are **Ruben Goodwin** and Prep Board of Governors member **Edward Gormbley '95** presenting Donna with a commemorative Fairfield Prep chair.





‘Voluntold’ You So!

Ruben Goodwin, Director of Diversity & Community Engagement, leads Prep’s SEED Diversity program and helps coordinate the newly-established Prep Alumni of Color & Allies Network, working to sustain and build the successful programs that Dr. Donna Andrade established. Ruben reflects on Dr. Andrade’s impact:

During our lives we meet individuals that will have a huge influence on who we are, what we desire to accomplish and the battles we choose to fight. These people will literally alter the course of our lives. They accomplish this feat by imparting wisdom, displaying conviction in their beliefs and by using God’s love to open your eyes to new and exciting possibilities. For me, Dr. Donna Andrade is one of those people.

The first day I sat down and met with Dr. Donna Andrade, I knew I was in trouble. She had my whole first year at Prep planned out for me and I wasn’t going to be able to say no to her, about anything! I honestly thought to myself, this woman has been here over forty years, just put your head down, do what she says and maybe you can have a glimmer of her success.

If you know Dr. Andrade personally you know about her skill of “voluntelling.” If you are “voluntold” by Donna, you have been volunteered and told at the same time. She doesn’t do this to give you more work or pass things off, she does it because she cares about



your future. It means she wants you to do something that will enhance your work or who you are as a person. In my four short years here at Prep I have been “voluntold” many things, all of which have been a blessing in one way or another.

I am proud to call Dr. Andrade one of my mentors, but she is so much more than that. Dr. Andrade has paved the way for countless administrators, faculty members, and students

at Fairfield Prep and in her community. She has certainly left an indelible mark on the Prep Community. To know her is to love her and everything she has stood for her entire life. I am blessed to have followed in her footsteps at Fairfield Prep.



By Ruben Goodwin, Director of Diversity & Community Engagement

Learning Together



RENEWABLE ENERGY LAB

On Dec. 5, "Engineering Tomorrow" hosted an opportunity for students to participate in a Renewable Energy Lab. This hands-on learning experience took place in the McLeod Innovation Center.



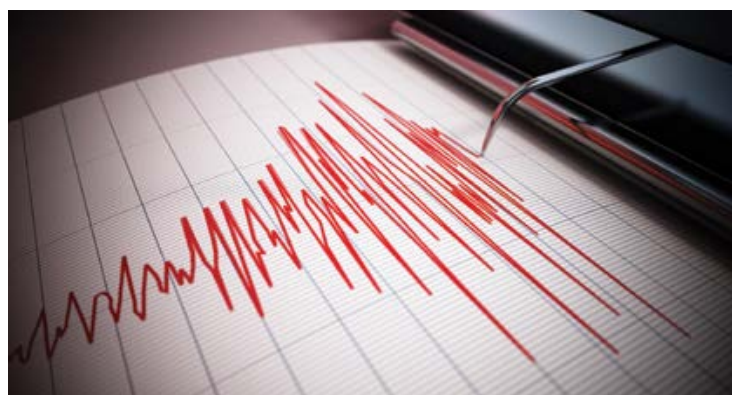
PREP ENGINEERS SHAKE IT OFF

Prep students are learning about seismic waves and how to design earthquake-proof buildings. They were challenged with creating a structure that could withstand the sheer forces of the natural disaster. **Mike Lonergan**, a Sikorsky Engineer, visited Prep to test students' earthquake-proof buildings using a shake table that simulates earthquake movements. Each group had to place their building on the shake test and pass a displacement test.



LEARNING SEISMIC DESIGN FROM AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD

Civil Engineer **David Kinskey-Lebeda** presented to students in the Introduction to Engineering and Digital Fabrication class in the McLeod Innovation Center. He spoke about seismic design techniques for building earthquake resistant structures, as well as his own experience of being part of engineering teams who build towering buildings in NYC.





WATER SUSTAINABILITY DEMO

The Engineering & Digital Fabrication class researched a problem related to water sustainability: designed a simple device using Arduino and 3D printing (live demo); and created a research poster that summarized their work. The course is taught by Innovation Director **Dr. Rinat Levy Cohen** (shown above).



McLeod
Innovation
Center



SPEAKING FINANCE

Sophomores attended a Financial Literacy session led by **Mr. Tom Shea '73** in March. The session — part of a wider Financial Literacy program offered to Prep sophomores — focused on college education, specifically the value that a college degree brings to a graduate over the course of their lifetime. Mr. Shea, Dir. of Prep's Entrepreneurship Institute, also discussed college debt, and how students can pursue scholarships as a way to offset costs.





WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

Prep students were true scientists during the lunchtime STEAM Challenge sponsored by the McLeod Innovation Center. During the week of Oct. 3, they took on the Oobleck challenge, a non-Newtonian fluid that can act as both a liquid and a solid.



MENTORS IMPACT TOMORROW'S LEADERS

On Feb. 22, students from the Fairfield University Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) met with the affinity NSBE group at Fairfield Prep. The Fairfield University students led an exercise which constructed a battery-powered device using Lego components, demonstrating firsthand to the Prep students how engineering and technology relate to the world around us. Thank you to the NSBE Chapter for taking this time to mentor the Prep students.



MAKING MUSIC

Students in **Mr. Fosse-Previs'** music class built guitars in the McLeod Innovation Center on Nov. 28. The students utilized woodworking and electrical components. They continued to assemble the instruments over a series of hands-on classes.





DRUG DELIVERY ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

Stephen Soto's AP Biology class participated in a Drug Delivery Engineering Design Challenge in McLeod Innovation Center. Our students learned about the process of drug delivery in the body and were tasked with designing a small-scale staged-release drug delivery system. They had to consider how the water solubility of certain coating materials would affect the delay of the release of each tablet. Applying the engineering design process, they brainstormed several solutions for coating the tablets, chose one, and iterated its design until the tablet was released after 30 seconds.



JESUBOTS BATTLE IT OUT

The Prep Robotics team competed in the annual First Tech Competition (FTC) for high school students. The team's robot was designed, built and programmed to earn points. Some tasks in the competition have included moving and placing cones, pushing bowling balls, hanging rings, balancing blocks, or scaling walls!



ESPORTS GRAND OPENING

Fairfield Prep celebrated the official opening of our Esports Lab in the McLeod Innovation Center on January 24, and the launch of our first high school competition team utilizing the new state-of-the-art suite. President **Christian Cashman**, Innovation Director **Dr. Rinat Levy** Cohen and student Esports leader **Matthew Fernschild '24** spoke, as well as other administrators, about the impact and emergence of this new program. This July, Prep will host its Esports Camp for rising 6th, 7th and 8th graders.



ESPORTS FIRST WIN

Prep's new Esports team won their first tournament of the spring season, reigning over Harmony Public High School based in Texas. Congratulations to team members **Jared Mocco '23**, **Jan Salafia '23**, **Sean Salafia '23**, **Ethan Tracey '23**, and **Alvin Zhang '23**, as well as Coach **Jessica Cuntrera** and student leader **Matt Fernschild '24** for their support.



WHAT WE DID ON FEBRUARY BREAK



IMMERSION LEARNING TO THE EXTREME

Prep's Yellowstone Group studied winter ecology during the final weeks of February, led by **Mr. Bob Ford Jr.** and **Mr. Kevin Kery '00**. The Ecology Project Program hosted the trip, and established teams of students and teachers to better research, understand and restore our beautiful ecosystems. Participants experienced hands-on, outdoor snow science, and even saw bison and wolves in the spectacular natural environment.





REFLECTION FROM QUINN STENGRIM '23

Yellowstone National Park offers countless memories for its visitors and researchers. As a two-time visitor, once in the summer and now, with Prep, in the winter, I have an informed perspective on the wonders from Earth's first national park. A trip to Yellowstone is impactful, from the rugged bison to the steaming geysers to the striking landscape that begs for a canvas.

Thirteen unplugged Prep students, two passionate teachers, and three enthusiastic instructors from Ecology Project International lodged in a two-building hostel for eight nights in Gardiner, Montana, to study winter ecology, wildlife, and learn about Yellowstone. We all arrived adequately prepared thanks to the packing list and with open minds to the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

All the students, regardless of graduation year, bonded in only three days. My favorite memories include the snowball fight, my small group arguing over how to cook mac 'n' cheese, and playing card games for hours. Sophomores quickly became friends with seniors, and the adults participated in the games, too. While we stuck to our primary goals as students throughout the day, everyone smiled and laughed for hours each day. Time in the car traveling to and around Yellowstone, the various field work we performed, and presenting research to the group all provided quality opportunities to connect with fellow Prep students.

Everyone learned more about ecology than we could have ever expected. Unforgettable examples included spotting wolves in the wild, snowshoeing up the mountainside through evergreens, and learning to identify the age range and gender of bison. Each topic truly deserves its own article. Winter ecology in particular fascinated me for the relevance to climate change and the complexity of snow. Understanding various snow phenomena allowed me to appreciate winter and the hardy animals that inhabit Yellowstone amidst freezing temperatures — such as -20 degrees Fahrenheit on our final day. As a lifelong New Englander, I love when it snows for recreational uses and for creating beautiful scenery in my backyard. Until this



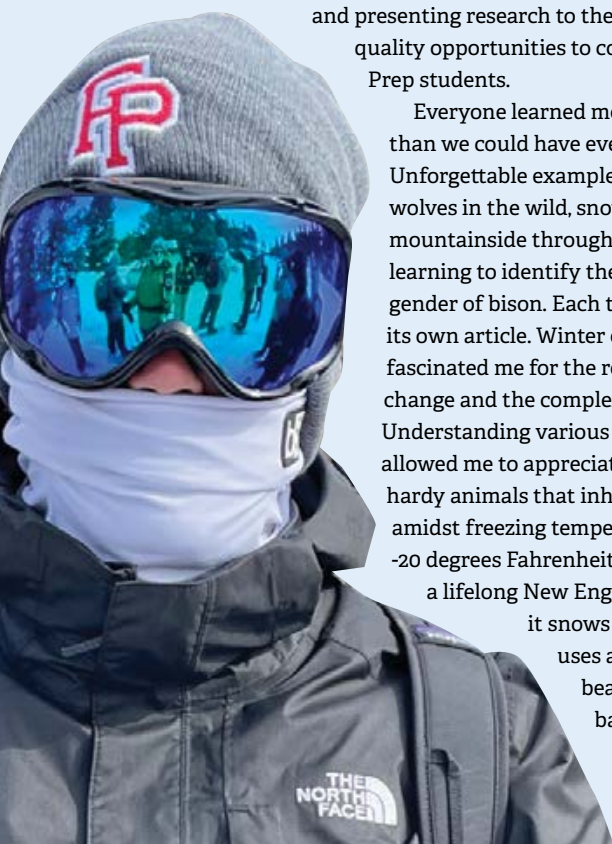
trip, I never understood the complexities of snow.

Our snow science lessons involved collecting snow samples out in the Yellowstone hills and recording the temperature, toughness, mass, and density of the multiple layers. I learned that the layer of snow closest to the ground will be the warmest. Due to this phenomenon, animals like pika and weasels prefer to live in the subnivean zone — beneath the snow, but above the ground.

Thank you to Mr. Ford for orchestrating a fantastic experience. Next winter, Prep students will be heading south to Belize to study tropical forests and coral reef ecology. Underclassmen, I urge you not to miss out. Contact Mr. Ford or your science teacher for more information.



Reflection by Quinn Stengrim '23, a Magna Cum Laude honors student, National Honor Society member, Varsity Football player, Varsity Rugby player and Kairos retreat leader. Quinn is attending Denison where he will play football.



Bob Ford Jr. — A Science Legend

A tribute from a former colleague

I remember it like it was yesterday... although it was far from it! It was the Spring of 1979. Having just graduated from Fairfield University, I had just been hired to teach Biology and Chemistry at Prep. Having gone through the interview process with Prep legends (Principal) **Fr. Jim Bowler, S.J.**, and (Science Department Chair) **Fr. Eugene Brissette, S.J.**, I was instructed to wander up to the 4th floor of Xavier to meet a couple of my colleagues. I made my way up to an office adjacent to one of the Biology labs and saw two young men relaxing after a long day of teaching Science. Both of them were in their twenties like me and sported full beards, as did I. Something that Fr. Brissette said to me during my interview now made sense. He took one look at me and proclaimed, "My department has become the House of David." The always clean-shaven Jesuit was referencing an Orthodox Jewish baseball team from the 1920s. The two men greeted me warmly and welcomed me aboard. One was **Michael Dalton**, who would only work one more year at Prep. The other was a gangly, be-speckled kid who oozed enthusiasm, intensity and the need to go on his next run! He introduced himself as **Bob Ford**. We would go on to be colleagues and friends for the next 35 years!

I learned very soon that Bob had, despite being at Prep for only a couple of years, earned quite the reputation for being a demanding teacher. His name would appear with regularity



in the bathroom stalls of Xavier, Berchmans and, back in those days, McAuliffe Hall. He had acquired the moniker "Bio Bob" and the scribbles in the stalls would begin with it, followed by verbs that shouldn't be mentioned in polite company. Bob was not only a demanding classroom teacher; apparently he was also among the faculty leaders in handing out JUGS! (Rumor had it that Bob was seriously considered for the position of "Dean of Discipline." Thankfully, for the many Prep students he taught, Bob remained in the classroom!) Bob immediately became the teacher I wanted to emulate: set high expectations in and out of the classroom, be fair-handed and stick to your guns! Bob Ford has worn a number of hats over his 40-plus years at Prep and in each and every endeavor has applied to himself the same standard of excellence that

he demanded of his students.

His career as a classroom teacher was unparalleled. Bob has taught classes in all of the scientific disciplines...Biology, Chemistry and Physics...and done so with equal dedication to excellence. In addition, Bob's name has been synonymous with the teaching of Environmental Science at Prep. A disciple of Fairfield University's Professor **Sal Bongiorno**, Bob was always on the vanguard of environmental awareness at Prep and in Fairfield County. His dedication to the notion that to be "Men for Others" by necessity included being staunch stewards and protectors of the environment was unwavering. His field trips to swamps, marshes and sewage-treatment plants are the stuff of legends. As a long-time coach of Prep's Cross-Country team, Bob applied the same enthusiasm and devotion to excellence. Whether you were the fastest or the slowest runner didn't matter. You just needed to give it your all and be a good teammate. Coach Ford constantly instilled in his harriers that XC was a team sport, not an individual one. As a bonus his charges were also treated to the kindness and wisdom of his Dad, **Bob Ford, Sr.** Under their tutelage Prep's program became a model of success and sportsmanship.

It is difficult for me to imagine a Prep without Bob Ford. His vision and leadership in the science department as chair and teacher were invaluable to the development of the science program. His willingness to be innovative and dedication to staying current have helped to bring Prep Science to where it is today. If you talked with Bob today you would feel the same passion, intensity and zeal for teaching science that I sensed those many years ago. Sure, the beard has gotten a little gray and those runs and bike trips may have shortened a bit, but Bob's love of what he does has not dimmed. Although it will be a huge loss for Prep, it's time to take a step back, spend time with Peggy and the kids, and go on all those adventures not yet experienced! The Galapagos and the Arctic await, my friend!

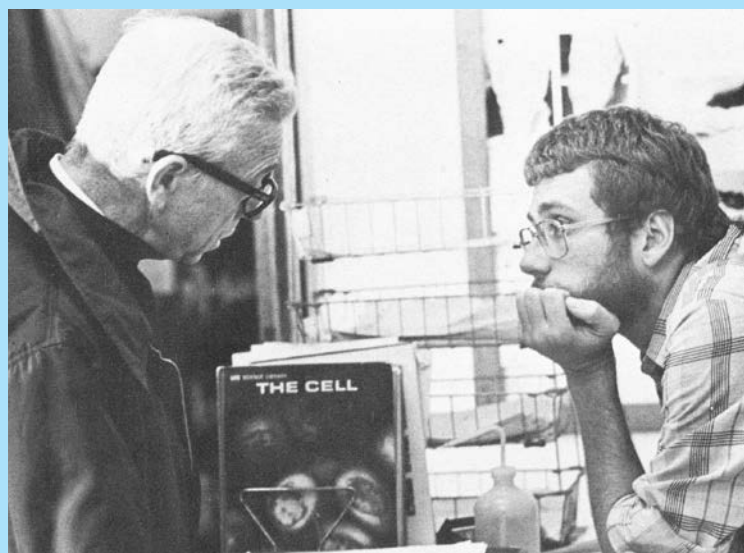
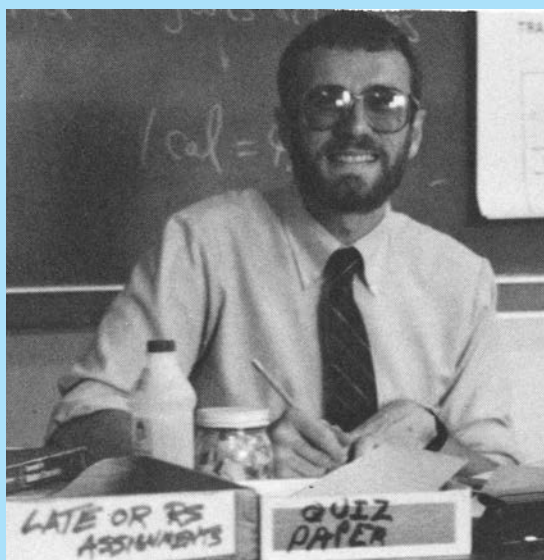
Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam! Go Prep!



*Editor's Note: **Tony Canuel** taught science at Fairfield Prep for 35 years, retiring in 2015. He is also a parent of two Prep graduates, **Anthony Canuel '99** and **Gregory Canuel '05**.*



THE FORD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP was established in 2019. Contributions can be made at FairfieldPrep.org, note the Ford Scholarship name. Pictured above are **Bob Ford Sr.**, **Michael Whelan '12**, and **Bob Ford Jr.** at the Cross Country Coaches' retirement party.



“That was great. What’s next?”

In May 1977 I was a senior at Fairfield University soon to graduate with a biology degree and a teaching certificate. By chance I heard about a biology teaching position at Fairfield Prep. **Fr. Jim Bowler, S.J.**, was the Principal at Prep then and lived at the other end of the residence hall where I was a Residential Advisor. While on duty one night I stopped by to ask him about the job and our conversation turned into a formal interview even though I was outfitted in a t-shirt and shorts. A few weeks later I had a job offer and a three-year plan to get started on my teaching career.



With no returning bio-teachers at Prep I had a lot to figure out on my own and put in 60+ hour weeks just trying to keep up. At the time we were surrounded by Jesuit faculty so our Jesuit identity was never in question, but there was not a lot of formal formation—you became a Jesuit Educator by osmosis, and a science teacher with a lot of hard work. An occasional **Fr. Eugene Brissette, S.J.**, fervorino about our primary goal for the coming year being “to survive” helped keep things on track.

At the end of the three years, I was getting married (thank you **Fr. Allen, S.J.**) and heading off to full-time graduate school when Father Bowler made me an offer I couldn’t refuse—finish grad school and come back to teach. Prep would even help pay for grad school. That was really the moment Prep changed my life.

When I returned, I took on responsibilities as Department Chair, started an outdoor education program at the school, initiated our Environmental Science course, got another degree, and began a 33-year coaching career for Cross Country and Track. I served on committees, ran many outdoor adventure trips, and got involved in our mission trips. I added Chemistry and eventually Physics to my teaching repertoire. I started teaching at Fairfield University. My wife Peggy and I bought a house, raised four children all of whom have had a Jesuit education (**Daniel ’03; Andrew ’05; Colleen**, College of the Holy Cross ’11, and **Emma**, Fairfield University ’15). I even got to coach with my Dad for 30 years; I think we made a good team and we had some success. For me Prep is a family affair.

Since the late ’70s the face of Prep changed—fewer Jesuits and many

more women on the faculty. We have a much more diverse student body thanks to the deliberate efforts of many at Prep. At some point I became a teacher of the sons-of-former-students who would ask if I ever JUG-ed their dads. I always answer, “Yes, ask him what he did to deserve it.”

Now that I prepare to retire from full-time teaching, I treasure all the things Prep has done for me. I have found enthusiasm and excitement in my students—they do keep me feeling young. I deeply appreciate our Jesuit mission with its sense of direction and purpose—it is not just a job. I have been supported and befriended by administrators and fellow faculty; without this collegial support teaching can be tough, with it, it is a joy.

I make it a point to avoid thinking, “That was the best time of my life.” Instead, I like to think, “That was great. What’s next?” I look forward to doing all kinds of wonderful things in the years to come, but Prep will always be a major part of who I am. I hope I have shaped Prep for the better as well.

By **Robert Ford, Jr.**, Science Teacher – Honors Physics & Environmental Science, Track & Field and Cross Country Coach Emeritus, Parent of **Daniel Ford ’03** and **Andrew Ford ’05**. Bob was honored with the Ignatian Educator of the Year Award in 2019. (Pictured below with former President **Rev. Tom Simisky, S.J.**).



FP HIGH ACHIEVERS



L-R: Joseph Queenan '23 and Richard Herrera '23 with Corry Unis, Vice President for Enrollment Management at Fairfield University.

A Life-Changing Gift

Congratulations to **Richard Herrera '23** and **Joseph Queenan '23** as recipients of Fairfield University's Company Scholars award. They will attend Fairfield University as part of The Company Scholars program. This unique, cohort-based full scholarship program was founded to assist low income students who attend Jesuit schools.

The program's namesake derives from the six closest companions of St. Ignatius of Loyola, all of whom were known as "God's soldiers" and "The Company of Jesus." These companions carried on the mission of the Society of Jesus by serving the underserved and dedicating their lives to social justice through education.

Students selected to participate in the program become part of a select group, or company, of diverse individuals who are engaged in academic excellence and equipped with a supportive network and a platform to make a difference in their community.

As part of the program, students will actively engage in a creative service project within the greater Fairfield community — one that educates, impacts, and enhances the Jesuit principles of outreach and social justice upon which the University was founded. The Company Scholars' model allows the University to connect participants with faculty mentors, academic and career advisors, and study abroad and research opportunities in the 'company' of a supportive peer group.

Richard and Joseph will join previous Company Scholar **Nicholas Posada '22** who is now completing his freshman year at Fairfield University.



Philosophy Club Ethics Bowl

Prep's Philosophy Club competed in Manhattanville's 8th Regional Ethics Bowl on Jan. 28. This talented group reached the semi-finals for two years running and, this year, made it to the finals! Prep battled fierce competition and swept all three preliminary rounds. Congratulations to the team, from left: **Drew Kopchick '25**, **Daniel Tristine '25**, **Tomas Galloza '24**, **Jack Miller '23**, **Tim Wong '23**, **David Kavasansky '26**, **Luis Brea '23** (team leader), **Farrell Nivrose '24** and **Kyle Elliott '24**. Thank you to Coaches **Ms. Kathleen Jackson, P25** and **Mr. Kevin Kery '00**.

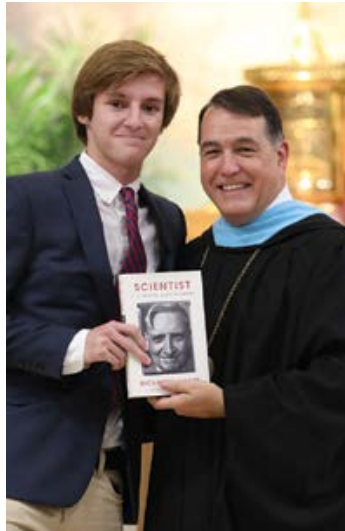


Jack Richter Named National Football Foundation Scholar Athlete

Jack Richter was awarded the National Football Foundation Scholar Athlete award. The award goes to a graduating senior who has lettered in football, excelled in the classroom and who has been active in their school or community. Jack is a stellar example of this award. He is a Summa Cum Laude student, a member of the National Honor Society, a peer tutor and has played for the Jesuits Football team all four years at Prep serving as a team captain his senior year. Jack also participated in Kairos and later led a Kairos retreat. Outside of the walls of Prep, he volunteers with the Bridgeport Cowboys inner-city football team as a mentor, and also with Nourish Bridgeport, a program that provides meals for families in need.

Students recognized at 2022 Honors Awards Ceremony

Prep students were honored for their high academic achievement at the annual Honors Awards Ceremony held on Sept. 29, 2022, at St. Thomas Church in Fairfield. New members were inducted into the National Honor Society and seniors received special Book Awards, recognizing their outstanding school performance and leadership in key subject areas. Additionally, students were recognized for honor awards for the 2021-22 school year. Pictured is **Inigo Gil '23** receiving the Harvard Book Prize from President **Christian Cashman**.



Class of 2023 Book Awards

Fairfield Prep seniors were recognized at the 2022 Honors Ceremony. Book Awards were given for outstanding academic performance and leadership in key subject areas.

Brown University Book Award

★ **Ryan Oshinskie**

Clarkson University Achievement Award

★ **Joseph Cashman**

Clarkson University Leadership Award

★ **Jason Gong**

Columbia University Book Award

★ **Michael Adams**

Cornell University Book Award

★ **Sebastian Rodriguez**

Dartmouth College Book Award

★ **Robbie Donahue**

Gettysburg College Book Prize

★ **Jack Devine**

Harvard Book Prize

★ **Inigo Gil**

Johns Hopkins Book Award

★ **Luis Brea**

Rensselaer Medal

★ **Matt Mancini**

Sacred Heart Book Award

★ **Andrew Barry**

St. Lawrence University Book Award

★ **Ryan Preisano**

Saint Michael's Book Award for Academic Achievement

★ **Jared Mocco**

Saint Michael's Book Award for Social Conscience

★ **Harrison Lent**

Tulane Book Award

★ **Antonio Musilli**

Bausch + Lomb Honorary Science Award from The University of Rochester

★ **Matt Mitchell**

Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award from The University of Rochester

★ **Jack Miller**

The George Eastman Young Leaders Award from The University of Rochester

★ **Nicolas Vittoria**

Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology from The University of Rochester

★ **Joseph Marotta**

Villanova University Book Award

★ **Matt Mazza**

William & Mary Leadership Award

★ **Rajan Khanna**

John Duffy and Antonio Musilli were named SCC Scholar Athletes for the **FALL SPORTS**, sponsored by Great Blue Research.



John Duffy, Soccer

John Duffy has been an active member of the Prep Community in all variety of areas. John is a two-sport athlete, playing soccer in the fall and helping the Jesuits to an SCC runner-up and CIAC semifinal appearance. He also played lacrosse and helped lead the Jesuits to an SCC championship last season. He has been a Summa Cum Laude student all four years and is a member of the National Honor Society. John served as a member of the Keystone Club at Wakeman Boys & Girls Club and was also a peer tutor. He is an editor of the *Hearthstone* yearbook his senior year and attended two Appalachia Immersion Trips. John will attend Boston College in the fall.



Antonio Musilli, Crew

A standout student and athlete, Antonio Musilli has rowed for the Fairfield Prep Crew team through all four years. Tony has also been a Summa Cum Laude student all four years, is a member of the National Honor Society and has been a peer tutor during his time at Prep. He has been regularly involved in Campus Ministry, serving as a Freshman Retreat Leader and a Eucharistic Minister. Outside of the walls of Fairfield Prep, Tony has achieved the status of Eagle Scout and has volunteered at the Wilton Garden Club, which donates all produce to a local food pantry. Tony will attend the University of Notre Dame in the fall.

Brice Muller and Sebastián Rodriguez were named SCC Scholar Athletes for the **WINTER SPORTS**, sponsored by Great Blue Research.



Brice Muller, Skiing

A top skier in Connecticut and a Magna Cum Laude student, Brice Muller has been a prolific member of the Prep community in athletics, academics, and the arts. Brice is a four-year member of the Ski team, was captain his senior year, and helped lead his team to a CISA State Championship. He has been nationally ranked among the top 20 in the country. A four-year member of the Rugby team, he joined the Football team his senior year, where he saw playing time during multiple games. Brice has played upright bass in the String Orchestra for four years and has taught children through the KEYS Music Program in Bridgeport. Brice is a member of the National Honor Society and participated in the Sikorsky STEM Challenge. He will attend Babson College in the fall.



Sebastián Rodriguez, Wrestling

Sebastián Rodriguez exemplifies the saying "don't be a 2:30 kid." For all his four years at Fairfield Prep, Sebastián has been a Summa Cum Laude student and a member of the school's Wrestling team, serving as captain his senior year and helping the Jesuits to a second-place finish in the SCC Championship, the best result by a wrestling team in Prep history. For all four years he played saxophone in the Jazzuits jazz band and was a student leader and later president in the Robotics Club. He was chosen to address prospective parents at the Fall 2022 Open House and the attendees at the 2022 Fairfield Prep Auction. Sebastián has been an SCC Scholar Leader, a National Honor Society student, a National Hispanic Scholar and a National Merit Commended student. He tutored inner-city children in robotics and served as a counselor on Prep's inaugural Innovation Camp for middle schoolers in 2022.

Fairfield Prep presents

writing royale

a short story contest



The Writing Royale, Fairfield Prep's annual creative writing contest, welcomed blind submissions of short fiction during January and February. This year's contest, sponsored by the Creative Writing Club, collected more than a dozen submissions representing members of all four classes at Prep. Faculty moderator **Mr. Brian Hoover** offers thanks to all the students who shared their work, and to the panel of English faculty who read the submissions and nominated a list of five finalists.

This year's guest judge, **Dr. Christopher Dowd**, is a Professor and Chair of the English Department at the University of New Haven. He received his B.A. in English from Fairfield University, his M.F.A. in Creative Writing from Emerson College, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut. He is the author of *The Construction of Irish Identity in American Literature* and *The Irish and the Origins of American Popular Culture*. His creative writing has appeared in several print and online journals.

Dr. Dowd had this praise for the finalists:



CONGRATULATIONS...
to **Ben Lester '25**, the winner of Prep's "Writing Royale" contest, and to all the finalists.

BEN LESTER '25

"Heartstrings" (winner)

The death of Antonio's wife and his grief over her loss frame this story. What is remarkable is the way that the author builds the absence of the wife layer by layer. There is the lack of sound, where once there was music. There is the emptiness of the mansion.

There is the disconnect between Antonio and the public who adored his wife. There is the building sense of purposelessness. Antonio's anguish and his need for solace are palpable, and his quiet acceptance of relief when it comes is moving. The author's exploration of grief and absence are remarkably mature and developed.

JAMES CALLAGHAN '25

"The One That Scampered Away"

"The One That Scampered Away" is a story about memory, legacy, and absence left by an inexplicable theft. The author takes one moment in time and stretches it into a highly charged story of introspection and speculation. It is a deeply atmospheric story. As the narrator tries to make meaning from this moment in time, readers are invited to contemplate the impermanence of landmarks in relation to the permanence of memory. The author succeeds in dramatizing the interior conflict of the moment in a very visual manner.

CHRISTOPHER COPE '23,

"Excerpts from the Diary of John Kohler"

This story offers an unsettling view into the mind of a disturbed young man. The fragmented journal highlights a descent into self-destruction and delusion. The author has crafted a character prone to introspection and capable of self-awareness, but not ready to recognize or halt his own patterns of destructive behavior. The story presents an excellent character portrait that slides, as readers start to recognize, towards an inevitable and tragic end. The author demonstrates real aptitude for making such a character very sympathetic.

ALEX SALAZAR '25

"The Locksmith's Chance"

The author of "The Locksmith's Chance" has crafted a story in which the tension of the action is embodied in the task the main character must perform. The small and complicated manipulation of the antique lock is fraught with difficulty, and his tools are fragile.

This story builds suspense and rests it all upon the locksmith's success and skill. The author shows skill at pacing and balancing description with action.

TIM WONG '23

"Too Fast, Too Close"

"Too Fast, Too Close" reaches back to memories of childhood and forward to thoughts of possibility, all framed in a decisive and potentially destructive moment. The discordance of the memories of the river from childhood and its current appearance are striking and jar the reader along with the protagonist out of the moment. The prose is wonderfully disorienting, capturing the feeling of the character. The author crafts deeply engaging descriptive sentences and uses memory to build a character very effectively.

Outside the Classroom



BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE

This Halloween, Prep seniors hosted students from Hall Elementary School of Bridgeport for a fun afternoon of playing autumn-themed games, followed by “Trunk or Treat” in the senior parking lot. The Prep seniors were matched with a Hall School “buddy” to play the games. The children then enjoyed “Trunk or Treat” among the decorated cars in a safe, fun environment. This annual event is a wonderful community service program demonstrating Prep’s Jesuit mission of being Men for Others.



EVERYBODY HURTS SOMETIMES

We are very grateful to have welcomed **Jim Kuczo** of Kevin’s After Glow to speak to the entire Fairfield Prep school community on March 2, in honor of World Teen Mental Wellness Day. Mr. Kuczo’s foundation works to increase awareness about mental health in young people.



100 DAYS AND COUNTING

Seniors celebrated “100 Days To Graduation” during the week of February 13. The boys enjoyed deli sandwiches from Gaetano’s Deli for lunch, followed with an inspiring talk by Principal **Tim Dee**, video messages from Pres. **Christian Cashman** and former Pres. **Tom Simisky, S.J.**, and a Senior Hype video produced by classmate **Nic Vittoria**. Afterward, the class participated in a carnival-themed recreation party in Brissette gym. Special thanks to the Class of ’23 parents who planned this fun event for their sons!

Outside the Classroom (CONTINUED)



FOOTBALL PEP RALLY

Ahead of the 2022 CIAC Football Class LL Championship Game, the Prep Community rallied in the quad on Dec. 9 to celebrate the team and show their support. The rally included inspirational speeches by Coach **Keith Hellstern**, **Tom Shea '73** and **Matthew Kelly '23**.



WINTER PEP RALLY

Prep students and staff celebrated their winter sports teams. At the first FP Pep Rally held in Fairfield University's new Leo D. Mahoney Arena, on Feb. 8, Head Hockey Coach and teacher **Mr. Vin O'Hara '01** — who could not attend due to travel to Rhode Island for a Prep hockey game — delivered a video message about the importance of students supporting the winter sports teams this year. In addition to speeches, everyone cheered for a spirited Faculty/Staff vs. Basketball Team competition! **Mr. Darnell Macon** won Game MVP!



PREP'S WOOFGANG SERVICE CLUB TELEVISED ON WTNH

Prep partners with Woofgang once again! On Feb. 15, our students joined Team Woofgang & Co., a local non-profit that teaches their "team" members vocational skills and offers mentoring and employment, for their weekly dinner and bunco game night. During these weekly activities, the club and the Prep community

are able to build personal connections and relationships with young adults with special needs, and help to improve their social and communication skills. Prep has sincerely immersed themselves in the Team's mission; participants have grown from eight to over twenty on both Prep and Team Woofgang sides, and undeniable friendships continue to form. To highlight the program, reporter **Sarah Cody**

from WTNH and her video producer attended a Bunco night at Prep's Student Life Center and featured the touching story in a news segment on Feb. 16. The station interviewed student club leaders, **Jack Devine '23** and **Robbie Upton '23**, and members of Prep about their involvement in team activities, as well as the astounding impact they make.



IRISH CLUB RAISES FUNDS FOR TRAD FOR TRÔCAIRE



The Irish Club presented "TRAD for TRÔCAIRE" on Nov. 13, at Fairfield's Gaelic American Club. With help from Prep families, they raised over \$1300 for their cause of alleviating poverty. Trôcaire, which means "compassion" in Irish, is Ireland's largest international-aid organization. Music fundraisers in support of Trôcaire have occurred across Ireland for decades, and FP's Irish Club has done the same for the last several years. Prep families were invited to enjoy good craic and great entertainment, including musicians, Irish dancers, and Irish poetry readings from Prep students!

IRISH CLUB AND JAZZUITS CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY

The Irish Cultural Club and the Jazzuits participated in the Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day 2023 Parade! The Irish spirit was contagious, with lots of cheers for Fairfield Prep!



WILLKOMMEN BEI PREP!



Prep offered a big welcome to their German Exchange students from Überlingen this past October, and hosted a communal dinner in the Student Life Center on Oct. 24. Our German friends attended classes at Prep, as well as toured NYC and visited other points of interest. In addition, Prep students who hosted exchange students in their homes will have the opportunity to visit Germany in June 2023.



THE YEAR OF THE RABBIT



Prep celebrated Chinese New Year, the Year of the Rabbit, on

Jan. 20. With help from the Chinese Culture Club, a cultural exchange event was put on in the Brissette Athletic Center. Students enjoyed authentic Chinese cuisine and tea tasting, played cultural games and activities, such as calligraphy, mahjong and ping-pong, and learned about unique Chinese culture. The event was made possible by International Student Advisor **Mrs. Lina Gallinelli** and Fairfield Prep's international students. Additionally, it was sponsored by Apex International Education Partners (AIEP) Host Families, an international student recruiting organization and homestay provider.



Great Performances

AUTUMN MUSIC SHOWCASE

Prep's Autumn Music Showcase was held in the McLeod Innovation Center on Oct. 27. Performances featured the Select Choir, Guitar Ensemble and Guitar Ensemble Class Performers. In addition, the event highlighted the musical talent of several Prep seniors: **Richard Herrera '23, Christian Bujdud '23, Jan Salafia '23, Garren Killilea '23, Sebastian Rodriguez '23, Thomas Warnock '23, Chengyi Shen '23, Kevin Brennan '23, Robert James '23, Sean Salafia '23, Preston Lyons '23 and Ryan Riccio '23**, as well as freshman performer **Arnav Sharma '26**.





INSTRUMENTS OF PEACE & JOY

Our Fairfield Prep musicians took to the stage at the Quick Center for the Arts for the Annual Winter Concert on Jan. 11, 2023. The theme of this year's concert was "Instruments of Peace & Joy;" our musical performances, which demonstrated the entire Prep music department, did not fall short. The audience was dazzled by the Jazzuits, the Select Choir, the Combined Symphonic Orchestra, String Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Blues Band. Song highlights included "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy," "Heart of Gold," and "Bridge Over Troubled Water."



Prep Players Take On Shakespeare

The Prep Players kept an enthralled audience during their performance of Shakespeare's unpredictable tale, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The classic play was performed in the Black Box at Fairfield University's Quick Center for the Arts, and ran from November 10 through 12.

This Shakespearean story follows four "love-drunk" teenagers escaping their misunderstood lives in Athens. To their dismay, however, they barely understand themselves. Including a warring Fairy Queen and King, who are undeniably self-absorbed and careless with their magic, basically creating climate change, this posse of wannabe actors is in for a ride unlike any other.

Director **Megan Hoover** commented: "I want to challenge the actors in new ways, and I am proud to say that they always push themselves to step up and embrace that challenge. The Prep Players approach their work with real, authentic joy that becomes contagious for the audience. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* has been no exception to that joy, and sharing that accomplishment with our Prep community is something I was very proud to do."



THE CAST LIST

Theseus, Duke of Athens - **Preston Lyons '23**
 Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons - **Pricilla Vargas**
 Egeus, Hermia's Father - **Mark Shen '23**
 Philostrate, Attendant to Theseus - **Charles Wen '23**
 Lysander, in love with Hermia - **Kevin Murphy '25**
 Demetrius, in love with Hermia - **AJ Dunn '25**
 Helena, in love with Demetrius - **Katie Linford**
 Hermia, in love with Lysander - **Sophia Papp**
 Oberon, King of the Fairies - **Tomas Galloza '24**
 Titania, Queen of the Fairies - **Samantha Hoffman**
 Puck, Servant of Oberon - **Eileen O'Connor**
 Bottom, a Weaver - **Tim Wong '23**
 Quince, a Carpenter - **Noah Casini '23**
 Flute, a Bellows Mender - **Richard Herrera '23**
 Snout, a Tinker - **Grace Stern**
 Starvling, a Tailor - **Clara Connolly**
 Snug, a Joiner - **Sam Alvarez '24**
 Titania's Fairies - **Nick Gualtiere '24, Emmy Casini, Richard Herrera '23, Grace Stern, Clara Connolly, Sam Alvarez '24**
 Lightboard Op - **Ky'Sean Bostic '24**



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



PREP PLAYERS SHARE THEIR LOVE OF THEATRE WITH JESUIT GUESTS

Fairfield Prep welcomed our fellow Jesuit Nativity school, St. Ignatius School, Bronx NY, to spend time with the Prep Players for a theatre workshop after the matinee performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The cast collaborated with the middle school students by providing advice, feedback and techniques necessary for a successful theatre performance.



The Jesuit Spirit is Action



JESUIT HIGH SCHOOLS TAKE THE CHALLENGE

Prep's Thanksgiving Great Ignatian Challenge Food Drive successfully collected over 24,000 items to feed the hungry in our local communities. Students, families and staff made donations by bringing goods directly to school, or by purchasing goods online through our donation page, YouGiveGoods.com. With the help of a 1-to-1 food match in the final days generously offered by **John O. Vazzano** and Catamount Food Service, Prep exceeded our goal! Eighteen Jesuit high schools in the country participated in the seventh annual Great Ignatian Challenge this year, to show the collective impact of our Jesuit mission in action.



"ADOPT A FAMILY" AND THE TOY DRIVE DELIVERED CHRISTMAS CHEER

Every family needs gifts at Christmas—and giving to others is the best one! **Jordan Smith** of Campus Ministry led an "Adopt a Family" program at Prep to help parishioners at Holy Name of Jesus in Stratford, in the Diocese of Bridgeport. Prep staff members, departments and clubs shopped for and wrapped presents for each family.



URBAN PLUNGE

A group of Fairfield Prep juniors and seniors finished an Urban Plunge during the week of Nov. 7. The students spent time working at Blessed Sacrament parish, Beardsley School, the Thomas Merton Center and Operation Rescue as they harvested beets and sorted Thanksgiving groceries.





TRES REYES MAGOS

This January, Spanish level 1-2 prepared for the "Celebration Tres Reyes Magos," the arrival of the Three Wise Men. Students learned about the Feast of the Epiphany and the customs and traditions that are celebrated in Latin American countries during this time. The class ventured outside to collect grass in boxes for the camels who are said to have transported the Wise Men to every child's home.



CAROLS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Prep families gathered on Dec. 4 for a beautiful Christmas Tree Lighting with prayers, Christmas carols, hot chocolate and cookies. The Select Choir and Music Ministry performed at the Tree Lighting ceremony. The Jazzuits entertained at the following reception.



GROUNDING IN GRATITUDE

Our Sophomore Grounding in Gratitude Retreat took place at the Wisdom House Retreat Center in Litchfield, CT. The group also traveled to the Shehan Center and St. Raphael's Academy for a morning of service work.

KAIROS 76

The Kairos 76 Retreat was an amazing experience for Prep's record number 55 senior and junior participants. Kairos is a special 4-day/3-night experience off campus focused on the "Lord's time," with group meetings, inspiring discussions, spiritual growth, and building brotherhood with others.



The Jesuit Spirit is **Justice**

Community Days Strengthen the Brotherhood



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY DAY

On Jan. 12, Prep hosted our Martin Luther King Jr. Community Period. This period is designed to honor the efforts of Dr. King, and his commitment to working for social justice. Prep students participated in a campus Service Fair, in which Prep hosted 25 non-profit organizations in Fairfield County. They made presentations on their missions, how they serve the community and how our students can get involved. Additionally, Prep seniors made hundreds of sandwiches for the hungry in our area. Park City Initiative and Nourish Bridgeport distributed them to Bridgeport families.

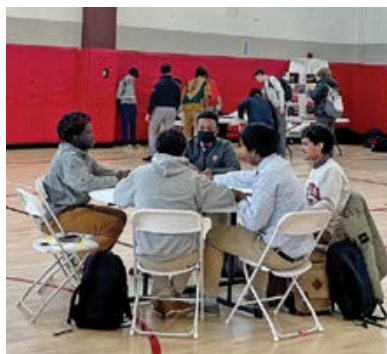
The discussion with **Deacon Art Miller** of St. Mary's Simsbury (top photo), which took place on Jan. 9, was played for a large portion of our

students during this MLK period. Deacon Art answered questions posed by AACC President **Farrell Nivrose '24** and questions from the audience about his life as a black Catholic deacon and a Civil Rights activist, as well as how to live out the teachings of Dr. King.



NO PLACE FOR HATE

Prep students took part in the first "Call to Action" Community Day assembly on Oct. 5, with the focus on maintaining a "No Place for Hate" environment. Students attended an intro presentation in the SLC which included Principal **Timothy Dee**. They then visited the McLeod Innovation Center where they heard songs with key Christian messages performed by the Men's Choir. The final program included a Zoom visit featuring Prep alumni: **Tony Fox '14**, **Jack Gavey '12**, **Kristian Moor '11** and **Christian Felner '13** (See "Felly" article on page 51). Overall, the boys learned more about our Jesuit values of inclusion and acceptance.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Prep's African American Cultural Club (AACC) wrapped up Black History Month with an event in Brissette Gym. Club representatives set up music, history, fashion, trivia, and game stations, where the AACC members taught games and helped our student body learn about African American culture. Thanks to club moderator **Jayné Penn** for overseeing the event.



IGNATIUS FAMILY TEACH IN FOR JUSTICE

Our Fairfield Prep contingent visited Washington, D.C., for a weekend in October for the Ignatius Family Teach In for Justice. During their visit, they engaged with keynote talks and smaller workshops around social justice issues. On Oct. 24, they met with elected officials on Capitol Hill for the advocacy portion of the conference.



HONORING THE SAINTS

The Fairfield Prep Community gathered on Nov. 1, for a Mass of the Feast of All Saints. We thank the **Very Rev. Joseph O'Keefe, S.J.**, Provincial of the USA East Province of the Jesuits, for celebrating this important Mass with our students. Prep's Music Ministry offered song during this time as well.

The Jesuit Spirit is Worship



JUNIOR RING MASS

As a Fairfield Prep tradition, members of the Class of 2024 gathered for the annual Junior Ring Mass on Dec. 1. All students received a St. Francis Xavier Medal after a Mass celebrated by **Father Ron Perry, S.J.** Class rings were also blessed and distributed to those who received them. The annual tradition recognizes juniors as they ascend to become seniors and leaders of the school; moreover, it honors the strong brotherhood and family that is established at Prep.



HAIL MARY

The Mass of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 8 honored the Blessed Virgin Mary and her faith-filled leadership as the Mother of Jesus. At Mass, Prep's Campus Ministry elevated the women members of our Prep Community. Several Prep women faculty and staff served as speakers, Liturgical Ministers and vocalists in the Liturgical Choir. At the end of the Mass, Academic Dean **Elaine Clark, P'14** delivered a heartfelt speech on how Mary, used as an example of faith and love, is a role model for both women and men.



A LENTEN TRADITION

Prep celebrated Ash Wednesday on Feb. 22 at the Egan Chapel and the Brissette Gymnasium. Students, faculty and staff gathered for Ash Wednesday Prayer Service, led by **Dean Clark** and **Rev. Perry, S.J.**, and then received their ashes from **Rev. Konzman, S.J.**, and Liturgical Ministers. Prep's Music Ministry also provided song for the community at this time of prayer. These services commemorated the start of the Lenten season and began the 40-day preparation for Easter, which continued with daily reflections provided by members of Prep.



HOME SWEET HOME

Rev. Ron Perry, S.J., took Prep's junior theology students on a tour of the Jesuits Residence at Fairfield University on Dec. 1. The students learned the lifestyle of the Jesuits as they live in community on campus, as well as the unique green architecture of the building. Thank you Father Perry for being a strong role model for these young men.



IT'S A PINK OUT!

Fairfield Prep supported the Pink Pledge throughout the entire month of October: breast cancer awareness month. This community-wide awareness and fundraising campaign is held every October to benefit the Norma Pfriem Breast Center. Funds raised through Pink Pledge enable the Center to continue to provide medical excellence and compassionate care to all women, regardless of their ability to pay. Prep is proud to support the Center through t-shirt sales and online donations.



CAN YOU DIG IT?

Dr. Chris Altieri '95 and his Theology III class went on an archaeological dig right outside the McLeod Innovation Center on Nov. 1! This hands-on learning experience introduced students to real, scientific discovery and procedures.

Special Delivery!

Prep surprised the Class of 2027 candidates with the great news of acceptance, PLUS delivered "Magis" Merit Scholarship awards. Congratulations to all of our accepted students and welcome to the Prep brotherhood!





SHOWING OFF

The Prep Open Houses for the Class of 2027 were successful! Hundreds attended on either Oct. 2 or Nov. 19 to meet our school community, plus see and experience all the opportunities that Fairfield Prep has to offer. Open

House began with an introduction in the Student Life Center from Principal **Timothy Dee** and President **Christian Cashman**, as well as words from Academic Dean **Mrs. Elaine Clark, P'15** and senior student **Sebastián Rodríguez**. Prospective families were then led throughout the McLeod Innovation Center and Xavier Hall to view the clubs, programs, activities and athletics that are available at Prep.



A NIGHT TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Prep students experienced a spectacular Fall Mixer in the Quad on Oct. 3, 2022. Guests enjoyed games, foodtrucks, music, and more!





Generations of Love

Prep's annual Grandparents Day took place on Oct. 12. Freshmen and transfer students joined their grandparents in the Student Life Center for a delicious breakfast, where they also had the opportunity to take a special family photo. Pres. **Christian Cashman** and Principal **Timothy Dee** spoke about the values of Jesuit education and the Prep student experience. A Mass in Brissette Gym was celebrated by **Fr. Ron Perry, S.J.**, which concluded the day's events.



A LEGACY OF PREP BROTHERS

It's always special to welcome our Prep Alumni grandfathers back to campus on Grandparents Day! Gathered for a photo, from left to right: **John Hennessey '59** and **Braedon Hennessey '26**; **William Allen III '55** and **William Allen IV '26**; and **John Fox '64** and **Thomas Fox '26**.





SCOREBOARD

FALL
2022

For The Team . . . For Jimmy

The 2022 Fairfield Prep football season was an emotional journey that brought the Jesuits from a 1-3 start to achieving a second consecutive "LL" state championship birth — a first in program history. Throughout this fall, our young men remained focused on what they could do for the team and properly honor the memory of their beloved teammate **Jimmy McGrath '23**.

The Jesuits lost their opener to Belen Jesuit from Florida (15-14), defeated rival Xavier (30-14) and then lost two challenging games against New Canaan (14-7) and Hamden (42-27). Our season pivoted after defeating Cheshire (33-10) as the Jesuits ripped off five consecutive victories including Daniel Hand (37-19), Shelton (16-15), Notre Dame – West Haven (14-7) and West Haven (21-7) in order to qualify for the post season. In the playoffs, dynamic wins were earned versus Staples (23-22) and Trumbull (42-19) before Prep fell to Greenwich (37-17) in the state championship game.

Overall, Fairfield Prep football competed against the toughest schedule in Connecticut, had an eight-game winning streak, defeated two eventual state champions and finished ranked #4 in the final state poll. The perseverance and love displayed by the 2022 football team enabled them

to learn important life lessons while overcoming obstacles and succeeding together. Special thanks to our graduating seniors for leaving their mark on our program's legacy and culture. Prep - P.R.I.D.E. - Victory!



By Keith Hellstern, Head Football Coach, Social Studies Teacher



The family of Jimmy — parents Kevin and Margaret, and sister Rosie — are recognized during Senior Day on Nov. 23, 2022.

2022 POST-SEASON FOOTBALL AWARD WINNERS

- **Joseph Cashman '23**
Chris Boyle Memorial Coaches Award
- **Emmett Derby '24**
James T. McGrath Memorial Special Teams Award
All-SCC Tier 1
CHSCA All State Class "L/LL" Team
90th Annual New Haven Register
All State Third Team
- **Charles Dooley '23**
Bob Skoronski Lineman Award
All-SCC Tier 1
- **Isaiah Joseph '23**
Bob Skoronski Lineman Award
All-SCC Tier 1
- **Tanner Langis '23**
All-SCC Tier 1
90th Annual New Haven Register
All State Third Team
- **Brice Muller '23**
Richard Magdon Most Improved Player Award
- **Robert Murphy '24**
James T. McGrath Memorial Special Teams Award

- **Jon Morris '24**
Reverend Eugene C. Brissette, S.J., Award (Defensive Player of the Year)
All-SCC Tier 1
CHSCA All State Class "L/LL" Team
90th Annual New Haven Register
All State Second Team
Walter Camp All-CT First Team
- **Xander Petrides '23**
Richard Magdon Most Improved Player Award
- **Jack Richter '23**
National Football Foundation
Scholar Athlete
- **Malachi Mercer Robinson '23**
Mark Massiello Memorial (Offensive Player of the Year)
- **Patten Royal '23**
Chris Boyle Memorial Coaches Award
- **Walter Wuchiski '23**
Mark Massiello Memorial (Offensive Player of the Year)
All-SCC Tier 1
- **Keith Hellstern**
SCC Tier 1 Coach of the Year

FOOTBALL COLLEGE COMMITMENTS

Congrats to the Prep Football senior players who made their college commitments on signing day! Pictured L-R:

- **Trey Hartnett** - Bates College
- **Quinn Stengrim** - Denison University
- **Tanner Langis** - Union College
- **Sam Paolini** - Salve Regina University

Back row, L-R: Athletic Director **Tom Curran '05**, Assistant Coach **Dan Dunkin**, Assistant Coach **Zack Thomas**, Head Coach **Keith Hellstern**, Assistant Coach **Tom Shea '73** and Principal **Tim Dee**.



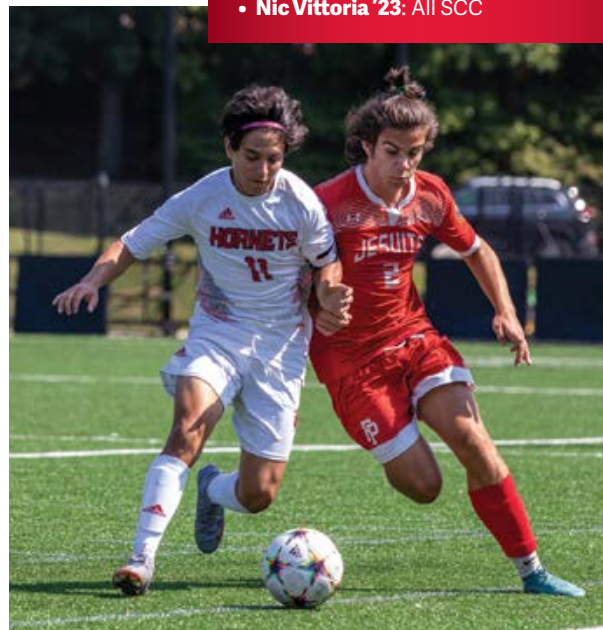


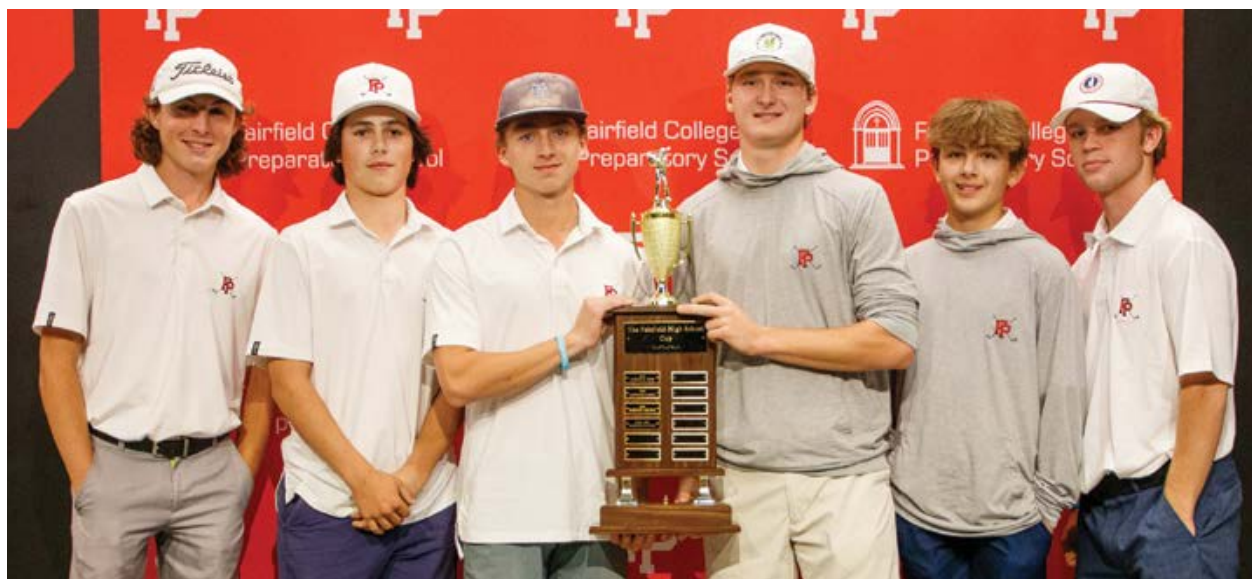
Soccer: Successful Postseason

The Fairfield Prep soccer team completed a very successful 2022 fall season, finishing the year with a record of 13-5-5 and reaching the SCC championship game and the CIAC semifinals. The Jesuits opened the season with a thrilling comeback tie against Long Island powerhouse St Anthony and earned signature victories over Cheshire, West Haven and Daniel Hand to help them earn the #3 seed in the SCC tournament. After rolling in the first round, the Jesuits found themselves in penalty kicks against Cheshire with the game knotted at 1-1 after regulation and overtime. With a one-goal lead in penalty kicks goalie **Nic Vittoria '23** made a diving save to send the Jesuits to the championship game. In the finals the Prep team ultimately fell in overtime in a great battle. In the CIAC Class LL State tournament, Prep defeated Westhill, Glastonbury and Danbury before falling in the semifinals in penalty kicks. Led by senior Captains **Brando Savi**, **Jack Hickey** and **Brady Day** the Jesuits postseason run was defined by toughness and grit as the team overcame injuries, countless overtime periods and 3 games that ended in penalty kicks as they continued to extend their season. The Jesuits will graduate **Savi**, **Day**, **Hickey** and **Vittoria** as well as seniors **Matthew Mancini**, **Junior Rios-Vargas**, **John Duffy**, **Robert Donahue**, **Craig Sheehan** and **Brian Galacia**. This senior class has played a major role in the Jesuits success these past three years under Coach **Brian Neumeyer** and has laid the groundwork for next year's varsity team.

2022 SOCCER HONORS

- **Brando Savi '23**: All SCC, CSCA All State
- **Brady Day '23**: All SCC CSCA All State
- **Jude Gussen '24**: All SCC
- **Nic Vittoria '23**: All SCC





Fairfield Prep Golf defeated Fairfield Warde and Fairfield Ludlowe to win the Fairfield Cup Championship trophy. L to R: **Cameron Raney '25**, **Caden Piselli '25**, **Mark Valus '23**, **Will Huntington '23**, **Robby Rosati '26** and **Colin Woodward '23**.

GOLF HONORS

- **Will Huntington '23**
Most Outstanding
- **Robby Rosati '26**
Most Outstanding
- **Mark Valus '23**
Coach's Award
- **Caden Piselli '25**
Most Improved
- **Robby Rosati '26**
Division I All-State team

Golf: An Impressive Move

Following back-to-back state championships, the Prep golf team made a major move to a different season for the 2022-2023 school year.

After the 2021 spring season in which the Jesuits won a Division I State Championship for the first time in 26 years, Connecticut golf teams were given the choice of playing their golf season during the fall or the spring. Prep initially decided to remain with the rest of the SCC and played in the spring for the 2021-2022 school year, but during that year the Jesuits realized that most of the traditional golf powerhouse schools had moved to the fall season, and that left the Prep team with little competition outside of traditional SCC rivalries. Traditional Division rivals like Greenwich, Staples, Ridgefield, and northern schools like Simsbury and Conard had all played in the fall.

Fairfield Prep chose to move to the fall for the 2022-2023 academic year to take advantage of a greater level of competition. In addition, most of the teams that had moved to the fall were also the teams that carried both a varsity team and a junior varsity team. As coach **Bob Bernier** explained, "We needed to put ourselves in the best season to continue to build our program. When the state split into two seasons, we saw our JV schedule dry up to only a few matches in the spring. Couple that with a smaller pool of varsity teams, we just needed to move to find competition more appropriate for the caliber of our players."

Prep's move to its inaugural fall season was certainly not a disappointment. Playing an independent schedule (the rest of the SCC schools continue to play in the spring season), the Jesuits resumed longstanding rivalries, with the likes of Darien, Greenwich, Warde and Ludlowe, and added new relationships with Conard, Wethersfield, Glastonbury and New Canaan. By the end of the regular season, Prep's varsity was the top-ranked team in Connecticut, having played a full schedule of 16 matches; in addition, the JV team was able to expand its schedule to 14 matches, including an invitational tournament hosted by Avon High School, won by the Jesuits.

By the end of the regular season, Prep's varsity was the top-ranked team in Connecticut, having played a full schedule of 16 matches

At the Division I State tournament, the Jesuits got off to a solid start, with most of the team hovering around even par on a difficult golf day.

When the wind and rain refused to end, and the course conditions deteriorated to a level that closed the course, Prep and the rest of the teams were forced to halt play and return a week later to start all over again. In the second go-around, Prep did not enjoy the same success, but battled all day. In the end, the

Jesuits finished fourth, a mere six shots behind the champion Greenwich team.

For the season, senior **Will Huntington** and freshman **Robby Rosati** were named the team's Most Outstanding golfers. For his leadership and excellent play all season, senior **Mark Valus** received the Coach's Award, and sophomore **Caden Piselli** (pictured) was named the team's Most Improved golfer. **Robby Rosati** was also named to the Division I All-State team.

With the graduation of Huntington, Valus, and fellow seniors **Colin Woodward** and **Rajan Khanna**, the team moves forward having graduated every member of the 2021 and 2022 state championship teams. The excellent core of returning players will look to continue Prep history of success with success of their own. As Coach Bernier added, "We can't wait. We will look to build competitive spring and summer

tournament schedules for all of our players and come back in the fall more than ready to compete in the high school season."

By Bob Bernier, World Languages Teacher, Golf Coach





Photo Credit: Sport Graphics

Crew Qualifies for Head of the Charles

The Prep Crew team began anew again in 2022 with eager young men looking to the water in pursuit of teamwork and success. A bid for the Head of the Charles was realized in early September and selection process for the eight rowers and one coxswain commenced immediately.

Weekly erg tests, daily assessment on the water, and racing trials yielded a boat coxed by **Phillip Martins '24** stroked by **Lucas Swarowsky '23, Zaza Kovacs '23, James Louw '24, Brendan Barrett '23, Tony Musilli '23, Chris Capalbo '23, Ronan Adamo '23** and **Jack Devine '23**. The men of Prep would battle against 90 crews from all over the United States, England, Canada and South Africa for a spot in the top 50% and guarantee entry in the 2023 regatta.

Chased down the course by some fast California and Massachusetts schools, Prep was able to narrowly secure a top 50% result. Well rowed men!

We congratulate seniors Captain **Jack Devine** (Boston College), Captain **Zaza Kovacs** (Fairfield University), **Brendan Barrett** (Colby College), **Chris Capalbo** (Boston College), **Jack Greenleaf** (Bucknell University) and **Tim Spahn** (Villanova University) as they look to continue rowing at the next level.

The spring campaign begins on March 6 with tryouts and the first NEIRA race at home vs Stonington in April.



Cross Country

The Fairfield Prep Cross Country Team stays the course under the direction of new Head Coach **Christian Alvarado '14**. Though the team did not have a standout individual performer, the team improved from their 16th place finish in the State Class LL meet the year before to 15th place. Sophomore **Daniel Tristine '25** ran a 17:49 at the Divisional meet and Junior **Brendan McMullan '24** broke the 18 minute barrier in the race as well with a time of 17:55. The team had great leaders in captains **Tim Spahn '23, Jack Miller '23, and Lenny Rosenard '23** (pictured above) and will look to continue that strong tradition of hard work and dedication in the following summer training.

PREP WINTER 2022-2023 SPORTS



Basketball Debuts Mahoney Arena

The Fairfield Prep basketball team had another successful season finishing with a record of 17-6. After dropping the season opener to Daniel Hand, the Jesuits won 13 of their next 15 games. This included big wins over Fairfield Warde, West Haven, Guilford, Norwich Free Academy, and more. After finishing the regular season 16-4, the Jesuits dominated Xavier High School in the SCC quarterfinal round winning 65-47. The Jesuits lose 10 seniors who had an incredible 4-year career as part of the Fairfield Prep Basketball program: captain **Tommy Scholl**, **Ryan Preisano**, **Mike Iannazzo**, **Alex Leporati**, **Jack Balsano**, **Owen Kalagher**, **Henry Cipollaro**, **Jack McHale**, **Amaree Palmer** and **Jamere Brown** (pictured above right).

Tommy Scholl '23 (above left) was nominated to the SCC All Conference 1st Team and **Jack McHale '23** (right) was nominated to the SCC All Conference 2nd Team.





SCOREBOARD

WINTER
2022-2023



Prep Hockey Triumphs Over Adversity

It is safe to say that our hockey team exceeded expectations this year. With the first new coaching staff in 24 years, 13 returning players, and ten fresh faces on the Varsity squad, we completed an underdog story for the ages, winning the SCC Championship and Prep's 19th CIAC Division I State title, defeating Notre Dame West Haven 3-0! Yet, the moments of loss forged the foundation of our eventual success.

After getting off to a strong 3-1 start, we traded wins and losses for nearly a month, including a 6-1 defeat at the hands of Notre Dame-West Haven. However, in late January, the sudden passing of **Jimmy Heber**, father of our goalie, **James Heber '23**, devastated our hockey and school communities.

We hit pause on hockey to focus on what mattered most. We did everything we could to support and love the Hebers and one another during that time of grief. In time, and with a new respect for the moments we may have taken for granted, we returned to the ice a

different team. In the second half, we went 11-2, including a nine-game winning streak to finish the season as SCC and Division I champions.

Led by a dynamic line of **James Murphy '24**, **Blake Baksay '24**, and **Will Huntington '23**, few teams could keep them off the scoresheet. Baksay led the state with 63 points (26 goals and 37 assists) in 23 games. **Zach McCarthy '23**, **Owen McNicholas '23**, and **Will Donnelly '23** generated a great deal of our energy, playing with a mixture of speed and finesse. **Jackson Hicks '23** and **Graham Michener '23** played with physicality, strong defensive positioning, and scored in clutch moments. **Arteen Eshraghi '23** and **Maks Mackenna '23** added depth and skill, making our team four lines deep and challenging to match up against.

On defense, senior defensemen **Colin Woodward '23**, **Greg Hilinski '23**, **Lucas Carfi '23**, **Conner Reid '23**, and **Bennett Walker '23** combined to make a punishing yet up tempo puck-moving brand of hockey. They did all they could to protect our goalkeepers, a battery of

three: **James Heber '23**, **Justin Lewis '23**, and **Zack Meehan '23**. Whether it was Meehan shutting down Bishop Guertin in the Mount Tournament, Lewis breaking NDWH's in-state winning streak, or Heber in the SCC Championship shootout and his 42 saves in the CIAC Championship, they all contributed with showstopping performances at critical moments of the year.

This is a championship team. Through difficult defeats, broken-down buses, long conditioning days, and even the loss of loved ones, these boys became men for each other. Their talent, work ethic, and humility meshed to become a tireless pursuit of excellence that became our defining characteristic. I am

immensely proud to be their coach. I only wish we could hit reset and do it all over again.



By Vin O'Hara '01, Varsity Hockey Coach, English and Social Studies Teacher



HOCKEY HONORS

TEAM AWARDS

- **CIAC Division I Champions**
- **SCC Champions**
- **CHSCA Team of the Year**

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- **Blake Baksay '24**
All-SCC
CHSCA All-State
GameTimeCT All-State
CTHS Hockey Report Skater of the Year
Pope Francis Invitational
All-Tournament Team
New Haven Register All-Area Team
- **Lucas Carfi '23**
All-SCC

- **James Heber '23**
SCC Championship MVP
CIAC Division I Championship MVP
CT Hobey Baker Award
New Haven Register All-Area Team

- **James Murphy '24**
All-SCC
GameTimeCT All-State
New Haven Register All-Area Team

- **Colin Woodward '23**
All-SCC
CHSCA All-State
New Haven Register All-Area Team

- **Coach Vin O'Hara '01**
GameTimeCT Coach of the Year
New Haven Register Coach of the Year





Skiing Scores an Undefeated Season and State Title



The Fairfield Prep Ski Team had an exceptional season this year. The varsity team finished 66-0 in the regular season, claimed the Class L Title for the 10th consecutive year and won the State Open Championship, the first since 2018 and the 16th in the program's storied history. The team's success was primarily attributed to outstanding performances from its leaders, Captain **Brice Muller '23**, Captain **Carter Goodrich '23**, and **Drew Cesaratto '24** who were all selected as First-Team All-State. **Aidan Clarke '24** and **Brady Cesaratto '26** were selected as Second-Team All-State. The rest of the varsity lineup consisted of a mix of veterans such as **Matthew Mazza '23** and **Evan Scheffler '25**, and newcomers to the varsity lineup such as **Jake Small '23**, **Palmer Firmender '24** and **Nick Hahn '25**. When any teammate faltered, these guys stepped up by laying down fast times throughout the season.



By Peter Francini '00, Assistant Ski Coach, Guidance Counselor



AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN HIGH ENOUGH

The Fairfield Prep Ski and Snowboard Club took to the slopes during a trip to Jay Peak Resort in Vermont. For the weekend of March 3-5, our boys had a great time bonding with classmates while enjoying 18" of fresh snow.



Jesuits Are In It to Win It

Coming off an SCC championship the previous season, the Fairfield Prep Swimming and Diving team started the 2022-2023 swim season eager to repeat and achieve more. There was an excitement in the pool from the very first day of practice, and Prep Pride could be felt throughout the entire season. Prep swimmers and divers were able to achieve personal bests, crack the all-time top 10 performance list in multiple events and re-establish themselves as one of the top programs in the state.

The dual meet portion of our season started strong. With every meet that passed by we saw new stars emerge, including **Chase Elliott '26**, who would go on to represent the Jesuits at the State Open. Chase was one of the many strong Freshman to wear the FP cap this season. The future certainly is bright for the team. As our SCC dual meet season progressed we were riding high – undefeated and feeling invincible. In mid-January we welcomed the Greenwich Cardinal back to the Fairfield University RecPlex for the first time in four years. Once again Greenwich would get the best of our team, on route to another State Championship. However, the team hung in tough throughout the meet with **Timothy King '25** and **Owen Tharrington '25** winning the 200 Freestyle and 200 IM in back to back races which had the RecPlex pool gallery rocking.

Following dual meet wins vs strong Amity, Hamden and New Haven Co-Op teams, the Jesuits set four team goals for the end of the season: win the SCC dual meet championship for the first time since 2019, win the SCC Championship meet, win the Class L State championship and finally place in the top 10 at the State Open Championship.

When championship season came around the team was hungry and determined for more. With the structure of the SCC Championship

meet being that top 32 places score – our goal was to get as many swimmers/divers to score as possible. While our young talent shined through all season, it was our Junior and Senior classes who would lead the way to our second SCC Championship in as many years. Senior captains **Kevin Brennan '23**, **Riley Coffey '23** and **Joseph Queenan '23** were all two time scorers and were key parts of our success. The Jesuits checked off the first two goals on the list.

The Class L State Championship meet proved to be a battle between Prep and New Canaan, two blue chip Connecticut programs. In an agonizingly close championship, Prep was Runner-Up by a mere 21 points. In this meet we had All-State Performances by **Michael Adams '23**, **Transfer Benjamin Hauptman '24**, **Owen Tharrington '25**, and Captain **Lucas Swarowsky '23**. This was the Jesuits first top 2 finish at the State meet since 2018. The season would conclude with the State Open at the historic Kiphuth Pool at Yale where Prep would finish 4th overall; far surpassing expectations coming into the meet.

Additional recognitions on the year include sprinter **Brandon Bonilla '24**, who would go on to anchor Prep's 200 Medley Relay, which is now 8th on the school all-time list. Multi-talented Diver/Swimmer **Rocco Leito '23**, whose contributions often could go unnoticed, placed 12th in diving and 9th in the 100 breaststroke at the class L championships. Other scorers at the State Championships include **Jack Greenleaf '23**, **Quinn Jennings '23**, **Jack Boyle '24**, **Nick Rotondo '25**, **Maks Shemiako '25**, **Oskar Sulkowski '25** and **Michael DiLullo '25**.



By Rich Hutchinson '87, Assistant Swim Coach, Guidance Counselor



SWIMMING & DIVING HONORS FINAL TEAM OUTCOMES

- Dual Meet record: 11-1
- SCC Champions
- 2nd State Class L
- 4th State Open

INDIVIDUAL ACCOLADES

- **Michael Adams '23**
All State 500 Freestyle
All SCC 500 Freestyle
- **Brandon Bonilla '24**
All SCC 200 Medley Relay
200 Freestyle Relay
- **Chase Elliott '26**
All SCC 200 Freestyle Relay
- **Benjamin Hauptman '24**
All State: 200IM
- **Timothy King '25**
All SCC 100 Butterfly
200 Freestyle Relay
- **Joseph Queenan '23**
All SCC 200 Medley Relay
200 Freestyle Relay
100 Butterfly
- **Lucas Swarowsky '23**
All State: 100 Breaststroke
All SCC 200 Medley Relay
- **Owen Tharrington '25**
All State: 100 Butterfly
100 Backstroke
All SCC 200 Medley Relay, 200 IM

Indoor Track

The top meet for the Fairfield Prep track team this winter came at the SCC West Sectional Meet at the Floyd Little Athletic Center in New Haven where the Jesuits turned in several strong performances. Both **Konrad Walinowski '24** and **Jon Voskov '24** placed in the 55m dash as Walinowski finished in 2nd place and Voskov took 5th. Walinowski also took 2nd place in the 300m run and the relay team of **Walinowski, Voskov, Jack Davis '25** and **Tyler Fox '23** took 3rd place in the 4x200m relay, setting a new school record. In the 4x400m relay, **Matthew Murphy '24, Joseph Marotta '23, Jackson Pinzon '26** and **Justin Tayman '24** placed for the Jesuits, finishing in 4th place. Rounding out the meet was junior **Alex Scott '24** who took 6th place in the high jump. The Jesuits will look to build on the success of the winter season in the upcoming outdoor track season.



Wrestling: SCC Runner-Up

The 2022-23 Fairfield Prep Wrestling team completed one of the best seasons in Prep history, highlighted by a 2nd place team finish in the SCC Tournament which marks the best result ever by a Prep wrestling team. The Jesuits went on to finish 7th in the CIAC Class LL tournament (out of 24 teams) and 14th in the State Open (out of 91 teams).

The Jesuits were led by captains' **Will Smith '24** at 145lbs (49-5) and **Malachi Mercer-Robinson '23** at 285lbs (44-4) who were both individual SCC Champions (Smith was named the SCC Tournament Most Outstanding Wrestler) and both took 2nd in the State Open Tournament. In the Class LL Championship, Mercer-Robinson finished 2nd and Smith 3rd while senior captain **Sebastian Rodriguez** took 4th, **Tyler Smith '24** took 5th and **Ben Virgulak '23** took 6th. In addition, **Thomas Morales '23** ended his season with a stellar record of 30-11 and Freshman **Jack Lilly** finished 14-14. The 22-23 season also marked the largest team to ever represent Fairfield Prep with over 30 wrestlers. The Jesuits will graduate Mercer-Robinson, Rodriguez, Morales, Virgulak, **Will Clegg, Daniel DeRose, and Oliver Li** but will return many talented underclassmen that will look to build on the success of this year's team. Pictured l-r: Head Coach **Ned Dwelle, Malachi Mercer-Robinson '23, Will Smith '24** and Asst. Coach **Nick Garofolo**.



WRESTLING HONORS

ALL SCC 2022 - 2023

- 285 lbs - **Malachi Mercer-Robinson '23** - Champion
- 145 lbs - **Will Smith '24** - Champion
- 120 lbs - **Sebastian Rodriguez '23** - 2nd place



McGRATH PRAYER CIRCLE

Fairfield Prep and Notre Dame-Fairfield hockey stood in solidarity before their game on Feb. 15, 2023, to pray for **Jimmy McGrath '23**. Jimmy's parents, **Mr. Kevin & Mrs. Margaret McGrath**, joined the teams on the ice along with Fairfield Prep Chaplain **Rev. Ron Perry, S.J.**, and Dean of Mission & Ministry **Elliott Gualtiere**.

READY TO PLAY

Prep proudly announces that by their strong character, academic success, and athletic efforts, many Class of '23 student-athletes have earned the opportunity to compete in sports while achieving their college degrees.



CREW

FROM LEFT:
Coach **Ed Feldheim**
Zaza Kovacs
Fairfield University
Jack Devine
Boston College
John Greenleaf
Bucknell University
Tim Spahn
Villanova University
Brendan Barrett
Colby College



BASEBALL

FRONT FROM LEFT:
Andrew Cutler
George Washington University
Ryan Preisano
Wake Forest University
Jack Arcamone
Richmond University
BACK FROM LEFT:
Michael Iannazzo
University of Maryland
Kyle Baudouin
St. Lawrence University
Ryan Oshinski
Brown University
Coach **Rudy Mauritz '94**



LACROSSE

(L) Asst. Coach **Tony Vallance**
(R) Head Coach **Graham Miemi**

FRONT FROM LEFT:
Peter Grandolfo
Bucknell University
Maddux Little
Hamilton College

Tyler Fox
Boston University
James Auszura
Clarkson University

BACK FROM LEFT:
Graham Michener
Denison University
Greg Hilinski
Eastern Connecticut State University

Harrison Spangler
Ithaca College
Luke Lombardo
Colby College
Marco Firmender
Penn State University

LIVE from Fairfield Prep!

With the rise of student-led media clubs, recent addition to Prep's Communications department **Mr. John Pellegrino** saw an opportunity for the school. This past winter, he started "FP Gametime," a student-run sports media program covering Prep's athletics teams through game streams and social media. Students learn broadcasting and media production skills, including live directing, sports photography, and social media management. Select students also commentate, giving analytical and personal insights on the sports and athletes.

Members like **Thomas Nardone '23** appreciate this group as a special experience this year: "It's been a great opportunity for me, learning how to use all the equipment and creating content for Prep. It's fun working with the guys, broadcasting the games, and I've gained hands-on knowledge while doing it." Nardone is attending Villanova University this upcoming fall, where he plans on joining their sports media program.

FP Gametime will stream home baseball and lacrosse games this spring at [jesuitpride.com/live](https://www.jesuitpride.com/live). Students interested in getting involved should reach out to Mr. Pellegrino in the Communications office.



Ben Stokes '23
Representing
Team USA at
2023 Cyclocross
World Championships



ULTIMATE FRISBEE CHAMPS! Congratulations to "The Ringers" for winning the 2023 Intramural Ultimate Frisbee Championship! Team members include **Jan Salafia '23**, **Sean Salafia '23**, and team MVP **Ethan Simpson '26!**



WIFFLE BALL "SINGER DINGERS" GO UNDEFEATED!

Congrats to "Singers Dingers" on their 2022 Intramural Wiffle Ball Championship victory! **Cameron Agliotta '25**, **Harry Hoffmann '25**, **Christopher Singer '25**, and **J.J. Schachinger '25** were unstoppable, going undefeated this season and winning the Championship Series.

Shout out to senior **Ben Stokes '23**, who competed at the 2023 UCI (Union Cycliste Internationale) Cycling Cyclocross World Championships in Hoogerheide, The Netherlands, on Feb. 5.



ROBERT DIAMOND '83

Fundraising Helps Thousands Evacuate to Safety

Robert Diamond '83 has expanded his role of being a "Man for Others" far beyond the Fairfield Prep community. Diamond studied business during his collegiate career at Villanova, and now runs Diamond Law Center, LLC, in Pennsylvania. Today, he resides in Puerto Rico.

In April 2022, he and a close friend organized a fundraiser to provide support and relief to Ukrainian civilians. They teamed up with **Fr. Timothy Howe**, President of their local, Puerto Rican Jesuit high school, "Colegio San Ignacio de Loyola," to achieve their noble mission. Father Tim spoke at their event, and donations met incredible numbers. Initially, donations were sent directly to "Colegio San Ignacio de Loyola," yet were soon shifted from the school to Jesuit Refugee Services in Poland.

Diamond's fundraiser raised over \$700,000, namely for refugee evacuation from Ukraine to Poland. In the span of his project, 28,409 Ukrainians were evacuated from the country, including men, women and children. From June 12 to 18, 2022, approximately half of the evacuated civilians were women. Moreover, refugees did not exclude any furry friends as 1,144 pets were successfully transported and kept alongside their families.

Profits from the fundraiser also contributed to running buses from Kiev, Ukraine, to a Jesuit high school in Krakow, Poland. These buses ran daily and were free of charge for refugees. During that same period, buses ran at a frequency of about three to five per day; vans and cars transported refugees as well. Once buses arrived at the Poland



Diamond's project raised over \$700,000. The evacuation helped 28,409 people and 1,144 pets leave Ukraine.

high school, Jesuit Refugee Services gave the refugees plentiful aid and resources, including proper housing, counseling, legal assistance obtaining Visas, and a "push towards their next destination."

Overall, 16,650 people were provided housing in AirBnbs. Some of the most popular housing countries were Spain, Denmark, Switzerland, Italy, Netherlands and Germany. Evidently, Poland housed over a quarter, 27.6%, of refugees. People were evacuated from a vast array of Ukrainian regions as well. Kharkiv Oblast removed the most refugees, hitting 280 Ukrainians, however Dnipropetrovsk Oblast was not too far behind it, saving 232 Ukrainians.

This operation certainly did not discriminate by age. The oldest woman evacuated was 86 years old, the oldest man 85, and youngest child one-month-old.

With help from other organizations, the project moved over 36,000 Ukrainians safely to Poland. Diamond is proving himself as a valuable role model for our younger Prep generations, demonstrating the importance of making a difference in times of need.



HOLIDAY BASKETBALL CLASSIC

Prep Alumni enjoyed a reception at "The Diffley" hospitality concourse in the new Mahoney Arena at Fairfield University on Dec. 27, 2022. Alumni going back decades reconnected while cheering on the Jesuits in the Prep Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament.



LATIN SCHOLARS ANNUAL LUNCHEON

The "Latin Scholars" Christmas Lunch for Alumni took place on Dec. 12 at the Gaelic American Club in Fairfield. This annual lunch is open to all Prep alumni, and raises funds for the **Rev. Thomas Murphy, S.J.**, and **Rev. Charles Allen, S.J.**, scholarships. **John Chiota '61** was honored as the Latin Scholars "Man of the Year." See photo below with his sons, from left: **Greg Chiota '93**, **John Chiota '61**, **John Chiota '86** and **Chris Chiota '89**.



A PREP SAN FRANCISCAN NIGHT

Fairfield Prep Alumni in San Francisco enjoyed a dinner reception generously hosted by Board of Governor member **Ed Gormbley '95** and his wife Catherine. Pres. **Christian Cashman** and Vice president for Advancement **Rob Cottle** joined the reception in a much-appreciated appearance. This Prep on the Road event was a great opportunity for alumni to connect with others in the area!

Felly is a Rising Hip-Hop Star with Deep Lyrics and CT Roots

By Douglas P. Clement, Hearst Media
Reprinted with permission by
Connecticut Magazine

A few days before Christmas, a seasonal tradition went down at Toad's Place in New Haven when ascendant hip-hop performer **Felly (Christian Felner '13)** performed for his home-state fans shortly after dropping his latest album, *Bad Radio*.

A narrative of love, loss and the reality that we're all ultimately alone, the title song opens like this: "Long ways to go / Daylight low / I wonder if I'll get there / Sun hanging low / Unpaved roads / Run as fast as you can / Whoa, twelve below / Chills my bones / Smoking on a spliff again (oh-oh, oh-oh) / Bad radio / Help my soul (my soul)"

The friends and fans who came out to hear Felly at Toad's loved the show. "Toad's is a venue I grew up going to. I remember taking the train there when I was in high school," Felly says a few days later after the show by phone from his family's home in Trumbull, where he grew up. "The show was amazing. I've been lucky enough to come back every year and it's packed out."

Felly, who's 27 and lives in L.A., feels most at home on the West Coast, but Connecticut is his taproot in a complicated mix of influences and emotions, with family at the heart of everything. His "Connecticut small-town upbringing" involved losing his father to cancer when Felly was 8, after which his mother married a friend and neighbor, who had lost his wife to cancer. He became the youngest of five in the blended family "with a lot of grieving kids," but feels blessed to have a big family and cherishes his annual Christmas visits.

Felly counts his grandmother, Carol Jacobson, a Fairfield

artist, as an inspiration and has her self-portrait tattooed on his arm. The woods and weather of Connecticut are another foundational influence. "Connecticut's always had dramatic weather. It's one of the reasons I left, but one of the reasons I admire it so much. You get every season to its fullest," Felly says. "Art to me is essentially a reflection of nature. ... The polarities and extremities of the seasons here have led me to be holistic and well-rounded with my sound and create not just sunny summer sounds but contrast."

Bad Radio, Felly's first album as an independent artist after he left 300 Entertainment, circles back to his childhood love of the outdoors and organic instrumentation, his publicist Nancy Lu says. This isn't hip-hop of brags and assertions. Instead, Felly, who currently works with a four- or five-piece band, is deeply introspective, and there's a pop-style lyricism to his recent work.

"I think hip-hop is in my make-up and kind of what comes naturally to me, so hip-hop is always going to be there," he says. "I have been compared to the Red Hot Chili Peppers. [Lead singer Anthony Kiedis is] flowing, but because of how it's delivered, you don't necessarily see it like that."

Being back at home has Felly looking back in other ways, too. "Last night I was playing a bit of my old record, *Mariposa*, made in a dark time. If you can forget the fact that it's you and just listen to it, that was something I was really digging," Felly says. "With *Bad Radio* it's something similar. That's something I'm going to look back on as capturing a piece of time."

Mariposa is notable for the song "Heartstrings" and the boost that came from it. Sometime after the album came out in 2019, Carlos Santana heard the track



Not one to rest on his laurels, Felly (Christian Felner) keeps making more music and gaining more notice.

Photo Credit: Clay Kasich

and had his team reach out to Felly. "They called one day and said, 'Carlos heard this and wants to see if you're free in the next few days and come up to the studio in northern California.' I went up there and Carlos said, 'I love this song and I want to play on it,' and he played guitar on it throughout. That was something I really needed and appreciated on my end."

Felly's music career began when he started making beats on a MPC500 music-production machine in his early teens, inspired by a wide range of artists, from Rage Against the Machine to The Beatles, Jay-Z and Lil Wayne. He went on to study music at the University of Southern California. Along with a few collaborators at USC, Felly put out albums and mixtapes, eventually gaining enough notice to headline nationwide tours. After a time in Brooklyn, he's now back in L.A.

At this point in his career, Felly has accumulated more than 1 million monthly listeners, more than 300 million streams across various platforms, sells out his tours, and has received critical praise from Billboard, GRAMMY.com, XXL, Hypebeast and others. Despite all that, Felly

doesn't think he's had a "hit" yet, but credits himself with "medium strong efforts" that have built his brand over the years, saying, "My progression has been made up of consistent moments."

The nature of those moments might shift quickly, though. "I want to be touring for the next 40, 50 years if I'm lucky. I look up to people like Peter Dinklage and John Fogerty," Felly says at one point in our conversation, though also adding of his work, "If I'm in a storytelling world right now, I'm going to run from it because I don't like to be one thing."

Later he adds, "I don't even know if music is my endgame. If not music, maybe painting, art, movies, something creative. ... I don't like repeating myself. It's just letting life wash over you and seeing what sticks and what's calling for something to be made."

Follow Felly online: fellymusic.com, @felly on Instagram, @fellythekid on Twitter, @felnuts on YouTube, @fellymusic on Facebook

Editor's note: Felly keeps in touch and involved with Fairfield Prep. Recently he spoke and performed over Zoom for a "No Place for Hate" school assembly, supporting the message of inclusion and diversity.

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



VIPS VISIT AMERICAN STUDIES

Thank you to former State Senator **John McKinney '82, P'14** and **Matthew Keller '82, P'22** for returning to Prep on Oct. 31 for a discussion and debate in front of our American Studies students regarding civic engagement and living a life of public service. It is always a pleasure welcoming our alumni back home to speak with our students!



SCOPAC '93 RETIRES AS USAF COLONEL

Nathan Scopac '93 retired after 25 years in the USAF as a colonel. Nate is pictured after receiving his retirement medal and giving up command of an Air Force Group. He completed his Masters of Global Business Administration at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and is employed by Collins Aerospace.



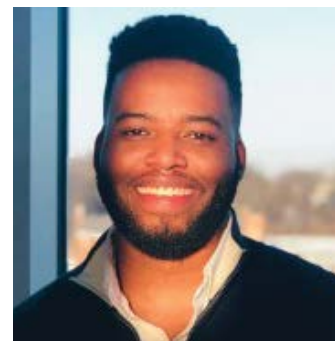
ALEC HILTON '14 IN ELITE PROGRAM

Earlier this year, **Alec Hilton '14** was selected as a finalist for the Presidential Management Fellowship (PMF) Program. Essentially, this program recruits and develops future government leaders for advanced degree holders, and provides them with vital skills and the exposure needed to make a real impact within government and their community.

Hilton stands as one of 850 finalists, chosen from over 10,000 applicants—an incredible feat in itself. During this next year, he will have the opportunity to “interview with Federal agencies across [the] government to find placements as Presidential Management Fellows.”

Moreover, PMFs are placed in a two-year, full time position within the Federal Government, provided with salary, benefits and the chance to apply their skills and engage in leadership development training.

Hilton shared that once he finishes school this summer, he will be a full-time government worker. “It was super competitive so I was not sure if I would get it,” he began, “but I heard back and now I can do environmental policy at the federal level, which I am very excited for.”



JOSHUA HUNTER '15 SHAPES THE WORLD OF EMPLOYMENT AT INDEED

Hunter was recently featured as an Iona University alumnus class of 2019.

Hometown: Bridgeport, Conn.

Major: Marketing

Job Title: Sr. Global Product Solution Specialist
Company: Indeed

What do you love most about what you're currently doing?

I most appreciate that I can have a hands-on approach with each client in efforts to positively influence the global job market.

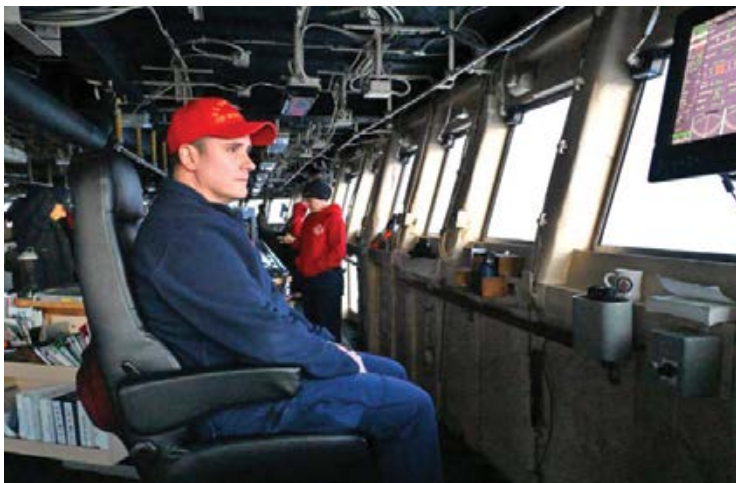
What is a day in the life like at your company?

My current role requires me to collaborate with my internal teams at Indeed to generate revenue goals and product adoption for employers that have partnered with Indeed. I regularly present throughout each quarter the growth potential within a client's market. In doing so, our team at Indeed can proceed with a more comprehensive conversation to understand the client's needs and how we can continue to shape the world of employment.



MEET THE ARTIST

Jude Pastorok '22 stopped by one of **Mr. Fosse-Previs'** freshman Visual Art classes during the week of Jan. 9. Jude was a four-year Art student at Prep; he took Visual Art along with Studio Art 1, 2 and 3. Currently, he is studying Art at Suffolk University in Boston, and brought with him some of his recent illustration work to show the class.



Captain Kenneth Boda '93 Commands U.S. Icebreaker to the North Pole

The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Healy (WAGB 20) reached the North Pole after traversing the frozen Arctic Ocean. The voyage marks only the second time a U.S. ship has reached the location unaccompanied.

"The crew of Healy is proud to reach the North Pole," said Capt. **Kenneth Boda**, commanding officer of the Healy. "This rare opportunity is a highlight of our Coast Guard careers. We are honored to demonstrate Arctic operational capability and facilitate the study of this strategically important and rapidly changing region."

Capt. Kenneth Boda, commanding officer of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Healy (WAGB 20), monitored the passage of the cutter as the crew approached the North Pole, Sept. 30, 2022. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Deborah Heldt Cordone, Auxiliary Public Affairs Specialist 1.

Healy was on a months-long, multi-mission deployment to conduct oceanographic research at the furthest reaches of the northern latitudes. Throughout the transit to the North Pole, the cutter and crew supported oceanographic research in collaboration with National Science Foundation-funded scientists.

USCGC Healy, which departed its Seattle homeport on July 11, carried thirty-four scientists and technicians from multiple universities and institutions aboard, and nearly 100 active duty crew members.

The 420-foot icebreaker is the largest ship in the Coast Guard and is capable of breaking through four-and-half feet of ice at a continuous speed of three knots.

During the cutter's first Arctic leg of the patrol throughout July and August, Healy traveled into the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, going as far north as 78 degrees. As a part of the Office of Naval Research's Arctic Mobile Observing System program, Healy deployed underwater sensors, sea gliders and acoustic buoys to study Arctic hydrodynamics in the marginal and pack ice zones.

"We are excited to reach the Pole!" said Dr. Carin Ashjian of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts. Dr. Ashjian serving alongside Dr. Jackie Grebmeier as co-chief Scientists onboard Healy with support from the National Science Foundation. "We have little information from the ocean and seafloor at the top of the world so what we collect here is very valuable. It also fills in data from a region, the western Central Arctic, which was not sampled by other ships in the SAS. Our joint efforts with the Healy crew are producing important science results."

Healy's voyage north also supported U.S. national security objectives for the Arctic region by projecting a persistent ice-capable U.S. presence in U.S. Arctic waters, and patrolling our maritime border with Russia.

Space Invader Bernie Seery '71

Bernie Seery is a 1971 Fairfield Prep graduate and a 1975 Fairfield University graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Physics. Since his time in our Fairfield community, he has accomplished a life plenty worthy of praise. Seery currently works as the Vice President of Science & Technology at Universities Space Research Association (USRA), post-retirement from NASA in 2017. This Christmas, the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) took flight at 7:20 a.m., a professional masterpiece and personal achievement of Seery's that must not go without recognition.

Seery was one of two original NASA employees recruited by Dr. Ed Weiler, then of NASA Headquarters and recent USRA Board member, to assist in the project management of a "First Light" machine. The machine's ultimate goal was to fully compete with and surpass the Hubble Space Telescope—a previous scientific observatory which had been viewed as the "most productive" to date.

The grueling responsibility of assembling a multi-NASA center, industry and an international team of scientists and engineers to produce the machine was laid in the hands of Seery himself.

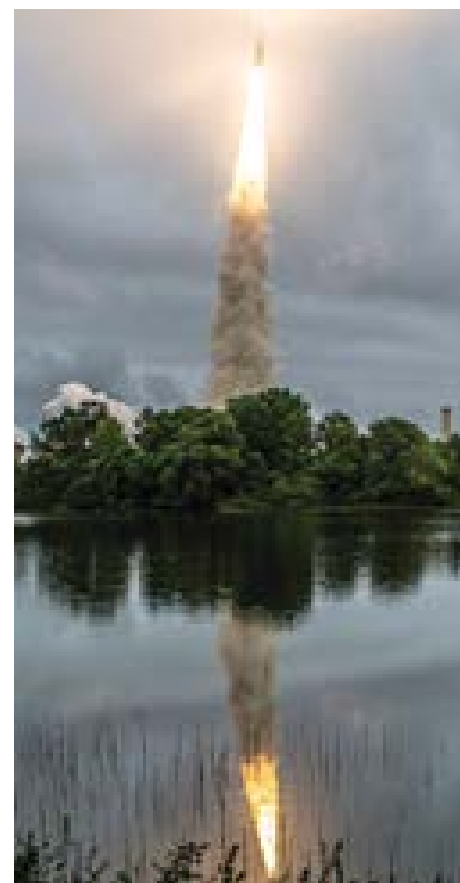
"It was a real challenge to converge the visible/infrared astronomical community on a concept which featured an extremely large, segmented and deployable cryogenic primary mirror, the unfurled diameter of which well exceeded the limitations of available five-meter diameter rocket fairings," he said.

Fortunately for Seery and his team, however, construction of JWST ended with a machine that was one hundred times more powerful than the Hubble, and with only half of its launch mass. He attributes these achievements to the machine's ultra-lightweight, active beryllium mirror segments, equipped with backside electro-mechanical actuators that permit wavefront connection.



A combination of the designing, manufacturing, testing and launching processes took a collaborative effort of over 10,000 individual contributors. Aside from that astronomical feat in itself, Seery can bask in the beauty of an emerging type of space research, which holds an ever-growing focus on planet evolution, exoplanet discoveries and conditions of life on other planets.

Most importantly, he wishes that his daughter, Katie, with a recent doctorate in astrophysics, will one day be able to utilize his newly-built observatory for her own scientific endeavors.





Marotta Wedding

Frank Marotta '11 married Amanda DiPaolo June 10, 2022, at St Sebastian Church in Middletown, CT. Reception held at the Barns at Wesleyan Hills in Middletown, CT. Joseph Marotta '23 served as best man and Cody Bilcheck '11 as his groomsman. The couple resides in Madison, CT.



Sutay Wedding

On June 25, 2022, Christopher Sutay '13 married Sarah McKane. The Sutays are building a home in Oxford and hope to start a family soon.



Intrieri Wedding

On September 21, 2022, Thomas Intrieri '10 married Nicole Della Cava. The ceremony was held at Church of the Resurrection in Rye and the reception was held nearby at Westchester Country Club. Prep alumni in attendance were, bottom left: Andrew Golankiewicz '10, Lucas Dennison '10, Thomas Intrieri '10, Sean Greer '10, Bill Harkawik '10. Top left: Parker Beller '10, Tyler Pramer '10, Robert Aufiero '10, Ryan Cahalane '10, Justin Alves '10.



Cahalane Wedding

On July 30th, 2022 Ryan Cahalane '10 married Sarah Treanor of Annapolis, MD in Woodstock, VT. The wedding was a Prep reunion with Ryan's brother and best man, Kevin Cahalane '07, and fellow Prep graduates Justin Alves '10, Robert Aufiero '10, Lucas Dennison '10, Andrew Golankiewicz '10, Sean Greer '10, Tom Intrieri '10, Parker Beller '10, Tyler Pramer '10, and Bill Harkawik '10. Former President Rev. John Hanwell, S.J., officiated the ceremony.



Kelly Wedding

Christopher Kelly '13 married Allyson Lenhoff on October 8, 2022, at Greenfield Hill Congregational Church. The reception was at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT. Prep alumni in attendance were Chris Golger '13, Austin Trotta '13, Mitchell D'Eramo '13, Richard Sekerak '13, and Charlie Dodge '13.



Births



John DiFazio '68 and his wife Alicia welcomed their first child, a son Asa, on December 17, 2022.



Scott Ball '13 and his wife, Brynn, welcomed a baby boy James Pennington Ball on January 21, 2023.



Michael Lacerenza '00 and his wife, Jerilyn, welcomed a son, James Gerard on April 17, 2022. James joins big sister Taylor (2).

DR. JAMES P. ROACH '50

Remembering an Extraordinary Prep Brother

Dr. James P. Roach '50, devoted husband of Joan and father of eight, passed away peacefully on March 6, 2023. He was the brother of the late **Stephen J. Roach '47**, the late **David L. Roach '47**, and **Thomas J. Roach '55**. He was the father of **Timothy S. Roach '78** and the grandfather of **Macklin J. Berry '21** and **Aidan P. Berry '22**. He was the uncle of **Daniel S. Roach '79**, and **Maura O'Connor (Prep Mathematics Dept)** and the great uncle of **Thomas P. O'Connor '14** and **John B. O'Connor '19**, and a relative and friend to many Prep alumni. Jim exemplified what it was to be a kind human being every day throughout his 90 years. In 2011, Jim received Prep's St. Ignatius of Loyola Alumni Award at a ceremony before the entire student body during the Mass of the Holy Spirit. The award was established to recognize alumni who exemplify the characteristics that Prep seeks to instill in its graduates.

Jim grew up in the Black Rock



neighborhood of Bridgeport, attended St. Ann's School, and entered Fairfield Prep in the autumn of 1946. He recalled that tuition was \$150, paid by his father who worked for the phone company and supported six children. Jim felt the tough core curriculum taught by the Jesuit staff influenced him greatly, especially the foundation of four years of Latin. (Later, he was a member of Prep's Latin

Scholars alumni group, which continues to support the **Fr. Tom Murphy, S.J.**, and **Fr. Charles Allen, S.J.**, scholarships.)

Dr. Roach was a Board member for several charities and medical services including St. Vincent's Special Needs Center, McGivney Center in Bridgeport, St. Vincent's Medical Center, St. Vincent's Foundation and St. Vincent's College of Nursing and was a Clinical Instructor in Urology at Yale University School of Medicine. He was extremely grateful for the Jesuit education he received from Fairfield Prep and Fairfield University. Jim received several awards and distinctions including The St. Ignatius of Loyola Alumni Award from Fairfield Prep, and the Heroes of Mid-Fairfield County Medical Award from the Mid-Fairfield County Chamber of the American Red Cross.

An extraordinary example of his caring and Christian love for his fellow man is that Jim donated one of his kidneys in 2004 to a veteran who would have died without the transplant. Rest in peace, Dr. Jim Roach.

In Memoriam

Edwin S. Artell Jr. '60 on November 8, 2022. He was the brother of **Robert B. Artell '66** and the uncle of **James R. Artell '14**.

John F. Benevelli '93 on October 16, 2022.

Daryl D. Bouchard '96 on November 5, 2022. He was the brother of **Darin B. Bouchard '91**.

Robert J. Brennan III '89 on November 10, 2022. He was the brother of **Thomas Brennan '99** and **Maura Carey (FP Advancement)** and the brother-in-law of **Gregg Chiota '93** and **Brian Carey '96**; the nephew of **John Murray '44** and **Daniel Brennan '69**; the uncle of **Sean O'Leary '18** and **Tim O'Leary '21**. He was the cousin of **Mike Brennan '92**, **Rich Douglas '93**, **Dan Brennan '98**, **Pat Douglas '03**, **Ryan Brennan '11**, **Shaun Connelly '15**, **Drew Delach '18**, **Ian Connelly '21** and **Matt Delach '21** and the cousin-in-law of **Dick Douglas '61** and **Mike Bartlett '95**.

James M. Brown '51 on January 7, 2023.

Martin A. Buzas '51 on November 8, 2022.

Robert A. Callahan '63 on November 4, 2022. He was the brother of the late **Joseph C. Callahan '61**.

Elizabeth Chervenak on January 25, 2023. She was the wife of **Raymond J. Chervenak '63**.

Sam Cingari on March 8, 2023. He was the father of **John F. Cingari '73**, **Michael Cingari '74** and **Thomas F. Cingari '77**.

Kenneth Coley on February 8, 2023. He was the father of **Keith H. Coley '88**.

Margaret Crow on February 28, 2023. She was the mother of **David R. Crow '78** and the aunt of the late **David Kecko '76**.

Robert L. Farrington '54 on January 5, 2023.

Frank Fortunati on March 5, 2023. He was the father of **Frank R. Fortunati '17**.

Richard E. Greene on February 17, 2023. He was the father of **Richard H. Greene '83** and the brother in law of the late **Leonard R. Benedetto '58**.

Jimmy Heber on January 24, 2023. He was the father of **James T. Heber '23**.

Walter Hilinski on March 2, 2023. He was the father of **David W. Hilinski '86** and the grandfather of **Gregory D. Hilinski '23**.

William D. Hindie '49 on September 10, 2022.

Paul Holub on January 19, 2023. He was the father of **Douglas P. Holub '90** and **Matthew P. Holub '95**.

Gustave A. Iwanicki '56 on February 23, 2023.

Edmond F. Kiely '48 on December 15, 2022.

Ruth Liptak on November 28, 2022. She was the mother of **David J. Liptak '76**.

Maura Gallagher Wilson on October 13, 2022 she was the mother of **Liam G. Wilson '20**.

William Lavin on December 5, 2022. He was the grandfather of **Brendan D. Sawyer '17** and **Matthew D. Sawyer '21**.

John P. Leahy '54 on January 10, 2023.

Rita Leyden on March 2, 2023. She was the mother of **Thomas P. Leyden '90**.

Stephen C. McLaughlin on December 31, 2022. He was the grandfather of **Emmett T. Tolisano '25**.

William J. McGrath Jr. '48 on December 15, 2022.

Lawrence Meehan on February 1, 2023. He was the father of **Kenneth R. Meehan '77**.

Robert J. Neuberger '52 on December 18, 2022. He was the father of **Walter B. Neuberger '99**.

Thomas L. Nucifora '58 on December 20, 2022. He was the cousin of **John J. Kubica Jr. '58**.

Margaret O'Connor on January 17, 2023. She was the mother of **Daniel J. O'Connor '82**, mother in law of **Steven C. Bennett '80** and **Kenneth J. O'Donnell '85**; and the grandmother of **Brian J. Bennett '11**, **Connor F. Bennett '18** and **Declan P. O'Donnell '19**.

William Paul '76 on December 14, 2022. He was the brother of the late **Robert M. Paul '77** and **John S. Paul '84**.

James P. Roach '50 on March 6, 2023. He was the brother of the late **Stephen J. Roach '47**, the late **David L. Roach '47**, and **Thomas J. Roach '55**. He was the father of **Timothy S. Roach '78** and the grandfather of **Macklin J. Berry '21** and **Aidan P. Berry '22**. He was the uncle of **Daniel S. Roach '79**, and **Maura O'Connor (Prep Mathematics Dept)** and the great uncle of **Thomas P. O'Connor '14** and **John B. O'Connor '19**, and a relative and friend to many Prep alumni.

John J. Ronan '50 on November 17, 2022.

Laurence V. Schaefer '49 on September 29, 2022. He was the brother of the late **William L. Schaefer '47** and the late **Charles Schaefer '51**.

George M. Schmeck '51 on February 24, 2023.

Mary Sekelsky on January 2, 2023. She was the mother of **William M. Sekelsky '71**.

John B. Sulzycki '68 on October 30, 2022. He was the cousin of **Michael Sulzycki '63**, **Alexander Sulzycki '64**, and **Mark Sulzycki '68**.

Stephen J. Zelle '54 on November 21, 2022. He was the brother of **James P. Zelle '57** and the cousin of **Joel A. Zelle '68**.

Robert G. Zimmerman '63 on December 14, 2022.



PREP ALUMNI NAMED TO GAMETIME CT ALL-DECADE FIRST TEAM

Paschal Chukwu '14 and **Terry Tarpey '12** were selected for the all-decade team of the 2010s; all of the players put up great numbers and many went on to successful collegiate careers and beyond. A 7-0 center, **Chukwu** averaged 14.3 points, 11 rebounds and five blocks per game for the SCC champions. State Player of the Year. Finished with 21 points, 17 rebounds and 12 blocks in the Class LL state final against Bridgeport Central. Two-time All-State and All-SCC Quinipiac Division selection. Named MVP of the SCC his senior season. Selected to play in the JCC Schoolboy Classic. Went on to play at Providence and Syracuse. A 6-4 guard, **Tarpey** averaged 24.7 points, 12.1 rebounds, 6 assists and 4 blocks per game for the SCC tournament and Class LL state finalists. Helped lead Prep to the SCC Quinipiac Division title. Finished with three triple-doubles in his senior season. Two-time all-state selection. MVP of the CHSCA All-Star Class L-LL game. Played at William & Mary and plays professionally in France. *Source: Hearst Media*



ALUMNI HOCKEY GAME

On Feb. 18, a group of Fairfield Prep Hockey alumni took to the ice for the annual Alumni Hockey Game at Wonderland of Ice. The game featured Prep's own teachers **Matt Sather '93**, former head hockey coach, and **Rudy Mauritz '94**, former assistant hockey coach. Interested in learning about next year's game? Contact Director of Events and Stewardship **Kathy Norell**.



WIFFLE BALL FANS

As Prep's intramural Wiffle Ball club celebrates its circa 35th year, the Slowik brothers (pictured) cannot believe their initial Wiffle Ball club has lasted this many years. **Dave Slowik '88** (top, lives in PA) and **Steve Slowik '89** (below, lives in TX) played the game growing up in Monroe, and still enjoy playing with their own sons. Note: Wiffle Ball Inc. was founded in the '50s by the father and grandfather of current owners **Dave Mullany '83** and **Stephen Mullany '85**, who are still producing the famous ball. Another Dave and Steve duo!



WELCOME HOME SOLDIER!

True Men for Others! Prep freshmen stuffed 300 goodie bags this past November to welcome home soldiers from the US Army 1-32 Infantry Regiment of Fort Drum, who are returning from deployment to Syria for a year. These bags were for women and men returning to barracks, not homes. Their battalion commander is Prep Alumnus LTC **Nick Bilotta '97**.



ORDER IN THE COURT

Four Prep alumni are currently serving together as Superior Court Judges in the Stamford-Norwalk Judicial District, where they adjudicate major criminal and civil cases. Pictured (l-r) are **Robert Genuario '70**, **Robert Golger '79**, and **John Blawie '75**. Seated is **John Kavanewsky '71**. Judge Blawie currently serves as the Chief Administrative Judge for the district, a position formerly held at different times in the past by both Judge Kavanewsky and Judge Genuario.



TRAVELING THE HOLY LAND

Traug Keller '78, P'11, '17, president of America Media and former Fairfield Prep Board Governor is pictured with **Jack Razlowsky**, president of Xavier High School (NYC), on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with America Magazine group.



PREP MEN AT HOLY CROSS

While Dean of Mission & Ministry **Elliott Gualtiere** recently visited Holy Cross with his son **Nicholas '24** for a college tour, they ran into two Prep alumni graduating this May: **Donnel Delva '19** and **Andrew Lydon '19**. Always great to reconnect with our Prep alumni!



CLASS OF 1972 AT THE 19TH HOLE

Prep alumni from the class of 1972 got together in the fall of 2022 for their annual golf outing and dinner. Unfortunately, due to bad weather, they were unable to play, but still reunited at the Gaelic American Club for dinner. It's a great tradition that started many years ago and is still going strong!

Faculty/Staff Award



Melissa Goodwin, was honored for her 20 year teaching career at Fairfield Prep at the Annual Thanksgiving prayer service.



Will Short and **Cole Simons**, from the Class of 2018, have worked at the school this year.

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN TO JOIN ALUMNI SERVICE CORPS

Are you a member of the Prep Classes of 2018 or 2019? The Alumni Service Corps (ASC) offers Prep alumni who have recently graduated college the opportunity to return to their alma mater for a year-long service commitment as a staff member. Alumni Service Corps members undertake many responsibilities such as, but not limited to, co-classroom teaching, coaching, leading retreats and immersion trips, and moderating clubs and activities. Depending on the ASC member's interests, involvement in the development, finance, alumni or communications offices are also possibilities. Interested? See www.fairfieldprep.org/asc or email tdee@fairfieldprep.org or swhalen@fairfieldprep.org.

Birth



Congratulations to **Arielle Romeo** (Director of Annual Giving) and her husband Michael on the arrival of their son Cooper Joseph Romeo on March 22, 2023. Marley and Olivia are his big sisters.



PREP TODAY CORRECTION

An article on page 52 in the 2022 Fall issue of *Prep Today* incorrectly listed the class year for LTC **Brian J. Lawler**, Esq., USMC (retired). Lawler (pictured) should have been listed as a member of the Class of 1986. *Prep Today* regrets the error and appreciates **George J. Lawler '65** for bringing this to our attention.

JUNE 2023

Party with Prep People!

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023

GOLF OUTING AT GREAT RIVER

www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/GOLF

FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2023

2023 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/AHOF

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023

LEGENDS LUNCH

All alumni who have celebrated their 50th reunion including the Class of 1973

www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/LEGENDS

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023

50TH REUNION CLASS OF 1973

www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/73REG

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023

ALUMNI REUNION

'78, '83, '88, '93, '98, '03, '08, '13, '18

www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/REUNION



Igniting the Fire Within

Through Innovation and Discovery



Fall Auction Raises More Than \$253,000



Thanks to our Prep Community, Fairfield Prep's 2022 Auction truly "ignited the fire within." Not only was the event a grand success, but an evening filled with unforgettable memories. Our talented Jazzuits entertained our guests with dazzling music. Guests enjoyed cocktails and food stations throughout the evening.

With our benefactors' generous support, we raised more than \$253,000 for constituents vital to Prep: tuition assistance, faculty enrichment, student service projects, athletics and more. \$68,500 of the money was raised went towards financial aid and scholarship through our hallmark "Fund A Future" paddle raise. Senior student **Sebastián Rodríguez '23** (pictured), and Director of Diversity and Community Engagement **Ruben Goodwin**, delivered inspiring speeches on the transformational impact that access to a Jesuit education can have for our young men. See Sebastián's speech on Prep's YouTube channel: youtube.com/fairfieldprep1.



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Mr. & Mrs. Donald Lee, P'25

SILVER SPONSORS

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William Raveis

Mr. & Mrs. Kevin McMahon '87, P'24

Rafal Rak, P'26, Forever Roofing

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Mr. & Mrs. Howard Fetzer, P'24, Fetzer Tire

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Mr. & Mrs. Hardy Royal, P'23

Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell McManus, P'24,

BMW of Bridgeport

Salon Isa/Man the Barber Club

SPECIAL BENEFACTORS

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Ambrosio, P'24

Mrs. Elaine J Clark, P'14

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Donnelly, P'23

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Jordan, P'24

Mr. & Mrs. Shawn R. Mazza, P'23

Mr. Julio Ojea Quintana &

Ms. Ana Tolomei, P'17, '19, '22

Mr. & Mrs. Scott D. Sawyer, P'17, '21

Mr. & Mrs. Owen Tharrington, P'25

Mr. & Mrs. Richard C. Wong, P'21, '23, '26

Class of 2023

Class of 2024

Class of 2025

Class of 2026

SELTZER DONATION

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Quincy '87, P'17, '22

Spindrift

WINE DONATION

Mr. & Mrs. David Barzottini, P'25,

Josh Cellars

THANK YOU to our students, volunteers, donors and benefactors who made our Fall Auction a success. We could not do this without you!



Family Photos



FILLING IN THE BLANKS

At a Fathers' Club sponsored service event in February, dads and sons worked together at "Filling in the Blanks," packing bags of food in an assembly line fashion, which were distributed directly into hands of hungry children in the local community.



FATHERS' CLUB COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Great turnout for the annual Father-Son Communion Breakfast on Super Bowl Sunday! Dads and sons attended Mass at Fairfield University's Egan Chapel, and enjoyed breakfast in the Student Life Center. **Tom Shea '73**, FP Entrepreneurship Institute director and football coach, shared his Prep experience with the guests.



YMCA COAT DISTRIBUTION

This past winter, the Fathers' Club hosted a coat distribution program at the Bridgeport YMCA. Through the generous donation of **Todd Barrato, P'26**, Prep fathers and sons distributed coats at the YMCA Warming Center which serves the homeless population affected by cold weather and economic hardship.



A HOLLY JOLLY FATHERS' CLUB CHRISTMAS

Prep brings Christmas spirit to those in need! The Fathers' Club sponsored a wrapping event with their sons on Dec. 19 to prepare gifts for the Nourish Bridgeport Christmas party. Prep families then hosted the outdoor party for the underserved ESL community, sharing food and giving Christmas presents. Santa was on hand, too!



Family Photos



RIVALS UNITE FOR A BROTHER

Fairfield Prep hockey goalie **James Heber '23** gave an amazing performance during the team's game against Xavier Hockey on Jan. 29. That night, he led his team to a 5-2 victory. Heber's father passed away suddenly in January, so both teams gathered at the beginning of the game to share a prayer.



LADIES NIGHT "SIP 'N' SHOP"

The Bellarmine Mothers Guild hosted a "Sip 'n' Shop" evening in mid-October as a fun social opportunity to meet and connect with fellow moms and caregivers, as well as shop at a selection of area vendors!





BELLARMINE GUILD SPREADS THE LOVE

Prep Parents are the best! Thank you to the Prep families in each class who hosted delicious breakfasts and lunches throughout the year. Here, the Class of 2023 served Thanksgiving lunch for faculty and staff, plus displayed class photos with messages of thanks! These events are coordinated by the Bellarmine Guild.



DON'T FEAR THE BOO BASH

Fairfield Prep families decked out their trunks and dressed in Halloween costumes for the "Boo Bash" sponsored by the Center for Family Justice in Bridgeport! Their outdoor trunk or treat party for the area families put many smiles on the children's faces.



COMEDY, MAGIC, AND MIND-READING FUN FOR MOTHERS AND SONS

In September, the Bellarmine Guild held their annual Mother/Son dinner in the Student Life Center. Over 300 attendees enjoyed dinner and a show by Mentalist/Magician **Ryan Oaks**.



FAMILY SHARES HERITAGE

AP Spanish Language students enjoyed a presentation about Argentina and sampled authentic foods on January 19. Alumni parent **Ana Ojea Quintana, P'17, '19, '22** spoke, accompanied by her son, Harvard-graduate **Marcos Ojea Quintana '22** and joined by John Hopkins-graduate **Ian Whamond '21**. The students tasted traditional empanadas, drank "Mate" Argentinian tea and ate delicious alfajores cookies brought by the Ojea Quintana family.



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Connect with us on social media

Login to our Online Alumni Community

www.FAIRFIELDPREP.ORG/ALUMNI

Your username is your first initial last name grad year.

(For example, John Doe Class of 1993 is **jd93**)

Your password is the code printed above your name.

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Thank You!

Giving Day A Success!

Prep's Giving Day was one to remember. On March 16, our amazing Prep Community came together and raised **over \$250,000** from **more than 800 donors!** The excitement across campus was captivating as our students celebrated our "PREP Home" by being reminded that the core values of our Jesuit way begin with gratitude and generosity, and that everything at Prep is a gift! The day ended with a Pep Rally in Pelletier Quad! Thank you for your tremendous loyalty and support! **AMDG**

