

Frank Fennell  
'74 Donates to  
DeMatha



Tennis wins WCAC  
Championship



DeMatha Music  
wins big in  
Myrtle Beach



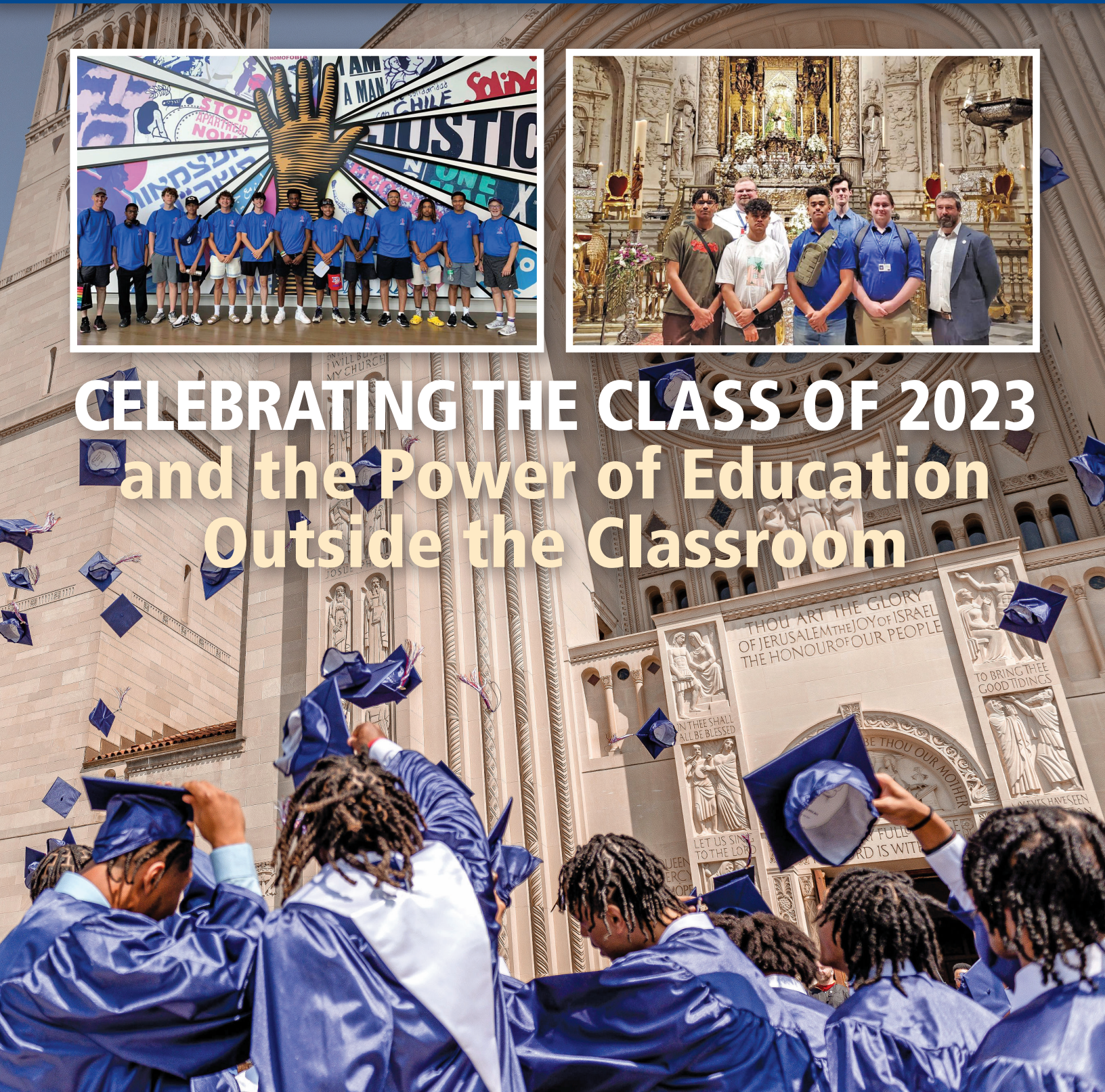
# DEMATHA

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SUMMER 2023



CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2023  
and the Power of Education  
Outside the Classroom





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## ON THE COVER

DeMatha students understand that education happens everywhere, not just within the walls of the school. This year, we had the privilege of several out of school educational opportunities including the "Road to Civil Rights" (page 18) class and the Trinitarian Pilgrimage to Spain and Morocco (page 11).





# DeMATHA CATHOLIC High School

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## Red & Blue Review

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 2, SUMMER 2023

**Fr. James R. Day, O.S.S.T.**  
PRESIDENT

**Dr. Daniel J. McMahon '76**  
PRINCIPAL

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*Director of Trinitarian Mission,*  
*Ex Officio Member*



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Alumni and Friends of DeMatha,

There are two rewarding moments at the close of any academic year that most faculty, staff, students and parents enjoy, and they are the Baccalaureate Liturgy at DeMatha and the Commencement ceremony at the Basilica of the National Shrine. I have often commented that these two holy gatherings during mass and then in a sacred space help us concretize the very foundation of who we are as a Catholic School working with a diverse group of students and their families. The Baccalaureate Liturgy establishes the mission of our school, where faith, wisdom, character and values are all joined together as we recognize the God-given talents that have been nurtured during our high school years together. Then, at the Graduation ceremony, thousands of people gather to honor our graduating class to thank the faculty and staff and to recognize the sacrifices of parents and family under the name of St. John de Matha. Looking at the graduates during these ceremonies, it is no surprise that there are many deep emotions on the faces of our newest alumni.

Not everyone reading this edition of the Red and Blue was able to attend these ceremonies, but I hope my description helps us appreciate the 76-year tradition of our school. As freshmen, young boys enter the school with many questions, worries and fears. As they complete their high school years under the guidance of our gifted faculty and staff, they are more confident in themselves, they feel good about who they are, and they know that they are prepared for the next important chapter in their lives. What a blessing it is for all of us to be a part of this educational process, and what a singular blessings it is for us to be associated with DeMatha Catholic High School.

When the new graduates process out of the Basilica on graduation day, there are mixed emotions on the faces and in the hearts of all of us: we pray they will continue to be successful and make good choices; we hope they are well-prepared for further education or career choices, and we trust that they will never forget how important they will always be in our memories of another group of young men who are now anxious and ready to bring their Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars' vision into world which is so hungry for goodness, holiness, service and brotherhood.

We have done well in helping these new alumni, and I believe they will do well in bringing their gifts to a community larger than Madison Street in Hyattsville. God bless the Class of 2023.



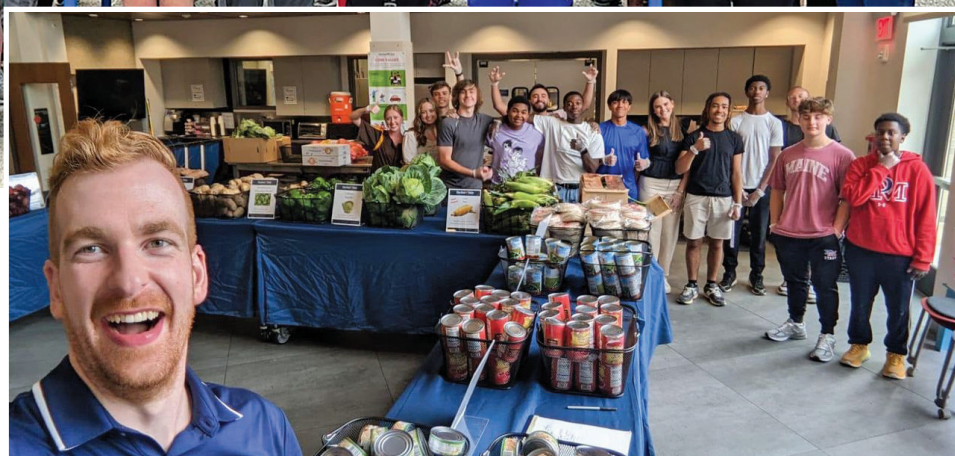
Fr. James R. Day, O.S.S.T.  
PRESIDENT





The DMLI members after a long day of teambuilding and leadership workshops!

Day 2 of DMLI (right) saw the students focused on service.



The Valois Chapter of the National Honor Society welcomed new members this year. Students apply for membership based on the qualities of character, scholarship, leadership, and service. Students must continue to maintain their academic standing and perform service, including peer tutoring and volunteering at DeMatha and in their community. Rising senior members include **Aidan Anderson, Jonathan Awunor, Hayden Belt, Emmanuel Bertrand, Darien Birks, Kelvin Blake, Brandon Cibor, Paul Cruz, Davis Dedner, Will DelValle, Declan Devilbiss, Thomas Dietrich, Jayden Duran, Matthew Franco, Tobias Hernandez, Henry Lawrence, Anthony Lukban, Evan Michel, Michael Olivari, Osemeke Otule, Daren Pefok, Michael Pozdol, Ryan Ricker, Andrew Righi, Andrew Ross, Harry Rothmann, Joshua Simmons, Daniel Smith, and William Walker.** Rising junior members include **Jacob Bickel, Luke Brabazon, Conner Hayes, Landon McKelvy, Shawn Smolen, Hayden Walsh, and Jackson Yoder.**

SGA elections for the 2023-24 school year were held in May. Congratulations to everyone who put together some fantastic campaigns! **Ryan Ricker** was elected President, **Davis Dedner** as Vice President, **Daren Pefok** as Secretary, **Hayden Belt** as Treasurer,

and **Jonathan Sharayera** as Sergeant at Arms. Senior Class Representatives are **Josh Simmons, Aggrey Narh, Brandon Cibor, and William DelValle.** The Junior Class Representatives are **Jalen Neptune, Nico DeLeon, Hayden Walsh, and Jackson Ross.** The Sophomore Class Representatives are **Gordon Johnson, Miles Shane, Robert Reeser, and Anthony Mark.**

Congratulations to all the students who participated and won awards during Academic Awards Night! Their accomplishments in academics, extracurriculars, and service are examples of what it means to be a DeMatha Man.

*Continues on page 6*



A new Collins-Wootten Chair was named - Congratulation to **Mr. Paul Clark '01!** He is pictured here (center) along with previous Collins-Wootten Chair holders who still work at DeMatha.



*“The questions  
that students take  
away and that they  
answer by the lives  
they lead will be  
the most important  
possessions they  
have.”*

Here are two aphorisms about education that I often think about: 1) Education is the only thing people pay to be cheated out of; and 2) high schools are storehouses of knowledge—because freshmen bring a little in when they arrive—and seniors never take any with them when they go.

The first—that education is the only thing people pay to be cheated out of seems irrefutable—has haunted me as a student and a teacher. No one buys a house and hopes the roof leaks; no one purchases a car and hopes it won't run; no one buys food and hopes it is spoiled. But people buy education—privately like DeMatha and publically through their taxes and every student “buys” education through their time—and then hopes that teachers don't show up or that the classes are easy or that they confirm what one already knows or that they don't have any work to do. I was a poor student for a long part of my education until I vowed not to cheat myself. I was fortunate to be surrounded by people who wouldn't cheat me.

As to the witticism that high schools are storehouses of knowledge where freshmen bring some in and seniors don't take any with them—I think this is true if I can add a codicil that the knowledge the freshmen bring in is a kind of unreflective certainty about things and that seniors drop off knowledge of absolute certainty on their journey and pick up and take with them an enormous amount of questions. These questions are fundamental to a mature life. What am I being called to do? How should I live my life? How will I define the good and practice the good? Will I respond to a call for charity? For justice? What does it mean to be a neighbor, a friend, a husband, a father? What responsibilities are concomitant with my rights?

For all of the importance of the information a student takes—the formulas for the quadratic equation or to determine force, the pattern of the Krebs cycle or the names of the bones, the periods of history or a list of heresies—the questions that they take away and that they answer by the lives they lead will be the most important possessions they have. Here's to not being cheated of one's education or of one's questions; here's to a DeMatha education.



Daniel J. McMahon, Ph.D. '76  
PRINCIPAL





Our first-year faculty members gathered together before graduation. We thank them for their commitment to the mission of DeMatha!

This year, *Before You Go...* a gift book for seniors was published. The first of its kind, in the book the faculty and staff offered advice for the Class of 2023 regarding future self, self-discovery, personal growth, and gratitude and spirituality.

The DeMatha Leadership Institute (DMLI) met this summer. This four-day leadership program includes rising juniors (Class of 2025) as they prepare to become upperclassmen and leaders on campus. Around 30 students are selected each year,

and the young men who participate work on developing leadership skills through challenging group work, leadership workshops, guest speakers, and Christian Service projects. This year's DMLI offered service to food kitchens in the DMV and went on an overnight leadership retreat to Calleva. Thank you to everyone who participated and a special thank you to **Dr. Sam Crusemire, Mr. John McConnell, and Mr. Michael Roberts** for hosting and to **Ms. Sarah Stockton** for moderating.



**Sasha Pleszkoch '26** was named the overall winner of the Library Geography Quiz Bowl this year! Sasha shared with us that he has been passionate about geography, maps, and flags for as long as he can remember. He is pictured here with Librarian **Mr. Damon Austin**.

The DeMatha Players continued their success under the leadership of **Mr. Keith Rafferty** by putting on a play in the fall, *The Werewolf and His Problems*, by Tim Kochenderfer and Lerner's and Loewe's, *Camelot* in the spring.



The DeMatha Players after a performance of *Camelot*. The show was completely sold out!



27 Stags with the Ecology Club spent an afternoon in May putting up bird boxes and removing litter for the Ecology Club's Park Clean-Up!



# CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE NEWS



*Fr. Josh and Ms. Erin Bright during the CCMA Conference.*

The Campus Ministry Office (CMO), led by **Ms. Erin Bright** and **Fr. Josh**, had a productive year in both development for the school and professional development.

**Ms. Erin Bright** and **Fr. Josh** attended the Catholic Campus Ministers Association Conference in Indianapolis. This conference provided them with an opportunity to learn from experts and colleagues so that they can improve our programs for our students.



*During the Senior Retreat, the seniors are gifted a Trinitarian cross to signify their journey at DeMatha.*

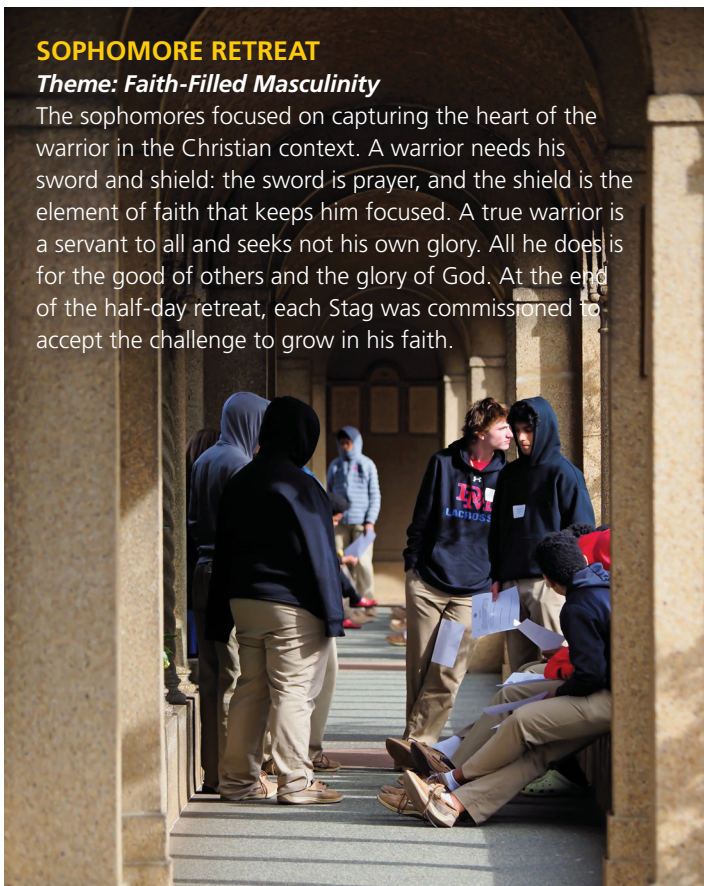
## SENIOR RETREAT Theme: Men of Reflection

This overnight retreat allowed the Seniors to reflect on their time at DeMatha and identify tools to help them grow in their faith once they enter college. Through personal and group reflection, they can see just how much God is at work in their lives. With that knowledge, it is our hope that each senior leaves the retreat with a deeper understanding that God loves him and that he is part of a lifelong brotherhood upon which he can always rely.

## SOPHOMORE RETREAT

### Theme: Faith-Filled Masculinity

The sophomores focused on capturing the heart of the warrior in the Christian context. A warrior needs his sword and shield: the sword is prayer, and the shield is the element of faith that keeps him focused. A true warrior is a servant to all and seeks not his own glory. All he does is for the good of others and the glory of God. At the end of the half-day retreat, each Stag was commissioned to accept the challenge to grow in his faith.



*The sophomores take a moment to work in groups during their retreat.*



*Mr. Keith Rafferty's small group has a discussion during the Junior Retreat.*

## JUNIOR RETREAT

### Theme: Men of Faithful Action

Stags chose from a list of social topics to focus on from the context of Catholic Social Teaching. Topics include immigration, unjust labor practices, racism, and human trafficking. In small groups, the Juniors learned about the issue through the medium of film and engaged in meaningful discussion about the topic with a faculty moderator. Afterward, each student developed his own action plan to best respond to the issue he focused on during the retreat.



**Mr. Paul Davies**, Chair of the World Languages Department, was the recipient of the Father James Day Award from the Valois Chapter of the National Honor Society.

Last summer, **Mr. Paul Clark '01** completed a Folger Workshop on teaching Shakespeare.

Under the leadership of **Mr. Marty Hager '73** and **Ms. Sarah Stockton** the Ecology Club moved the compost bin (due to building construction) to behind the cafeteria. They composted faculty room leftovers and school shredding weekly, collected and recycled bottles and cans in the cafeteria, and hosted 2 park clean ups at our adopted park in Riverdale, MD. They also installed 3 new blue bird boxes there.

**Mr. Ken Bernstein** arranged for Rep. Jamie Raskin of Maryland's 8th Congressional District to spend an hour answering via a Zoom session questions from Senior Government students, the questions having been submitted in advance. He now plans to retire and we wish him the best in his future!



**Mr. Homer Twigg** hosted the second annual DeMatha Chess Camp in June for young chess players, including incoming freshman **Isaiah Varghese '28**. A special thank you to **Leo Watson '24** and **River Robinson '24** for their help volunteering.



**Fr. James** and **Fr. Albert** welcomed the Trinitarian Minister General to DeMatha in June. Fr. Gino traveled from Rome to visit with all of the Trinitarians in the United States.



Bishop Juan Esposito-Garcia certified **Mr. James Zwilling** and **Fr. Albert** as teachers of theology at DeMatha along with teachers in other Catholic High Schools.



**Mr. Rob Landini** and **Mr. Chris Hurst** received DeMatha diplomas for their fifteen years of outstanding service to DeMatha.



In December, **Mr. Andrew Bright '03** achieved a Masters in School Counseling through a hybrid program at St. Bonaventure. This program included 700 hours of supervised internship.

**Mr. John McConnell** brought in Stu Couch (Lt. Col., USMC) as a guest speaker for his film class and his AP Language classes. Lt. Col. Couch discussed his role in uncovering the fact that the US used torture in Guantanamo Bay to coerce confessions. Jodi Foster made a movie about one of the cases called *The Mauritanian*. Stu talked to the film class about the making of the movie and his interactions with Benedict Cumberbatch, who played Stu in the film. With the AP classes, he discussed the ethics of torture with respect to terrorism.



*The faculty won the annual Student/Faculty basketball game. Faculty were ahead the whole game and managed to hold off a final 4th quarter push by the students.*

# 53rd Annual DeMatha Senior Boosters CRAB FEAST

**Saturday, September 30th • 4 pm - 7 pm**

**Adults \$75 advance/\$85 door • Kids (under 12) \$60 advance/\$70 door**

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# MUSIC NOTES



The Voices of DeMatha returned to Ginger Cove Retirement Community in Annapolis this year to perform, and received a number of thank you notes after their performance. One thank you note said "not only did the performance soothe my soul, but it invigorated my spirit as well". We are proud of these young men who donated their time and talents to this performance.

*The Voices of DeMatha prepare to perform at Ginger Cove Retirement Community.*

The music program had a fantastic year of concerts and performances this year, including the music trip! This year, the bands, orchestras, and choruses traveled to Myrtle Beach, SC to participate in the Festivals of Music competition. Our instrumental and vocal groups received the following awards:

- Percussion Ensemble II** - 2nd place, Excellent ratings
- Advanced Percussion Ensemble** - 1st place, Superior ratings
- Sinfonia (Class AA)** - 1st place, Superior ratings
- DeMatha Harmonics** - 1st place, Excellent ratings
- Voices of DeMatha** - 1st place, Superior ratings
- Concert Band (Class A)** - 2nd place, Excellent ratings
- Symphonic Band (Class A)** - 1st place, Superior ratings
- Wind Ensemble (Class AA)** - 2nd place, Superior ratings
- Overall Orchestra Award** - Sinfonia
- Overall Choral Award** - Voices of DeMatha

## Individual Awards

Overall Student Accompanist Award- **Peter Brown '24**- oboe

DeMatha freshman **Jesse Kliman** has been recognized by the Maryland Music Educators Association in its composition contest, the Young Composers Project. Of the many original compositions submitted statewide, Jesse, with his opus for solo cello and piano, "Mourner's Kaddish," was selected by a panel of professional composers to participate in the upcoming MMEA Young Composers' Masterclass/ Showcase.



*Seniors in our music program show off the hardware won in Myrtle Beach!*



*The seniors on the music trip to Myrtle Beach.*



# TRINITARIAN PILGRIMAGE

## Retracing the History of the Trinitarians

Every six years, the Trinitarians elect a new General Counsel, and with it comes a Trinitarian assembly. Historically, these assemblies have been stationary meetings, but this year, the Trinitarian leadership decided to partake in a pilgrimage retracing the steps of the original Trinitarians as they traveled along Spain and Morocco ransoming slaves. DeMatha had the honor and privilege of sending seven representatives, including five students, on the pilgrimage this year.

The trip started in Seville, Spain, the center of trade at the height of when the Trinitarian Order was first beginning.

“When the Trinitarians were first gathering money for ransom, they learned very quickly that when they crossed into Morocco, the people that were holding the captives often wanted goods,” said Fr. Josh, one of the participants of the pilgrimage. “So Seville was where the Trinitarians would buy goods they knew the slave-holders wanted.”

As the Trinitarians’ reputation became more well known throughout Morocco and other countries where they frequently visited for ransom payments, some kings began to increase the intricacies of goods they required. One example Fr. Josh shared with us was the King of Meknes, who refused to even entertain ransom conversations unless the Trinitarians could provide a replica of a clock that was owned by the King of France.

So after visiting Seville, they moved south to the city of Algeciras, a large port city that still holds some of the oldest Trinitarian houses to this day. These houses were the original houses the Trinitarians would bring freed slaves back to after returning to Spain. From Algeciras, the pilgrimage boarded a ferry across the Strait of Gibraltar into Morocco, where they first ported in Tangier. From there, they went to Rabat, the capital of Morocco, and then to Fes - all places where Trinitarians visited in order to free captives.

“Some of these cities were amazing to see because they haven’t changed in hundreds of years,” said Fr. Josh. “The technology was modern, but the layout and the buildings were like stepping back in time.”

And at each stop, Trinitarian leaders would split out with small groups and hold Q&As, discussions, and planning sessions for the future of the Trinitarians - not an easy feat considering there were



Fr. Josh, Mr. Homer Twigg, and the students who participated in the pilgrimage after a Mass in Spain.



160 people on this pilgrimage from 22 different countries who spoke seven different languages!

“While every school and order who attended were invited to bring young people on this pilgrimage, DeMatha was the only school to step up to the plate so to speak,” said Fr. Josh. “Our young men were the youngest people there but they contributed wonderfully to the conversation and asked tough and important questions.”

Fr. Josh reflected that some of what our young men asked was about what the Trinitarian Order was doing about social injustices such as racism, human trafficking, and other social injustices that plague the world today that are not based in religious persecution.

“I was very proud of the young men we took,” reflected Fr. James. “They pushed leadership in a respectful way to answer and reflect on some tough questions. Questions they asked were actu-

*Continues on page 21*



# COMMENCEMENT 2023

## A Journey Fulfilled

Anticipation could be felt in the air as the Class of 2023 gathered in the lower level of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for their graduation day. Graduates shared memories of their high school career, laughed among what will become life-long friendships, and wore their caps and gown proudly as they prepared to become DeMatha Catholic High School alumni. Upstairs, parents, friends, family members, and loved ones gathered in the pews, faces beaming with pride for the young men preparing to process down the aisle of the Basilica, ready to take their first steps into the next stage of their lives.

The ringing of handbells welcomed guests to the graduation, and once they stopped, the band started to play. The processional had officially begun, and with it, everyone in the Shrine was able to celebrate the success of the Class of 2023. Whether it be in the arts, sports, academics, or extracurriculars, this class exemplified what it means to be a DeMatha Man.

“[This class] is the embodiment of the concept of brotherhood, which is so central to who we are and which was so chal-

lenged by restrictions during the 18 months of their high school years, but they never lost that brotherhood at any time through it all,” said Fr. James. “It was a glorious sight for all of us to see because the students are the only reason DeMatha exists.”

This class, which were leaders on the field, in the classroom, on the stage, and in the community, displayed what it means to be faith-filled gentlemen and scholars. They welcomed the freshman to campus and showed the young Stags on campus what it means to be a DeMatha Man.

“Even though last year was technically ‘normal,’ this was really this class’ first completely normal year of high school,” said Senior Counselor, Mr. Andrew Bright ’03. “These guys really were challenged in ways they may not have expected as to what it means to be a leader on campus, but they rose to that challenge.”

And while their time at DeMatha comes to a close, they move on to a variety of universities throughout the Maryland and DC area, HBCUs, and other prestigious universities throughout the country. This year also sees five students attending military academies, one of the larger numbers DeMatha has seen in the







*Graduates celebrate after stepping outside for the first time as DeMatha alumni.*

last several years. This class also received a large number of scholarships, and is one of the largest amounts of scholarship money we have seen in the past few years with \$23,669,468 being offered, not including the sports scholarships as well.

“This year, along with many college acceptances, we are also seeing several students attending trade school, two are directly enlisting in the military, and some are entering the workforce,” said Mr. Bright. “Diversity is incredibly important at DeMatha and I think it is great that we have people representing several paths to success.”

And we know no matter what path these young men choose to take, we know they will represent what it means to be a DeMatha Stag. With every class that moves on, the DeMatha community becomes stronger, and we wish nothing but the best for the Class of 2023.

In Dr. Dan McMahon '76 words, “You have made my diploma and the diploma of all DeMatha alumni more valuable.”



*Mr. Carlos Castrillon '95 directing the Wind Ensemble.*



*The Class of 2023 singing DeMatha Forever for the last time as a class.*



*The annual Dads and Grads photo on the steps on St. John de Matha Hall.*



## AWARD WINNERS

### GENERAL EXCELLENCE:

DeMatha High School Alumni Award for General Excellence: **Nick Sims**  
 DeMatha Catholic High School Scholar Athlete Award: **Graham Parker, Mike Gloekler, Alex Sandel**  
 Dr. Charles 'Buck' Offutt Faculty Award for General Excellence: **Peter Macyko**  
 Father Patrick T. Glynn, O.S.S.T. Award: **Chase Pearson**  
 John L. Moylan Award for Academic Excellence: **Matt Ritter, Luke Hackett**  
 U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award: **Christian Gamez**  
 U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Musician Award: **Joel Manzano**  
 U.S. Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award: **Darius Vance**  
 DeMatha High School Citizenship Award: **Darian Simpkins, Sam Cockrell**  
 H. Thomas Eastman Award: **Yaphet Negussie**  
 Father Augustine Derricks, O.S.S.T. Award: **Chase Pearson**  
 DeMatha Parents' Organization Award: **Ivan Dmytriiev**  
 Mary Favret Kerley and Katherine Mauser Award: **Jason Moore, Stephen Phillips**  
 The Archbishop's Award for Catholic Citizenship: **Peter Macyko**  
 Kiwanis Club Award: **John McKee**

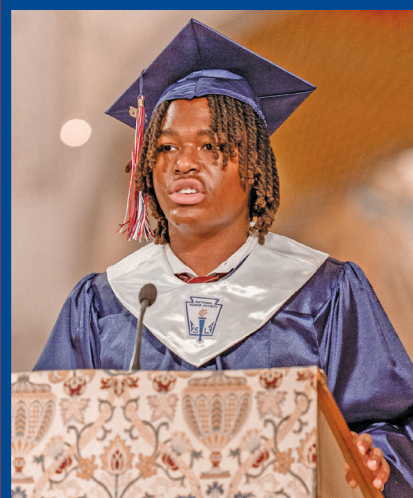
### DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

Thomas J. Burke Business: **Dominic Sciorilli**  
 Computer Studies: **Matt Ritter**  
 Engineering Award: **Nicholas Price, Brett Padfield**  
 English: **Max Legaspi, Daman Decker**  
 Video Broadcast Journalism Award: **Max Legaspi**  
 Fine Arts: **Yaphet Negussie, Christian Gamez**  
 Photography: **Riley Mitchell**  
 Mary R. Yarrish Mathematics: **Christian Garcia**  
 Music: **Jarrodd Ghatt, Joel Manzano**  
 Biology: **Jason Anton**  
 Chemistry: **Nick Sims**  
 Combined Science: **Michael Metz**  
 Environmental: **Jeremy Wilson**  
 Physics: **Ian Parsons**  
 Douglas Tschiffely and Richard Macheski Social Studies: **Patton Jeffords, Max Legaspi, Nick Sims, Graham Parker**  
 Theological Studies: **Peter Macyko, Chase Pearson, Stephen McDonald, Tysun Claggett**  
 French: **Chase Pearson**  
 Latin: **Jarrodd Ghatt**  
 Spanish: **Michael Metz, Josiah Baker**  
 Mandarin: **Christian Garcia, Nicholas Sims, Andrew Foreman**  
 Combined Language: **Adam Fox**



### SERVICE AWARDS:

Academic Quiz Bowl Award: **Ian Parsons**  
 John H. Mitchell Band Award: **Alpha Bangura, Kip Banks, Chris Toomer**  
 Campus Ministry Award: **Hayden Plakos, Anthony Shinn, Owen Kramer**  
 Chess Club Award: **Yaphet Negussie**  
 Chorus Award: **Peter Macyko, Joel Manzano**  
 Fr. Paul Donovan Drama Award: **Owen Kramer**  
 Joseph A. Carroll Award for Excellence in Journalism: **Daeshaun Williams, Stephen McDonald**  
 Mock Trial Award: **Owen Kramer, Patton Jeffords**  
 National Honor Society Award: **Peter Macyko**  
 Student Government Award: **Nick Sims, Lawrent Chinhakwe**  
 Science Scholars: **Michael Metz**  
 Orchestra: **Chase Pearson**  
 Investment: **Edward Cimerman**



*Tyson Claggett '23 delivered the Welcoming Address.*



*SGA President Nick Sims delivered the Farewell Address.*





*"We all have  
big dreams and  
aspirations going  
into DeMatha,  
and we leave  
with the tools to  
achieve them."*

– Tyson Claggett

*"There was never  
any doubt that  
we'd all get here  
together, because  
that's what Faith-  
Filled Gentlemen  
and Scholars do."*

– Nick Sims



## Total in Academic Scholarships: \$23,669,468

The DeMatha Class of 2023 were offered scholarships and financial aid totaling over \$23.6 million - one of the largest amounts in several years. Recognized below are those students offered scholarships, grants, and awards and the schools they will attend this fall. (Note: If we missed somebody, please email [mdeprato@dematha.org](mailto:mdeprato@dematha.org) and we will put it in The Red and Blue Review fall issue.)

### ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

**Branden Allen**-Loyola University Chicago  
**Anthony Armbrister**-North Carolina A&T State University  
**Nasir Ashe**-Morgan State University  
**Joel Ayers**-Marywood University  
**Alpha Bangura**-St. John's University  
**Kip Banks**-Morehouse College  
**Christian Barber**-Flagler College  
**Mason Battle**-Morgan State University  
**James Caldwell**-Catholic University of America  
**Maximilian Cardillo**-Mercyhurst University  
**Griffin Clark**-Norwich University  
**Cayden Curry**-Stevenson University  
**Daman Decker**-Loyola University Maryland  
**Ivan Dmytriiev**-Dickinson College  
**Luke Foreman**-Towson University  
**Jarrood Ghatt**-Oberlin College  
**Declan Horton**-St. Mary's College of Maryland  
**Aaron Irby**-Mount St. Mary's University  
**Reginald Jones**-Temple University  
**Isaiah King**-Morehouse College  
**Cameron Lamptey**-Radford University  
**Miles Lancaster**-Marist College  
**Peter Macyko**-University of Delaware  
**Joel Manzano**-University of Maryland College Park  
**Darin Martin**-Susquehanna University  
**Stephen McDonald**-University of Alabama  
**John McKee**-University of Maryland College Park  
**Michael Metz**-University of Georgia  
**Jaquada Moses**-Wingate University  
**Yaphet Negussie**-Columbia College (Chicago)  
**Vincent Nicholson**-High Point University  
**Francis Okeagu**-Towson University  
**Brett Padfield**-St. Bonaventure University  
**Ian Parsons**-University of Maryland College Park  
**Emmanuel Reyes**-Western Michigan University  
**Kyle Richardson**-Xavier University  
**Trent Robinson**-Brooks-The Ohio State University  
**Brandon Smith**-Merrimack College  
**Ethan Smith**-University of Denver  
**Ryan Trindade**-Penn State University (University Park)  
**Darius Vance**-Robert Morris University  
**Dallas Vaughan**-Genesee Community College  
**Troy Waller**-University of Rochester  
**Eian Waples**-Goucher College  
**Daeshaun Williams**-Canisius College  
**Quenton Williams**-Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania  
**James Young**-Johnson C. Smith University

### ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

#### Football

**Oluwatosin Babalade**-University of South Carolina  
**Brian Bates**-University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
**Tawfiq Byard**-University of South Florida (Main Campus)  
**Gerald Campbell**-Marshall University  
**Michael Crounse**-Boston College  
**Riley Foran**-Stonehill College  
**Kamron Fyre**-The College of William and Mary  
**Luke Hackett**-Sacred Heart University  
**Anthony Jones**-Wheeling University  
**Reginald Jones**-Temple University  
**Dante Lovett**-Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
**Jason Moore**-The Ohio State University

**DeAndre Ricks**-Merrimack College  
**Brandon Smith**-Merrimack College  
**Robert Stevens**-Lafayette College  
**Kristian Tate**-Delaware State University  
**Noah Vitko**-University of Delaware  
**Adrian Walker**-Wheeling University  
**Brandon Wyatt**-Merrimack College  
**Elijah Yarbrough**-Morgan State University

#### Lacrosse

**Jason Anton**-The University of Tampa  
**Christian Barber**-Flagler College  
**Tysun Claggett**-Salisbury University  
**Michael Gloekler**-Frostburg State University  
**Jayden Hardnett**-Christopher Newport University  
**Declan Horton**-Saint Mary's College of Maryland  
**Miles Lancaster**-Marist College  
**Noah Minckler**-Aurora University  
**Graham Parker**-United States Naval Academy  
**Nick Sims**-Hofstra University  
**Maliik Wood**-Saint Joseph's University

#### Baseball

**Joel Ayers**-Marywood University  
**Cole Carter**-Frostburg State University  
**Cayden Curry**-Stevenson  
**Christian Gamez**-US Merchant Marine Academy  
**Ayden Gonzalez**-UMBC  
**Johnny Hughes**-Cabrini University  
**Vicente Modesto**-Alliance University  
**Daniel Nellum**-Catholic University of America  
**Matthew Perlin**-Catholic University of America

#### Basketball

**Isaiah Arnold**-Augusta University  
**Logan Lewis**-Frostburg State University  
**Lawrence Marshall**-Delaware State University  
**Mason So**-University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
**Jaden Winston**-Manhattan College

#### Soccer

**Lamptey Cameron**-Radford University  
**Darin Martin**-Susquehanna University  
**Eian Waples**-Goucher College

#### Golf

**Kip Banks**-Morehouse College  
**Stephen Phillips**-Penn State Altoona  
**James Young**-Johnson C. Smith University

#### Swimming

**James Caldwell**-Catholic University of America  
**Brett Padfield**-St. Bonaventure University

#### Track and Field

**Prince Massaquoi**-East Carolina University  
**Isaac McGinnis**-High Point University

#### Wrestling

**Carter Nix**-Morgan State University

#### Volleyball

**Michael Dixon**-Central State University



# BEFORE YOU GO From Faculty to Graduates

This year, DeMatha produced a book titled *Before You Go*. This book was given to all graduating seniors and allowed the faculty and staff to give advice regarding their future self, self-discovery, personal growth, and gratitude and spirituality. The following is the preamble in the book written by Dr. Daniel McMahon '76:

"When you love someone, you are interested in their long-term well-being. At DeMatha our concern extends beyond your time here, and, we hope, into eternity. A teacher never really stops teaching; she just runs out of time. You will find in the following pages all sorts of recommendations and advice for you as you continue your journey.

It is our desire to accompany you, not just through the time you spent here, but throughout your life. You will carry DeMatha with you wherever you go and, I hope, this book will be the physical manifestation of that part of your identity.

You may have heard me say that a model of education that I particularly admire is when one adopts the role of



the Sherpa. The Sherpa people are native to mountainous regions in the Himalayas. They are known for helping travelers on their journey up famous mountains such as Mt. Everest or K-2. Because of their experience, they advise the climber on what equipment will be needed and on the best path to follow. They help tote supplies and they accompany the climber on the whole journey. But they cannot take the journey for their companion—the teacher cannot take the journey for you. All climbers, all students, must do their own climbing, must

learn for themselves even as they travel with a companion.

I have an expansive definition of teaching and while we have been teaching you, you have been teaching us. You may notice artwork from your fellow students (or your own art!) that stands as a representation of your contributions to our education. We will carry your contributions and insights with us and weave them into the fabric of DeMatha.

The suggestions and advice here come from those who love you. Find Sherpas to help you; be a Sherpa for others. Go Stags!"

## EXCEPTS FORM THE BOOK

Every day that you can, find the time to do something for yourself. If you can find something that you like to do, something that you really look forward to doing, it can be your own personal gift to yourself. Go for a run, read a book, listen to some music, call up an old friend or maybe finish a crossword puzzle. Knowing that you have something just for you at the end of a hard day can make all the difference in the world. -Mr. Neal Murphy



Mr. Neal Murphy



Mr. Andrew Eck '11

In this world, people tend to judge you based on their initial impression. Most people would tell you to focus on your appearance (Tuck that shirt in!), but I would rather focus on your ability to communicate effectively.

Our words, both written and spoken, have a large amount of power! Choosing the right words can affect the way that our ideas are perceived, and that

can change a lot of things. At times, listening to others is more important than speaking immediately. Choose your words wisely, and make sure to "read the room" when you're in stressful situations. A well-thought-out response is often better than a quick one. Good luck, and you know my email if you need some help.

-Mr. Andrew Eck '11

There are two things I've found that make my life enjoyable and fulfilling. 1) I found a job I love to show up to & 2) I've found the person I want to grow old with.

These aren't goals or check-list items. It's not a clear and simple directive, I know. But consider this: to do both of those, you've got to know what your heart wants. Not what your parents want, not what your teachers want, not what your girlfriend wants. It's been my experience that the only one force in the world that can show me that is God. And what's more, I believe those are the prayers God answers best.



Mr. Mark Goodson

-Mr. Mark Goodson





Frank and Stag Store Manager, Ms. Jeane Scott, stand in front of the "Now-and-Then" display.

# Frank Fennell '74 Donates History and Stories to DeMatha

If you are looking for new DeMatha swag, the Stag Store is the place to go, and if you've visited recently, you may notice a new display that shows a historic wool blanket with a white DM in the center, made in the '50s or '60s, next to our modern blanket that is available for purchase. This blanket was a donation by Frank Fennell '74, who visited the school to speak with us about what his DeMatha experience meant to him and why he decided to donate the blanket after several decades of ownership.

When Frank first came to DeMatha, he was a transfer and knew no one on campus. As many DeMatha alumni and current students can relate to, it can be intimidating entering a new school. But the DeMatha community did what it does best and made Frank feel right at home.

"I was a little shy and introverted for my first year or so," said Frank. "But as soon as you're at DeMatha, you are introduced to so many interesting people as both your classmates and as your teachers that by the end of my career, I really felt a part of the brotherhood."

Frank recalled one of his first memories being at DeMatha was all the personalities of the teachers on campus.

"As a student, that is what really catches your attention," said Frank. "I had the privilege of being taught by some of the best in Fr. Mike, Ray Smith, Buck Offutt, Morgan Wootten, and so many more."

Frank and his two brothers that attended DeMatha got to know Fr. Mike when he was teaching at DeMatha and recalled working with him over the summer on his Ford he used to keep

parked next to what is now St. John de Matha Hall. Back then, the back parking lot and courtyard were not what they are today, and St. John de Matha Hall was a monastery, so Fr. Mike could be found working on cars year-round with his dog, Duchess.

Fr. Mike and Frank's connection did not end as Frank left DeMatha. They actually stayed in touch throughout the years, and when it was time to get married, Frank knew that he would ask Fr. Mike to perform his wedding ceremony. It was through this connection that the blanket that hangs in the Convocation Center was gifted.

"My family and his family actually interacted a lot," said Frank. "He attended mine and my brothers' graduation parties and by the end of our time at DeMatha, he was more than just a teacher. He was a friend to the family and a role model."

So when it was time for Fr. Mike to move on from DeMatha, he gifted that blanket to Frank, who has held onto it for over 30 years. And while cleaning out his house, he stumbled upon that blanket again which he had used for football games, tailgates, and more.

"When I thought about what to do with the blanket, I knew that I wanted to donate it back to DeMatha and return it home where it belongs," said Frank.

We'd like to thank Frank for this piece of DeMatha history! As a school, DeMatha is always looking forward, so it is a privilege to be able to take a step back and pay respects to the history that made DeMatha what it is today.



# THE ROAD TO CIVIL RIGHTS

## DeMatha's Mission Takes Education Beyond the Classroom

**O**n June 25, Dr. Daniel McMahon '76, Mr. Pat Smith '82, and a group of 11 DeMatha students gathered at DeMatha for an early morning Mass and with a week's worth of clothes packed, ready to begin class. But unlike a typical class, this one would take them across 9 states, 2000+ miles, to 5 cities and multiple museums.

This was the "Road to Civil Rights", a summer class offered to rising juniors and seniors. The students who participated in this trip found themselves in areas of importance to the Civil Rights Movement, with the goal being to reflect on American history and show a different perspective to what students have read in their history and literature classes.

"A lot of these places we read about but actually being there hits you deep," said Kai Blackman '24, a student who participated in the trip. "It's crazy to think we know this history, but when you're actually there and go more in depth, you learn so much more. It's the best way to learn about what my ancestors went through."

The class began in Nashville, where the students visited Fisk University. Nashville was the first major city in the South to desegregate lunch counters, and Fisk students, such as John Lewis and Diane Nash, played a large part in that movement. From there, the class went to the National Civil Rights Museum, which is at the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis - the location where Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. From Memphis, they traveled to Selma, AL where they walked the landmark Edmund Pettus Bridge before departing to Montgomery, AL to see the Legacy Museum and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice before resting for the evening. The next day, they visited The City of St. Jude Parish, who welcomed the participants of the Selma to Montgomery March to camp on its athletic fields. The final stop for the day was in Atlanta, where they explored the National Center for Civil and Human Rights. The final day saw a trip to Morehouse College before resting and preparing for the long trip back.

"Even as chaperones, Pat and I learned a lot," said Dr. McMahon. "This was a class so we had the students journaling every day, but even then we have so many new ideas of how we can improve things going forward."

Dr. McMahon also reflected on the importance of the DeMatha connections and how they helped to make this trip such a success. Mark Jefferson '87 was able to get DeMatha in touch with two exceptional college professors who accompanied the class in Memphis and Atlanta, giving short lectures and discussions as they traveled. James Santivanez '91 and his wife hosted the whole group for dinner. And even looking forward,



*The members of the Road to Civil Rights class gather for a photo in Atlanta.*

two more alumni have expressed interest in helping out next year, including Kevin Rust '78 who was an FBI agent in Jackson, Mississippi and offered to give insight into federal investigations of crimes that the states ignored during that time.

Dr. McMahon also wanted to thank Montgomery Catholic School in Montgomery, AL for hosting our students and providing discussion spaces during their time in Montgomery.

"The fact that we were able to make this connection with another Catholic school and for them to be such gracious hosts was truly special," reflected Dr. McMahon.

After such a successful inaugural year for this class, Dr. McMahon is hoping to return to many of these sites (and maybe add a few more) next year. One of the school's main goals is to be able to provide this experience to anyone who is interested, so any wishing to donate in any capacity, there is a separate fund set up called "RtCR" and donations can be made to that fund if interested.

"I think all students could benefit from this trip," reflected Kai. "As an African American I really felt connected to this history, but this opportunity gives everyone a chance to challenge their prior understanding and learn something new."

The 11 students who participated in this trip were: Chase Alexander '25, Aidan Ankrah '24, Kai Blackman '24, Kevin Carey '25, Nicholas DeLeon '25, Reuben Ezi '24, Henry Lawrence '24, Devin Lewis '25, Henry Rutz '25, Daren Pefok '24, and Daniel Smith '25. All involved spoke most favorably about Mr. Smith and Dr. McMahon for planning and chaperoning this trip. As Rafael DeLeon, father of Nicholas sent to Dr. McMahon in an email, "Words can not express the deep respect and appreciation we have for your efforts."



## BASKETBALL

The DeMatha Stags, under Coach Michael Jones III, had a solid season, finishing with a record of 21-13. The Stags had a grueling schedule playing over 10 top 25 teams. However, they ended on a high note by winning the Alhambra International Catholic School Tournament Championship. The team showed perseverance and resilience as they pushed through the challenges of the season. Notable wins include nationally #2 Ranked St. Johns, Bishop McNamara, Gonzaga, Bishop O'Connell, Archbishop Ryan (PA), Bergan Catholic (NJ), Dream City Catholic (AZ) and Southern California Academy (CA).

Overall, the DeMatha Stags had a strong finish and can take pride in their accomplishments. The team was led by several seniors. The standout player this season was **Jaden Winston '23** earning all WCAC Honors and MVP of the Alhambra International Catholic School Tournament. **Mason So '23** and **Isaiah Arnold '23** both earned Honorable Mention All-WCAC.



DeMatha tennis team holds up the WCAC Championship trophy!

## GOLF

Golf had a great season under head coach Dan Spotts '81. The Stags showed an impressive amount of resilience, making some crucial upsets and clutch shots. Highlights include an upset win over St. John's in sudden death, where the match was decided by a clutch par by senior **Stephen Phillips**. Other senior members of the golf team include **James Young IV**, **Matt Ritter**, and **Kip Banks**. James was the low Stag in the WCAC Tournament, carding a 76. James, Kip, and Stephen will also be playing NCAA golf this coming fall.

## BASEBALL

Baseball, under head coach **Steve Miller '81**, had an impressive season which saw the Stags going on a tear with a 12-game win streak, finishing 20-7 on the season. The team was #1 in Exposure Baseball's polls for three consecutive weeks after big wins against schools like Gonzaga and Calvert Hall.

The team also saw several All-Conference selections. First team honorees were **Bud Coombs '25** and **John DiMarsico '24**. **Tommy Dietrich '24**, **Jalen Jackson '24**, and **Jon Hughes '23** were named to the second team. Honorable mentions included **Charley McGoulick '23** and **Brooks Franklin '25**.



The Stags celebrate after a walkoff hit to earn victory over Gonzaga.



The rugby team celebrates after a victory over St. John's.

## RUGBY

Rugby had a strong season, finishing 3-3-1 on the season led by seniors and co-captains **Deirick Rosas** and **Mason Battle**. The team finished third in MAVRC D2 this year, falling to Gonzaga Black after leading in the first half. Under head coach Mark DePrato '14 and with a team mainly consisting of rising seniors, the team is hoping to bring the first rugby championship back to DeMatha next year.





***Stags during the lacrosse signing ceremony. The Stags honored include (left to right):***

**Michael Gloekler** - Frostburg State University

**CJ Barber** - Flagler College

**Declan Horton** - Saint Mary's College of Maryland

**Jayden Hardnett** - Christopher Newport University

**Jason Anton** - The University of Tampa

**Maliik Wood** - Saint Joseph's University

**Noah Minckler** - Aurora University

**Tysun Claggett** - Salisbury University

**Miles Lancaster** - Marist College

**Nick Sims** - Hofstra University

**Graham Parker** - United States Naval Academy

***Also, two football commits on lacrosse team (seated on left):***

**Reggie Jones** - Temple University

**Luke Hackett** - Sacred Heart University



Senior **Michael Hansford** was named "Field Performer" (high jump, long jump) of the WCAC Championship Track Meet.

**TRACK AND FIELD**

The 22-23 DeMATHA Track season was a rebuilding year under head coach Buddy Crutchfield. Having won the WCAC Championship the previous three years, the team found leadership in its seniors who stepped up to the plate to lead the team to a successful season. **Michael Hansford '23** had an outstanding year as he won the WCAC Championship in both the Long Jump and Triple Jump and was named Outstanding Field Athlete of the meet. Mike was also selected to the All-Met team. **Elijah Fagbouyi '23** made the finals in both the 100m & 200m.

The team now looks to the underclassman to lead the way next season, who look very promising. **Anthony Waterman '24** was ranked in the top 10 in the nation in the 110 meter hurdles and 300/400 meter intermediate hurdles. Anthony was a double WCAC Champion in both of those events. Anthony was also selected to the All-Met Team. **Myles Dixon '25** ran an impressive 400 meter at New Balance Nation and earned the title of All-American. **Caleb Barley '24** led all WCAC throwers in both the Shot Put and Discus and was a member of the indoor All-Met Team. Other standout performances included a combination of **Daden Grogan '23**, **Joshua Gresham '23**, **Myles Dixon '25**, and **Anthony Waterman '24** who ran an impressive 4x4 relay at the WCAC Championship for the win.



## WRESTLING

This year was very productive for the wrestling Stags under head coach Dylan Devine '12. This season focused on getting as many matches as possible for the young team. The team's record on the season was 21-20 with nearly half of the losses being the difference of a single match. The Stags finished 4th in the conference with two champions, Senior **Carter Nix** (138) and Junior **Jordan Williams** (285) and multiple placers. The pair would go on to place 3rd and 4th, respectively, at the state tournament and qualify for nationals. The team was led by seniors **Carter Nix** (Morgan State), **Michael Celestine** (Naval Academy), **Alex Morrissey**, and **Francis Okeagu**. Nearly the entire team will return next season with plenty of experience and they will be accompanied by what is looking to be one of the strongest recruiting classes thus far.

## LACROSSE:

Under head coach Dave Mitchell, the lax Stags ended the season with a 10-9 record, making it to the WCAC semifinals before falling to St. John's in one of the toughest schedules in the country, facing 7 of the top 30 teams nationally. Notable wins include PVI who ranked 16th in the country at the time, an 8-4 victory over La Salle (PA) in the fallen hero game to honor Brendan Looney, and an overtime win against the Heights in the WCAC quarterfinals.

**Graham Parker '23** was named 1st team All-Conference and an All-Met Honorable Mention. **Miles Lancaster '23** was also named as an All-Met Honorable Mention. **Nick Sims '23** and **Luke Hackett '23** were named to the 2nd Team All-Conference.

## TENNIS

The DeMatha tennis team, under head coach Mark Dazell, had a fantastic season - only losing one match and winning the 2023 WCAC Championship. During the championship tournament, **Ameer Muhammad '23** sealed the deal beating his opponent from Gonzaga in an hour and a half thriller. **Jacob Poole '24** and **Kaleem Muhammad '23** aided the win by each winning their individual matches. Led by Captain **Antonio Santos '24**, the Stags have ended the drought and are back on top.

## CREW

The crew team, under head coach **Mr. Andrew Bright '03**, faced a tough schedule, but rallied behind a group of dedicated seniors to have a strong season, including a First Team All-Met selectee, **Gabe Scott '24**. Gabe is just the third Stag to be named to the First Team. The team now says farewell and thank you to the hard work and dedication of Coach Bright and welcomes a new head coach, **Mr. Rich Blorstad '10**, who has been the assistant coach for many years. Coach Blorstad and a group of returning rowers prepare for what is looking to be a promising season!



**Anthony Waterman '24** ran a 36.85 in the 300m hurdles, earning the #10 time in the country. Before this time, the WCAC meet record was a 37.72.

## Trinitarian Pilgrimage

*Continued from page 11*

ally reflected in the final strategic planning document produced by the end of this assembly."

"I remember after one of the group meetings, after Owen Kramer and myself asked some pretty tough questions, we were approached by one of the other priests that was on the pilgrimage," reflected Cam Tucker '24, one of the students who attended this pilgrimage. "When he was speaking to us he said how impressed he was by our questions and how it really made him think about what more he can do in his community and as a larger organization to help with some of these injustices."

We could not be more proud of the young men who attended this pilgrimage: Owen Kramer '23, Cam Tucker '24, Aiden Anderson '24, Hayden Plakos '23, and Eric Umana '24. A special thank you goes out to Fr. Josh and Mr. Homer Twigg for attending, chaperoning, and giving our students the opportunity to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Fr. Josh and Fr. Albert are already in the talks to make this an opportunity offered more than once every six years, so hopefully many more young men will be able to experience Trinitarian history in the future.



# ALMA MATTERS

## '60s

**Mike Mewshaw '61** has written a book, *My Man in Antibes*, about the famed author Graham Greene. *The Washington Post* published a nice review on the book on his friendship with the writer.

**Bill Humbert '67** received a nice mention in CEOWeekly.com. He was also the Park City Library Board Chair from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Since they are a Winter and Summer Resort, and the home of the Sundance Film Festival, the Library received many visitors From July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2022, having 1,036,996 people visit.



**Father Josh** and DeMatha alumni in Donegal, Ireland. The trip was organized by **Charlie Kenny '68** & **Tim O'Brien '77**. Alums ranging from 1962-86 pictured here.



**Father Josh** said Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral in Armagh, Ireland in July. Father also officiated as **Tim O'Brien '77** and his wife Sue (Seton '79) renewed their wedding vows after 40 years of marriage.

## '70s

**Ken Gibbs' '76** wife Donna is traveling to Slovakia for a mission trip in July, 2023. The goal of the trip is to present vacation Bible school for 80 children (6-13 years old). This is made possible through a partnership with Ambassadors for Christ International (AFCI).

**Mike Brey '77** will serve as an assistant on the staff of the Atlanta Hawks next season. He was also honored with the "Good Guy Award" by the US Basketball Writers Association. Mike was also honored for work with Coaches Against Cancer.

**Dr. Thomas Hibbs '78** wrote an essay on Jacques Maritain. Thomas also spoke at the

University of Maryland with a topic of Sorrow, Beauty, and Mercy: A Catholic Aesthetic Vision.

and made many references to DeMatha.

**Ambrose R. Phillips III '82** has started a new position as Chief Financial Officer at Prestige Health Care Resources Inc.

## '80s

**Adrian Branch '81** and **Ethan Gough '21** met at a meeting of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Adrian spoke at the event

The Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Committee on Scouting presented **Kevin Tamai '84** with the Monsignor John Brady



1970 grads gathered at Ledo's in College Park.



**Carroll Holmes '73** had not actually formally received his diploma until his 50th reunion night this May. Carroll gave a brief emotional talk about the sacrifices his mother had made because she wanted him to attend DeMatha.



Award for Kevin's lifetime service to Catholic scouting developing both youth and adults.

AP featured a story about Fairfax County Police Chief **Kevin Davis '87** & his department teaming up with George Mason University on a unique study.

**Michael Coleman '88** has been selected as Interim Executive Director at Commercial Real Estate Certification Institute (CRECI).

**Dave DiLuigi '88** and his wife Regina will be the Co-Chairs of the DC Catholic Charities Ball in 2024.

**James "Mason" Douglass '89** was named the North Carolina Assistant Coach of the Year for soccer at Christ the King Catholic High School in Huntersville, NC.

**Dr. Travis Richardson '89** recently retired from the US Army at the rank of Colonel after 29 years of service.

## '90s

WUSA 9 TV aired a story about Coaches **Kenny Blakeney '90**, **Mike Jones '91**, and **Duane Simpkins '92**.

**David DeArmas '91** has been named Middle School Principal at Fredericksburg Christian School. He officially transitioned from the Director of Athletics to Principal on July 1st. He will continue in his role as Head Varsity Football Coach for the Eagles.

Former basketball head coach **Mike Jones '91** is back to the area as an assistant coach with



A chance meetup between **Tim Girdler '91**, **Michael Logan '94**, and **Christopher Randolph '85** during some bowling! Tim was there celebrating his daughter's birthday and just to happened to meet Michael and Chris, fellow DeMatha alums.

the University of Maryland. He was previously an assistant coach at Virginia Tech.

**Kenny Smith '91** spoke at DeMatha in May. Kenny is a writer/producer/director in Los Angeles and has worked on a number of TV shows including "black-ish" and "The Jamie Foxx Show".

**John Poss '93** joined the staff at Maryland baseball under **Matt Swope '98**.

**Kirk Taylor '93** finished Harvard Business School's Executive Education Program in the Business of Entertainment, Media and Sports.



**Kirk Taylor '93** finished Harvard Business School's Executive Ed Program in the Business of Entertainment, Media and Sports.

**Dr. Darnell Barnett '94** received his Doctorate from Liberty University. Darnell is a learning specialist with a concentration in grades 1-6, middle school, and special education.

**Joe Gardella '96** was featured in an article about how his restaurant Joe Benny's won The Banner's 'Best Pizza' bracket. Joe recently decided to close the restaurant (not for lack of business!)

**Ryan LaLumiere '96** was awarded another grant from NIMH for his research in mental health. Tremendous honor. He also was named Outstanding Graduate College Faculty Mentor at the University of Iowa. Ryan is a researcher and academic in Psychological and Brain Sciences.

**Matt Swope '98** has been named the head coach of the University of Maryland's baseball team.



All early 90's class dinner at **Giovanni DeSimone's '93** restaurant, Trattoria Sorrento.



## '00s

**Jonathan Woody '01** and **Jeffrey Benson '97** shared the stage at Carnegie Hall on April 1 for a performance of Mozart's Coronation Mass with the National Masterworks Chorus and professional NY-based orchestra. Jonathan was the bass-baritone and Jeffrey conducted.

**Brian Benko '02** was married in June. Numerous Stags were in attendance. The entire wedding party was made up of DM alumni.

**J T Silvers '02** had his son **James Cole '41** baptized in June by Father Damian. **Kevin Looney '74** was in attendance.

**Jared Williams '02** recently got married to his wife, Sudana.

**Jeffrey Allen '05** was named head football coach at Mount Pleasant High School in Wilmington, DE. Jeffrey will also be the head golf coach.

**Nathaniel Cordova '05** has started a new job as a Community Development Specialist - Office of Congressional Relations.

**Orrin McCloud '05** is Operations Training Manager at Breakthru Beverage Group.

**Tyler Hopkins '06** is currently an electrical engineer for the Coast Guard. In addition, Tyler is also a TV and movie actor. He has appeared on Bull, FBI, Law & Order, Manifest (which is on Netflix), and Succession (on HBO) just to name a few.



**Rodney McLeod '08** running a football camp with DeMatha.

**Justin Winfree '06** has started a new position Technology Center Lead Solutions Expert at Steptoe and Johnson LLP.

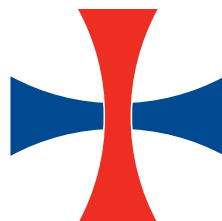
**Ryan McGowan '07** is working as an Equal Opportunity Assistant at the USDA.

**Blayther Sabbat '07** has obtained a new certification as an AWS Certified Solutions Architect-Associate.

**Rodney McLeod '08** signed as a free agent with the Cleveland Browns.

**Chris Miller '09** was honored at a ceremony in Barcelona, Spain as the top sales rep for Grifols, which is the world leader in plasma derived medicines.

*At right: **Patrick Williams '10** was sworn in as a Deputy to join the Queen Anne's County Office of the Sheriff.*



**Kevin Beaver '10** and his bride **Connie** were married in October in Harper's Ferry WV. Pictured with him are 13 DeMatha graduates who attended the wedding, ranging from the Class of 1957 to 2010!



## '10s

**Jerian Grant '10** was named the EuroCup Basketball MVP.

**Michael Branthover '11** and his wife Alex welcomed their second future Stag.

**Carl Hansen '12** was awarded an individual 2022 Robert H. Goddard Award for Engineering. Robert H. Goddard awards recognize the exceptional achievements, and Carl was recognized for his work on JWST as a Spacecraft Systems Engineer.

**Jonathan Mayuga '12** has been promoted to Personnel Security Manager at Anduril Industries.

**David Hoke '13** (and Spanish teacher/Cross-Country assistant coach) ran his first marathon on April 1st (no fooling!) at the Run SBY 2023 event in Salisbury MD. His time was 3:43:12. Congrats!

**Ryan Lane '13** graduated in May with a PhD in Engineering Mechanics. He has been hired as a Mechanical Engineer with the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD).

**Sam Nelson '13** is working as a Head Brewer at Respite Brewing Company in Westminster. MD.

**Gabriel Higgs '14** is a supervisor on an archaeological dig in Pompeii this summer, as part of the Pompeii I.14 Project, an international collaboration led by Tulane University and the Parco Archeologico di Pompei. The team's progress and discoveries can be found on the [tupompeii](#) Instagram site.



**Jerami Grant '12** agreed to a five year contract extension with the Portland Trailblazers.

Morgan Wooten's grandson **Charlie Paul '14** and Ray Smith (Smitty's) granddaughter Caitlin Kolb (Seton '13) got engaged 4/6/23. One DeMatha!

**Lester Crockett '15** placed 1st in his age bracket and Kenneth Chigbue '15 placed 5th at the University of Maryland 1/2 Marathon for UMD Greenebaum Cancer Center. Drew Tally '15 also ran in the Marathon. All ran in memory of Lester Crockett (father), proud DeMatha Dad sadly no longer with us.

**Joe Graham '15** has been promoted to All-Source Intelligence Analyst at Booz Allen Hamilton.

**Lindsey N Green III '15** received his Master of Science in Business Analytics from the University of Maryland College Park. He finished in August 2022 but walked on May 24, 2023.

**K.J. M'Bale '16** has received his J.D. from Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles.



**Dorian D. Sims '14** is enlisted with the Army Corps of Engineers; he and his wife NJari McCrae (McNamara '15) are expecting twin girls this August.

**Raenald Olarte '16** has a new job as a Clinical Operations Associate at Supernus Pharmaceuticals. Inc.

**Nicolas Robinson '16** has achieved a Technical Level 100 Certification and a Technical Pearl Mini Certificate.

Two DM Stags were drafted to the NFL. **Olu Oluwatimi '17** was drafted in the 5th round by the Seattle Seahawks and **DeMarcco Hellams '19** was picked in the 7th round by the Atlanta Falcons. DeMatha was one of 11 high schools nationwide to have at least two grads selected in the NFL draft.

**Delante Hellams '17** was invited to the Washington Commanders training camp.

**Marcus Minor '17** was invited to attend the Baltimore Ravens rookie camp.

Recently, **Sully Newsom '17** accepted a position at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) in Gloucester Point, Va. VIMS is one of the top marine research centers in the US. Sully is working in The Aquaculture Genetics and Breeding Technology Center with the Oyster Aquaculture Training Program. The Center's mission is to develop superior shellfish brood stocks and support breeding programs using traditional and molecular approaches.

Two DM Stags, **Ty Lenhart '18** & **Garrett Leadmon '18**, received their masters degrees from the Duke Fuqua School of Business in May.

**Garrett Degnon '18** was featured in an article about his great lax career at Johns Hopkins.

**Garrett Leadmon '18** made his professional lacrosse debut in the PLL. Garrett wears #40 in honor of Brendan Looney '99. Garrett also played for Duke in the NCAA Championship Game.





**Nick Manzo '19** graduated from UMD, College Park, with a B.S. in Public Health Science in May. He is pictured here with **David Singh '10**

**Sydney Reyes '18** graduated from the US Air Force Academy as a 2nd LT. He will begin pilot training next year.

**Scott Toves, Jr '18** graduated from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business in May with a Master of Management.

**Melvin Yates III '18** received his masters degree. He doubled down his senior year working simultaneously to complete his BA in computer science from Goucher College while working on his masters from Johns Hopkins.

**Josh Wallace '19** will play football at the University of Michigan this fall.

## '20s

**Hunter Dickinson '20** will play hoops at Kansas next year.

**Golden Isreal-Achumba '20** sang the National Anthem before Penn State's Spring Game in April.

**Shemar Lewis '20** helped lead Mount St. Mary's men's rugby 7s to a Premier Cup National Championship in May. This is the second championship win in Mountaineers program history, with the first coming in 2016 where fellow Stags **Sean Hartig '12** and **Dan Reading '15** claimed the title for the men's 15s.

**Jack Smith '20** earned 100 career goals in lacrosse at UMBC.

**Christian Taylor '20** earned a place on the Fall 2022 Dean's List at Kean University.

**Sean Whitfield '20** was named to the Landmark Conference Spring All-Sportsmanship Team as a member of the Goucher College Track & Field team.

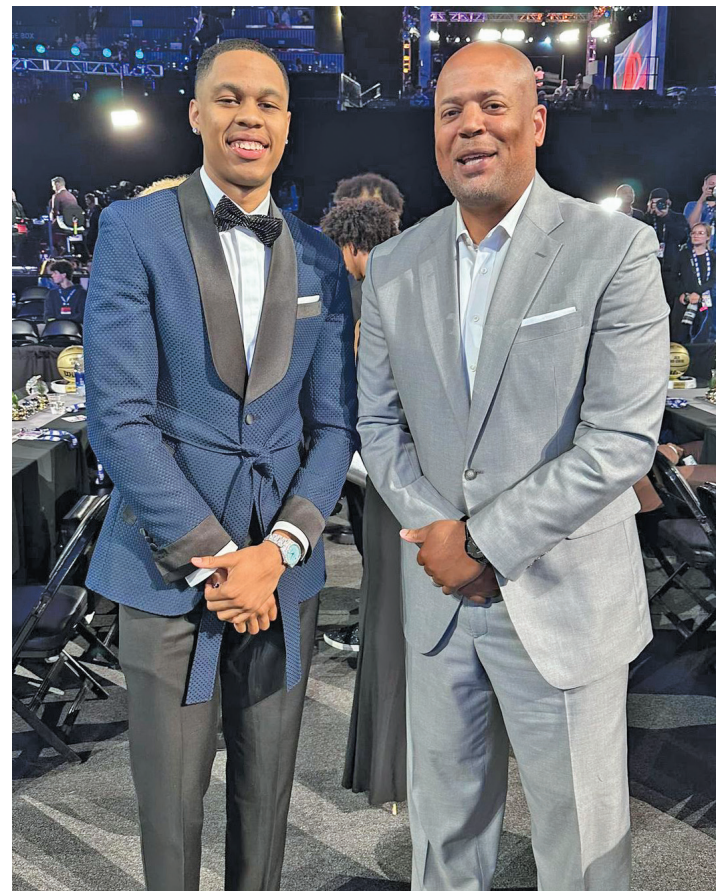
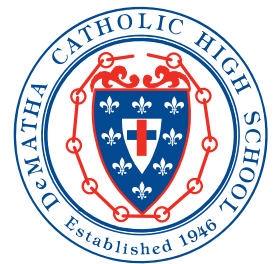
**Jack Beachley '21** and **Ryan Morrison '21** were players on Limestone University's lacrosse team that won the SAC tournament.

**Jordan Hawkins '21** selected by the New Orleans Pelicans with the 14th pick in the NBA Draft.

**Hackett Rascher '21** was named to the President's List at the University of Miami.

**Worthy Beilman '22**, a Computer Science major at Grove City College from Cheverly, was named to the Dean's List with Distinction for the spring 2023 semester.

**Stephen Betz '22** qualified for the Maryland State Open and the Maryland State Amateur carding a round of 74 to finish in 4th place out of 70 participants.



**Jordan Hawkins '21**, and his former coach, **Mike Jones '91** at the NBA draft.



# IN MEMORIAM



Gathering of mostly Stags at the Celebration of Life in memory of **Charlie Wiles '74**.

**Robert Burlingame**, father of Robert '85. Father-in-law of George Rogers '90 and grandfather of Patrick Rogers '19.

**Linda Comings**, wife of Steve '84.

**Ed Craig '52**.

**Benjamin Cratty**, father of Tom '77 and Ken '82. Uncle of John Cratty '83, Dan Cratty '91, John Firestein '78 and Bob Firestein '82.

**Michael Hardy**, father of Christopher '91.

**Carol Jones**, mother of Jeff '78 and Greg '84.

**Ava Marie Del Ricco**, daughter of George '91.

**David Martz '80**.

**Fidel Mendizábal**, grandfather of DM registrar, Joshua Mendizábal '12, and DM Administrative Assistant to the Principal, Kit Sin.

**Armand Messier**, father of former Faculty Member and Coach Richard Messier and grandfather to Stephen Messier '94.

**John Moran**, father of Alan Moran '86 and grandfather of Bradley Moran '17.

**Michael Murray '80**.

**Susan Pannell**, mother of Christopher '96.

**Shirley Phillips**, mother of Ambrose Phillips III '82, grandmother to Ambrose IV '05 and Austin '10, and former Stag Cameron Phillips.

**Norma Pronko**, mother of Ray Pronko '77.

**Chris Ridgeway '06**.

**Maria Rojas**, mother of Rudy '77 and Thomas '78.

**William Rollings, Sr.**, father of William Jr. '96..

**Sabino Solazzo**, father of Anthony Solazzo '97, member of the DM Board of Directors, and Gerard Solazzo '00, uncle to Francesco Mazziotti '06 and Massimo Mazziotti '08.

**Mary Tiernan**, mother of Mike '78 and Frank '79.

**Rita Toomey**, mother of Mike (asst. baseball coach).

**Jeanne Tripp**, mother of Adam '08.

**Eric Michael Walter '08**, brother of Jon '02, cousin to Michael Kaderabek '20, nephew and godson of Gregg Kaderabek '74 and staff member Ms. Catherine Curtin Kaderabek.

**Charlie Wiles '74**, brother of Mickey '65 (dec.), Terry '66, and Tom '77. Brother-in-law of Jim Colliflower '63.



## DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

### Red & Blue Review

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## 2023-24 Varsity Football Schedule

### AUGUST

25 DeMatha @ Springfield (OH)..... TBD

### SEPTEMBER

1 St. Michael's @ DeMatha ..... 7:00pm  
8 DeMatha @ Freedom ..... 7:00pm  
15 Roman Catholic @ DeMatha ..... 7:00pm  
22 Life Christian @ DeMatha ..... 7:00pm  
29 Clarkson North @ DeMatha ..... 7:00pm

### OCTOBER

6 Gonzaga @ DeMatha ..... 7:00pm  
13 DeMatha @ Good Counsel ..... 7:00pm  
20 St. John's @ DeMatha ..... 7:00pm  
28 DeMatha @ McNamara ..... TBD



## 2023-24 Varsity Soccer Schedule

### AUGUST

29 D.C. International @ DeMatha ..... 3:30pm

### SEPTEMBER

1 DeMatha @ Churchill ..... TBD  
2 DeMatha @ Whitman ..... TBD  
5 Indian Creek @ DeMatha ..... 3:30pm  
12 St. Albans @ DeMatha ..... 4:00pm  
14 Bullis School @ DeMatha ..... 4:00pm  
19 The Heights @ DeMatha ..... 3:30pm  
21 DeMatha @ Carroll ..... TBD  
26 Gonzaga @ DeMatha ..... 3:30pm  
28 DeMatha @ St. John's ..... TBD

### OCTOBER

3 DeMatha @ Good Counsel ..... TBD  
5 DeMatha @ John Paul Great ..... 4:00pm  
10 DeMatha @ O'Connell ..... TBD  
12 PVI @ DeMatha ..... 3:30pm  
17 McNamara @ DeMatha ..... 3:30pm  
19 Ryken @ DeMatha ..... 3:30pm  
24 DeMatha @ Ireton ..... TBD