

# CRUSADER CONNECTION



*Heelan Class of* **2020**

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We had 571 students learning in Bishop Heelan Schools last school year because Iowa donors helped support their tuition with a gift to the Monsignor Lafferty Tuition Foundation (MLTF.)

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- .....We are studying and preparing for college

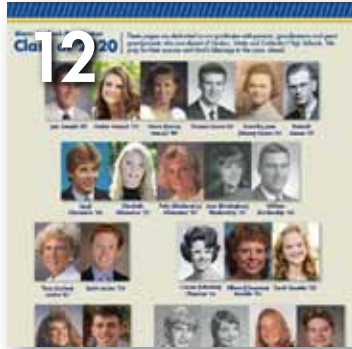
These students may be in a new building, but they are receiving what generations of Heelan grads have experienced – a quality Catholic education.

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## CRUSADER CONNECTION

The Crusader Connection is published 1-2 times a year for alumni and friends of Bishop Heelan High School, part of the city-wide Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools PK-12 system.

### Our Mission

The Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools relate the total student to God through an excellent education leading toward a lifetime of service.

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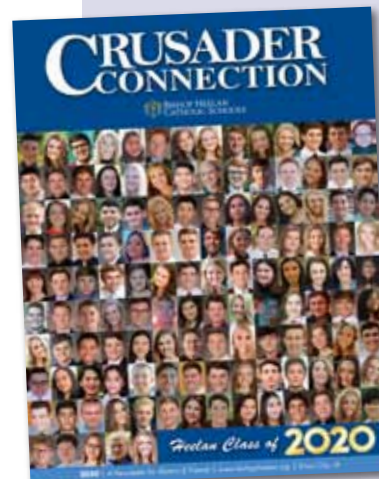
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### On the cover

We celebrate the 134 graduates of the excellent Heelan Class of 2020. We also express deep sorry over the tragic loss of two of them. To match names with the faces on our cover, turn to page 13.

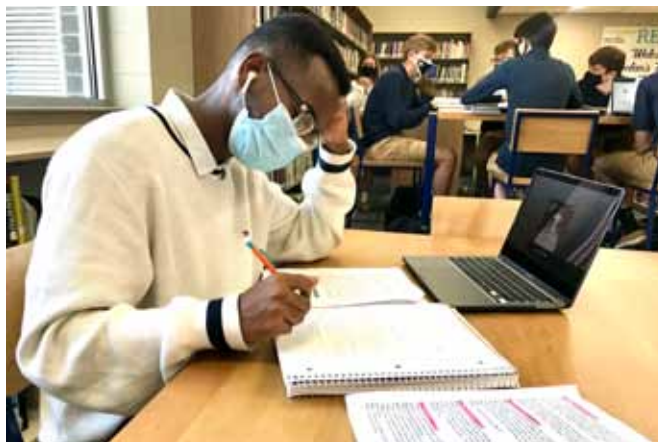
## Senior Hits Perfect Score

Senior Bernie Lopez has earned a perfect score of 36 on his ACT college entrance exam. It's the second consecutive year a Heelan senior has scored a perfect ACT.

Bernie, the son of David and Cecelia Lopez, is a percussionist in the Heelan band with classes in honors physics, AP English, AP Spanish, theology and psychology.



Bernie Lopez



## ACT Score is 23.9 for 2020 Class

The class of 2020 scored a composite of 23.9 on the ACT college exam, according to results released in October from ACT.

Most Heelan seniors, or 93% took the test, compared to about 49% nationwide.

"Nearly all our kids take the ACT test, and that is an important distinction from other schools," says Dr. John Flanery, Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools president. It means Heelan includes students at all academic levels.

## High Test Scores Continue

Achievement test results in late 2019 show that BHCS students in grades 3-11 scored substantially higher than students in the state of Iowa.

Students ranked proficient examples: Third grade – Math: 92% BHCS, 71% Iowa; English Language Arts: 91% BHCS, 65% Iowa; High school – English Language Arts: 97% BHCS, 74% Iowa; Science: 82% BHCS and 65% Iowa.



Elizabeth Meyer



Foster Johnson



Jackson Thompson

## 2019-20 Seniors Named National Merit Finalists

Three 2019-20 Bishop Heelan seniors were named National Merit Finalists: Elizabeth Meyer, Foster Johnson, and Jackson Thompson. Jaden Utech was named a commended student.

"To advance to finalist status is an impressive accomplishment," says Principal Chris Bork. "This is a huge honor for Bishop Heelan High School and our Catholic schools.

Heelan has produced 19 National Merit Finalists since 2001."

Meyer was also named a Presidential Scholar. The four are among the 22% of Heelan 2020 grads who scored 30 or higher on their ACT college entrance exams.

## Grant Supports Online Learning

Heelan purchased 40 Chromebooks and 8 hot spots devices to give low-income school families internet access, thanks to a \$14,455 grant from the Siouxland Recovery Fund.

"We are thankful to the donors of the Siouxland Recovery Fund," says Dr. John Flanery, BHCS president. "This will help our students in families that become sick or are moved into quarantine because of COVID-19."

BHCS was one of over 40 organizations to receive a grant from the fund, administered by United Way of Siouxland.



## Student Designs Billboard

Last spring Heelan student Sarah Jabre's artwork, saluting essential workers in the COVID-19 crisis, was featured on two Avery Brothers billboards in Sioux City.

## BHCS Adopts Lifetime Advantage Tagline

"A Lifetime Advantage" is the new tagline for Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools replacing the tagline "Faith, Family, Knowledge, Service."

The completion of Heelan High School represents a new era in the system and an ideal time to reframe the Catholic school experience, according to Dr. John Flanery, BHCS president.

"Our new tagline captures how our attributes lead to the outcome of an education at Heelan," Flanery says.

Former BHCS Board Chair Mike McGowan '81, suggested the tagline.



Dr. John Flanery



**BISHOP HEELAN  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

**A LIFETIME ADVANTAGE**



*Michael Saulsbury, Jenny Nguyen, Bereket Ware and Ellen Halbur helped promote the need for new advanced anatomy books.*

## Big Boost for Books

Donors contributed \$10,700 to help purchase new advanced anatomy, social studies and honors theology textbooks as part of the third annual Siouland Big Give, an online day of giving for the Sioux City area on Oct. 6.

“While we have more technology and software for online learning due to COVID-19, we never lose sight of the critical need for excellent textbooks,” says Heelan Principal Chris Bork.

Donors in 2019 raised nearly \$40,000 to fund a walk-able surface on the indoor track in the new O’Gorman Fieldhouse, and 2018 donors helped fund a beautiful new video scoreboard.

## Showing Teacher Love

In a special 2020 campaign around Valentine’s Day Heelan raised nearly \$10,000 for Chromebooks and laptops for Bishop Heelan School System teachers.



*Science teacher Dr. John Jorstad and students.*

## Priests Offer “Outcast Catholics” Podcast

Fr. Shane Deman ’99, Bishop Heelan High School Chaplain, coproduces a weekly podcast “Outcast Catholics” to connect with those who question if the Catholic Church is relevant today.

Demam partners with Fr. Travis Crotty, a pastor in Le Mars and chaplain of Gehlen High School in creating the 20-minute long show. The two priests discuss questions they hear from young people and share theological perspectives and encouragement.

The Heelan grad, who also serves as director of vocations for the Diocese of Sioux City, has addressed the question “Can intelligent people believe in something or someone that cannot be seen or scientifically proven?”

Other topics include “COVID Angst,” “The Grass is Greener Elsewhere” and “Is Faith Reasonable?”

Outcast Catholic can be found on smart phone podcast apps or by visiting <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1209812>.



*Fr. Travis Crotty and Fr. Shane Deman*

## New Estimator and 7.5% Formula Help Predict BHCS Tuition

BHCS parents now get a faster picture of student tuition today with an online tuition estimator on the school website and a formula created by a finance team of volunteers.

Parents can figure that their tuition will be 7.5 percent of their total income and then check it at [bishopheelan.org/tuition-estimator](http://bishopheelan.org/tuition-estimator).

The goal is to make a BHCS education affordable and predictable, according to Dr. John Flanery, president.

“With 75 percent of BHCS families receiving tuition discounts, we want to better assist everyone,” he says.

Donor gifts, parish member support, Monsignor Lafferty Tuition Foundation grants and high school scholarships all help fund tuition discounts and ease the cost of a Bishop Heelan education. BHCS awarded over \$4.2 million in tuition discounts this school year.

## Old Heelan Razed

Old Bishop Heelan High School has been demolished.

It took four months to take down the solidly built structure. The building was in use till last December when the new O’Gorman Fieldhouse was completed.

Artifacts and wood from the floor of the Pit have been saved for memorabilia. (See back cover.) A limited number of bricks were saved for alumni.

Consideration to renovate and use the school for other purposes was too costly, and buyers could not be found.

Heelan made history in the Diocese of Sioux City as the first coed high school supported by multiple parishes. The school home opened for classes in fall 1949, following the closure of Trinity High School for boys and Cathedral High School for girls, and ultimately became home to 14,000 alumni.

“Our old high school was the site of countless golden memories for thousands of our alumni,” says Fr. Shane Deman, Heelan Chaplain and a 1999 graduate educated in the old high school. “We are grateful for our history and also for our new high school that is far better equipped for today’s students and faculty.”

The high school grounds will be seeded by the Diocese, which owns the property, and the City of Sioux City plans to bring back the street that was originally there in 1949.

The Heelan CYO remains. It houses the high school fitness center, a gymnasium, wrestling room, preschools for Sacred Heart School and the Dual Language Academy and a maintenance facility.



## Dougherty Supports Enrollment

After 35 years of dedicated teaching at Heelan, **Laurie (Welte) Dougherty '80** is now working part-time as director of enrollment for BHCS. **Amy Sobaski, '87** stepped in to be Heelan's new art teacher. Sobaski taught art for many years at Holy Cross and Mater Dei schools before joining Heelan this fall.



Laurie Dougherty

## Forker Heads Finance

**Jeannie (Griffin) Forker '77**, former financial director for the City of Sioux City, has joined administration as director of finance. She oversees accounting functions, payroll, monthly financials, budgeting, audit preparations and more.

Forker previously worked for the city for 35 years, most recently as finance director -- the top finance position in the city. She received her degree in accounting from Briar Cliff University. Forker and her husband, Wil, are the parents of four Heelan alumni.



Jeannie Forker

## New Leader of 318

**Ben Mohning** is the new Heelan dean of students to oversee student discipline and attendance and serve as an assistant principal.

Mohning previously served as education director at Boys and Girls Home and Family Services where he implemented positive support programming, updated curriculum and developed academic and behavioral intervention plans.

As a former lead teacher at the Boys and Girls Home he also taught 6-12 grade students. Mohning earned a BA in history and a teaching endorsement at South Dakota State University, a masters' degree in history at the University of South Dakota and a school administration endorsement at Wayne State College.



Ben Mohning



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Enjoy a \$2000 tuition credit!  
The "new" family wins, too.

Get details from Laurie Dougherty  
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laurie.dougherty@bishopheelan.org

## Moseman is New Head Coach

**Chad Moseman '90** is Heelan's new football coach. He has 28 years of football coaching experience, and was as an assistant for Heelan varsity football.

Moseman coached for the Sioux City Stampede semi-pro team 2015-2019, coached for a year at Morningside College and served as head football coach at Lawton-Bronson from 2003 to 2014. Moseman also was head boys' track coach for several years.

"I am humbled and honored to be a part of the long-standing Heelan tradition of excellence," Moseman says. "My charge is to help our student athletes realize their talents, and their responsibility to use those talents to help others."



Chad Moseman

## Wright Heads Girls Basketball

**Jay Wright** has been named new head coach of Heelan girls basketball which won the 3A state championship last year.

Wright, former dean of students and part of the boys basketball program, takes over for Darron Koolstra who stepped down from coaching because of extensive travel for his job.

Wright served as an assistant boys basketball coach for 10 years, first under Tom Betz and then Andy Foster. He taught at Heelan from 2004 to 2008, then served as dean of students till 2017, before taking a post as Iowa Regional Coordinator for TeamMates Mentoring.

A fan of sports history, Wright has posted Heelan's athletic records on the school website and created the "Knights of Old" podcast, now in its third season. The show, available through smart phone apps, features interviews with past athletes and coaches from a variety of Heelan teams.

Wright and his wife, Christy '97 have three sons in the Bishop Heelan system attending Mater Dei School.



Jay Wright

## Grad Joins Advancement Team

**Tammy (Hicklin) Eveleth '87** is the new database support manager in the BHCS advancement offices.

In her post she supports data base activities of the Spirit of Heelan Annual Fund, Gold Club, Heelan Auction, Heelan Legacy Society, memorial and scholarship gifts, PRIDE campaign pledge payment reminders, alumni reunion communication and more.

Eveleth works with Tom Betz, Janet Flanagan and Tom Rice. She previously worked at businesses in the Sioux City and Omaha area. She and her husband, John, are the parents of two adult children. She replaces Sue Ferris '73 who recently retired.



Tammy Eveleth

# Sitzman Teaches Half a Century in Sioux City Catholic Schools

English teacher Pat Sitzman is noting a big milestone this year - 50 years of teaching in Sioux City Catholic schools.

Thousands of Heelan graduates have honed their reading, writing and English fundamentals under Sitzman's guidance. She taught nearly 20 years of middle school then moved to Heelan.

This school year with facemask and distancing is not one Sitzman would have predicted a year ago.

"This year has proven to be more of a challenge for both teachers and students, but we are doing great," she says "The kids are all working well because they know online communication is going to be part of their future."

Learning has changed in other ways, too.

"When I first started, kids sat in the desks and took notes with paper and pencil. The classroom was very teacher controlled. Today is the opposite. We do a lot of small group work where kids interact with each other. They learn more, and they enjoy learning more."

Composition classes are her favorites.

"You watch the kids begin to open up, think for themselves, give answers and prove their point.



They learn to research and make their own decisions."

What has Sitzman enjoyed most about teaching at Heelan?

"The friendships I've made with the kids," she says. "The kids who come back or write a letter and tell you they appreciate you."

Sitzman was honored as a Teacher of Excellence by the Diocese of Sioux City several years ago and joins Brendan Burchard in the "Bishop Heelan Half Century Club."

## Students Compete in National History Day

A Bishop Heelan student team was one of two selected from Iowa to compete in National History Day last June with the entry "Flight 232: Breaking Barriers in the Community Response."

Izzy Gunderson, Alex Johnson, Anna Paskey and Jacob Salmen entered their project in the website category following the year's theme of breaking barriers.

On July 19, 1989, United Airlines Flight 232 from Denver to Chicago crash landed at the Sioux City airport due to engine failure. Of the 296 passengers on board, 112 died and 184 survived. Flight 232 has drawn national praise as an example of how a flight crew can handle an emergency and how a community can band together to help others.

The Heelan students combed through archival material and conducted interviews about the crash and learned it left a lifelong impression on survivors and area residents, including Bishop Heelan family members involved in the response.

"The emergency plan at the time of the crash 'broke barriers' because it had included different organizations... the fire department, hospitals, cellular companies, law enforcement, the Iowa National Guard, and many more," the students wrote. "The Sioux City community itself also 'broke barriers' by coming together to support the survivors of the crash and responders by providing food, clothing and lodging."

National History Day engages half a million students a year in conducting original research on historical topics. View the student website at <https://site.nhd.org/77666928/home>.



Alex Johnson and Anna Paskey.

## Assignment Turns into Sweet Deal

When they were juniors Ellie Ernster and Molly O'Neill of Sioux City turned a Journalism class assignment into a fun and delicious part-time business.

Their task to create a demonstration turned into "Flour Power," a business offering mouthwatering cookies, along with cakes and bars.

"We never expected that something we started doing just for fun would become our job," says Ellie.

"We like making sugar cookies because they offer a blank canvas," Molly says. "You can add any type of frosted design to a sugar cookie."

The two are now freshmen at University of Iowa and will continue their business when home on break.



Ellie Ernster and Molly O'Neill.

## Follow Heelan News



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# Bringing the Show To Life

## Band Color Guard Zombies Decked in Gore Steal the Spotlight

by Isabel Martinez, Heelan junior, class of 2022, Journalism student

The 2020 Marching Crusaders performance introduced a unique feature this year. With a theme of “Decomposers,” new band director Dylan Root decided to amp up the color guard with zombie flag line members.

Many members of the color guard are in the concert band, but some like Heelan junior Liz Mullins and sophomore Rosie Markham perform with the band only for the marching season.

Mullins joined out of peer pressure last year but says it was one of the best decisions of her life.

“Marching band has been such an amazing experience,” she says. “I’ve met many of my friends there.”

Markham actually joined freshman year to experience it with a friend. The friend moved schools but Markham is glad to be on the team.

Now enjoying her second year in color guard, Mullins is excited about the new production.

“The performance this year is amazing,” says Mullins. “It is so much fun being able to put on a show in special effects (SFX) makeup.”

The makeup itself can take up to four hours to get the entire team done. Markham and sophomore Anna Gordan are the main makeup artists for the group and have put a lot of time and money into the show.

The zombies themselves are in full costume for every performance, regardless of the weather. Costumes, flags and makeup all together show a pretty convincing horror show. The performance is a scary, creative and intricate show that leaves the audience shocked.

The show features the music of Beethoven and Mozart with a dark twist. The color guard has become an undead horde of zombies whose mission is to turn the rest of the band into their minions. Is the band able to resist the color guard or do



Junior Liz Mullins and sophomore Rosie Markham performed as zombies with the band’s color guard in fall.

they fall to the same fate and become a permanent zombie marching band?

The band wins in the end along with applauding fans in the stands.

“This year started off pretty stressful, with a new color guard coach, band director and new members. We didn’t know what would happen, but the hard work we have all put in has paid off,” says Markham.

*Editor’s note: After a successful six years at Bishop Heelan, band director James Kunz ‘07 moved to a new post at Okoboji this year. He left Heelan in good hands with Dylan Root as new band director.*

## Outdoor Terrace to be Constructed at Heelan High School

An outdoor terrace will be added to the front of Heelan to offer students an area for lunch, socializing, outdoor classes, meetings and waiting for rides.

It will include tiered concrete steps and a flat space for tables. Tentatively called “Mary’s Place,” it will be located next to the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary outside of the fieldhouse. The statue stood near the front steps of old Heelan for decades before being moved to the new high school.

The terrace offers extra space for outdoor music programs, pre-game meals before athletic events and multiple student and faculty gatherings. It will help teachers taking students outside for mask breaks and classes for COVID-19 safety.

### Fund a Terrace Table

Sponsor an outdoor table to honor a loved one or family. Contact Tom Betz at 712-226-0421 or [tom.betz@bishopheelan.org](mailto:tom.betz@bishopheelan.org).



When finished in spring Mary’s Place Terrace will offer a space and tables for students and special events.



The Fieldhouse completes new Heelan High School eight years after the first shovel launched the \$34 million project.

## Heelan's Opens O'Gorman Fieldhouse

Last December Heelan family members celebrated the completion of its new \$3.7 million gym, the "O'Gorman Fieldhouse," with a blessing, ribbon cutting, cheers and the school fight song.

The Fieldhouse is named in honor of Terry and Mary Lou O'Gorman '61, a former long-time Catholic school teacher. The couple provided a Catholic education for four children, including, Mark, a 1991 Heelan graduate who donated \$1.5 million to the Heelan PRIDE Campaign for the gym and the school. (See story below.)

"Our beautiful new gym offers many firsts for Heelan, including air-conditioning, state-of-the-art scoreboards, an indoor track, windows and skylights, extra seating and better visibility," says BHCS President Dr. John Flanery. "The old Pit was loved by many, but was one of the oldest in the state and deficient in many areas. We are thrilled with our new gym."

Bishop Heelan was awarded a \$100,000 grant for the fieldhouse floor from the Missouri River Historical Development Inc., (MRHD). MRHD is the nonprofit that holds the state gaming license for the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Sioux City.

In addition to games, wrestling, PE classes, and the Crusader Classic show choir competitions, the fieldhouse hosted the first all-school system Mass held on the Heelan campus.



### Dr. John J. Dougherty Indoor Track

The track looping the top of the gym is named for Dr. John Dougherty, a 1945 Trinity High School track star and father of eight Heelan alumni. Learn more on page 27.

## About the Donor Who Honored His Parents

Mark O'Gorman has never forgotten his positive experience with Heelan High School.

"Going to Heelan sporting events as a young kid with my dad were where some of my greatest memories were made," he says. "We went to everything. I still remember watching many of my heroes play for Heelan."

He played basketball all four years at Heelan

"In basketball I was near the end of the bench on all those teams, but it was a great experience and a lot of fun. It taught be so much about hard work, nothing comes easy and knowing your role. I coached my 5th and 8th grade boys' teams last year and used some things I learned from each coach I had at Heelan.

"Angelo James was a high energy guy, always positive, always pushing the ball up

the court. Joe Burkhart instilled toughness to our sophomore team that I will never forget. Doug Moody was really organized. His practice plans and attention to detail were phenomenal.

"Denis Hirschman, my math teacher for four years, was the basketball scorekeeper for all of our games. He was an outstanding teacher and helped me learn how to break down problems logically."

O'Gorman is glad to give back to the school that helped him so much growing up.

On cue the Crusader's Girls Basketball Team went out and brought home a state championship.

O'Gorman, a businessman in Illinois, is married with three children.



Terry and Mary Lou O'Gorman.



A young Mark O'Gorman with his Dad.

# Heelan Athletics Ups and Downs with COVID

Heelan student athletes were enjoying a busy year when school classes ended abruptly on March 16 by order of the Governor of Iowa to help manage the spread of COVID-19.

Girls Basketball won a state championship title just 10 days before the Governor closed schools. *See story on next page.*

Promising seasons for boys and girls track and boys and girls soccer were cancelled along with school closures – all to manage the spread of the virus.

While softball and baseball seasons were delayed students were able to play. Softball ended early due to COVID-19 infections, and Heelan baseball players' high hopes for state were also dashed due to the virus.

There have been few infections among athletes this fall. The 2020-21 seasons for football, volleyball and swimming were shortened somewhat by athletic associations, but players enjoyed competition.



Above is a mix of photos from last school year, summer and fall.

# Heelan Girls Win State Championship And Now a Word from our Champions

Heelan Girls Basketball Team brought home a 3A State Championship title March 6 with a 53-46 triumph over North Polk. Kudos to Senior Ella Skinner, named “Girls Basketball Player” of the Year and Coach Darron Koolstra, named “Coach of the Year” by the *Sioux City Journal*.

Here are reflections from the team’s, five starters.

## Q. What does winning a state championship mean to you?

To me it means that all of our hard work the past 14 years was worth it. All the practices, games, traveling and tournaments helped us accomplish something that we only dreamt about.

*Katie Cooke*

Winning a state championship was something I dreamed of doing since I was a little girl. Growing up with my dad as the athletic director during Heelan’s prime era of success was so motivating for me. I wanted nothing more than to experience what I watched the 2010 team do. *Sydney Pratt*

## Q. What was the toughest challenge/game?

The toughest game we played was definitely our semi-final game. We were down by 12 points at halftime and it seemed like every shot Clear Lake took went in. I remember our coaches looking at us saying “you seniors have come back from more than this before, you can do it.” We were all so motivated in that third quarter that we came back and won.

*Sydney Pratt*

## Q. What did you learn from the overall experience?

I learned that basketball is more than just a game. I loved every minute of the season on and off the court because of my teammates and coaches. *Katie Cooke*

## Q. What does closing the chapter mean?

Ending my basketball career is very bittersweet. I’ve been playing with some of these girls since I was 5 years old and it’s sad we’re never going to play together again. Even though it’s sad, I couldn’t imagine a better way to end my athletic career in a Heelan uniform. *Katie Cooke*

I remember being a freshman talking about winning state as seniors. This can only happen to five teams every year, which created the perfect ending for the six seniors. *Ella Skinner*

Even though I’ll miss my teammates and coaches, I am so grateful for the memories and relationships I made while playing for Bishop Heelan. *Katelyn Stanley*

Overall this season left me feeling content knowing that all of our hard work over the last several years paid off, and I wouldn’t have had it any other way. *Amber Aesoph*



Holding the trophy from left are Amer Aesoph, Sydney Pratt, Katelyn Stanley, Katie Cooke, and Ella Skinners.

## Q. How did you feel about Playing for the Crusaders?

Playing for Heelan is important to me because of the support from so many alumni and other fans that I don’t personally know. It’s cool to see how past, present, and former students really are one, big family.

*Katelyn Stanley*



*Katelyn Stanley*

I went to public school until 8th grade so transferring to Heelan was a big change for me. However, it has made me a better person. Heelan helped me form my faith and become a better student, basketball was a bonus for me. *Ella Skinner*

We couldn’t be more thankful for all the support we had throughout the season. We had the best teammates and coaches to rally around, along with Crusader fans, friends, family, and students all behind us. *Amber Aesoph*

Closing out my career like this was extremely bittersweet. There was no other way I’d rather do it and no other people I’d rather have by my side than my four best friends. I’m so glad to have been able to wear a varsity jersey all four years and there’s no other school I’d rather represent than Heelan High. *Sydney Pratt*

## Q. A Salute to Coach Darron Koolstra

Coach Koolstra played a huge role in our team’s success. He thinks about basketball every day of the year. He was always thinking about how to put us in the best situation to be the most successful. I never felt “scared” of Coach Koolstra, but I never wanted to disappoint him. I feel incredibly blessed to have been able to be coached by him! *Sydney Pratt*

Coach Kool’s coaching style is something I am very grateful for as a player. He and Coach Donaldson respected the players’ knowledge of the game and embraced feedback. *Katelyn Stanley*

# Student Activities Snapshot



## Let Us Pray

It was a first when over 1700 K-12 students, teachers and staff of Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools prayed together in an All Schools Mass concelebrated by parish priests during Catholic Schools Week last January. The size of the new O’Gorman Fieldhouse on the Heelan campus allowed the entire BHCS student body to worship together. Dozens of parents and grandparents also were able to attend.



## New Home for Show Choir Invite

The Crusader Classic Show Choir Invitational event was a big success in Heelan’s O’Gorman Fieldhouse. It drew middle school and high school choirs to Heelan in late February. (Just two weeks later all schools closed!)



## Jazz Band Success

Heelan’s talented Jazz Band members brought home a 1st place Class 3A trophy at the Iowa Lakes Jazz Festival and were going to state before all Iowa schools closed last spring. The event was cancelled for COVID safety.



## Heelan 2019 Musical

“The Drowsy Chaperone,” a parody of 1920s-style musical comedies, was staged as Heelan’s musical last November. Christopher Krogh, Eric Lohr, Asia Keane, Truman Osborn, Sarah Beumler and Foster Johnson starred along with a cast of support players. Spring plans this year call for the musical to be “Cinderella.”



## Madrigal Magic

Heelan King Stephen Danner and Queen Adi Bogenrief reigned over the 2019 Madrigal’s candlelit royal court with wandering minstrels, jesters and troubadours.



## 2020 Homecoming Royalty

The Homecoming king and queen were crowned before the Heelan football game this year, another adjustment due to COVID. From left were Bereket Ware, Jack Flannery, Joe Adams, Jack Van Holland, King Noah Zeisler, Queen Jenny Nguyen, Natalie Olson, Mary Kate Fitzsimmons, Maya Bishwokarma and Avery Nelson.

## Powerpuff A Tradition

COVID might alter life at Heelan a bit, but the Homecoming Powder Puff game tradition lives on. Seniors won... in overtime!



# Elementary School News



## Big Band Boost for Holy Cross

Holy Cross Band students are playing a happy tune this year with new musical instruments funded by a \$21,238 grant from the Gilchrist Foundation. A new tuba, snare drum, marimba, timpani, tenor saxophone and bari saxophone were funded along with a flute and flugelhorn with a \$1,338 gift from the Evan Niebuhr Memorial Fund.

"We're so grateful for this grant," says Paul Niebuhr, band director. "Students who perform in middle school band will be the future musicians at Heelan."

Gilchrist Foundation grants have funded new band uniforms, acoustical sound shells, lighting, an outdoor PA system, video equipment and the Fine Arts Auditorium.

## Epiphany School Reopens for Classes

The former Cathedral of Epiphany School is hosting Catholic school classes again, the first time since the school closed in 2002.

A combined class of 19 kindergarten and 1st grade students are enrolled in the Dual Language Academy (DLA) of BHCS and taught by bilingual teachers to read and write in Spanish. The DLA preschool is in the CYO.



## Mater Dei Students Help Kids in Crisis

Mater Dei School students have completed 150 "Kits for Kids" backpacks filled with essentials, quilts and comfort for children removed from their homes by law enforcement or others.

The kits help support children during an uncertain transition into emergency foster care.



## Sacred Heart FUNdraiser

Sacred Heart students raised \$22,000 during their Fall Fun Run to help complete their school's new sports court.



## A Teacher's Take on Back to School

By Pat Boggs, Holy Cross School - Blessed Sacrament, grade 3

*This is an edited version of a blog, written by long-time Holy Cross teacher Pat Boggs, that appeared on a website for the U.S. Department of Education in October.*

Meeting challenges, constantly adapting, patience, and maintaining a sense of humor and positive attitude have been the words that have guided me throughout the process of returning to the classroom.

As I prepared, I found myself rethinking the layout of my classroom, the structure of the day, delivery of instruction, and the increased importance of my students' mental health.

I placed my classroom library bookcases to the perimeter of my room to open up floor space to maximize distancing between students' desks. I utilized shelves for the students to keep their extra supplies in individual baskets. They keep their library books in a ziploc bag to keep them as clean as possible.

The children begin their day by sanitizing their desks. I have three sanitizing stations in my classroom. Upon entering and exiting, we follow the motto: Clean in and clean out. The students wear masks all day with the exceptions of lunch and recess. They cannot mix with the other third grade classroom at lunch or at recess because we stay in our cohorts.

I had no clue how I was going to teach guided reading with social distancing. My worries were resolved when my principal delivered clear foldable stand-alone dividers for the tables donated by a family. We refer to the dividers as "being in your bubble." Families have also donated lanyards for the masks and amplifiers.

I am very proud of how my students have adapted. My children have never complained about all of the changes. They are so happy to be back in school that they have accepted all of the changes with grace. The way school looks is different, but the purpose isn't.



# Heelan Holds Graduation at Memorial Field

After ceremonies were postponed last spring for public health safety, Heelan's graduation was rescheduled outdoors at Memorial Field for the first time in over 50 years.

Other than the hot weather, the day was perfect on June 27. Families socially distanced in chairs on the field, while graduates spaced out in the grandstand. KTIV Channel Four broadcast the ceremonies.

*All graduates are featured on page 13.*

## Class of 2020 Loses Two

The class of 2020 tragically has lost two graduates.

Two days before graduation, Heelan senior Keaton Chicoine, returning from a special out-of-town trip, died in a hit-and-run traffic accident on his way to the airport to fly home.

Tragedy struck again four months. Isaac Roerig '20, attending the University of Northern Iowa where he performed in the band's drum line, died in a traffic accident in October.

Memorial Field hosted prayer services for both graduates, a sad first in the history of Heelan. *Student tributes below are reprinted in edited form courtesy of the Sioux City Journal.*

## Remembering Keaton Chicoine

June 27, 2020

Graduating seniors of Bishop Heelan remembered their fallen classmate, Keaton F. Chicoine, as someone who was fun, funny and also musical.

Chicoine, 19, died Thursday in Florida after being struck by a pickup on the Howard Frankland Bridge. A car he was riding in had apparently broken down and he and the driver were examining the vehicle when the truck drifted onto the shoulder.

He was to have graduated Saturday, along with his 133 Bishop Heelan classmates.

Ann Noutepe, 18, remembered Chicoine as the "Heelan rapper," who played his music at dances sometimes. "That's my favorite memory of him," she said.

Emily Daffer, 17, had a home room with Chicoine. "He was next to my locker neighbor, and so he kind of took up all the space. But he was always the life of the party, and he was so fun in homeroom. We played cards together, and he was just such a good time," Daffer said.

Drew Topf, 18, remembered Chicoine as "the funniest guy in the room. You couldn't help but laugh at what he said, even if it was inappropriate."

In her address, Heelan valedictorian Foster Johnson remembered Chicoine as "funny, relaxed and easy to talk to," while salutatorian Elizabeth Meyer described him as "a friend who was loved by all."

Keaton Chicoine '20 was the son of Jennifer (Chicoine) Anderson '00, grandson of Brad '72 and Colleen (Rigg) Chicoine '73 and relative to countless Heelan alumni.



## Remembering Isaac Roerig

October 17, 2020

With a penchant for bowties and trademark neon green eyeglasses, Isaac Roerig was someone who was hard to forget.

But according to friend Madi Leuer, it was his kindness and willingness to help others that made Roerig so memorable.

"Nobody had a bad word to say about Isaac," she said. "He was one of the nicest people I've ever met."

A 2020 Bishop Heelan Catholic High School graduate, Roerig died Oct. 9 after being struck by a semi truck in Cedar Falls, Iowa. The 19-year-old was a freshman at the University of Northern Iowa at the time of his death.

"Isaac wanted to teach show choir after college," Leuer said.

Anna Plathe '19 and a sophomore UNI student, was also friends with Roerig.

"Isaac loved music," Plathe said. "He was passionate about it."

Indeed, Roerig was involved with music throughout his four years at Heelan. He was chosen an all-state vocal music singer, performed in the Chorale music group and Harmonia Mundi Show Choir, was a drummer in the jazz band and a percussionist in the Heelan's marching band. Plathe remembered Roerig's thoughtful side.

"When he became the drum major in his senior year, Isaac personally wrote cards to each member of the marching band," she recalled. "That was how considerate he was."

Isaac Roerig was the son of Todd and Susan Roerig, and brother to Noah '19, a student at South Dakota State University, and Grace, a Mater Dei School student.



# Our 2020 Graduates of Bishop Heelan High School

## Graduates from left

### Row 1

Jose Adame  
Amber Aesoph  
Aman Alahi  
Elizabeth Albenesius  
Zoie Alvarado  
Smith Archer  
Lauren Baker  
Sarah Beumler  
Cade Block  
Adeline Bogenrief  
Kennedy Bork  
Koby Bork  
Robert Breen  
Hien Bui

### Row 2

Kevin Candia  
Keaton Chicoine †  
Kobe Clayborne  
Erin Cleary  
Cali Cook-Sorensen  
Kaitlyn Cooke  
Angel Cortez  
Emily Daffer  
Stephen Danner  
Omar De los Santos  
Patrick Demers  
Alicia Derby  
Benjamin Dixon  
Ryan Dougherty

### Row 3

Dayton Drake  
Sarah Engle  
Ellissa Ernster  
Kevin Farias-Dorado  
Brady Fiscus  
Kiana Fjeldheim  
Sergio Fox  
Lleyton Froehlich  
Vanessa Garcia-Coreas  
Ximena Garcia  
Jaylynn Gonzalez  
Olivia Granaas  
John Greer  
Antonio Guerra

### Row 4

Andrew Guntren  
Joseph Halbur  
Ryan Hanson

Major Heaton  
Destiny Hernandez  
Brant Hogue  
Cole Hogue  
Trenton Hope  
Keelie Iddings  
Collin Jackson  
Foster Johnson  
Brenna Joyce  
Anthony Kathol  
Carolyn Kieffer

### Row 5

Sophia Kitto  
Christopher Krogh  
Jacob Kuntz  
Camden Lee  
Alyssa Lefebvre-Gries  
Ellinor Lehmann  
Michael Leiting  
Madison Leuer  
Eric Lohr  
Dennice Lopez (not pictured)  
Rachell Lopez (not pictured)  
Annette Lord  
Isabel Magana-Magana  
Alycen Malenosky  
Lizbeth Marquez  
Brianna Martinez

### Row 6

Conner Matney  
Nicholas McGowan  
Thomas McGowan  
Elizabeth Meyer  
Brady Miller  
Juan Moreno-Andrade  
Alexis Moreno  
Francisco Moreno (not pictured)  
Jackson Morris  
Chrystal Mueller  
Giovanni Munoz  
Ashlyn Murphy  
Max Murphy  
Tyler Nelson  
Ann Noutepe

### Row 7

Molly O'Neill  
Mitchel Olson  
Nicolas Ordonez  
Truman Osborn

JiYun Park  
Emily Payer  
Spencer Pick  
David Pithan  
Sydney Pratt  
Thomas Pyles  
Ethan Redmond  
Jenna Rethman  
Ruby Ritchie  
Michael Rizk

### Row 8

Isaac Roerig †  
Stela Rosa Marra  
Michelle Rundquist  
Zaret Sanchez  
Cole Satterwhite  
Henry Sealey  
Antonio Shaw  
Jared Sitzmann  
Ella Skinner  
Camden Smith  
Alejandro Sobrevilla Bolomey  
Hope Sokolowski  
Kristin Spencer  
Katelyn Stanley

### Row 9

Justin Steen  
Marcos Taracena  
Colton Taylor  
Riley Tew  
Jackson Thompson  
Drew Topf  
Meredith Townley  
Zachary Uhl  
Jaiden Utech  
Lizeth Valdovinos  
Christian Velasquez  
Maxwell Venne  
Natalie Verschoor  
Tuan Vo

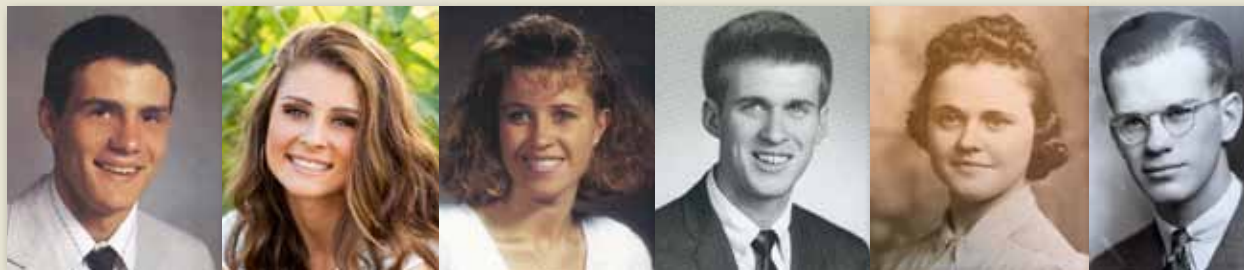
### Row 10

Ronald Vogt  
Robert White  
Maria Wilmes  
Colby Wilmesherr  
Taylor Worrell

# Alumni Yearbook Photo Feature

## Class of 2020

These pages are dedicated to our graduates with parents, grandparents and great grandparents who are alumni of Heelan, Trinity and Cathedral High Schools. We pray for their success and God's blessings in the years ahead.



Jess Aesoph '89   Amber Aesoph '20   Dawn (Keane) Aesoph '89   Thomas Keane '65   Dororthy Jean (Meyer) Keane '40   Kenneth Keane '39



Mark Albenesius '84   Elizabeth Albenesius '20   Patty (Blankenship) Albenesius '89   Jean (Birmingham) Blankenship '67   William Blankenship '65



Tana (Layhee) Archer '87   Smith Archer '20



Connie (Schreiber) Chapman '64   Allison (Chapman) Beumler '86   Sarah Beumler '20



Bridget (Schettler) Breen '92   RJ Breen '20



Brad Chicoine '72   Colleen (Rigg) Chicoine '73   Jenny (Chicoine) Anderson '00   Keaton Chicoine '20 †

## Highlights of 2020 Graduating Class

- 134 graduates in the class of 2020
- Valedictorian: Foster Johnson
- Salutatorian: Elizabeth Meyers, Presidential Scholar
- Academic/Athletic Scholarships Offered: \$15.5 million
- 22% earned an ACT score of 30 or higher
- Three National Merit Finalists and Commended Scholar
- 60% participated in college credit courses
- 98% planned to pursue college
- 81% offered college scholarships
- 6% pursued the military
- 52% earned the Silver Cord for service hours
- Tragically, 2 have died within 4 months of graduation

† Deceased



Mary Helen (Swanson) McElroy '47  
Cathedral     Katie (McElroy) Demers '88     Patrick Demers '20



Amy (Westhoff) Derby '91     Alicia Derby '20



Dr. John Dougherty '45  
Trinity     Martin Dougherty '72     Ryan Dougherty '20     Laurie (Welte) Dougherty '80



Paul C. Engle Trinity '45     William Engle '81     Sarah Engle '20



Barry Froehlich '85     Lleyton Froehlich '20     Melissa (Senger) Froehlich '85



Andrew Greer '82     John Greer '20



Sophia (Gribas) Barnes '36  
Cathedral     Paula (Sullivan) Guntren '87     Andrew Guntren '20



Travis Heaton '91     Major Heaton '20



Charles Giesen '29  
Trinity     Josephine (Covell) Giesen '31, Cathedral     Joann (Giesen) Hope Rothman '56     Charles (CJ) Hope '90     Trenton Hope '20



Brenda (Combs) Kathol '83



Anthony Kathol '20



Teresa (Coulson) Avery '88



Camden Lee '20



Richard Lohr '77



Eric Lohr '20



Kathleen (Flannery) Lohr '78



Alexander McGowan '20  
Trinity



Gerald McGowan '55



Elizabeth (Hagan) Lord Everist '49  
Cathedral



Alexander McGowan '20  
Trinity



Gerald McGowan '55



Eileen (McGowan) Lord '82



Annette Lord '20



Chris McGowan '82



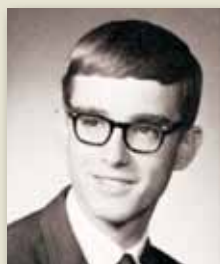
Nick McGowan '20



Michael McGowan '81



Thomas McGowan '20



Charles Happe '67



Carol (Gerch) Happe '66



Kristin (Happe) Malenosky '91



Alycen Malenosky '20



Larry Miller '64



Carol (Murray) Miller '64



Brady Miller '20



Deborah (Schemmel) Malloy '80



Jackson Morris '20



Lynda (Dandurand) Mueller '64



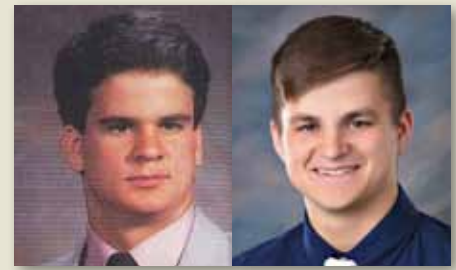
John Mueller '89



Chyrstal Mueller '20



Donna (Walding) Nelson '67 Ben Nelson '93 Tyler Nelson '20



Jason Olson '89 Mitchel Olson '20



John Coffey Trinity '49 Mary (Mummert) Coffey '50 Teresa (Coffey) Payer '87 Emily Payer '20



Danny Pick '91 Spencer Pick '20



Stan Pithan '80 David Pithan '20 Anne (Newman) Pithan '83



Linda (Wille) Pratt '67 Jason Pratt '90 Sidney Pratt '20 Elizabeth (Hand) Pratt '89



Shawn (McBride) Pyles '78 Thomas Pyles '20



Jim Redmond '88 Ethan Redmond '20



Dr. Bill Rizk '86 Michael Rizk '20



Tim Sitzmann '77 Jared Sitzmann '20



Doug Skinner '84



Ella Skinner '20



Amy (Verschoor)  
Skinner '84



Virjean (Linden)  
Verschoor '58



Michael Verschoor '58



Margaret (Trapp)  
Linden Cathedral '32



Valois Linden  
Trinity '30



Mike  
Sokolowski '71



Joni (Shay)  
Sokolowski '71



Aaron  
Sokolowski '99



Hope  
Sokolowski '20



Jeremiah Steen '79



Justin Steen '20



Jessica (Wheeler)  
Taylor '90



Colton Taylor '20



Jocelyn Kohls '51



Drew Topf '20



Mike Mousel '72



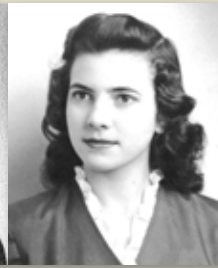
Jenny (Mousel)  
Tew '95



Riley Tew '20



Don Townley '65



Delores (Richter)  
Townley '45  
Cathedral



Ted Townley '89



Meredith Townley '20



Gary Uhl '68



Mary (Donohue)  
Uhl '68



Jeremy Uhl '90



Zachary Uhl '20



Kathleen (Bourassa)  
Wiener '65

Denise (Wiener)  
Broermann '93

Christian  
Velasquez '20



William Barkley '61

Beth (Barkley)  
Venne '90

Max Venne '20



Jim Verschoor '51

Theresa (Bulzak)  
Verschoor '51

Jim Verschoor '81

Natalie  
Verschoor '20

Kathy (Johnson)  
Verschoor '82

Roberta (Stone)  
Rozell '60



Robert White '60

Jeff White '93

Robert J. White '20

Michelle (Semple)  
White '93

Nettie (Anderson)  
Semple '72



Michael Wilmes '60

Louis (Hoge)  
Wilmes '60

Mike Wilmes '82

Maria Wilmes '20



Patricia (Rodgers)  
Brower '67

Robin (Brower)  
Wilmesherr '90

Colby  
Wilmesherr '20



David Worrell '89

Taylor Worrell '20

## Class of 2019 | These grads were missed in our 2019 *Crusader Connection*.



Mary Ann (Fischer)  
Krommenhoek '57

Natalie  
Krommenhoek '20



Patricia (Rodgers)  
Brower '67

Robin (Brower)  
Wilmesherr '90

Brooke  
Wilmesherr '19



Debate Coach Tyler Tigges (center) joins a group of Heelan debaters before a competition. From left are Alleea Frese, Ashley Nuno, John Paul O'Connor, Tigges, Roberto Rundquist, Camdyn Meier and Michael Glover.

## Dedicated to Debate at Heelan

Be it Resolved: Tyler Tigges is a dedicated debate coach marking his 20th year of involvement in the debate program at Bishop Heelan High School. Rebuttal: None.

When Tyler Tigges '04 walked into his first debate class at Heelan in Fall of 2000 he didn't realize he would start a commitment that lives on today. From September thru January, he comes to Heelan two nights a week to help students learn the ropes of debate.

His day job is working as an attorney in Great West Casualty's legal department toiling with insurance regulation and corporate law.

"I always thought I would be an attorney, but debate at Heelan solidified it," says Tigges. "I love it."

He also loves debate.

While at University of St. Thomas in St. Paul he became a personal coach to promising Heelan students.

"I remember helping prepare Michelle (Schmit) Rusk, and Valerie Hobbs (2006 grads) for nationals twice," he says. "They went in both 2005 and 2006. Every day for the month before the tournament we'd sit at the Schmits' dining room table and work from morning to night researching, writing cases, planning trips to the library and practicing rounds."

"I remember getting the call when they won the Public Forum National Championship in 2006. I was so proud. Michelle and I later taught at a debate camp together, so she was one of my friends that helped me get involved in coaching debate soon after I graduated."

Today Michelle is a lawyer at a Chicago law firm.

While Tigges studied law at Washington University in St. Louis, Heelan debate teacher Beth Dalton reached out.

"When I started officially helping Ms. Dalton coach, I was finishing law school in St. Louis," Tigges says. "I would Skype in to debate practices in the evening and talk to the students to discuss their cases. Now, amidst COVID-19, it's funny looking back at that, because our debaters and I are desperate for in-person practice, tournaments and interaction with teammates."

Tigges logged eight years assisting Beth Dalton who retired in 2019. He is now guiding new teacher, Hannah Andrews, in her first year as a faculty member at Heelan.

For debaters, the team has a unique place within the Heelan community, Tigges says. As a co-curricular activity it attracts students who aren't afraid to learn about serious, national controversial topics. This year's public forum topic for debate

is "The US Federal Government Should Enact Medicare for All."

A flair for theater and speaking can help a young debater, (just witness Tigges colorful attire and energetic persona) but all students are shaky at first.

"I'm most proud of my role in helping students gain confidence, make new friends, discover something about themselves and grow as individuals" Tigges says.

They have educated him as well.

"Heelan students have taught me to be more emotionally aware and empathetic," he says. "I've learned patience and that leadership means repetition. They're still teaching me."

Tigges has helped guide students that today are working as U.S. Senator staffers, teachers, attorneys, museum archivists and more. He has gained benefits too, including some fun travels.

"A really special aspect of debate are all the friendships I've made that span across families that last well after school ends," he says.



Tyler Tigges with Hannah Andrews, Heelan's new debate teacher.

Tigges has three goals with Heelan's debate program: Learn, win and have fun. During a September debate meeting he proudly watched as sophomore students explained debate competitions to freshmen. Heelan students usually compete in up to 14 tournaments from October till January. This year it dropped to eight, largely because of COVID, and features virtual competitions where Heelan students debate from individual classrooms speaking to television screens.

### Impressive FACT

A Heelan team has placed at the Iowa High School State Speech Association Tournament (IHSSA State Debate) every year since 2004. Last year there was no tournament due to weather, so the streak technically continues.

# Heelan '96 Grad Kicks Hobby into a Career

Written with info from an article in *The Sioux City Journal*

Before COVID hit, the professional soccer stadium in Kansas City, Sporting KC, was packing in 18,500 fans for sell-out games, and Betsy (Pollard) Maxfield '96 couldn't have been happier.

The former Heelan soccer stand-out is Director of Player Care for Sporting KC, playing a major role helping athletes with all their off-the-field needs.

"I support them off the field with negotiating car deals, buying houses, registering for classes, social security, visas and bank accounts," Maxfield says.

Of the 28 members in major league soccer club, about one third of the players on each team come from foreign countries.

"In the US, we have amazing facilities which is not always the case in other countries" Maxfield says. "Our pay is getting more on par with other leagues. America is enticing to these athletes and their families. This is a land that many foreigners want to come and experience."

Before the season opens, the professional players turn to Maxfield for help getting settled into the Kansas City area.

"They're most interested in having a place to live," Maxfield



Betsy with her husband, Ryan and daughters.

"I think the most special part of soccer is the friendships you form and still to this day, three of my best friends are friends I played with at Heelan and club soccer. We are all bonded because of soccer," Maxfield says.

The soccer director credits the Crusaders for helping her build her future. Without playing at Heelan, she wonders whether she'd be where she is now. She played college soccer at the University of Kansas where she was a goalkeeper. She met her husband, Ryan, through soccer. Her career is in soccer.



Sporting KC stadium.

## Heelan Soccer Memories

"I played all four years at Heelan and our team was special," Maxfield says. "The memories and jokes are endless, but a few of my favorites have got to be the pre-game meals at endless pizza buffet at Valentino's in South Sioux City and the music we would listen



Heelan 1996 yearbook photo.

too before each game. A couple favorites were Nirvana's 'Lake of Fire' and Tom Petty's 'I won't back down.'

"Heelan Coaches Kenny Miller and Bill Behrens were more than just coaches. They treated us with respect, ran great field sessions that were fun and competitive, and gave us the freedom to pick our own captains. They even had us to their homes for team bonding events."

says. "it's kind of funny, if you're coming from Croatia, Belgium or Paris, you don't really care what city/state you're in. You want to have a comfortable and safe home."

Maxfield wishes she spoke a foreign language since some players don't speak English. She and her husband, Ryan, are parents to Francesca, 5 and Fiona, 7, who just might be of help.

"Fiona is in a language immersion school, so when she gets older she can be my assistant," Maxfield laughs.

The Heelan grad was back in Sioux City seeing family and friends this past summer. She enjoys driving down Hamilton Boulevard and remembering the times she spent at Heelan's Memorial Field.

After college and an internship with the Kansas City Chiefs and Wizards, she worked in coaching education at the U.S. Soccer Federation and as the GM of the David Beckham Academy in Los Angeles where she learned the business side.

Maxfield joined Sporting KC in 2009, then known as the Kansas City Wizards. She worked with the youth soccer and academy programs.

"At our club we have programming for age 2 and up," she says. "We have 140 talented athletes right now between ages 9 and 18 that we are grooming to become the next pros."

Her soccer experiences are "all connected," Maxfield says. "At Heelan I was able to have a good high school and club career that then helped me to go on to KU. And from there, I was able to fall in love with the game even more than I did when I was a child.

"I'm one of the lucky ones that gets to work in their hobby."



Heelan grad Tom Betz – father, former coach, advancement leader, radio sports commentator – has been honored for his dedication.

## Betz '85 Receives Good Shepherd Award

Tom Betz received the prestigious Good Shepherd Award at the Bishop's Fundathon for Catholic Schools, September 13. The event, formerly known as the Bishop's Dinner for Catholic Schools, was a virtual event this year for COVID safety.

Betz, a 1985 Heelan graduate and vice president of advancement, has worked for Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools for over 20 years.

After graduating from Morningside College and working in sales for several years, Betz came to Heelan to teach business education in 1999 and serve as assistant boys basketball coach under Doug Moody. He subsequently took over as head coach and led teams to three consecutive state championships in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Betz moved to the administration offices to become director of admissions and handle alumni relations, and in 2012 was named director of development to lead fundraising for the Heelan school system.

For the past eight years Betz has led the annual fund, worked with planned giving, scholarships and the Gold Club and played a leading role in raising over \$17 million for Heelan High School. He led fundraising for the \$1.4 million track and artificial turf improvements at Memorial Field, the \$12.5 million high school academic addition and the \$3.4 million O'Gorman Fieldhouse, completed last December.

"Our new Bishop Heelan Catholic High School would not have been completed without Tom Betz," says Dr. John Flanery, BHCS president. "His leadership and efforts in advancement for our schools has been tremendous. Tom is a database of information regarding Heelan history, alumni and athletics. He is a true champion of Catholic education and we are lucky to have him."

"Obviously his six-foot nine stature is one you can't miss, but it's Tom's positive nature that attracts people to him," says Royce Ranniger, director of fiscal services of the Diocese of Sioux City and an award nominator. "Tom has many public school friends who respect him and, in turn, respect Heelan for what he brings to this community."



Tom Betz, number 40, with his 1984-85 basketball teammates.

Betz and his wife, Julie, are the parents of Jared '14, Annie '17 and Ellie, a junior at Heelan.

In addition to his advancement duties at Bishop Heelan, Betz serves as color commentator for KFHC Catholic radio for Heelan basketball games, serves on the Morningside College Alumni Board and the boards of Boys and Girls Club of Siouxland and TeamMates Mentoring, where he is also a mentor to a student. He is a board member of the Siouxland Sports Commission and President of the Iowa Basketball Coaches Association.

Andy Foster, Heelan assistant athletic director and head basketball coach, wrote this in his nomination: "Tom Betz greets every day, every task, every friend and every guest with a smile, positivity and energy. He is the face of Bishop Heelan. Tom understands how to represent Bishop Heelan and make it a better place every day....As an assistant basketball coach for 10 years I watched and learned how to be a leader of young people with grace, respect and character. I have seen the impact and impressions he has left on countless young people."



Fr. Dennis Meinen '69 says Mass from his wheelchair at Holy Spirit Retirement Home, flanked by nuns who serve the residents. (Photo taken pre-COVID.)

## Heelan '69 Grad Serves Others from Wheelchair

By Renee Webb

Printed in edited form, Courtesy of The Lumen Diocesan newspaper.

After being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1988 just about a year after his ordination to the priesthood, Father Dennis Meinen '69 acknowledged he thought, "What now Lord?"

"Since I was stationed at Blessed Sacrament in Sioux City, I went and sat in front of the tabernacle," said Father Meinen, who had asked God what was in store for his ministry. "I feel that God's answer has surfaced every single day of my priesthood since then. My ministry has bloomed in spite of this thorn."

Adapting to circumstances and the changing physical abilities is something the priest has done through the years.

He took on other parish assignments in Sioux City, Charter Oak, Ute, St. Churdan, Cedar and Scranton.

"In 2000, I came back to Sioux City after being in parishes throughout the diocese," recalled Father Meinen. "I lived for three years at Marian Hall without any real direction. However, I refused to be a couch potato."

He volunteered as an on-call chaplain at Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City, began writing a regular column "View from the Scooter" in the diocesan newspaper and substituted as chaplain at Holy Spirit Retirement Home in Sioux City. When Father Gerald Hartz retired as chaplain Father Meinen took over – a position he held for 17 years before retiring this year.

"The blessings from this ministry are almost too many to list," Father Meinen said. "When people ask me what I will be doing for Easter, Christmas and Thanksgiving, I have always replied, 'I will be spending it here at Holy Spirit with the residents — my family.'"

Over the years he also served on the Coalition of Ministry to People Having Disabilities.

"We traveled to different parishes in the diocese and I showed them how a disabled priest could celebrate Mass



Students assist Fr. Dennis Meinen as he tours Heelan and sees Heelan's theology room with teacher Christina Odom which is named in his honor.

and how things like signing could be offered for the deaf," he said. "We also sought out disabled parishioners, showing them how to participate in not only the Mass but also other church activities."

Through the good times and struggles, including a recent battle with the novel coronavirus Father Meinen sums up his years as a priest: "I belong here."

Father Meinen retired as chaplain at Holy Spirit Retirement Home in Sioux City July 1.

"I'm pretty much confined to my apartment" for COVID safety, he says. When COVID dies away, he looks forward to visiting with residents again – his family.

# When the King Came to Sioux City

By Patrick Detches, Heelan Class of 1959

Wednesday, May 23, 1956. That was the day he was coming. The Once and Future King was coming to the Sioux City Auditorium. The anticipation was palpable. The tickets were *reservation only* at \$2.50 per seat. The entire main arena of the original auditorium was sold out.

In the classrooms of Heelan the priest faculty were giving stern warnings to any and all who even thought about attending. Many of us were not paying attention. Elvis Presley was coming to Sioux City!

We got to the Auditorium early. Not early enough, it seemed. Many of the kids from public schools had cut classes and had been milling about since noon. Finally, the doors opened for the 8:00 show and we began to flood into the arena. The \$2.50 reservation only guaranteed you a seat, not a location. We ended up near the first tier. Within minutes every seat was filled, then management sold standing-room-only tickets because of the remaining crowd outside.

And we waited.

There wasn't a warm-up act. There was a drum set on center stage with guitars on stands. After what seemed like forever, the Jordonaires, Presley's back up singers and the musicians, took their place on stage to little fanfare and commotion from the audience.

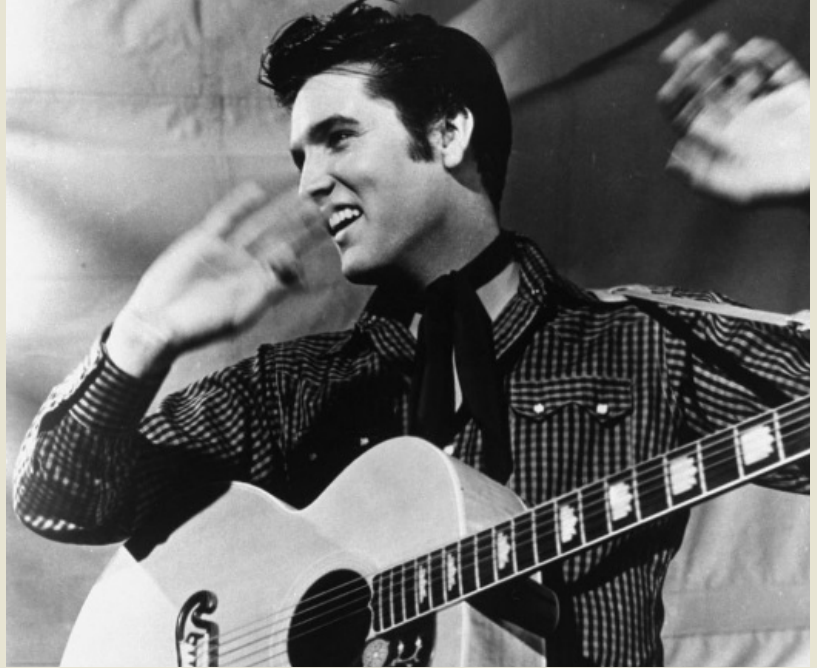
And we waited.

The lights dimmed. A spotlight hit stage left. Those on the extreme right of the arena could see Elvis position himself for his entrance and began the teen-age scream. Then he came from behind the curtain in full view. The sound was deafening. Everyone was out of their seats and those in front began to surge toward the stage. The local police provided what little security there was, but since no one was climbing onto the stage (this was 1956) they did little else but stare.

Then Elvis began to walk . . . no, not walk . . . stalk to center stage with his trade-mark smiling sneer. He reached the front of his musicians and assumed a wide stance and engaged in a staring contest with the screaming fanatics in front of him. Every movement he made to position the guitar slung around his shoulders brought a new crescendo from the throats of teen-age girls.

One could hear the crackle of the sound equipment as the operators backstage began to jack up the volume. Elvis assumed an attack position and the first phrase of *Heartbreak Hotel* boomed over the speakers. Mass hysteria. There was no violence. More like a release from the strictures of *Sha-Boom* by the Crew-Cuts. We heard *Hound Dog* in the flesh. Girls cried to *Love Me Tender* and *Don't Be Cruel*. On it went until it was over. Didn't seem long, but maybe it lasted 45 minutes.

The King gave us our money's worth and left the stage and the roaring crowd. Nobody left the arena. There were no curtain calls. Then it was announced that "Mr. Presley is not in the auditorium,"



and the crowd began to disperse. A large number of spectators milled around outside of the venue. There were "sightings" every once in awhile. Rumors flew that Elvis was staying at the Martin Hotel. The collective jaws of the hotel staff dropped when 50 or 60 high schoolers began to prowl the lobby and hallways looking for Elvis.

The next day, Marjorie Howe of the *Sioux City Journal*, wrote "His performance was the most disgusting exhibition this reporter has ever seen. He has a sulky look and his infrequent smile is almost surly. The act was merely variations on a single theme, except that every new wiggle was a little more 'low-down' in Presley's own words."

Marjorie Howe was a child of the 1930s and 1940s and had no business writing a review of the one and only performance in Sioux City by Elvis Presley, because he was – at that time -- the here and now. We knew who he was and we knew what he meant to all of us.

AUDITORIUM  
SIOUX CITY, IOWA  
WED., May 23rd  
One Show ONLY 8 PM  
IN PERSON  
ELVIS PRESLEY  
RCA VICTOR ARTIST  
Dynamic Star of  
Television, Radio, Records  
Nation's Only  
Atomic Powered Singer  
WITH HIS VARIETY SHOW  
ELVIS SINGS  
"HEARTBREAK HOTEL"  
"HOUND DOG"  
"LOVE ME TENDER"  
"DON'T BE CRUEL"  
"HONEY HONEY"  
PRICES  
All Seats Reserved  
2.50 2.00 1.50 1.00  
Tickets on Sale Now  
Auditorium Box Office  
Phone 5-0181

Patrick Detches '59 wrote a memorable account of candy bar sales in a previous *Crusader Connection*. We are delighted to call him a contributing writer again for this issue.



# Tidbits from our Facebook Page

You can find us at Bishop Heelan Catholic High School on Facebook and Bishop Heelan Sch on Twitter

## Congrats to Andres

**Villalobos** "honored in September with the "Above and Beyond Student of the Month" Award by KMEG 14 and Fox 44. Andres, a senior and son of Luis and Patty Villalobos, is a Student Council member, VP of the Spanish Club, an intern with Midlands Clinic and a 100% Crusader fan. He has taken funds from a company he created to support students with an ACT study program that helps them increase their scores for admission to their chosen colleges. Way to support Heelan Andres!

*Bishop Heelan*



**"I wanted to let you know** how our first night was at camp. Braedon is going into 3rd grade at IC. He has mild cerebral palsy that affects his legs. The team of players you have showed true PRIDE spirit tonight. They made sure to explain to him how to properly stretch, run and figure out the plays. Especially #24 and #28! These two players spent time directing him and the other boys with kindness. It certainly made an 8 year old feel at ease on the field! Below in the orange is my son with #24. Please make sure the players know what an impact they made tonight. We certainly do appreciate what they put into it!"

*Sincerely, Kristin Dacres*

## Heelan teachers said farewell

to Tony Fravel today in the Heelan Media Center. Sergeant First Class Fravel leaves Sunday for a year to serve in Kosovo with the Iowa Army National Guard. His wife, Christy and 3 kids had some fun celebrating holidays before he left. Now his Heelan family, Mom and Dad (Dave and Jo) will help watch over them. Godspeed Tony Fravel. Proud of you for serving our country.

*Bishop Heelan*



## We love hearing from our graduates

and their parents. Mike McGowan and his wife, Mary, just sent their youngest to college, and he writes this..."We have gotten this call from all three of our kids, the call from Tom (2020 Heelan grad) came a little sooner than expected. He called at dinner time last night to tell us 'thank you' for sending him to Heelan. He followed his brother Patrick out to Carroll College in Helena, Montana. Carroll is a small Catholic College and has been rated the #1 regional college in the West by US News and World Report. It is a rigorous school with a heavy emphasis on science and a very strong reputation for its prep of pre-med students. Tom called to tell his mom and I 'thank you' for sending him to Heelan. He said he is so much better prepared than his class mates for what he is already getting in his biology and chemistry courses. There hasn't been that much good news in 2020, but we were very happy to get this call and it reflects well on the execution of mission at Heelan."

*Bishop Heelan*



**With the end of our fiscal year** June 30 we say THANK YOU to all who helped make the 2019-20 school year an historic success for our Bishop Heelan School System. There is a lot to celebrate: Achievement. Strong Academics. Faith-guided Spirit. Our new O'Gorman Fieldhouse. A State Championship. Increased Alumni Generosity. The Show Choir Event in the new gym. Top Band Ratings. COVID Learning. Heelan Auction Success. PRIDE. We thank the Lord and THANK ALL who support us!

*Bishop Heelan*

## Our back-to-school staff development

programs this year reflect current concerns. Thank you Dr. Mike Kafka of Unity Point (father of Erica Kafka '96 and Rene O'Keefe '99) for educating BHCS faculty on safety in a COVID-19 world and Ike Rayford, local NAACP President, for addressing racism in our society.

*Bishop Heelan*



**Today on All Souls Day** our faith calls us to remember the souls of departed loved ones, faculty and others in the Heelan family. Our display, a tradition at Bishop Heelan, is posted outside of our school chapel, reminding all students to keep those who have passed on in our prayers.

*Bishop Heelan*



Memorial Field was the site for an outdoor Auciton party.

## Online Auction and Party Raise Funds

The "Happy Days" Heelan Auction raised nearly \$340,000 June 25 with a Facebook Live event and an outdoor party at Memorial Field with burgers and ice cream. A "PRIDE Blitz," drew alumni to meet a \$25,000 match challenge.

When the fundraiser was postponed for COVID-19 safety on April 18, a special Facebook Live program "Crusader Connections" was held in its place. The fundraiser was then rescheduled to June 25 for another Facebook Live and the party was on.

Top gifts in the auction were a mini golden doodle puppy and 13 ft. shuffleboard table made from old Heelan's gym floor. Learn more about it on page 25. The event also featured awards. See below.

The Heelan Auction is the only school event that raises funds to benefit all four schools in the Bishop Heelan system.



Heelan Auction Chair Couples were Chris and Joy Bogenrief, Ron and Katie Demers, Dave and Laurie Bentson and Mike and Julie Maas with children. Patrick Demers subbed for Ron at the event.

## Meet our Award Winners

### "Distinguished Volunteer of the Year"

Patricia Collins has volunteered for all things Heelan since her husband, Dick, arrived to coach and teach in 1965. When Dick left Heelan to work in the world of insurance she never stopped.

Pat has driven cheerleaders to games, decorated and donated gifts at Heelan Auctions, volunteered at Gold Club golf outings, worked in the school administration office, assisted with school events and helped organize countless farewells, receptions and more.

She has also shared her time with Holy Cross Parish, MercyOne and the community, including working in the morgue following the crashlanding of United Flight 232.

Along the way Pat and Dick entrusted their four children to Bishop Heelan Catholic schools: Christie, Theresa, Jennifer and Ryan. Grandchildren Andrew and Elizabeth have attended Heelan, and Matt is a senior this year.

Collins has been more than an active volunteer. She's an encourager, a get-things-done supporter and a person of gratitude who always says "thank you."

Through the years Pat and Dick have applauded athletes and students at countless Heelan events.



### "Crusader of the Year"

Leonard Gill '53 tells everyone that coming to Heelan, was the best decision he ever made.

At Heelan Leonard played football, ran track, wrestled and boxed. He hitchhiked from Jackson to Heelan every day, and worked as a part-time orderly at St. Vincent's Hospital. After Heelan he worked construction and eventually started his own firm.

Over the years Leonard has attended hundreds of Heelan games and events. His company cleared the ground and prepared the entire site for our new Heelan High School.

After Heelan's new Fine Arts Building opened, he called on others to donate to the PRIDE Campaign for Heelan's classroom addition. Leonard then assisted with the artificial turf project at Memorial Field. He helped obtain the land and move the building that today serves as the system administrative offices.

Leonard has been a consistent annual sponsor for the Gold Club and Heelan Auctions where he has been a generous bidder in our live auction segment.

Most notably, Leonard has gathered his Heelan classmates together for monthly luncheons at "Leonard's Pond" in Jackson. He is father to Ginger '91 and Jeanie Hohenstein '83, and grandfather to Melissa, Kyle and Brandon.

Leonard is known for his goodwill, business smarts, humility, storytelling, his faith, and love of humankind. A community leader who has been honored with multiple awards, he has always thanked others who helped him along the way.



# Grads Supporting Heelan *Thank You*

## Tribute to Miss Castle

The Heelan Class of '76 and Steve deGrasse '73 have funded the new garden landscaping and retaining wall around the electronic sign at Heelan in tribute to the late Mary Castle, former longtime Heelan journalism teacher and campus gardener.

The welcoming spot is set at the top of the drive leading down to Heelan. deGrasse wrote a special tribute that you can read at [bishopheelan.org/favorite-memories](http://bishopheelan.org/favorite-memories).



## The Gift of the Pit

Rick Niles '84, a woodworker extraordinaire, promised a unique gift for the 2020 Heelan Auction if Tom Betz provided him with wood from the gym floor of the Pit. And Tom delivered!

Niles crafted this one-of-a-kind, 13 ft long Shuffleboard Table. He used wood from the gym floor of the Pit, the Heelan stage first floor and handrails from old Heelan (Yes, he had to scrap away the old gum under the handrails!)

The shuffleboard, won by Dustin Lieber, was the top gift and went for \$17,000 in the Heelan Auction June 25. Lucky friends and family members will enjoy it for years to come.



## Devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Larry Walsh '50 has donated a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe that stands in Heelan's Duffy Hall Commons. The Heelan grad wanted her image to be seen by all. "Doing so highlights Our Lady's maternal care over the students and staff at Heelan, and educates them about her miraculous role in the evangelization of the Americas," Walsh says. "Having this statue displayed prominently also pays respect to our growing Mexican population in the Heelan school system."

## Dr. John J. Dougherty Indoor Track

Students, teachers and fans walking the new Heelan indoor track can thank the eight children of Dr. John Dougherty, all Heelan alumni who donated to honor their father.

The track looping the top of the gym is named for Dr. John

J. Dougherty, a 1945 Trinity High School graduate and a member of the "Four Horsemen," a squad that won a gold medal at the 1945 state track meet. Trinity's "Four Horsemen" are recognized in the Sioux City Relays Hall of Fame.

"The track celebrates our Dad's legacy not only as a runner and athlete, but also as a physician who loved treating athletes and others, and believed in keeping people moving," say the eight Dougherty family members.



## Grandstand Named for Burchard

In a special Homecoming night surprise in October, Brendan Burchard thought he was seeing the Memorial Field Grandstand receive a new sign dedicated to Mary Queen of Victory. Instead he learned that his longtime friends Denny '63 and Diana Walker of Omaha made a naming gift to Heelan for the "Brendan Burchard Grandstand." It honors Brendan's 52-year commitment to Heelan athletes and his alma mater.

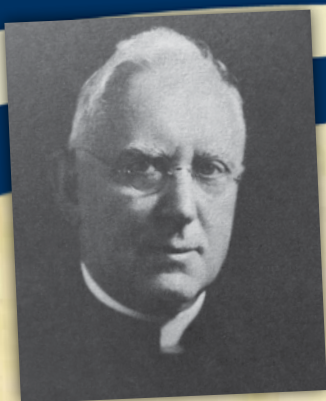
Above his name the sign lists the prayer that Brendan and so many Heelan athletes love "Mary Queen of Victory, Pray for Us." Walker, a track standout at Heelan and the University of Nebraska, credits a lot of his life success to Heelan and track coaches Julius Schurensky and Don Fleming.

## Enhancing New School

Frank '50 and Mary Ann (Redmond) Audino donated the gold lettering in Duffy Hall Commons



# Leave a Legacy and Touch the Future



Bishop Edmond Heelan, an immigrant from Ireland, saw what a Catholic education did for the Irish in our country. A champion of Catholic education, he led the drive in the 1940s to build Bishop Heelan High School.

Will you support his dream and future generations?

## Ways to Give to Support the Future of Heelan

- Simple Bequests
- Life Insurance
- Stock and Appreciated Assets
- Beneficiary designation of bank accounts, brokerage accounts, certificates of deposit
- Personal Property
- Retirement Plans
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Charitable Remainder Trusts

You can touch the future. Support Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools.

Contact Tom Betz about ways to leave a planned gift and join the Bishop Edmond Heelan Legacy Society at 712-251-1674 or [tom.betz@bishopheelan.org](mailto:tom.betz@bishopheelan.org).

## Honoring Loved Ones with Scholarships at Heelan

Scholarships for students attending Heelan High School continue to grow with the support of Heelan alumni who remember their loved ones.

The newest, the "James and Theresa Verschoor Annual PRIDE Scholarship," will be awarded in spring to a student who shows effort in academics and school activities. It honors Jim and Theresa (Bulzak) '51 who met at Heelan where she was class valedictorian and Jim was involved in sports and activities.

The Verschoors raised three Heelan grads: Lisa, Jim, and Susan; and their grandchildren Joseph '16 and Natalie '20 Verschoor and Paulsen '24 and John Fey '28 are products of the Bishop Heelan school system.

The couple served on school boards and committees, and attended Heelan football games and activities. Jim '51 passed in 2018. Theresa continues to be active.



### Other scholarships honoring family, established by members of the Heelan community in 2019 and 2020

- Sisters of Charity Scholarship BVM Scholarship
- Henry & Linda Metz Single Parent Scholarship
- Spirit of 75 Championship Scholarship
- Ray O'Neill Memorial Scholarship
- Michelle Salter Kindness Scholarship
- Barb Peterson Memorial Scholarship
- Mary Helen & Terence McElroy Memorial Music Scholarship

To see all of our scholarships visit [bishopheelan.org/scholarships](http://bishopheelan.org/scholarships)

**We are grateful for these funds that honor loved ones.**

Learn how to create a scholarship.

Contact Janet Flanagan or Tom Betz at 712.226.0414 or [janet.flanagan@bishopheelan.org](mailto:janet.flanagan@bishopheelan.org)

# Class Notes

## 1960s

**Deacon Larry Sitzman '65**, director of the media center of the Diocese of Sioux City since 1976 has retired. He devoted his career to supplying religious education DVDs, books, CDs and other materials to thousands of Catholic school teachers, pastors, RCIA leaders, religious ed coordinators and faithful Catholics helping children and adults grow in their Catholic faith. He went a lot of change in 40 years...working with filmstrips to VCRS to DVDs to video conferencing.



**Prof. Edward J. Birmingham '60** at Creighton University School of Law received Nebraska State Bar Foundation's Outstanding Legal Educator Award last March at the Foundation's annual dinner in Omaha.



Creighton University Law School Professor Edward J. Birmingham, right, with Steve Scholer of Creighton.

For over five decades at Creighton, Birmingham has taught law. As associate dean, he promoted a master's degree program for students seeking careers in government law and was instrumental in initiating a program that condensed three years of law school into an intensive two-year program. He also oversaw plans to maintain and improve Creighton's accreditation with the American Bar Association. He has coached 100 student teams in ABA-sponsored competitions co-presented seminars on tax law to practicing attorneys and much more. He received his J.D. from Catholic University and an LLM in taxation from Georgetown University.

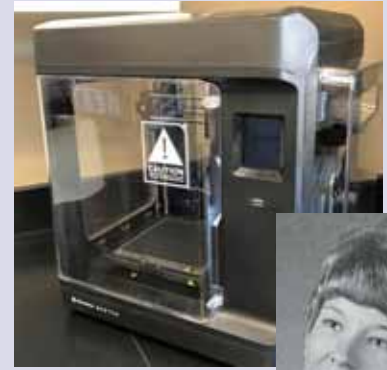


**Jerry Frame '63** and his sons, Steve and Jeff, toured old Heelan last fall. Jeff, now a CPA, played for Heelan before moving to Des Moines with the family attending Dowling. Mom **Kathee (Flanagan) Frame '63** passed in 2018. Jerry is retired in Florida.



These **1969 Reunion** were among the last to tour old Heelan.

A Memorial Gift Honoring **Kathy Callaghan '68** has funded the purchase of two 3D Printers for the Heelan Science Department. The gift of \$2,300 was made in memory of Kathy by the "Dirty Dozen" in recognition of Kathy's love of science, her dedication to the medical community and her devotion for her profession as a nurse practitioner. Kathy died of age '51 in Boise, Idaho in 2002 and her friends still talk about her. "Kathy was much loved and is missed to this day by each of us," write the donors. According to her obituary in the Sioux City Journal, she taught psychiatric nursing at the University of Wyoming and Boise State University. She was known for the high standards she set for students and for her humor. She received numerous teaching awards, was the adviser to the BSU Student Nurses Association for many years and helped start a nursing clinic at a homeless shelter. As a psychiatric nurse practitioner, she shared her expertise with many professional groups. Kathy was well-known for her love of the holidays, especially St. Patrick's Day and Halloween. Her wardrobe of costumes was extensive, and she never hesitated to show up in "full Irish" whether at work at the university or at the office.



## 1970s

**The Yaneff brothers** travelled to Greece. From left are Jacque and **Tom Yaneff '76**, **John Yaneff '70** and newlyweds Susie and **Mike Yaneff '80**.



**Classmates of 1970** gathered to plan their 50th reunion for June and then reset it for September. Both dates were cancelled due to COVID-19.



The **class of 1974** celebrated their 45th reunion last September.

## Dear Coach Burchard,

You have coached and taught unknown number of students during your time at Heelan so I know you would not remember me. My name is Leon Schulte and I was the person from the Class of '74 that wrote on your whiteboard this past weekend.

This past Saturday we were touring the new school and came across your room and our guide was nice enough to open it so we could peek inside. Many of us had you in class or for gym. ALL had nice things to say. We remember you as being strict! But compassionate and understanding. And filled with spirit...for the school and for the Lord. As an immature kid at the time, I didn't really appreciate that. But looking back, it was teachers like you that made a positive impression on us. And because of that, we turned out OK to say the least. We are doctors, lawyers, engineers, military, teachers, parents, administration, electricians, laborers...the list goes on. And I think we are all a little better at what we do for having the Catholic education we did.

I lived in Atlanta GA for 25 years and a year ago moved to Yankton for a job. It is great to be close to family again and to many friends from my class at Heelan. Take care Coach. God bless you and all the teachers at Bishop Heelan Catholic High School.

Sincerely,  
**Leon K Schulte, Class of 1974**



**"Too Tall" Al Jones '76** is now retired in Loveland, Colo., after "keeping the train on the track" as a conductor for Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. His son Hank's family live nearby. This is Al with his daughter, Sarah, who practices medicine in Des Moines with her husband.



## 1980s



An alumni gathering at Turner Point in Omaha, united some old friends. The gathering, hosted by **Jeff Sampson '81** and his wife, Fay, was a highlight of the year.



**Class of '81** friends gathered last fall in Pawleys Island South Carolina. Cheri (Meuret) Jensen, Kathy (Myers) Keane, Eileen Kinney, Mary (Richardson) Tester, Gina Fitzpatrick, Sheila (Galvin) Roach

**1985 grads** Shawn (Troboug) Eastman, Mike Coughlin and Julie Delaney gather in Arizona this fall with Tom Betz.



**Ken LaFleur '85, right, and wife, Jeanne Galvin '85** of Chandler, Ariz., celebrate the wedding of their daughter, Madison, with her sister and brother. Ken is co-owner and founding partner of Chandler Wealth Management, a financial advisory practice. Jeanne is one of the assistant attorney generals for the state of Arizona.



## 1990s

**Jason Untrauer '95** of Omaha is assistant professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha where he performs surgeries and helps train future oral and maxillofacial surgeons. He earned his DDS degree from the Iowa College of Dentistry and his MD from the UConn School of Medicine. Jason and his wife, Lei have a son, Bruce. Jason enjoys boxing, kick-boxing and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, and he's captured gold medals in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu at regional and international events.



**Heidi (Tschampl) Gizaw '96** and her husband, Gabriel, live in Pensacola, Fla with their four children. She is now working as a joint deployment policy officer for the Naval Reserve component of Joint Staff South. In 2018 she received her master's degree from the Naval War College.



**John Klein '97** lives in West Des Moines with his wife, Kathleen, and kids Kaylie, Kennedy and Danny. An anesthesiologist, he serves several hospitals and surgery centers in Des Moines. He reached the rank of major in the U.S. Air Force while serving as a flight surgeon. He has traveled to the Dominican Republic and Colombia on medical mission trips and spent time in New York City last spring helping in the fight against COVID-19.





**Class of 1999** members celebrated their 20th Reunion at Memorial Field and toured Heelan the following day.



Mikey's Chile Fest to raise funds for the **Michael Kuehl '99** scholarship attracted supporters in 1999 but was cancelled this year for the first time since it started due to COVID.



From left are Dr. Sandy (Swedean) Granger, Kelli Davis, Lindsay (Kahl) Dutler, Gretchen (Gruber) Wheelock and Coach Lori Schaal

Members of the **1999 State Championship Volleyball Team** reunited November 2019 to celebrate its 20th anniversary of winning the state title in 4A. Interesting highlight - 5 of the starters have their doctorate degrees. Using maiden names Dr. Sandy Swedean is a pediatrician; Abby (Lemek) is a doctor of jurisprudence; Michelle Florke has a doctor of pharmacy degree and nurse practitioners Lindsay Kayl and Gretchen Gruber both have doctorates in nursing. Kim Edwards is assistant volleyball coach at Wayne State College and Theresa Stevens owns a Montessori School in the Omaha area.

## 2000s

**Courtney (Bond) Blind '03**, and her husband, Adam, have been married eight years, and live in North Liberty, Iowa with their sons, Alex and Max. Courtney previously led the alumni board for the University Iowa's Dance Marathon. She now works as the director of corporate and community development at the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital where her team works on partnerships with Children's Miracle Network.



**2003 grads** Anne (Chapman) Stansel of Cincinnati Ohio, Katie (Chapman) Muldoon of Chicago, reunited with Molly (Boyle) Krause and Maggie Flanagan of Minneapolis in Arizona last spring.

**Junior Darwin '04**, teaches vocal music at Western Iowa Tech and picked up his Heelan print. He also is the music director at All Saints Catholic Church in Le Mars.



**Liz (Steven)s Manning '05** is now living and working in the Washington DC area. "I've worked for Levy, the food and beverage partner of the Washington Nationals for four seasons and am currently the senior manager of suites, overseeing roughly 70 suites and several clubs within the ballpark. The 2019 season was a whirlwind, as the Nationals were the definite underdog going into the post season. My wedding anniversary was during the World Series, so we joked about a World Series Ring upgrade. Little did we know, I would actually receive one!"



**Class of 2009 members** who toured new Heelan during their reunion are from left: David and Myah (Steward) Stubblefield, Alison Jansen, Leah Featuto, Janelle Darwin, Taylor Nelson and Evan Knowlton.

**Jimmy '10 and Tommy '13 Thelen** grew up watching Mike Wolfe, American Pickers, History channel, they were thrilled to meet Mike and now they do what he does.





When **Carli (Tritz) and Nate Berger '10** married in 2019 they were the last newlyweds to gather on the steps of Heelan.

**Cory Kruse '11** now working at Sterling Computers, published his debut novel *A Dream of Darkness*. The book is billed as a horror/suspense story that recounts one community's brush with unspeakable evil—and the desperate struggle for survival that follows.



**Morgan Froehlich '13** is Heelan's Dance Coach this school year. Morgan took studio dance from age 3 to 18, performed on Heelan's dance team all 4 years and was captain her senior year. She was a member of the dance club at Iowa State where she earned a BS in Psychology. She is working on her master's in clinical mental health counseling online at Southern New Hampshire University and works as a behavioral health specialist at Transitional Services of Iowa.



**Clayton Bengford '13** and **Breanne Hankins** were married on September 5, 2020 at Immaculate Conception Church. The couple met at Briar Cliff University and are living in Sioux City.



**Kelly '03 and Jody Ferris '10** returned to help Dad **Dave '72** along with **Jen '00** and **Christy '97** with Sneaky's Restaurant orders.

**Allie (Logan) Koch '15** married **Andrew Koch** of Sioux Falls, SD on July 20, 2019. She is a graduate student at the University of South Dakota pursuing her Masters of Public Administration and her Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management.



**Leah Bengford and Jake Noel '16**, together since their sophomore year at Heelan, married June 20, 2020. She is in second year at Briar Cliff's Doctorate of Physical Therapy program and Jake is playing football at Morningside College.



**Brandon Hohenstein '16**, who plays for Division 1 Abilene Christian University Wildcats met up with **John Pithan '16** and his team's game against Army West Point after a game in October. Brandon scored a 61 yard TD against Army, "a good memory to have says his mom. Army won. Pithan is at West Point Academy pursuing his career in the military.



### Thank you to former Heelan Coaches

Time moves on and too often one gets swept up in the routine of living day in and day out and neglects to reflect, to acknowledge or give thanks to individuals that made significant contributions to their life. During my years of teaching and coaching at Bishop Heelan Catholic High School, I had the privilege to either observe or was blest with the opportunity to coach with Don Oberle, Mary Miller and Jerry Steffen. I found their dedication, commitment and passion for sports to be a priceless contribution to the success of Bishop Heelan Athletics. For years they were the routine of the football, volleyball and track programs providing guidance to what came to be expected by many as accomplished and competitive teams. Yet, change is a normal process of life and Coach Oberle, Coach Miller and Coach Steffen have moved on from Heelan Athletics. On behalf of so many who had the opportunity to play, run for or coach with – Thank You.



Sincerely,  
**Dan O'Brien '75, Sioux City**

# In Memory

## 1950's

**Jim Bride '50**, Sioux City, Feb. 21, 2020  
**Sally (Lennon) Deaton '50**, Sioux City, Nov. 6, 2019  
**Elizabeth "Betty" Murtha '51**, Sioux City, Dec. 14, 2019  
**Dick Sudtelgte '52**, Sioux City, Oct. 4, 2020  
**Bill Lane '53**, Sioux City, July 20, 2019  
**Georgia "Rosemary" Barkley '53**, Merrill, Aug. 25, 2019  
**Mary Jo Petronis '53**, Sioux City, Nov. 4, 2018  
**Emil Bruscher '53**, Sioux Falls, SD June 20, 2017  
**Jeannette (Kent) Watson '53**, Aurora, CO, Oct. 10, 2019  
**Joanne Zinn '53**, South Sioux City, Sept., 16, 2019  
**Rosemary (Mahaney) Barkley '53**, Merrill, IA Aug., 25 2019  
**Ronald Jones '55**, Le Mars, Iowa, Aug. 31, 2019  
**Marilyn Millage '56**, Sioux City, Sept. 17, 2020  
**Michael Montgomery '56**, Sioux City, Jan. 13, 2020  
**Richard Sokolovske '56**, Sioux City, Oct. 17, 2020  
**Ronald Hogh '57**, Jackson, Neb., Jan. 6, 2020  
**James Maxwell '57**, St. Peter, Minn., July 13, 2019  
**Joan Vlaanderen '57**, Sioux City, Aug. 1, 2019  
**William Weideman '57**, Omaha, Dec. 24, 2019  
**Ronald Eugene Wilhelm '57**, Sioux City, Aug. 7, 2020  
**Colleen (Collingwood) Weiss '58**, Sioux City, April 13, 2020  
**Jean Braunger '58**, Sioux City, June 2, 2020  
**"Jim" Bernard McDermott '58**, Des Moines, Aug. 22, 2020  
**Virjean (Linden) Verschoor '58**, Sioux City, Dec. 4, 2019  
**Sharon McCann '59**, Sioux City, April 25, 2020  
**John Pullis '59**, Sioux City, Oct. 31, 2019  
**Lois Hardy**, former Heelan Registrar for 30 years, Sioux City, June 2, 2020

## 1960's

**Charlotte (Vanderwal) Moffitt '60**, Des Moines, Aug. 12, 2019  
**Dorothea "Dot" (Dittrich) Newman '61**, Bella Vista, Ark., Jan. 5, 2020  
**Fred Gilman '62**, St. George, Utah, Oct. 1, 2020  
**Leo A. Girard '62**, Sergeant Bluff, Aug. 31, 2020  
**Annette Tague '63**, Sioux City, Sept. 23, 2020  
**Grace E (Braunger) Parrish '63**, Hawthorne, Calif, Jan. 3, 2019  
**William (Bill) James McGregor '63**, Sergeant Bluff, Oct. 17, 2019  
**Patricia Ann (Mahan) Wehde '63**, Colorado Springs, Sept. 7, 2020  
**Cheryl A. Schrunk '64**, Mapleton, April 20, 2019  
**Samuel Abramo '65**, Las Vegas, March 15, 2019  
**Connie Barrett '65**, Cicero, IL, July 7, 2020  
**Rene Chicoine '65**, Colorado Springs, March 2  
**Douglas Shinkunas '65**, Dubuque, Iowa, July 1, 2020  
**Kathleen (Rodgers) Cominiell '65**, Westminster, Colo., May 4, 2020  
**Rita (Albers) Star '65**, Bellevue, Neb., April 29, 2019  
**Connie Barrett '65**, Chicago, July 7, 2020  
**John Kahler '68**, Sioux City, Nov. 9, 2019  
**Peter Neenan, PhD '65**, Saratoga Springs, NY, Aug. 24, 2019  
**Penni (Bogaard) Dorwart '65**, Denver, Colo., Sept. 12, 2019  
**Dr. John Heffernan '65**, Grimes, Iowa, March 14, 2020  
**Jack Shumansky '65**, Burnsville, Minn., May 16, 2020  
**Connie (Hanlon) Roberts '66**, Sioux Falls, Dec. 1, 2019  
**Meg Nelson '66**, Sioux City, Feb. 28, 2020  
**Lynn Thompson '66**, Goodyear, Ariz., July 30, 2020  
**Linda (Gilman) Schunk '66**, Bloomington Minn., May 3, 2019  
**Peggy Beacom '67**, Rockville, Md., Oct. 22, 2019  
**Joseph Audino '67**, Sioux City, Oct. 2, 2019  
**Kathleen Schrunk '67**, Sioux City, Oct. 4, 2020  
**Bob Pilgrim '68**, Sioux City, Sept. 3, 2020  
**Annie Mahacek '68**, North Sioux City, Dec. 29, 2018  
**Judith (Sandage) Lascala '68**, Treynor, IA Sept. 15, 2019  
**Cynthia Uber '69**, Blair, Neb., July 31, 2020  
**Steven Jacobson '69**, Sioux City, March 27, 2019  
**Cheryl Tongish '65**, Dakota City, March 1, 2020

## 1970's and more

**Terri (Wadedo) Schweisthal '71**, Colorado Springs, Jan. 12, 2020  
**Peter Neenan '72**, Council Bluffs, Aug. 24, 2019  
**Daniel Rodriguez '71**, Sioux City, Oct. 6, 2019  
**Daniel Sanem '72**, Carroll, Iowa, Nov. 19, 2019  
**Mark Callahan '74**, Sioux City, Sept. 23, 2019  
**James McCoy '76**, Madison, Wis., Aug. 24, 2019  
**Agatha Tracy '77**, Edwardsville, Kan., Sept. 6, 2019  
**Shelly Martens '81**, Sioux City, Oct. 8, 2019  
**Jeff Pick '82**, Sioux City, July 8, 2020  
**Thomas J. "TJ" Full '84**, Sioux City, March 8, 2020  
**Matt Petty '85**, Sioux City, Sept. 11, 2019  
**Sarah Hackett '95**, Sioux City, Oct. 16, 2020  
**Elisabeth Treiber x'97**, Sioux City, May 12, 2020  
**Keaton Chicoine '20**, Sioux City, June 25, 2020  
**Isaac Roerig '20**, Sioux City, Oct. 9, 2020

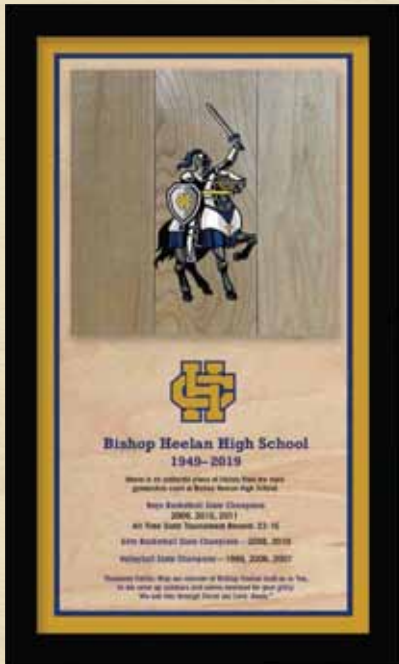
## Family Members

Ann Pavlovich, mother of **Dr. James Pavlovich '65, Joanne (Pavlovich) Wilk 1967, Charles '66, Dan '71 and John Jr '76** (deceased), Sioux City, Sept. 2, 2019  
Steve Uhl, husband of **Donna (Pyle) Uhl '72**, Sioux City, Nov. 3, 2019  
Skip Lagan and Kay Lagan, parents of **Gregg '75, Carla (Lagan) Strohman '80, Linda (Lagan) Shoemaker '81, Katie (Lagan) Mockler '89 and Kyle '91** Sioux City, April 6, 2019 and Jan. 29, 2019  
Tracey Wooten, husband of **Megan King '00**, Sioux City, Oct. 3, 2019  
Ronald Coon, husband of **Jean (Leaf) Coon '54**, Sioux City, Oct. 3, 2019  
Marilyn Bruscher, wife of **Emil Bruscher '53**, Sioux Falls, Oct. 3, 2019  
Violette O'Keefe, wife of **Michael O'Keefe '52**, Lee's Summit, Mo, May 14, 2018  
Chuck Meyer father of **Karen, Dale and Joan**, Sioux City, Aug 28, 2019  
Mick Harris, husband of **Bette (Olson) Harris '61**, Hot Springs, Ark., Aug. 23, 2019  
Harry Kobes, husband of **Donna Kobes '52**, Sioux City, Sept. 7, 2019  
Charles Avery, husband of **Gail (Lorenz) Avery '51**, Sioux City, Sept.16, 2019  
Carol Yaneff, wife of **John Yaneff '70**, Sioux City, Sept. 25, 2019  
Steve Zediker, husband of **Nancy (Tritz) Zediker '73**, Sioux City, Sept. 26, 2019  
Larry Jackson, husband of **Anne (Girard) Jackson '69**, Spirit Lake, Iowa, Aug. 19, 2019  
Marian Hall, mother of Heelan grads, **Jeff '77, Janet '78, Theresa '81, Mindy '86, and Jenny '97**, Sioux City, May 28, 2019  
Dorothy Rush Landry, mother of **Michael '70, Paul '73, Julie '80 and James '82**, March 13, 2020  
Sharon Walsh, wife of **Larry Walsh '51 and mother of Patrick, Mike, Beth Ann, Marty and the late Danny**, Sioux City, May 3, 2019  
Lloyd Full, father of **Steve, Keith, Tom, Roxanne, Kim and Kari**, Sioux City, Jan. 16, 2020  
Bob Neswick, father of grads **Mike, Jodie, TJ and Judy**, Sioux City, April 23, 2020  
Don Pratt, husband of **Linda '67**, and father of grads **Jason and Jamey**, Sioux City, Feb. 26, 2020  
John Boden, father of grads **Steve, Mark, Doug, Julie and Diane**, Sioux City, June 15, 2020  
Richard Flannery and Geneva (Remillard) Flannery, parents of grads **Kathleen, Michael and Mark**, Sioux City, Jan. 5, 2020 & Sept. 14, 2020  
Dr. Gary Carlton, husband of **Pam (Petersen) Carlton '70**, Sioux City, June 2, 2020  
**Robert (Trinity '48)** and JoAnn Petersen, Sioux City, March 9, 2019 and March 30, 2020, parents of Pam, Steve and Mike

Please send information for this page to [tammy.eveleth@bishopheelan.org](mailto:tammy.eveleth@bishopheelan.org)

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