

THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE OF SAINT XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

the tiger

JIMMY KIRCHDORFER '87

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SAINT XAVIER
HIGH SCHOOL

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SAINTX.COM

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Paul D. Colistra

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As I reflect on the first semester, these recent events are at the forefront of my mind:

- Winning the school's fifth Blue Ribbon School Award
- The recent opening of Ryken Hall
- Senior class college admits rolling in
- A strong number of eighth-graders taking the placement exam



When we learned of the school's fifth Blue Ribbon, we celebrated the academic leaders and faculty who had so much to do with this achievement. The work over the last three years would make every Xaverian Brother and St. X alumnus proud of the ongoing care and commitment for each St. X student.

The Ryken Hall transformation may be one of the most impactful on the campus for several reasons, mainly how the creation of a new front door provides easy access for alumni, parents, and prospective students to meet with school leaders, take care of business, or learn about our programs for the first time. The facility has far exceeded our expectations.

The late winter is always a nervous time for seniors as they anticipate their college acceptance letters. Already this school year, our guys have heard from the United States Military Academy at West Point, Georgia, Notre Dame, Washington U – St. Louis, William and Mary, St. Louis University, University of Kentucky, and University of Louisville.

Finally, as a school leader, the next year's class is always at the forefront of planning, and the excellent turnout for next year's group is a fantastic result and a direct correlation between the enrollment management team's work and how the faculty and staff are able to make a connection with each family as they consider the next chapter for their sons.

Thank you for all you continue to do for St. X, and please feel welcome on campus at any time.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Colistra

Paul D. Colistra

THE LEGACY OF RASHAAN WILLIS

On the most somber of occasions, a sea of navy blazers and khaki pants form a sad congregation to honor a fallen classmate. They pray for grace.

On March 2, 1997, without much warning, it rained and rained and rained. Over 10 inches of rain fell in 24 hours overcoming the locks on the Ohio River and the creeks that feed it. The "Flood of '97" took the lives of seven people, one of whom was **RaShaan Willis**, a junior at St. X. While coming home after a night with friends, less than a mile from his house, Shaan's car was swept away by rushing water that had crested the nearby creek in Charlie Vettiner Park. To get to safety, Shaan exited the car but was carried away.

Shaan Willis was a charismatic, baby-faced, Tar Heel-loving connector. He had a gift for making people feel appreciated and good about themselves. Shaan was energy. He was a ray of light. Shaan brought color to the muted hallways of St. X with a voice that could be heard coming from a mile away. "He never met a stranger. He never had a bad day," recalls Matt Kuerzi '98.

Shaan's death devastated the St. X community. Longtime friend Brian Logsdon '98 remembers struggling with the reality that one of his closest friends was suddenly gone. He recalls the support of St. X teachers Karen White, Joe Bergamini, Brother John Wills,



Pictured at the 2023 Team Shaan Golf Outing are Gary Friedman, Siya Ngubeni (St. X freshman), Nehemiah Friedman (St. X freshman and nephew of Shaan), Bob Willis, Bart Becker, Marita Willis, Jeremy Jarvi, Noa'Sosa Friedman (St. X junior and nephew of Shaan), Matt Kuerzi, Brian Logsdon, and Andy Hennessey.

Tom Simms, and Mary (Keene) Jefferson. “They helped me get through one of the most difficult periods of my life.”

While time can heal some wounds, it also becomes the measure of resolve. After Shaan’s passing, his friends prayed for strength and promised to remember him. They kept their promise.

Beginning casually, on the first anniversary of Shaan’s passing, Kuerzi, Logsdon, Bart Becker ’98, and Trinity alumni Andy Hennessey and Jeremy Jarvi hosted a gathering of friends to tell stories about Shaan. After coming home from college, with guidance and exemplified strength from Shaan’s parents, they decided that to truly honor their friend they should do what he would have done—make a positive impact. Logsdon recalls, “It felt natural to turn our remembering of Shaan into something that could help other people. When you think of Shaan and his family, you think of giving to others.” His mother Marita Willis adds, “Shaan would always say, ‘Mom, if you don’t do it, who’s going to do it?’ Service was just part of his being.”

In 2005, the five friends formalized the Team Shaan Foundation, a non-profit organization, with the mission of supporting local causes impacting the lives of children, something that mattered deeply to Shaan. Since then, Team Shaan has raised more than \$500,000 for over 30 local non-profits including Best Buddies Kentucky, Cabbage Patch Settlement House, Louisville Urban League, First Tee, Neighborhood House, and St. X. The RaShaan Willis Honorary ’98 Scholarship Fund is the largest endowment at St. X that funds scholarships to promote diversity.

“Even though he didn’t live a long life, I always want him to be remembered because he was a great kid. He loved to give back,” says Bob Willis, Shaan’s father. “For me to see the guys take this tragedy and create a positive out of it has been amazing.”

Shaan continues to shed light. His lasting impact created a legacy of service that honors the man Shaan most certainly would have become and is a demonstration of his enduring grace in this world. To learn more, visit teamshaan.org.

Written by Bobby Ferreri ’97



FROM TIGER TO FIREFIGHTER

Bobby Cooper ’94 has devoted his life to the community and helping those in need since graduating from St. X. While it has been several decades since his time on campus, he still has fond memories of his time there. Mary (Keene) Jefferson was his favorite teacher. Describing her, he said, “I was far from the perfect student, with little academic or extracurricular motivation and a lengthy disciplinary file. She recognized abilities and gifts in me that I could not. She subtly, but persistently, urged me not to waste them. Mrs. Jefferson eased teenage angst with confidence, warmth, and encouragement. She challenged me to be better.” Cooper also acknowledged teachers

Tony Scheler, Mike Glaser, and Mike Stewart. Expressing an appreciation for the interest they took in his success and wellbeing while holding him accountable, he said, “The principles, life lessons, knowledge, and advice they shared still echo nearly 30 years later.”

After St. X, Cooper graduated from the University of Kentucky in 1998 and then began working in the National Civilian Community Corps. He described it as “a full-time national service program that deploys teams throughout the United States to provide needed aid to our country’s most compelling needs.” Cooper’s time there was the beginning of his journey to the Louisville Fire Department. As Cooper progressed in his career, he went on to complete his Master of Arts in Communication from Bellarmine University in 2018.

Promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 2023, Cooper is an Assistant Chief for the Louisville Fire Department. His responsibilities include developing the budget, managing the department’s procurement and purchasing process, and prioritizing spending. He analyzes data, mapping, and response schemes to improve emergency response. Additionally, Cooper manages and supervises the daily activities of the department’s administrative support services, which includes information analysis, project management, the public information office, and facilities maintenance.

Cooper explained what he loves the most about his career with the Louisville Fire Department—the people. “I work with extraordinary men and women, and it’s no fluke. LFD firefighters are well vetted before being hired, and they are thoroughly trained and tested as recruits. Throughout their careers they put the interest and well-being of the public over their own. I’m surrounded daily by incredibly competent and capable people who literally work to make the world a better place for complete strangers.”

When he’s not at work, Cooper spends time with his wife, Meredith, and their daughters, Whitney (15), Natalie (11), and Emily (9). In addition to running and traveling, he enjoys family trips and attending his kids’ sporting events. He also makes time for his dogs—a German Shepherd named Rosie and a Boston Terrier named Bruce.

Reflecting on his career to date, Cooper provided a few words of wisdom. First, keep on learning! Second, find a career that you love because money isn’t everything. Identify your passion and follow it. Lastly, life can get busy quickly, and it’s important to make time for what’s important to you. Develop a balance between work and personal life so that you can find your true purpose and be all you can for those around you.

Written by Mason Sullivan ’16

ATHLETICS

VOLUME 56, NO. 2, WINTER 2024
SAINTX.COM

2023 FALL SPORTS SEASON



Crew was added to our club sport offerings in Fall 2023. The team is coached by Chet Riley and assisted by Ryan Coady '72. (photo by Linda Brumleve)



Members of Tiger Crew carry their boat to the water in Nashville in preparation for the program's very first regatta. (photo by Linda Brumleve)



Sophomore Marlon Harbin was the Tigers' top receiver. He also pitched in on defense and added an interception return for a touchdown in the opening playoff game against Oldham County.

Senior center and team captain Carter Guillaume > committed to Southeast Missouri State to play football.
(photo by Ben Newkirk)



Head football coach Kevin Wallace picked up his 350th career victory when the Tigers defeated Ryle 56-35. He is just the fourth coach in KHSAA history to reach that mark.





Coach Andy Schulten '87 and senior Max Newman embrace after the state championship victory. Newman was tournament MVP, and Schulten finished the season as the KHSAA Soccer all-time wins leader. (photo by William Lewis)



Senior captain Trip Campbell tied for the team lead in goals and was second in assists.



The Tigers captured the program's 16th KHSAA State title. Senior Beckham Murrow scored the only goal of the game.



Senior Ty Ruttinger lines up a putt during Region tournament play. He committed to Transylvania University to play golf.



New Head Golf Coach Mike Finney chats with sophomore Will Stuart before the Region tournament. The Tigers finished third at the State tournament with a team of three freshmen, one sophomore, and one senior.



Freshman Luc Kelty led the Tigers in scoring average.



Thomas Weber (junior), Tristan Hindorff (senior), and Brodie Terkhorn (senior) work in a pack at the Louisville Cross Country Classic. The trio finished 2-3-4 at the Region meet, helping the Tigers capture another title.



Tristan Hindorff was the first Tiger across the line at the KHSAA State meet.

FIVE-TIME BLUE RIBBON HONOREE



Saint Xavier High School was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence in 2023. Bestowed by the U.S. Department of Education, this is the fifth time St. X was named a recipient. The distinction as a National Blue Ribbon School was last awarded in 2016. We are one of three private high schools in the country and the only private high school in Kentucky to achieve this milestone five times.

“St. X is still carrying out the mission first established by the Xaverian Brothers when they founded our school 160 years ago: to engage young men in rigorous academic programs and extracurricular activities that

foster respect, honor, and service to God’s world,” said St. X Principal Amy Sample. “We continue to uphold that tradition every day by fostering an environment where all students are welcome and can receive an exemplary education.”

St. X President Paul Colistra added, “The National Blue Ribbon School recognition is a testament to our entire St. X community and the work we are doing to support our students’ success in their academic journeys.”

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Education presented Principal Sample with the 2023 Terrel H. Bell Award for Outstanding School Leadership. She was one of nine principals in the country selected as a recipient.

BLACK STUDENT UNION MARKS ITS SECOND YEAR



The Black Student Union, moderated by Math teacher Dr. Kendra Nolan and Assistant Principal Mr. Ronzell Smith, is in its second year of existence. The club’s mission statement is “to unify black and brown students, advocate for their needs, and provide a safe space for black and brown students to share their experiences and feelings.”

GLASER RECEIVES RYKEN AWARD



At an all-school Mass on December 1 celebrating the Feast of Saint Francis Xavier, **Mike Glaser '70** was presented the Theodore James Ryken Award. Named after the founder of the Xaverian Brothers, the Ryken Award is given annually to a St. X faculty or staff member who dedicates his or her life to furthering the mission of a Xaverian education. Glaser is in his 49th year serving as a faculty member.

Faculty and staff nominate colleagues for their commitment to proclaim the Gospel, for participation in the school’s community of faith, and for nurturing members of the community. Nominees also demonstrate commitment to academic excellence and model ways of recognizing the talents of individuals. They must be committed to educating the whole person and to leading others to fulfill the Gospel call to peace and justice.

RYKEN HALL OPENS

Before Saint Xavier High School opened on the current Poplar Level Road campus, the property featured the chapel and Ryken House, which served as the Xaverian Brothers' residence for more than 70 years. After the Xaverian Brothers moved to Treyton Oak Towers in downtown Louisville in 2021, St. X purchased Ryken House from the religious order and immediately began planning for its use. The new Theodore James Ryken Hall opened its doors in October and serves as the main entrance for alumni. The building houses the Stuckert Engagement Center, Admissions Office, Ogden Counseling Center, President's Office, Institutional Advancement, and the Business Office. St. X sincerely thanks its generous benefactors for supporting the renovation of key space that serves both students and alumni.



The **Ogden Counseling Center** moved to Ryken Hall.

PERFECT ACT SCORES



William DePrest



Nick Zoglman

Seniors William DePrest and Nick Zoglman achieved perfect ACT scores. St. X has had 27 Tigers in the last 12 years score a 36.



National Merit Recognition – Congratulations to eight seniors named semifinalists by the National Merit Corporation. They are William DePrest, Charlie Grohmann, William Hamilton, Patrick Jones, Jeremy Lopez, Michael Pemberton, Grant Wilson, and Nick Zoglman. They qualified based on their performance on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®). Also, four others from the Class of 2024 received Commended Student recognition. Kudos to John Riley Kaufman, Gabe Kidwell, Ian Murphy, and Chrisler White. Commended Students do not continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships, but they can become candidates for Special Scholarships sponsored by corporations and businesses.

Year In Review

2022-2023

STUDENT BODY

1,092 Students enrolled

17 Average class size

10:1 Student-teacher ratio

87 Elementary and middle schools represented

56 Zip codes in Kentucky and Southern Indiana represented

12% Diversity enrollment

19 Faiths represented

22,000 Community service hours

5 State championships

\$3.0 million awarded

40% of families assisted

60% of all families' needs met with an average award of \$7,700

90% of families with greatest needs met with an average award of \$13,585

TUITION ASSISTANCE



Year In Review

CLASS OF 2023

266 Graduates

16 Students recognized by the National Merit Corporation

10 Kentucky Governor's Scholars

1 Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts participant

4 Kentucky Governor's School for Entrepreneurs

2 ROTC Scholarships

1 Appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy

1 Appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point

1 Appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy

648 Scholarships received from 102 colleges/universities and the National Merit Corporation valued at more than \$30 million

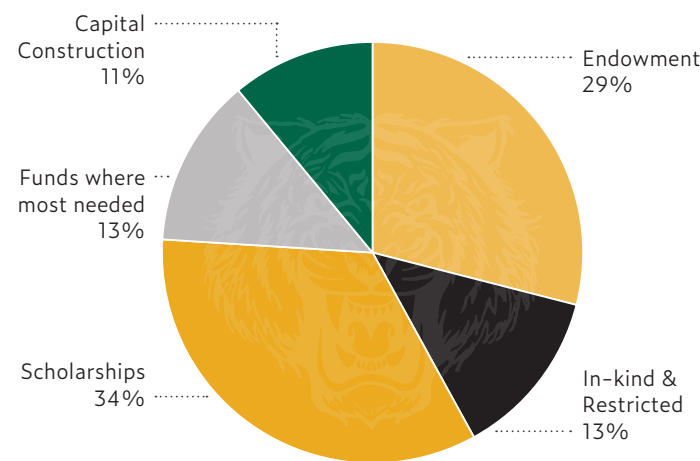
30 Student-athletes committed to play at the collegiate level

16,978 Community service hours

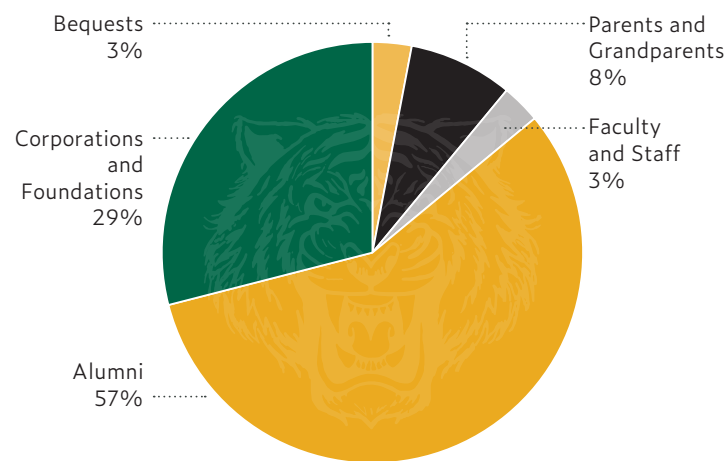
Year In Review

SUMMARY OF GIFTS

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS



SOURCES OF SUPPORT



2022-23 OPERATING BUDGET

REVENUE

Tuition and fees.....	\$17,206,725
Auxiliary Enterprises (Net)	(152,500)
Gifts	2,820,000
Investments and Other Income	2,012,000
Total Revenue	\$21,886,225

EXPENDITURES

Administrative and Other.....	\$16,171,125
Plant Operations	1,765,400
Insurance.....	230,000
Debt Service.....	805,100
Student Aid	2,914,600
Total Expenditures	\$21,886,225

The above represents the operating budget for Saint Xavier High School for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. This budget was based on 1,085 students and was approved by the Board of Directors in September 2022.

Charitable support to Saint Xavier may be unrestricted or restricted. The unrestricted portion of the school’s advancement efforts is normally directed toward financial aid. Gifts that have been restricted by the donor are used for the purposes specified by the donor.

During the 2022-2023 fiscal year, Saint Xavier remained within the parameters of the budget and finished the fiscal year securely in the black.

Year In Review

SUMMARY OF GIFTS

Total Gifts

\$6,340,684

Endowment
Value

\$40,229,981

901 donors
contributed

\$238,060

during
1864 Minutes
of Giving

Alumni
Donors

4,375

1,246

St. Francis

Xavier Society members
contributed

\$5,688,684

Total Donors

5,600

Parent

Participation

44%

Green &
Gold Social

\$239,979

raised to support the
Br. Paul Van Gerwen, C.F.X.
Scholarship
Fund

Saint Xavier High School aspires to make the St. X experience accessible to all qualified students. The Annual Fund, one of the school's top philanthropic priorities, helps us achieve this by funding our need-based scholarship program and filling the \$4,887 gap between tuition and the actual cost of educating our students. We are thankful to the 4,745 benefactors who made gifts to the Annual Fund ranging from \$5 to \$250,000 for a total of \$2,789,216.

To access the full annual report including Honor Roll of donors, visit saintx.com/annualreport.

GREENS & GOLD - ST. X'S TIE TO MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF



Valhalla Golf Club partners Ches Musselman '81, Jimmy Kirchdorfer '87, Junior Bridgeman, and David Novak.

Jimmy Kirchdorfer '87 strolls between cubicles like he's walking down a fairway. In his Valhalla-logo shirt, he returns good morning nods and a few shout-outs. More than a few St. X grads working at their desks sit along his path. He is giving a tour of the downtown Louisville headquarters of ISCO Industries, home to 150 of nearly 800 employees around the world.

It's a business—a “sprinkler company,” as he described its origins, started by his late father Jim '58 back in 1962, known then as Irrigation Supply Company, providing the infrastructure to hydrate golf courses -- now thriving as a global pipe innovator for moving all kinds of materials. Jimmy joined the business upon graduating from college, first in sales, then becoming president in 2000, and is currently the chairman and CEO. Along with his brother Mark '91 as president, Jimmy has parlayed ISCO's successes into an iconic force in the Louisville community, including Jimmy's induction into the Kentucky Entrepreneur Hall of Fame in November.

“You have to make it very people-centered,” Jimmy says, “and part of our culture is to have fun.”

Without question, the underlying theme at his workplace is golf. Putters lean against the walls, a cluster of Titleists always nearby. Jimmy grew up hacking around Crescent Hill Golf Course, next to his St. Leonard neighborhood. He later was part of St. X's state championship golf team in 1987. But his golf career was just beginning. Playing the sport, like running his business, he is always looking to improve.

“Every golf round could have been better, or it could have been worse. That's the way business is,” Jimmy says. “We're not perfect, but we can always do better . . . golf is a never-ending pursuit of perfection. I can be a better boss. Golf taught me that.”

Jimmy has teed it up for this staff, too. ISCO is consistently listed among the Best Places to Work in Kentucky, voted by its employees more than 10 times, according to the state's chamber of commerce. “I'm really proud of that,” he admits.

Jimmy is taking aim at finding the next champion. His company sponsors several touring professionals in the minor leagues of the PGA. You may have seen the Team ISCO logo displayed on the shirts of these prospective stars. The move is not to necessarily add more

ISCO customers but to provide financial support to golfers familiar to him. “I don't sponsor guys unless I know them really well,” says Jimmy, who counts Cooper Musselman '13 and Stephen Stallings, Jr. '13, competing on the Korn Ferry tour, as his protégés. “I track these guys as if I have a stable of thoroughbreds.”

Another chance to make golf more affordable to a younger generation locally is ISCO's dedication to Youth On Course, a national program that subsidizes greens fees for kids around the country, including 59 courses in Kentucky. Youngsters pay \$5 to play a round of golf, while the YOC program covers the remaining fee. “If I had to pay \$20 per round back in the day, I don't think I would have played much as a kid,” Jimmy says.

What's as exciting as making a 30-foot birdie putt is Jimmy's latest endeavor. In 2022, he and his partners, including Cooper's dad Ches Musselman '81, purchased the prestigious Valhalla Golf Club. “We wanted to make sure it stayed in local hands,” Jimmy claims, as he counts down the days when it hosts the 2024 PGA Championship in May, the fourth time this major has been held there. He's the chairman of the tournament committee and eager to witness another epic week.

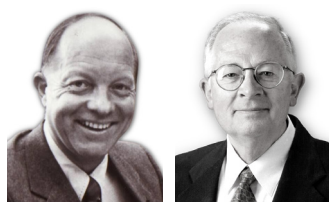
“Everyone remembers Tiger (Woods) beating Bob May, Rory (McElroy) winning in the dark, the Ryder Cup in '08,” Jimmy says, confident that future majors will be played there. “This community loves major championship golf . . . and we're all rooting for JT (Justin Thomas '11).”

His chairman duties dominate his time these days. Changes around the Valhalla property will exude a Kentucky flavor. “We have a lot of out-of-town folks who play this course, and we want them to know where they are,” Jimmy says, describing a plan for white picket fences, exposed limestone rock, and a pasture of horses grazing near its entrance.

Back in his corner ISCO office, among the plaques, signed memorabilia, and unique bourbon bottles sits his most prized display—a glass-encased *Courier-Journal* photo from 1972 of his dad, part of a five-generation legacy at St. X, hunched over three-year-old Jimmy in what could have been one of his first putting lessons. “A memory forever,” Jimmy says. “I feel so fortunate that my father made the sacrifice to send me to St. X, which led me to understand the values it created.”

Written by John Jury '82

XAVERIAN BROTHERS LAID TO REST



Sulzer

Hubbuch

We mourn the loss of two beloved men who devoted their entire lives to religious ministry.

Brother Rodney Sulzer, C.F.X. '56

and **Brother Cornelius Hubbuch, C.F.X. '54** died November 8 and December 2, 2023, respectively.

Brother Rodney, formerly Brother Pierce, taught at Flaget High School and at schools in New York and Maryland, even serving as principal of Mount Saint Joseph in Baltimore. From the 1990s until his retirement in 2008, Brother Rodney engaged in retreat work and was Director of St. X's Ryken House as well as a Xaverian community in Florida.

Brother Cornie, known by classmates as Buddy, served as an educator in New York and Maryland between 1960 and 1976. He held leadership positions with the Xaverian Congregation, including Provincial of the American Xaverian Central Province until 1982, and Vicar General from 1989 to 2001. Brother Cornie taught at Xaverian schools in Africa and supported mission work in Bolivia and Haiti. He retired to St. X's Ryken House in 2014, and he remained engaged with the school community until his death.

ALUMNI HALL OF HONORS CLASS OF 2023



Seated: **Paul Burke '95**; **Dr. Brian Reynolds** (for **Dr. Perry Sangalli '76†**); **Keefer Barnum '17**; **Chip Cummins '88**; and **Dan Cerwinski '98**. Standing: **Brian Mateja '90** (for **Maj. Alan Mateja '63†**); **Terry Meiners '75**; **Dr. Greg Gleis '70**; **Dane Glass '70** (for **Ira Glass '66†**); and **Charlie Thiemann '55**.

Ten graduates were inducted into the Alumni Hall of Honors on October 19, 2023. This recognition program honors alumni who distinguish themselves with personal, professional, or athletic accomplishments.

The Class of 2023 includes a state champion football player and accomplished orthopaedic surgeon, a high school and collegiate All-American swimmer, a decorated Naval officer and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, a multi-sport athlete at St. X and collegiate football star, an award-winning radio and TV personality, a collegiate All-American and Major League Baseball draftee, a decorated fighter pilot missing in action since 1972, an All-State soccer athlete and two-time state champion, a distinguished bank president and Habitat for Humanity International board officer, and a notable educator and beloved St. X president.

To view individual induction videos, go to saintx.com/hall.

ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM

The St. X Alumni Association announces its exclusive partnership with **Lou Conkling '72** at Knights Travel. As an independent travel consultant, Lou specializes in cruises and tours to every corner of the earth. His 38 years of experience make him uniquely qualified to plan opportunities for you to see the world alongside fellow alumni.

Upcoming Viking Ocean cruises include Paris & the Heart of Normandy (October 31–November 7, 2024), Christmas on the Rhine (December 9–16, 2024) and Australia & New Zealand (February 21–March 7, 2025). Learn more at our **Viking Cruise Happy Hour at St. X** (Ryken Hall) on **March 6 from 5–7:00 p.m.** To make a happy hour reservation or for trip details and pricing, contact Lou at (502) 292-4750 or lou@knightstravel.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 29	Class Notes Deadline
March 5–7	Texas Alumni Gatherings
March 6	Alumni Travel/Viking Cruise Happy Hour
April 30	St. X Day at Churchill Downs
May 6	Baseball Alumni Night
May 17	Graduation
June 20	50-Year Club Lunch
June 21–22	Reunion Weekend for Anniversary Classes
July 29	Alumni Golf Outing
August 2–3	Reunion Weekend for Anniversary Classes

BYRD LANDS IN LOUISIANA SPORTS HALL OF FAME



Paul and Kym Byrd with their oldest son Grayson at the 2023 induction.

In July, All-American and MLB All-Star **Paul Byrd '88** was inducted into Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame. The former LSU pitcher and College World Series champion tallied 31 wins against 11 losses, seven complete games, two saves, and two shutouts in his three seasons. Paul passed up a 13th-round draft pick after St. X. The Cleveland Indians selected him in the fourth round of the 1991 MLB draft. Paul spent 14 years in the big leagues (1995–2009), and he was inducted into St. X's Alumni Hall of Honors in 2010.

Paul became a best-selling author with his book *FreeByrd: The Power of a Liberated Life*. In 2013, he began his next career. In Paul's 10 years broadcasting for the Atlanta Braves, primarily as a sideline reporter and color commentator, he earned three Emmy Awards.

Paul and his wife, Kym, are cofounders of Byrdhouse Ministries. They opened a facility in Milton, Georgia, dedicated to helping people improve their relationship with God through spiritual direction and counseling that sometimes involves horses. Kym has served as spiritual director, and Paul is now in his first year of schooling to do the same. The couple have two sons, Grayson and Colby.

ST. X LOSES LEADERS



Hubbuch



Horton

This past year, St. X was saddened to lose two notable alumni who were instrumental to our campus in a variety of ways. **Glenn Hubbuch '63** and **Al Horton '62**, both members of the Alumni Hall of Honors, embodied the philanthropic principles of giving of one's time, talent, and treasure for the betterment of the community.

Glenn served as the St. X campus architect for more than 40 years. His first project, as an intern, was designing the Callahan Media Center, which opened in 1973. He was instrumental in shaping the campus by designing the Hoeck Specialized Studies Center, the Driscoll Activities Center, Flaget Hall, Project X athletic facilities, the main building entry, and administrative offices.

Al served multiple terms on the school's Board of Directors, including continued service as an Emeritus Director to the Finance Committee. The Horton family name is visible throughout the campus. In addition to Horton Hall, his son's name is stamped on the Football Locker Room and The Gray Horton Fieldhouse, dedicated in loving memory of Gray '88†.

IN MEMORIAM

John R. "Jack" Mooney '45
Donald L. Tatum '46
Albert T. Barth, Jr. '47
Donald C. Erwin '47
A. Joseph Besendorf '48
Edward J. Feeney '49
Ralph Lilly '49
William L. Richart '49
Sherl L. Fetter '50
James F. English '51
John J. "Jack" Gumbel '51
Charles A. Fussenegger '52
Donald E. Distler '54
J. Ward Robinson '55
Rev. Donald L. Ryan '55
Alfred G. Sanning, Jr. '55
John D. Trager '55
Joseph L. "Larry" Dean '56
Reed S. Miller, Jr. '57
L. Pat Fahey, Jr. '58
Edward J. Schnurr '58
John R. Abbott '59
Dennis M. Clare, Sr. '60
Dr. Robert L. Schweitzer '60
William M. Bell, Jr. '62
Albert C. Horton '62
Daniel L. Magruder, Sr. '62
Floyd T. McCubbins '62
Robert H. Moses '62
Gerald R. Smith '62
David S. Roth '63
Charles J. "John" Thacker '63
Roger S. Carlton '64
Daniel J. Dougherty, Sr. '64
William A. Kustes '64
Paul L. Mueller '64
James K. "Kenny" Nett '64
Michael J. Burmester '65
Thomas W. Furlong '65
Charles J. Steinmetz '65
James A. Meyer, Sr. '66
Leroy R. Sachleben '67
Steven T. Croghan '68
John E. Sosienski '68
Mark E. Fetter '69
Walter R. "Ray" Foushee '69
Peter F. McGrath '69
Michael D. Elliott '70
Robert F. Kightlinger '71
Michael J. Chandler '73
D. Philip Reed, Jr. '73
Kenneth J. Niemann III '76
David L. Thomas '76
Kevin L. Kronauer '77
David A. Burch '80
Thomas A. Brown, Jr. '85
Daren K. Culver '86
Clinton L. Glasscock '89
Kenneth E. Lally '89
Timothy A. Walsh '92
Thomas E. "Trey" Schadt III '93
Matthew J. Seadler '94
Matthew A. Pierce '96
Brian G. Abell '04
John A. Bolander '09

Class of 1946

Class Agent:



Deacon Syl Nitzken celebrated his 95th birthday in September. The family is part of a 77-year legacy at St. X. Syl is joined by Mary Nitzken (St. X cafeteria), Joe Nitzken '73, Tom Nitzken '74, Matt Nitzken '05, and John Nitzken '77. Missing from photo: Dr. Mike Nitzken '80 and Dan Nitzken '05.

Class of 1955

Class Agents: **Howard Meyer (502) 451-8800**,
Bob Weihe (502) 459-6397, and
Jim Rademaker (502) 939-5943

Minda and **Ed Kaltenbacher**, long-time residents of Humble, Texas, visited Louisville last summer. To return home, they cruised up the river from Louisville to Pittsburgh, then flew home from there. Say hello to Ed at EJKaltenbacher@gmail.com.

Jim Oetken is known by many as "Mr. Volunteer," having mixed a successful business career with service to many non-profit social service organizations. He has been a member of the Salvation Army Board of Directors for over 35 years and was recently named a lifetime board member. Contact him at JimOetken@gmail.com.

Class of 1956

Class Agent: **Bill Habich (502) 594-0709**

The time has changed for our monthly gathering. We now meet for lunch at Noon on the second Tuesday at Molly Malone's, 933 Baxter Avenue. Contact **Ramsey Kraft** at (502) 291-0776 or r38kraft@nanzkraft.com.

Class of 1958

Class Agent:

The class meets for lunch on the second Friday of even-numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, and December). Join us at 11:30 a.m. at Check's Café, located at 1101 Burnett Avenue. Contact **Russell Quick** at rq@rqco.net or (502) 639-8317.

Class of 1959

Class Agent: **Jim Miller (502) 262-2195**

Join the class for lunch on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Contact **Dave Keller** at (502) 558-0867 or kellerlouky@aol.com.

Frank Drane drove from St. Marys, Georgia, to attend St. X's 50-Year Club lunch. While in town, he also visited **Jimmy Sullivan**, who sadly has many health issues.

Trish and **Joseph "Buddy" Crask** celebrated their 60th anniversary in September. Trish suffers from Parkinson's, and Buddy is her caregiver. He retired from the USPS and lives in Elizabeth, Indiana. They have six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Jim Remmers had knee surgery in June. Surely, swimming is part of his physical therapy.

Bill Antonini is applying for Italian citizenship so that he can buy a villa there. Buongiorno to Bill!

Frank DeSensi is scouring the area around Glenmary for relics of the Civil War and Indian artifacts. So far, he's discovered musket balls and arrowheads. Frank indicates that the area was the location of several skirmishes that preceded the battle of Perryville.

Bill Nold posted the lowest score at the class golf outing, with a par and a birdie to his credit. Not bad for a par 3.

Carl Nett reports news of his brothers. Ken '64 (Nett boy #4) died of a ruptured aneurism. Dan '77 (Nett boy #12) was hospitalized in September with a stroke.

John Abbott passed away in September after a long battle with Parkinson's.

Class of 1960

Class Agent: **Bob Benson (502) 314-6765**

Join the class for lunch on the second Tuesday of the month. We meet at 11:30 a.m. at Check's Cafe.



Bill Bradford received the Honorary Alumnus Award at the 2023 Holy Cross High School Hall of Fame dinner.

Class of 1961

Class Agent: **Ed Weis (502) 267-8120**

Join the class for lunch on the second Friday of each month. We meet at Corner Cafe at 11:30 a.m. Contact **Ed Weis** at edwincjr@bellsouth.net for details.

Charles "Chuck" Byrne is the organizer, editor, designer, and author of the introduction and major essay of *Only on Saturday: The Wood Type Prints of Jack Stauffacher*. Featuring 500 images and essays by collaborators from the worlds of art and typography, *Only on Saturday* is the first trade book to document the work of one of the past century's great typographers and printers and offer the compelling backstory behind its creation.

Class of 1962

Class Agents: **Bob Meyer (502) 500-5368** and
David Huber (502) 593-7677

Join the class for lunch on the second Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at Woodhaven Country Club.

Class of 1963

Class Agents: **Jerry Barnes (502) 338-9710** and
Bob Coomes (502) 550-2123

Join the class for lunch on the first Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. The venue has temporarily changed to Check's Café. To receive lunch notifications, please contact **Bob Coomes** at bosemooc@gmail.com.

Class of 1964

Class Agent: **Don Meyer (502) 491-2704**

Join the class for lunch on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. We meet at The Café. If you have questions, contact **Charlie Westenhofer** at (502) 216-6637 or Charlie8july@gmail.com.



This past June in Washington, D.C., **David Crowe** received the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) 2023 Exemplary Service to Home Building Award. The award recognizes individuals for outstanding and commendable accomplishments in service to the home-building industry. David retired in 2016 as the NAHB chief economist.

Class of 1966

Class Agent: **Ed Mayer (502) 741-0213**

The class meets on the first Monday of each month around 6:30 p.m. Contact **Ed Mayer** at (502) 741-0213 or eamayer@bellsouth.net.



In July, **Cal Pfeiffer** (pictured far right) competed in the National Senior Games held in Pittsburgh. He placed 7th in the discus for the 75-79 age group. His cheering section included his wife, three

sons, daughter-in-law, and grandson. Perhaps St. X track coach Jerry Denny was looking down on him and smiling.

Class of 1967

Class Agents: **Charlie Nalley (502) 821-2349**,
Jim Ratterman (502) 553-5615, **Tony Santamassino (502) 439-5039**, and **Mike Shea (502) 609-3212**

The University of Louisville selected **Michael Kaelin** as its recipient of the UofL Military Alumni Award.



Pictured are some of the classmates at our September gathering at Seneca golf course. We hope to continue with an annual reunion.

Class of 1969

Class Agents: **Steve Liebert (502) 905-3593** and
Steve Lannert (502) 689-8286

Jim Schmitt and **Steve Engle** are members of the X-Trio, who played recently at the Forest Edge Winery. For class news and events, follow us at Facebook.com/STX1969.

Kevin McKiernan is retired and living in Columbia, Missouri. Contact him at mckierke@gmail.com.

CLASS NOTES

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SAINTX.COM

Pray for the souls of our classmates. **Thomas Ash** passed away in April. He retired after working for the Commonwealth of Kentucky government. In June, **Peter McGrath** died in Prague, Czechia where he was living. **Mark Fetter** passed away in September. He served on the St. X Alumni Board from 2007–2013 and was a frequent Phonathon volunteer. **Raymond Foushee** died October 12. He worked for 38 years at WDRB TV.

Class of 1970

Class Agent: Tim Haas (502) 930-1159

Gil Wentzel was named a *Business First* 2023 Best in Finance honoree. Gil is Director of Finance for the Catholic Education Foundation.

Class of 1972

Class Agent: Pete Wimsatt (502) 299-4721



The class met for lunch in September at Buffalo Wild Wings in Jeffersonton. For lunch notices, email **Dennis**

Oechsli at doechsli@gmail.com. Follow the class on Facebook by searching St. Xavier Group Class of '72.



Lou Conkling delivered a 50th reunion bottle of bourbon to classmate **Fred Janssens**. The former exchange student now resides in Antwerp, Belgium.

Class of 1974

Class Agents: Frank Hulsman (502) 298-5340 and Paul Noltemeyer (502) 459-4819

Our 50th reunion is June 21–23, 2024. Friday's events include Mass, a tour, cocktails, and dinner at St. X. Saturday's offerings are guest optional and include a service project as well as cocktails, dinner, and live music by the Checkmates (**George Breit**) at the Red Barn (UofL). Golf is Sunday. Invitations mail in April. For those facing financial hardship, we hope to help you attend.

Join our Facebook page: facebook.com/groups/stx74/ or receive class emails by contacting **Frank Hulsman** at frankhulsman@yahoo.com.

Class of 1975

Class Agent: Charlie Hulsman (502) 396-6416

Charlie Hulsman has agreed to serve as Class Agent. To submit class notes, suggest 50th reunion festivities, or to make an inquiry, contact him at stxclassof75@gmail.com.



Jim Richardson, a resident of Georgia, visited Louisville in August and caught up with classmates at Captain's Quarters.

Pictured left to right: **Al Kustes**, **Tony Henle**, **Gary McGruder**, **David Denny**, **Chris Klapheke**, **Dale Belt**, **Henry Sadlo**, and **Jim Richardson**.



David Buechler, **Chris Varga**, **Mike Brewer**, **Wayne Garvey**, and **Mike VonHoven** gathered at Drake's in August. Chris traveled from California

for St. X's 50th reunion of the state soccer championship.

Class of 1976

Class Agent: Mike Sheehan (502) 991-2068



The 1974 state championship football team had a reunion in August with coaches. See the photo in the Show Us Your X section of this issue. Pictured is **Mike Pfeiffer** with coaches Mike and Bill Glaser



Vince Osbourn visits his favorite phlebotomist **Chris Grisanti** at Louisville's downtown Red Cross center to donate blood. Chris has been working at the Red Cross for 14 years. He plans to retire in 2024. Vince's lifetime donation goal is 200 pints.



A group of classmates gathered to solve the world's problems. Pictured left to right: **Mark Crush**, **Chris Hoerter**, **Dave King**, **Mickey Burch**, **Chris Villier**, **Al Tronzo**, and **Walt Distler**.

Class of 1979

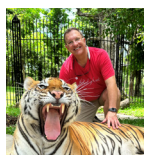
Class Agent: Alan Luckett (502) 548-5982

Joel Zipperle and his family opened a new business in Louisville. Tee It Up Golf USA is an indoor golf simulator company with nine bays, a full sports bar, and a select food restaurant located at 201 Blankenbaker Pkwy. Visit Teeitupgolfusa.com to reserve a bay, schedule lessons, or plan an event for your company or friends.



Bellarmine University's Rubel School of Business named **Don Riggs** its Accounting Alumnus of the Year.

During a recent trip to Thailand, **D.J. Wroble** visited Chang Puak Camp Damnoen Saduak.



Mike Baker, **Mike Kamer**, and **Dave Adams** recently met up in Louisville with Brother Kenney Gorman.

Class of 1980

Class Agent: Scott Raque (502) 419-5220



This past July, **Michael Johmann** completed a grueling 22.5-mile swim at Loch Ness in 13 hours and 20 minutes. In addition to being just the ninth American to accomplish this

feat, he is the oldest male to swim the length of Loch Ness, Scotland. Loch Ness is listed as one of the "Toughest Thirteen" in world open water swimming. Michael previously swam Scotland's Loch Lomond, which was 21.6 miles, in July 2022.

Class of 1981

Class Agent: Dave Esterle (502) 727-8916



Kenny Hamilton and his daughter, **Iris**, show their X's at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

Class of 1982

Class Agent: John Jury (502) 644-2187



Robert Davis joined Swisher & Associates, Inc. as an agent/broker in life, health, and Medicare insurance. He retired from both the U.S. Coast Reserves (30 years) and the Louisville Fire Department (22 years).

Robert and Linda celebrated 31 years of marriage on December 19, 2023. They are proud of their three sons and two grandsons.

In September, **Doug Strothman** was inducted into Bellarmine University's Scarlet & Silver Society. Doug is Head of School at Summit Academy.

Class of 1983

Class Agent: David Sermersheim (502) 553-4790

Pat Lampton retired from NASA in 2022. He formed Lampton Aerospace to continue providing subject matter expertise in solid rocket propulsion and advising customers in the formulation and management of complex aerospace projects.

Class of 1986

Class Agents: **Chris Brown** (502) 639-4333 and **Jim Sadlo** (502) 874-6888



St. X presented the St. Francis Xavier Award to **John McCarthy** at a reception in October. John is a former member of the school's board of directors.

Class of 1988

Class Agents: Brian Doheny (502) 938-0199 and Mike Dant (502) 718-0973

Kevin Sedelmeier joined St. X High School as a member of the English department.

Class of 1993

Class Agent: David Cornett (502) 417-9022

Join the class for lunch on the third Wednesday of each month. We meet at Roosters in Middletown at 11:30 a.m. RSVP to **Matt Ricketts** at (502) 314-8406 or on Facebook at St. Xavier Class of 1993.

Thomas Bannon was named a *Business First* 20 People to Know in Banking. Tom is Senior Vice President, commercial lending, Forcht Bank.

After working as an anesthesiologist for 11 years, **Scott Hardin** opened a direct care Lifestyle Medicine practice in Louisville. It is holistic, proactive, direct physician care, individualized and tailored toward wellness and longevity. The practice is Freedom Lifestyle Medicine. To learn more, go to freelifemed.com.

Class of 1995

Class Agent: Wes Sublett (502) 457-9009

Tighe Brown joined St. X High School as an instructional coach in the Viscusi Learning Support Center.

Class of 1996

Class Agent: Joe Higgins (502) 753-3043

Michael Buckman joined Spalding University as Chief Advancement Officer.

Class of 1999

Class Agent: Charlie Dicken (502) 693-7583

Louisville Metro Police Department promoted **Matt Chaudoin** to Sergeant.

Class of 2000

Class Agent: Brooks Mayer (502) 558-4913



Brad Lies earned several awards for his garden entries at the Kentucky State Fair. He won Blue Ribbons for his cherry tomatoes and grape tomatoes. Brad also won third place for his home-grown garlic. Last year, he received two Blue Ribbons for his grape tomatoes and oregano.

Stites and Harbison recently named **Michael Denbow** a partner in the firm and chair of its White-Collar Criminal Defense Practice Group.

Class of 2001

Class Agent: Eric Krupiczewicz (502) 468-4488

Louisville Metro Police promoted **Chuck Herbert** to Lieutenant.

Class of 2002

Class Agent: Paul Schardein (502) 548-1924

Greg Virgin was named a *Business First* 20 People to Know in Real Estate. Greg is CEO, First Saturday Real Estate.

Class of 2003

Class Agents: David Phillips (502) 417-3662 and Kevin Barger (502) 645-0232

Lindsay and **Bobby Fulwiler** proudly announce the birth of their second child. Their daughter Lucie was born October 30, 2023.

David Horne is President of Tag Your Swag, which was named one of Louisville's 50 Fastest Growing Businesses by *Business First*.

Chris Bailey is the Chief Technology Officer for Wicked Technologies, an IoT and healthtech company.

Class of 2005

Class Agent:

Ben Faust joined St. X High School as a member of the English department.

Class of 2008

Class Agents: David Mabry (502) 645-0097 and Nick Heuser (502) 418-1402

Louisville Metro Police promoted **Drew Fox** to Lieutenant.



Lydia and **Michael Shea** proudly announce the birth of their son. Aiden Perry was born April 6, 2023.

Class of 2009

Class Agents: Will Spence (502) 216-0507 and William Walker (502) 552-1117



In May, **Luke Glaser** married Samantha Richardson, of Abingdon, Virginia, at Mother of Good Counsel Church in Hazard, Kentucky. He continues his work as a city councilman in

Hazard. Luke is Vice Principal of Hazard High School and was named a finalist for 2024 Kentucky Teacher of the Year.



Maddie and **Will Spence** proudly announce the birth of their son. Archie William was born August 3, 2023, in Boston, Massachusetts.

Class of 2013

Class Agents: Tommy Bell (502) 523-7135, Harrison Kirby (502) 718-0366, and Sam Newton (502) 295-1981

Jack Kenamer graduated from the George Washington University School of Law. He will be practicing with an international law firm in New York City.

Harrison Kirby was named a *Business First* 20 People to Know in Nonprofits. Harrison is Director of Strategic Initiatives, Community Foundation of Louisville.

Class of 2015

Class Agents: Mason King (502) 409-3160 and Wes Taylor (502) 550-9495

Ryan Fleming joined St. X High School as Enrollment Coordinator in charge of recruiting and retention.

Class of 2016

Class Agent: Nick Eimers (502) 807-8522

Ahmad Turki joined St. X High School as a member of the World Languages and Physical Education departments.

Class of 2017

Class Agent: Mason Elpers (502) 744-4014

Mack Blincoc was named a *Business First* Inno Under 25. Inno Under 25 looks for the most successful startup founders, entrepreneurs, and those making waves in building the economy in the Louisville area. Mack is a workflow solutions specialist at Vsimple.

Class of 2018

Class Agents: Max Hanke (502) 931-0629 and John Kleine-Kracht (502) 541-7891



This past summer, **Luca Sanchez** (right) and Nico Sanchez (St. X senior) walked the historic Camino de Santiago. The brothers completed the 825-kilometer journey from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port in France and across northern Spain in 31 days.

Class of 2019

Class Agents: Andrew Norton (502) 338-4379 and Cameron Littell (502) 216-4375

After playing lacrosse at Centre College, **Will Hubbs** traveled to Melbourne, Australia, to play semi-professional lacrosse. While at Centre, Will was a two-time All-American, three-time SAA offensive player of the year, as well as a two-time SAA academic honor roll.

SHOW US YOUR X



Fathers and daughters flash X's after Adidas KIVA 16 Red won the AAU 16U Open Volleyball National Championship in Orlando, Florida at ESPN Wide World of Sports. Pictured: **Brandon Barnett '00** (Emma), **Rick Blair '95** (Bailey), **Erik Davis '95** (Shelby), **Kevin Egan '82** (Bridget), and **Dan Simon '87** (Kristen).



Sam Hanke '98, **Gary Hanke '69**, **Tom Hartlage '69**, and **Matt Hartlage '98** make their X's at Royal County Down Golf Club in northern Ireland.



This group shows X's on top of Frederica Mountain during a 50-mile canoe trip through the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York. Pictured: sophomore **James Pape**, sophomore **Henry Pape**, **Dave Pape '94**, sophomore **Judah Lorenz**, and sophomore **Elliott Klusman**.



Family members show their X's in Barcelona, Spain at the Sagrada Familia. Pictured: senior **Cole Brumleve**, sophomore **Abe Brumleve**, **Mike Brumleve '84**, senior **Bo Brumleve**, and **Doug Brumleve '85**.



Jim Berg '67 picks a > suitable spot to show his X in Port Stanley, Falkland Islands.

< **Kent Plenge '95** makes his X at Pap of Glencoe in Scotland.



SHOW US YOUR X



Kenny Hamilton '81 demonstrates his X on Normandy Beach while on a summer trip to Europe.



This crew makes X's atop Comanche Peak (11,303 ft.) in Philmont, New Mexico. Pictured: freshman Tyson Taylor, senior Andrew Hiland, **Nick Hiland '23**, freshman Jacob Early, and **Patrick Early '96**.



Alex Pray '21 and junior **Luke Pray** display their X's at the Tower of London.



Tom Gatz '67 and **Chris Gatz '77** show their X's at the Parthenon in Athens, Greece.



Rick Blair '66, **Andrew Blair**, and **Rick Blair '93** make their X's at Dream Field on a trip to Cooperstown, New York.



Mike Nold '65, **Harry Rothgerber '65**, and **Steve Rogers '64** demonstrate their X's during their annual baseball trip. They survived 107 degrees in Arlington, Texas.



Members of the **1974 State Championship Football** team display their X's at an August gathering with coaches Bill Glaser, Mike Glaser, Nelson Nunn, and John Rogers. Many guys from several class years traveled from out of state.

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This aerial photo highlights the location of Theodore James Ryken Hall near the entrance to campus. Prior to its renovation, Ryken Hall was the residence for the Xaverian Brothers.