

THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE OF SAINT XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

• *the* *tiger*

VOLUME 57

NO. 1, FALL 2024

Stephen George '99

Renaissance Man:
Embracing the Evolution of Media

Page 12



From the President

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Our 161st school year is underway, and it is the first time my team has begun the year in Ryken Hall. While I am sure that Theodore Ryken's humility was more pronounced in his day compared to the many traits of the school's current culture, I am also sure that his zeal to do his very best for his students every day aligns precisely with what we are striving for today. As a reminder, I am happy to share some real-time examples of these efforts.



Faith: The Xaverian Brothers have always referenced "falling in love with the service of God" and worked with our students and faculty to ensure that this notion is understood and cultivated within the school community. Each young man's faith journey takes a unique path. The ability to tie this journey together occurs during the Christian Awakening Retreat, offered to juniors and

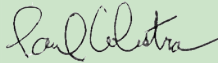
seniors. Faculty and retreat leaders always marvel at how well this program solidifies students' faith and love for one another, and parents witness their transformation at the retreat closing.

Academics: Of course, we can compare the St. X academic program to other local, regional, or national schools in many ways. One of those benchmarks is the National Merit Program. Just recently announced, fifteen of our young men were named semifinalists, and another seven were named commended students. It has been a decade since our school has produced such a significant number. This is a direct testament to the St. X faculty, who do so much to foster and develop critical thinking skills in their students.

Service: Spirit Week is a time of excitement and celebration, but we also see it as an opportunity to embody the values of compassion and humility. At the beginning of Spirit Week, our boys, alongside students from Trinity, Assumption, and Sacred Heart, united to honor the memory of indigent and homeless individuals by locating 40 grave sites and placing headstones. Additionally, our entire school community set a goal to collect 4,000 pounds of food for the Dare to Care Food Bank, turning school spirit into meaningful action and being good shepherds of the Lord.

Please always feel invited to visit the campus, see the many enhancements to the facilities, and connect with the faculty. Go, Tigers!

Sincerely,



Paul D. Colistra

Following His Calling

Do you know the last time that someone from the United States became a Xaverian Brother? It was 50 years ago. God willing, that is going to change! **Class of 2024 graduate Angelo Centeno** found his calling. Growing up, his Catholic education began in fifth grade, and then he made the decision to attend St. X. Throughout his life, Angelo has been fascinated by languages, cultural norms, and the ability "to exchange knowledge." Those are some of the things that inspired him to consider missionary work. Angelo is also conversational in Arabic, Spanish, and Kiswahili.

This past summer, Angelo spent time in Bungoma, Kenya, with the Xaverian Brothers and "realized that the possibility of becoming a brother was still alive." To summarize his experience, he noted, "I felt a sense of community and love that I had never known before. Being around so many men who shared my values and joy has been the motivating force behind my decision to becoming a Xaverian. While at St. X, I felt a strong desire to serve and 'fell in love with the service of God,' as quoted by Theodore James Ryken in the Fundamental Principles of the Brothers of Saint Francis Xavier. For all these reasons and so many more, I have felt a call to religious life with the Xaverian Brothers."



While following his passion to serve, Angelo is double majoring at Thomas More University in theology and education. After completing his studies, he plans to move to Kenya to begin the candidacy. Angelo explained that in Kenya he became an "aspiring brother," meaning he is aspiring to join the Brotherhood. He outlined his next steps after graduation: move to Kenya and join the candidacy for 3-6 months, spend a year in discernment as a postulant, and start his one-year novitiate experience before professing his first vows.

Regarding his time at St. X, Angelo shared that his favorite memory was the Christian Awakening Retreat. He offered, "I learned so much about myself and met so many wonderful people and developed a stronger relationship with Christ and the Church. It was there that I met my now-Godfather, Zach Blincoe '24."

Angelo loved so many of his teachers but specifically mentioned Mrs. Karen White and Coach John Jefferson. He stated about Mrs. White, his sophomore theology teacher, that "her passion for inclusivity of all people was most inspiring, and it taught me what it meant to be a true Christian." Additionally, he said, "Coach J embodied the Xaverian Charism. Although I only had him in class for a short time, he inspired me to be more. This has given me the ability to assist others in realizing their own gifts and motivate them to be better as well."

For St. X freshmen, Angelo gave the following advice, "Don't let your first lousy grade define you. Instead, practice being an autonomous individual."

Let us pray for Angelo as he continues his faith journey.

Written by Mason Sullivan '16

Grads Reconnect at Growing BrightSpring

Countless success stories in the business world intertwine multiple Tiger alumni, the experiences they shared at St. X, and the continued connectivity to the school community. Another example to share with you is the story of **1997** classmates **Jim Mattingly** and **John Thomas**. The two have been crunching numbers for years at BrightSpring Health Services, which is among the fastest-growing companies of scale in healthcare.

Jim and John first connected in Joe Bergamini's accounting class during their time at St. X. They continued their studies at Bellarmine University, with Jim studying Economics and John pursuing Accounting. Following graduation, their initial career paths took them in different directions. In 2018, they reconnected when John joined BrightSpring Health Services as the Corporate Controller. Jim was, and remains, BrightSpring's Chief Financial Officer.

Together at BrightSpring, they play a critical role while the company experiences exponential expansion from organic growth along with over 50 strategic acquisitions through 2023. Before the initial public offering in January of this year, it was by far Kentucky's largest private company. BrightSpring is now traded on the NASDAQ Stock Exchange under the symbol "BTSG," with more than \$8.8 billion in revenue in 2023. At the time of this interview, BrightSpring had just completed its seventh acquisition of 2024 – North Central Florida Hospice Inc. and Haven Medical Group LLC.

BrightSpring Health Services began nearly 50 years ago as ResCare, Inc. in Louisville and merged with Louisville-based PharMerica in 2019. Its family of brands provides services that impact more than 400,000 customers, clients, and patients daily. Jim explained, "Our complementary, high-quality services for high-need patients and clients, including supportive care and clinical and pharmacy solutions, set us apart. Our services focus on improving outcomes and reducing costs while serving patients nationwide in their preferred setting – their homes and communities."



Jim Mattingly '97 and **John Thomas '97** show their X's in New York City when BrightSpring Health Services rang the opening bell at the Nasdaq Stock Exchange to mark the company's initial public offering.

He also cited the importance of learning to work as a team with humility and to "surround yourself with great people and seek out people with different experiences than you, to complement what you bring to the table."

John noted that the experience St. X provides is crucial to laying a great foundation to allow young men to accomplish anything they want to in life and their careers.

A St. X education also extends far beyond the classroom. Jim highlighted the Christian Awakening Retreat as a "pivotal moment." He added, "Retreat was a time to really explore who I was and who I wanted to be, what my personal values were and, what I stood for."

Jim and John mentioned taking advantage of the extensive alumni network in their current roles as Executive Vice President and CFO, and Vice President, Controller, respectively. Jim commented, "Many of our banking and vendor partners are St. X-affiliated. And those relationships are important. They immediately convey a level of professionalism and a shared sense of values – personal, spiritual, work ethic, and drive to perform." John affirmed, "The brotherhood developed at St. X leads to a very strong connection with any fellow alumni that continues well beyond the high school years."

The St. X connection is alive and well among the more than 1,000 local employees at BrightSpring. Jim acknowledged that there are dozens of other graduates and spouses of graduates on the payroll. He added that the company's Chief Executive Officer, Jon Rousseau, and Chief Human Resources Officer, Lisa Nalley, each have sons at St. X.

Jim and John look forward to next August when their sons continue the tradition at St. X when they enter as freshmen.

Written by Matt Kuerzi '98

When discussing how his St. X experiences prepared him for such a noteworthy career path, Jim shared that "being surrounded by intelligent and driven students and being guided by experienced and strong faculty raised my expectations and uncovered a competitive drive that I didn't know existed."

Athletics

VOLUME 57, NO. 1, FALL 2024
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2024 Spring Sports Recap



Ashton Jones '24 was the KHSAA State Champion in discus, while also finishing third in the shot put. He is playing football at Southeast Missouri State.



Ian Milliner '24 threw a no-hitter against Ballard. He will play baseball at Lincoln Memorial University.



Ethan Roths and Miles Allen of the Bass Fishing team show off their catches. They return for the 2025 season as seniors.



The Esports team had a successful spring, earning state tournament entries in multiple events. **Joseph Sims '24** brought home the program's first title by winning the Madden championship.



Team Captain **Ryder John '24** was a defensive stalwart throughout his career. He will play lacrosse at Towson University.



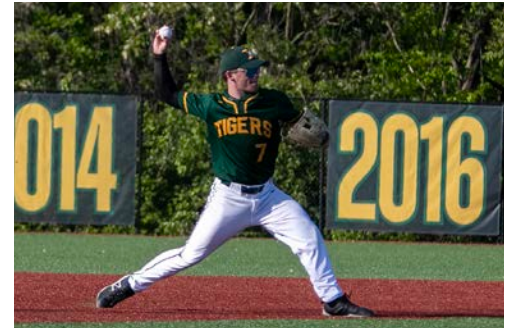
The Outdoor Track and Field team captured its fifth consecutive state championship, the program's 15th overall. The Tigers scored in 12 of 18 events, winning two and finishing second in four others. The team brought home 91.5 points, nearly 30 points clear of second place Trinity. - Photo by Anna Garcia.



Lucas Gausepohl '24 was an individual co-champion, helping the Archery team win its first ever region title.



Ian Murphy '24 benches at the state meet, where he would go on to become the state champion.



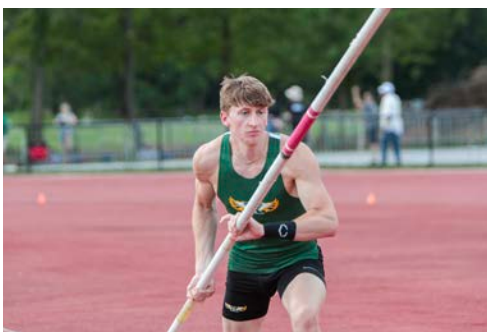
Luke Wright '24 makes a play at second base. He will play baseball at Maryville College.



The Volleyball team defeated Paul Laurence Dunbar to repeat as state champions, recording the program's 21st state title.



◀ **Bryce Heitmann '24** was named both an All-American and Academic All-American by USA Lacrosse. He received an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy.



Pole vaulter **John Phelps '24** finished fourth at the state meet with a height of 15 feet. He received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point.



James Burnett successfully defended his 400-meter championship at the state meet. He finished top-five in Kentucky in the 100 meters, 200 meters, 400 meters, and long jump. Burnett returns for the 2025 season as a senior.



William Lewis '24 was the state semifinalist in singles and named Kentucky's Mr. Tennis. He will play tennis at Sewanee: The University of the South.

A New Tradition with Class Ties



Freshmen Lincoln Swintosky and Sam Spies show their class ties.

the school, and their classmates. These “ties that bind us” are not just accessories. They symbolize the shared experiences, challenges, milestones, and memories the students will create together. Freshmen are asked to wear their ties at key events throughout their time at St. X and especially at all-school liturgies.

Traditions are an important part of the high school experience, and St. X has indulged students and alumni with them for more than 100 years. Traditions foster unity and create lasting memories. The newest St. X tradition began during Freshman Orientation with the distribution of Class of 2028 ties. Members of the senior class had the prestigious honor of gifting all freshmen with a custom class tie to acknowledge the new bonds between the students,

Student’s Coding Produces Real-Time Results



St. X Crew Head Coach Chet Riley and senior Colin Heskens

coxswain for the United States Naval Academy, was already aware of the importance of collecting and maintaining team statistics. He had been manually recording the erg stats from the four-days-a-week workouts, noting “the key measure of progress comes from the team’s ability to get faster and go harder on the erg.”

Colin, who had spent some time learning Python coding language and was enrolled in a St. X coding course last year, approached Mr. Brad Derrick '99 about writing a program to achieve the results he wanted. With the encouragement of his teacher and Coach Riley, Colin wrote the code for a program that would save the workouts from the rowing machine to a Google sheet using the Concept2 Application Program Interface (API). Concept2 Logbook is the app associated with the erg. Colin tested his prototype, and it was successful.

Last year, as a junior rower on the inaugural Crew team, Colin Heskens identified a need to improve the sharing of rowing machine statistics. With workouts on rowing machines (ergs), real-time statistics would not only quickly measure the progress of the team, but also better motivate his teammates.

Head Coach Chet Riley, a varsity heavyweight crew

Coach Riley applauded Colin’s work and had him train the team on how to set up the application so all rowing data could be captured. “From the data that we gathered, we were able to develop reporting in a much more automated way and provide almost immediate feedback for the rowers on their progress. And not only that, it decreased the amount of time that our coaches spent collecting and managing data from several hours per week to just a couple minutes a day. It was a huge win for us.”

Glaser’s New Role



St. X is proud to announce a new role for longtime faculty member and coach **Mike Glaser '70** that specifically enhances the student experience at St. X. The Director of Student Activities position emphasizes celebrating the diverse

achievements of all students, fostering togetherness, and reinforcing the Xaverian Brothers’ core values through coordinated activities. By promoting recognition and setting high standards, the goal is to ensure that every student feels valued and included in the school community. Glaser’s mission is to remind students that success is about focusing on the “little things,” doing one’s best, and upholding the St. X way in every aspect of school life.

Glaser brings a wealth of experience and dedication to this full-time position. Having spent nearly six decades at St. X, as a student, coach, and member of the English faculty, he exudes a contagious enthusiasm for the Green and Gold that has contributed significantly to his legacy. Glaser’s deep-rooted connection to St. X and his ability to inspire and uplift students, makes him the perfect leader to celebrate student success, foster unity, and promote involvement across all activities!

Glaser was inducted into the St. X Alumni Hall of Honors in 1996 and the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 2022.

Academic Accomplishments



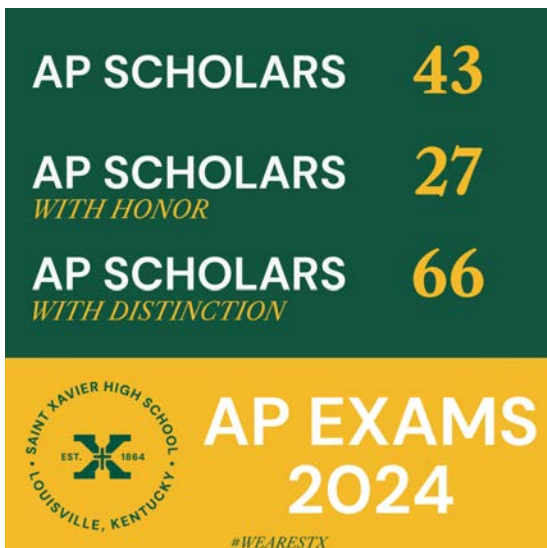
The National Merit Scholarship Corporation recognized 22 seniors for their performance on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Congratulations to our 15 National Merit Semifinalists and seven Commended Students.

Saint Xavier's Class of 2025 features an exceptional group of academic talent. We are excited to announce that the National Merit Scholarship Corporation recognized 15 seniors as National Merit Semifinalists. This group represents the top one percent of U.S. high school seniors and is the school's highest number of semifinalists since 2013, when St. X boasted 22. Congratulations to **Ben Blackford, Alexander Craddock, Jackson Duthie, Beckett Galloway, Rocco Gandolfo, Chadwick McTighe, Jackson Price, John Rousseau, Whit Ruml, William Spohn, Lincoln Staab, Mason Steele, Alex Thiesing, Hayden Vermost,** and **Patrick Wright**. Furthermore, an additional seven

seniors were named Commended Students by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Kudos to **Hobs Ashburner, Joshua Clark, Colin Heskins, Albert Hulbert, Henry-James Schmidt, Sam Shewmaker,** and **John Waskey**. While Commended Students do not continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships, they can become candidates for special scholarships sponsored by corporations and businesses.

In other news, the College Board announced our remarkable success on Advanced Placement Program Exams administered this past May. St. X had 278 students take a total of 705 tests, and 89 percent passed (global average was 68 percent) with a score of 3 or higher. Of the 278 test takers, 136 received noteworthy distinction from the College Board (see graphic on this page). First and foremost, 66 students were designated **AP Scholars with Distinction** for achieving an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. The distinction of **AP Scholars with Honor** was granted to 27 test takers for achieving an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. Also, the College Board recognized 43 test takers as **AP Scholars** for scoring at least 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

Lastly, the senior class has produced three perfect ACT scores from **Hobs Ashburner, Graham Brown,** and **Whit Ruml**. St. X claims 30 Tigers in the last 13 years who achieved a score of 36. Congratulations to all our young men achieving national recognition.



HOBS ASHBURNER



GRAHAM BROWN



WHIT RUML

YEAR IN REVIEW

TOP TEN MOMENTS IN 2023-2024



1

St. X is named a National Blue Ribbon School for the fifth time by the U.S. Department of Education. The school is one of 40 private schools nationwide to be named a 2023 National Blue Ribbon School and the only private high school in Kentucky to achieve this significant honor. As of 2023, we are one of three private high schools in the country and the only private high school in the state to receive the distinction five times.

National Blue Ribbon Schools serve as models of effective school practices for state and district educators and other schools throughout the nation. St. X was one of 353 schools recognized in 2023 for overall academic performance and progress in closing achievement gaps among student groups on assessments.

2

Ryken Hall opens.



3

Archbishop Shelton Fabre celebrates the Feast of St. Francis Xavier with the St. X community. The celebration included a special presentation of the Outstanding Alumnus Award to Dr. John Lechleiter '71 and the Theodore James Ryken Award to Mike Glaser '70.



4

Principal Amy Sample wins the Terrel H. Bell Award for Outstanding School Leadership for 2023. Principal Sample was one of nine recipients recognized nationwide for their commitment to fostering successful teaching and learning at their schools and doing "whatever it takes" to help their students meet high standards.



5

Students provide 19,845 hours of service to the community.



6

The Tigers win state championships in soccer, swimming and diving, volleyball, and indoor and outdoor track and field.



7

Advanced Placement students achieve an 89 percent pass rate on AP exams, beating state and global scores in 26 of the 27 subjects tested.



8

690 students participate in the retreat program. A favorite experience among students, retreats provide all grade levels with the opportunity to explore their relationships with God, family, and friends.



9

The Tiger Rally officially kicks off the 2023-2024 school year. Chris Ratterman '04, Founder and CEO of Shady Rays, shares his formula for success with students, faculty, and staff.



10

Seventy seniors participate in the Xaverian Leadership Institute. Through the one-day leadership program, students explore innovative ways to lead and contribute to the school during their senior year.



YEAR IN REVIEW

CLASS OF 2024

- 234 Graduates
- 14 Students recognized by the National Merit Corporation
- 15 Kentucky Governor's Scholars
- 1 Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts participant
- 2 ROTC Scholarships
- 2 Appointments to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point
- 1 Appointment to the United States Air Force Academy
- 482 Scholarships received from 89 colleges/universities and the National Merit Corporation valued at \$25.5 million
- 25 Student-athletes selected for college athletic teams
- 21,546 Service hours to the Louisville community over the past four years

STUDENT BODY

1,088 students

17 average class size

12:1 student-teacher ratio

91 elementary and middle schools represented

54 zip codes in Kentucky and Southern Indiana represented

15% diversity enrollment

17 faiths represented



YEAR IN REVIEW

2023-2024 OPERATING BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenue

Tuition and Fees.....	\$17,816,000
Auxiliary Enterprises (Net).....	(163,000)
Gifts.....	2,680,000
Investments and Other Income.....	2,023,000
Total Revenue	\$22,356,000

Expenditures

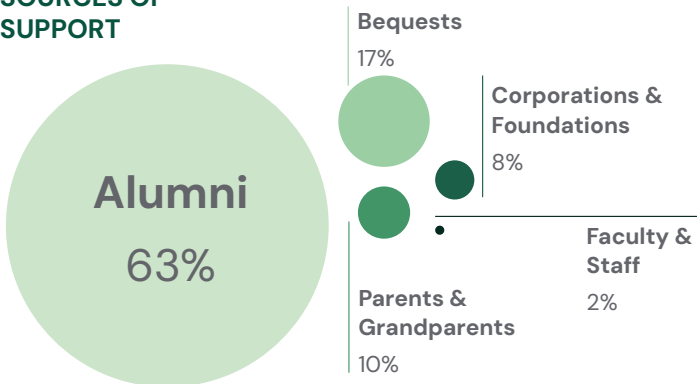
Administrative and Other	\$16,930,975
Plant Operations.....	1,926,500
Insurance	270,000
Debt Service.....	67,025
Student Aid	3,161,500
Total Expenditures	\$22,356,000

◀ This represents the operating budget for Saint Xavier High School for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024. This budget was based on 1,082 students and was approved by the Board of Directors.

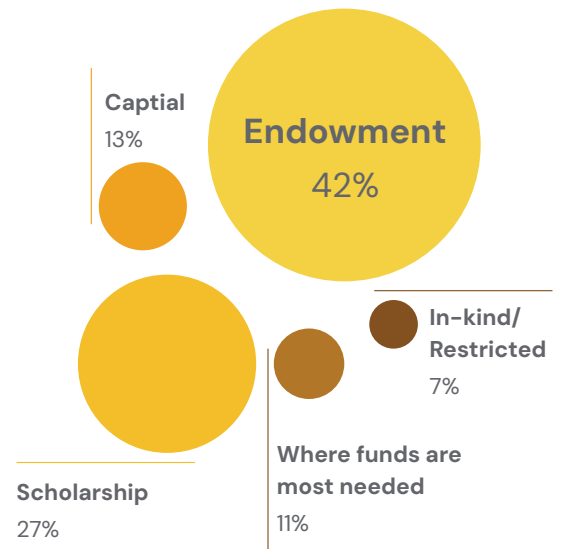
Charitable support to Saint Xavier may be unrestricted or restricted. The unrestricted portion of the school's advancement efforts is normally directed toward financial aid. Gifts that have been restricted by the donor are used for the purposes specified by the donor.

During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, Saint Xavier remained within the parameters of the budget and finished the fiscal year securely in the black.

SOURCES OF SUPPORT



DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS



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

YEAR IN REVIEW

SUMMARY OF GIFTS

Total Gifts

\$7.55 million

Endowment valued at more than

\$47 million

1,177

St. Francis Xavier Society members contributed

\$6.93 million

Total Donors
5,406

Alumni Donors
4,079



898 Donors

contributed \$245,132 during 1864 Minutes of Giving

Parent Participation
39%

Faculty & Staff Participation
92%

1,912

alumni contributed **\$565,494** to the need-based scholarship fund during eXtreme Madness

The Green & Gold Social raised **\$320,406** to support the Brother Paul Van Gerwen, C.F.X. Scholarship Fund

2023-2024

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

- \$3.2 million awarded
- 40% 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
- 100% of the \$4,887 gap between tuition and the true cost of educating each student funded

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 goal 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 4,656 benefactors who made gifts to the Annual Fund ranging from \$5 to \$250,000 for a total of \$2.8 million.

Renaissance Man: Embracing the Evolution of Media



Hunter S. Thompson famously wrote in his classic, *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, “Buy the ticket, take the ride.” **Stephen George, Class of 1999** and CEO of Louisville Public Media, has committed to taking the ride, living a life rich in experience and hard work.

Crediting Thompson and Gonzo Journalism for inspiring his early foray into journalism, another experience that piqued Stephen’s journalistic appetite occurred when he rewrote Shakespeare’s *Macbeth* as an

assignment in Linda Winkler’s English class. According to Stephen, “This was perhaps the first time I was told I was good at writing, which gave me the confidence to pursue it with passion moving forward.” But writing was not Stephen’s only passion, and in addition to working for the St. X school paper as a journalist, Stephen was a musician, playing in several bands and touring well beyond his time at St. X.

Enter the Renaissance Man, as Stephen was aptly coined by colleague and mentor, former U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth. Yarmuth was instrumental during Stephen’s career, helping him get his start at LEO, which he eventually ran, while still a student at the University of Louisville. “It was evident immediately that Stephen was a very bright person with numerous talents”, said Yarmuth. “Stephen worked for me during his career in three different capacities, all of my choosing – he was just that capable across the board.”

After LEO, Stephen’s career took an interesting turn, finding him as the Press Secretary for Representative Jim Cooper of Tennessee’s 5th Congressional District (Nashville). It was during his time with Cooper on Capitol Hill when Stephen had a fortuitous run-in yet again with Yarmuth. Soon thereafter, Stephen found his way back to working with Yarmuth, except this time as Communications Director for the Congressman.

Stephen was successful in this role, as Yarmuth said: “He was as good as anyone on Capitol Hill.” But for Stephen, the ride would continue, and the next stop on his adventure would bring him back to Louisville and back to media. He eventually became Executive Editor at Louisville Public Media, where he ran the newsroom for three years. Despite his success on Capitol Hill, Stephen had recently started a family and was eager to return home to his roots.

It has been during his time at Louisville Public Media that Stephen has come into his own as a leader. One of Stephen’s oldest and closest friends is Matt Weir, also St. X Class of ‘99. While Matt will always remember his bike adventures through Louisville’s Highlands neighborhood with Stephen and their crew, he also always knew that Stephen would one day be a leader. “He had it all together from an early age; he was definitely mature beyond his years,” said Weir. In addition, Weir summarized Stephen’s unique talents, which he attributes to his vast array of experiences, “He represents us, and all of Louisville, because he has so many rich alternative adventures. He promotes and encourages diversity through people, voices and experiences.”

As Stephen grew in his role as Executive Editor of Louisville Public Media, there was a shakeup in leadership that would yet again find Stephen at a fork in the road. When the CEO role was vacated in 2018, the LPM Board asked Stephen to be interim CEO, which he hesitantly accepted. He had fallen back in love with fielding and filtering the news for his Louisville community and was not certain he wanted to make the transition. But whether it was duty or curiosity that fueled his fire, Stephen accepted the new position.

After a six-month interim period and national search, Stephen was selected as the permanent CEO in 2018. He immediately began to make pivotal changes.

While Stephen has been successful at the helm of LPM, nearly doubling annual revenue and increasing the average users to over 650,000 per month, it has been his impact on the culture and people of LPM and the Louisville community of which he is most proud. In his first all-hands meeting, Stephen told his staff, “I’m going to say the phrase ‘I don’t know’ more than anyone and it’s not only safe, but it’s expected.” His unique ability to be approachable and accepting, is undoubtedly a huge part of his success. As a testament to the culture created by Stephen, in 2014 Louisville *Business First* ranked LPM among its Best Places to Work in Louisville.

In October, Stephen announced he would be leaving his job as CEO of LPM to begin work at the American Journalism Project, a national venture philanthropy organization that is leading the rebirth and reinvention of local news in communities like ours all around the country. As Head of Emerging Markets, Stephen will lead the expansion of AJP’s Local Philanthropy Partnerships program, which works in partnership with local civic, philanthropy, and media leaders to develop ambitious, collaborative local news initiatives that make pivotal interventions in their local news sectors. Over the last four years, this program has resulted in the investment of over \$65 million of new local philanthropic capital into sustainable, high-impact plans to bolster local news ecosystems.

Circling back to Stephen’s roots, it is clear that he has embraced each chapter of his journey, maintaining curiosity and

seeking experiences that have given him a worldly point of view he shares through the mission of Louisville Public Media. In fact, Stephen's parting advice for St. X students apprehensive about the impending reality of a career highlights his appreciation of his own personal journey: "Be open to experiences and most importantly, work hard. Don't put pressure on yourself to decide immediately, your time at St. X and later in college, both in and out of the classroom, should be used as a dynamic exploration of your interests and needs."

Written by Clark Burckle '06

About the Author:

Clark Burckle '06 is the managing partner at Golf Management Group, as well as a member of the St. X Alumni Board of Directors. Clark and his wife, Mallory, are proud supporters of everything St. X.



The St. X 1974 State Championship Track & Field team was recognized at the 2024 KHSAA Track & Field Championships in June commemorating its 50th anniversary. Pictured are **Coach Joe Heitzman '58, Frank Hulsman '74, Chuck Buehner '76, Bill Ryan '74, Al Kustes '75, Mike Cassaro '74, Jim Crick '75, and Joe Buechler '81** (representing **David Buechler '75†**).

Upcoming Events

Alumni Retreat

January 4–5

Alumni Class Agent Breakfast

January 11

Green & Gold Social

January 25

Basketball Alumni Night

February 11

Naples Alumni Gatherings

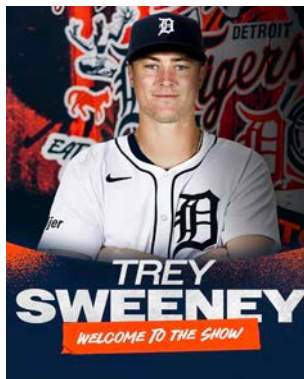
February 16–17

Indianapolis Alumni Gathering

Spring TBD

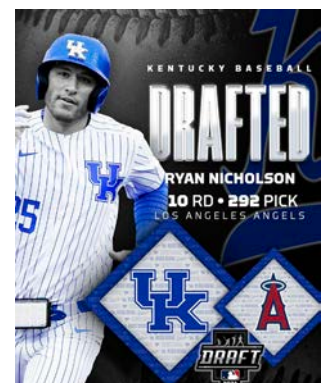
Baseball Alumni Night

April 15



Trey Sweeney '18, a first-round selection by the New York Yankees in the 2021 MLB Draft, was traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers on December 11, 2023, and then to the Detroit Tigers on July 30, 2024. He made his major league debut on August 16 and earned his first career hit in that same appearance. At the time of this writing, Trey has played 36 games and is the starting shortstop as the Tigers advance to its first American League Division Series since 2014.

Ryan Nicholson '19 was a 10th round selection in the 2024 MLB Draft by the Los Angeles Angels following a breakout season at University of Kentucky that included starring in the Men's College World Series. Ryan hit a grand slam in August for the Single-A Inland Empire 66ers. He closed out the season playing Double-A with the Rocket City Trash Pandas.



Alumni News

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Bruce Scott, M.D. '79, a Louisville-area otolaryngologist, was inaugurated in June as the 179th president of the American Medical Association (AMA), the nation's largest and most influential physician organization. Dr. Scott served as President of the Kentucky Medical Association from 2018–2019. He also served four years as vice speaker of the AMA House of Delegates and four years as speaker.



This past summer in Paris, **Ryan Rougeux '09** made his first Olympic Games appearance. He coached University of Louisville diver Else Praasterink, who represented the Netherlands, to the Platform Diving Finals, where she finished 12th. Rougeux is in his 8th season leading the Cardinal divers and has coached five NCAA All-Americans and two World Champion finalists in his tenure.

In Memoriam

Charles S. Corrigan '43
Frank E. "Bud" Lally '43
Charles J. Osterholt, Jr. '44
Edward H. Schaefer, Jr. '46
Robert A. Schmuckie '46
George H. Silliman, Jr. '47
John C. "Jack" Mullane '48
Gerald W. Clements '49
Albert L. Gregg '49
Dr. Irvin E. Bronner '50
Louis H. Liebert, Jr. '50
J. Carroll Spanyer '50
Robert J. Zimlich '51
Eugene P. Sangalli '52
John W. Mason '53
Leonard W. Meyer, Jr. '53
David P. O'Toole, Sr. '53
Dr. Paul E. Receveur '54
Richard A. Streicher, Sr. '54
David P. Aberg '55
Clifford A. Bisig '55
Hilary T. "Hank" Wiseman '55
Russell M. Raque '56
Richard M. Striegel, Jr. '56
John F. Parker '57
James K. Prell '57
George B. Wolz '57
E. Perry Carney '59
Dr. Peter B. Holland III '59
Harry R. Weihe, Jr. '59
Anthony J. Howard '60
Henry F. DeSpain III '60
Michael W. Broyles '62
Robert L. Cody '62
Charles E. Graninger, Jr. '62
Harold R. "Butch" Gruneisen '62
Herman O. Hellmann, Jr. '62
Stephen K. Gillespie '63
John R. Karman, Jr. '63
Stephen V. Schoo '63
Larry J. Watts '64
Arthur D. Porter '65
John T. Fleming '66
Lt Col Raymond J. "Joe" Gunterman, USAF '66
Douglas G. Humpich '66
David R. Smith, Ph.D. '67
Edward J. Snyder '67
Stephen W. Thim '67
Michael J. Westenhoefer '67
Thomas W. Sainlar '68
John R. Blandford '69
Thomas B. Brown '69
Charles L. Triplett, Jr. '69
James J. Henry, Jr. '70
John S. "Steve" Bayers '71
Stephen C. Eberenz III '72
Edward D. Blaser, Jr. '73
David B. Buechler '75
Dr. Walter F. "Frank" Druckenmiller, Jr. '76
Edwin J. Huber '77
Mark L. Zink '77
Robert A. Baker '78
James Frazier Miller, Sr. '78
Timothy E. Herms '82
Richard K. O'Connor '82
Gregory M. "Mike" Campisano '83
Michael L. Peterworth '83
Christopher J. Buckman '85
Brian J. Crush '85
Brian P. Cahill '88
Phillip T. "Troy" Cammack '89
James E. Palazzo '90
Wesley B. Flowers '03
Benjamin D. Wicke '03
Jonathan R. Jansen '06
Kurt S. Markwell '07
DeVontae D. Beach '11

Class of 1955

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

If you have a new email, send it to Howard Meyer. Class notes can be emailed to h.meyer@oldkyins.com or jrad2@twc.com.

Class of 1956

Class Agent: Bill Habich (502) 594-0709

The class now meets for lunch at noon on the second Tuesday of each month at Molly Malone's, 933 Baxter Ave. If you plan to attend, please contact Ramsey Kraft at (502) 291-0776 or r38kraft@nanzkraft.com or Bill Habich at (502) 594-0709.

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. Contact **Russell Quick** at rj@rqco.net or (502) 639-8317 if you have questions.

Class of 1959

Class Agent: Jim Miller (502) 262-2195



Members of the class gather at their December lunch. Join them on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. To receive lunch notices with monthly location, contact **Dave Keller** at (502) 558-0867 or kellerlouky@aol.com.

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.

Class of 1961

Class Agent: Ed Weis (502) 751-5863

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

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.



Jack Sprauer, Terry Carby, John Huber, Bob Meyer, and Dave Huber gathered to celebrate John Huber's 80th birthday.

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. We meet at Check's Cafe at 11:30 a.m. To receive lunch notifications, email **Bill Green** at bgreen@greenhalliburton.com.



On March 15th, classmates gathered for a surprise birthday party in honor of Bill Musselman. Some of the classmates in attendance at the Aero Club were **Bob Coomes, Billy Green, Jim Hyslop, Ken Dicken, Bill Musselman, and Richard Schaftlein**.

If you are not receiving classmate news via email, please email **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. We meet at 11:30 a.m. at The Café. If you have questions, contact **Charlie Westenhofer** at (502) 216-6637 or Charlie8july@gmail.com.

Class of 1965

Class Agent: Jack Will (502) 649-4540

Business First named Raque Food Systems a 2024 Medium Business of the Year honoree. **Glen Raque** is Chairman.

On April 15, the inaugural **Frank Klein** Memorial Golf Tournament raised \$30,000 to benefit Nativity Academy at St. Boniface. Frank was one of Nativity's original board members. He also formed and coached the school's first boys' basketball team and chaired the golf scramble prior to its renaming.

Class of 1971

Class Agent: Bert Erny (502) 445-9987

Class lunches have moved to a new venue. Join us on the first Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. We meet at Spring Street Bar & Grill. Email **David Steinbock** at dsteinbock@whipmix.com with questions.

Class of 1972

Class Agent: Pete Wimsatt (502) 299-4721

To receive class lunch notices with location and time, email **Dennis Oechsli** at doechsli@gmail.com. Follow the class on Facebook by searching St. Xavier Group Class of '72.

Class of 1975

Class Agent: Charlie Hulsman (502) 396-6416

The 50-year reunion will be celebrated June 27-28, 2025. Save the date!



President Joe Biden and First Lady Dr. Jill Biden invited **Greg Bourke** and his husband, Michael DeLeon, to the White House to celebrate White House Pride

2024. The event happened on June 26, the nine-year anniversary of the US Supreme Court decision that legalized same-sex marriage nationwide. Bourke and DeLeon were plaintiffs from Kentucky in the landmark Supreme Court decision establishing marriage equality.

Class Notes

VOLUME 57, NO. 1, FALL 2024
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Class of 1978

Class Agents: Barry Holland (502) 263-9885 and Paul Shaughnessy (502) 458-3676



Shawn Ryan's granddaughter, Olivia Doll, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Wilmington College in Ohio. Olivia began her studies at Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine this past August. Shawn is pictured with Olivia and his wife Theresa.

Class of 1979

Class Agent: Alan Luckett (502) 548-5982

Mike Baker was selected to umpire at the USA softball men's major fastpitch national championship in Rockford, Michigan.



This past June, **Chuck Priddy** raised over \$17,000 for Let's Dance Louisville, which supports the Feed my Neighbor organization. This charity supports the Cathedral of the Assumption's soup kitchen. Several 1979 classmates attended to support Chuck and the cause.

Class of 1980

Class Agent: Scott Raque (502) 419-5220



Karol and **Michael Kupper** celebrated 26 years of marriage at the Cafe de Paris, Monte Carlo.

Class of 1981

Class Agent: Dave Esterle (502) 727-8916



Classmates gathered at the St. X Day-at-the-Races. Pictured are **Ralph Ising, Tony Montano, Joe Bauer, Jerry Roby, Steve Simon, and Greg Kosse.**

Class of 1983

Class Agent: David Sermersheim (502) 553-4790



Ellen and **Paul Wilson** celebrated 38 years of wedded bliss aboard the Viking Delling on the St. X travel cruise in Lyon, France.



Pat Lampton is pictured next to the Space Shuttle Discovery at the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum. Pat launched Discovery four times when he was a Shuttle SRB manager between 2004-2008.

Class of 1986

Class Agents: Chris Brown (502) 938-8299 and Jim Sadlo (502) 874-6888

Jeffrey Hoehler's first grandson, Alex Hoehler, was born December 21, 2023, at Fort Leonard, Missouri, where his father, Captain Adam Hoehler, is stationed.

Class of 1987

Class Agent: Ted Bordador (502) 262-1648



On June 6, 2024, **Tim Scherer** piloted "That's All, Brother," the historic C-47 troop transport that led the D-Day invasion in 1944. He flew this iconic aircraft

over Normandy to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the historic operation.

Rob D. Smith's debut crime thriller *Good-Looking Ugly* comes out this October from Shotgun Honey Press. Rob has published more than 30 stories in different genres and edits at *Rock and a Hard Place* Magazine.

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. Come any time between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. RSVP by texting **Matt Ricketts** at (502) 314-8406 or replying on Facebook at St. Xavier Class of 1993.

Business First recognized **Geoff Luber** as a 2024 Best in Finance honoree. Geoff is CFO at Air Hydro Power.

Business First listed **John Stratman** among its 20 People to Know in Banking. John is VP, Business Banking Relationship Manager at U.S. Bank.

Class of 1995

Class Agent: Wes Sublett (502) 457-9009

St. X Social Studies teacher and head Basketball Coach **Kevin Klein** was the recipient of the 2024 Coach Joseph Maupin Award at St. X.

Business First named Raque Food Systems a 2024 Medium Business of the Year honoree. **Robert Raque** is President.

Class of 1999

Class Agent: Charlie Dicken (502) 693-7583

Business First named Glaser's Collision Centers a 2024 Medium Business of the Year honoree. **Aaron Glaser** is COO and Owner.

Class of 2003

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

Business First named **David Horne** a 2024 Family Business Innovator honoree. David is the president of #TagSwag.

Class of 2006

Class Agent: Matt Raque (502) 296-5891



Jaclyn and **Byron Lilly** proudly announce the birth of their son. Cohen Layne was born November 1, 2023. Byron was recently named District Sales Manager - LG Electronics North America. The family resides in Lexington, Kentucky.

Class of 2009

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

Ryan Rougeux coached University of Louisville diver Else Praasterink (representing the Netherlands internationally) at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. See page 14.



Ryan (Burch) Saviano is the latest model for HEYDUDE shoes. He is still acting and appears next in the film *Relative Control* which will hit theatres soon.

Class of 2010

Class Agent: Barrett Metzger (502) 417-1126



Emma and **Joseph Belza** proudly announce the birth of their first child. Elaine was born July 2, 2024.

Class of 2016

Class Agent: Nick Eimers (502) 807-8522

Zach Goldberg graduated Cum Laude from Thomas Jefferson University's Sidney Kimmel Medical College in May and is currently in residency at Boston University Medical Center for Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery.

Class of 2017

Class Agent: Mason Moneyppenny (502) 744-4014



Bailey and **Mason Moneyppenny**, formerly Elpers, were married on May 11, 2024, at Yew Dell Botanical Gardens. Mason was joined by his wedding party, which included fellow alumni Baxter Moneyppenny '13,

Jackson Elpers '16, **Gus Clenny, Kevin Niehoff,** and Thomas Elpers '21.

Class of 2020

Class Agent:

Wright State golfer **Andrew Flynn** captured the 2024 Horizon League individual championship after defeating his teammate on the second playoff hole. The Wright State Raiders also claimed the Horizon League Championship and advanced to the NCAA Regional in San Diego.

The Tiger is published three times a year by the St. X Alumni Association. Submit class notes and Show Us Your X photos at saintx.com/tiger.

Saint Xavier Alumni Board of Directors

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Bobby Ferreri '97

Bill Hardy '54

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Mason Sullivan '16

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Front Office Administrator for Institutional Advancement – Lucy Wathen

Show Us Your X



Vincent Altobellis '14, Joe Altobellis '72, Salvatore Altobellis '18, and Frank Drane '49 make their X's before a cruise along the North River in St. Marys, Georgia, where Frank and Joe currently reside. Joe met Frank after retiring and relocating to St. Marys in 2021.



Garry Cronin '89, Chris Spalding '95, and Chris Fears '93 demonstrate their X's at the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland.



Robert Fauth '66 and Glenn Gogan '66 demonstrate their X's in Munich, Germany.



Paul Crutcher '62, pictured with his brother-in-law, makes his X at St. Francis Xavier College in Melbourne, Australia.



Gary Semones '77 and his wife, Terry, demonstrate their X's at the Southern Gate of Angkor Thom, or Tonle Om Gate, near Siem Reap, Cambodia.



Jack Smith '58 and Ken Kraus '58 make their X's at Ken's residence in Hanover, Indiana. Jack made the trip from Danvers, Massachusetts to visit his classmate.



Darren Bruner '13, Sam Varga '12, Joey Kitchen '13, Collins O'Brien '13, Nolan Bruner '18, and Frank Hulsman '74 show their X's at Shelby and Darren Bruner's wedding at the Buddy Holly Center in Lubbock, Texas.



Scott Wallitsch '99, his nephew Kai Nakamura (St. X sophomore), and Kai's friend Miles Boone (St. X sophomore) show their X's at the Vatican before Easter Mass.



Jonathan Ricketts '91, James Ricketts '21, Tom Simms '77, Quinn Hornback '21, and Spencer Hornback '23 show their X's at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna, Austria.

Show Us Your X



David Allgeier '77 and David Thomas '88 show their X's at the Belvedere Franciscan Ashram in Kotagiri, India.



Fr. Matt Garr, S.J. '63, Fr. Jack O'Callaghan, S.J. '49, and Bobby Nichols '09 make their X's at the Colombiere Center. This Jesuit retirement community is in Clarkston, Michigan.



Tim Hoskinson '84 and Mark Leaman '86 show their X's at St. Peter's Basilica on a pilgrimage through Italy.



< **Chuck Priddy '79, Mike Blaser '79, and Chris Hyle '79** make their X's in San Diego, where they cheered for the University of Louisville in the Holiday Bowl.



Will Reynolds '17 and John Stanton '85 show their X's in the Office of Representative Hal Rogers in Washington, D.C. Will is a Legislative Correspondent for United States Congressman Rogers and John is Director of External Affairs for Kenton County, Kentucky.



Tigers participating in the St. X alumni travel program show their pride aboard the Viking Delling in Avignon, France. Front row: **Dave Greulich '64, Pat Conkling '66, John Ward '69, Jim Gardner '69, John Bates '70**; Back row: **Roy Potts '71, Lou Conkling '72, Pete Wimsatt '72, Steve Diebold '72, Jack Willenbrink '73, Michael Kupper '80, Tom Perrone '82, and Paul Wilson '83.**

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We are thrilled to welcome the newest members of our faculty and staff! Before school kicked off, they participated in a Xaverian retreat and orientation, gaining a deeper understanding of St. X's values and traditions. Pictured are Chris Huelsman '97 (Science), Merly Barnes (World Languages), Amanda Miles (World Languages), Kelly Smith (Theology), Tanya Barker (English), and Dr. Nathan Jones (Social Studies).