CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL TODAY

WINTER 2025



CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL

1180 Delaware Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14209 • (716) 882-0466 • www.canisiushigh.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Canisius High School is a Catholic, Jesuit, independent, college-preparatory school serving young men of diverse backgrounds from throughout Western New York. Canisius challenges its students to strive for excellence as critical thinkers and effective communicators who are open to growth, intellectually competent, religious, loving, and committed to justice.

Canisius promotes the development of students through a comprehensive liberal arts curriculum firmly rooted in the Jesuit tradition of education, spirituality and service.

Faithful to St. Ignatius Loyola's desire to provide care and concern for the whole person, Canisius affords each member of the school community the opportunity to develop individual talents for the service of others and the greater glory of God.

CHS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

- facebook.com/canisiushs
- X: @canisiushs
- Instagram: @canisiushs
- linkedin.com/school/canisiushs
- TikTok: @canisiushs



Joseph Cheman '24 celebrates on the mound after a regular season, 3-2 win over rivals St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute. **Photo by Noah Morlock '25**

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WINTER 2025

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FINALISTS FOR MR. CANISIUS 2024

This year's finalists for the award (left to right): **Petros Kollidas '24, Henry Richards '24, Patrick Sullivan '24, Ryan Stravino '24, Matthew Hassenfratz '24** and **Evan Galvin '24.**



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If not, update your contact info at canisiushigh.org/update

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President Fr. Ciancimino addresses hundreds gathered at GAMBIT XLIX. This year, GAMBIT 50 is on March 29.

FROM THE

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

"My time at Canisius instilled in me an ethos of God, family and country – that I carried with me my entire military career and lives with me to this very day."

Those are the words of Retired U.S. Army Col. Joseph Lukitsch '56, one of eight alumni you will meet in these pages, good men who answered the call to service of our country.

The stirring first-person accounts are from alumni whose graduation years span nine decades, from Retired Lt. Col. Jack Zahm '49 to Second Lt. Louis Sullivan '20, both representatives of the U.S. Air Force.

While the graduation dates are separated by 71 years, each of these alumnus's stories is inspiring, certainly for the manner and level that they served our country but also for how they cite CHS as being an important part of their formation.

"The growth I experienced between entry through those Blue Doors and departure so soon after, was a true gift."

"CHS prepared me well for military service because of the learning from and observing of many exceptional people."

"Canisius High School shows you what right looks like."

We are proud and grateful for these men, who represent the high ideals of Jesuit education and their alma mater so very well.

Also in this issue's Student Spotlight, you can hear from 18 young men currently in our community – how affirming it is to hear them point out influential teachers or programs, just as the alumni did.

These past many months have been filled with highlights, many chronicled in these pages, and as always we have many exciting things forthcoming. GAMBIT is turning 50 this year, we will see our 155th commencement, and we expect another tremendous Alumni Weekend in June.

Each program we have – from our alumni gatherings to the scholastic and extra-curricular activities of our students – serves our Jesuit mission to form intelligent, responsible, strong, resilient, and faithful young men of character and integrity whose hearts are turned outward toward the needs of others.

A.M.D.G.



Fr. David S. Ciancimino, S.J.



Principal Coppola greets a prospective student during Fall Open House, which for the second straight year brought nearly 1,000 visitors to 1180 Delaware Ave.

FROM THE

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

As we embark on the second half of our school year, I am filled with pride as I reflect on all that we have accomplished together over the past months, which have been filled with notable achievements, successes and accolades for our students and school.

* Our Ignatian tradition remains at the heart of everything we do. We saw 100% of freshmen and 80% of upperclassmen attend a retreat in 2023-24, and the Emmaus and Kairos retreats filled quickly for this school year.

These retreats and others, like the Freshman Retreat and Wilderness Retreat, have been powerful experiences for our students, providing opportunities for reflection, growth, and connection to our faith.

The great work of our Campus Ministry department has also seen 100% of the class of 2025 placed at service sites.

* Niche.com again ranked Canisius the No. 1 Best Catholic High School and the No. 1 Best All-Boys High School in the Buffalo area. CHS has earned both honors as part of the Niche.com Best Schools program for both 2024 and 2025.

Niche bases its Best Schools rankings on "rigorous analysis of key statistics and millions of reviews from students and parents. Ranking factors include the quality of colleges that students consider, student-teacher ratio, private school ratings, and more."

Buffalo Business First also recognized Canisius as the #1 Catholic School for STEM while Canisius earned an A+ in academics, A+ in clubs and activities and was the only Catholic boys-only school to earn an overall grade of A.

These honors are a tribute to our students' fine performances and the truly outstanding work that our faculty does every day.

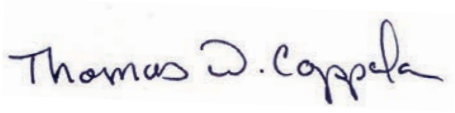
* CHS was also named by Buffalo Business First as the No. 1 private school for athletes in the Buffalo area.

Our student-athletes continue to perform at the highest level. We are proud of the successes chronicled in this issue, as well as those during a very successful start to the 2024-25 year. We are proud to celebrate the success of our football, golf and soccer teams, all of whom won championships in the Monsignor Martin Athletic Association.

Their hard work, teamwork, and determination are a testament to the strength of our athletic programs and the spirit of Canisius.

It is truly a great time to be part of the Canisius High School community. The diligence, dedication, and spirit of service shown by our students, faculty, and families continue to set us apart. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to making Canisius the exceptional place that it is.

With gratitude and excitement for the remainder of the school year,



Thomas W. Coppola '01



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Many generations of Canisius Alumni have valiantly served their country as members of the armed forces. In their own words, these Crusaders explain how our Jesuit education provided the foundation to become strong, competent and effective leaders who have served in the US military with respect and honor.





Retired Lt. Col. Jack Zahm '49 began his military career by volunteering for the Aviation Cadet Program.

LT. COL. JACK ZAHM '49

United States Air Force, Retired
Shreveport, Louisiana

Thank you for your service. How did you serve our country in the U.S. Armed Forces?

I served 23 years in the United States Air Force, from 1953 to 1976. After college, I enrolled in the Air Force Aviation Cadet Program and went through that and became a pilot. My service spanned not only the Korean War, but then into the Vietnam War – I don't know how many people can say that. I actually lived in Vietnam for a year.

I retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. I was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross as well as the Airman's Medal. I have, I believe, 19 air medals and a host of others that would be meaningless to most people.

What led you to pursue service in the military?

I grew up in the shadows of Canisius College, and as a result of that, I was Canisius-oriented very from the very beginning. I aspired to go to Canisius High School, and I was lucky enough to go there. From CHS, I went directly into Canisius College and graduated in 1953 with a BA in accounting.

At that time, Korea was a war that we were engaged in, and I was 1-A, which is a designation of what's going to happen as soon as you graduate: It meant I was going to go into the service immediately. I always wanted to fly, so I thought, "Well, I think I'll volunteer for the Aviation Cadet Program."

How did your time at Canisius High School benefit you?

Almost every faculty member was a wonderful influencer in my early years – Father Robert Burns, Father Francis Rowley – I thought highly of all them. I also played freshman basketball, junior varsity, and then varsity. I was also on the swimming team and a whole bunch of other things that would fill too many pages.

I think that the education at Canisius High School and the foundation laid a path for me to pursue and attain a greater level than I would have had I not been at Canisius. For example, in the military, there was a regular exam. Anyone that goes into the Air Force from the United States Air Force Academy is automatically a regular officer when they graduate. Anyone who goes in any other way, like through the Aviation Cadets, for example, would have a reserve commission. But I took the regular exam, and due to my Canisius background, I was able to pass. There were only two people in our entire wing that passed it, and I was one of them. So I was a regular officer, the same as if I had graduated from the Air Force Academy. I credit my education at Canisius for my ability to do that.

Your advice for current CHS students and young alumni?

My heartfelt advice is that you're going to get knocked down in life. You're going to get knocked down a dozen times at least. My advice to you is get up and get with it. Start studying harder, start working harder, and never, ever, ever give up. Keep going. And just enjoy life. Enjoy what we have and relish it.

As far as advice for a military career, I'd recommend to young men that they apply for, or attempt to get, an appointment to one of the military academies. Work for your best possible grades and participate in extracurricular activities at Canisius. These factors are closely examined in your application process.





Retired Col. Joseph Lukitsch '56, with wife Carol at upper right, served with the Special Forces and went on to work at the Pentagon.

COL. JOSEPH LUKITSCH '56

United States Army, Retired
Cortez, Florida

Thank you for your service. How did you serve our country in the U.S. Armed Forces?

I served as an infantry officer in the U.S. Army from February 1961 to January 1990.

I was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant after graduating from the University of Notre Dame in the summer of 1960. As a junior officer, I was qualified as an Airborne, Ranger and Special Forces Master Parachutist with over 150 parachute jumps in Southeast Asia including Vietnam, South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines and Okinawa, Japan. This was training primarily for infiltration techniques employed by the U.S. Army Special Forces. I volunteered for the U.S. Army's Green Berets and served two combat tours in the Special Forces in Vietnam. On my third combat tour, I was wounded while serving as an operations officer in a mechanized infantry battalion.

After Vietnam, I attended military schooling and then earned a master's degree in International Relations of the Middle East at American University in Washington, DC. I was selected to command an Infantry Battalion (825 men) at Fort Riley, Kansas and then a Recruiting Battalion (250 men) in St. Louis, Missouri. When not commanding soldiers, I was assigned to the Pentagon as a Foreign Area Officer, specifically on the Mid-East desk of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and then in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense. My final overseas assignment was as Deputy Chief of the Joint Headquarters in Ankara, Turkey from 1984-1988.

I am humbled to report that I received numerous awards and decorations during my career. I was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, four Bronze Stars including two for Valor; seven Air Medals including one for Valor; Soldiers Medal, Purple Heart, three Army Commendation Medals including one for Valor, Presidential Unit Citation and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

I also received several awards for service on high-level staffs in the Pentagon and in Southern Europe from 1970 through 1990. These included the Defense Superior Performance Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Medal, National Defense Service Medal, the Headquarters Army Staff Badge, the OJCS Staff Badge, and the Office of Secretary of Defense Badge. After retiring from the military, I served as President of Lukitsch & Company, an international consulting company, from 1990-2018.

What led you to pursue service in the military?

My father encouraged me to join ROTC at Notre Dame. He said I would learn important leadership skills for later in life. I chose a military career because of the leadership challenges.

How did your time at Canisius benefit you?

My time at Canisius instilled in me an ethos of God, family and country – that I carried with me my entire military career and lives with me to this very day.

Your advice for current CHS students and young alumni?

Take the guiding beliefs and skill sets learned and instilled at Canisius, work hard and pursue your dreams – and you will lead a productive and successful life. If you are seeking leadership challenges, you should consider a military career.

For Lt. Col. Richard Herrmann '62, pictured with his family at GAMBIT last year, performances by the Canisius College ROTC Drill Team at CHS helped lead to a distinguished career with the U.S. Army Medical Department.





LT. COL. RICHARD J. HERRMANN '62

United States Army, Retired
Snyder, New York

Thank you for your service. How did you serve our country in the U.S. Armed Forces?

I am a proud affiliate of the U.S. Army Medical Department Regiment and served from 1966 through 1995.

After ROTC training at Canisius College, I was commissioned in the Army Medical Service Corps in 1966 and trained at Fort Sam Houston in Texas as a newly minted Second Lieutenant. I then served for three years during the Vietnam Era in several capacities – including Medical Detachment Commander, and Chief of the Service Branch, Supply and Service Division – while assigned to the 14th Field Hospital (redesignated 56th General Hospital) in Bad Kreuznach, Germany.

Returning stateside, I requested a US Army Reserve assignment to the 365th Evacuation Hospital in Niagara Falls, serving as Medical Logistician, and completed Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. I retired as Lieutenant Colonel in 1995 after 29 years of service, from a seven-year assignment in Utica as Executive Officer of the 241st Medical Group. I am presently a member of the American Legion George F. Lamm Post #622 and serve on the Amherst Veterans Committee.

What led you to pursue service in the military?

I had heroes growing up, primarily in the Coast Guard and Navy. But it was the Army ROTC program that led to my commission as an officer. Why at Canisius College? It was certainly a desired course of study, but honestly, I had an acute desire to become a member of the Canisius College ROTC Drill Team after experiencing their performances each year in our CHS auditorium. The flash of chrome bayonets, white ladder laces and gloves, and the echo of boots and rifle butt plates (rubber on the hardwood!) resounding on the wooden floor could not be overlooked. So, following in the bootsteps of many CHS alumni friends, I joined the team and was part of winning 97 trophies over four years.

How did your time at Canisius High School benefit you?

Somewhere over the years and through experience, I realized the impact a Canisius High School education truly made. I understood that formative years of secondary education are the most important time of our young lives. Perhaps our hearts and minds are most open to appreciate the concepts of service to, and care for, others. The growth I experienced between entry through those Blue Doors and departure so soon after, was a true gift.

Your advice for current CHS students and young alumni?

Today's graduates will encounter challenges and face adversity, as did I. Set the bar high for yourselves and take advantage of every opportunity. You are well equipped to achieve far more than you ever thought possible. And never forget we are called to be Men and Women for Others.



Col. Joseph V. Treanor III '56 served at sites across the country and throughout the world in a career that spanned nearly three decades.

COL. JOSEPH V. TREANOR III '76

United States Air Force, Retired
Cheektowaga, New York

Thank you for your service. How did you serve our country in the U.S. Armed Forces?

I was a member of the United States Air Force from 1984 to 2012 (over 28 years full-time active duty).

After being admitted to practice law in New York State early in February 1984, I reported to my first assignment as an Air Force Judge Advocate ("JAG" – i.e., military attorney) at Pope AFB in North Carolina on March 1, 1984. Within just a few months of reporting for duty, however, I decided that I wanted to make the Air Force a full-time career. Indeed, it was a terrific career lasting nearly three decades involving assignments at various command echelon, in many states, and across the entire globe.

Apart from assignments at the base installation/wing level, I also had advisory, action officer, and supervisory legal positions at U.S. Air Force Headquarters and at several varied Major Commands such as Pacific Air Forces, Air Combat Command and Air Mobility Command. In addition, I held legal positions at different Warfare Centers and the Tactical Warfare Center.

There were other "non-mainstream" legal assignments held as well: I worked a special duty assignment as the lead attorney on a Secretary of the Air Force "Tiger Team" to eliminate gender sexual harassment problems at the Air Force Academy; served in the General Counsel's Office at the Defense Intelligence Agency; was a member of the prosecutorial effort to hold Saddam Hussein and members of his regime accountable for international war crimes; and served as a member of the prosecution team for the Military Tribunals to hold 9/11 terrorists (housed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba) accountable for their attacks.

Throughout my Air Force career, I had assignments in Washington, D.C., North Carolina, South Dakota, Hawaii, Nevada, Montana, Virginia, Colorado and Illinois. I had three different deployments to the Middle East (Egypt, Kuwait and Iraq), participated in a Joint Service Exercise in Puerto Rico, and performed duties in Guam, Japan and South Korea.

What led you to pursue service in the military?

I think it was an inevitable matter of "coming full circle" without realizing it. As was true of most of my classmates and neighborhood friends growing up, our fathers had served in the military – the older ones in World War II and the younger ones in Korea. My dad and the dad of my neighborhood best friend (and fellow CHS classmate) both served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. I respected my dad immensely – and particularly when it came to military service, because he did not have to serve in World War II.

During my senior year at CHS, I had the opportunity to secure a Navy ROTC scholarship but was unsure about my future and didn't want to commit to something that would obligate me until 25 years of age or so after finishing college. Accordingly, I declined the Navy ROTC opportunity, but I never completely dismissed the notion of serving in the military in some capacity "one day."

Fast forward to my final year of law school. Until then, I had never even heard of something called the "JAG Corps" or had

Col. Joseph V. Treanor III '56 *continued on page 15*





Cmdr. Peter Flynn '95, with wife Lucy at left, is a department chair at the U.S. Naval Academy after serving as the commanding officer of the USS Arleigh Burke.

CMDR. PETER FLYNN '95

United States Navy
Chairman of the Seamanship and Navigation Department, United States Naval Academy
Washington, DC

Thank you for your service. How did you serve our country in the U.S. Armed Forces?

I have been in the U.S. Navy since 1998. I attended the US Naval Academy and was commissioned as a surface warfare officer. At sea, I have served on ships around the globe having been stationed in Japan, Spain, Hawaii, San Diego, and Norfolk, Virginia. I've sailed in nearly every body of water from the Arctic Circle to the South China Sea, serving on Cruisers, Frigates, Aircraft Carriers, and Destroyers. Ashore, I served in Washington, D.C. at the Pentagon working on the U.S. Navy budget, Capitol Hill as a Congressional Fellow, and at the Office of Naval Intelligence.

The highlight of my Navy career thus far was serving as Commanding Officer of USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51), one of our Nation's most capable ships. Leading a team of 330 sailors sailing aboard a $2 billion warship, we operated forward deployed in the European Theater during Russia's invasion into Ukraine, providing military options for the President, and maintaining our close relationships with allies and partners in the region. I'm currently the Chairman of the Seamanship and Navigation Department at the United States Naval Academy.

What led you to pursue service in the military?

After graduating from CHS in 1995, I initially attended the University of Wisconsin (as a rowing recruit) but after the untimely death of my father, I searched for a different path. The Navy gave me an opportunity to serve and succeed in a different way.

How did your time at Canisius High School benefit you?

My time at CHS prepared me well for the academics at the United States Naval Academy and Navy Nuclear Power Training (the most academically challenging professional school in the military), but more importantly, CHS prepared me well for military service because of the learning from and observing of many exceptional people. Jesuit and lay instructors, school administrators and coaches taught me about hard work, striving for excellence, and compassion for others. Despite all the years, I can still see their faces and I hear their words. I could give countless examples but I'm confident that most of you reading this know exactly the people I would describe.

Your advice for current CHS students and young alumni?

Consider military service – it offers a fantastic way to serve others and comes with exceptional rewards. The leadership skills developed serve you well both in the military and in the civilian world. You will be challenged in ways you will not expect and you will succeed in ways you will not think possible. It is an adventure of a lifetime and work worth doing!



Lt. Col. Ryan Crawford '99, at right, was named the U.S. Army Reserve Command Judge Advocate of the Year in 2024.



LT. COL. RYAN CRAWFORD '99

United States Army
Army Reserve Judge Advocate
Buffalo, New York

Thank you for your service. How did you serve our country in the U.S. Armed Forces?

I have served in the United States Army since 2007, both on active duty and as a reservist, totaling more than 17 years of combined service. I currently serve in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, Grade-05.

Throughout my entire Army career, I have served exclusively as a Judge Advocate or Army Lawyer, so I have had the opportunity to be a soldier and lawyer at the same time, serving the needs of the Army where and when needed. During my 17 years in uniform, I have worked in many different roles including as a rule of law attorney, prosecutor, Special Forces Group Judge Advocate, and currently as the Command Judge Advocate at the 78th Training Division based out of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey. Over the course of my career, I have deployed to Afghanistan twice as well as to Iraq and Qatar, traveled to Korea on two occasions and worked in numerous assignments in the United States. I have also had the good fortune to attend numerous Army Schools including Airborne School, Command and General Staff College, and I am currently enrolled at the Army War College, located in Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, where I am pursuing a master's degree in strategic studies. In 2024, I was honored to receive the LTC Arch McKeever Award for the United States Army Reserve Command Judge Advocate of the Year Award.

In addition to my work as an Army Reserve Judge Advocate, I am a lawyer with Cellino Law here in Buffalo. If it were not for my wife Krissy, and my children, Clare, Will, and Jack, I would not be able to maintain both of my jobs. I am grateful to them, and for all the support that I have received for many years at my firm.

What led you to pursue service in the military?

Growing up, I always valued service to the country and to the community. My time at Canisius High School deepened my desire to serve in uniform, as well as deepening my dedication to becoming an attorney. When I was a third-year law student at UB Law School, I learned about the opportunities that the Judge Advocate General's Corps and the United States Army offered, and it seemed like the perfect fit for me. After graduating from law school and passing the New York State Bar Exam in 2006, I entered into active duty and time has moved quickly since then. I have loved the opportunities that the Army and the law have given me to serve this great nation.

Lt. Col. Ryan Crawford '99 *continued on page 15*

Lt. Cmdr. Scott Elwell '03 was an instructor at Navy Test Pilot School before joining the U.S. Navy Air-to-Air Missles Program. He is pictured with wife Jami and daughter Britton.





LT. CMDR. SCOTT ELWELL '03

United States Navy
Deputy Program Manager,
Air-to-Air Missles Program
Patuxent, MD

Thank you for your service. How did you serve our country in the U.S. Armed Forces?

I currently serve in the U.S. Navy. I joined ROTC in 2003 out of high school, commissioned as an ensign in 2008, and am still on active service.

I spent two years in flight school and then flew FA-18E's based out of Lemoore, California. I then went to the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School in Maryland and was a test pilot at the Naval Air Weapons Station in China Lake. Since 2018, I have been stationed in Maryland, first instructing at the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, and currently serving as the deputy program manager for advanced development at the US Navy Air-to-Air Missiles Program Office.

What led you to pursue service in the military?

My family has a long history of service in the military. I joined the Navy because for as long as I can remember, I wanted to fly fighter aircraft off aircraft carriers. I wanted the challenge of being a Naval Aviator.

How did your time at Canisius High School benefit you?

I think it helped develop a strong sense of faith. There are hard times a person must deal with in life, and especially in the military. Long hours, time away from family, and periods of stress are difficult. Having faith and a sense of purpose helped provide stability in my life.

Your advice for current CHS students and young alumni?

Never miss an opportunity to experience new adventures and share your positivity with others. High school is a time where you learn and grow into the adult you will become. Enjoy the moments!



Growing up around military aircraft during the 22-year U.S. Navy career of his father, Arthur (inset photo with mother Bettymarie) inspired Second Lt. Louis Sullivan '20 to pursue his own life of service.

SECOND LT. LOUIS SULLIVAN '20

United States Air Force
Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training
Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas

Thank you for your service. How did you serve our country in the U.S. Armed Forces?

It is just the beginning! I was commissioned into the U.S. Air Force as a Second Lieutenant on May 13, 2024, at the National Warplane Museum in Geneseo. I begin pilot training at Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training (ENJJPT) at Sheppard, AFB in early 2025.

I have been training to become an officer at Rochester Institute of Technology's Air Force ROTC Detachment 538 while attending SUNY Brockport, majoring in communications and minoring in Meteorology, Aerospace Studies.

What led you to pursue service in the military?

The main inspiration for pursuing a life of military service was growing up around military aircraft as my dad served in the U.S. Navy for 22 years. Just like I said in my Grad at Grad senior year, seeing the jets taking off from Naval Air Station Oceana lit a spark in my heart for wanting to fly in the military. My biggest goal is to leave a positive imprint on this world before I traverse to the next.

How did your time at Canisius High School benefit you?

Being a Man For and With Others is still something I strive to embody every day. Canisius taught me that excellence and service are achieved through action when no one else will rise to the occasion. Trust in God's plan for us and He will make our paths straight when faced with any challenges.

Your advice for current CHS students and young alumni?

I remember when I was sitting in a class of Mr. (David) Hayes '87, when he told us that "The path to our goals may not be straight, but if you keep at them, anything is possible." This statement guided me when that path took unexpected turns, and it redirects me back to my faith. Maintain your dreams and make them reality by absorbing as much information as you can. Do not be afraid to fail, and be sure you reflect on all the good you are doing too. Military or not, you can do it!

Lt. Col. Ryan Crawford '99 *cont. from page 13*

How did your time at Canisius benefit you?

Canisius High School helped reinforce and instill in me what my parents were already trying to do, which was prioritizing hard work, integrity, and treating others with respect, and by developing good study habits and staying focused on the task at hand. This is not to say that I have always achieved these standards, but Canisius High School shows you what right looks like. Canisius High School set the standard for requiring dignity and respect for others, and for maximum effort in the classroom. CHS prepared me for college, both academically and on the lacrosse field, and it prepared me for law school by emphasizing the importance of the written word, being well-read, and the importance of advocacy. Finally, it prepared me for military service by instilling the importance of physical and emotional courage.

That's what I try to explain to my boys, Jack and Will, both future Crusaders, when I talk about what I took away from Canisius High School.

Your advice for current CHS students and young alumni?

Continue working hard, find something you enjoy doing, and do it the best you can. Maintain your friendships and recognize your good fortunes when they come.

Col. Joseph V. Treanor III '76

continued from page 10

any awareness that the armed forces had attorneys in uniform – especially in peacetime. Much to my pleasant surprise, I learned about JAG's early opportunities to secure extensive litigation experience and I was sold.

How did your time at Canisius benefit you?



The academic rigor encountered and the study discipline learned at CHS served as foundational building blocks for all that followed. But even more than that, the spirituality and character lessons cultivated at CHS produced an even greater imprint that has helped shape my life. At CHS, we had many fantastic, demanding and encouraging teachers who possessed tremendous character. We certainly recognized their character at the time – but even more so as we continued to navigate life. I knew that three of my favorite teachers in particular – Mr. Thomas A. McPherson, Mr. Richard O'Connor and Mr. Sylvester Kuligowski – had all served in the military. Beyond all these considerations, however, my faith journey has been a huge part of the way I try to live my life.

Your advice for current CHS students and young alumni?

In ALL things throughout your lives, be affirmatively mindful of God in everything; keep Him at the center of your focus, whatever you do – great or small – do it with love for His greater honor and glory. Always stay true to your moral compass; whether at the end of the day or the end of your life, you will never regret relying upon your foundational character, "doing the right thing," and living justly … no matter what temporal "adverse consequences" or "personal disadvantages" might ensue.

Be kind – including to yourself when discouraged – and never despair. Although we are imperfect, fallen creatures who stumble repeatedly in life, God loves us beyond our power to fathom fully; in our submissive humility and genuine penitence, He forgives us and wants us to be with Him forever.

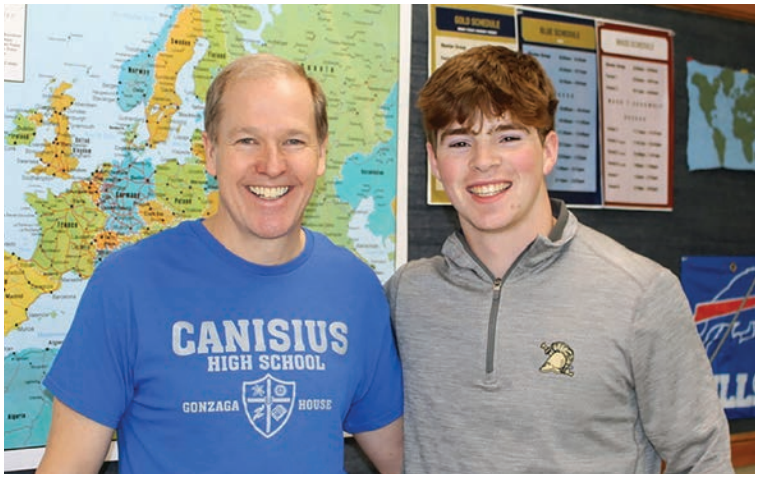


Nicholas Marchese '22 is entering his final two years at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Last August, Nicholas's Class of 2026 Affirmation Oath Ceremony took place at West Point. Held the night before the first day of classes, the ceremony affirms the students' commitment to complete the next two years of study as well as their active-duty service requirements as a U.S. Army Officer. Upon completion of the Oath of Affirmation, many parents have a flag flown at a notable location near their hometown, including state capitols or government offices. The Marchese family of West Seneca requested that a special flag be flown here at Canisius, where four of their sons have graduated. "Canisius has been a part of our lives for the last 10 years. Watching our four boys grow and thrive there has been amazing. It really is a special place."

MAKING MR. CANISIUS

The six 2024 Mr. Canisius finalists had their photo taken with a faculty member of their choice in the

EVAN GALVIN '24 CHOSE TEACHER DENNIS BEECHER '88



"Mr. Beecher exemplifies what it means to be a Man for Others. His commitment to the Canisius community is among the most inspiring attributes of his character."

Beecher's thoughts about Galvin, who is from East Aurora, attended East Aurora Middle School and attends the US Military Academy at West Point:

"Evan is a young man with integrity, who embodies the Ignatian idea of compassion. I could not have been more impressed with his humility, generosity and character."



MAT HASSENFRATZ '24 CHOSE COUNSELOR ANN MARIE MOSCOVIC

"What Mrs. Moscovic has done for me cannot be confined to words. I am extremely grateful for everything that she has done for me and every other lucky student to have met her."

Moscovic on Hassenfratz, who is from Orchard Park, attended St. John Vianney School and studies at Case Western Reserve University.

"One of the things I appreciate the most about him is the energy he brings to each day. His positive attitude spills over to everyone around him."

PETROS KOLLIDAS '24 CHOSE TEACHER SAM BELSITO



"Mr. Belsito's attitude and drive for pushing everyone to be their best self is uniform throughout all ages and commendable to the highest extent."

Belsito on Kollidas, who is from Clarence, went to Elmwood Franklin School and attends the Rochester Institute of Technology:

"Petros is well-rounded, academically, socially and spiritually. But what I believe sets Petros apart is his work ethic, mindset and grit."

seniors' fun-filled final days of school. Here's how their teachers made an impact on them at CHS.

HENRY RICHARDS '24 CHOSE TEACHER BRYCE HOPKINS '08



"Mr. Hopkins is the first person I, and many others, go to with any questions. He has devoted himself fully to the Canisius community."

Hopkins on Richards, who is from Buffalo, attended City Honors and studies at Notre Dame University.

"While Henry has never sought the spotlight, he has led with incredible integrity, humility, and grace; his nomination is a testament to the high esteem with which the whole community holds Henry."



RYAN STRAVINO '24 CHOSE FR. CHUCK FREDERICO, S.J.

"Since Fr. Frederico first came to Canisius he has been open and kind to all students. Day in and day out, he exemplifies the Jesuit values of service, faith, and love for others."

Frederico on Stravino, who is from Grand Island, attended Nardin middle school and studies at Harvard University:

"The Hallmark of a Jesuit Education is to critically think as a person of faith, and from that faith give oneself in word and in action. Ryan Stravino embodies that depth of generosity daily."

PATRICK SULLIVAN '24 CHOSE TEACHER ERIC KOESSLER '84



"Whether it was teaching me in my freshman religion class, or guiding me in the guitar ensemble all four years, Mr. Koessler was always there to help and support."

Koessler's thoughts about 2024 Mr. Canisius winner Sullivan, who is from Orchard Park and attends Williams College:

"At the center of his gentle nature and calm demeanor is a tenacious young man who consistently pursues the Ignatian ideal of Magis."



GO CRUSADERS!

Make it 22! CHS Swimming dominated the 2024 All-Catholic Championship meet to claim the program's 22nd straight title. Canisius won 10 of the 11 events, including all three relays, and had individual wins from **Erik Parkes '24** of Niagara Falls (100 free, 200 free), **Atticus Young '26** of Buffalo (100 breast, 500 free), **Ryan Stravino '24** of Grand Island (50 free), **Peter Peyser '25** of Williamsville (200 IM) and **Gabe Russell-Webster '27** of Amherst (100 back).



NATIONAL CHAMPIONS! **Isaiah Aljuwani '25** (left) and **Liam Feeney '25** won the national title in the Men's Youth Pair at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships in Sarasota, Fla., part of a historic day for CHS Rowing. It was the first time that CHS won three medals at nationals, as **Max Burget '24** and **James Dodman '24** took silver in a 1-2 Canisius finish in the pair, while Dodman, Feeney, Burget and **Peter Cross '24** used a strong finish to win bronze in the Men's Youth Four. "We achieved every major goal that I felt was within reach at the start of the year," head coach **Jacob Filby '14** said as he concluded an impressive first year as coach.





CHS Bowling went back-to-back-to-back in 2024, winning their third straight All-Catholic Championship. Top row: coach **Michael Kwiatkowski '99, Matthew Marchese '24**. Bottom: **Matthew Hassenfratz '24**, **Matthew Bernard '24**, All-Catholic Individual Champion **Blaine Benson '24** (with a 297!) and **Thomas Skowron '25.**

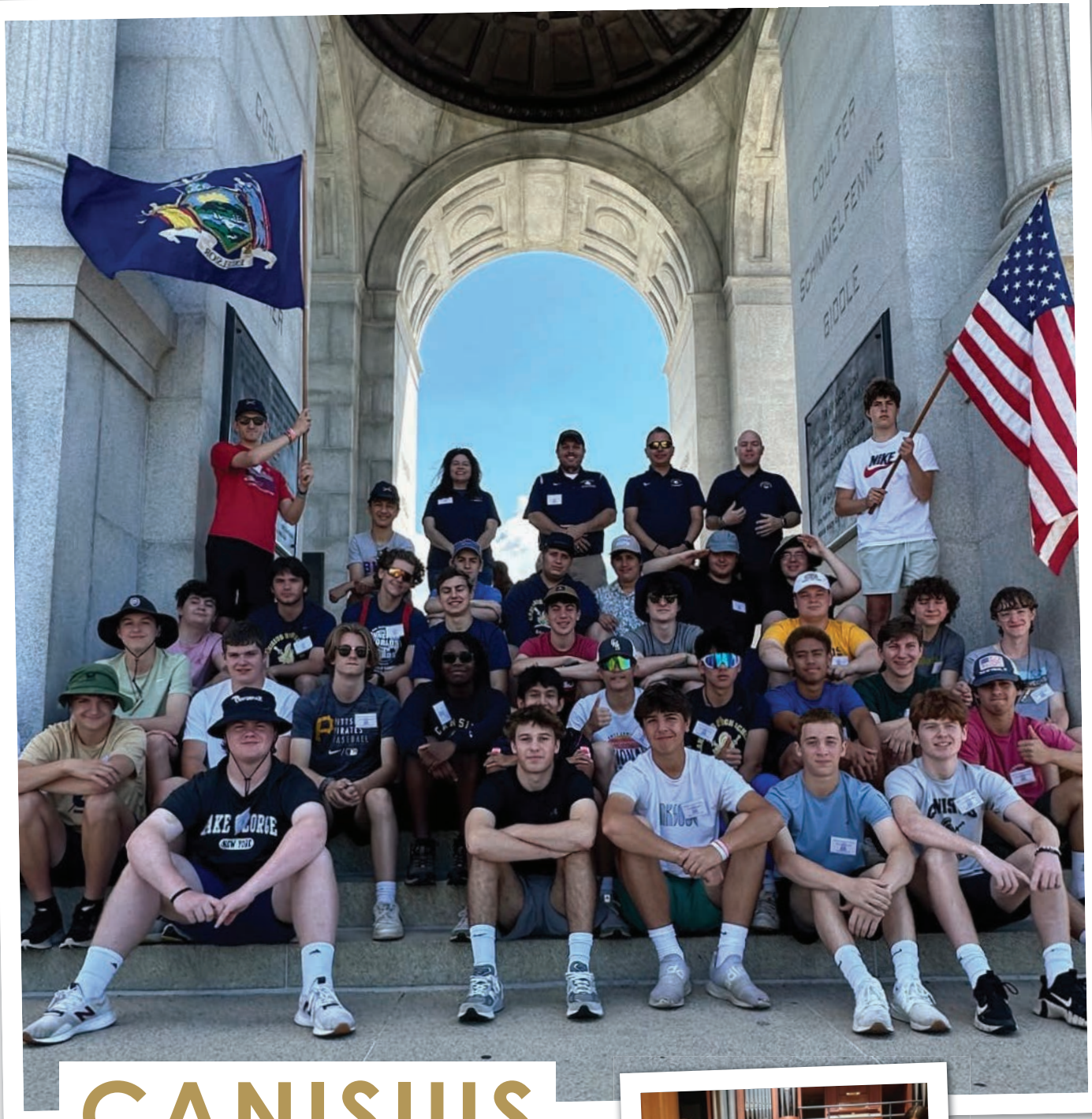
CHS Basketball and coach **Kyle Husband '96** recorded a tremendous victory at the 2024 edition of the prestigious Centercourt Classic at St. Joe's: The Crusaders beat perennial power Niagara Falls, 52-44, for the 400th victory of Husband's career. Husband entered the 2024-25 season with a 407-120 record over 20 seasons leading his alma mater "I'm just fortunate to be able to do it at Canisius for that many years, to have so many great student-athletes and basketball players to play under me," he said.



Our spring 2024 committment ceremony saw five student-athletes offer their gratitude; Canisius had a total of 18 students commit to participating in athletics for the 2024-25 school year. **Liam O'Keefe '24** of West Seneca (Roberts Wesleyan, volleyball); **Domenico Callocchia '24** of Buffalo (Ithaca College, football and track). Bottom: **Kellen Palmer '24** of Buffalo (Loyola Chicago, volleyball); **Josh Hemmerling '24** of Orchard Park (SUNY Oswego, baseball); **Patrick Sullivan '24** of Orchard Park (Williams College, football).

The winter commitment ceremony for the Class of 2024 saw seven student-athletes offer thanks. Top row: **Hunter Jantzi '24** of Orchard Park (Seton Hill University, football); **Gio Amodeo '24** of Buffalo (Fredonia State, baseball); **Aiden Mecca '24** of Lancaster (St. Bonaventure University, rugby). Bottom row: **McNamara Quinn '24** of Glenwood (Le Moyne College, golf); **Kevon Walker '24** of Buffalo (St. Francis University, football); **Aaron Jones '24** of Amherst (Westminster College, baseball); **Cooper Prizel '24** of Derby (Niagara County Community College, baseball).





CANISIUS IN ACTION

Col. Rizzo led his troops on another victorious charge through history this summer.

For two decades, history teacher **Sam Rizzo '97** has led CHS students on a trip to Gettysburg, Pa. and Washington, D.C. A group of rising seniors toured Civil War battlegrounds and other historic sites in June.

This year's group toured Gettysburg sites as the 195th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment under Col. Rizzo.



Sam Gugliuzza '25, of North Tonawanda, was named concertmaster for the Erie County Music Educators Association Senior High Symphonic Orchestra.



The CHS Drama Guild put on a three-day run of *The Addams Family*. Audiences loved the zany performance and the the work of the talented cast, crew and orchestra. The Drama Guild will be performing *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* in March.



CHS students conceived and created this mural for GAMBIT XLIX, Canisius' signature fundraiser which was attended by hundreds.



Noah Morlock '25 of CHS Digital Media earned the Best Photography award at St. Bonaventure's "CommDay."

Morlock, of Buffalo, won for a selection of his outstanding photos from CHS athletics and received a certificate from Jandoli School Dean Aaron Chimbel.

The Canisius High School Medical Professionals Club donated $1,200 to the Oncology Survivorship Program, associated with Kaleida Health and Great Lakes Cancer Care.

The Oncology Survivorship Program provides cancer patients in Western New York with support services, including wigs, transportation, grocery service and more.





GAMBIT XLIX was a huge success thanks to our wonderful CHS community and the efforts of Co-Chairs (left to right) **Danielle and David Dodman '91, P '24; Molly and Peter Kooshoian '93, P '24; and Lisa and Kevin Cross P '21, '24.**

GAMBIT XLIX!

Once again the Canisius High School community came together to celebrate and support our mission through our annual auction gala fundraiser. The hundreds in attendance in March 2024 bid on silent auction items via their phones in the Scaccia Auditorium before bidding in a live auction in the Bernard J. Kennedy '49 Field House.

The wonderful evening concluded with so many raising their paddles for the Fr. C Canisius Cares Scholarship, an emergency fund so Canisius can step in and provide much-needed assistance to students who experience hardships during their time at CHS.



GAMBIT 50 is March 29!

We are grateful to our GAMBIT 50 Co-Chairs for their leadership of our golden celebration! From left: **David '87 and Laura Gioia P'16, P'25; Mike '96 and Susan Mineo P'25; Tom and Liz Sheehan P'25.**

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

CADEN SMITH '25

"Canisius has made me feel more comfortable with who I am as a person."



HOMETOWN: Williamsville (Casey Middle & St. Gregory the Great)

WHY CANISIUS? I picked Canisius because of the accepting family environment.

ATHLETICS & CLUBS: I played rugby this year to get more involved in the school. I was also in rock climbing club. Getting involved in your school with things you enjoy makes the process of becoming friends with others like you really easy.

ACADEMICS: I enjoy most of my classes because the teachers are friendly and supportive. Mr. [Brian] Spurlock, my chemistry teacher, has played a big role in my Canisius junior year. He has always helped me, been supportive and motivated me to achieve my goals.

FUTURE PLANS: I plan on going to a four-year college or university for criminal justice, potentially going into law enforcement work after I finish my education.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Stay on top of your homework and make as many friends as you can, older and younger. Getting involved will help you make friends.

HOW CANISIUS HAS CHANGED ME: Canisius has made me feel more comfortable with who I am as a person. I have enjoyed going on retreats and participating in sports and activities.



CORBAN BURKE '27

"Canisius just spoke to me and I thought it would be great for me."

HOMETOWN: Grand Island (St. Stephen's School)

WHY CANISIUS? Canisius just spoke to me and I thought it would be great for me.

ATHLETICS: I came to Canisius playing hockey. I started playing lacrosse this year because I wanted a sport during the spring that was similar to hockey.

ACTIVITIES: I am a part of the Euchre Club. I love euchre and I thought it was a unique and interesting club. I have been on one service trip to the Masten District in Buffalo to help out at a church. We packed bags and made sandwiches for people going through hard times. I had a lot of fun bonding with my fellow peers and our proctors.

ACADEMICS: I love my English class because of how close my class has gotten together. Mrs. [Sarah] Beckwith has been really fun and interactive with my English class. She greatly encourages the whole class.

FUTURE PLANS: I would like to go to the Naval Academy in Annapolis for college, and I haven't thought far past that.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: I would tell them to apply knowledge, such as new ways to study. This will improve your academic skills throughout your years at Canisius.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: It has given me a new sense of learning and interaction with the world around me.



KENDRIS BELL '27

"Canisius has helped me become a Man for Others and become more welcoming to others."

HOMETOWN: Lockport (DeSales Catholic School)

WHY CANISIUS? I picked Canisius because when I shadowed here I realized how much the other students treat you like you belong. It has been rewarding because of all the friends I've made and the education I have been given.

ATHLETICS: I play basketball and I row because they are a good way to build muscle and make friends.

ACADEMICS: I enjoy Religion because my teacher, Fr. Frederico [Director of Campus Ministry Fr. Chuck Frederico, S.J.] is a wonderful person who loves his students. I would say Fr. Frederico is my favorite teacher because he always helps you no matter what and always throws in jokes during class to make class more entertaining.

FUTURE PLANS: My future plans are to attend a college for sports science and sports management.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: I would say take every opportunity given to you and always do your homework.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius has helped me become a Man for Others and become more welcoming to others.



MARK JOHN '27

"Canisus is a place students are excited to attend."

HOMETOWN: Cheektowaga (Christian Central Academy)

WHY CANISIUS? I picked Canisius because I heard about their excellent academics and education, so I decided to take the opportunity. I also had a very good experience at the Canisius HAP program as a rising eighth grader.

ATHLETICS: I am on the Canisius crew team because of the hard discipline it instills regarding our fitness and responsibilities as an athlete.

ACTIVITIES: I am involved in two after-school clubs. Flight Club is a lot of fun and is a great introduction to aeronautics. Rubik's Cube Club is a fun, casual club that I enjoy. I have been a competitive Rubik's Cube speed-solver for the last few years and this club has made my experience even better.

ACADEMICS: My two favorite classes are AP World History and Geometry Honors. Mr. Zera, [**Joe Zera '00**] my teacher for Geometry Honors, has made a significant impact on me. He makes the best jokes, teaches the material expertly and keeps the class on their toes. He is a great reminder that education doesn't have to be boring and that Canisius is a place that students are excited to attend.

AFTER CANISIUS: I plan to go to college for mechanical engineering and maybe minor in business and economics.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Take advantage. Four years will fly by before you know it. Take advantage of the challenging courses, the sports and clubs that are offered and the friendships that you can build along the way.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius has helped me grow both intellectually and spiritually.

JACKSON DEET '25

"I was lucky to experience a community like this one."



HOMETOWN: Buffalo (St. Mark School)

WHY CANISIUS? When I shadowed back in 8th grade, I sensed the brotherhood and community that has always and will always have a strong bond together. I wanted to be able to say I was a part of that bond. I also wanted to challenge myself and set myself up for a successful future.

ATHLETICS: I've played hockey since I was 5 and fell in love with the game and the people surrounding it. I love the environment, the intensity, competition and the passion.

ACTIVITIES: I am a leader of the Blue Crew. I would come to basketball and football games in middle school. The Blue Crew was always the most important part of the games and the energy the students bring is unmatched.

ACADEMICS: I enjoy history because I enjoy learning about the past and love the discussions that can be brought up within the subject.

FUTURE PLANS: My future plans are to play hockey in college at a school where I can study business and marketing.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Take advantage. Four years will fly by before you know it. Take advantage of the challenging courses, the sports and clubs that are offered and the friendships that you can build along the way. I was lucky to experience a community like this one.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius has helped me grow both intellectually and spiritually.



JOSHUA EPSTEIN '27

"The Canisius environment is nice."

HOMETOWN: Buffalo (Clarence Middle School)

WHY CANISIUS? The Canisius environment is nice, and I liked the idea of gold periods. I think the CHS House System tries to encourage students to perform better as it creates a sense of competition. I have also made many friends.

ACTIVITIES: I am a member of the Ski Club.

ACADEMICS: I enjoy my Latin class as I get to learn the ancient language that many men of my philosophy spoke. I like to study ancient philosophy because I like to see how thinking from the past has, or hasn't, changed over the course of history to today. I also enjoy my history class because I get to recognize the patterns of humanity. I revere Mr. [John] Anderson for having an unwavering disposition throughout the year. He has always been humorous, engaging and uplifting. I respect Mr. [Craig] Hinchcliffe for sharing some interests in terms of philosophy, as well as being humorous and understanding.

FUTURE PLANS: I plan to be a stoic philosopher. I also plan to pursue martial arts and calisthenics, perhaps engage in entrepreneurship. But as of right now I try focus on the present, clearing my mind of fog so I can then see further into the future.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Engage in sports and activities. You will meet new people.



GABE DILEO '25

"I would see the school and I couldn't wait to go."

HOMETOWN: Buffalo (Elmwood Village Charter School)

WHY CANISIUS? I picked Canisius because my brother went here and was the first to go here. Everyday on the way to school we would drop my brother off and I would see the school and I couldn't wait to go.

ATHLETICS: I play hockey currently and I played lacrosse my freshmen year. I play it because I kinda just can. When you come here freshmen year you're able to do whatever you like. Any club any sport which is amazing. It opened up new ideas and helped me find out what I love to do.

ACADEMICS: I enjoy history and English because I enjoy reading and writing. I also love to learn about history. My favorite teacher is Father C [President Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J.] because I was given a job last summer and this summer which I'm very grateful for and know that there are opportunities everywhere.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Build relationships with everyone, get your work done first, then go have fun.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius helped shape who I am. Canisius opened me up to new opportunities that I thought I would never have. It was such a different experience moving from my middle school to Canisius. I am very grateful.



BARON NIEVES '26

"I am working hard for something that matters."

HOMETOWN: Buffalo (St. Benedict's)

WHY CANISIUS?: I picked Canisius because I really enjoyed my shadow day as a 8th grader. I think what makes my Canisius experience rewarding is that I am working hard for something that matters. Even though it can be difficult at times, it will all be worth it.

ATHLETICS: I play baseball because I like playing and being a part of a team. I am one of the two Jogues House Counsel representatives for my class.

ACTIVITIES: I was involved in the Emmaus retreat my sophomore year. This retreat was a great experience to spend time with my friends, deepen my understanding of God, and really take a step back from everything going on.

ACADEMICS: I enjoy all my classes, the teachers make class fun and they are there to help you. I really enjoyed Fr. Fred's [Director of Campus Ministry Fr. Chuck Frederico, S.J.] freshman religion class as it helped me explore my faith. I also enjoyed the discussions in Mr. Cumbo's [**Paul Cumbo '97**] English class.

FUTURE PLANS: To continue to do well in school while looking forward to college.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Shadow. My shadow day at Canisius was important when considering to attend Canisius.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius has helped shape me into a better young man over the last two years. Coming from a Catholic background, Canisius helped me so much in developing my faith even more and truly understanding my relationship with God.

ELIJAH SOE '26

"Canisius has challenged me to be more open to the possibilities of the outside world."



HOMETOWN: Buffalo (Catholic Academy of West Buffalo)

WHY CANISIUS? In all honesty, it was because my father recommended me to attend this school. I heard great things about this school and, therefore, just simply decided to go to this school.

ATHLETICS: I joined the track and field team. I did not play any sports freshman year, but I am glad that I did. I got into track, because a friend recommended to me to join. I will definitely do it again. I love the dedication of my teammates towards our goal to make Canisius proud.

ACADEMICS: I enjoyed taking AP European History this year, regardless of its difficulty. I also enjoy taking English 10 honors as it improves my writing skills that I plan to use for creative writing. During my Freshmen year, Mr. [Steven] Wanzer and Mr. Beecher [**Dennis Beecher '88**] made an impression on me. Mr. Cumbo [**Paul Cumbo '97**] made a profound impact on me my second year, because the way he taught was more unorthodox. I learned from his genuine passion of passing his knowledge, which I am immensely grateful.

FUTURE PLANS: I am quite ambitious as to what I plan to accomplish in the future. After I graduate high school, I plan to go to R.I.T to study video game design.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Canisius is a great school to help guide and provide an experience to aid you in your future. Make the effort to participate in the opportunities that Canisius provides.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: It has matured me and made me more open to the world. I used to be more isolated. Canisius has challenged me to be more open to the possibilities of the outside world.



ANGEL LOPEZ CASTILLO '25

"Step in with two feet. Try every opportunity that comes your way!"

HOMETOWN: La Vega, Dominican Republic (Herman Badillo Bilingual School Academy and South Buffalo Charter School)

WHY CANISIUS? When I came to the US, I met my grandparents for the first time. They were professors at Canisius University and they taught me English. I believed from a young age that I wanted to study at the High School no matter what.

ATHLETICS: At Canisius, I have participated in the bowling program. I didn't know what bowling was until last year when one of my friends and my grandma told me to try it.

ACTIVITIES: I have participated in a couple of clubs but Flight Club is my favorite. I enjoy the intricateness of aviation and its relaxing vibe. I have been on Emmaus, Kairos, and the Companions Program Retreat at Guadalajara, Mexico. The Companions trip made the biggest impression. There I learned to appreciate what I own now, to help others in need and to care for those who support me.

ACADEMICS: The class that I like the most is history. I have taken AP Euro and US History.

FUTURE PLANS My future plans are to go to the best college I can.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Step in with two feet. Try every opportunity that comes your way.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius High School has shaped me into a better version of me. Canisius has challenged me academically and socially, helping me understand myself at a deeper level and love myself.

MAKAI MILLER '25

"Canisius has guided me to be a better person."



HOMETOWN: Buffalo (Buzz Aldrin Middle School, Montclair, N.J.)

WHY CANISIUS? I picked Canisius because I was initially drawn to the long history of academic prestige. My decision was influenced even more when I took a tour of the school. I was able to see with my own eyes the welcoming and safe environment that Canisius offers along with the friendliness of the staff and faculty.

ACTIVITIES: I am a leader of both the Black Student Union and the Automotive Club. I am also a consistent member of Ski Club and Flight Club. I attended a trip to Guadalajara, Mexico during the summer after my freshman year. While I was there, I stayed with a family and attended another Jesuit school in the area.

ACADEMICS: While I enjoy certain aspects of all my classes, the ones I have enjoyed the most have consistently been the AP history classes.

FUTURE PLANS: After I graduate from Canisius, I plan to attend a prestigious institution most likely in the northeast and focus on the STEM field.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: I would advise future students to complete all of their homework on time. As long as you remain caught up with your work, there is no reason to do poorly in your classes.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius has guided me to be a better person in countless ways. I have become a better student, a better communicator and a more open person in general. Due to Canisius' academic rigor, I have learned from past mistakes and applied new methods in order to excel in all of my courses.



VICTORY SHALAMBA '26

"I chose Canisius to have a better education."

HOMETOWN: Buffalo (St. John the Baptist School)

WHY CANISIUS?: I chose Canisius to have a better education. St. John's prepared me but Canisius reputation of academics opens up so many opportunities for in college and beyond.

ATHLETICS: I play varsity soccer.

ACTIVITIES: The service I have participated in was a really heartwarming thing to do because you don't know how much people are really struggling until you experience being there.

ACADEMICS: I really enjoy science and English. Mr [John] Anderson, and Mrs. [Lindsay] Lorginer have been really helpful in these past years. They were chill and fun as they helped me along in my Canisius journey.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Just get out of your comfort zone. There are so many sports and clubs for you to join. You will make friends and experience something you never thought you would before.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius has definitely made me more mature and, thanks to the dress code, helped me become a very well-dressed man. It's just been a fun and good experience because the teachers try to help you with all the work so that you understand. I have also made many friends from soccer and classes.

ROBBIE PETERS '25

"I realized how God has been at work around me at all times."



HOMETOWN: East Amherst (Casey Middle School)

WHY CANISIUS? I wanted to be challenged academically along with being given opportunities that my local school district doesn't provide.

ATHLETICS: I play hockey because I like small team sports where you can really feel the bond between all your teammates and aren't spread out amongst a giant roster.

ACTIVITIES: My Kairos retreat was really impactful because I've never had an opportunity and dedicated time to explore my faith. In this time I realized how God has been at work around me at all times and I deepened my relationship with Him through reflection of my life.

ACADEMICS: I had Mr. Cumbo [**Paul Cumbo '97**] my freshman year in English 9 Honors and he still has been the most impactful teacher I've had. Not only did he teach us amazing textbook English, but also made philosophy part of his class and encouraged us to think about the world.

FUTURE PLANS My future plans are to attend a four-year college for mechanical engineering along with continuing my small business this summer.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: I know leaving the group of people you've been with all of middle school and possibly even elementary school is a hard decision to make, but you won't regret it. My friends at Canisius are the best group of guys I've met.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius helped me realize the man I want to be, and has really helped me come out of my shell as I graduated into high school in the middle of Covid.



CARTER AMODEO '27

"I chose Canisius because it would set me up for college the best."

HOMETOWN: Lakeview (Frontier Middle School)

WHY CANISIUS? I chose Canisius because it was the most academically challenging high school I looked at and would set me up for college the best. I also chose them because of the soccer team.

ATHLETICS: I play soccer. I have played soccer since I was four years old. I could play at any high school but it is special at Canisius because we have a good program and I like to compete. Many of my friends also play soccer for CHS.

ACTIVITES: I am involved in house council because it gives me the chance to give the student body a voice. It also tests one's leadership and responsibility.

ACADEMICS: My geometry teacher Mr. Zera [**Joe Zera '00**] has been particularly helpful. Everyday he has a new joke, or is asking about sports, or is just generally interested in talking with you. He is one of the nicest teachers I have met and has helped make my time at Canisius enjoyable.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Get involved now. Four years is not a long time, and if you think you will have time to do it later, you will put it off until it is too late.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Through only one year at Canisius I feel that I have matured a lot. My time management and work ethic have been impacted the most.

RYAN MILLER '25

"Canisius has helped shape me academically."



HOMETOWN: East Aurora (East Aurora Middle School)

WHY CANISIUS? I picked Canisius because when I went on the tour I loved the place and it felt like home.

ATHLETICS: During junior year I did bowling. I wanted to try something new and enjoyed it very much.

ACTIVITES: I am in a club called Crusaders Against Cancer. I am in this club because it's rewarding to help people and try to help put smiles on kids' faces. I have been on Kairos and Emmaus. Kairos was an awesome retreat. It was really nice to step away from your life for three days and not have to worry about anything. It also helped me create new friendships and talk to new people.

ACADEMICS: I really have enjoyed French class the last three years. It was really fun being able to grow and learn with the boys in my class. Mr. [Craig] Hinchcliffe has been my favorite. I had Mr. Hinchcliffe sophomore year for history. At the end of sophomore year he led a trip to Europe. The trip was one of the best times I have ever had.

FUTURE PLANS: My plans are to attend college and get a degree in business and work with my dad when I am older.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: I would tell someone attending Canisius don't miss out on the opportunities given to you.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius has helped shape me academically, teachers are very helpful and always willing to help you when you need it. Throughout my years at Canisius I have also matured a lot. I have learned many lessons through high school.



TYLER BRIDGE '25

"Because of Canisius I value the importance of family, faith, community and friendships"

HOMETOWN: Buffalo (St. Mark's School)

WHY CANISIUS? I chose Canisius because of the challenging academic environment, long lasting traditions, and to learn what it means to be a Man for Others.

ATHLETICS: I play hockey and lacrosse. These sports have taught the meanings of friendship, sportsmanship and competitiveness.

ACTIVITIES: I attended the Kairos retreat back in March. The retreat positively changed my perspective on the value of life, family and my faith. It made me gain a greater appreciation for all three of those aspects of my life.

ACADEMICS: I enjoy AP United States History and AP Chemistry because of the challenging curriculum and the teachers I was able to interact with and learn from. One particular faculty member that has helped me at Canisius is Father C [President Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J.]. His character and kindness have allowed me to become the man I am today. He has taught me the importance of reflection, hard work, and discipline. His energy and liveliness never fail to put a smile on my face.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Just go for it. You won't regret it.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius has shaped me to become a better man. Because of Canisius I value the importance of family, faith, community and friendships.

JUSTIN OSTEMPOWSKI '26

"If you are looking to meet new people then come here."



HOMETOWN: Orchard Park (Orchard Park Middle School)

WHY CANISIUS? I picked Canisius because of the new fresh start it gave me. I knew from people who have gone before me that it was a new start. It changed them for the better and gave them new and better opportunities to look forward to in their lives.

ATHLETICS: I've played basketball and baseball. I played freshman basketball just to get out there and get some exercise. I wanted to try to meet some new kids as the year was only a few months in. Baseball is what I live for. I've played since I was 4 years old. As a sophomore I got moved up to varsity baseball. It is a kind of passion and brotherhood that's never forgotten.

ACADEMICS: My favorite two classes have been history and Spanish. The teacher that has made the biggest impression on me has been Mr. Beecher [**Dennis Beecher '88**]. He talks to all of his students like they are adults, but when he needs to get serious he can just flip the switch. He gives people all of the respect they earn on their own. He is a great teacher.

FUTURE PLANS: As of right now I want to go to college and become a physical therapist.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: If you are looking to meet new people then come here. Canisius has lots of clubs and activities that other schools don't have. If you want to get to do new and cool things then come here. Trust your gut.

CANISIUS'S IMPACT: Mentally, Canisius has helped me get out there more and do things I normally wouldn't have. Physically, I now work out more. Trainers here help you get stronger if you are into those kinds of things.



MICHAEL PEREZ '25

"Step out of your comfort zone."

HOMETOWN: Buffalo (City Honors Middle School)

WHY CANISIUS? I mainly picked Canisius because I was very inspired by both my uncle and my grandfather. Another significant factor was the good things I had heard about the community. After attending HAP something really clicked for me and I already felt like a part of the Canisius community.

ATHLETICS: This past winter of junior year, I participated on the swim team. Even though I had not swum competitively since fourth grade, I immediately got the hang of the sport again thanks to my teammates.

ACTIVITIES: I have been in Climbing & Adventure Club, Ski Club, and Euchre Club.

ACADEMICS: I really enjoy history classes because it's a passion of mine and I find it very interesting. Both Mr. Ahrens [**Ron Ahrens '91**] and Mr. Beecher [**Dennis Beecher '87**] have been the most impactful on me during my time at Canisius.

FUTURE PLANS: My main plan for the future is to attend college to study history or some other sort of pre-law track.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Step out of your comfort zone and take advantage of as many opportunities as you are given.

HOW CANISIUS CHANGED ME: Canisius has made me an extremely well-rounded student that is prepared for future endeavors, whether that be for college or some other path. I am unbelievably grateful and lucky for having a chance that not everyone has to attend this school.





BEST. SUMMER. EVER. 2025

HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

JUNE 30 - JULY 25

Available to rising 8th graders, this unique four-week program provides a blend of enriching academics, athletics and fun each day.

WORKSHOPS

Rising 5th-7th graders

VIDEO GAME DESIGN - JUNE 23 - 26

Build your own video game and compete against your peers!

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE - JULY 28 - 31

Explore the beauty of WNY! Fish, kayak, hike and climb all over the 716.

ROBOTICS - AUGUST 11 - 14

Build, program and pilot your own robot!

Rising 6th-8th graders

CANISIUS SUMMER SOUND ACADEMY - JULY 14 - 25

Bring your instrument and join our NEW music lab!

CRUSADER CANVAS: ART @ CHS - JULY 28 - AUGUST 1

NEW: Draw and paint in our state-of-the-art studios

SPORTS CAMPS

Rising 4th-9th graders

BASEBALL - JUNE 25 - 27

Coppola Family Field at Stransky Athletic Complex

HOCKEY - JULY 7 - 11

North Buffalo Ice Rink

BASKETBALL - AUGUST 11 - 14

Kennedy Field House, Canisius High School

Rising 5th-9th graders

ROWING - AUGUST 4 - 8

Buffalo Scholastic Rowing Association

VOLLEYBALL - JULY 7 - 10

Kennedy Field House, Canisius High School

SOCCER - JULY 14 - 18

Tripi Field, Canisius High School

LACROSSE - JULY 21 - 24

Tripi Field, Canisius High School

REGISTER AT CANISIUSHIGH.ORG/BESTSUMMEREVER

ALUMNI EVENTS



GOLDEN JUBILEE!



The Class of 1974 held its 50th Reunion Golden Jubilee on what was a terrific Saturday afternoon in the Kennedy Field House in June 2024. CHS Director of Alumni Relations **Jay Josker '01**, Vice President for Institutional Advancement **Andy Deyell '91** and President Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J., were presented a Class of 1974 gift of $66,000 by class leaders **Ken Schoetz '74, Alan Hastings '74** and **John Kraus '74**.

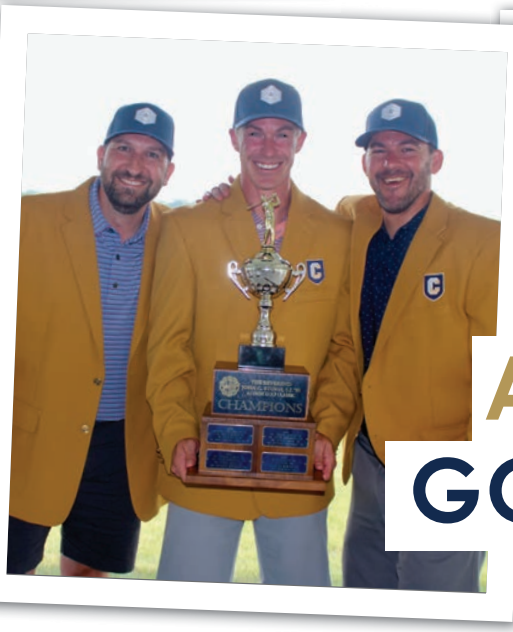
(Jubilee photos by **Lucas Dembski '24**)





ALL ALUMNI BASH

It was another great All Alumni Bash as alumni and faculty and staff gathered on Tripi Field, including former music teacher Bill Group and **Fr. James Van Dyke S.J. '77.** and father-son duos **Marc Fortner '88** and **Charlie Fortner '22** with **Steven Kropelin '22** and **Jim Kropelin '87**.





ALUMNI GOLF CLASSIC

The 2024 Alumni Golf Classic was full of highlights and high-fives on what was another awesome day of great golf and great friendship. The group of (left to right) **Daniel Pyne '02, James Rahill '02, John Paul Sfeir '02** and **Robert Dimmer '02** (not pictured) claimed the championship and the coveted gold jackets at Glen Oak Golf Club. The event also saw the first year of the now-coveted blue jackets of the senior flight, which was won by (left to right) **Peter Battaglia '69, Mark Reger '69, Bill Kolkmann '69** and **James O'Brien '69.**



ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Share news about yourself or any alum! Email details and photos to CHStoday@canisiushigh.org.

Henry Pepe '47 and his wife Rosalie celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary on September 12, 2024.

Charles Henry, Jr. '52 reports "I'm doing well. I now have 6 great grandchildren. My family never stops growing, and I keep getting older! Thanks be to God...He is Good!"

Leo Bradley '52 is retired and a new great-grandfather of a future Crusader named Jack (1 year old).

Dr. Ronald Usiak, Sr. '53 is enjoying his family. Ron has 5 children, 4 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Robert Barone '58 is still active as surgical oncologist and living in La Jolla, California.

Peter Darata '58 has retired from his role as a commercial real estate appraiser at D & D Associates, and his son Bruce has taken over the family business.

Richard LaClair '60 retired as professor emeritus from Erie Community College where he taught for 46 years.

Thomas Noonan '62 and his wife Jean have 8 children, 43 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. They have been married for 58 years. His son Mark is a Buffalo Diocesan Priest and daughter Sarah is a Catholic Nun in the Philippines.

This past July, **Robert Nowak '66** participated with a panel of composers at Bard College at Simon's Rock in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. The event, including a dialogue with the audience, was hosted and moderated by renowned cellist Yehuda Hanani as part of the school's summer music program.

Rocky Krystof '72 and many members from the class of 1972 have been having annual "reunions" for many years now on their own. Pictured this year in host Tony Manzella '72's yard are (left to right) lower: **Rocky Krysztof '72, John Buszka '72, John Lankes '72, Paul Moloney '72, Larry Korzeniewski '72,** and **Bill O'Connor '72**. Left to right upper: **Tim Sullivan '72, Tom Drew '72, Pete Heffernan '72, Dan Joyce '72, John Lagree '72, Tony Manzella, Kelly Bartels '72, Joe Mancuso '72, J.P. Powers '72** and **Peter Martin '72**. "Bread & wine" enhanced stories of the past as they caught up on each others' current lives. The annual gathering was enjoyable and '72 is looking forward to more in the future.

Paul Inderbitzen '67 was recognized as the 2024 "Citizen of the Year" by the Greater Hudson Chamber of Commerce for his continued dedication to the community through his leadership, community involvement and volunteerism. Moving to Hudson, New Hampshire in 1973, Inderbitzen began his involvement volunteering in 1979. He served six years on the Hudson Planning Board and was elected to the Hudson Town Council for four years (two as President). He remains the Moderator of the Hudson School District, a position he was first elected to in 1992.



Jim Maul '56 and other members of the Class of 1956 gathered for a luncheon this past May. Pictured left to right: Harry Brand '56, Charlie Clark '56, Jim Davern '56, Jim, Bill Ciesla '56 and his wife Kathy. The class of '56 still meets regularly to catch up and talk about their days at CHS.

Dr. John Buscaglia, DDS '69 retired from his dental practice in 2022. Today he is a part-time faculty member at the UB School of Dental Medicine and a volunteer at Buffalo's NativityMiguel middle school.

Larry Cataldi '69 and his wife Pauline celebrated their 50th anniversary in August of 2024.



Jim O'Brien '69 competed in the US National Senior Shotgun Championships in Olympic Trap held in Hillsdale, MI this past September. Jim won the gold medal in B class. The top 6 shooters from the preliminary rounds made it to a "medal round". After 20 targets it was down to Jim and one other shooter who were battling it out for gold and silver. Jim managed to break all 5 remaining targets while his opponent missed one. Jim reported that he wore his CHS polo that day as a reminder of the importance of perseverance!

Michael Hage, a center who would be drafted by the Montreal Canadiens, was awarded the 2024 E.J. McGuire Award of Excellence. The award is presented annually by NHL Central Scouting in honor of **E.J. McGuire '70**, who served as director of Central Scouting from 2005 until he died of cancer April 7, 2011. It's given to the candidate who best exemplifies commitment to excellence through strength of character, competitiveness and athleticism.



David Butler '71 and many of his classmates from the class of 1971 gathered for drinks and camaraderie at Hydraulic Hearth in Buffalo this past July. Pictured left to right seated: Fred Saia '71, Kevin Walsh '71. Standing left to right in the first row: Pat Curran '71, Tom Virginia '71, Tim McCarthy '71, David Butler, Gary Toomey '71, Peter Velocci '71. Standing back row left to right: Peter Curtin '71, Bill Evans '71, Michael McMahon '71, Dennis Hayes '71, and Joe Bremer '73. David Pratt '71 arrived after the photo was taken.

Dr. Thomas Virginia, Jr. '71 retired after 43 years of teaching (mostly Latin but some French 1 and Beginning Greek) in the summer of 2023. He continues as a substitute at Sacred Heart Academy and volunteers at St. Luke's Mission of Mercy two days a week to help middle schoolers with their math homework.



Fred Smith '71 (far right) and classmates and fellow Bills fans **Jim Shanahan '71** (far left) and **Jeff Taylor '71** (middle) met up at Rockefeller Center in New York City this past fall to reconnect and have some fun. Go Bills!





Fr. Thomas Slon, S.J. '75 (left) and Fr. Michael Corcoran, S.J. '76

SLON '75, CORCORAN '76 APPOINTED TO NEW LEADERSHIP POSITIONS ACROSS JESUIT NETWORK

Fr. Thomas R. Slon, S.J. '75 was appointed in summer 2024 as the Socius of the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States.

As Socius, Fr. Slon will oversee the work of the Jesuit Conference, which promotes common goals and oversees national and international projects of both the Jesuit provinces of the U.S. and the Jesuit provinces of Canada.

Fr. Slon served as the Superior of the Canisius Jesuit Community in Buffalo since 2016, where he was deeply engaged with the local church. He also served on the CHS Board of Trustees. The Cornell University graduate also holds degrees from the Weston School of Theology in Cambridge and a Master of Architecture from the Catholic University of America.

Fr. Michael Corcoran, S.J. '76 was named by the Society of Jesus as the superior of the Murray-Weigel-Kohlmann community at Fordham University, the health care community of the USA East Province of the Society of Jesus.

Fr. Corcoran, who taught math and religion at CHS for 10 years, began his new responsibilities as superior this past summer. He has taught at many Jesuit schools and helped start Yap Catholic High School in 2011 while serving in Micronesia.

USA East Provincial Joseph O'Keefe, S.J. wrote about the appointment: "We are especially blessed to have Mickey as the next Superior of the MWK Community. Over the years, he has taught at a number of secondary schools, including Yap Catholic, where he also served as Superior. I am confident that Mickey will bring his characteristic patience, prayerfulness, generosity, and gift for cura personalis to this new service of leadership."

We thank Fr. Slon and Fr. Corcoran for their valuable service and contributions to CHS and the Buffalo community and wish him well in his new role.

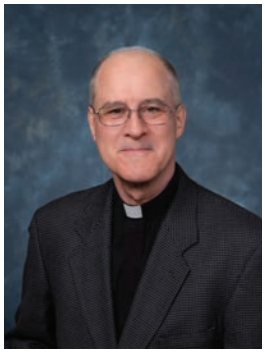
Jack Herrmann '79 retired from Optum Inc., a subsidiary of United Health Group, in July 2021. Jack has lived in Scottsdale, AZ for about four years now since retiring from Optum. He spends his retirement traveling with his wife, who has also recently retired from her career as a nurse.

Chuck Mauro '80 is the owner of several local restaurants, including Siena, 800 Maple, Rocco's, JT's Urban Italian.

Scott Thrun '82 has been the Vice President for Real Estate Development at The Moinian Group, where he continues to develop and build new high-rise buildings and affordable apartments in Manhattan.



Current CHS Trustee **Ken Kencel '77** rang the bell at the New York Stock Exchange last February as Nuveen Churchill Direct Lending went public through the company's initial public offering. Ken is the President and CEO of Churchill Asset Management in NYC.



Fr. James Miracky, S.J. '77 has been appointed as vice president for mission integration and ministry at St. Peter's University in Jersey City, N.J. Fr. Miracky has formerly served as associate pastor at St. Francis Xavier Parish in New York City; assistant provincial for higher education in the Jesuits USA East Province; dean of the college of arts and sciences at Loyola University Maryland; and associate dean for faculty development at the College of the Holy Cross, where he also served as chair and associate professor of English.

David Curtin '76 earned his master's degree in Education at the Institute of Education of University College London. David's dissertation discussed what teachers are doing differently post-Covid and what that tells us about how they view their role as teachers. Education has been David's focus since his retirement. He is the chair of the Board of Governors of a state primary school in east London and is involved in several educational organizations.



Don Parker '78 retired seven years ago after 39 years in the technology and banking industries and now teaches public policy part-time for Harvard's Division of Continuing Education. He and his wife just celebrated our 45th wedding anniversary with a trip to Maui.

Mark Nemeth '83 was re-elected to a second four-year term as Grand Island Town Justice.

Andrew Bowen '94 was recently named principal of Williamsville North High School.

Brian Cosgrove '94 was named Chief of Police of the West Seneca Police Department. Cosgrove, who has been patrol captain for four years and a lieutenant for seven years during a 21-year career with the department, started his new post this past July. Cosgrove has been a crisis negotiator, West Seneca Central School District DARE officer, a field training officer, and the unit commander of the department honor guard. He is the father of Jack Cosgrove '23 and Noah Cosgrove '26.

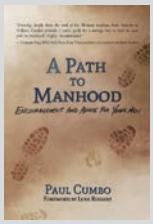




A family christening in August 2024 provided a CHS photo opportunity that spanned generations, provided by **Tim Myers '80** (center, kneeling). Left to right are: **Jim Basil '80**, Tim's sons **Ryan Myers '14** and **Timmy Myers '12**, Tim's nephews J**ohnny Cotter '10** and **Paul Kucinski '13**, **Peter Krysztof '08** (godfather, holding Wesley Kucinski), **Rocky Krysztof '72**. Writes Tim: "In front are Leo (hopefully CHS Class of 2037) and Lou (Class of 2039) and Wesley (Class of 2042!)"



Longtime CHS English teacher **Paul Cumbo '97** secured a book deal with worldwide rights for his fifth title, *A Path to Manhood: Encouragement and Advice for Young Men,* which will be published in February 2025.



Cumbo has authored four previous works, including *Blue Doors, 150 Years of Jesuit Education at Canisius High School, 1870-2020.*

"My aim with the book is to be both challenging and affirming," Cumbo said. "It calls young men to do some reflection and introspection in order that they might understand themselves a bit better. It encourages them to find their own path – a combination of following in the footsteps of others and having the courage to go in new directions."



Tony Failla '97 was honored as the Buffalo Bandits' Fan of the Year in spring 2024. Failla, who played lacrosse at CHS and Canisius University, has been one of the team's most devoted fans for the Bandits' entire existence. The Bandits recognized Failla on the field prior to their final home game of the regular season. Failla was the presenter of the team's 2023-24 Player Awards as voted on by the fans.



An outstanding group of Crusaders, captained by **Mark Paradowski '99**, were once again a big part of the 11 Day Power Play's outstanding marathon fundraiser. The group was among the leading fundraising teams with about $14,000 in donations. The Crusaders have raised around $135,000 for the 11 Day Power Play over the last six years. A "Crusaders vs. Crusaders" game was part of the second day of this year's effort to battle cancer. Pictured are **Dylan Arnold '10, Chris Revekant '99, Tim Marren '99, Alex Bielecki '99, Mark Paradowski, Charles Castro '04** and **Chris Brectel '99**. Among those whom the team was playing for this year was **Mark Bova '99**, who received successful treatment for cancer about a year ago and is now married with a newborn baby girl.



Fr. Dennis Baker, S.J., '98 professed his final, solemn vows in the Society of Jesus this past September during a Mass of Perpetual Profession at Loyola Blakefield School, where Baker is President.

"Jesuit life is a great life. I'm beyond grateful to have professed final vows in the Society of Jesus … It was an honor to profess them in front of the entire school community at Loyola Blakefield," Baker said. "God has been so generous to me."

Archbishop of Baltimore William E. Lori was present for the Mass, which was attended by hundreds of the Loyola Blakefield community. Fr. Baker, a native of Niagara Falls who holds an M.S. degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Niagara University, also served at Canisius High School as a history teacher and in other roles. He was also president of Xavier High School in Chuuk, Micronesia from 2016-2021.

Fr. Baker gave a shoutout to CHS on social media following the event, saying "I'd never be here without you. I'll be a Crusader forever. I can't thank you enough for your goodness to me."

Rev. Stephen N. DeWitt, OFM '00 began a new job in November 2024 as Director of Community Outreach at Padua Franciscan High School in Parma, Ohio.

Liam Knott '03 was the grand marshal for the 2024 St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Buffalo. Knott, a general and bariatric surgeon with UBMD, was elected grand marshal by the United Irish American Association, becoming the fourth member of his family to have the honored role.

James Cosgriff '03 started the wealth firm Cosgriff Wealth Management, LLC, which offers investment and tax services.

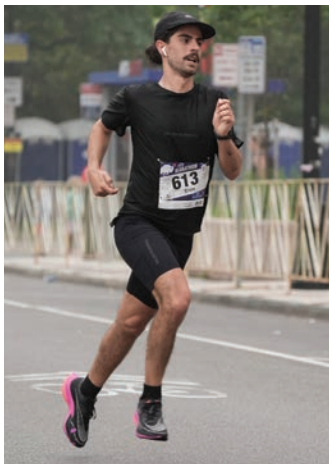
Dr. Kevin Scott '07 completed a PhD in Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame.



Robert Edward Furlani '06 lives in Buffalo, where he is the Assistant General Counsel and Chief Patent Counsel for Ligand Pharmaceutical (based in San Diego, California). He earned a BA in chemistry at UB, a PhD in organic chemistry at North Carolina State, his JD in December 2019 at American University. However, he relays that his biggest accomplishment is most definitely marrying his beautiful wife Angela in 2016. Robert and Angela are blessed with two boys, Leo and Vincent, and a black labrador George.



Jacob Kamholz '09 earned a master's degree in public health with a focus in emergency management from Ohio State University. In fall 2024 he began working towards a PhD in public health policy, focusing on emergency medical service policy at OSU. Jacob was awarded a prestigious fellowship by the National Registry of EMTs that funds his PhD education and provides significant academic and research mentoring. He continues to maintain his certification as a paramedic, which Jacob obtained in 2012.



Elias Dawli '10 made the most of a visit home this year when he recorded a fantastic finish in the Buffalo Marathon. Dawli finished third overall in a personal-best 2:36.11. It was his fourth marathon and his second time running the Buffalo Marathon. Dawli lives in Brooklyn and is the Director of Product Management at The Trade Desk, a media buying platform.



David Karambizi '10 graduated from Brown University with a dual MD/PhD degree in Translational Research / Medicine. His training and research centers on cancer epigenetics and RNA biology. David, whose family fled the Rwandan genocide in 1994 when he was 3, is also a graduate of the St. Augustine Division at NativityMiguel School of Buffalo in 2006 and Cornell University in 2014, where he earned an undergraduate degree in biology.



Alexander Vilardo '10 was promoted to Partner at Colligan Law LLP. Alexander's practice consists of corporate and business law, commercial real estate, estate planning, and estate administration.

Michael Kozlowski '11 graduated with distinction in May 2024 from Canisius University, earning a Master of Science degree in Cybersecurity. Michael is deeply grateful to his parents for their unwavering support and encouragement throughout his journey.

Scott Will '11 PhD, an Optical Engineer at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, was a featured presenter at the SPIE Astronomical Telescopes & Instrumentation Conference in Yokohama, Japan in June. The conference was attended by over 2,000 astronomers, scientists and engineers from around the world. Scott is an engineer on the Wavefront Sensing and Control team for the Roman Space Telescope, scheduled to be launched by NASA in May 2027.

Patrick O'Leary '13 has been a proud Parkview Pharmacy employee for the past seven years.

Dr. Allan Collins '15 received his PhD in NeuroPsychology from Miami of Ohio. He is an instructor at University of Richmond.



Frank Fialkiewicz III '15 graduated from North Carolina State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, earning a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in May 2024. He continued his veterinary training with a rotating internship at the University of Georgia with plans to complete a residency in Emergency and Critical Care.



LaTerrance Reed '15 stopped by 1180 Delaware Ave. during coach **Kyle Husband '96**'s CHS Basketball camp in summer 2024. Reed, a Buffalo native, shared his story with the campers, from the hard work he put in during a CHS career that included being named New York State Player of the Year, to the lessons on and off the court that helped carry him to a successful professional basketball career. Reed has been playing professionally in Europe since 2022. Reed also was a co-owner of the new TCB league ("The City's Best"), summer pro-am basketball league in Buffalo.

William Quinn '15 is living in Denver, Colorado and working at Moss Adams Accounting as a CPA in the Transactional Services Department.

Tyler Will '16 accepted a position of Software Engineer at Amazon in New York City.

From Monday through Friday, **Jake Lutz '17,** works for National Grid as a Senior Planner in Resource Coordination. However, on the weekends, Jake is a professional race car driver who competes in the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, driving the No. 14 for Joe Stearns. Jake, a 2021 graduate of LeMoyne College, drives on the Advantage Motorsports Tour Type Modified Team based out of Western New York. Last July, Jake won the Race of Champions Modified Series Crosby's 100 at Holland Speedway, picking up his first win of 2024 with the series.

Michael Berchou '18 graduated from UB last fall with a B.S. in Environmental Engineering and has started a new position as a Rail Engineer for Colliers Engineering & Design.



Several CHS alumni volunteered at Taco Fest, an all-day music festival fundraiser organized by **Matt Riley '19** at Deep South Taco that raised thousands and brought awareness to suicide prevention. All proceeds benefited two great organizations: The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and The Devin Waring Foundation, a foundation formed in memory of Devin Waring, who died while a student at CHS. Pictured are (standing, left to right) **Joe Gogan '19, Liam O'Leary '26, Josh Lysarz '19 and Ian Kasper '19** along with (kneeling, left to right) **Thomas O'Leary '19** and **Matt Riley.**

BAPTISIM



Peter Roehmholdt '10 and **Max Roehmholdt, MD '11** (pictured right to left) each welcomed their first child this year with Peter's son, PJ, and Max's son, Otto, baptized together at Saints Peter and Paul Church in July. Max graduated from his Urology residency at Cleveland Clinic Akron General in June 2024 and moved back to Buffalo to start practice as a urologist with WNY Urology.

BIRTHS



Kevin Costanzo '07 and wife Nora welcomed baby number two (Vincent Mario) in November 2024.



IN MEMORIAM

We remember alumni of whose passing we've learned since Summer 2024.

Kaliel N. Sheheen '44
Bernard W. Carney '45
Peter B. Ebner '46
Paul F. Rakowski '47
Albert P. Salter, Jr. '48
Noel E. Bartlo '50
Francis J. Busteed '50
Rev. Raymond J. Mahar '50
Dr. James J. Kropelin '51
Joseph N. Erhart, Jr. '52
James E. Farry, Jr. '52
Joseph T. Kelly '52
Daniel C. Mania '53
Robert T. Hickey '54
Joseph H. Sweeney '54
Joseph A. Dragonette '55
Thomas H. Mellenger '55
Dr. Vincent A. Muscarella, MD '55
Joseph D. Reno '55
William F. Roeckl '55
Raymond E. Swiderski '55
Norman S. Andrzejewski '58
William Werdel '58
Teddy M. Bigelow '59
Louis A. Jerge '59
James P. Naples '59
Dr. Thomas P. Sheehan '59
Dr. Gerald E. Daigler, MD '60
William S. Hartnett '60
Edward E. Frauenheim III '62
Sean M. Shinners '63
Robert C. Baltus '64
Kim A. Cooper '65
Terry Hepp '65
Timothy M. Lynch '66
David C. Skoney '66
Dr. Brendan C. Brady '67
Michael A. Gallagher '67
James Bogdan '70
Arthur O. Eve, Jr. '75
Kenneth J. Duszynski '76
Jeffrey M. Rutowski '87
James J. Croad '89
Patrick H. Enright '89
Benjamin J. Hughes '97
Daniel F. O'Connor, Jr. '00
Kevon D. Walker '24

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THE CLASS OF 2024

Members of the Class of 2024 were invited to wear their college sweatshirt for a photo taken prior to graduation rehearsal. This year's class collectively earned over $19 million in college scholarships.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY TOM WOLF / LEVI TRIMBLE