

DeMatha Brotherhood  
Takes Center Stage  
at Graduation



Wind Ensemble  
Named Top Band  
in Country



# DEMATHA

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RED & BLUE

SUMMER 2025



Father Albert Meets Pope Leo:  
One DeMatha!

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## ON THE COVER

After DeMatha President Father Albert Anuszewski, O.S.S.T. presented a DeMatha hat to Pope Leo XIV, the pontiff said he had heard of DeMatha. Father Albert was in Rome with his fellow Trinitarians for their General Chapter. This fraternal assembly "serves as a crucial gathering for the Trinitarian family to reflect on their charism, address contemporary challenges like the persecution of Christians, and renew their commitment to their mission of mercy and redemption." *(Photo courtesy of Vatican Media.)*



# DEMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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## Red & Blue

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 1, SUMMER 2025

Fr. Albert Anuszewski, O.S.S.T.  
PRESIDENT

Dr. Daniel J. McMahon '76  
PRINCIPAL

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Alumni and Friends of DeMatha,

Since officially beginning as president of DeMatha Catholic High School in January, I truly hit the ground running—and I haven't stopped since. Each day brings its share of opportunities and challenges, whether related to the implementation of our five-year Strategic Plan, faculty and staff concerns, student needs, or school-wide initiatives. It's been an energizing and rewarding start, and I am deeply grateful for the support and commitment of the entire DeMatha community.



This year has been a unique moment of transition and renewal, not only for DeMatha but also for the Archdiocese of Washington and the Catholic Church globally. The seamless continuation of our shared mission amid these leadership changes speaks to the strength of our institutions and the dedication of those who serve in them. DeMatha, in particular, continues to thrive thanks to the collaborative spirit among our faculty, staff, students, families, alumni and Board of Directors.

On a personal note, having lived in Rome for 12 years, I had the privilege of witnessing the pontificates of both Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis. Each left a deep impression on me. Pope Benedict was a brilliant theologian, perhaps the most profound Catholic thinker of our time. His writings continue to shape my own spiritual and intellectual life.

Pope Francis, on the other hand, brought a deeply pastoral and accessible presence to the papacy. He thrived in being among the people—listening, embracing and walking with them. His humility and joy left a mark on everyone he encountered. I had the chance to see that up close, and those experiences remain with me as a priest and now as school president.

I am happy to be serving as the leader of the DeMatha school community, especially as we continue to implement our five-year Strategic Plan and begin planning for the development of our Campus Master Plan. This exciting next step involves assessing our current facilities and property to determine how we can better serve our students and community. Our goal is to move DeMatha forward into the future—ensuring that we not only continue to fulfill our mission but that we make what we do and who we are even better.

St. John de Matha, pray for us!

Sincerely,

Fr. Albert Anuszewski, O.S.S.T.  
PRESIDENT

(See more on Father Albert on page 13.)



Fifteen days after he helped select **Pope Leo XIV** to lead the worldwide Roman Catholic Church, **Cardinal Wilton Gregory** was at DeMatha to celebrate our End-of-School Mass. Following one of the songs, he drew a rousing ovation when he said that Gonzaga is jealous of our music program. Cardinal Gregory, who served as Archbishop of Washington until being succeeded by **Cardinal Robert McElroy** in March, is shown here after Mass with his concelebrants and altar servers.

In March, rising seniors **Ian Clarke, Zion Izegwire, Matthew Robinson** and **Jordan Stevens** placed first among seven schools in an engineering challenge competition to provide aid to victims of natural disaster. They won for best all-terrain aid delivery vehicle, while another DeMatha squad was second for best rapidly deployable communications tower. Twenty-eight total students participated, including, among others, those from Gonzaga, Visitation and host Bishop McNamara.

**Shawn Smolen, Lincoln Beasley, Xavier Sydnor** and **Zach Goodwin** – all 2025 graduates – were designated University of Maryland College Park Scholars, a two-year living-learning program for academically talented students.

After hosting more than 10,000 lunches, countless bingos, wedding receptions, Stag Nights, school events, community gatherings and special events, the Antler

Room we will expanded and modernized soon. Construction will include new bathrooms and windows facing the back parking lot. It should be ready for occupancy in the fall.

In April, the DeMatha Players performed *Chess*, a rocking musical that displays tensions, both human and political, when love triangles meet the Cold War at the International Chess Championships.



**DeMATHA'S ROAD TO CIVIL RIGHTS**

**Malcolm Wiley '87** (center) welcomed DeMatha's contingent to the World of Coca-Cola museum and attraction in Atlanta.

DeMatha's Road to Civil Rights 2025 Summer Course took 17 students over 2,000 miles throughout the south to encounter first-hand places of historical and sacred significance to the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. The group was led by DeMatha English teachers **Dr. Daniel McMahon '76**, who also serves as principal; **John McConnell**, English Department co-chair; and **Pat Smith '82**, coordinator of the DeMatha Way program.

The group of eight seniors, six juniors and three sophomores visited Atlanta, Nashville, Memphis, Greensboro, N.C., and these sites in Alabama: Selma, Montgomery, City of St. Jude Parish and Tuskegee. The journey helped the Civil Rights Scholars grow in their understanding of the work, dedication and sacrifice of those committed to bringing justice and equality into places where it did not exist.

*“One characteristic of DeMatha men is that they leave every space better than it was when they arrived. We ask them to do this in physical spaces, in cyberspaces and in spiritual spaces.”*

This fall, we will dedicate the newest building on campus and open a new part of the oldest building. The Cross Center for Engineering, Arts & Robotics is a state-of-the-art facility that will allow us to continue to develop curricula that respond to student needs, interests and the changing knowledge of the world.

In the center of that space will be the fine arts section, where students will practice drawing, painting, sculpture and ceramics. These are some of the oldest arts in the world – and yet they are forever new to each generation. While we have had these classes for some time, this new facility will give us space to celebrate teaching and learning excellence. We are deeply grateful for all of those who donated to the project.

In addition, the Antler Room, originally dug out in 1949, is undergoing a substantial renovation to expand the space by about 2,000 square feet, introduce natural light, create openings to the back parking lot and have new bathroom facilities. One characteristic of DeMatha men is that they leave every space better than it was when they arrived. We ask them to do this in physical spaces, in cyberspaces and in spiritual spaces. The work in the Antler Room reflects the commitment of DeMatha’s donors to make a space better for others.

I hope that sometime this fall you will come by and see the campus and be inspired by the connections to the past and the vision of the future.



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

# Marty Hager '73 Retires After 24 Years at DeMatha

**M**arty Hager '73, who retired in June after 24 years of teaching in DeMatha's Science Department, has attended several of the school's graduations. The one in 2023 especially stands out.

"I was the first faculty member ever to stand with a 50th-anniversary class when we were recognized," Marty said. "I'll never forget that moment."

Marty's ties to the school are long and run deep. One of four brothers to graduate from DeMatha, he is also father to three graduates: Jonathan '05, Joey '07 and Michael '11. Marty's mother, Bonnie, worked in the library for nearly 20 years.

During his time at his alma mater, Marty has taught biology, physics and geology and was the school's first engineering teacher. He finished his career by teaching anatomy and chemistry and was co-chair of the Science Department.

"I wanted to retire when I thought I was still doing a good job, not be asked to leave," Marty said. "I think I still relate to the guys well and can get through to them. I'll definitely miss the special events and the relationships you build with your students."

In 1981, Marty began his classroom career at nearby St. Mark the Evangelist. He was one of the first teachers Principal Dr. Dan McMahon '76 hired. In addition to teaching, he has, among other things, worked with the Ecology Club, the Academic Quiz Bowl and the school's It's Academic team.



"Marty has been a great role model for kids and adults and has enriched so many lives," McMahon said. "I remember us taking kids on a week-long service retreat to Nazareth Farm in West Virginia. He was great to work with, and his considerable carpentry skills were used to their fullest.

"We're going to miss him."

Marty, who grew up about a block from campus, first came to DeMatha in 1969. He was preceded by his brother Tom '69 and followed by Philip '75 and Greg '78. Marty and his wife, Mary, who's already retired, plan to be snowbirds in Charleston, S.C., and perhaps move there. Joey and Jonathan's families, including four grandchildren, live there.

"We plan to do some traveling as well," Marty said. "I love trains, and I think it'd be great to take a trip across Canada. I also love to fish, and I'd like to learn how to fly fish.

"DeMatha has been a major part of my life for the past 50-plus years, but I'm looking forward to having some new experiences."



*Marty Hager '73 is joined by students on his final day as a teacher at DeMatha.*



At the Maryland Athletic Trainers' Association Symposium, DeMatha head athletic trainer Wendy Norris was named winner of the 2025 Athletic Training Service Award. This award recognizes an athletic trainer (AT) in Maryland for their contributions to the profession at the local and state levels. She is pictured here with DeMatha assistant ATs Jenn Reading (left) and Rickee Yates.

With a career that spans more than three decades, Wendy has advocated for the advancement of athletic training and the safety of athletes throughout the state and in the WCAC. She established the sports medicine program at DeMatha in the early 1990s and has not only benefitted countless Stags, but has acted as a teacher and mentor for many ATs over the years as well. DeMatha is a highly sought-after internship assignment for many local university students, and multiple athletic trainers working in the DMV area today started their careers under Wendy's tutelage in Hyattsville. She has been an integral member of the WCAC's sports medicine committee, working to make conference-wide policies reflect the highest standard of care for student-athletes.

Wendy has dedicated her career to making DeMatha a safe place for our students and has ensured that future athletes will be in good hands as she helps to develop the next generations of ATs.



Assistant athletic trainer **Jenn Reading** was inducted into the Kent Island High School Hall of Fame on April 12. Jenn was the first athlete from the school to get a full athletic college scholarship. She lettered in softball, basketball and volleyball and then played four years of softball at Drexel University.



Theology teacher **Homer Twigg** and his wife **Jocelyn** became the proud parents of a baby girl, **Lillian Marigold** on April 14. Congratulations!

In December, **Chris Hurst** (right), a DeMatha assistant principal, successfully defended

his doctoral dissertation, "Catholic School Identity: The Purpose, Mission and Practice of Education in the Catholic Tradition." He received his Ph.D. in education policy at the University of Maryland's May graduation. Congratulations Dr. Hurst!



At our End-of-School Mass on May 23, five DeMatha students were confirmed and received their first Eucharist. They are, from left, **Zac Robertson, Aidan Adams, Nicholas Church, Samuel Van de Kamp** and **Daniel Williams**. **Cardinal Wilton Gregory**, a former Archbishop of Washington, D.C., was the celebrant. In addition, Daniel and Nicholas made a profession of faith, and Aidan was baptized.

Just prior to summarizing the Campus Ministry Office's 2024-25 highlights for fellow faculty and staff, **Erin Bright**, DeMatha's director of Christian service, said, "It's pretty clear in the gospels that Jesus is asking us to serve others."



**R.J. Thurston** volunteered to be a reader just prior to the Youth Mass for Life on Jan. 24. He was one of several faith-filled DeMatha gentlemen to attend the Archdiocese of Washington-sponsored event at St. Matthew's Cathedral. **Daniel Williams** tossed "I Stand for Life" T-shirts into the gathering of students from Catholic schools across the DMV.

Here are some of the ways DeMatha is fulfilling Jesus' call to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and visit the forgotten:

- Students completed more than 20,000 service hours.
- Collected more than 16,000 canned food items for seven charities and 155 toys at Christmas. "Our reputation is so strong that organizations rely on us, and others reach out asking for support," Bright said.
- Started a service club, which at Christmas provided dinner and toys to 15 immigrant families.
- Collected 20 boxes of clothing, three bags of shoes and over \$1,000 to buy new undergarments for teenagers at Adult and Teen Challenge Maryland

and Happy Helpers for the Homeless in Baltimore.

- Served four weekly food banks/soup kitchens.
- Packaged toiletries for veterans.
- Took two service trips to Camden, N.J., where students learned about Catholic social teaching and justice.
- Raised \$1,600 and donated 400 baby items for Mom Cares in Baltimore.
- For the third straight year, several students promoted physical activity through basketball twice a month to youth with disabilities.
- Several baseball players partnered with Seton High softball players to teach bat and ball skills to special-needs youth.



**Erin Bright, Jaylen Ortiz-Olfus** (left) and **Lazarus McCarthy** attended the annual Catholic Charities Service Summit at Georgetown Prep in February, a gathering of campus ministers and student leaders networking and brainstorming best practices to serve others. They also learned more about Catholic Charities programs and heard from **Mark Shriver**, president of Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School, about making service a part of their lives beyond high school.

# Father Josh Seeks Men to Become Trinitarian Priests

*“To live as brothers and glorify the Trinity through our charism of spreading God’s redemptive mercy. If I can encounter someone like that, they will be a good priest.”*

**D**eMatha campus chaplain Father Josh Warshak, O.S.S.T, is now also vocation director for the Trinitarian Order. In this Q&A, he describes his new role and the type of man he is seeking for the priesthood.

## What have you been doing to interest more men in becoming Trinitarians?

“The main role of a vocation director is twofold: to promote Trinitarian vocations and accompany men in their discernment. I have explored new ways to promote the Order through online and print media, as well as personal connections with people at large events, such as the SEEK Conference and the National Eucharistic Congress.”

## What qualities do you look for in a priesthood candidate?

“I am not looking for men to be good priests. I am first and foremost looking for men who have a deep commitment to Christ and an open heart to do God’s will. Next, I am seeking candidates who share a desire to participate in our fraternal life as Trinitarians. This is our primary vocation: to live as brothers and glorify the Trinity through our charism of spreading God’s redemptive mercy. If I can encounter someone like that, they will be a good priest.”

## What should a young man at DeMatha do if he thinks God is calling him to be a priest?

“I know in my heart that God is calling DeMatha men to the religious life. Those who feel even curious about how we live or what

we do should come and ask. I have an open-door policy, and I am often walking the halls. I have even told a few of our current students, “I think God is calling you to be a Trinitarian.” The other most important thing is to pray with an open heart. Do not put restrictions or conditions on God when praying about your vocation. Approach the Lord and say, ‘Here I am, Lord, I desire to do your will.’”

## Tell us how you became a Trinitarian priest?

“I had never heard of the Trinitarians before I found their webpage when I was a junior in college. I knew I felt called to religious life, but I had no idea where to begin. Through a vocation survey, I discovered the Trinitarians. When I came for my first visit in 2009, I had a deep sense that I had found my home with this community. I was drawn to the Order because of the deep fraternal bond shared among the brothers. I wanted to be a part of it. After graduating from college with a business degree, I joined the Order and studied theology for 10 years. The community, my Trinitarian Brothers, helps me to be a good priest in service to God’s people.”

## What do you find to be the biggest roadblock toward someone accepting God’s call to the priesthood?

I find that the biggest roadblock to answering God’s call is certainty. People want certainty in our world today, and God can only promise that He will not abandon us. Answering God’s call in our lives requires faith, stepping out into the unknown, and allowing the Holy Spirit to catch you. We must abandon our need for certainty and become a lump of clay in the hands of the Father.



## Wind Ensemble Named Top Catholic High School Concert Band in the Nation

**M**ay 9 began like any other day for Carlos Castrillon '95, DeMatha's director of bands. While home preparing to drive to campus, he decided to check the National Catholic Band Association (NCBA) website.

And there it was: DeMatha's Wind Ensemble had been judged to be the outstanding Catholic high school concert band in the country. The group had won the Class AAA division, the highest level of competition.

The first person Carlos told was his wife, Sarah, orchestra director at Oakland Mills High School. He was anything but calm.

"I dropped my toothbrush, dropped my phone and just let out a scream," he said. "I was showing so much excitement that my wife came running in and asked me if everything was OK. She said, 'Did someone die?'"

"I said no but couldn't even vocalize what had happened, what I had seen. I just showed her the phone. We were both so happy."

To be considered for this prestigious recognition, Carlos had to submit two videos of the Wind Ensemble performing in concert. Entries were due April 1, and anything identifying DeMatha had to be removed. He submitted two selections from the Prince George's County Band Assessment, which was held just prior to spring break in late March.

Carlos characterized the judging as "very thorough" and done by high-level band directors, including from the University of Washington, Marquette and the Cobb Wind Symphony of Marietta, Ga.

"The judges provided a lot of written comments, which were very helpful, in addition to the numerical score for our performances," he said.

Matt Bickel '95, DeMatha's director of instrumental music, was pleased to see Carlos and his band's hard work receive national acclaim.

"Carlos is a great friend and a tremendous musician," Matt said. "I'm proud of him and the Wind Ensemble for their tireless effort and commitment to the music program."

During the band's May 9 afternoon rehearsal, Carlos revealed to his musicians what he learned that morning. "I have been just bursting with joy and emotion all day," he said, "unable to wait to share this moment with you."

The recognition is even more special when you consider that the United States has more than 1,100 Catholic high schools.

In 1999, DeMatha's Wind Ensemble was named top concert band in country for the 12th straight year and 18 of the previous 20. The competition went on hiatus shortly thereafter before returning in 2024.

"This national recognition is a huge honor that reflects our students' dedication, musicianship and collaborative spirit," Carlos said. "The NCBA selected our ensemble based on its outstanding performance quality, commitment to excellence and contribution to the Catholic musical tradition."

"This achievement belongs to our entire DeMatha music community: students, families, faculty and alumni who make the program what it is today."



DeMatha instrumentalists were once again judged to be among the finest in Maryland.



Rising senior **Jesse Kliman** spent two weeks this summer attending the Schmidt Vocal Institute at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. An All-State vocalist, Jesse was there for an intensive residential program designed to improve his classical singing ability.



In May, DeMatha music ensembles went to Festivals in the Park (Hershey, Pa.) and turned in these winning performances:

- Concert Band II** – Excellent, First Place, Concert Band II Division
- Concert Band** – Superior, Second Place, Concert Band I Division
- Percussion Ensemble II** – Superior, Second Place, Percussion Ensemble Division
- DeMatha Singing Stags** – Excellent, Second Place, Men's Chorus

**DeMatha Music** – Esprit de Corps Award recognizing a strong sense of team spirit, pride and camaraderie

**Individually, these DeMatha musicians earned All-State honors:**

- Asaad Donaldson '25**, tenor 2 – Senior Mixed Chorus
- Andrew Cibor '26**, bass 1 – Senior Mixed Chorus
- Julian Maring '27**, bass 1 – Senior Mixed Chorus
- Wyatt Bohn '28**, trombone – Junior Band
- Daniel Hollar '28**, trumpet – Junior Band
- Landon Pearson '28**, trombone – Junior Band
- Vedant Bhalla '28**, French horn – Junior Band
- Jason Ayers '28**, French horn – Junior Band
- Brayden Offutt '26**, cello – Senior Orchestra
- Riley Massey '26**, baritone sax – Senior Band
- Jesse Kliman '26**, bass 1 – Senior Mixed Chorus
- Mekhi Akonnor '25**, bass 2 – alternate, Senior Mixed Chorus
- Diego Pantoja Alfaro '28**, bass – Junior Mixed Chorus
- Alasdair Brown '26**, bass 1 – alternate, Senior Mixed Chorus



**Diego Ramirez** (left), **Gabe Chapman** and **Carlos Castrillon** are all smiles after DeMatha's stellar performance at the Big Apple Music Festival. Diego and Gabe played with the school's Advanced Percussion Ensemble.

It was a banner year for the DeMatha Music Department. In April at the Big Apple Music Festival outside New York City, DeMatha musicians and staff once again proved we have one of the finest music programs in the country. Check out these results:

- Wind Ensemble** – Gold Medal, First Place, Wind Ensemble Division
- Symphonic Band** – Gold Medal, Second Place, Symphonic Band Division
- Percussion Ensemble** – Gold Medal, Percussion Ensemble Division
- Voices of DeMatha** – Gold Medal, First Place, Men's Chorus Division
- Sinfonia** – Gold Medal, Second Place, String Orchestra Division
- Julian Maring** – Outstanding Soloist, Choral Instrumental
- Idris Mayanja** – Outstanding Soloist, Instrumental

# Dr. Dan McMahon '76 Celebrates 25 Years as DeMatha Principal & Teacher

**D**r. Daniel McMahon '76 just completed his 25th year as DeMatha's principal. It's a job he enjoys ... but not as much as teaching.

At a recent end-of-year faculty/staff meeting, Dan pointed out the important role teachers play around the world and across time. He cited the influence Buck Offutt, his former English teacher, continues to have on him, noting that Buck benefited from the teachers who helped shape his life.

But to cement his belief in the power and responsibility teachers have, Dan turned to the second person of the Holy Trinity.

"In the gospels, Jesus is called 'teacher' 66 times," Dan said. "That's more than he's called anything else. So, I like to say that if you want to imitate Jesus, be a teacher."

Teaching is such an integral part of Dan's DNA that he said he wouldn't have accepted Father Bill Sullivan's March 2000 offer to become DeMatha principal if he hadn't been allowed to continue instructing.

"I told him I wanted to teach a class, and he said, 'we really don't want you to teach class. We think it's a full-time job,' which it is," Dan said. "I said I know that, but I really think I'll be more comfortable and will feel better if I can teach.

"And I told him it was sort of a deal-breaker."

Father Sullivan acquiesced and allowed Dan to continue sharing his knowledge and challenging students. He just completed his 44th year (41 at DeMatha) in the classroom. The subjects he has most recently taught include world literature, mythology and the DeMatha Way.

Dan thinks that teaching helps him be a better principal



At a March reception honoring **Dan McMahon** for his 25 years of service as DeMatha's principal, he caught up with 1976 classmates **Mike Landi** (center) and **Dr. Joe Leginus**.

*"In the gospels, Jesus is called 'teacher' 66 times. That's more than he's called anything else. So ... if you want to imitate Jesus, be a teacher."*

*— Dr. Dan McMahon '76*

by improving his ability to administer the day-to-day operations of the school, help set schedules, shape the curriculum and understand what faculty members are experiencing.

"I think it helps me to be more attentive to what the instructors are going through," he said.

Dan has also coached basketball and softball at DeMatha and girls soccer at nearby St. Mark. When he finally retires, he said he would like to return to coaching. Not as a head coach, but a "freshman soccer assistant."

Regarding low points of the past quarter century, Dan doesn't relish telling someone that they have to leave DeMatha.

"It hurts me whenever I have to let a teacher or student go because I wonder if there's something else I could have done, some way I could have helped that person

perform better and succeed," he said.

Fortunately, those days are rare on Madison Street. And he thinks brighter days are ahead, particularly with the imminent opening of the Cross Center for Engineering, Arts & Robotics. Once the building is occupied, work can begin on the remodeling and expansion of the cafeteria, aka the Antler Room.

"I love robotics and engineering, and I think that art is really a significant thing for kids," Dan said. "And I'd love for us to one day have a performing arts center to show off the theatrical and musical skills that many of our kids and our teachers have.

"So, some of our growth is physical plant, but I also think we have really significant curricular and service-based things we can accomplish. One thing I know for sure is that I love coming to work every day."

# DeMatha Welcomes Father Albert as New President

Father Albert Anuszewski, O.S.S.T., became the second president in DeMatha history on Jan. 1, 2025.

"I would like for people to know me as a servant leader, a transformative leader," Father Albert said. "I'm here to serve, and in the process of serving, to help transform the lives of our students and school community into the best they can be."

Father Albert will be entering his 16th (non-consecutive) year at DeMatha in the fall (and 27th in education overall). He returned to campus in January 2022 to work as director of Trinitarian Mission, moderator for the Stags soccer team and DeMatha Parent Organization, and to teach freshman and sophomore theology.

During his initial assignment (1987-91), he was a seminarian and lived in what is now St. John de Matha Hall. He had entered the Trinitarian Order in 1981, took his solemn vows seven years later and was ordained a priest in 1991. He has also served the Trinitarians as director of vocation and minister provincial for the United States and the Philippines.

Father Albert concluded his preparation to succeed Father James Day, O.S.S.T., as DeMatha president by earning his M.Ed. in educational leadership from Loyola University Maryland in May 2024. He said he admired Father James for his patience, understanding and sharing of spiritual guidance, particularly with students and loved ones.

"I believe that I share similar qualities," he said. "During those three years of observing Father James, I learned a lot about the various responsibilities the president has in terms of ensuring that the Trinitarian mission and Catholic identity of our school are maintained.

"I also gained an overall awareness of how I could help our students and families navigate the high school years, and to assist them, especially when they're going through difficulties."

DeMatha Principal Dr. Dan McMahan '76 said, "Father Albert is uniquely positioned to be president" because having seen the school at three stages of its evolution, "he understands continuity and change.

"He has served in leadership with the Trinitarians, achieved a degree in school leadership, understands service, and has done jobs from campus ministry to teaching to moderating sports. So, he really gets everything that goes into a DeMatha education."

## Looking Ahead

Father Albert has been working with other school leaders to enhance DeMatha's Hyattsville campus, improve branding



Father Albert, on his recent trip to Rome, presented a representation of the Holy Trinity to Pope Leo XIV.

*"I'm here to serve, and in the process of serving, to help transform the lives of our students and school community into the best they can be."*

*– Father Albert Anuszewski, O.S.S.T.*

and marketing, and find additional athletic playing fields. He is also looking forward to the fall opening of the Cross Center for Engineering, Arts & Robotics.

"It's going to provide a wonderful opportunity for the young men who are studying those subjects to have a proper place for learning and the further development of the programs," he said. "Having these new classrooms really will set the stage for increased learning and increased career opportunities for our students.

"Certainly, these are things that are attractive to students and families today. I can't wait to see how much the Cross Center will enhance our educational offerings and contribute to the continued development of the school as one of the premier high schools in the nation.

"I am blessed to be DeMatha's president."

# Grady Lawrence '25

## 'A GENTLEMAN AND A SCHOLAR'

By Richard Szczepanowski

*The Catholic Standard* (June 3, 2025)

*Used by permission and lightly edited for space*

When Grady Lawrence graduates from DeMatha Catholic High School in Hyattsville, Maryland on June 6, he will be carrying on a family tradition that began in 1965 when his grandfather, Roy Kilby, graduated from the Trinitarian-sponsored all-boys school.

The graduating senior said his grandfather “was the main reason why I decided to attend because of the great things he said about it. Now that I have been at DeMatha for four years, I realize that he was right. DeMatha is a great place.”

The tradition will continue after Lawrence leaves – he has twin brothers who are sophomores at DeMatha.

The son of John and Erin Lawrence of Davidsonville, Maryland, Lawrence played varsity soccer for his school. As captain of the team, he helped lead DeMatha to the championship games last fall, but the Stags lost in the finals.

“I have gained a lot of discipline, teamwork skills and leadership skills while playing,” he said of his time on the field.

He earned a scholarship to Virginia Wesleyan University in Virginia Beach, and plans to major in sports management and minor in business. He said that after college he would like to become a soccer coach because “I enjoy being around soccer, and coaching it as my job sounds like a dream.”

Lawrence, who attends Holy Family Parish in Davidsonville, was an altar server at Jesus the Good Shepherd Parish in Owings until he was in the eighth grade and his family relocated to Davidsonville. In recent years, he has been an altar server at DeMatha for school Masses.



*Grady Lawrence '25 and grandfather Roy Kilby '65.*

*“Attending a Catholic high school was a great choice, and it has helped me through my high school years. It played a huge role in strengthening my Catholic faith, keeping me surrounded by people who share my faith, instilling important principles in my life, and helping me use those principles to succeed.”*

“Attending a Catholic high school was a great choice, and it has helped me through my high school years,” he said. “It played a huge role in strengthening my Catholic faith, keeping me surrounded by people who share my faith, instilling important principles in my life, and helping me use those principles to succeed.”

Outside of the classroom and off the soccer pitch, Lawrence participated in various community service events, mainly at Kingdom Cares in Calverton, Maryland, which assists less fortunate families in Prince George’s County and Montgomery County with groceries. There, Lawrence worked mainly as a stocker and a checkout worker.

“I was able to help out, but more importantly connect with these families and even have in-depth conversations with them,” he said. “The experience was great and helped remind me of how good I have it, and also how important it is to help out in your local community. All the volunteers were extremely nice and selfless, and I often got a chance to get to know some of the families.”

Noting that his four years at DeMatha “have flown by,” and that he is “very excited to move on to the next chapter” of his life, Lawrence said he recognizes the value of the education he received at the school.

“It may be harder than your traditional high school, but it instills in you important values and prepares you for your future,” he said. “The main things I take with me for the rest of my life are the importance of hard work, patience and gratitude, always approaching life with a thankful heart, and a determination to succeed. DeMatha has taught me how to truly become a faith-filled gentleman and scholar.”



# Cross Center Nears Completion

**D**eMatha will formally dedicate its \$4 million Cross Center for Engineering, Arts & Robotics on Sept. 9. It will follow the school's celebration of its 79th anniversary with an Opening School Year Mass. **Robert Cardinal McElroy**, the new Archbishop of Washington, D.C., will be with us on this special day. The December issue of *Red & Blue* will have extensive coverage of the Mass and ceremony as well as several photos of the new building.



# DEMATHA BROTHERHOOD TAKES CENTER STAGE AT GRADUATION

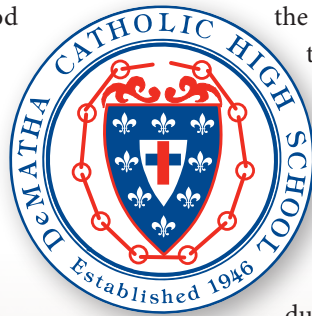
It should come as no surprise that brotherhood was a key theme at DeMatha Catholic High School's 2025 graduation. The concept is highlighted and reinforced throughout a student's time on Madison Street.

The DeMatha brotherhood became even stronger June 6 when 187 new graduates boosted the school's alumni total to 11,368.

Held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, it was the school's 77th commencement. Fitting too that several members of the class of 1975 were recognized because theirs was the first class to graduate from the shrine ... 50 years ago.

DeMatha Principal Dr. Dan McMahan '76 summed up the oneness of the school and the inclusiveness of Stag nation.

"Surrounding you are the members of the DeMatha community present and past and future," said McMahan, who just completed his 25th year as principal. "The musicians and



the ushers and other students are representatives of the present and the future, and the past is here represented by the class of 1975 but includes all of the more than 11,000 graduates.

"Surrounding us are the faculty and families who join us. We are One DeMatha."

Shawn Smolen '25, in his welcoming address, recalled learning of the brotherhood's strength during his sophomore year when a "freak accident" while playing club soccer left him with two broken legs. He shared how he heard every day from DeMatha staffer and football coach Marvin Brown '98.

"For the next couple of months, I sat at home with a long road of recovery ahead," Shawn said. "But of course, everything becomes easier when you have people on your side, someone working in the same interest as you. And that's why I want to talk about coach Marvin. He Facetimed me every day.

*"Surrounding us are the faculty and families who join us."*





“For a kid struggling, that meant more than you will ever know just having someone in my corner.”

Jalen Neptune '25, in his farewell address, spoke of what made “DeMatha more than just a school.”

“It’s the teachers who poured everything into us—not just academically, but personally,” Jalen said. “The ones who stayed after class, who answered our emails late at night, who pushed us to do better because they believed in who we could become.

“It’s the teammates who became brothers. The classmates who became lifelong friends. It’s the inside jokes that got us through long days, and the quiet moments of kindness that we’ll carry with us long after we leave.”

### Take a Chance

Shawn, who’s heading to the University of South Carolina, and Jalen further told their fellow graduates that the DeMatha brotherhood will carry them through trying times and give them the courage to confront uncomfortable tasks.

“The strongest trees don’t grow in easy soil,” said Jalen, who will attend Emory University. “They grow where the wind is harsh, where the roots have to fight to hold on. That’s where real strength is built. So, take risks. Do something that scares you. Put yourself out there. Don’t let fear decide your future.”

Shawn said not to live a life regretting the things we didn’t do, the things we didn’t try.

“Apply for that job, talk to that girl, travel the world, get out of your comfort zone,” he said. “Our time here on this earth is not permanent. Everything must come to an end. There’s an old saying that reads, ‘In the end, it’s not the years in your life that count, it’s the life in your years.’”

Jalen began his address by acknowledging that it would be the last time he and his fellow graduates would be together as a class:

“After today, we step into new chapters. But for this moment, I am deeply grateful to stand beside each of you—and to call you my brothers.”

*We are One DeMatha.* – DeMatha Principal Dr. Dan McMahon '76



Following Baccalaureate Mass, members of the class of 2025 posed with their fathers and grandfathers who also graduated from DeMatha.



After Baccalaureate Mass, from left to right, **Bentley Allen**, **Cole Wittlinger**, **Jake Bickel** and **Devin Bertrand** strolled over to DeMatha’s main building for one final picture together.

## AWARD WINNERS

### GENERAL EXCELLENCE:

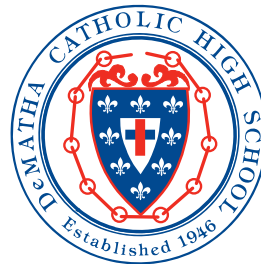
Cardinal's Award for Catholic Citizenship: **Jonathan Baddoo**  
 DeMatha Citizenship Award: **Liam O'Connor, Jackson Ross**  
 Alumni Award for General Excellence: **Nijel Cross**  
 Buck Offutt Faculty Award for General Excellence: **Nico Moore**  
 DeMatha Scholar-Athlete: **Johnathan Coombs, Evan Rigg**  
 DeMatha Parent Organization Award: **Xavier Sydnor**  
 Thomas Eastman Award: **William Jackson**  
 Father Augustine Derricks, O.S.S.T: **Elijah Monk, Jalen Neptune**  
 Father Patrick Glynn: **Gabriel Chapman**  
 John Moylan Award for Academic Excellence: **Jacob Bickel**  
 Mary Favret Kerley & Katherine Mauser School Citizenship Award: **Hayden Walsh**  
 Kiwanis Club Award: **Jackson Yoder**  
 U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete: **Oliver King**  
 U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Musician: **Emmet Coll**  
 U.S. Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence: **Michael Driscoll**

### DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

Fine Arts: **Daniel Nalezty, David Phillips**  
 Photography: **Tasi Agwe**  
 Thomas J. Burke Business: **Matthew Beachley, Luke O'Hare**  
 Computer Science: **Connor Kemezis**  
 Engineering: **David Phillips, Coley Marshall, Zachary Robertson**  
 English: **Nickolaos Moore, Jalen Neptune**  
 Mary Yarrish Mathematics: **Michael Driscoll**  
 Joseph Carroll Journalism: **Brendan Dougherty**  
 James Roper Music: **Awelekaume Emenanjo**  
 Biology: **Reagan Hirabayashi, Samuel Fufa**  
 Rick Reeves Environmental: **Cole Wittlinger**  
 Physics: **Logan Smith**  
 Doug Tschiffely & Richard Macheski Social Studies: **Shawn Smolen, Zachary Goodwin**  
 Theological Studies: **Xavier Sydnor, Cole Wittlinger**  
 French: **Spencer Woods, Jacques Kearns**  
 Latin: **Daden Grogan**  
 Mandarin: **Lincoln Beasley, Nico Moore**

### SERVICE AWARDS:

Academic Quiz Bowl: **Jonathan Baddoo**  
 John Mitchell Band: **Lincoln Beasley**  
 Black Student Union: **Nicholas DeLeon**  
 Campus Ministry: **Asaad Donaldson, Chase Alexander, Byron Guzman**  
 Chorus: **Nasir Donaldson**  
 Ecology Club: **Jack Emling**  
 Engineering Club: **Connor Kemezis**  
 Investment Club: **John Wolfe**  
 National Honor Society: **Luke Brabazon**  
 Orchestra: **Zachary Goodwin**  
 Robotics Club: **Connor Kemezis**  
 Student Government Association: **Jackson Ross, Hayden Walsh**  
 Video Game Club: **Asaad Donaldson, Nasir Donaldson**



*Jalen Neptune delivered the farewell address.*



*Shawn Smolen delivered the welcoming address.*



*Xavier Sydnor received a standing ovation at Baccalaureate Mass for overcoming severe medical challenges to graduate with his class. He will attend the University of Maryland.*

*“I am deeply grateful to*

*stand beside*

*each of you– and*

*to call you my*

*brothers.”*

– Jalen Neptune

Enjoy these images from Baccalaureate Mass and graduation. Thank you to Andrew Travers '11 for the terrific photos. (We will have a list of our academic and athletic scholarship recipients in the fall issue of Red & Blue.)



Seniors sing the DeMatha alma mater, “DeMatha Today, DeMatha Forever” one more time as a class.

*“DeMatha is*

*a place that will*

*never leave us.*

*We can always*

*come back and*

*find a home here.”*

– Shawn Smolen



**Jackson Ross**, who served as SGA president, addresses his fellow seniors at Baccalaureate Mass. Jackson played on the Stags' 2025 WCAC-championship-winning lacrosse team and will join his brother **Andrew '24** at Randolph-Macon College.



**Michael Driscoll**, who graduated with a 4.7 grade-point average, was the first recipient of the **Mary Yarrish Scholarship**. Fittingly, at graduation, Michael received the Mary Yarrish Mathematics Award. Michael is a nephew of late former faculty member **Tom Burke**. He will attend Georgia Tech in the fall and study, you guessed it, mathematics.



**Nijel Cross**, a member of the National Honor Society who played basketball and football for the Stags, will attend the University of Maryland as a preferred football walk-on. His brother, **Nick '19**, attended Maryland for three years and is entering his fourth year as a defensive back with the Indianapolis Colts.



Several of DeMatha's 187-member class of 2025 and their families were full of pride following graduation outside of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on June 6. It was DeMatha's 77th commencement.

# Swimming & Diving Team Wins Metros for First Time

The 2024-25 DeMatha swimming and diving team has staked its claim as the finest in school history. The Stags punctuated the campaign by winning their first Metros championship, the DMV's most prestigious high school aquatics event.

The early February triumph came by way of a three-point victory over Gonzaga in what is officially the Washington Metropolitan Interscholastic Swimming & Diving Championships. DeMatha's previous best finish in the 60-year gathering was second in 2005 (by half a point to Georgetown Prep).

Here's a snapshot of the Stags' remarkable 2024-25 season:

- Won the National Catholic Championships in Baltimore
- Won the Robert Sawyer Invitational in Greensboro, N.C.
- Undefeated in regular-season matchups (20-0)
- Second in the WMPSSDL & WCAC
- Finished with No. 1 ranking in Maryland
- Champions of the Washington metropolitan area

The person best positioned to judge whether this past year was the program's best is Tom Krawczewicz '81, who just completed his 33rd season as head coach.

"Certainly, winning both the National Catholic title and Metros for the first time made it very special," Krawczewicz said on



The 2024-25 swimming and diving team is one of DeMatha's finest.

June 30. "It's actually still a little bit surreal to me, having been part of it for so long and finally winning those.

"It's definitely one of the greatest seasons ever for DeMatha swimming, and I was ecstatic to be part of it."

The Stags' top two swimmers were senior first-team All-Mets Jayson Ross and Josh Lopez. In the final Metros race – the 400-yard freestyle relay – DeMatha had to finish at least third to remain ahead of WCAC champion Gonzaga. Ross placed one spot better with a 44.7-second anchor-leg performance to edge Georgetown Prep by one-hundredth of a second.

Ross, an All-American who's heading to Georgia, also won the 50 free (20.45) and anchored the first-place 200 free relay (1:23.94). Lopez captured the 500 free (4:30.43) and was third in the 200 (1:39.70). Sophomore honorable mention All-Met Alexander Jungbluth placed

second in the 100 butterfly (48.84).

Two keys to the team's tremendous accomplishments were depth and balance.

"We started the season with team record holders in seven of eight individual events and all three relays," said Krawczewicz, who was named *Washington Post* Coach of the Year for a second time. "We went on to reset 11 of 12 school records, five of them in All-America time. And out of the 12 relays in our four big championship meets, we were first or second 11 times.

"This is definitely one of the top teams we've had at DeMatha."

## BASEBALL

The Stags (17-10) concluded the season in the opening round of the WCAC playoffs. Senior four-year starting outfielder Bud Coombs was named second-team All-Met and is going to Maryland to play football and baseball.

Brooks Franklin (Navy) was named second-team All-WCAC, while honorable mentions went to fellow seniors Gabe Chapman (McDaniel), Jayden Dennis (PennWest Clarion) and Bryce Palms (Youngstown State). Matthew Calabrese (Frederick Community College) and Michael Candy (John Carroll) will also play in college.

Palms produced the highlight of the year with a no-hitter against Jackson-Reed.



# Tennis Team Wins Second Championship in Three Years

**D**eMatha entered the 2025 WCAC Tennis Championship as the favorite to win its second title in three years. The Stags lived up to the billing and captured the school's 12th league crown.

DeMatha won five matches to total 36 points, 13 better than host St. Paul VI. Cody Gray, the Stags' No. 1 singles player, won four straight games late to rally from a 5-4 deficit and win, 8-5. The first-team All-Met then teamed with fellow junior Maxwell Browne to win at No. 1 doubles.

By adding to its 2023 title, DeMatha cemented itself as the top boys tennis program in the WCAC. Coach Mark Dalzell said the disappointment of not winning any championship matches last year and finishing second fueled this season's march to the top.

"The players trained hard from last June to get better and never complained," said Dalzell, who was named WCAC Coach of the Year. "Their training and commitment showed throughout the season."

The Stags (11-2) finished undefeated in conference play. With Gray, Browne (No. 2 singles) and a host of other top players returning, DeMatha is poised to remain No. 1 in 2026.

## GOLF

The Stags (11-2-1) had another outstanding spring and placed second in the inaugural Maryland Private School State Championships. Sophomore Joseph Vartabedian was low scorer with a 1-over 73 and was named first-team All-Met.

The Stags finished fifth in the WCAC Tournament. Senior Shawn Smolen was DeMatha's low scorer with a career-best 3-over 75.

## TRACK & FIELD

The Stags posted several top individual performances during the indoor and outdoor seasons:

- Larry Jordan finished fourth in the 200 meters (21.57) at the Adidas Track Nationals.
- Daden Grogan, competing in the Mustang Invitational, won the 800 in a school-record 1:51.26. He was named honorable mention All-Met.
- Grogan and Darrell Carey set meet records at the WCAC Track & Field Championships. Grogan won the 800 sprint (1:52.44). Carey's long jump of 23-07.5 feet was also a new school record. The Stags placed fifth overall.
- Brandon Smoot ran a program best in the 2K steeplechase at the Under Armour Black and Blue Invitational.
- Michael Manley, competing in his first pentathlon in late January, established a school record with 2,988 points. He posted a personal best in all five events.
- Grogan, Jordan, Joshua Virgil and Myles Dixon set a school meet record in the sprint medley relay at the New Balance Nationals Indoor Championship. Grogan, Virgil, Dixon and Jalen Stubbs set a school record in the 4x400 relay (3:15.94).
- Dixon broke the school record in the 500 run (1:04.46) at the Virginia Showcase. The 4x55 shuttle hurdle relay team of Glen O'Gilvie, Manley, Matthias Squire and Michael Price broke the school record in 31.67.

# Lacrosse Team Returns to Top of WCAC

At 1-3, the DeMatha lacrosse team was at a crossroads. It could either continue its downward spiral or rise above the adversity and have a good season.

The Stags, with 16 seniors and new head coach Justin Messersmith, did much better than that. They won 14 of their next 15 games to capture the program's 18th league championship.

The title, DeMatha's first since 2009, came in a 15-7 victory over St. Mary's Ryken. Senior attack Matthew Beachley paved the way with three goals and four assists. He said the key to the Stags re-establishing themselves as one of the top clubs in the area was preparation.

"The coaches prepared us every day," said Beachley, a Penn State signee and All-American who was named first-team All-Met. "It didn't matter who we were going to play. We came to work every single day, and we believed in our coaches and each other."

The team's turnaround got a major boost with a 7-6 overtime win at St. John's. DeMatha trailed 5-2 at halftime before storming back to beat the Cadets for the first time in seven years.

The Stags toppled Gonzaga 9-8 in the WCAC semifinals when senior Nick Church (Mercer) scored on a pass from Beachley with 8:20 to play. DeMatha hung on behind a stout defense and second-team All-Met goalie Cole Wittlinger (UMass).

In the final *Washington Post* ranking, the Stags (15-4) finished No. 4.



The DeMatha lacrosse team won its first WCAC Championship since 2009.

## ROWING

The DeMatha varsity four won gold at the Washington Metropolitan Interscholastic Rowing Association Championships for the first time since 2012 and advanced to the semifinals of the national-championship Stotesbury Cup. The squad, made up of Liam O'Connor, Mekhi Akonner, Eli Cummings, Theo King and Joey Pla, was named first-team All-Met.

O'Connor, a two-year captain who sat in the stroke seat, was also honored as an individual All-Met. He will join his brother Owen '22 at Hobart College in Geneva, N.Y. Akonner will compete at Xavier University in New Orleans.

## BASKETBALL

The Stags (23-7) advanced to the semifinals of the Maryland Private School State Basketball Tournament by downing Glenelg Country, 75-63. The year ended with a 69-54 loss to Bullis, the same team DeMatha defeated to win the 2024 title. Season highlights:

- The Stags have won 20 or more games in 65 of the past 69 full seasons.
- Junior Ashton Meeks was named first-team All-Met.
- Seniors earning college scholarships include Cole Bowser (Furman), Solomon Davis (Virginia Tech), Kade Sebastian (American), Charles Thomas (Bowie State), Jacob Wallace (Iowa/football) and Caden Walton (Eckerd College). In addition, Michael Driscoll graduated with a 4.7 GPA and will study mathematics at Georgia Tech.
- In his first three years as DeMatha's head coach, Mike G. Jones has compiled a record of 69-31 (.690 winning percentage). This compares favorably with Morgan Wootten (62-31, .667) and Mike Jones '91 (63-30, .677).
- The Stags finished sixth in *The Washington Post* final poll, the highest ranking of Jones' tenure at DeMatha.



# Rugby Team Captures First Championship in School History

**B**lue banners commemorating the more than 225 league championships DeMatha athletic teams have won adorn the lobby of the Looney Convocation Center. For some sports, the banners are nearly filled.

Not so for rugby, which has been played at DeMatha since former faculty member Joe Dillon started the program in 1975. Its banner is blank except for the initials of a former league the Stags competed in.

That is changing this summer.

In May, the rugby team (8-0) concluded the finest season in school history by winning the Metro Area Varsity Rugby Conference (MAVRC) championship. The Stags, who were already enjoying their first regular-season crown and appearance in a conference title game, defeated Gonzaga, 22-12.

“I knew we had the heart and the determination to do it,” first-year head coach Ryan Kivitz said. “I think the program needed a little bit of extra love and a little bit of coordination. And I think, luckily as a whole, we got that.”

“We got some amazing new parents, some amazing new players, some amazing new staff, and putting that all together made it work.”

Kivitz, who has 11 years of coaching experience and 18 playing, was an assistant coach last year under Mark DePrato '14. He remembers, along with current assistant Justin Chatman '18, the disappointment of falling one game short of qualifying for the 2024 MAVRC playoffs.

“Last year, when we went 2-4 and didn’t make the playoffs I saw seniors crying on the sideline, and I was crying, too,” Kivitz said. “We needed this championship. We needed to start building the DeMatha rugby culture, and I think this is going to be a turning point for the program moving forward.”

With the Stags clinging to a 17-12 lead, senior Gordon

Johnson produced the key five-point try for the final margin of victory. Junior Lazarus McCarthy, who had a long run late in the second half, said DeMatha “slowly played for possession. We played our game and remained calm and focused.”

And how about that banner in the Convocation Center?

“This feels really good; I’m honored to be on this team,” McCarthy said. “I’m glad to see that banner finally get filled.”

## HOCKEY

DeMatha (13-15-3) won its opening-round MAPHL playoff game with a 6-5 shootout victory over St. Albans. The season concluded the next day in the state championship quarterfinals with a 4-2 loss to Landon. The Stags won 11 more games this season than last.

- Senior Jack Emling was named WCAC co-Player of the Year, first-team All-Maryland (MAPHL) and first-team All-Met. A 6-foot-4 forward, he led DeMatha in points, goals, assists and plus-minus. He will play for a junior team in Charleston, S.C.
- Defenseman Robert Johanson was named first-team All-WCAC. Forwards Nick Church and Daniel Utochkin and goalie Jack Johnson received honorable mentions.
- Tony MacAulay garnered WCAC Coach of the Year honors. In 2025-26, he will also serve as assistant athletic director.

## WRESTLING

Senior Joseph Lagman placed second (175 lbs.) in the Maryland Independent Schools State Championships and qualified for the National Prep Championships. He also finished second in the WCAC Tournament for the fifth-place Stags.

Ansar Kmet (113) placed seventh at states. Dexter Kane (120) and Max Guillen (126) were eighth.

## '50s

**John Kelly '52** was featured in the "No Yearbook No Problem" video series by Mike McLaughlin '71 and Bob Kavetsky '71. The three-part interview is available on the DM Stags TV YouTube. In it, John discusses what DeMatha was like in its first decade.

**John Austin '62** was featured in a Black History Month video that aired on The ACC Network. John was one of the first African American basketball players at DeMatha and the first at Boston College.

**David Banwarth '66**, a Professional Engineer, was honored last year by Prince George's County for his engineering leadership role in developing and implementing the first residential fire sprinkler legislation in the nation for townhouses and single-family dwellings in 1988. He was, at the time, the county's chief fire protection engineer.



**Kevin Looney '74** (bottom right) and several of his 1974 classmates gathered in June for lunch in Annapolis to reminisce about the good old days at DeMatha. Other attendees included **Mike Carruthers, Greg Kaderabek, Steve Kemp, Tommy Marcos, Jay Frye, Jimmy Berard** and **Mark Ricker**.

## '60s

**Steve Greene '61** and **Hoàng Ly**, both retired DEA agents, recounted their remarkable story in *The Other War in Vietnam*. When they met in 1968, Hoàng was captain of the Vietnamese Narcotics Bureau. Steve was a U.S. narcotics agent sent to Vietnam to address the problem of U.S. personnel and illicit narcotics. At war's end, Steve helped Hoàng's family get out of Vietnam. Fifty years later, they are still friends.

**Dr. Michael Mewshaw '61** had his 24<sup>th</sup> book published in February. *Not Here But Paradise* is described by the National Catholic Reporter as a real "page-turner."

## '70s

**Gregory Harrod '72** contributed to a WJLA TV story about the anti-military sentiment he and other Howard University ROTC cadets encountered during the final years of the Vietnam War.

**Kevin Shea '72** retired in January from the U.S. Department of Agriculture after 46 years of distinguished service. From Jan. 20, 2021 to Feb. 24, 2021, he served as acting secretary of agriculture under President Biden.

**Billy Mecca '74**, who has worked in the Quinnipiac University athletic department since 1978, was honored by the Franciscan Life Center of Meriden, Conn., with its Dean of Sports Award. The center's mission is to offer a "renewed sense of hope through counseling and educational services."

**Dr. Victor McCrary '73** was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The University of the District of Columbia vice president

for research was honored for his decades-long leadership, advocacy and enduring commitment to diversifying the STEM workforce.

**James Behun '75** worked security for FOX Sports at the Indianapolis 500 in May.

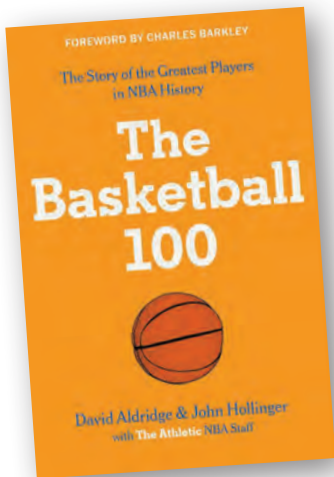
In January, **Dr. Thomas Hibbs '78** of Baylor University wrote an essay for the Dallas Morning News about Tom Wilson, the African-American producer behind Bob Dylan's classic song, "Like A Rolling Stone."



The class of '75 gathered at DeMatha the night before graduation to celebrate its 50-year reunion. This fall, DeMatha will host reunions for the classes of 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015 and 2020. Contact **Ben Fleri** ([bfleri@dematha.org](mailto:bfleri@dematha.org)) for more information.

'80s

**David Aldridge '83**, the renowned sports journalist and current senior columnist and editor-in-chief of *The Athletic*, is the co-author of *The Basketball 100 – The Story of the Greatest Players in NBA History*.



**Danny Gough '83** and his Billfisher team won the 2025 Signature Triple Crown Series Championship. At an event in Costa Rica, they beat Michael Jordan's crew ... once again. Danny was named Top Angler for the series.

**Kevin Davis '87**, who serves as police chief of Fairfax (Va.) County, was appointed to the University of Virginia Board of Visitors. Each of the 17 board members are appointed by the Virginia governor to serve a four-year term. Kevin was also interviewed by Kelly O'Donnell of *NBC Nightly News* about preparations for the inauguration.

**Dave DiLuigi '88** will be the recipient of the 2025 St. John de Matha Medal. The award is presented each year to an alumnus for his outstanding

support of the school. Dave is the head of U.S. markets for Wilmington Trust's Wealth division and is a former DeMatha board chair.

**Rob Smith '88** appeared on *NBC Nightly News* in April discussing a surge in auto sales.

**Daniel de Weldon '89** served as an honored speaker at the annual American Red Cross Red Event in April alongside music producer Clive Davis. Daniel received the Red Cross Vanguard Award on behalf of his late father and presented a bronze recreation of the Red Cross Memorial in Washington, D.C. Daniel's father, Felix de Weldon, created the memorial, which was auctioned to benefit the American Red Cross.



**Jimmy Park '84**, a Washington Capitals gameday employee, poses with the skates Alexander Ovechkin wore when he scored his 895th career goal to become the NHL's all-time leading goal scorer.

## 55th Annual DeMatha Senior Boosters CRAB FEAST

Saturday, September 27, 4-7 pm

Adults \$85 advance/\$95 door • Kids (under 12) \$70 advance/\$80 door

Pay by Mail: Make checks payable to:  
DeMatha Senior Boosters with phone number on check. No checks accepted after 09-15-25

Mail to: DeMatha Senior Boosters  
c/o Tim Miller '80  
6008 43rd Ave.  
Hyattsville, MD 20781



Entrance/Parking Please enter from 43rd Avenue back parking lot

Pay by Credit Card:  
[store.dematha.org](http://store.dematha.org)  
(Note: the web address does not have a www. in front of it. Please type in exactly as you see it). No credit card purchases after 09-25-25

Questions/Seating Preferences:  
[demathacrabfeast@gmail](mailto:demathacrabfeast@gmail.com)

'90s

**Mike Buck '90** retired as chief of the U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division in May.

**Leon Michiline '90**, was selected for the Marine Corps' Ground/Air Task Oriented Radar program. Leon retired from the Marines in 2020 after 30 years of active duty.

**Dan Crowley '91** was appointed deputy director of athletics and chief revenue officer for the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

**Ed Murphy '91** was named the first head softball coach at

Severn Run High School in Anne Arundel (Md.) County. He led the Wolves into their inaugural season this spring.

**John Heneghan '93**, DeMatha board member and president of ECS, was named to the Executive Mosaic Wash100 for the fourth consecutive year. The list recognizes the most influential leaders across government.

**Jimmy Key '93** began working as a Prince George's County Police dispatcher in late June. His service in public safety began with volunteer hours to graduate from DeMatha. He retired from the P.G. Fire Department in 2019 after a 20-year career.

**Joe Sego '94** led St. Jerome Parish to its ninth CYO 14U Boys Mid-Atlantic Championship. The late February tournament final came at the Looney Convocation Center. Joe has guided the Jaguars to seven titles and is the first coach in Washington-area CYO history to win four in a row. St. Jerome finished the season 40-6, including victories over several freshman and JV high school teams.

**Steven Williams '94** served as the camera operator in an SUV that drove in front of the hearse in President Jimmy Carter's January motorcade.

**Chris Heneghan '96** owns and operates Drifting Grounds Coffee Shop and Pearl's Corner Vintage clothing boutique in Bethany Beach, Del. Chris' coffee is regularly named Best Coffee in Delaware.



**Lt. Col. Doug Burian '91** participated in his seventh presidential inauguration on Jan. 20. Burian serves as the executive officer and director of operations of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band. The group has provided the musical soundtrack for every Inauguration ceremony since Thomas Jefferson.



**Kenny Blakeney '90** (right), head men's basketball coach at Howard University, was recognized by the school's Alumni Association with a President's Award for servant leadership. The award is "in recognition of Kenny's impact on student success and global transformative service." He's pictured here with another former DeMatha basketball great, **James Brown '69**.



"Sing You a Brand New Song," a collection of 12 tracks by the late **Coleman Mellett '92** was issued Feb. 12. The release coincided with the 16th anniversary of his death. The songs are available on most digital streaming platforms.



**Chris Jackson '99** assisted in developing state legislation to make it easier for someone to enter into the real estate appraisal profession. Maryland Gov. **Wes Moore** signed the bill into law.

**Terry Hillery '96** was appointed to the Maryland Clean Energy Center's Advisory Council. The College Park-based center works to promote economic development and employment in the clean energy sector in Maryland. Terry is the president of Sir Solar and Storage International.

**Matt Palmer '96**, formerly of Catholic University, is now associate vice president for integrated marketing and communications at Holy Cross College in Notre Dame, Ind. The school's president is former DeMatha coach and counselor Dr. Marco Clark.

**Dr. Joshua Wright '96** is the author of the new book, *The NBA's Global Empire: How the League Became an International Powerhouse*. Josh is an associate professor of history

at Trinity Washington (D.C.) University.

**Tommy Paolucci '97**, a former staff/faculty member, received the Jerry Mears Service Award from the Maryland Football Coaches Association in April. The honor is given to the person who has done the most during the year to support high school football in Maryland. Tommy works as director of recruiting operations for the University of Maryland football team.

**Jamey Moylan '98**, a member of three WCAC baseball championship teams (1996-98), announced in May that his nonprofit organization, the Bethesda Birds, has transitioned from a youth baseball team to one focused on empowering youth athletes locally and in Central America.



Social studies teacher **Mike Curran '99** (left) is DeMatha's new **Collins-Wootten** chair for 2025-27. He succeeds English teacher **Paul Clark '01**. The chair was established by **Bill '68** and **Kerry Collins** and honors **Morgan Wootten** for his teaching ability. The recipient must have taught at DeMatha for 10 years and be nominated by a colleague. Holders of the chair receive a stipend and \$1,000 to spend per year on the school or a school-related activity.

## '00s

**Jonathan Woody '01**, a bass-baritone soloist, appeared in *Morgiane* at the University of Maryland. Written in 1887 and premiering for the first time this year, *Morgiane* is the oldest existing opera by a black composer.

**Elijah Brooks '02**, a former DeMatha head football coach (2011-18), was chosen for a diversity coaching fellowship by the Houston Texans. He will spend about a month at the Texans' training camp before returning to Virginia Tech as its running backs coach.

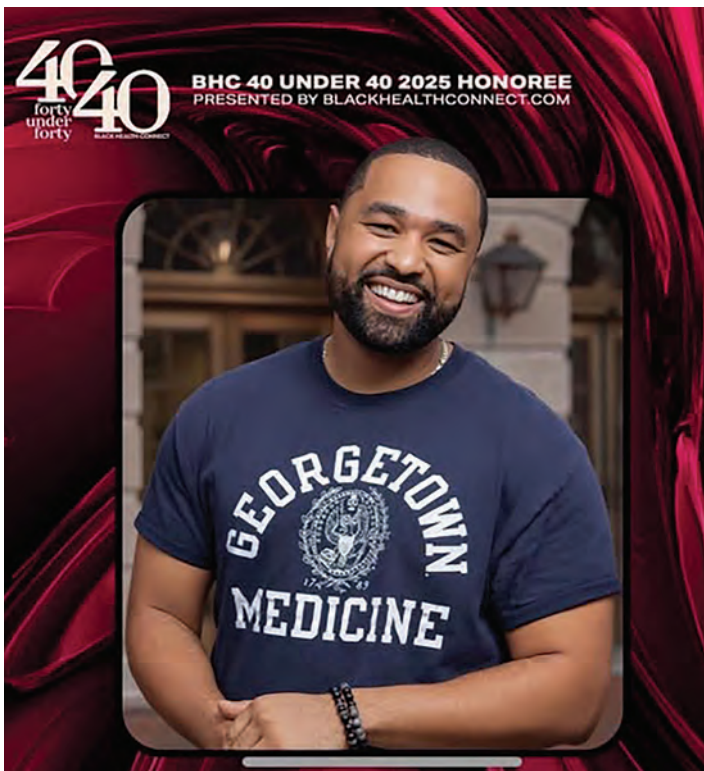
**Corey Sobel '03** wrote a review in *The Wall Street Journal* on the five best books about college football.

**Paul Rabil '04** was in January inducted into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame. His coach

at DeMatha, Dick Long, and several other Stags attended. In May, the Premier Lacrosse League commissioner and co-founder began exploring the game's "origins, iconic figures and rise to prominence" in a new docuseries. *Rabil's Places* premiered June 4 on ESPN+, Hulu and Disney+ and is being co-produced by Peyton Manning's Omaha Productions.

**Emil Mentz '06** earned a doctorate in education from West Texas A&M University. He teaches history at TMI Episcopal School in San Antonio.

**Brian Smith '07**, who works at Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., was named April Employee of the Month for NASA's Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Program Ground Services. As a member of the Systems Engineering Integration and Test team, he makes significant contributions to the overall success of the LEO Ground Services team.



**Dr. A.J. Grant '06** was named to the BlackHealthConnect 40 Under 40 honor roll for his work at the intersection of sports cardiology, virtual reality innovation and empathy-driven care. A.J. is director of Cardiovascular Sport & Performance at MedStar Health.



**Eric Cortellessa '09**, who wrote Time magazine's 2024 "Person of the Year" story, shared insights into his career with students during February's DeMatha Experience. He's shown here with Joan Phalen.

## '00s

**David Gruner '08** started a new job as general manager of College Park (Md.) Hyundai.

**Dr. Larry Funke '08** has been granted a full-year sabbatical from Ohio Northern University to work for Graphic Packaging International on process automation. Larry, an associate professor of mechanical engineering, began his new role July 1.

**Evan Kee '08** and his wife Ashley welcomed their second child, a baby girl, Chanel, on March 10. Congratulations!

DeMatha board member

**Rodney McLeod '08** played the final game of his distinguished 13-year NFL career in Baltimore

on Jan. 4. Bill McGregor, his coach at DeMatha, and Baltimore Ravens director of learning and development Steve Clagett '00 were in attendance, along with Rodney's family.

**Colin Goodman '05** graduated from the University of South Florida on May 9 with a Ph.D. in integrative biology. Colin, a brother of Chris Goodman '00 and Hill Summers '09, had previously earned a bachelor's degree from Maryland and a master's from Florida. Colin has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard University.

**Cody Pearson '09** is director of sales and business development at Halpern Travel.

**Eric Schwartz '09** is associate athletic director, compliance at Indiana University.



**John Quashie '02** (left) and his brother **Albert '98** co-founded a Youth Soccer Club, Q World Warriors FC, which won the 2025 11-UMDSL Spring League Championship. The squad was led by **Albert Quashie III '33**.

## '10s

### Father Alex Salazar '11

is a priest of the Religious Missionary Order, Institute of the Incarnate Word. He was ordained in 2020 and currently serves as a pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Mankato, Minn., and as a formator (teacher) at the Saint Jose Sanchez del Rio High School Seminary.

In May, **Ed** and **Andrea Davis** presented the first **Matthew Davis '12** Scholarship to sophomore Christopher Akeveeboonne. Matt, who died last year, was a talented French horn player in the Wind Ensemble and a violist in Sinfonia. The scholarship honors musicians who reflect his deep faith, academic excellence and passion for music.

**Sean Emerson '12** and Mary Stafford Emerson were married Jan. 4 in Washington, D.C. Congratulations!

**Marcus St. Paul '14** has been promoted to surveillance analyst at Greystone.



**Tom Berry '10** is returning to DeMatha to work as a counselor. He worked the previous nine years as associate dean of undergraduate admission at Catholic University.

**Ryan McFadden '15** is the new ESPN NFL Nation beat reporter for the Las Vegas Raiders.

In February, **Markelle Fultz '16** signed with the Sacramento Kings. Markelle hosts a youth basketball camp at DeMatha each summer and is a major school supporter.

**Delante Hellams '17** is an IT specialist with CACI International.

**Caleb Dean '19**, a two-time national champion at Texas Tech, is now competing professionally for Grand Slam Track.

**Jahmir Young '19** finished the season with the Chicago Bulls. He is the 22nd DeMatha Stag to play in the NBA.

## '20s

### Hunter Dickinson '20

graduated from the University of Kansas with a master's degree in sports administration.

**Earl Timberlake '20** became the first Bryant University player invited to the Portsmouth (Va.) Invitational Tournament. This pre-draft camp is for NBA-caliber players. Earl helped lead Bryant to the America East championship and automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. He was named America East Player of the Year.

**Jamarri Clark '21**, son of Jamaal Clark '00, graduated magna cum laude in communications media from Alabama State University. In June, he began pursuing a master's degree at Syracuse University.

**Lincoln Crosby '21** won the Empire 8 Men's Golf Championship individual title and earned 2025 Player of the Year honors.

**Christian Gamez '23** drove in the go-ahead runs that gave Merchant Marine Academy the regular-season baseball conference title. It's only the second time in school history the Mariners finished first in league play.

**Kaie Hall '21**, who graduated from Howard University with a degree in chemical engineering, has been studying how to protect the body from harmful bacteria at the cellular level.

**Elijah Hawkins '21** helped Texas Tech basketball advance to the Elite Eight. In his final year of eligibility, he averaged 9.1 points and a team-high 6.6 assists.



**Cody Young '12** married **Olivia Sahadeo** (Seton '12) on June 6. Five alums served as groomsmen: **Travis Young '05**, **Kyle Young '06**, **Adam Martin '12**, **Sean Doyle '12** and DM staff member **Josh Mendizabel '12**.

'20s

**Hackett Rascher '21** finished the winter semester studying film in Los Angeles and was named to the Miami University President's List. In the spring, at the American Mock Trial Association National Championship Tournament in Cleveland, he was honored as an All-America Witness.

His team advanced to the championship round.

**Ryan Smolen '21** is working as coordinator, global marketing & authentications for AFC Bournemouth (Premier League) in England and the Vegas Golden Knights (NHL). A 2024 UNLV graduate and former Golden Knights intern, he is the proud owner of a 2023 Stanley Cup Championship ring.



**Hunter Dickinson '20** (right) and **Steve Settle '19** will attempt to become the latest Stags to play in the NBA. Hunter, after completing his All-America career at Kansas, signed a two-way contract with the New Orleans Pelicans. Steve, who played at Howard and Temple, inked an Exhibit 10 deal with the Miami Heat. If Hunter makes the Pelicans, he will join another former DeMatha star, **Jordan Hawkins '21**.



**Ethan Gough '21**, preparing for his final season as the University of Maryland's long snapper, was one of three Terrapins student-athletes honored with an Intercollegiate Athletics Community Service Award. Here are highlights of Ethan's service projects this past school year:

- Organized a group of student-athletes that raised \$1,200 to assemble hygiene kits for fifth-grade children at an underprivileged elementary school.
- Participated in an inclusive clinic for people of various ability levels, some of whom are going through treatments for serious medical conditions.
- Encouraged his teammates to contribute to a food drive to benefit those in need.
- Visited Children's National Medical Center (with Terps gear) to help cheer up the children.
- Cut the grass and volunteered to help with various dinners at his home church community, Jesus the Good Shepherd in Calvert County, Maryland.
- Used his platform as an athlete to raise awareness and money for rare disease research and spent time with children battling such diseases.

**Dominic Kazzi '22** made the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester at Salisbury (Md.) University.

the Kansas City Chiefs. Greg Penn '21 (LSU) and Robert Jones '21 (Howard University) were invited to NFL rookie camps.

**Rodney Rice '22** hit the game-winning 3-pointer in Maryland's 79-78 victory at Indiana. After helping the Terrapins advance to the Sweet 16, he transferred to USC.

Defensive back **Tawfiq Byard '23** has transferred from South Florida to Colorado.

**Kevin Winston '22** was selected by the Tennessee Titans in the third round of the NFL Draft. Fellow Penn State alum Coziah Izzard '20 signed a free agent contract with

**Mason So '23** has left UNC Greensboro to continue his basketball career at Mount St. Mary's.

**Terez Davis '24** transferred from Maryland to play football at Ole Miss.



**Jason Moore '23** became the ninth DeMatha graduate to win a Division I college football national championship when Ohio State defeated Notre Dame, 34-23. The previous year, **Josh Wallace '19**, who now plays for the Los Angeles Rams, was a member of Michigan's title-winning team.



# The St. John de Matha Medal

*(Presented For Distinguished Service and Ongoing Devotion to the School and its Mission. Recipients are recognized below.)*

## 2024 – Charlie Kenny '68

The St. John de Matha Medal is awarded each year to an alumnus for his outstanding support of the school. It is presented at Mass on the Feast Day of St. John de Matha (December 17).

Charlie Kenny '68 was our 2024 honoree. Now serving as chair of the DeMatha Board of Directors, Charlie is, among other things, a former faculty member (1980-83), Alumni Association president, six-year board member, chair of the Building and Grounds Committee and longtime mock trial team moderator.

As an attorney, Charlie has offered legal guidance to DeMatha on several issues and contributed to the development of the St. John de Matha Planned Giving Society. For the past 47 years, he has taught business and law as an adjunct college professor. He was a manager on Morgan Wootten's basketball teams and is the grandfather of two DeMatha graduates.



**Charlie Kenny '68** received the St. John de Matha Medal on the feast day of the school's namesake. He is shown here with **Father James** and Principal **Dr. Dan McMahon '76**.

**2003:** Walt Coughlin '52

**2004:** Al Edwards '54

**2005:** Kim Duncan '83

**2006:** Roy Kilby '65

**2007:** Joe Kennedy '64

**2008:** Robert Lawrence '70

**2009:** Kevin Hanley '68

**2010:** Paul Cinquegrana '59  
*(posthumously)*

**2011:** Scott Marchakitus '88

**2012:** Michael Mulhern '72 and  
Michael Johnson '80

**2013:** Brian Sheahan '80

**2014:** Jim Vilella '75

**2015:** Stephen Welker '01

**2016:** Matt Krimm '88

**2017:** Danny Ferry '85

**2018:** Richard Harrington '84

**2019:** Victor Roy '85

**2020:** Kenny Carr '74

**2021:** The Order of the Most  
Holy Trinity and of the  
Captives

**2022:** Tom Kane '86

**2023:** Josh Wilson '03

**2024:** Charlie Kenny '68

# Tony Fotos, Tom Burke Remembered

*DeMatha is a better place today because of the efforts and contributions of people like Tony Fotos and Tom Burke, both of whom died this year. Here's a snapshot of their DeMatha careers. May Tom and Tony rest in peace.*

## TONY FOTOS

DeMatha's history is closely tied to several unique personalities who have worked tirelessly on the school's behalf. Tony Fotos would certainly qualify.

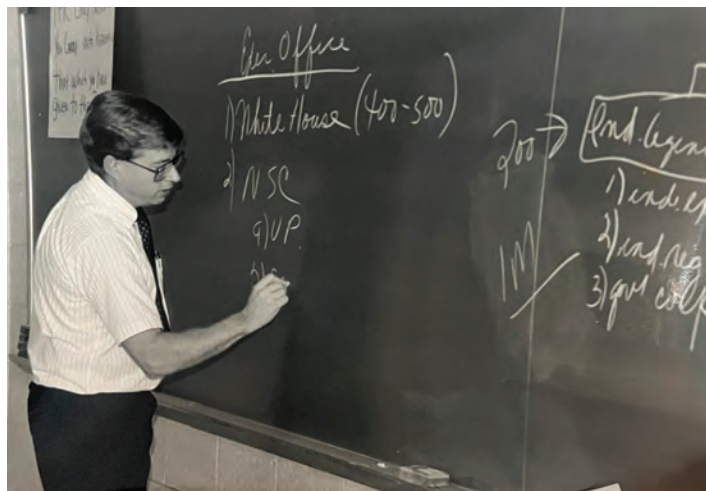
Tony was a faculty member for over 40 years from 1961 until his retirement in 2002. He taught mechanical drawing, art appreciation and descriptive geometry. Numerous students went on to successful careers as draftsmen, builders, architects, engineers and teachers because of Tony's influence.

Tony was the school's first driver's ed teacher and was a bowling club moderator. During the 1990s, he moderated a bridge building team. In a 1999 competition, the group won the state championship.

In 1971, Tony helped DeMatha through a major financial crisis. Along with then-Principal John Moylan, they visited a local bank desperate for a loan. Partly because the bank was run by Tony's father-in-law, the school secured the loan.

About the time of his retirement, and in recognition for all that Tony (and wife Anne) had done, DeMatha named the Arts Center (i.e., "Annex" or "Fort Necessity") in Tony's honor. The building came down in early 2024 to make way for the Cross Center for Engineering, Arts & Robotics. The school will recognize Tony and Anne with a plaque inside the new center.

Tony had passion – for his family, vintage cars, boating and DeMatha. We were the most fortunate beneficiary of that unbridled enthusiasm.



## TOM BURKE

Tom Burke was a DeMatha assistant principal and college counselor for nine years; dean of men for 12; summer school principal; freshman and JV basketball coach; and even called bingo. Included among his 38-year DeMatha career were teaching AP government for 20 years and honors psychology for 15.

Here's an edited Q&A we did with Tom prior to his May 2015 retirement:

### How did you arrive at DeMatha in 1977?

"I was good friends with Jack Bruen, who was teaching and coaching here. Jack and I played basketball against each other in high school and then played together at Catholic University. We were roommates at Catholic for at least a year. We worked two years together at DeMatha."

### Why have you stayed so long?

"It has always been about the people, certainly not the pay! I was happy here and didn't see a reason to leave. I believe that is the standard answer of several DeMatha veteran faculty and staff."

### If someone were to ask you about DeMatha, what would you say?

"It's a special place. There's a real sense of family. Early on I did not quite understand that. We have quite a supportive cast here."

DeMatha held a memorial Mass for Tom in the school chapel on what would have been his birthday (April 29). Attendees included his son Sean '98, a medical doctor who lives in Roanoke, Va., as well as several other family members, friends and former colleagues.

# Remembering DeMatha From a Bond Forged Long Ago

The call came in late January out of the blue. The person identified herself as Frances Smith, wife of the late Herb Smith '56. Mrs. Smith said that she and her husband had several retirement accounts, and she wanted to contribute funds from one of those to DeMatha.

Herb was valedictorian of his class. When he left DeMatha, he attended the University of Maryland but, after just one semester, decided to enlist in the Marine Corps. He served his country for 21 years, retiring as a captain in 1977.

Herb's time in the military included two stints in Vietnam, which undoubtedly, and understandably, left its mark on him. After returning stateside, he went on to earn a master's degree and became a licensed marriage and family counselor. He worked with people who were battling substance abuse and retired in 2000.

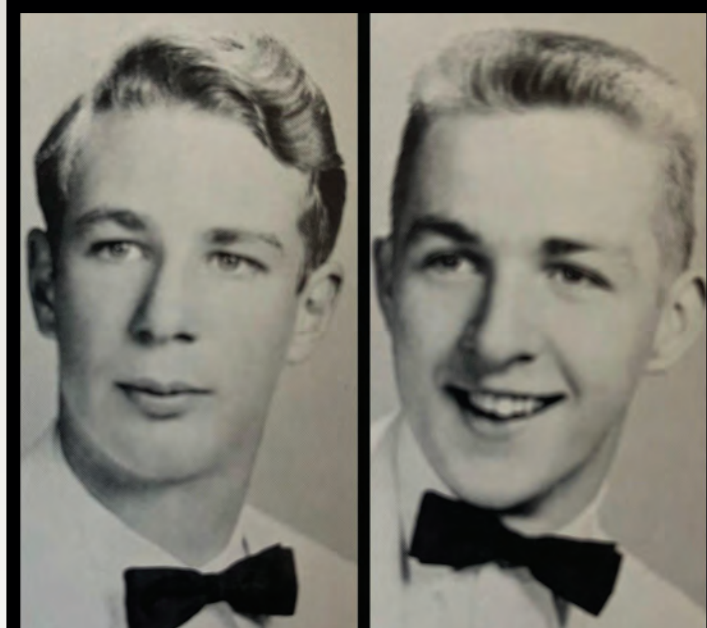
It seems he never forgot DeMatha.

"He felt like the school gave him a strong foundation to weather life's storms, and that foundation helped him when the chips were down," Mrs. Smith said. "He always had something to fall back on."

The Smiths had been married for 50 years when Herb died on March 20, 2020. He was 81. Mrs. Smith was asked why she made the decision to donate to DeMatha.

"We were very fortunate to make some investments. I grew up a Baptist, so I believe church is important," she said. "I wanted to donate now and didn't want to wait until I was dead. I wanted to do some good for mankind."

Mrs. Smith, a former Navy nurse and public health nurse



Herb Smith (left) and John McDonough graduated from DeMatha in 1956.

*"[Herb] felt like the school gave him a strong foundation to weather life's storms, and that foundation helped him when the chips were down."*

for many years, says that she reads *Red & Blue* every time it arrives at her house. "It looks like DeMatha takes young men in high school and gives them a great education – and not just in books. I see the community involvement, the music, the sports. You all are training the future leaders of tomorrow. I also like seeing the diversity of the students."

Mrs. Smith is directing the contribution to the scholarship of Herb's classmate, John McDonough '56. The two reconnected in 2006 during the class of 1956's 50th reunion. When John passed away in 2014, his family started the scholarship in his name.

Mrs. Smith's contribution will greatly enhance the corpus of the McDonough Fund and its ability to assist future Stags. John's daughter, Lisa Peacock, told us she wept when she received the

school email telling her about this latest donation.

"I'm just overwhelmed with gratitude," she said. "This is going to bless future young men going to DeMatha. It's like the pebble in the pond. The reverberations will pay dividends."

The friendships and connections made at DeMatha often last a lifetime. And then, sometimes, it takes a reunion or a chance meeting for a relationship to be renewed.

Mrs. Smith has outlined the reasons why she decided to make this most outstanding gift. And, she acknowledges, it's also a way to remember Herb, the class valedictorian who nobly served his country, assisted many families in need and now, five years after his death, is working posthumously with a former classmate and friend.

Together, they will help young men benefit from a DeMatha education, just like they once did so many years ago.

IN  MEMORIAM



- Christopher Adams '10**, brother of Donald '06 and son of former DPO President Angela Adams.
- Allen Ahearn '55**, a major DeMatha benefactor along with his wife Nina.
- Leroy Bagley Sr.**, father of Leroy Jr. '89 and Brian '93.
- Joycelin Honour Barnes**, mother of Roger '91.
- Christina Beal**, wife of former DeMatha employee Brian '03. His brothers are John '91, Andy '96 and Jimmy '97.
- Anita Bell**, mother of Kevin '75, Mike '78 and Patrick (dec.).
- Burton Beyer**, father of Christopher '88.
- Carl Bulger**, grandfather of Jack '20.
- Dickie Buzik**, father-in-law of faculty member Tony MacAulay and a major supporter of the DeMatha hockey program. Grandfather of Kaleb '23.
- Dennis Cadigan**, brother-in-law of Jeff Hathaway '77.
- Keith Christian '83.**
- Robert Clark**, father of Joseph '99.
- Walt Coughlin '52.**
- Jim D'Amico**, father of Joey '02.
- John Feinstein**, *Washington Post* columnist and best-selling author. John was our Stag Night featured speaker three times. In March, students in our Sports Literature class interviewed him.
- Patricia Firestein**, mother of John '78, James '80 and Robert '82. Aunt to Tom '77 and Ken Cratty '82.
- Karen Fleming-Lord**, wife of Tony Lord '80.
- Tony Fotos**, who taught at DeMatha for more than 40 years. Father of Chris '93. Grandfather of Anthony '20 and Dominic '22 Kazzi. Uncle of Walter Green '90.
- Jimmy Fox**, father of Richard '05, uncle/cousin to the Looney and Parker families.
- Bryan Fuerst**, son of Mark '74.
- Elias Fuerst**, grandson of Mark '74.
- Loretta Gerard**, mother of Christine Thomas, former staff member. Grandmother of Michael '08 and Timmy '11 (dec.) Thomas.
- Laura Cain Monaco Green**, mother of Mary Kerley, former staff member. Mother-in-law of Vince Kerley '69. Grandmother of Jim '98, Chris '01, Danny '04 and Stephen '07 Favret.
- Ann Gough**, mother of Tim '78, Brian '81, Danny '83 and Craig '85. Grandmother of Ryan '13, Connor '17 and Ethan '21.
- Mary Ann Guaragna**, wife of Al '74. Sister-in-law of Sal '75. Aunt to Frank '08 and Dominic '10.

**Patricia Harper**, former DeMatha Parent Organization officer. Mother of Mike Flint '11.

**Barbara Herkert**, mother of Jack '83.

**Joseph Hogan Jr.**, father of Tom '78, Pat '79, Mike '80 and Dan '84.

**Yosie Hoppenjans**, mother of Mark '73.

**Kevin Hughes '76**, father of James '10 and Joseph '12.

**Robert Kanjian**, father of Bob '84.

**Raleigh Jackson III '92**.

**Dave Kane '60**. One of the most colorful figures in DeMatha lore, Dave was dubbed a "Super Fan" by *USA Today* and, at least once, bought the football team new uniforms. He also played in the Stags' huge 7-6 upset of St. John's in 1958.

**Julia Kelly**, mother of former DeMatha teacher Tim Kelly '90.

**Kevin Kincius '81**.

**Stanley Krawczewicz**, father of Mark '78, Tom '81 and Bill '84. Grandfather of Tommy '10, Brendan '15, Christopher Myers '15 and Ryan '18. Father-in-law of Matt Myers '78.

**Michael Jacobs**, father of Thad '88, Terry '90 and Mike '92.

**Carl Landi**, father of Mike '76 and Jim '82 (dec.). Father-in-law of Tim O'Leary '76 (dec.). Grandfather of Jason '03, John '07, Chris '10 and Joseph '12.

**Denise Lattanzi**, former staff member, mother of Josh '00, former faculty member.

**Bob Lesche**, who taught summer school at DeMatha for several years.

**Marie "Mitzi" Loftus**, mother of Bill '80, Barry '81, Tim '83, Paul '84 and Jeff '87.

**Anthony (Tony) Long '77**, brother of Tim '74 and Tina Trice (dec.), former staff member. Uncle of Christopher '94 and the Trice brothers: Brian '92, Philip '95, Nick '99 and Kyle '03.

**Danielle Menard Mazurowski**, wife of Jay '92. Sister-in-law of Jerry '88.

**Thomas Major '69**, brother of John '67.

**Timmy Manley '93**.

**Mary McGillicuddy**, wife of former faculty member Rich Macheski. Mother of Michael '97 and Daniel '02.

**James McGuire**, father of Jim '83.

**Edward Murphy '73**, brother of Dennis '70 and Ronald '73. Uncle of Edward '91.

**Chase Myles '22**, brother of Collin '14.

**Sue Najarian**, mother of Michael '83 and Anthony '92. Grandmother of Tyler '14, Kyle '17 and Eric '19.

**Carole Narcavage**, grandmother of Dale Gray '18, Charlie Gray '19 and Ben Tarnosky '22.

**Leonard Nickens '91**, brother of Eric '94.

**Peter O'Connor**, father of Brian '79.



*Dave Kane '60 (center) and Walt Coughlin '52 (second from left) both passed away this spring. They are pictured in this 2007 photo with, from left, Morgan Wootten, Ben Spotts '59 and Buck Offutt.*

**George Owen**, father-in-law of staff member Jamie O'Connor '90. Grandfather of Owen '22 and Liam '25 O'Connor.

**Jimmy Pennington '74**, brother of Thomas '74 and Michael '72. Father of John '04.

**Dominique Perry**, former student.

**Theresa Proctor**, sister-in-law of Kevin Kerley '76.

**Julia Randolph**, mother of Michael '80 and Jeffrey '82.

**Bob Reading**, freshman baseball coach and father of athletic trainer Jenn. Was married to former DeMatha staff member Arlene. Father of William '12 and Daniel '15.

**Liam Reigel**, stepson of Walter Green '90.

**Roger Rinehart**, father-in-law of Kenneth Flanagan '92.

**Greg Segreti '60**, former faculty member. Brother of Robert '64 and Joseph '68.

**Ruth Ann Spellerberg**, sister of Peter '67, Michael '72 and Philip '73 (dec.).

**Connie Stewart**, mother of Dominique '01.

**Alex Swoboda**, daughter of Greg '74.

**Jeanne Washburn**, mother of Chris '89, Brent '90, Jay '91 and Dan '96.

**Dave Watts**, father of Danny '81 and Kenny '83.

**Jean Watkins**, grandmother of Jamey '98 and Robby Moylan '03.

**George West**, brother of Dan '75 and Robert '76.

**Helen Whetzel**, wife of Ray '51.

**Reginald Wingfield, Jr.**, father of Michael '77.

**Gordon J. Wright**, father of G. John Wright '81.

**Ilvio Zaccardelli '64**.

**DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
*Red & Blue*

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**2025 VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

**AUGUST**

30 (Sat.) vs. St. Joseph's Prep ..... 8 p.m.  
at Salesianum (Wilmington, Del.)

**SEPTEMBER**

5 (Fri.) Imhotep ..... 7 p.m.  
12 (Fri.) at Roman Catholic (Philadelphia, Pa.) ... 7 p.m.  
19 (Fri.) Mount Zion ..... 7 p.m.  
27 (Sat.) at St. Michael's (Fredericksburg, Va.)... 7 p.m.

**OCTOBER**

3 (Fri.) Riverdale Baptist..... 7 p.m.  
10 (Fri.) at Good Counsel..... 7 p.m.  
18 (Sat.) at McNamara..... 2 p.m.  
24 (Fri.) St. John's..... 7 p.m.  
31 (Fri.) Gonzaga..... 7 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**

14/15 WCAC Semifinals..... TBA  
22/23/24 WCAC Championship ..... TBA

**Home Games in Bold** Played at P.G. Sports and Learning Complex (Landover, Md.)

**DEMATHA FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Stags' 2024 WCAC championship was its 25<sup>th</sup> Catholic league title. Coach Bill McGregor has guided DeMatha to 18 championships, Elijah Brooks to four and Morgan Wootten to three.
- Bill McGregor was named WCAC Coach of the Year in 2024 for the 13th time. He enters his 36th year as the Stags' head coach with a career record of 323-53-3. His .856 winning percentage is No. 1 in Maryland high school football history.
- Twenty-one seniors from last year's team are slated to play college football this fall. The group is highlighted by Jacob Wallace (Iowa), Bud Coombs (Maryland), Alex Amaya (Morgan State), Noah Chambers (Virginia Tech), Denzel Gardner (Southern Mississippi), Aiden Smith (Brown) and Luke O'Hare (Maryland).
- Nine former Stags played in the NFL in 2024. The list includes, among others, Rodney McLeod (Cleveland), Chase Young (New Orleans), MarShawn Lloyd (Green Bay), Nick Cross (Indianapolis) and Josh Wallace (L.A. Rams).