THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE OF SAINT XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

# the tiger

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Saint Xavier HIGH SCHOOL

# From the President



As another school year is now complete, I am grateful for the opportunity to pause and reflect on the many moments that made this year memorable for the St. X community. From celebrating student achievements to launching new traditions and strengthening connections among alumni, students, faculty, and staff, these highlights continue to reflect the spirit of brotherhood and excellence that define St. X.

In mid-May we were blessed with celebrating the graduation of our 154th class of St. X men. Among their accomplishments were ten students recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, seven Kentucky Governor's Scholars, two appointments to the U.S. Air Force Academy, and more than $29 million earned in scholarships.

Throughout the year, we also celebrated exciting new traditions and meaningful growth across campus:

- Returning to St. X as Alumni Engagement Coordinator, Michael McCormick '09 brings a decade of experience from his previous service to the school as a science teacher.
- The new Junior Ring and Pin Ceremony brought the entire junior class together to receive their class pins as a symbol of unity, brotherhood, and their transition into leadership as the rising senior class.
- Student career development opportunities continued to grow through expanded internships and job shadowing experiences at many places including UofL Hospital and Brown-Forman.
- Our first Young Alumni Networking Night provided recent graduates with opportunities to build connections and strengthen relationships within the St. X alumni network.
- Brian Landis joined St. X as our new Head Football Coach, and construction began on the Will Wolford '82 Football Center, marking an exciting investment in the future of Tiger athletics.

Very few schools can celebrate 154 graduating classes, and even fewer can point to generations of alumni who remain so deeply connected to one another and to their alma mater. Thank you for remaining such an important part of the St. X community and for helping to keep the brotherhood strong across all generations.

Go Tigers!

Paul D. Colistra

## Too Sweet to Stop: Five Generations of Family-Curated Culinary Success



Just east of the Hurstbourne Parkway and Shelbyville Road intersection lies Heitzman's Traditional Bakery & Cafe, bustling with faithful patrons, delicious treats, and savory eats. The vibe is inviting and upbeat — but it is perhaps the family history behind every loaf and pastry that provides the real secret sauce, giving Heitzman's the staying power to remain a Louisville institution since 1891.

Meet **Matthew Schadt '17**, the fifth-generation Heitzman next in line to lead the family business and someone who radiates positive energy from the moment you meet him. Matthew went on to Loyola University Chicago, where he studied accounting and built the business fundamentals he knew would matter down the road. Chicago had its allure, but Matthew felt a pull back to his Louisville roots and, more importantly, caught the family business bug — the indelible Heitzman passion for quality, community, longevity, and innovation that his parents, fourth-generation owners Dan and Marguerite, had modeled throughout his life. Rounding out the team is Matthew's wife Katie, who has modernized Heitzman's marketing with brilliant innovations, perhaps none more eye-catching than a printing machine that overlays edible graphics onto Heitzman's famous decorated cookies.

**Dan Schadt '82** is the one who instilled in Matthew his grit, attention to detail, and drive to further enhance the Heitzman brand. It doesn't take long to see that Dan leads by example — a visitor will inevitably find him in the kitchen alongside his team, preparing dough and handcrafting each pastry, loaf, and sweet treat. That same attention to detail extends beyond product quality to the experience he creates for his staff, and he, along with Matthew and Marguerite, champions innovation for a clear reason, as he put it:

***"Not to eliminate labor, but to see how we can make jobs easier and more manageable for our staff. Their happiness and effectiveness are our emphasis."***

That philosophy took physical form in a major 2024 renovation, with one addition standing above the rest: a glass wall separating the dining area from the kitchen, inviting patrons to see the Heitzman family laboring over each item by hand. Dan personally undertook much of the renovation after hours, keeping the bakery running throughout. The glass wall itself was Matthew's idea, born from a simple phone call in which someone asked where Heitzman's purchases its bread — a question that stung, knowing that nearly every item

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on the menu is made entirely in-house, a fact the family is so proud of they now put it on full display.

The innovation doesn't stop with Dan and Matthew. Marguerite may be the driving force behind it all. Her brainchild is a cafe offering sandwiches and grab-and-go options alongside Heitzman's traditional treats, expanding what was once a bakery into a true all-day dining destination. Another signature venture grew from her passion for the perfect bagel: after supplying Dooley's Bagels for years, the family took over the operation entirely in 2014, folding it into the bakery with a commitment to restoring quality through the finest handcrafted ingredients. A nod to Dooley's still appears on the side of the building today, a quiet tribute to a Louisville original.

Matthew is excited for the future and has no intention of resting on past success. His three strategic priorities are clear: first, a focus on family — not just his immediate family, but his family of staff and customers. Second, a deepened commitment to the Louisville community, with no cutting corners and an unwavering standard of quality. Third, continued innovation. On the horizon: in-house coffee, the perfect complement to Heitzman's sweet treats and savory eats, and a growing catering initiative led by talented staff bringing imaginative dining options to any group gathering. For Heitzman's, the sweetest chapter may still be ahead.

*Written by Clark Burckle '06*
*Photo by: Dan Dry/PriceWeber*

## Built on Discipline: The Journey of Josh Jordan



For **Josh Jordan '10**, success has never been about a single achievement—it has been about the foundation that made those achievements possible. From his early days at Nativity Academy to leadership at UPS Worldport, Josh's story is one of discipline, perseverance, and purpose.

Josh still vividly remembers the support he received as part of Nativity Academy's first graduating class. With small class sizes and close relationships with teachers and staff, the environment fostered both accountability and confidence. "It felt like we were building something bigger than ourselves," he reflects. Experiences like participating in the River City Drum Corps after school broadened his perspective and reinforced the value of discipline and teamwork. Those lessons extended far beyond the classroom.

Nativity Academy ultimately shaped Josh's mindset. He credits the school with instilling discipline, accountability, and faith—principles that guided him into St. X High School. Transitioning from a class of 14 students to a school of over 1,200 was intimidating, but the structure Nativity provided made the leap manageable. At St. X, Josh quickly learned that success required commitment. Inspired by that standard, he maintained perfect attendance all four years.

Although he was drawn to St. X by its football program, where he was part of the 2009 State championship team coached by Mike Glaser, Josh soon realized the school's deeper mission. "They cared about who we would become beyond the game," he says. That perspective shaped how he approached both athletics and academics. A multi-sport athlete competing in football, wrestling, track and field, and powerlifting, Josh embraced the grind of balancing it all. His dedication paid off when he became a National Powerlifting Champion and set seven school records—accomplishments he attributes as much to mental toughness as physical strength.

"Football taught me how to handle adversity," Josh explains. "I've failed plenty of times, but I see failure as an opportunity to grow." That mindset became essential when his football journey shifted after one year at Georgetown College. Faced with family responsibilities and financial considerations, he made the difficult decision to return home. Rather than viewing it as an ending, Josh reframed it as a transition.

He found a new path at UPS Worldport, where he has now spent 14 years and currently serves as a Building Manager managing upwards of 400 employees. In that role, he applies the same principles he learned through sports—teamwork, leadership, accountability, and development. "What I loved most about football was being part of a team and helping others grow," he says. "I've carried that into my career."

Central to Josh's journey has been the unwavering support of his parents. Growing up in Louisville's West End, he understood the challenges he faced, but his mother and father created a foundation of love and expectation that shaped his trajectory. Today, he channels that same commitment into his own family, striving to set an example for his wife and three daughters.

Motivated by the desire to inspire others, Josh remains passionate about mentorship and leadership. He encourages young people to believe in themselves, emphasizing that "where you start does not define where you can end up." His advice to his younger self—and to others—is simple but powerful: stay disciplined, remain consistent, and trust that setbacks lead to growth.

*Written by Tendai Charasika '96*

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## 154th Class Graduates

St. X celebrated its 154th commencement exercises on Friday, May 15, honoring the achievements of the Class of 2026. A total of 235 young men crossed the stage, marking the culmination of four years of academic rigor, service, and personal growth. **Henry Pape '26** delivered a heartfelt farewell address, reflecting on the bonds formed and memories made.

The graduating class distinguished itself academically, with 10 students recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Seven seniors were named Kentucky Governor's Scholars, and one student earned distinction as a Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts recipient. The class also saw notable military honors, as **Brodie Benefield '26** and **Nick Sanders '26** received appointments to the United States Air Force Academy, while **Walt Dyer '26** was awarded a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps scholarship (marine option). Collectively, the Class of 2026 earned scholarships from 97 colleges and universities, along with the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, totaling more than $29 million.

Beyond academics, the class excelled in athletics and service. Team championships were captured in golf, soccer, swimming & diving, volleyball, and tennis. Additionally, 41 student-athletes committed to compete at the collegiate level. Demonstrating a strong commitment to community engagement, the senior class contributed an impressive 22,256 hours of service to the Louisville community throughout their four years.

The evening ceremony also recognized outstanding individuals within the St. X community. **Mr. Jim Stairs** received the Thomas Borders '61 Excellence in Teaching Award for his dedication to education. **Christian Corrigan, Jr. '26** was honored with the Xaverian Award, the highest distinction bestowed upon a graduating senior. The Outstanding Alumnus Medal was presented to **Mr. William J. Roby, Sr. '65**. Also noteworthy, at the senior awards ceremony on May 14, **Sam Jurgensen '26** was presented the Spirit of Saint Xavier Alumni Award.

Learn more about the Class of 2026 and watch the graduation ceremony at **saintx.com/2026**.



*President Paul Colistra (left) and Principal Dr. Dan McCue pose with Xaverian Award winner Christian Corrigan, Jr.*



*Bill Roby, Sr. '65 (center) was presented the Outstanding Alumnus Award by Alumni Association President Lou Conkling '72 (left) and St. X Senior Vice President for Special Initiatives Mike Littell, Hon. '07.*

## Joe Mattingly '64 Estate Funds Full-Tuition Scholarships

St. X has received a transformative gift of nearly $1.2 million from the estate of **Joseph M. Mattingly '64**, a devoted benefactor and longtime volunteer. The bequest will establish endowed scholarships at the school, providing funding for four full-tuition awards each year and expanding access to a St. X education for future students.

Just shy of his 79th birthday, Joe passed away on May 8, 2025. He was incredibly committed to his alma mater and reminded his classmates often how important it was to support the school "at any level you can." Joe spent hundreds of hours volunteering and was recognized in 2015 with the school's Paulie Walsh '63† Volunteer Service Award.

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## Heritage Room Offers Glimpse into St. X History



Located inside Ryken Hall, the former residence of the Xaverian Brothers, the newly dedicated Heritage Room offers alumni and visitors a glimpse into the history of St. X High School. The space highlights key moments in the school's story and honors the legacy of the Xaverian Brothers who first arrived in Louisville in 1854.

Guests can browse a curated archival collection that notes the evolution of the St. X campus, the enduring impact of the Brothers, and a selection of St. X athletics memorabilia.

The Heritage Room is open during limited summer hours and is accessible from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, when school is in session.

## Retirement News





St. X announces the retirements of two longtime faculty members. **Mr. Jim Stairs** bids farewell after 30 years in the Theology Department, and **Mrs. Cathy Reynolds** concludes 30 years of service, most recently as Director of Mission and Catholic Identity.

## St. X Launches Career Initiative Powered by Alumni Connections



*Nick Baisch*

Something happens during four years at St. X that ties young men to the institution. In the process of adolescent self-discovery, a sense of brotherhood grows—a mutual bond born from shared experiences, expectations, and values. That brotherhood can lead to lifelong relationships. It also often creates common ground with a new acquaintance who is walking the same path, even if decades later.

That power of community is fueling St. X's new **James F. McDonald '58 Student Career Center**. This year, under the leadership of Director of Student Career Development **Nick Baisch '09**, St. X launched a multiyear initiative to help students proactively identify their interests and eventually connect them with aligned career paths through the alumni network.

Last year, the Career Center provided personality and motivation assessments to freshmen and sophomores to help them better understand their unique strengths. The Center later organized site visits to local employers. In November, the school also held its first career fair, bringing in 25 organizations during lunch so students could better understand different fields and learn about summer job opportunities.

Still, Baisch views last year's efforts as only the starting point. He sees more robust programming and greater alumni engagement ahead. Next spring, for example, the school will begin identifying "clusters" of classes associated with different careers, helping students make practical connections between what they learn in the classroom and how it applies to future work. The school also plans to facilitate networking between students and alumni, making it easier for students to receive feedback, ideas, and maybe even mentorship from willing alumni in fields of interest. Baisch also envisions the program hosting speakers and organizing job-shadowing opportunities.

"Our goal is to help our students identify their strengths and natural curiosities and then see how those things can connect to life after St. X," Baisch said. "If possible, we'd like to help them avoid having to switch fields of study once they are deep into their college careers. We believe helping them develop self-awareness and self-determination while they are here can be part of the St. X advantage. One of the school's unique strengths is its engaged alumni network, so leveraging that for the benefit of current students makes all the sense in the world."

Alumni interested in engaging with the Career Center are encouraged to contact Nick at nbaisch@saintx.com or (502) 634-2147.

*Written by Bobby Ferreri '97*

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## Tigers to Kick off Season with New Head Coach




Tiger Nation begins a new era for its storied football program with the hiring of **Brian Landis** as head coach, a move announced during a January 8, 2026, press conference. Landis steps into the role following the retirement of Coach Kevin Wallace, who guided the Tigers for eight seasons and capped his tenure with a Class 6A state championship in 2021.

Executive Director of Athletics Chris Tinius emphasized the significance of Landis's arrival, highlighting both his experience and alignment with the school's commitment to excellence. "This hire is another example of bringing quality talent to our school as a part of our efforts for continuous improvement in all academic and athletic areas," Tinius said. "Brian will be a great addition to our athletic department, and he brings a wealth of experience to the football program."

**TAILGATE DINNER**
**FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS**

**Friday, August 28, 2026**
**5:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

- **Buffet Dinner presented by Morris Deli & Catering**
- **Music, Face Painting, and Yard Games**

**7:30 p.m. St. X vs. Bowling Green**

Dinner Tickets: Adults ($20) and Kids ($10)

**Register by August 21 at saintx.com/tailgate**
Game ticket required – buy at saintx.com/tickets

A Cincinnati native, Landis brings a diverse and accomplished coaching background spanning both the college and high school levels. He began building his coaching résumé at his alma mater, Georgetown College, where he served as a defensive backs coach for 11 seasons. Prior to that, Landis was a standout player, earning all-conference honors at safety three times, and he was captain of the 2000 NAIA national championship team.

Landis's coaching journey has included stops at Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Kentucky, where he further developed his defensive expertise. His transition to high school football proved especially successful as the founding head coach at Frederick Douglass High School in Lexington in 2017. Tasked with building the program from the ground up, Landis quickly established a winning culture. In just three seasons, the Broncos posted an impressive 35–5 record and reached the Class 5A state championship game in 2019. Most recently, he served as Head Coach at Alpharetta High School in Georgia.

Coach Landis is keenly aware that he has taken over one of the most respected high school football programs in Kentucky, one that boasts 13 state championships and a long tradition of excellence. In his introductory remarks, he expressed both gratitude and enthusiasm for the opportunity.

"I am incredibly grateful and honored to lead the next generation of Saint Xavier men," Landis said. "The history, tradition, and standard of excellence are second to none. I am proud to carry that forward with great effort, a winning attitude, and the toughness that defines the Tiger tradition."

As the Tigers prepare for the coming season, expectations remain high. With his proven ability to build programs and develop talent, Coach Landis appears poised to continue the legacy of success while shaping the future of one of Kentucky's premier high school football programs.

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TIGERS

## Season Football Tickets on Sale Now

Purchase reserved or general admission season tickets for all home football games, including freshman and junior varsity contests.

**Varsity Home Games**

August 28 – St. X vs. Bowling Green

October 2 – St. X vs. Boyle Co.

October 9 – St. X vs. Manual

October 23 – St. X vs. PRP

All tickets must be purchased online: www.saintx.com/tickets




## Renovations Nearly Complete

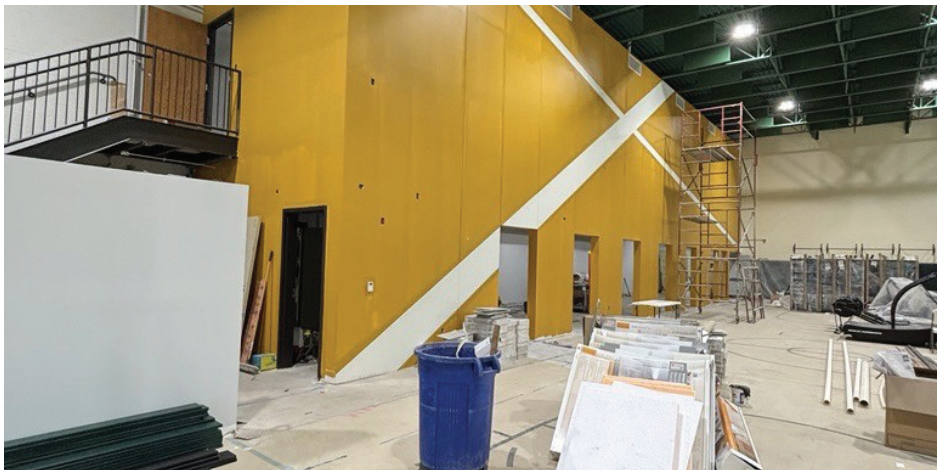
The **William C. Wolford '82 Football Center** opens in August. The facility will house 220+ athletes, provide meeting spaces for coaches, and offer locker rooms for our wrestling team and freshman PE program. A stadium video board, resurfaced track, and updated wrestling gym will also be ready when school starts.



*Wolford Football Center Entrance*



*Varsity Football Locker Room*



*Brother Giles Crowell, C.F.X. Wrestling Center*

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## Volleyball Among Nation's Best After Perfect Season



*Senior Briley Codey*

For the St. X Volleyball team, the past two seasons have redefined excellence. What began as a breakthrough run in 2025 has grown into a dominant stretch, culminating this spring in a perfect season, a second straight state title, and a place among the nation's elite.

The Tigers closed the 2026 campaign ranked No. 5 in the nation in the USA TODAY/AVCA High School Boys Volleyball Super 25, a fitting finish for a team that went 30–0. St. X secured its second consecutive KHSAA state championship with a decisive 3–0 sweep of West Jessamine, extending an extraordinary winning streak to 61 matches. That run began after the Tigers dropped their 2025 season opener— their only loss—before reeling off 31 consecutive victories to finish 31–1 and capture the inaugural KHSAA state championship.

While these back-to-back titles mark the program's success in the KHSAA era, they continue a long-standing tradition of excellence. Before boys' volleyball was sanctioned in 2025, St. X had already established itself as a statewide powerhouse, capturing 21 Kentucky Club Volleyball championships—including 15 titles won between 2007 and 2024.

At the center of the Tigers' recent success was senior **Briley Codey**. He earned Kentucky's Mr. Volleyball honors for the second straight year and was named both the Region 5 Player of the Year and the state tournament MVP in each of the past two seasons. A team captain and the Tigers' statistical leader, Codey paced St. X with 340 kills and 65 aces while adding 147 digs, showcasing his all-around impact on the court.

Senior team captain **Walt Bakken** was another major contributor to the team's success. He finished second on the team with 218 kills while also recording 41 total blocks and 129 digs.

St. X's sustained success continues under the leadership of head coach Josh Mullin. In his second stint at the helm, after coaching from 2006 to 2010, Mullin returned ahead of the 2024 season and has upheld the tradition of excellence that defines St. X volleyball. He was named the KVCA Boys Coach of the Year in 2025 and earned Region 5 Coach of the Year honors in both 2025 and 2026.

From 21 club titles to back-to-back state championships and a national top-five ranking, St. X has firmly established itself as the standard. This spring's perfect season only added to a legacy already defined by success.

*Photo: Steve Codey '84*

## Record Breaker: Nick Sanders Runs into St. X History



Records are made to be broken, right? Senior distance runner **Nick Sanders** did just that, closing out a remarkable high school career with record-setting performances, securing his place among the program's all-time greats.

At the 2026 KHSAA Indoor Track & Field State Championships in early March, Sanders captured the 1,600-meter Class 3A state title, crossing the finish line in a record-setting time of 4:05.43. The mark also broke the St. X indoor 1600-meter record, surpassing the previous standard of 4:06.00 held by alumnus Bobby Curtis '03.

Sanders carried that momentum into the outdoor season. At the Coach Cooper/ Brother Borgia Memorial Invitational in April, he clocked a 1:51.93 in the 800-meter run, establishing a new St. X outdoor record and eclipsing another long-standing mark by Curtis (1:52.89). Sanders entered the KHSAA Class 3A Outdoor State Championships

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with high expectations and finished runner-up in the 1600 meters and fourth in the 800 meters.

"Nick loves to be tested and embraces the vast challenge of preparation," said head Cross Country coach and assistant Track & Field coach Kyle Yochum. "He committed to the training and lifestyle demands of distance racing as well as any St. X runner this century."

His junior campaign was also noteworthy. In 2025, Sanders won the 3200-meter title at the KHSAA Indoor State Meet and finished runner-up in the 1600 meters. He also earned a second-place finish in the 1600 meters at the KHSAA Track & Field State Championships.

With multiple state podium finishes, a state indoor record, and two school records to his name, Nick Sanders leaves behind a legacy of excellence at St. X. He will continue his academic and athletic career at the U.S. Air Force Academy, where he is set to compete at the next level.




## Basketball Caps Historic Season with State Runner-Up Finish



*Senior Jeremiah Jackson*

The Tiger basketball program entered the 2025–26 season primed for another historic run. Following a stellar 31–3 record and a Sweet 16 appearance the previous year, combined with the return of top talent, it was no surprise the 2026 squad opened the season ranked No. 1 in the state.

The Tigers lived up to the preseason hype. Seniors **Chief Cameron**, **Jeremiah Jackson**, **Bryce Johnson**, and **Connor Klein** provided steady leadership and invaluable experience. Sophomores Josh Lindsay and Jordan Jackson added an electric presence, producing highlight-reel moments that elevated the team's profile and sparked a surge in fan enthusiasm not seen since the 1960s.

The Tigers captured their third consecutive Louisville Invitational Tournament (L.I.T.) title and secured the 7th Region championship for the second consecutive year behind standout performances from Jeremiah Jackson. The Southern Illinois University signee was a Kentucky Mr. Basketball finalist, L.I.T. MVP, and 7th Region Player of the Year.

A return to Lexington's Rupp Arena was not just a goal, but an expectation. The Tigers proved they were ready for the challenge, defeating Covington Catholic, North Laurel, and Grayson County to advance to the state championship game for the first time since 1962. In a hard-fought overtime battle, they fell to George Rogers Clark High School, finishing the season with an impressive 29–8 record.

The Tigers' dominance was also reflected in individual honors, with Jackson, Cameron, and Lindsay all earning spots on the KHSAA Boys' Sweet 16 All-Tournament Team. Following the season, Chief Cameron announced his commitment to Indiana Wesleyan University, while Connor Klein will play at Hanover College.

Under the leadership of Head Coach Kevin Klein '95, the program continues to build on its strong foundation. Tiger Nation can expect continued success, hard work, and headline-worthy performances in the seasons ahead.

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## Tigers Cruise to 38th Straight State Swimming & Diving Title




St. X once again asserted its dominance at the 2026 KHSAA State Swimming & Diving Championships, capturing the program's 38th consecutive state title and 62nd overall. The Tigers delivered a commanding team performance, finishing with 489 points, while Eastern placed second with 181.

Sophomore Wilson York and junior Boone Wilcox led the team, combining for three individual state championship titles while also contributing to relay victories. York captured state titles in the 200-yard individual medley (1:47.29) and 100-yard breaststroke (54.29). Wilcox won the 100-yard butterfly championship (47.71).

The Tigers' relay teams played a major role in the lopsided margin. St. X took first in the 200-yard medley relay behind Quinn Moter, York, Wilcox, and Bishop DeZarn (1:30.00). In the 200-yard freestyle relay, Blaise Harrison, Owen Durham, Carter Rankin, and DeZarn secured another first-place finish in 1:23.98. St. X closed the meet with a 400-yard freestyle victory, as Wilcox, Rankin, Durham, and Peyton Harrison combined for a 3:03.66 finish.

Head coach Todd Larkin '86 is a proven leader, keeping St. X at the top year after year. With a deep and talented roster, the Tigers extended their remarkable streak and reinforced the program's reputation as a premier national powerhouse.

*Photo by Chip Dumstorf '81/Bisig Impact Group*

## Rowing Builds Momentum in Breakthrough Season

In just its third year, the St. X Rowing program is already making waves. Under the leadership of head coach J.D. Bridges, the Tigers are rapidly emerging as a competitive force.

Bridges, who joined St. X in August 2025, quickly expanded the program's schedule. Though rowing is technically a spring sport, he added a full fall racing season and increased training to five days a week to better prepare athletes for high-level competition.

"Rowing takes an unusual combination of both strength and endurance," Bridges explained. "But beyond that, consistency and teamwork are crucial. The chemistry between athletes in a boat can make all the difference."

The team competed in three fall regattas—two in Columbus, Ohio, and one in Nashville—racing longer, time-trial-style events. These 5,000- to 6,000-meter races were key in evaluating how the team stacked up against its peers.



*St. X competes on the Cumberland River in the Music City Head Race in Nashville.*

In the spring, the Tigers transitioned to traditional side-by-side sprint racing at distances of 1,500 to 2,000 meters. That rigorous fall training carried over into the winter and spring, helping ensure the team was prepared for the longer season. St. X raced five times in the spring and advanced to the regional Midwest Championships in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Despite entering uncharted territory, St. X delivered impressive results, with two boats advancing to finals. One boat, a junior quad, finished fourth in the finals and qualified for the Scholastic National Championships. "I'm not sure what the history is for first-year programs qualifying for Nationals, but when I told other coaches, we saw some dropped jaws," Bridges noted.

Looking ahead, Bridges is confident in the program's trajectory. Drawing from his experience coaching in the highly competitive Philadelphia rowing scene, he hopes to build a nationally competitive team at St. X.

"I moved my family to Louisville because I believe in the potential here," he said. "We're building the infrastructure, growing the roster, and creating opportunities."

With a strong foundation now established, St. X appears poised to continue its rapid ascent.

*Photo: Lauren Hamilton*

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# A Guitar and a Dream: The Road of Ian Abel Meyer '08



"We were a sweaty mess, walking back to our green room after rocking the faces off 8,000+ concertgoers in Ohio when Johnny Van Zant and Rickey Medlocke of Lynyrd Skynyrd walked up and asked, 'Which one of you is Ian?' Worried someone had tipped them off that I stole from catering, I cautiously answered, 'I am.' Johnny smiled and said, 'You rocked.'"

This is **Ian Abel Meyer**, a St. X student from 2004–2008 who was impossible to miss. Ian was a junior during my first year teaching in 2006–07. He was already a talented guitarist, singer, and actor with a larger-than-life personality. Everyone knew him and, for better or worse, he was a vocal leader among the student body.

As a young teacher, I quickly realized Ian was someone I wanted in my corner. Thankfully, he saw some potential in me, too, and we formed a strong bond. Ian often jokes about getting in trouble for being off task in class, writing musical scales and fretboard patterns on graph paper during math lessons.

After receiving positive feedback at a jazz competition hosted by UofL, Ian encouraged St. X to create a Jazz Combo class and recruited several advanced musician friends to join.

"Mr. Yarborough told me one of the judges said I'd probably be good at jazz if I actually learned how to play it. I asked him how, and he said, 'You have to listen to it.' So I dug through my parents' old jazz fusion CDs, bought some classics from Ear X-Tacy, and did exactly that. I listened."

At the time, I was eager to experiment with a more contemporary and improvisational approach to music education, and Ian became a major part of that shift. The St. X Music Department we know today was beginning to take shape. Other students jumped in enthusiastically, and suddenly we were building something special.

The instrumental music program became so popular that the maintenance staff had to install an additional electrical circuit in the band room because we kept tripping breakers with all the amplifiers plugged in.

The following year, Ian returned to the UofL competition and earned a performance award from the International Association of Jazz Educators, competing against collegiate musicians from prestigious jazz programs.

After graduating, Ian attended Western Kentucky University, where he studied classical guitar and musical theater. At St. X, he had already become known for starring roles in drama productions, including his memorable portrayal of the Pharaoh in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

"I got into acting after being an extra in the Cameron Crowe film *Elizabethtown*. The productions at St. X were incredible. Mr. Yarborough had the pit orchestra sounding professional, the casts were great, and the sets were massive. We were legitimately good, especially for a high school."

Eventually, Ian felt called to Los Angeles to pursue both music and acting. While auditioning and booking opportunities, he continued writing and performing original music. He played iconic venues including the Troubadour, Whisky a Go Go, and the Viper Room, and by 2018–19 was being musically managed by Linkin Park's longtime manager.

One of Ian's biggest breaks came when professional wrestler Cody Rhodes licensed Ian's song "Shoes" for his historic match against his brother Dustin Rhodes. The promo gained major attention and earned a Hollywood Music in Media Award nomination.

Then came COVID.

With the world suddenly shutting down, Ian left Los Angeles and returned to Kentucky to help at his family's metal manufacturing business. For a time, he considered walking away from music entirely.

Thankfully, that moment passed.

Ian eventually made the move to Nashville, where his "space cowboy" sound quickly found an audience. Since then, he has toured as lead guitarist for Grand Ole Opry member T. Graham Brown and most recently with Dillon Carmichael. He has played the Grand Ole Opry twice and opened for major artists including Miranda Lambert, Lynyrd Skynyrd, The Band Perry, Randy Houser, Diamond Rio, and Brothers Osbourne, to name a few.

Each semester, Ian returns to St. X to jam with music students and answer questions from aspiring young musicians. He is currently recording a full-length album with members of Eric Church's and Randy Houser's touring bands — or, as Ian puts it, "friends I've made on the road."

This summer, Ian will perform at Louisville's Fourth Street Live! and New Albany's Summer Concert Series sponsored by 91.9 WFPK. He is also excited to perform during the FIFA World Cup festivities in Vancouver.

And, as Ian was very adamant I include: you can follow him at @ianabelband on social media, on Bandsintown, and at ianabel.band.

*Written by St. X teacher Matt Yarborough*
*Photos: Daniel J. Meyer*

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## The Stories of St. X, One Voice at a Time




One of my clearest memories growing up in the late 1940s and early 1950s is listening to stories on the radio. For me, moderating the stories my guests share on St. X's podcast, *TigerTalk*, feels like a return to one of my favorite times in life.

As host, I am constantly impressed by the passion and deep connection to St. X shown by every guest—teachers, coaches, alumni, parents, counselors, administrators, and students. Their stories reinforce what I have always believed—this place is special. This place is different.

Listeners can hear Fulbright Scholars **Ethan Harned '21** and **Greyson Wintergerst '21** describe how St. X inspired their commitment to service, leading them to work overseas in ways they never imagined as freshmen at St. X.

Listeners can hear St. X parent **Clay Shulhafer '93** credit the discipline he gained at St. X as central to his success as a small business owner and as a foundation now guiding his son, who is headed to college.

Listeners can also hear a St. X soccer player recount a frightening experience when the stands collapsed after an away game, and how Mr. Ben Cottrell, Campus Minister for Athletics, helped the team process and overcome the moment.

Listeners can hear engineer **Patrick Spradling '89** reflect on how the technology and communication skills he developed at St. X continue to shape his work as a product developer and career mentor. In another podcast, his appreciation is echoed by **Henry Putney '20**, who credits St. X for the leadership skills he uses as director of the 502 Flight Club pilot training program at Bowman Field.

Listeners can also hear Director of Learning Support Tony Kemper and English teacher Kyle Yochum discuss St. X's strategy of teaching students how to learn and supporting both high achievers and those striving to improve.

Most of all, those tuning in can hear guests emphasize St. X's faith-based approach, especially its retreats and service programs. In a world filled with negative "influencers," their inspirational stories share how St. X helped them become "men for others," grounded in the Xaverian values of Compassion, Humility, Simplicity, Trust, and Zeal. Their stories also confirm the wise counsel from legendary St. X teacher and president Brother James Kelly, C.F.X.†—to mentor each student by "respecting the man the boy will become."

So, I invite you to tune in to our episodes on *TigerTalk*, where we celebrate the Green and the Gold, and where Tigers will always take care of Tigers: **saintx.com/tigertalk**.

*Written by Joe Kroh '61*

## Annual Tradition: Alumni vs. Students




Alumni hit the ice in January to take on the 2026 Tiger Hockey team. They kept it close, but the current Tigers edged out a thrilling 10–9 victory. The Hockey team is coached by James Frank and his assistant Alex Senn '11.

## In Memoriam

Benjamin S. Roney '43
Michael L. Heeb '44
James B. Bonn '46
Charles J. French, Jr. '46
Paul L. Pfister, Sr. '46
Robert L. Windhorst '46
Lawrence R. Link, Sr. '47
John R. Osborne '47
Henry R. Schuler '47
Pitt G. Thome '47
Joseph S. Bowling '48
Gerald H. Fitzgerald '49
Robert J. Goodman '49
Martin G. Hornek '49
Charles E. Lynn, Jr. '49
Joseph B. Warren '49
Raymond B. Whalen '49
Charles "Skip" Medley '50
William D. "Don" Thompson '50
Paul H. Saettel '51
Charles Cunningham '52
Francis D. "Don" Smith '52
John H. Blessinger '53
Robert A. Culberson '53
James D. Finney '53
Dr. William H. Smythe '53
Norbert J. Hornek '54
Robert A. Atkins '55
Alvin C. Barth '55
Thomas K. Echsner '55
Dr. John E. Remmers '55
William D. Vetter '55
Robert J. Weihe '55
Daniel A. "Gus" Drexler '56
Robert J. Larger '56
Matthew J. McDonald, Jr. '56
Conrad J. Oberst '56
Michael L. Riggle '56
Richard M. "Dick" Cooper '57
Harold L. Duvall '57
Harry L. Gehring, Jr. '57
Richard J. Huelsman '57
William T. Huffman '57
Robert L. Nevitt '57
Dr. Donald Scharfenberger, Sr. '57
Bernard F. Schunicht '57
Charles W. Wirth '57
Francis L. Elliott '58
Earl T. Lentz '58
William C. Schoenbaechler '58
Colonel James R. Wessel '58
James E. Carrico '59
Joseph Lally, Jr. '59
James Remmers '59
Charles D. Schroeder '59
Rev. Donald W. Springman '59
R. Lawrence Baird '60
Daniel E. O'Neil '60
Charles K. Portman '60
Philip H. Scholtz '60
Leonard A. "Scooter" Bayens '61
James W. "Mac" McCubbins '61
John C. Nash '61
Richard A. "Dick" Stratman '61
Roy E. Vowels '61
Senator Richard Young '61
Robert E. Gunther '62
William E. Hall '62
P. Ralph Rice, Jr. '62
William H. Sengelaub '62
Vincent B. Stamp '62
Dr. Greg Thompson '62
Richard A. Weiter '62
Joseph E. Wiseman '62
Albert J. Bissmeyer III '63
James T. Duerr '63
Mark A. Loyd '63
Albert L. Oswald II '63
Maurice K. Allgeier, Jr. '64
Donald W. Brock '64
Andrew J. Gardner, Jr. '64
Don F. Huber '64
Joseph P. Tegart '64
David M. Winebrenner '64
Jerome T. "Tim" Brown '65
Louis A. Pollio '65
William L. Wine '65
James A. Bosley '66
David J. Mateja '66
W. Paul Schultz, Jr. '66
J. Gregory McCoy '67
George A. Ochs, DMD '67
Edwin Wolf '67
Dennis M. Lee '68
J. Larry Kays '69
Joseph R. Starnes '69
Kevin M. Bourke '71
Michael Reilly Creed '72
J. Pat Thomas '72
Daniel J. Smith '73
Mark A. Starr '74
Richard S. Bonn, Jr. '75
James R. Schaeffer '75
Christopher A. Carey '76
Kent R. Dorenkamp '76
John R. Cecil '78
Anthony F. Peterworth, Jr. '81
Derek L. Winebrenner '81
Michael L. Crask '84
Ronald L. Kamenish '84
Paul J. Koeberlein '84
David J. Morgan '84
Richard F. McCarty '86
Scott L. Smith '86
Cary M. Calebs '91
David L. Williamson '92
Ronald J. Bolton, Jr. '96
Michael B. Detenber '98
Samuel B. Weber '00
Derek K. Pero '04
Nicholas R. Dewees '07
Austin T. Horstman '11
Robert B. Johnson '11
Martin J. Nitzken, Jr. '17

**Former faculty members:**
Dr. Stephanie Latkovski (formerly Dumstorf)
Mr. Ted Pearce
Ms. Maria Lugo-Wiscovitch



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## Alumni Travel Program

As the St. X Alumni Association enters its fourth year of the Alumni Travel Program, the opportunity for graduates to connect while exploring the world continues to grow. Through its exclusive partnership with ***Lou Conkling '72*** of Knights Travel, alumni can enjoy thoughtfully curated travel experiences designed to blend discovery, comfort, and camaraderie.

With 41 years of experience as an independent travel consultant, Lou specializes in cruises and tours across the globe. His expertise ensures each journey is both seamless and enriching, offering alumni the chance to share memorable experiences at remarkable destinations.

Upcoming Viking itineraries highlight the program's diversity. In April 2027, ***Passage to Eastern Europe*** takes travelers from Budapest to Bucharest along the Danube, featuring cultural highlights such as Belgrade's historic sites, the dramatic Iron Gate, and authentic regional experiences in Hungary and Bulgaria. For those seeking a truly adventurous journey, July 2027 offers ***Into the Northwest Passage***, an expedition through the Arctic Circle. This unique voyage explores Greenland and the Canadian High Arctic, with opportunities to experience Inuit culture and witness breathtaking polar landscapes. In February 2028, alumni can enjoy a Mediterranean escape with ***Malta, Morocco & the Mediterranean***, a roundtrip journey from Barcelona that visits iconic ports rich in history, culture, and architecture.

For trip details and pricing, contact Lou Conkling at (502) 292-4750 or lou@knightstravel.com.

## Young Alumni Networking Night



The St. X Alumni Association launched a Young Alumni Networking Night in April, connecting the audience with accomplished St. X graduates representing a wide range of career paths. The positive feedback from alumni speakers and attendees was overwhelming and supports the plan to make this an annual tradition.

# Class Notes

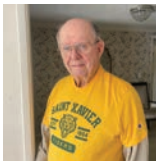
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## Class of 1943
**Class Agent:**



**Ben Roney†** celebrated his 101st birthday at Magnolia Springs Louisville on October 25, 2025. He shows his Tiger pride alongside his son, Glenn Roney '72, and Glenn's son-in-law, Chase Hellmann '03. Sadly, Ben passed away February 8, 2026.

## Class of 1944
**Class Agent:**



**Louis Ruhl** celebrated his 100th birthday on May 12, 2026. He resides in Santa Ana, California.

## Class of 1950
**Class Agent:**

Longtime class agent, **Skip Medley†**, passed away in November. St. X thanks him for 18 years of service in this role.

## Class of 1955
**Class Agents: Howard Meyer (502) 544-5766 and Jim Rademaker (502) 939-5943**

Longtime class agent, **Bob Weihe†**, passed away May 8. St. X thanks him for more than 16 years of service in this role. Bob's death gained widespread attention after he attended his 80th consecutive Kentucky Derby earlier this year.

If you have a new email address or would like to submit a class note about yourself, contact **Howard Meyer** at HMeyerX55@gmail.com or **Jim Rademaker** at jimrade@gmail.com.

Professor **Bill Steiden** earned his Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky and taught at Indiana University Southeast and Jefferson Community College for more than 50 years. He retired to be with his wife of 64 years during her final days and was widowed in December 2025. Bill stays busy. He is a Eucharistic minister at St. Martha Church. He not only serves his fellow parishioners but also takes communion to residents at two local nursing homes. Bill's favorite canine friend, Dolly, is always there with a warm greeting when he gets home. Say hello to Bill at 1937BillSteiden@gmail.com.

## Class of 1956
**Class Agent: Bill Habich (502) 594-0709**

The class meets on the second Tuesday of each month at Molly Malone's, 933 Baxter Avenue, at 11:30 a.m. Contact Ramsey Kraft at (502) 291-0776 or r38kraft@nanzkraft.com if you plan to attend.

## Class of 1957
**Class Agent: Dick Mueller (502) 552-6075**

Class lunches have changed to quarterly gatherings on the second Thursday in February, May, August, and November. Significant others are still invited. We meet at Jason's Deli, 410 N. Hurstbourne Pkwy. Contact **Al Huber** at (502) 235-6871 with questions.

## Class of 1958
**Class Agent:**

Class lunch gatherings are changing. Please contact **Russell Quick** at rq@rqco.net or (502) 639-8317 for details.

More than 50 St. X students, under the leadership of senior DyLon Boone, delivered more than 500 backpacks filled with toiletries and underwear to St. John's Center for homeless men. These items were greatly appreciated. If you would like to help, consider contacting **Jim Fitzgibbon** at (502) 244-1205 or Keesha Gardner, St. John's volunteer coordinator, at (502) 322-3846.

## Class of 1959
**Class Agent: Jim Miller (502) 262-2195**

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

**Fr. Jim Wiseman** is in the last full year of his term as abbot of St. Anselm's Abbey in Washington, DC. This past July, he went hiking with some longtime friends in the Sawtooth Mountains of Idaho and the Cascade Mountains of Oregon. He also continues writing articles, mostly on dialogue with other religions. One of these was published in the *American Benedictine Review this past December, and another will soon be published in the Journal of Interreligious Studies*.

**Bill Nold** and **Dick Coomes** are spending more time together. They both go the physical therapy on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

**Bill Antonini** now has dual citizenship with the U.S. and Italy. He's planning on buying a villa and spending his time making wine.

**Fr. Joe Merkt**, ordained on December 17, 1966, celebrates his 60th jubilee this year.

## Class of 1960
**Class Agent:**

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

## Class of 1961
**Class Agent: Ed Weis (502) 751-5863**

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

## Class of 1962
**Class Agents: Bob Meyer (502) 500-5368 and David Huber (502) 593-7677**

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



Pictured (bottom left to right) at the November class lunch are **Terry Carby**, **Tom Walsh**, **John Huber**, **Paul Crutcher**, **Jim Gardner**, **Phillip Leigh**, **Dave Huber**, and **Bob Meyer**.



The February class lunch gathering was filled with lively, nonstop storytelling. George Sisco made a special appearance all the way from his home in Clearwater, Florida, dressed in true Woodstock style. Spirits were especially high thanks to the long-awaited and welcome break from the bitter cold that week. We look forward to seeing more of our snowbirds return from the South in the coming months, along with familiar local faces. You're always welcome to join us for these gatherings, held on the second Wednesday of each month. Each of our classmates is remembered in our grace before the meal, and we encourage you to keep us updated on your life happenings—no matter how small they may seem. Pictured (left to right) are **Terry Carby**, **Bob Meyer**, **Paul Crutcher**, **George Sisco**, **Phillip Leigh**, **Dave Huber**, **Ray DeCamillis**, and **Bill Cowley**.

## Class of 1963
**Class Agents: Jerry Barnes (502) 338-9710 and Bob Coomes (502) 550-2123**

Join the class for lunch on the first Tuesday of the month. We meet at Check's Cafe at 11:30 a.m. To receive lunch notifications, email **Bill Green** at bgreen@greenhalliburton.com.

If you are not receiving classmate news via email, please email **Bob Coomes** at bosemooc@gmail.com.

## Class of 1964
**Class Agent: Don Meyer (502) 491-2704**

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

## Class of 1965
**Class Agent: Jack Will (502) 649-4540**

**Bill Roby** received the 2026 Outstanding Alumnus award at St. X's graduation in May. He joins classmates **Bob Edwards**, **Paul Browne**, **Michael Holland**, and **Harry Rothgerber** on this distinguished list.

## Class of 1966
**Class Agents: Pat Conkling (502) 836-7419 and John Hess (502) 419-5647**

The class meets for dinner on the first Monday of each month at Hillcrest Tavern at 5:30 p.m. Contact Pat or John with questions.



**Brent Riggs**, **Tom Schmitt**, and **Pat Conkling** visited class president **Chris Heavrin** at Carl Brashear Veterans Center and presented him a sweatshirt signed by classmates.

## Class of 1967
**Class Agents: Charlie Nalley (502) 821-2349, Jim Ratterman (502) 553-5615, Tony Santamassino (502) 439-5039, Mike Shea (502) 609-3212**



**Chuck Krebs** celebrates Christmas at his home with his son, Ryan Krebs '95, son-in-law, James Burnett '04, and grandsons, Isaac and Jackson McKinney. Ryan resides in Reno, Nevada and James lives in Austin, Texas. Isaac graduated from St. X in May 2026 and will play volleyball for Belmont Abbey College. Jackson will be a St. X freshman in August.

## Class of 1968
**Class Agent: Mike Horlander (502) 592-4735**



The family of **Mike Seadler** surprised him in February with a visit to St. X. His good friend **Pat Byrne** joined him for a tour around campus. Mike, who resides at the Forest Springs Health Campus, enjoyed taking a trip down memory lane. Pat and Mike are pictured in the school's Brother John Joseph Sterne Gym.

## Class of 1969
**Class Agents: Steve Liebert (502) 905-3593 and Steve Lannert (502) 689-8286**

**Tom Barry** has retired from consulting. Tom's mobile number is (502) 693-5394. **Paul Carlisle** is retired. Contact Paul at (502) 387-1213. **Bill Caskey** lives in east Louisville. His cell number is (502) 548-0972. **Bill Clark** has retired from a career selling residential real estate with Semonin Realtors. Bill's mobile number is (502) 552-0667. **Steve Cooper** has retired and moved from Nashville back to Louisville. Call Steve at (615) 972-7042. **John Cummins** is the Estate Planning Practice Group Chair at Dentons Bingham Greenebaum, LLP. Contact John at (502) 396-0669. **David Dries** is retired and lives in east Louisville. Dave's number is 502 777-0700. **Greg Ellerkamp** has retired from the Kentucky Department of Transportation. Contact Greg at (502) 759-3724. **Larry Fisher** has retired and lives in the Jeffersontown area. Call Larry at (502) 819-2560. **Gary George** is retired and lives in La Grange. You may reach Gary at (502) 693-4618. **Tom Hartlage** recently returned from a trip to Costa Rica. Contact Tom at (502) 419-8067. **Rob Hickerson** retired and is a member of Holy Trinity Church. **John Hunter** works for Churchill Financial and lives in Anchorage. John's number is (502) 645-9377. **Steve Ising** retired from a teaching career and lives in Louisville. Contact Steve at (502) 262-3775. **Tom Karageorge** lives in the Highlands area. You may reach Tom at (502) 291-7371. **Herman Lieber** is retired and lives in Fisherville, Kentucky. Call Herman at (502) 386-0324. **Steve Liebert** works with the Weber Group in Sellersburg, Indiana. Contact Steve at (502) 905-3593. **Bob Matthews** has retired. His number is (502) 648-7197. **Joe Matz** is retired and lives in Indianapolis. His number is (317) 650-1531. **Earl Reed** is retired and divides his time between Naples, Florida and Louisville. Earl's number is (502) 396-3948. **Jim Schmitt** has retired and lives in East Louisville. Call Jim at (502) 835-8668. **Bill Schneider** divides his time between Arizona and Louisville. Contact Bill at (502) 472-2592. **Tom Schoenbachler** is retired from Ernst & Young and divides his time between Bonita Springs, Florida and Louisville. Tom may be reached at (502) 439-6339. **Bill Smith** is retired and lives in Louisville. Bill's number is (502) 802-4714. **Bryan Thomas** is retired after a career at PNC Bank. You may reach Bryan at (502) 386-3874.

## Class of 1970
**Class Agent: Tim Haas (502) 930-1159**

**Chuck Lynch** is president of the St. Serra Club of Louisville, an organization devoted to promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. St. Serra Club of Louisville was one of four U.S. chapters of Serra International to receive a "Siempre Adelante" Gold Certificate award this year.

## Class of 1971
**Class Agent: Bert Erny (502) 445-9987**

Join the class for lunch on the first Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. We meet at Spring Street Bar & Grill. Email **David Steinbock** at dsteinbock@whipmix.com.

## Class of 1972
**Class Agent: Pete Wimsatt (502) 299-4721**

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

## Class of 1973
**Class Agent: Joe Spoelker (502) 876-7745**



Members of the class gathered at Check's Café this past December for fellowship, laughter, and holiday spirit.

## Class of 1975
**Class Agent: Charlie Hulsman (502) 396-6416**



**Walt Scholar** received the Bullitt County 2026 Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award on February 5, 2026. Walt has devoted more than 40 years of service to Kentucky and Bullitt County. His public service career began in 1973 and included roles as a public defender and Bullitt County Attorney before he was elected Sheriff in 2019.

# Class Notes

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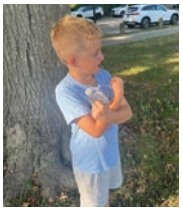
## Class of 1976
**Class Agent: Mike Sheehan (502) 991-2068**



The class gathered at Check's Café in early December for some Christmas cheer.



The St. X 1975 state championship football team was recognized at the 2025 4-A state championship game this past December. Pictured are **Jeff Motley**, **Mike Pfeiffer**, **Coach Mike Glaser**, **Coach Bill Glaser**, **Carl Marrillia**, **Mike Brockie**, **Steve Goodwin**, **Eddie Plamp**, and **Mike Sheehan**.



**Wayne Cassady's** grandson, Case Cassady, makes his X at a high school cross country meet with St. X and Trinity runners. Maybe Case will continue the tradition and graduate like his dad Chris Cassady '06 and grandfather.



In March, members of the class enjoyed spending time together and watching basketball games at Roosters.

## Class of 1982
**Class Agent: John Jury (502) 644-2187**

**Steve Makk**, a longtime orthopedic surgeon at Baptist East, is back in good health and enjoying retirement on his farm in Oldham County.

**Lenny Mello** has returned to town and is helping his friends improve their golf game. Lenny is a Titleist-certified therapist, and he recently opened a new clinic called Pillar Sport in Jeffersontown.

**T.R. Johnson** is entering his 23rd year as an English professor at Tulane. He has authored eight books, many about New Orleans, and has also spent the past 25 years working as a smooth jazz radio DJ.

**Tommie Mudd** has opened another restaurant. Classico Takeout Empanadas is in downtown Louisville.

## Class of 1986
**Class Agents: Chris Brown (502) 938-8299 and Jim Sadlo (502) 874-6888**

The class will celebrate a 40-year reunion August 7, 2026. For details and registration, visit www.saintx.com/reunions.

## Class of 1989
**Class Agent: Rick Tobe (502) 974-3872**

**Jason Hairgrove** was awarded the Medal of Honor from the city of Louisville for his brave actions as one of the first firefighters on the scene following the UPS flight 2976 crash.

**Chris Lotz** is now the Director of Finance at DeSales High School.

## Class of 1990
**Class Agent: Ben Fussenegger (502) 554-5870**



**Ski Bender**, Managing Director with Truist Wealth, has been recognized again this year as a 2026 Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisor.

## Class of 1992
**Class Agent: John Langford (502) 718-8961**

**Tony Pottinger** recently began a new assignment at the 84th Training Command's Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Tony is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve and would love to connect with fellow military veterans from St. X.

## Class of 1993
**Class Agent: David Cornett (502) 417-9022**

Join the class for lunch on the third Wednesday of each month. We meet at Roosters in Middletown. Come any time between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. RSVP by texting **Matt Ricketts** at (502) 314-8406 or replying on Facebook at St. Xavier Class of 1993.

**Very Reverend R. Paul Beach, JCL**, ordained on May 19, 2001, celebrates his 25th jubilee this year.

## Class of 1997
**Class Agent: Daniel Jarboe (502) 432-1172**

**Daniel Jarboe** now serves as the St. X Alumni Association's volunteer alumni networking coordinator. He helped launch the Tiger Business Alliance, which will continue to meet quarterly. At the May gathering, St. X CFO and classmate **Jim Mattingly** was the guest speaker. If you are a business owner or leader interested in connecting with other St. X professionals, contact Daniel at (502) 432-1172 or djarboe@bestversionmedia.com.

## Class of 2000
**Class Agent: Brooks Mayer (502) 558-4913**



Christina and **Ben Truby** proudly announce the arrival of their son. Milo Dale Eugene Truby was born March 9, 2026, and joins siblings Alice (14) and Oliver Applegate (8).

Trainer **Whit Beckman's** horse, Ocelli, finished third in the 2026 Kentucky Derby!

## Class of 2001
**Class Agent: Eric Krupiczewicz (502) 468-4488**



Jessica and **Jason Hellmann** proudly announce the arrival of their son. Brigham David Hellmann was born March 18, 2026, and joins big sister Amelia (3).

## Class of 2005
**Class Agent:**




**Robert Costello** was awarded Merchandiser of the Year by the Kentucky Section of the PGA for 2026. Robert is the Head Golf Professional at Nevel Meade Golf Course in Oldham County.

## Class of 2008
**Class Agent: Nick Heuser (502) 418-1402**

Lydia and **Michael Shea, Jr.**, proudly announce the arrival of their son. Liam Weber Shea was born February 19, 2026.

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## Class of 2010

**Class Agents: Barrett Metzger (502) 417-1126 and Alec Jury (502) 541-1113**

**Alec Jury** has agreed to join **Barrett Metzger** as co-Class Agent. Alec lives in Louisville and has been a member of the St. X Alumni Association Board of Directors since July 2025. Contact him at alec.jury@yahoo.com.



**Barrett Metzger** and his wife, Rachel, are proud to announce the arrival of their son. Reid William Metzger was born September 12, 2025, and joins big sister Quinn Marie (3).

The inaugural **Tyler James Brenzel** Memorial Golf Outing is scheduled for September 22, 2026, at Harmony Landing Country Club in Goshen, Kentucky. Tyler passed away in November 2021 after a battle with mental illness. In addition to raising awareness about mental illness, the event will also support Wellspring Kentucky. If you are interested in sponsorship or buying a foursome, visit wellspringky.org/current-events.

## Class of 2011

**Class Agents: Ben Taylor (502) 415-1888 and Patrick Kosse (502) 648-2643**

The class will celebrate a 15-year reunion on Friday, November 27, 2026. The casual Thanksgiving weekend gathering will include significant others. Details with registration information will be mailed in October and posted at saintx.com/reunions.

## Class of 2013

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

**Chris Amstutz** started a new job as Lead Commodity Analyst at ENFRA.

## Class of 2014

**Class Agents: Devin Kelly (502) 572-0173 and Charles Walker (502) 415-0271**



**Thomas Monarch** has been elevated to Senior Managing Associate at Dentons Bingham Greenebaum in Louisville, Kentucky. Thomas is a member of the firm's Trusts, Estates, and Wealth Preservation group where he prepares estate plans, formulates tax strategies, and advises on all stages of charitable planning, including the formation and governance of private foundations. Thomas also assists clients with business succession and the administration of estates and trusts.

## Class of 2016

**Class Agents: Nick Eimers (502) 807-8522 and John-Logan Bisig (502) 435-8504**

**John-Logan Bisig** has agreed to serve as co-Class Agent alongside **Nick Eimers**. John-Logan's email is jlbisig16@gmail.com. You may contact Nick at nickeimers@gmail.com.

## Class of 2017

**Class Agents: Mason Moneypenny (502) 744-4014 and Kevin Niehoff (502) 552-6921**

**Jake Zickel** and his wife, Nicole Zickel, Executive Assistant to St. X President Colistra, proudly announce the arrival of their son. Kayden Mariano was born October 14, 2025.



**Nicholas M. Scharfenberger, DMD**, has joined his father, D. Ed Scharfenberger, Jr., DMD '83 in their family dental practice in the Jeffersontown/ Louisville area. Carrying on the legacy of his grandfather and founder Donald E. Scharfenberger, Sr., DMD, '57, Dr. Nick is committed to providing outstanding care and helping patients achieve healthy, confident smiles. Visit the website: J-towndentistryky.com.

## Class of 2019

**Class Agents: Cameron Littell (502) 216-4375, Andrew Norton (502) 338-4379, Thomas Friel (502) 387-2770, and Jake Schulten (502) 938-7940**

**Thomas Friel** and **Jake Schulten** have agreed to join **Cameron Littell** and **Andrew Norton** as co-Class Agents. Jake works in group sales at Churchill Downs. Contact Jake at (502) 938-7940 or jacobschulten11@gmail.com. Thomas recently moved back to Louisville from Atlanta and works in commercial insurance as a Producer & Business Risk Advisor at Trucordia Insurance. Contact Thomas at (502) 387-2770 or thomas.friel@trucordia.com.

## Class of 2020

**Class Agent: Campbell Kremer (502) 494-6040**




**Will Mottley** completed the New Zealand Ironman Triathlon on March 7, 2026. It was a 140.6-mile event consisting of a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike race, and a 26.2-mile marathon.

## Class of 2021

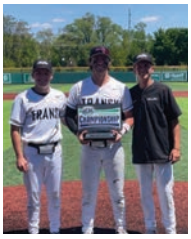
**Class Agent: Jacob Geoghegan (502) 526-6161**

The class will celebrate a 5-year reunion on Saturday, August 15, 2026. Reconnect with classmates and teachers at St. X during a cocktail reception. For details and registration, visit www.saintx.com/reunions.

**Jacob Geoghegan** has agreed to serve as the Class Agent. He is a Certified Financial Planner® Practitioner at Kentucky Planning Partners. Contact him at (502) 526-6161 or jacob.geoghegan@lpl.com.



**Second Lieutenant Jake Thompson** and **Second Lieutenant Noah Sirchio** reconnected during officer training at Fort Benning, Georgia. In May, the two completed the elite U. S. Army Ranger School. Both will be stationed at Fort Campbell.



**Calvin Schubert** and fellow Tigers on the Transylvania University baseball team celebrate after winning the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference in May. Calvin is joined by Kaden Ford '25 (left) and Cameron Marks '25 (right).

## Class of 2022

**Class Agent: Sam Gapen (502) 602-6779**

**Sam Gapen** has agreed to serve as Class Agent. Contact him at samgapen@localrealty.homes or (502) 602-6779.



**Alex Young** was selected as a Harry S. Truman Scholar in April 2025. Truman Scholars participate in government service and receive a scholarship award for graduate school. Alex is a longtime advocate for persons with disabilities. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame in May 2026 and plans to attend Harvard Law School. As part of Harvard's Junior Deferral Program, he will serve as Special Assistant to Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg before beginning law school in 2028.

# Show Us Your X



**Carson Hall '23**, **Bob Pearson '65**, **Cameron Hall '21**, and **Griffin Hall '26** gather at Auburn University. Cameron graduated magna cum laude from its Harbert College of Business last year.



These Tigers meet by chance in Sitka, Alaska—**Deek VonderHaar '91**, **Alex VonderHaar** (rising St. X senior), **Nolan Bruner '18**, and **Frank Hulsman '74**.



**Ryan Skeeters '19**, **Bob Coomes, Sr. '63**, and **Bob Coomes, Jr. '83** relax at Lake Murray, South Carolina.



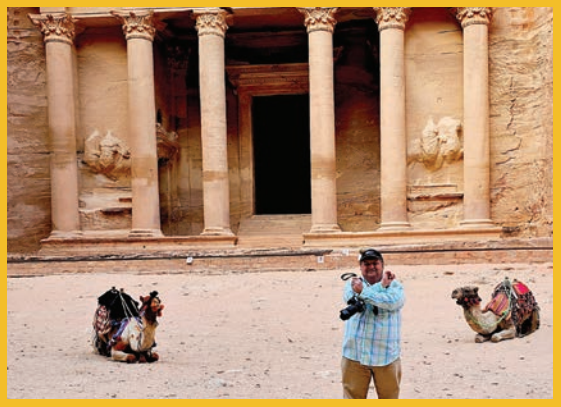
**Chris Steiner '93** finds a fun photo opportunity while vacationing in Orlando, Florida.



**Jack Will '65** stands next to Thomas Jefferson at Monticello. Jack was visiting family in Alexandria and Richmond, Virginia.




**Mike Nold '65**, **Harry Rothgerber '65**, and **Steve Rogers '64** catch a Tigers game on a baseball trip to Comerica Park in Detroit.



**Victor Ward '72** joins a pair of camels at the iconic Treasury (Al-Khazneh) in Petra, Jordan.




Tōji Kentaro Chokeiji and **Clayton Yates '07** pose at Sake Underground located on Awaji Island in the inland sea between the main islands of Honshu and Shikoku. Clayton spent three months working alongside a master brewer. Together they used only firewood, natural fermentation, and hand tools to brew and bottle around 2,000 bottles of doburoku-style sake.



**Tendai Charasika '96**, **John Stratman '93**, and **Jim Mattingly '97** cruise with the St. Albert the Great Class of 2025 in Washington, DC. These students all enrolled at St. X and just completed freshman year.

# Show Us Your X




**Bradan Ryan '25**, a member of Bellarmine University's sprint football team, visits West Point when the Knights scrimmaged the Army Black Knights.




**Mark Leaman '86** and **Steve Irvin '86** are pictured at the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa.



**Brian Comstock '79**, **Allen Gruner '73**, and **John Martin '71** visit Omaha Beach. They were on the Viking Cruise organized by Lou Conkling through the St. X alumni travel program.




**Brother Kenney Gorman, Honorary '24**, and **Mike Kamer '79** make a stop at the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento. Their journey included the California Zephyr train which runs from Chicago to San Francisco.




**Jim Clishem '74** visits the Chapel of Saint Francis Xavier inside Igreja de São Roque (Church of Saint Roch). The catholic church is located in Lisbon, Portugal.



**Jack Clifford** (rising St. X senior) and **Sean Clifford '97** visit the Royal Palace in Madrid, Spain.



**Michael Richards '15** visits the St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Kyoto, Japan on Ash Wednesday last year.



**Tony Muth '82** and **Joe Rayome '82** visit Hvar, Croatia.



Classmates fish and hike in the Beartooth Mountains of Montana shortly after St. X graduation. Pictured are **Vince Rink '25**, **Hobs Ashburner '25**, **Graham Brown '25**, **Thomas Weber '25**, **Sam Shewmaker '25**, and **Whit Ruml '25**.

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