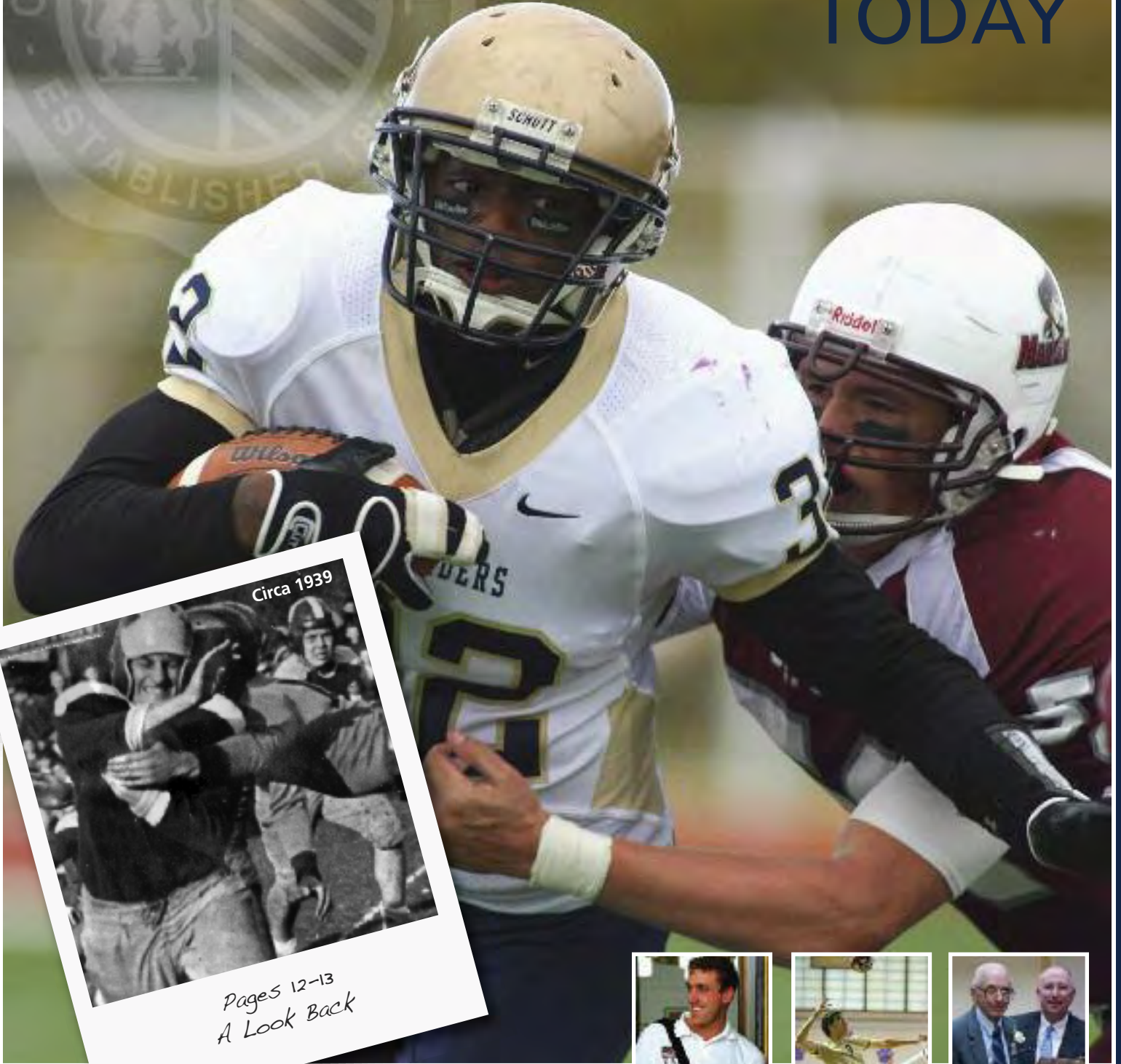


WINTER 2008-2009

Canisius High School TODAY



Circa 1939



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A Look Back



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Olympic Medalist



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Alumni Spotlight

IN THIS ISSUE:
CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL YESTERDAY AND TODAY

JOHN KNIGHT'S ROUND TABLE



Dear Friends,

The past few months have flown by for so many of us here at Canisius. I suppose that feeling might be echoed by a number of you, too. Life certainly is filled with many blessings and many challenges for all of us at Canisius. This issue of CHS Today highlights a number of ways in which our community has been blessed by the Lord.

Since I have arrived on campus in early July, the pace of life has steadily quickened for me and for the school community. The last days of summer, which by the way don't feel as lazy as they once did, passed quickly into the hectic days of a new school year. Our capital campaign continues along, as do our construction projects. As of this writing, we are right on track to open the 2009-2010 school year with a brand new field house and a state-of-the-art math and science wing. In addition to the activity of the campaign and the construction projects, our students have been hard at work settling into their studies and their co-curricular activities. All of this activity is a healthy sign for any high school – the Spirit is at work in our classrooms, in our service projects, our retreats, our liturgies and all of our other co-curricular activities. We are a blessed community!

On a personal level, I thank the dear Lord each morning for leading me to this wonderful school community. I am blessed to be back home in Jesuit secondary education. I am blessed to be able to work with an outstanding group of men and women who comprise our faculty, staff and administration. I am also blessed to walk the halls each day and be met with smiles, handshakes and words of hello and welcome from our students. Our young men are simply top notch! Whenever I have one of those moments when the trials and challenges of life seem all too present, I simply get out of the office, dodge the traffic across Delaware Avenue and walk through the blue doors into a world of high energy learning. After a few moments of wandering the halls and stopping in at an office or two to say “hi,” I am refreshed and reinvigorated for the challenges that really become opportunities to spread the Lord's good news.

I hope that as you look over this issue of CHS today, you are reminded of the many ways Canisius has been a blessing for you and your family. I would be remiss if I did not thank you for the ways you continue to bless our school with your prayers and your financial support. As we move into the New Year, please know that you and your loved ones are in my prayers and the prayers of the entire Canisius community.

Sincerely,

John Knight
President



Rev. Ronald Sams, S.J. '46 with Steven Coppola '02 and Paul Cumbo '97

OLYMPIC MEDALIST

PAGES 6-7

Steven Coppola, Class of 2002, rowed to a hard-fought Bronze Medal finish at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China.



Ryan Burkard '10

THE SPORTS REPORT

PAGES 10-11

We are proud to recognize our fall student athletes and athletic teams. Their accomplishments are a testament to the efforts shown by our students, coaches and parents alike.



John Knight and Robert Reger '66

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

PAGES 18-19

On November 1st, Canisius High School inducted four of its finest into its Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

ON THE COVER: #32 Jimmy Gaines '10 | A photo from our archives | Steven Coppola '02 | #3 Vincent Croglio | Norm Benz '43 with John Knight

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Thursday, January 29, 2009: Downtowners Luncheon 12:00pm, Chef's Restaurant**
The Alumni Association Board of Governors presents John Knight as the keynote speaker. Space is limited to 50 attendees, so RSVP as soon as possible to Paul Zablocki '01, Director of Alumni Relations. Call (716) 882-0466 ext. 262.
- Friday, February 20, 2009: Final Basketball Game in the Aud 6:30pm**
A call to all Crusader basketball alumni and fans; Canisius plays its final home game in the CHS Auditorium against the two-time MMAA Champions, Nichols. John Knight will host a reception as we say "thank you" to the Aud for its years of service as the most unique venue to watch basketball in Western New York.
- Friday, February 22, 2009: 30th Canisius Crusader Chilly Challenge Road Race**
Register online at www.canisiushigh.org/alumni.cfm
The Chilly Challenge turns 30 this year! Come out and take part in one of the school's longest-standing traditions. Runners, walkers and guests are all welcome. Awards ceremony and reception will follow the race.
- Saturday, March 28, 2009: GAMBIT XXXV 6:00pm, the Statler**
In 1975, Canisius inaugurated the first dinner auction of its kind in Western New York. This year GAMBIT turns 35! The theme for this year's event will be "Men at Work" to honor our young gentlemen and their support of the Jesuit Mission of *Men for Others*.
- Saturday, June 19 – 22, 2009: Reunion Weekend**
Save the Date for class years ending in 4 & 9
Friday AM, Alumni Association Golf Outing – The Links at Ivy Ridge
Friday PM, Stag Dinner – Canisius High School
Saturday PM, Couples Dinner – Canisius High School
Sunday AM, Alumni Mass – Canisius High School

2008 HONOREES

The Sports Hall of Fame was established to honor those individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the quality and tradition of Canisius High School athletics. These men all exemplify the highest qualities of a Canisius Alumnus; Sportsmanship, Athletic Excellence, Versatility, Character, Leadership, and Commitment.

Canisius High School inducted six Alumni from six different primary sports during the Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Reverend Eugene A. Zimpfer, S.J. '49 received the prestigious John F. Barnes Award for his tireless dedication to CHS athletics and over 20 years of service to his alma mater. The 1978 and 1979 Cross Country Teams were recognized for their 28-match undefeated streak with a special team induction.

THIS YEAR'S HONOREES INCLUDE:

JOHN (JAKE) JEKIELEK '65,
BASKETBALL

ROBERT SCHUSTER '70,
TRACK & FIELD, BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL

JOHN SCHRATZ '86,
HOCKEY

SALVATORE (TORRE) MAZZARA '91,
WRESTLING

JOHN CHRIST '95,
BASEBALL, HOCKEY, GOLF

BRENT NOWICKI '97,
LACROSSE

EUGENE A. ZIMPFER, S.J. '49
JOHN F. BARNES AWARD

1978 CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

1979 CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

SPORTS HALL OF FAME



LEFT: Rev. Eugene A. Zimpfer, S.J. '49 and John F. Barnes '76

ABOVE: John Christ '95 (Baseball, Hockey, Golf), John Schratz '86 (Hockey), Brent Nowicki '97 (Lacrosse), Jake Jekielek '65 (Basketball), Torre Mazzara '91 (Wrestling), Robert Schuster '70 (Track & Field, Basketball, Football)

The 1978 & 1979 Cross Country Teams

All members of the Canisius High School community are invited to nominate alumni who have distinguished themselves on the fields, tracks, diamonds, courts and/or pools. Additionally, please submit recommendations for the John F. Barnes Award.

Please submit formal nominations to the Alumni Association Board of Governors, c/o Paul A. Zablocki '01, Director of Alumni Relations, 1180 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York, 14209.



KOESSLER FIELD AT THE ROBERT J. STRANSKY MEMORIAL ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Koessler Field at the Robert J. Stransky Memorial Athletic Complex is open for business. The grounds feature a turf football field with grandstands on both sides and a capacity of 1,200. The complex was blessed on September 13, 2008 and the field was dedicated to the Koessler family a month later.

Most Reverend Edward U. Kmiec, Bishop of Buffalo, blessed the complex on Saturday, September 13th. The blessing preceded the Crusaders football game versus McKinley High School. Bishop Kmiec was joined by Mr. John Knight; Reverend Vincent Biagi, S.J. of the New York Jesuit Province; Ms. Rosemary Trimboli and Ms. Karen Hyder, representatives of the Robert J. Stransky Foundation; Mr. Chip Jones '74; Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and Mr. Thomas Beecher '52, Chairman of the *Ensuring Our Legacy* Campaign.

The Robert J. Stransky Foundation, as part of Canisius' \$22 million strategic plan, is proud to provide a permanent memorial to the third-generation owner of Stransky Hardware (Stransky's Inc.), located for many years in the Broadway-Fillmore area in Buffalo, NY. Foundation trustees are Norman E. Benz '43 and Michael C. Trimboli '68.

On October 11th, Mr. Knight, Reverend Michael Tunney, S.J. '76 and members of the Koessler family convened at the fifty-yard line prior to the Canisius versus St. Francis football game. John Knight gave a stirring opening to the over 1,200 fans in attendance and Father Tunney blessed them. The Koessler Field sign beneath the scoreboard was unveiled to great applause, while the sign on the press box can be seen from almost a half-mile away on Clinton Street.

Koessler Field at the Stransky Complex is a great benefit to the Canisius High School community and will meet the needs of over 830 students, providing a home field for games, meets and practices. Fifty-five percent of the current student body participates on at least one of our thirty-six varsity, junior varsity and/or freshman athletic teams. The complex will also introduce the next generation of Canisius

Crusaders – including future participants in the Higher Achievement Program (HAP) – to the ideals of good sportsmanship, healthy competition, and the importance of physical fitness. It includes a secure, heated classroom building with rest rooms, first aid equipment, and storage space.

Koessler Field at the Robert J. Stransky Complex, located at 2885 Clinton Street in West Seneca, is just 20 minutes from Canisius' Delaware Avenue, Buffalo campus.



ABOVE: Chip Jones '74 looks on as John Knight shakes hands with Most Reverend Edward U. Kmiec Dan Fulham, Bil Kopas, Rosemary Trimboli, Karen Hyder, Chip Jones '74, Most Rev. Edward U. Kmiec, John Knight, Tom Beecher '52, Rev. Vincent Biagi, S.J. Bishop Kmiec and the Crusader Varsity Football Team

OLYMPIC ROWING MEDALIST

STEVEN COPPOLA '02

Steven Coppola, Class of 2002, has a reason to smile. Steve, as part of the United States men's heavyweight eight crew team, won a Bronze Medal at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China. Coming from behind at the start, the team charged forward later in the race, battling Great Britain and the Netherlands for a medaling finish behind the first place Canadians. As the first West Side Rowing Club athlete ever to medal in the Olympics, Coppola has made Western New York rowing history.

Steven got his start at the West Side Rowing Club's Learn-to-Row crew camp, but became fully vested in the sport at Canisius, where he won the New York State Championships in the Boys' Freshman Eight in 1999, followed by a string of further victories. After a successful career at CHS, he went on to Princeton University where his rowing career truly took off. He joined the US National team in 2004 and took a bronze at the World Championships, then was the only college undergraduate in the gold-winning World Championship eight in 2005.

English teacher and freshmen crew coach Paul Cumbo '97 vividly recalls Steven's first year of high school rowing. "Steve was and is an unforgettable athlete. I'd known him his entire

life, but I'll never forget this six-foot-plus, hulking freshman walking into practice the first day of my second year coaching. I remember John Haumesser '97, the other freshman coach, and I looking at each other and just smiling, saying, 'Hmm. This guy might just help us this year!' Obviously, he did, as an important member of the team."

Cumbo continues: "Clearly Steve had size and strength, but the most memorable thing about working with him was his attitude and energy. He was always open to coaching, and always a team-oriented athlete, right from the beginning. It took a little urging to get him fully on board though. I remember John and me arguing with him that winter about whether he was destined to be a basketball player or rower. But I think the answer became clear that spring when he and the other guys won the State Champs in the Freshman Eight at Saratoga Springs. He was jubilant, with that giant smile as they came into the dock. I think the sport really took hold of him then and there."

Canisius High School is incredibly proud of Steve, not only for his accomplishments, but because of the man he has become. He was a scholar first and an athlete second. He remained active with service, retreats and spiritual formation. Steven Coppola is an inspiration to our students, both in and outside of the classroom.



LEFT: Rev. Ronald Sams, S.J. '46, Steven Coppola '02, Paul Cumbo '97

ABOVE: Steven Coppola '02 & current CHS students

RIGHT: Olympic Medalist Steven Coppola '02



FALL SPORTS UPDATE

THE SPORTS REPORT

GOLF

The Golf season was the first season to conclude in the fall of 2008. The Crusader golfers finished the regular season in second place and third in the All-Catholic Golf Tournament. Joe Bellavia '10 and Colin Burns '10 each qualified for the NY State All-Catholic Championships next spring by virtue of their Top 12 finishes in the local event.

FOOTBALL

For the second consecutive year, the Crusaders advanced to the MMAA championship game at Ralph Wilson Stadium against St. Francis. The Crusaders earned the top seed in the playoffs by virtue of producing a 3-0 record during the regular season. Despite dropping a tough 16-7 decision to the Red Raiders, the Varsity team has made great strides over the past two seasons.

The regular-season title was the football program's first since 1999. The team was ranked in the *Buffalo News* WNY Large Schools Top Ten throughout the fall season.

The Junior Varsity Football team finished the season with a 4-4 record. The team split its two games with rival St. Joe's.

The Freshmen Football team produced a solid season, going 5-3. The team scored strong wins over Frontier and St. Joe's to end the year.

VOLLEYBALL

The volleyball team continued its incredible string of success by capturing the MMAA Regular Season and Playoff Championships. 2008 marks the ninth consecutive year that Canisius has won the Monsignor Martin Title. This year, the Crusaders swept St. Francis in three games to extend their win streak. The team finished the season ranked second in WNY.

CROSS COUNTRY

For the fourth consecutive and six of the last seven years, the Canisius High School Cross Country team dominated the Monsignor Martin Athletic Association and won the All-Catholic race. Led by Senior Jordan Hamm's course-record, Canisius took home five of the top six places in the varsity event.

SOCCER

The Varsity soccer team had an outstanding season, capturing the MMAA regular season title. Although the team was upset in the playoffs, they were consistently ranked in the *Buffalo News* WNY Top Ten. The Crusaders finished the season with a 14-3 record and scored impressive wins over Aquinas, St. Joe's (twice) and Orchard Park. The team only allowed six goals total during the season.

The Junior Varsity and Freshmen teams also enjoyed solid campaigns. The JV team finished at 9-3-1 winning their last five straight, while the Freshmen tallied a 7-4-2 record.





LEFT: Football: #75 John Michael '09; #4 Sean Brady '09; #21 Mike Browne '09
Soccer: #4 Kevin Reilly '10
Volleyball: Mike Dillon '09; Jeremy Luchey '09

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:
Volleyball: #3 Vincent Croglio '09; #6 Kyle Thompson '09; #15 Patrick McGowan '09
Canisius football fans

Golf: Kris Anderson '09
Football: #2 Bernard Williams '11
Soccer: #23 Nick Southard '10
Golf: Dan Yustin '11
Cross-Country: Connor Godfrey '12

CRUSADER FOR JESUIT EDUCATION

By Brandon Jonas '04

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines the word "knight" as "a champion or devoted follower, as of a cause or principle." The new president of Canisius High School certainly fits that criteria on multiple levels and he has a name befitting the leader of the Canisius Crusaders. Meet Mr. John Knight, the first lay president in the 138-year history of Canisius High School.

Mr. Knight is certainly no stranger to Jesuit education, although he is not an ordained Jesuit. John grew up in Toledo, Ohio, where he attended St. John's Jesuit High School. He was raised in a strong Catholic family and he credits his parents for fostering a deep love of the Catholic Church within him. It was at St. John's, however, that he was strongly affected by the Jesuits. He was very impressed by the seminarians, or Jesuits in training, who taught him, and, as a young man, expressed a desire to become more like them. The Jesuits at St. John's were so influential to John that, eight years after graduation, he felt the call to become a priest and began the training period required to enter the Jesuit order. However, six and a half years later, John again felt God's call, but this time it called him out of the priesthood and into family life. "I left the Jesuits on very good terms," John notes, but he felt that having a family was what God had called him to.

John remains profoundly influenced by Jesuit ideals. While he says that his faith was nurtured by his mom and dad, he says that "the Jesuits helped me to go deeper in my faith and focus on Jesus' presence in all situations." He says that he is guided by the core belief that "Christ is present in everyone I meet" and he comments that his faith will be central to his actions in leading Canisius.

John also has extensive experience in education, having spent 22 years in Catholic instruction. He has been a teacher in the classroom, a campus minister, and, most recently, for the last six years, he has been an administrator. He was invited by a member of the search committee to apply for the job of President and notes that he was excited about "the opportunity to return to Jesuit education in a leadership role."

When asked what challenges he faced as the school's first lay president, John responded that he viewed his presidency, "not as a challenge, but as an opportunity to show that lay leadership in Jesuit schools works." He is eager to show the Western New York community that lay leadership does not mean that the Canisius/

Jesuit identity is different, but that lay leadership can, and must, support the Jesuit identity in definite ways. "The fact that Canisius has lay leadership means that we must be more deliberate and intentional in affirming our Jesuit identity," John comments. John and the CHS administration have already begun to implement a plan that will do precisely that.

Part of that plan is to hire "mission-appropriate" people at Canisius. They must "support and live out the Jesuit mission of the school," John says. For all faculty and staff, CHS has devoted resources to giving them opportunities for professional development and education in the Jesuit identity. In fact, John notes that three faculty and staff are currently participating in a program sponsored by the New York Jesuit Province, which includes three years of seminars about Ignation values. There are also two available faculty members on staff to answer questions about Jesuit spirituality.

Along with his commitment to maintaining strong Jesuit values at Canisius, John has emphasized a forward-looking vision for CHS. His plan has five major points of emphasis that John is hoping to fulfill. He wants to "successfully complete the capital campaign, maintain a strong Jesuit identity at the school, offer faculty and staff just salaries and benefits, maintain a healthy enrollment, and, finally, create and implement a strategic plan."

John is grateful to be at Canisius and has grown to love Buffalo. He says that "Buffalo feels like home" and he describes it as "a warm, welcoming community." He further notes that the faculty, staff, and students at Canisius have all been just as welcoming. When he was first hired, John, in addition to all of his other duties and responsibilities, made it a point to have an individual meeting with each and every member of the faculty and staff. So far, in only five months, he has met almost all of them, and describes these meetings as "affirming and uplifting."

John is a devoted follower of Jesuit education and Ignation values. He has a deep faith and a bold vision for Canisius High School. Thus, it can be said that the name befits the man.

JOHN KNIGHT



LEFT: John Knight and the Crusader football team
RIGHT: John Knight

Brandon Jonas '04 graduated with a degree in Communication Studies and History from Canisius College in 2008. He coaches the CHS Speech and Debate Team and currently works at both the Buffalo Zoo and Troy & Banks, a utility and telecommunications consulting firm.



A LOOK BACK



The future of Canisius High School takes a giant leap forward as our historic campus embraces 21st century beauty and functionality. As construction continues, it's exciting to think about what the future holds for students once the new campus is in place in 2009. It is good, however, to take a look back – to see not only how far Canisius has come, but to consider today's events in a historical perspective.

In 1937, the big story was the improvements planned for Canisius High School at 651 Washington Street. According to the article published on May 6, 1937, in the *Catholic Union Times*, "Rev. Francis X. Dougherty, S.J., president, indicated plans for even more important changes. "The resurfacing of the school yard, which is now under way and which will provide for a black top on crushed stone foundation, will furnish two tennis courts and a softball yard for summer sports and an admirable [outdoor] hockey rink for Canisius winter sport enthusiasts... This will give Canisius a year-round sports program second to none in Buffalo," he said."

Four months later, the *Catholic Union Times* summed up the renovations thus: "Considerable improvements have been made to the buildings of the school during the summer time." Only seven years after that, the school moved to its current home on Delaware Avenue.

CHS Today looked back nearly 70 years and spoke with three former students who were around for these Washington Street improvements: James Bedard II ('40) owned and operated Buffalo Hotel Supply, serving

as CEO. Mr. Bedard passed away shortly after giving this interview. Honor student Ray Wardynski ('39) still helps run Wardynski Meats, a butcher shop in Buffalo that his father started. The Honorable John T. Curtin ('39) spoke with us from his chambers in Buffalo's Federal Court House.

The school on Washington Street was built in 1871. Canisius High School moved into the building in 1925 when it split with Canisius College.

"It was a very old building, even then," said Jim Bedard, who played both sides of the line for legendary football coach Johnny Barnes. "Seems like 1,000 miles from what Canisius is today. The football practice field was just a 150-foot by 50-foot dirt field off the parking lot."

All three men spoke fondly of Coach Barnes. "He was demanding, but in a pleasant way," reflected Curtin.

"I enjoyed Canisius very much. It was a nice building with large classrooms and a large area where we could play ball," added Ray Wardynski. "I also remember going to St. Michael's next door." A member of the tennis team, Wardynski was one of the early benefactors of the "new" blacktopped tennis courts.

Judge John Curtin remembers the athletic "fields" at the school, which were nothing more than a gravel exercise yard next to the back of the school. "I saw Sibby Sisti, who played shortstop for the Braves in the National League, hit a ball over St. Michael's Church," he recalled.

1870 Canisius High School is founded as part of Canisius College on Ellicott Street in downtown Buffalo.

1918 George F. Rand II, President of Marine Midland Bank, commissions construction of private mansion located at 1180 Delaware Ave.

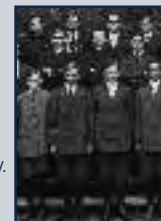
1944 Jesuits purchase Consistory from the Masons for \$92,000. Canisius High School separates from Canisius College and finds a permanent home at 1180 Delaware Ave.



1872 School outgrows Ellicott Street location and moves to larger building at 651 Washington St.



1925 Residence is sold by Rand family to the Masons. Building is converted into the Buffalo Consistory with a large foyer, Turkish baths, bowling alleys, and a grand auditorium added to the property.



1948 The Beecher Wing is completed, providing new classrooms.



Bedard and Curtin remembered their fathers being the biggest influence in their choice to attend Canisius in the 1930s. Curtin's father attended the school just after the turn of the 20th century. Wardynski credits his parish pastor. "Our family attended St. Stan's on Peckham Street, a Polish area on the East Side. Monsignor Demske encouraged all the young boys to attend Canisius." Wardynski Meats still operates today on that very same East Side street.

Some things haven't changed. Bedard's shenanigans proved that no matter what the generation, boys will be boys. "I liked the school. I could never complain about the education... even though (the teachers and I) clashed at times," he recounted. "After I graduated and went to Niagara, I learned what a good education I received. It's a testament to the Jesuit education. It was good, even if you sometimes didn't like it."

"It's a good school," continued Bedard, an English major and contributing editor for *Arena* who aspired to be a correspondent. "It prepared me for Niagara and for life. I'm grateful for what they did for me. My grandson went to Canisius, and he's now in med school."

"The teachers were great," said Wardynski. "They showed you the proper way to behave and do things. The education definitely prepared you for success." Wardynski became a violin concert master in the school orchestra. His advice to today's students? "Follow closely what your teachers tell you. You should be successful in life. Looking back, I realize I got a good education at Canisius."

Curtin reflects on his time at Canisius. "I learned so much while I was there. Not just academics, but how to write, how to think, how to prepare myself, and how to handle difficult problems. I would go again immediately. It was a great experience." He tells students to enjoy the experience. "Make the most of it," Curtin advises. "Be prepared and work hard... it will make your tasks easier in the future. Participate in as much as you can, whether sports, debate, music or something else."



**PHOTOS FROM THE ERA
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:**

- A gym class uses the new hockey rink
- Varsity Football Team
- Canisius High School Orchestra

Behrens Debating Society
CHS students dining

OPPOSITE: Canisius High School at 651 Washington St.

1956 Tripi Field is added to the campus.



1982 Renovation of The Beecher Wing's third floor science center adds new laboratory space and state-of-the-art equipment.

1991 Renovation of locker rooms and athletic facilities is complete.

2006 Canisius High School purchases administrative building located on Delaware Ave. along with adjacent properties on Cleveland Ave.



2008 Demolition of Fraunheim Hall is completed, clearing space for new athletic field house.



1957 Fraunheim Hall, a Jesuit residence, is completed.



1988 Addition of Montante Computer Center to Koessler Academic Center.

1992-1994 Canisius High School "burns the mortgage" and officially owns residence at 1180 Delaware Ave.



2007 Ground is broken for development of the Robert J. Stransky Memorial Athletic Complex located on Clinton St. in West Seneca.



BUILDING PROJECTS

As you may already know, Canisius High School is expanding. We are currently underway in the most ambitious expansion of the campus since our school moved from Washington Street in 1944. The \$22 Million *Ensuring Our Legacy* Campaign is the driving force behind the growth that will lead Canisius into the future.

The three-floor math and science wing will offer students the ability to learn in the classroom and apply what they've learned in laboratories stocked with cutting edge equipment. The field house will have three full length basketball courts and a 1,000 person seating capacity.

The building projects are underway and the brand new facilities are on schedule to open by fall of the 2009-10 school year.



October 16, 2008 - Field



July 21, 2008 - Field House



August 8, 2008 - Rand Driveway



August 10, 2008 -



November 1, 2008 - Science Wing



October 16, 2008 - Field House



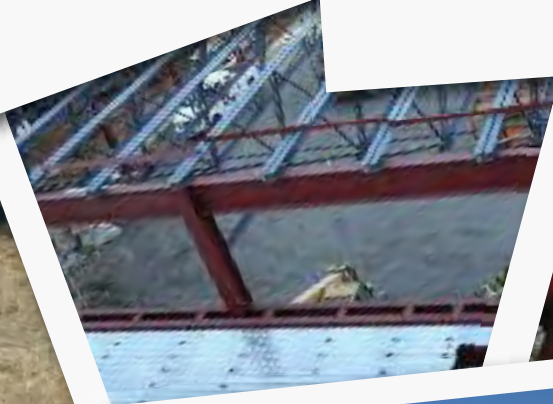
September 15, 2008 - Field House



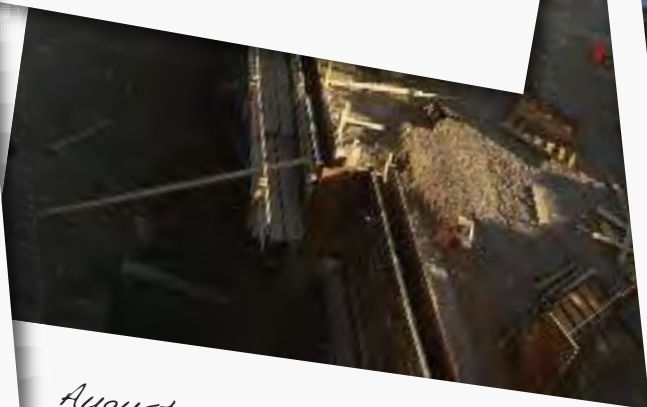
House



October 16, 2008 - Science Wing



Field House



August 8, 2008



November 18, 2008 - Field House

ENSURING OUR LEGACY

We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to the following donors to *Ensuring Our Legacy*: the Campaign for Canisius High School. The construction photos displayed on the pages of CHS Today are a testament to their incredible generosity. Our benefactors support not only propagates the capital projects of this redefining era for the school, but represents a firm faith and commitment to the future of Canisius High School. The *Ensuring Our Legacy* Campaign is an exciting time in Canisius' 138-year history.

Anonymous (5)
Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Amann '67
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Barnes
Dr. and Mrs. Christopher J. Bartolone '81

THE BASIL FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Basil '74
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Basil '80
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Basil '77
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Basil, Sr. '50
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Basil, Jr. '71
Mr. and Mrs. Michael T. Basil '75
Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Basil '81
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Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Brady '66
Mr. Sean D. Brady and
Ms. Patricia M. Curtin '75
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Brady '59
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Brady '58
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Mr. and Mrs. Nelson D. Civello '63
Ms. Leigh Comerford
The Reverend Monsignor John J. Conniff '42*
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and Mrs. Mimi Barnes-Coppola
Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Corr '74
Dr. Robert L. Cronyn '67
James H. Cummings Foundation, Inc.
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Mr. and Mrs. Kevin G. Curran '75

The Honorable and Mrs. John T. Curtin '39
Mr. Michael J. DeRose
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. DiVita '51
Mr. Anthony J. Domino '56

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Mr. and Mrs. Franklin G. Downing, Jr. '82
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin G. Downing, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew M. Downing '86
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen W. Downing '79

Dr. and Mrs. David J. Durante
Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. Dyczek '72
Dr. Edward Eberl '69
Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Eberl '63
Ms. Beverly A. Eckert
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Frawley, Jr. '61
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel W. Fulham
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Dr. and Mrs. Gerald P. Glose '62

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Mr. and Mrs. James V. Glynn
Ms. Andrea Gonce
Mr. Richard F. Griffin '50
and Dr. Jane F. Griffin
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence W. Grogan '48
Mrs. Amelia Habib
Mr. G. Peter Higgins '52
Mr. Robert C. Higgins '43*
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Hughes
Mr. Donald J. Human '50
Mr. and Mrs. Sean P. Insalaco
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen G. Jepson
Mr. Charles G. Jones, Jr. '74

THE KENNEDY FAMILY IN MEMORY OF BERNARD J. KENNEDY '49

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Kerr '57
Mr. and Mrs. David J. Kersten '79
Mr. Matthew J. Kita '94
Mr. and Mrs. John Knight

THE KOESSLER FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. Eric J. Koessler '84
Mrs. Mary M. Koessler
Mr. and Mrs. P. Joseph Koessler '81
Mr.* and Mrs. Paul J. Koessler '55



December 11, 2008 - Field House

Paul J. Koessler Foundation, Inc.
Mr. William J. Koessler '74
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald P. Smith

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Kopas
Mr. and Mrs. Mark B. Kostrzewski '70
Dr. and Mrs. Albert M. Kraus '50
Dr. and Mrs. Mark G. Kris '50
The Honorable and Mrs. John J. LaFalce '57

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Mr. Mark J. Lawley '87
Mr. and Mrs. Michael R. Lawley '88
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Lawley, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Lawley, Jr. '81

Dr. Kevin J. Laughlin
on behalf of Dr. John G. Zoll '30*
Patrick P. Lee Foundation

THE LENAHAN FAMILY

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Mrs. Helen Dent Lenahan
Helen Dent Lenahan Foundation, Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Lisowski '50
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M&T Charitable Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Rocco J. Maggiotto '68
Mr. Anthony D. Mancinelli '68
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony L. Manzella '72
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Marmion '64
Dr. and Mrs. James J. Maul '56
Mr. and Mrs. James A. McCarthy '53
Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCarthy
Mr. and Mrs. James R. McHugh '78
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Michael '64

THE MILITELLO FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Militello '70
Mr. and Mrs. John F. Militello '64
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Militello '61
Mr. and Mrs. Michael M. Militello '77
Mr. Michael J. Militello '04
Mr. Samuel Militello '13

Dr. and Mrs. Herman S. Mogavero, Jr. '68

THE MONTANTE FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. Montante '60
Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. Montante, Jr. '84
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Montante '86
Mr. Timothy I. Montante '93

Dr. and Mrs. Owen J. Moy
Mr. George A. Muehlbauer '53
Mr. William G. Muehlbauer '49
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel C. Mullan '58
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice L. Naylor III

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Mr. and Mrs. James M. Neil '86
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New York Life Foundation
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Mr. and Mrs. Brian J. O'Mara '63
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald A. Raccuia '86
Mrs. Rebecca R. Reeder
Mr. Robert J. Reger, Jr. '66
Mr. Lawrence J. Rodler '73
Mrs. Maxine C. Root
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher D. Ross
Mr.* and Mrs. Timothy J. Russert '68
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Rutowski, Jr. '52
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Ryan '60
Dr. and Mrs. Richard J. Saab '58
St. Michael's Jesuit Community
Mr. and Mrs. Carmelo A. Scaccia '47
Mrs. Maureen T. Schmitt
Mr. and Mrs. Clement F. Schubert '36
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph G. Scully '50
Mr. John S. Simeone '92
Mr. and Mrs. Michael F. Stark, Jr. '53
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The Robert J. Stransky Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Sullivan '88
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and Ms. Paulette M. Crooke
Ms. Eleanore M. Turski
Mr. and Mrs. Dimitri J. Tzetzto
Mr. Edward H. Valance '47
Mrs. James R. VanDyke
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence J. Vilardo '73
Mr. Peter A. Vogt
and Mrs. Pamela R. Jacobs-Vogt

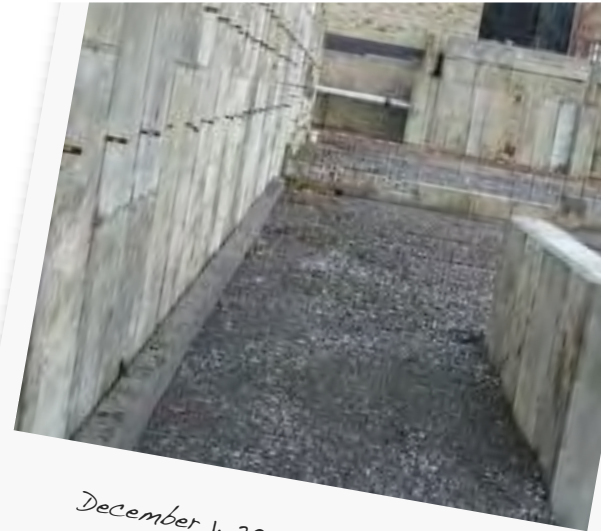
THE VUKELIC FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene P. Vukelic '48
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey S. Vukelic '84
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew J. Vukelic '94
Mr. and Mrs. Paul V. Vukelic '79
Mr. Peter A. Vukelic '89
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy J. Vukelic '83

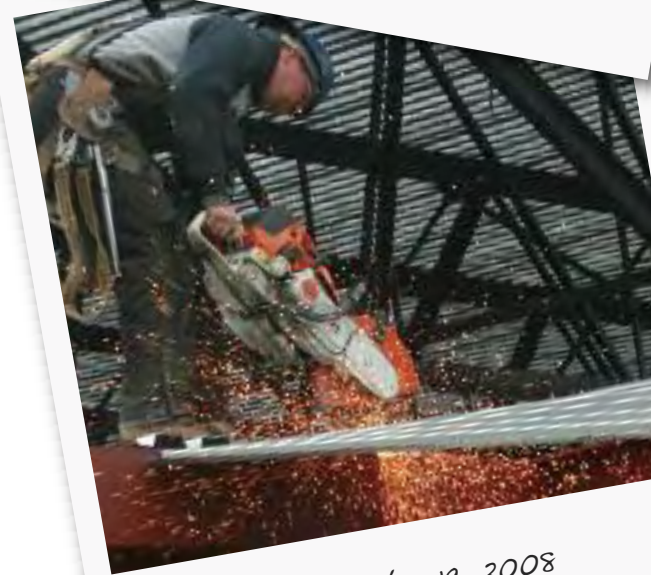
THE WEHRLE FAMILY

Michael E. Wehrle, D.D.S. '81
Wehrle Family Interests, Inc.

Margaret L. Wendt Foundation
Mr. William G. Weppner '53
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory C. Yungbluth '67
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen R. Zenger '83
*Deceased



December 1, 2008 - Science Wing



*November 19, 2008
Field House*



If you would like to become part of the *Ensuring Our Legacy* Campaign by making a donation of stock or including Canisius in your will, please visit our website, canisiushigh.org, and click on the "Make a Gift Now" tab on our home page.

Documented Gifts as of December 5, 2008.

www.canisiushigh.org

CANISIUS HONORS FOUR OF ITS FINEST

On November 1st, the Florence Carr Memorial Library was filled to capacity as Canisius High School inducted four of its finest into its Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame. Norman Benz '43 for his Service to God and the Catholic Church, the late Paul Koessler '55 for his civic, charitable, and community leadership, as well as Robert Reger, Jr. '66 and Lawrence Vilardo '73, both for their excellence in Law, join over 100 other proud members.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

NORMAN E. BENZ '43



In recognition of his contributions to the religious community, Norman E. Benz is being inducted to the 2008 Class of the Canisius High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

Norm came to Canisius High School from St. Teresa's Grammar School in Buffalo. While a student at Canisius, his favorite activities were Cross County and working in the school cafeteria. His fondest memory of Canisius is the great guys he met there, including four fellow students who became Jesuits: Richard Hoar, Bob Suchan, Bill Suchan and Ken Bogart.

Upon graduation from Canisius High School in 1943, Norm joined the Navy Reserve and began a tour of the Ivy League. He attended Cornell University, Dartmouth College and Harvard University as part of his Navy training. He was able to use these credits to obtain his BA degree from Dartmouth College, graduating cum laude in 1946. He was then commissioned in the Navy Supply Corps in 1946 and served as an Accounting Officer at the U.S. Naval Base in Newport, RI. Norm then returned to Buffalo and became a Certified Public Accountant in 1951. He went on to become a partner in the firm of Mason, Benz & Atkinson, before retiring in 1990.

Norm's faith has always been a big part of his life. He has been active in the National Council for Catholic Evangelization, serving as a delegate, speaker, Treasurer and member of the Board of Directors. He credits Canisius High School as being the greatest influence in the first 40 years of his life.

Mr. Benz is married to the former Mary Anne Kossowski; they have six children and six grandchildren. His son, David, is a 1974 graduate of Canisius High School. Norm currently resides in Melbourne, Florida.

PAUL J. KOESSLER '55



In recognition of his community service, the late Paul J. Koessler is being inducted into the 2008 Class of the Canisius High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

Paul truly epitomized the Canisius High School motto, "Men for Others." Upon graduation from CHS, Paul enrolled at the University of Detroit and majored in mathematics. After his graduation, Paul joined the Greater Buffalo Press which had been founded by his father and uncle in 1926.

Paul's commitment to Buffalo and its organizations is well publicized. The Paul J. Koessler Foundation awarded 40 grants worth nearly \$300,000 in 2006 alone. His most visible public role was as Chair of the Peace Bridge Authority. He was named to the Authority by three different governors. Despite the strong public sentiment over the years and heavy political influences, Paul was always the voice of reason and willing to listen to all opinions.

Paul Koessler's board assignments read like a Who's Who of Buffalo's not-for-profit organizations. They include the Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society, WNET, Buffalo Niagara Partnership and Roswell Park Foundation, to name a few. In addition to once serving as the Chair of the Canisius College Board of Trustees, he was serving as the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Canisius High School at the time of his death. The current *Ensuring Our Legacy* Campaign fund drive is one of Paul's most significant contributions to his alma mater.

Despite Paul's local prominence as a philanthropist and civic leader, he was a quiet man. He listened, he cared and he responded with warmth. Paul Koessler was the face that matched the Canisius High School motto, "Men for Others."

Mr. Koessler is survived by his wife, Niscah, three daughters, two sons, a stepdaughter and three stepsons.



ROBERT J. REGER '66

In recognition of his contributions to the world of law and business, Robert J. Reger, Jr. is being inducted into the 2008 Class of the Canisius High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

Robert Reger is one of three CHS graduates in his family. Two of his younger brothers, Mark J. Reger, M.D. '69 and Ronald C. Reger '70, followed Robert to Canisius. Robert had an outstanding career at CHS. He was a Greek Honors Scholar, President of the National Honor Society, a New York State Champion debater, voted "Mr. Canisius," and was the Valedictorian of the Class of 1966.

Fordham University was the next step in his education; he graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. in English in 1970. While at Fordham, Robert was awarded the Fordham University Scholarship, was the Executive Vice President of the United Student Government, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and received the Cardinal Spellman Award as the Outstanding Graduate of 1970. He completed his formal education at the University of Virginia School of Law as a member of the graduating class of 1973.

During his 35-year career in law, Robert has structured several successful hedge funds and represents several major European and Central/South American clients. A member of the American Bar Association, Robert has received numerous professional honors: Best Lawyer in New York (*New York Magazine*), 2008 Leading Energy Lawyer in New York (*Chambers, Guide to America's Leading Lawyers*), The World's Leading Lawyers for Business (*Chambers Global*), Marquis Who's Who Among Executives and Professionals, and New York Super Lawyers.

Robert also served two terms on the Canisius High School Board of Trustees (2002-2008). As noted by friends and fellow Trustees, Robert does not speak up often but when he does, his words command great attention.

Mr. Reger currently resides in New York City.

LAWRENCE J. VILARDO '73

In recognition of his contributions to the legal community, Lawrence J. Vilardo is being inducted to the 2008 Class of the Canisius High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

Larry Vilardo came to Canisius High school from Holy Angels Grammar School on Buffalo's West Side. While at Canisius, he was the Co-President of both the Speech & Debate and the Model U.N. teams. He also was the Valedictorian of the Class of 1973. Larry says the teachers he had at Canisius High School were the best he ever had and the quality of the competition among the students showed him he could compete at the highest levels. On a less academic note, he still recalls secretly playing poker on the second floor of Berchmann's Hall with the same classmates who are still his poker partners today.

Upon his graduation from CHS, Larry enrolled at Canisius College as a Liberal Arts student with a major in History/Political Science. In addition to his academic pursuits, he was Editor-in-Chief of the school newspaper, *The Golden Griffin*, and Administrative Assistant for the yearbook, *Azuwur*. He graduated summa cum laude in 1977 with a 4.0 average.

Harvard Law School was the next step in Larry's educational development. He graduated magna cum laude in 1980. Outside the classroom, he demonstrated diverse writing skills in his capacities as Senior Editor of the Law School newspaper, *Harvard Law Record* and as Editor of the prestigious *Harvard Law Review*.

In 1981, he was admitted to the New York State Bar and became an associate at the Buffalo law firm of Damon & Morey. Five years later, he became a founding partner of Connors & Vilardo, LLP of which he is still a partner. He has also given back to his alma mater by serving as a member and the Chair of the Canisius Board of Trustees.

Larry is married to the former Jeanne Susan Gambino and they have three children: Brigid, Lauren and Alexander '10.



LEFT: Norm Benz '43 with John Knight

ABOVE: John Knight with Eric Koessler '84 (accepting on behalf of his late father, Paul '55) along with Chip Jones '74
John Knight with Robert Reger '66
John Knight, Larry Vilardo '73 and Bill Kopas

All members of the Canisius High School community are invited to nominate alumni who have distinguished themselves in their service to God, their chosen careers or activities in a manner which exemplifies the highest ideals to which Canisius High School is dedicated.

Please submit formal nominations to the Alumni Association Board of Governors, c/o Paul A. Zablocki '01, Director of Alumni Relations, 1180 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, New York, 14209.

THE NEW SENIOR SERVICE PROJECT

which aims to challenge students to embrace the Jesuit call to service to and solidarity with the poor, disabled, elderly and marginalized, was recently explained to the Class of 2010. Rising seniors will now research and propose a summer service project at a single site of their choice. They will commit no fewer than 20 hours over a minimum of four days while completing a reflection journal. Upon completion of the summer project, they will establish a service portfolio in conjunction with a presentation during the social justice portion of their senior religion class in the second semester. The students are challenged to work at a site outside of their “comfort zone,” and certainly to go above and beyond the minimum requirements.

UNDERCLASSMEN ADVISEMENT SERVICE

DAYS have begun, providing an opportunity for our underclassmen to work in conjunction with charitable organizations that serve the poorest in the city of Buffalo. Several advisements have already spent a day preparing food for St. Luke’s Mission of Mercy. The young men of CHS will be hard at work throughout the holiday season lending their hands and hearts to St. Luke’s, St. Adalbert’s, Anne Marie Zon’s Nicaraguan Mission, and others. Each day of service is followed by a reflection and discussion led by Mr. Ron Ahrens ’91, Director of Christian Service.

THE COMPANIONS SERVICE PROGRAM

continues to grow in its third year, with four immersion trips planned for 2009. Interviews of more than 40 applicants from the Class of 2010 have just been completed. Selections will be made by early December, followed by selecting two groups to begin preparations for Easter Break immersions to Laredo, Texas and Newburgh, New York. A third group will head to Erie, Pennsylvania after June exams. These three domestic Companions trips will work in conjunction with local affiliates of Habitat for Humanity.

COMPAÑEROS, the international branch of the program, will return to the mountains and coastal villages of the Dominican Republic in the summer, this time for 3 1/2 weeks. Faculty leaders Paul Cumbo ’97, Chris Pitek ’00, and Adam Baber ’01 will visit the Dominican Republic for a week in January, scouting potential sites and meeting with local businessmen and mission groups to determine this year’s project. Ten applicants from the

Class of 2010 will be selected for this challenging experience of international solidarity and service, based upon the foundations of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. Puente David (David’s Bridge), the 2008 project named in memory of David O’Brien ’87, will be dedicated during a mass at the bridge site during the 2009 program.

THE SENIOR FOURTH DAY RETREAT,

the newest part of Canisius High School’s four-year retreat program, is designed to revisit, build upon, and expand the themes of Kairos (now for juniors.) A two day, one night experience, the Fourth Day begins with a day of service at a local site, such as St. Luke’s or Habitat for Humanity. After a challenging day of work, the seniors engage in equally challenging discussions in three areas: the nature of service, developing a mature spirituality, and preparing for the transition from high school to college and young adulthood. Described by seniors as “grittier,” “more blunt,” and “more of a challenge” compared to Kairos, the Fourth Day picks up with expectations and challenges where Kairos left off, while at the same time providing an important time for continued reflection and bonding with classmates.

CANISIUS BIG BROTHER PROGRAM

saw another successful fall as these peer leaders welcomed the newest Crusaders to Canisius. They completed an overnight retreat based on leadership and helping freshmen with their transitions. From there, they led the freshman retreat. In an effort to build even stronger mentoring relationships, the Big Brothers have been placed in their freshman advisements for the duration of the school year. They join their “little brothers” for all advisement activities, including assemblies and service days.



LEFT: Dylan Caldiero ’10, Andrew Weymouth ’10

CAMPUS MINISTRY STAFF

Rev. Fred Betti, S.J.

Campus Minister

Mr. Ronald F. Ahrens, ’91

Director of Christian Service

Mr. Paul J. Cumbo ’97

Director of Student Formation Programs

Mr. Christopher Pitek ’00

Campus Ministry & Retreat Assistant

'31 Mr. Joseph V. Vizzi
 '32 Mr. Joseph F. Precore
 '36 Mr. Paul Ehrenreich
 '37 Mr. Benedict Baker
 '38 Mr. Richard J. Willett, Sr.
 '41 Mr. Thomas Mahaney
 '41 Dr. Gerard F. Smith
 '43 Mr. Michael J. Frascella
 '46 Mr. Philip C. Barth, Jr.
 '47 Rev. James R. McGrath
 '49 Mr. Donald E. Martin

'49 Mr. Salvatore J. Parlato
 '50 Mr. Frank J. Honer
 '50 Mr. Gerald T. Leahy
 '52 Mr. Thomas J. Downing
 '52 Mr. Martine W. Rauch
 '53 Mr. Richard Slater
 '54 Mr. William M. Farry
 '55 Mr. Paul J. Koessler
 '55 Mr. James F. Ward
 '58 Dr. Kenneth Klementowski
 '60 Mr. Alan J. Cooper

'60 Mr. Henry A. Nowak
 '61 Mr. Michael J. Rooth
 '61 Mr. Ernest Schinner
 '66 Mr. Robert F. Hosking, Jr.
 '67 Mr. Robert V. Frauenheim
 '68 Mr. Timothy J. Russert
 '71 Mr. John J. Cotter
 '73 Mr. Daniel T. McCarthy
 '90 Mr. Matthew R. Narby

ALUMNI NEWS

MR. RICHARD GRIFFIN '50 of counsel at Kavinoky & Cook LLP was selected for inclusion in 2009 edition of the Best Lawyers in America in the category of alternative dispute resolution.

MR. THOMAS E. NUNAN '53 received the Joseph J. Curley, APR, Lifetime PR Achievement Award from the Central West Coast Chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association.

MR. KENNETH E. DEMBLEWSKI, SR. '55 completed the Aircraft Wire Diagram Manual and Telescope Systems for the SOFIA Project 747 in September 2008. Mr. Demblewski worked for AM&F in 1958 under the newly created NASA Administration and awarded as part of the 50th anniversary celebration.

REVEREND WILLIAM J. SCANLON, S.J. '57 spent fourteen years in Nigeria before returning to the New York Province in 2004. Since then Fr. Scanlon has been the Chaplin of Murry Weigel Hall, the province infirmary.

MR. JAMES D. MIETUS '59 along with surviving teammates Jack Frauenheim, Kevin Green and Jim Hagan is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Canisius High School Crew team's 1959 Canadian School-Boy Championship.

REVEREND NORMAN P. MCTIGUE '60 has been named Chaplin at Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Fr. McTigue continues as Chaplin at Buffalo Psychiatric Center, where he has been Chaplin for 11 years.

MR. WILLIAM C. GROTKE '60 retired after 43 years in education (25 at Canisius High School). Mr. Grotke is currently enjoying traveling and visiting his "kids" whom he taught at CHS!

MR. E. M. SCHAUS '68 retired from the State of Michigan in 2002 after 30 years in the Dept. of Human Services. Mr. Schaus is currently a freelance programmer.

MR. THOMAS M. NEALE '70 has joined the Baltimore-based growth capital source company, Patriot Capital. Previously, Mr. Neale was the Mid-Atlantic Regional Commercial Banking Executive for HSBC Bank.

MR. STEVEN A. GATTUSO '82 CFP, CMA has earned the prestigious Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation. The CFA charter is a globally-recognized credential for investment analysis and management.

MR. MICHAEL LAWLEY '88 was honored by Buffalo's *Business First* as a member of the 2008 Class of 40 Under 40. Lawley is a partner and serves as the Director of Sales for Lawley Service Inc. of Buffalo.

MR. EDWARD J. SWINARSKI '89 and his wife Lisa's business, Enhanced Rehabilitation Services, was ranked in the top 25 percent of all medicare-certified homecare agencies in the country for 2007. It was the top agency in Northeast Ohio, along with the Cleveland Clinic.

MR. MICHAEL B. LONSBERY '90 wishes everyone from the class of 1990 well!

MR. NICHOLAS F. URBANSKI '90 married Jessica Ann Nowak on November 1, 2008. Congratulations from the Canisius High School Community.

MR. ROBERT J. GALEY, JR. '92 is a Vice President and Estate Settlement Consultant for Wachovia's Wealth Management Group servicing the Eastern half of South Carolina and parts of the Raleigh, NC. Mr. Galey is currently studying for his CTFA and attending Trust School.

MR. JIM NASH '96 married Lauren Tamparo on October 25, 2008. Congratulations from the Canisius High School Community.

MR. PETER A. GOTHGEN '97 is congratulated on the birth of his first child, Alyssa Joy, born August 5, 2008.

MR. NICHOLAS MINEO '97 was named as associate for the law firm of Rupp Baase Pfalzgraf Cunningham & Coppola LLC.

MR. VICTOR M. MARWIN '99 started medical school in August 2008. Mr. Marwin is currently an Ensign in the United States Navy.

Canisius High School Alumni is a successful and talented group of gentlemen committed to making a difference in their communities and the lives of others. We want the Canisius High School community to know how you are doing. Please send Paul Zablocki '01, Director of Alumni Relations, a quick note about a marriage, birth, recent promotion, award,

achievement, career change, or anything else that may be of interest. Paul can be reached at zablocki@canisiushigh.org. You can also update your contact information utilizing the *Add Alumni Information Form* through the Alumni/Development tab on the Canisius High School Website www.canisiushigh.org.

ALUMNI COME OUT IN SUPPORT OF D.C. CHAPTER

On a cold Monday evening, 75 gentlemen of Canisius High School reconnected with their alma mater over the comfort foods that have made Buffalo famous. This meeting wasn't in their hometown, however. Rather, it was 400 miles away. Just west of our nation's capital, the reunion of old friends and the formation of new ones laid the ground work for the foundation of the Canisius High School Alumni Chapter in Washington D.C.

The guests were treated to chicken wings, beef on weck and Labatt Blue. Dennis Beecher '88 donated Watson's Sponge Candy. John Knight, President, and Chip Jones '74, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, were the special guests of the evening and received an enthusiastic welcome. Jonathan Ward '98, President of the D.C. Alumni Chapter, and Paul Zablocki '01, Director of Alumni Relations, each offered their vision for a vibrant and active chapter in the nation's capital. On an evening in which every decade from the 1940s to the 2000s was represented, laughs were plentiful as the memories of 1180 Delaware were shared again and again.

The idea of forming a Washington D.C. chapter was conceived by Jonathan Ward after the untimely death of Tim Russert '68 this past June. Jonathan contacted Paul Zablocki and the two started to map out what an out-of-town CHS Alumni Chapter should look like. Monday night's event, held at Grevey's

Restaurant and Bar, was a tremendous success and a great first step in establishing the model for future chapters abroad. Jonathan is also finalizing plans for a service day at a Washington D.C. soup kitchen in early February. Please see the information below to get details about all upcoming events.



ABOVE: Kenneth Fick '93, Jeffrey Anderson '93, Joseph Maxwell '45

For more information on future alumni events and venues, please contact Paul Zablocki '01, Director of Alumni Relations, at (716) 882-0466 ext. 262 or email zablocki@canisiushigh.org.

WHITE HOUSE ORNAMENT HONORING TIM RUSSERT

Canisius High School would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our art teacher, Mrs. Debby Bang. Mrs. Bang was invited to create a New York State Christmas ornament for the White House Christmas tree to honor Tim Russert '68.

Each member of Congress and the Senate nominates someone to create an ornament for the tree that stands in the Blue Room of the White House. For Mrs. Bang, it was Senator Charles Schumer's office that asked her to make the design that would honor Mr. Russert. On Tuesday, December 2nd, Debby and her husband, Rev. Charles D. Bang, attended a reception at the White House for the unveiling.

"Mr. Russert is best known for his work as a journalist and writer, which lead me to my first inclination to use words," Mrs. Bang said. "On the top of the ornament I placed the New York State motto, "Excelsior", ever upward. Around the middle of the ornament I placed a quote from Philipians, '... whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure,

whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think on these things.' This quote reminded me of all of the characteristics people attributed to Mr. Russert after his death."

Mrs. Bang was motivated by her trip last summer. "I traveled around New York. The beauty of the changing landscapes inspired me. Underneath the ornament quote is an abstraction of the Adirondack Mountains, the lakes, rivers, Niagara Falls and the farmland."

At the bottom of the ornament in the middle of what could be swirling snow or foaming rapids are the initials AMDG as a further tribute to Tim Russert and Canisius High School. AMDG stands for Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam, "All to the greater glory of God."

In keeping with the red, white and blue color scheme for this year's White House Christmas Tree, the mountains, sky and water are shades of blue and white. The quotes are in red to remember the brave sons and daughters who

have served our country in war torn places, especially those whose lives were taken this year.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to spend many hours contemplating the beauty of my home state, one of its most cherished sons and indeed countless New Yorkers who truly exemplify the qualities encircling this year's state ornament."



ABOVE: The Christmas Ornament created by Art teacher Debby Bang in honor of Tim Russert '68

In 1975 Canisius inaugurated the first dinner auction of its kind in Western New York. This year **GAMBIT turns 35!** The chairpersons this year hail from that first GAMBIT Class of 1975 – Herb Glose (Anne) and Kevin Curran (Karen). The Honorary Chairperson of the event is Father Ronald Sams, S.J. '46, GAMBIT's first Coordinator.

This year, the theme will be "Men at Work" to honor our young gentlemen and their support of the Jesuit Mission, Men for Others, as well

as our ongoing construction projects. The auction will be held at the Statler Ballroom and Terrace Room on Saturday, March 28, 2009.

Donors, sponsors and program ads are needed to make this GAMBIT another great success. Please view the GAMBIT page in the advancement/alumni section of the Canisius website, www.canisiushigh.org, for more information. All proceeds continue to benefit the education of young men in the Jesuit tradition.



NEW CANISIUS FACULTY & STAFF

MR. THOMAS COPPOLA '01 is not really a new face at Canisius but joins the community full time as a teacher in the History department. Mr. Coppola graduated Summa Cum Laude from SUNY Fredonia with a Bachelor's degree in History. He student taught at Canisius High School last year and was an assistant coach with the Crusader baseball team.

MRS. DENISE EGNATCHIK joined Canisius High School in the fall as the Admissions Office Assistant. Mrs. Egnatchik comes to us from the Buffalo Neurosurgery Group and has a profound understanding and appreciation of the school as the proud mother of James '99 and Robert '08.

MS. LAURA GAGLIONE joins Canisius from the Cantalician Center for Learning where she spent the majority of her professional career in various roles including, most recently, the Director of Development. Laura also spent eight years as Director of Development for the Erie County Special Olympics. She is serving Canisius as the Executive Secretary to the President.

FR. MICHAEL GUZIK, S.J. is another not so new face to Canisius. Fr. Guzik returns to Canisius after completing a year in Tertianship, a formative piece of his continuing development as a Jesuit priest. Fr. Guzik teaches in the Religious Studies department.

MR. CRAIG HINCHCLIFFE also returns to Canisius as a full time teacher of History and German. Mr. Hinchcliffe was a long term sub last year and assisted with the Lacrosse team. Mr. Hinchcliffe is a graduate of McQuaid Jesuit High School, has a Bachelor's Degree from Geneseo and a Master's Degree from St. John's College.

MR. JOHN KNIGHT is our new President and comes to Canisius after a term as President at Catholic Memorial High School in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Mr. Knight served for six years as Associate Head of School at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Mr. Knight also has substantial experience as an Ignatian educator, with fourteen years serving as a teacher, Director of Campus Ministry and coach at the University of Detroit Jesuit High School.

MR. JONATHAN MUSIALOWSKI '00 returns to 1180 Delaware after playing professional baseball and running his own creative marketing business, JJM Designs. Mr. Musialowski went on to get his BS from Virginia Tech. As a Hokie, he was a two-time Academic All-Conference selection. Mr. Musialowski is currently attending the University of Buffalo in their Professional MBA Program. He is serving as the Director of Marketing and Communications.

MRS. KATHERINE KELLER has a BA and MA from Boston College, where she graduated with distinction and an MS from Canisius College. She spent the last two years teaching at the Allendale Columbia School in Rochester. She has familiarity with Canisius through relatives who are alumni and her experience as a HAP teacher. She teaches in the History department and moderates Model United Nations.

MRS. MARY REISER has joined us as the GAMBIT Office Assistant. Mrs. Reiser brings valuable auction and fundraising experience to Canisius through her volunteer work at Nativity of Our Lord Elementary School in Orchard Park. She has two children who currently attend the high school.

MR. PAUL RILEY '03 comes back to Canisius High School after receiving his BA in English at SUNY Buffalo. While attending the University at Buffalo, Mr. Riley ran both cross country and track & field, breaking several school records along the way. He has worked the Higher Achievement Program for the past six years and has been an assistant track & field coach for the past year. He is serving as an English teacher to freshman and sophomores.

MS. HOLLY SZAFRANSKI has been named the Purchasing Coordinator in the Business Office. She earned a BS in Business Management and Administration from SUNY Empire State College. She has considerable experience in purchasing, management and business. She was recognized by the Zonta Clubs of Kenmore and Buffalo by being awarded a scholarship for women in business.

MR. RUDEL SIMON teaches French and helps coach soccer at Canisius. He has a BA from SUNY Fredonia and an MA from UB. While at UB, Mr. Simon was awarded a Graduate Teaching Assistantship Award and was recognized for Superior Achievement in the Study of French Language and Literature. He has taught at the university and high school levels. During his university teaching, he was rated by students as the top instructor in the department of Romance Languages.

MR. PAUL ZABLOCKI '01 went on to get his BA and MS from Canisius College. Mr. Zablocki's graduate degree is in College Student Personnel Administration. He spent a summer in the Irish Studies Program at the University of Ireland, Galway. Mr. Zablocki most recently served as the Community Enrichment Coordinator at the Rochester Institute of Technology. He is serving his alma mater as Director of Alumni Relations.

CHS TODAY MAGAZINE

Winter 2008-2009

Mr. John Knight
President

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Director of Alumni Relations

CHS Today Editor
Jonathan Musialowski '00

Design
Manzella Marketing Group

Contributing Writers

Ronald Ahrens '91
Frederick Betti, S.J.
Deborah Burke
Paul Cumbo '97
Andrea Gonce
Brandon Harris
Joseph M. Hughes
Brandon Jonas '04
James Mauro
Colleen Sellick
Paul Zablocki '01

Photography

David Crowe
Brian Fluharty
Tom Wolf
Paul Zablocki '01

To Contact Us

We are eager to hear from you with comments about CHS Today Magazine. Please send your correspondence to:

CHS Today
1180 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
Phone: (716) 882-0466
Fax: (716) 200-0282

E-mail:
musialowski@canisiushigh.org

Canisius

HIGH SCHOOL TODAY



CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL
1180 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209-1494

www.canisiushigh.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS

First Friday Mass

Friday, January 2, 2009
7:45am at St. Michael's Church
651 Washington Street

St. Mark's Parish Gift Gathering Party

Saturday, January 24, 2009
St. Mark's School Cafeteria

Basketball vs. St. Joe's

Sunday, January 25, 2009
4:30pm at Canisius HS Aud

Downtowners Luncheon

Thursday, January 29, 2009
Noon at Chef's Restaurant
291 Seneca St., Buffalo

Wrestling vs. Nichols

Thursday, January 29, 2009
4:30pm at Nichols School

Alumni Gift Gathering Party

Friday, January 30, 2009
Clement Mansion on
Delaware Ave.

Swimming vs. Cathedral Prep

Saturday, January 31, 2009
TBA at ECC City Campus

Varsity Federation Hockey vs. Williamsville North

Sunday, February 1, 2009
3:00pm at Buff State

Bowling – All Catholics

Thursday, February 19, 2009
3:35pm at Thruway Lanes

Final Game in the Aud

Canisius vs. Nichols
Friday, February 20, 2009
Game, Reception & Refreshments

30th Canisius Crusader Chilly Challenge Road Race

Friday, February 22, 2009
Register online at
www.canisiushigh.org/alumni.cfm

Mother/Son Social

Sunday, March 8, 2009
7:00pm at Hearthstone Manor

Alumni Evening of Recollection

Wednesday, March 18, 2009
6:00pm in the CHS Chapel

GAMBIT XXXV

Saturday, March 28, 2009
6:00pm at the Statler

Reunion Weekend

June 19-22, 2009
Golf, Dinner & Mass