

Catholic Schools of Broome County Alumni & Friends Newsletter

†This issue dedicated in memory of Bradley David Conklin and Andrew Wilson Donahue

Did You Know?

- Seton Catholic Central's own Father Ours will be celebrating 25 years as a priest this year
- Kathleen Dwyer, Principal at Seton Catholic Central High School, is celebrating 20 years in her position.
- The Catholic Schools of Broome County run an annual Scholarship Angel campaign each year to help families in need with tuition payments.
- Rev. Thomas Ryan, our Vicar, will be leaving for sabbatical this spring.
- Seton Catholic Central Boys Basketball - Third time Press & Sun Bulletin Coach of the Year Chris Sinicki has a career record of 101-57.

Angels On The Rim

Ask any member of the Lady Saints basketball team at Seton Catholic Central High School how their season went and you'll recognize an instant expression of pride. Ask the same question to the team as a group and you'll feel the excitement in the air and understand they share in something very special, memories to last a lifetime. Our Lady Saints ended their season as NYSPHSAA Class C State Champions. It all ended in a victorious and electrified battle against Brushton-Moira, 48-40, at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, NY. This is the first time the Lady Saints have captured a Girls Basketball State Championship.



Senior Suzy Precopio and Junior Claudia Mazza were named to the All-State Tournament Team and Senior Elizabeth Fox was honored

with the Sportsmanship Award. Junior Deidre Torto was named to the STAC All-Division and News Channel 34 All Division Teams and the Press and Sun-Bulletin All-Metro Team. Deidre and Junior Allison Curley were selected to participate in the stars and Stripes All-Star Clas-

sic. Rumors in the halls of Seton Catholic Central High School were that there were a couple of angels on the rim throughout the 6 game play off winning streak. We are all extremely proud of our Lady Saints.

Spotlight on St James Middle School



Patriotic exercises are part of the lesson at St. James



State champs— NO, Having fun—YES!



Father Ryan, Students, and Dr. Paul King



Happy Mother's Day from St. James students



A New Vehicle For Charitable Giving

Looking back, you may remember the Bishop's Catholic Education and Charities Foundation. The Foundation, a separate 501c3 nonprofit entity, was started back in 1975 to support the Catholic Schools of Broome County. Since that time the foundation has used its assets to establish the Bishop Harrison Trust Fund, which provides tuition assistance designated to Broome County Catholic school families. Now, as a result of recent strategic planning, the Foundation, with the leadership

of a new local board of directors, has restructured itself and made an agreement with the Catholic Schools of Broome County Development and Alumni Affairs Office to manage its day to day operations. Working closely with school administrators and prospective donors, the foundation has developed a menu of charitable giving options, designated to the Catholic Schools of Broome County. These options provide new opportunities for children to attend Catholic schools while

enhancing our local institutions through improved academic and sport programs and facility upgrades. More importantly, it allows you, the donor, to support an area of interest. If you'd like to learn how you can make a difference please call 607 231-4149 or email jburke@syrdiocese.org. Working together we can make a difference. Read more about our foundation in our next newsletter.

From the Director

Michelangelo said, "I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free." In many ways your volunteers have the same insight. They can see the wonderful possibilities here at our Catholic Schools and they continue working hard to get others to see the same.

Since coming on board I've been meeting with people and learning all about their hopes and dreams for our educational institutions. With the information supplied by parents, students, alumni, staff, parishioners, other similar size institu-

tions with successful development programs, and more, a group of volunteer's known as the Development & Alumni Affairs Committee (DAAC) have been busy planning those dreams.

After careful review of the information gathered, members of DAAC began a self-evaluation to make sure we had the skills and resources on our committee to insure our success. As a result, the committee grew in numbers and developed four areas of focus to help manage our projects. We are now work-

ing on important issues in the areas of planning and finance, marketing and public relations, recruitment, and facilities.

The future of our Catholic schools is dependent in part on the important role of the DAAC. If you too believe our schools are important and would like to help us in our mission please contact the Development and Alumni Affairs Office to learn of ways you can help, 607 231-4149 or email jburke@syrdiocese.org. Together we can make a difference.

"It's what we value, not what we have, that makes us rich."

J. Harold Smith

Hourigan Society Visionaries

In 1837 a small wooden church was established in Binghamton at the corner of Leroy and Front Streets, under the patronage of St. John the Apostle. The church was renamed St. Patrick's in 1873. Along with the new church, a school was started in a rented house by lay teachers Miss Ellen White and Miss Cynthia Dodge. The school passed out of existence in 1845. It wasn't until the arrival of the third resident priest, Father James Hourigan, in 1847 that Catholic Education began to really grow.

Considered a visionary by many,

Father Hourigan acquired land to the west of the church for a new school and by 1851 there were 160 pupils.

We have now established the Hourigan Society to recognize those individuals who have invested in the future of our schools by naming Broome County Catholic Schools as a beneficiary in their estate plans. The name honors Father James Hourigan - our driving force in establishing Catholic education in Broome County. The Hourigan Society recognizes and salutes those visionaries who have given unselfishly of their

resources to further the work of our Catholic Schools.

Simply complete the form on page 7 to become a member of the Hourigan Society. Beginning in the spring of 2006, and by invitation only, members of the Hourigan Society will be given the opportunity to attend an annual social breakfast to meet Society members and to celebrate our schools in the same spirit of Father Hourigan.

Contact our Development & Alumni Affairs office, (607) 231-4149, for more information or to learn of other options for

Don Hengel Memorial Sports

On June 22 the Don Hengel Memorial Sports Classic will be held to benefit the Catholic Schools of Broome County. The Notre Dame Club of the Triple Cities and the Notre Dame Monogram Club, together with BCCS parents, alumni, and individual supporters are sponsoring this event in support of our school.

This exciting golf tournament will be held at the Traditions Resort in Endwell, NY. Included are lunch, a scramble format tournament, and an evening dinner. Each foursome will play

with a sports celebrity and speakers include Bobby Gonzalez and Mayor Richard R. Bucci as MC. A sampling of tentative celebrities includes Jim Lynch (ND AA/KC Chiefs), Rich Christian (Pine Valley Golf Course), Isaiah Kacyvenski (Seahawks), Jim Lee (Syracuse Bball), King Rice (UNC Bball), Chris Snee (NY Giants), Diane Waino (Tennis), and others.

Sponsorships are available at the levels of \$5,000; \$3,000; \$1,500; \$500 which include golf from 4 to 1 players, dinner, and varying degrees of advertis-



ing.

There is a minimum \$150 sponsorship that includes a small hole sign and mention in the Memory Book. Tickets may be purchased to attend the dinner at \$50 per person. Both the tournament and dinner are limited so please join in early.

Contact Joe Burke at 607-231-4149 for more information.

Something of Interest Quality Education & Economics

According to the National League of Cities survey of its membership in 2002, "it's clear that city officials view the quality of education and local schools as the cornerstone of their cities' success". The U.S. Conference of Mayors asserts "the economic vitality of a city is linked to the performance of its schools".

Consider the following about quality education, about the type of education offered through the Catholic Schools of Broome County:

There is a consensus among researchers quality education enhances productivity.

Quality education has a direct effect on wages.

A good education has a direct effect on employment stability.

Quality education promotes social capital by closing the educational socio-economic classes gap.

Availability of quality education attracts quality workers.

Quality education is a major factor in deciding where to live.

Growth rates vary directly with the educational level of a city.

Alumni This & That

CCHS Class of 1975 Reunion

The class of 1975 will hold its 30-year reunion on Saturday, November, 26, 2005 at the Holiday-Inn Arena in downtown Binghamton. Please watch your mail for details, or email cchsclassof1975@aol.com for more information. Hope you can make it!

A June 2005 wedding is planned for Seton Catholic Central graduate Alison Marie Hansen, the daughter of Robert and Marian Hansen of Endicott. The bridegroom is Terence Holcomb, the son of Harlis and Tammy Holcomb of Northport, AL.

1985 Seton Catholic Central graduate Kate Hillis is co-founder of and independent production company, NextNext Entertainment. Watch for her productions on MTV and other stations.

Seton Catholic Central graduate Rosemary Evan wed Nelson Arlequin in September 2004. Is Assistant Manager of Barnes and Noble in Niskayuna NY and the bridegroom is a Development Aid with NYSOMR.

Seton Catholic Central graduate Karen Lee Goulette wed Thomas Zielewicz during an August 2004 ceremony. Karen is an area manager for Boscov's Department store and the bridegroom is Safety and Security Officer for NY State OMRDD.

Seton Catholic Central graduate Allison Hase married James Tucker at an August 2004 ceremony. Allison is an ESL Teacher at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi, UAE and the bridegroom is Assistant Professor of Art at Zayed University.

Seton Catholic Central graduate Carl Fishback weds Kimberly Metera during a June 04 ceremony. Carl is an investigator with US Investigations and Kimberly is a scientist at Thomas Jefferson University.

Seton Catholic Central graduate Andrew Hull plans August 2005 wedding with Erin Melissa Merriam. Miss Merriam is a Special Education teacher at Binghamton City School District and Andrew is an elementary teacher for Binghamton City School District.

Seton Catholic Central graduate Mark Coleman plans May 2006 wedding to Amber Coleman. Mark is an Electrician with Matco Electric.

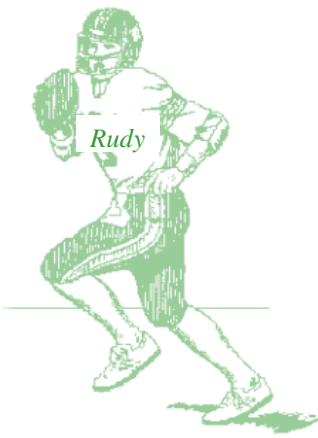
Michael (Jay) Long SCCHS Class of 87 lives in a suburb of Washington DC, Michael and his wife Molly have a 20 month old daughter named Lauren. He works for a Sallie Mae as a Project Manager responsible for the oversight of the financial system.

Class of 1966 Seton High School 40th Reunion

Los Vegas, Nevada, Labor Day 2006. Rumor Has It...Elvis Wants to Be a Seton Royal. We can use your help. Contact us if you are interested in working on the reunion.

Francis Battisti
Battistiseminars@aol.com
(607) 7701355
Mac Roehm
Roehm@san.rr.com
(619) 8579959
Other Years Welcomed

Please complete the "We'd Like To Hear From You" form on page 7 to share information of interest or update your contact information.



"Visualize your Dream and make a commitment. Having a Dream is what makes life exciting. Never underestimate the power of a Dream. It will change your life. A Dream gives you the ability to determine your future."

Rudy Ruettiger

Rudy Is Coming...

Hard work and patience are two traits that are essential to overcoming major obstacles. Helping our students develop these traits is an important part of what we do here at the Catholic Schools of Broome County. Many of our alumni share in this belief as evidenced through their continued support. On June 22, 10 am, at Binghamton University's West Gym, we plan to share this philosophy with all of our current students at our "Rudy Assembly".

Rudy Ruettiger, a young boy, small in stature, had a dream to attend Notre Dame, and later to play football too. Despite his size, and through hard work and patience, this young boy went on to realize his dreams. He learned to excel academically and though he was only 5'6" tall and weighed 165 lbs, he played football for the Fighting Irish.

Rudy transferred to Notre Dame in the Fall of 1974. His focus at Notre Dame was his studies. Rudy was so inspired to actually attend this University that he would do whatever it took to keep his grades up and earn the respect of his peers. He walked on the football team under the coaching staff of Ara Parseghian in 1974. He played his guts out and treated every practice like it was a real game. Rudy never quit and he won the respect of his team mates. It was this enthusiasm that eventually got Rudy in the game to live his second dream.

While in the game Rudy saw an opportunity make his move. He got the tackle. "When the ball moved I moved," said Rudy. Rudy didn't get the tackle because he was lucky. He prepared. He persevered. He worked everyday and set his goals every day no matter how tough it got, so that when his opportunity came, he was ready. Rudy's experiences were so inspirational a movie was made about the events.

Now our students will have the opportunity to learn first hand of Rudy's journey. Rudy will come to Binghamton specifically to speak to our students. He will speak to our kids about the value of Catholic education, his faith as part of his athletics and life in general, pursuit of excellence, the true measure of success, about the value of attending Catholic schools, and how nothing is impossible.

Call our Development and Alumni Affairs Office at 607-231-4149 if you're interested in attending this inspirational and motivational event. Tickets are free to students attending Catholic schools, \$1 otherwise, and a donation is suggested for adults. Seating is limited and offered on a first-come basis, so don't delay.

This event is sponsored by a group of volunteers, many "Notre Damers", and supporters of the Catholic Schools of Broome County.

For more information on Rudy Ruettiger visit his web site at www.rudyint.com.

Alumni Challenge: To Teach

Listening to some people talk about youngsters today, your apt to hear, “they just don’t appreciate the value of a dollar”, or “all kids are interested in, is television or video games”. Or maybe it’s, “I wish I could get my kids to see the value in helping others”. Recalling conversations you have heard, or perhaps even thinking back to your own words, you may very well recall other similar type statements. Now, thanks to a group of students from Seton Catholic Central High School, you are being offered a chance to make a difference.

A committee of five students, working closely with the Development and Alumni Affairs Office and the Bishop’s Catholic Education and Charities Foundation, is undertaking a project to establish an endowment fund with an initial goal of \$10,000. From intrinsic reward, to learning about giving vehicles, to tax implications, this fund is designed as a tool to teach students the value of charitable giving. Managing this fund will offer students the opportunity to learn how to develop donors, establish and name the fund, and make a determination annually as to the use of the fund’s income. The word in the hallways has told of distributions for memorial donations, sports equipment, and fees to upgrade school dances and socials. While the group has a way to go before making its first distribution, hopefully during 2006, there are already many great ideas afloat.

The current organizing committee, all of whom have been appointed Student Representatives to the Board of Directors of the Foundation, is made up of students Jeremy Sedelmeyer, Connor Salanger, Mia Fanto, Keenan Dowd, and Santino DeAngelo. The group will be meeting in May and June to develop more formal plans. There’s already talk of a student contest to name the fund.

In the meanwhile, the committee is challenging all alumni and friends to make a contribution to the fund. Contributions received by July 1st will be matched by the students own fundraising efforts. “My conversations with these kids indicate they are dedicated to this project and are willing to make it happen. I believe they want to learn about charitable giving and I believe they’ll take pride in showing folks just what they can do”, said Joe Burke, Director of Development and Alumni Affairs for Catholic Schools of Broome County. Please send donations to the Students Fund, c/o The Development Office, 70 Seminary Ave, Binghamton, NY 13905.

The students want you to know, they have a strong desire to learn about philanthropy :

phi·lan·thro·py (P) Pronunciation Key (f-lnthr-p)

n. pl. phi·lan·thro·pies

- 1) The effort or inclination to increase the well-being of humankind, as by charitable aid or donations.
- 2) Love of humankind in general.
- 3) Something, such as an activity or institution, intended to promote human welfare.



The value of giving through a little work is shared with students throughout our educational institution. Here student Stephen Koban of St. Thomas School lends a hand.

Dear Readers:

“I was asked to fill this space with something cultural and pertinent. Therefore, it is my pleasure to submit the following poem by e.e. cummings for your enjoyment”. *Mrs. Harvey, English Teacher, Seton Catholic Central High School*

“sweet spring is your
time is my time is our
time for sprintime is lovetime
and viva sweet love”

(all the merry birds are
flying in the floating in the
very spirits singing in
are winging in the blossoming)

Lovers go and lovers come
awandering awondering
but any two are perfectly
alone there’s nobody else alive

(such as sky and such a sun
i never knew and neither did you
and everybody never breathed
quite so many kinds of yes)

not a tree can count his leaves
each herself by opening
but shining who by thousands mean
only one amazing thing

(secretly adoring shyly
tiny winging darting floating
merry in the blossoming
always joyful selves are singing)

“sweet spring is your
time is my time is our
time for springtime is lovetime
and viva sweet love”

A Thousand Words



Over 200 students, family members and friends attended our Mardi Gras Mass in February. Do you recognize any of the above revelers?



Sports play an important role in educational institution. Above are students from Seton Catholic Central High School in action, but enter the gym at any one of our schools on any given day and you'll see children of all ages actively participating in sports and learning the values of teamwork and team spirit. Our pride runs deep throughout our schools.

Online Store a Possibility

The Development and Alumni Affairs volunteers are in the process of administering a feasibility study to determine the desire, need, and resources required to operate an on line store. The store would offer alumni and friends a convenient place to purchase items associated with the Catholic Schools of Broome County. It would also offer alumni a place to market their products or services allowing us to showcase the efforts and talents of our many graduates. Equally as important, the site would help generate income to support the efforts of the Development and Alumni Affairs Office. Would you use such a site if it were available? Do you have a product or service you'd like to sell or advertise to your fellow alumni and friends of the Catholic schools? If so we want to know. Please take a minute to complete the information below. We'll be reporting our findings in a future newsletter.

All products and services must be aligned with the principles of the Catholic church and be socially responsible.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

I would be interested in ___selling ___buying ___advertising. My product or service is _____

We'd Like To Hear From You

Please use this form to update your information or to send us news you'd like to share with the alumni

Name(s): _____ Class of _____
Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____ (Check here to receive email updates) Telephone _____
Occupation/Position _____
News _____

Future Leaders

Do you know a prospective student for one of our schools? If you send us the contact information we'll be sure to follow-up.

Student's Name _____ Grade _____
School _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

Get Involved

Everyday your alumni make contributions in everyway. By making donations of time, money, and/or services you are making a difference in the life of a child. Send us this form if you'd like to help. No matter how small an individual contribution, together we make a brighter future.

Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____ Email _____
I can help by _____
I'd like to donate using MasterCard Visa . Card Number _____ Expiration _____
Use my donation where needed most . Use my donation for _____

Hourigan Society

Have you heard about the Hourigan Society? It's a club made up of special people who care enough about our Catholic Schools to make a commitment through estate planning. Becoming a member is easy; simply complete and sign this form and return it to our office and you're a member! Every year, beginning in the spring of 2006, we will host a breakfast to recognize all of our members. If you care about the future of our educational institution, don't wait - join us today.

Name/s _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

I/We have made a provision for the Broome County Catholic Schools in my/our estate plans and wish to be included in the Society. I/We agree to be included in published listings of the Society's members (names to be listed as written above).

Signature _____
Amount (optional) \$ _____

Date _____

†This issue dedicated in memory of Bradley David Conklin and Andrew Wilson Donabue

Our offices are located at
Seton Catholic Central High School
70 Seminary Avenue
Binghamton, NY 13905

Phone: 607-231-4149
Fax: 607-723-4811
Email: jburke@syrdiocese.org

Wish List. Can you make a wish come true?

- 4 air conditioners for the computer and art classrooms at SCCHS.
- A new coat of paint for the SCCHS gymnasium.
- New bleachers for SCCHS gymnasium.
- New side doors for SCCHS.
- New windows for St John's School.
- New copy machine for Development & Alumni Affairs office
- 200 cases of bottled water for the Saintly Grounds Café located in the high school library for after school socials.
- A new copy machine for St. John's School
- New cafeteria tables for St. Thomas' School
- New entrance doors for Our Lady of Sorrows
- \$2,500 for St. James Principal's Event Fund

Since our beginning people have been working to help us in our mission and the Catholic Schools of Broome County enjoy a rich heritage. In the 1830s Catholic families began populating areas in and around Binghamton. By 1837 they had established a small wooden church then known as St John's, and in a rented house the first school was started.

Since that time we've experienced many ups and downs, but have always continued working toward a goal of improvement and growth. Today, more than ever, it is critical for us to continue to seek new ways to provide the best possible education along with the values of the Catholic Church. Now it is our turn to get involved, to help with the mission, to make a better world, and, in turn, a brighter future for our children.

If you attended Catholic schools you know the value of a Catholic education. If you didn't, give our next generation the opportunity you missed. Help us make our children smart and spiritually confident.

Broome County Catholic Schools
Development & Alumni Affairs Office
70 Seminary Avenue
Binghamton, NY 13905

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BINGHAMTON, NY
Permit No. 184

To: