

COMMON *Thread*

ANNUAL REPORT EDITION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE XAVIER FOUNDATION

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY EDITION



Celebrating 25 Years

of Faith, Service & 'Xcellence as
Xavier High School reaches the
quarter-century milestone

Reflections on the Past

Familiar names recall their favorite
memories from the past 25 years

'25 on 25' Series Launches

New video series looks at some of the 'Xceptional
things Xavier alumni are doing in the world

Updates from Xavier

Alumni News & More



XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION

SNAPSHOTS

From the Past 25 Years

Welcome to this special "Anniversary Edition" of the Common Thread! As we celebrate Xavier's 25th anniversary, we take a moment to take a stroll down memory lane via some snapshots of fond memories from the past quarter century of Xavier High School.

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL - EST. 1998 | CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF FAITH, SERVICE, AND 'XCELLENCE



Oct. 9, 1998
Building is blessed by Archbishop Hanus.



1998-1999
Jeff Henderson is first principal of Xavier HS.



Fall 1999
First fall drama production held in classrooms due to theatre not being ready.



Fall 1999
First Homecoming King & Queen: Roberto Pino (X99) and Laura Nelson (X99).



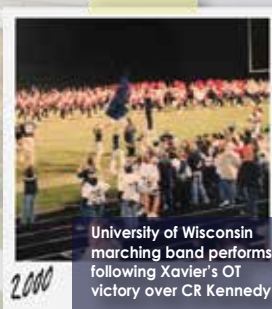
May 30, 1999
First graduates of Xavier HS. 155 students in XHS Class of 1999.



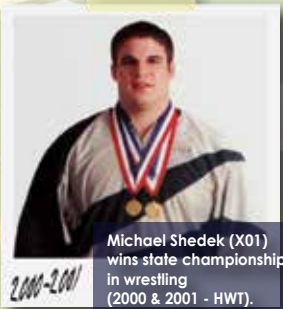
1999
First appearance of Bernie the St. Bernard mascot.



1999-2000
XHS Pom/Dance Team wins state in Class VII Pom.



2000
University of Wisconsin marching band performs following Xavier's OT victory over CR Kennedy.



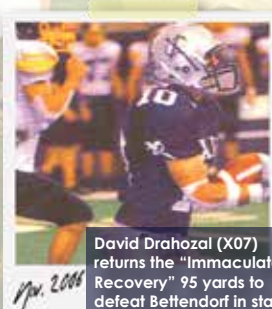
2000-2001
Michael Shedek (X01) wins state championship in wrestling (2000 & 2001 - HWT).



February 2003
XHS Girls Basketball wins Xavier's first team state championship (first of 47 over next 25 years).



Fall 2008
Tom Keating named principal of Xavier HS. Would be named first XHS president in 2018.



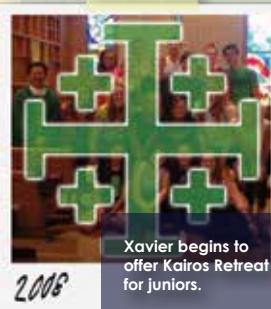
Apr. 2006
David Drahozal (X07) returns the "Immaculate Recovery" 95 yards to defeat Bettendorf in state semifinal.



June 2008
XHS students help city get back on its feet after the "Flood of 2008."



2008-2009
Fr. Dustin Vu arrives as Chaplain of Xavier HS.



2008
Xavier begins to offer Kairos Retreat for Juniors.



2009
Future American Idol contestant, Gabe Brown (X09) performs at first "Battle of the Bands."





April 2009
State champion, Patrick Lewis (X09), wins Drake Relays in 100 M Dash.



2008-2011 & 2011-2012
Xavier transitions to a uniform dress code.



Spring 2003
XHS Girls Soccer team wins record eight consecutive state titles (10 in program history).



2013
Xavier introduces 1:1 Digital Learning Environment (iPads for all students).



2013
Changing of the guard in the lunch room from retiring Marge Carson to Lorraine Gaffney.



Jan. 2018
First season of Dancing with the Saints is held at the CR Marriott to raise funds for new vans for Xavier HS.



Sept 2018
XHS students once again answer the call to protect the city from flood waters.



Sept 2018
XHS Campus Minstry launches the XCEED (Xavier Catholic Extraordinary Encounter Day) Conference for students.



2019
Saints Field receives new turf playing surface.



Spring 2011
Alumnus/former XHS teacher/coach, Chris McCarville (R97) returns home to serve as XHS president.



May 2020
XHS principal, Angela Olson, personally delivers diplomas to homes of every 2020 XHS graduate. No ceremony due to COVID-19 pandemic.



Apr. 2020
Derecho damages baseball/softball fields. Facilities rebuilt and upgraded -- open again for the 2022 season (2021 season played at Mt. Mercy)



Fall 2020
Xavier launches school-wide "Community System" to boost connection with God and each other.



2020-2021
Xavier implements health & safety precautions to keep in-person learning and activities in tact.



2023
Lynn Holverson is named the fourth principal of Xavier HS.



1997 - Present
Coach Lilly, Mr. Goldsmith, and Coach Schulte on "The Bench" ... 25 years and counting.





Reflections on 25 Years of Xavier High School



by Katie (Mills) Giorgio (X99)
First Graduating Class of Xavier High School

As we celebrate Xavier High School's 25th anniversary, we thought it would be fitting to check in with members of the Xavier community, some who have been there since the very beginning, to share memories and reflect on what it means to celebrate this milestone. Read on to take a walk down memory lane and be reminded of the impact this school community has had on so many for a quarter of a century.



Jeff Henderson

Xavier High School's First Principal

What was it like to see students start school at Xavier when it opened?

That first day was something I will never forget. After all those years of planning and construction to see 700+ students in the halls and classrooms working with the teachers was awe-inspiring. When we opened there was still much work to be done on the building: the bleachers were not installed, the theatre was incomplete, the football field wasn't done, 42nd Street was a seal-coated narrow street, the parking lot wasn't quite done, and we had no control of the air conditioning, etc. But everyone just rolled up their sleeves, got to work and made it all happen.



Kate (Barnts) Lyon^{X99}

First Graduating Class of Xavier and First 'Light of the World' Recipient

What was it like being a part of the first graduating class?

Being the first graduating class was unique and full of firsts. We had the opportunity to bring a mix of traditions from Regis and LaSalle as well help create new ones for Xavier. A favorite memory for me was our Baccalaureate Mass – it was a wonderful celebration and acknowledgement that as classmates we had different achievements and next chapters, yet we all had a common bond too.



Fr. Dennis Conway^{X09}

Pastor of Immaculate Conception and St. Wenceslaus Parishes

What role did Xavier play in helping you decide to pursue your vocation?

Xavier gave me the opportunity to ask the "big questions" in life. I was able to take an independent study in Philosophy and Why Am I Catholic? which really helped me to learn how to think about the bigger picture and my role in it. I was surrounded by people like priests, teachers, and friends that I could talk about those things with.



Eden Campbell^{X22}

XHS Alumna on the Impact of Fr. Dustin Vu, Former XHS Chaplain

As an incoming freshman, I was scared to start all knew bonds with the teachers and faculty, some of which I had never seen in my life, but I created a very special bond with Fr. Vu over my last two years at Xavier, and the bond we have is one that I will never forget. Fr. Vu is always just one smile away and he always makes me feel so happy and warm inside just by him being present. He lights up every room he walks into and his smile, wave, and phrase, "hello Eden!" will forever be engraved in my memory.



Mike Goldsmith

Xavier High School Teacher

What has changed and what remains the same in Xavier's 25 years?

I think something that Xavier has always done well is to embrace the innovation of its teachers and supporters, so class offerings, teaching approaches, and community opportunities are always evolving. Students never really change to me; every year has joy and challenge, and in the end gratitude. Another thing that never changes are the jokes told by Coach Lilly, Coach Schulte, and me. We don't get new material; we get new audiences.



Sister Louis Marie Zogg^{X05}

Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist

What role did Xavier play in helping you decide to pursue your vocation?

The availability of Mass and the chapel with the Eucharistic Lord became very central to me during the last years of my time at Xavier. I remember once one of my teachers mentioned that the chapel is physically located in the center of the school, showing us that Jesus is the spiritual center of our community life at Xavier. The faith and devotion of the faculty members, whether in math, English, or theology, witnessed to the centrality of the Lord Jesus in our lives. Also, my friends really challenged me to grow, to make good, thoughtful decisions, and to enter more deeply into my relationship with Jesus. I now recognize that it was the culture of Xavier that made such friendships possible.



Tom Lilly^{R73}

Xavier High School Teacher & Girls Basketball Coach

What is a favorite memory from the past 25 years?

The girls' basketball program lost in the state championship in 2002. It was Xavier's first opportunity for a championship. The following year the girls basketball team made it back to state. There was a state send off in the gym and Jeff Henderson got on a hoist in the middle of the gym, rode to the top, and told the students that there was something missing in the rafters. He was talking about a championship banner for Xavier HS. Turns out the battery for the hoist went dead and it would not return to the bottom. The students left and most did not realize their principal was stuck. The 2003 championship was Xavier's first ... and now one of many.



Duane Schulte^{L80}

Xavier High School Teacher & Football Coach

What was it like to see students start school at Xavier when it opened?

Students brought life to the brick and mortar building we saw go up. Coach David Sullivan might have said it best when Xavier opened when he said:



Dave Sullivan^{L89}
Former Teacher & Coach
Xavier & LaSalle High Schools

"This place won't be great because of the building, but because of the people in it."

What do you hope for Xavier's next 25 years?

Over the next 25 years I hope more students come here and continue to work hard. If they do, they will get what they earn.



THE STORY CONTINUES...

Read extended reflections from the past 25 years at

XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/REFLECTIONS25



Reflections on 25 Years of Xavier High School

(CONTINUED)

Read extended reflections from the past 25 years at [XAVIERSAINTS.ORG / REFLECTIONS25](http://XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/REFLECTIONS25)

Harriet Kalinsky

Former English Teacher (Xavier & Regis High Schools)

What are some of your memories from the early days of Xavier?

Well before it opened, when they were still digging, the drama teacher at the time and I would go out and stand on the hill that was going to be the stage in the theater and would just imagine how it would all shape up. And then when it opened it was just glorious. We had a TV and a telephone in every room. I loved the big windows in each room. I loved decorating those seasonally. That was very fun...the early years were good. I loved my classes. I would say my early years were as joyful as my last years at Xavier were. I loved being there all those years. I can't imagine having taught anywhere else then...there was joy from the very beginning.



Anne Cunningham

Former Executive Director of the Xavier Foundation

What are some of your reflections of the fundraising efforts to build Xavier?

From opening day in the fall of 1998 to today's bustling campus community of over 600 students, Xavier High School has embodied both a rich Catholic heritage and a focus on the future. I know that the enormous amount of prayers and petitions to the Holy Spirit by the Catholic community during the planning years gave us the vision and foresight to work to bring Regis and LaSalle together. The success of Xavier's "Proud Past . . . Promising Future" capital campaign building fund reflects the huge support from the community. The multi-year campaign exceeded the original goal by \$1.8 million, raising a total of \$7.9 million in outright and restricted gifts and pledges. With over 1,000 volunteers working on the many phases of the campaign we achieved a tremendous spirit of teamwork.



Angela Olson

Former Xavier HS Principal

What does Xavier's 25th anniversary mean for the wider Xavier community?

To celebrate 25 years of Xavier High School is to celebrate a school community that is relentless in giving back. Teachers give to students the ability to make a difference. Saints are in parishes and the community sharing their gifts. As alumni, they serve in capacities that range from the military to teachers at Xavier to health care to (can you believe it?!) our very own parish priests.

What has changed and what remains the same in Xavier's 25 years?

What is important has not changed, but how to get there has and Xavier has risen to the challenge. Faith and service remains a priority thanks to the high expectations and passionate teachers that have served generations of Saints.

REFLECTIONS ON 25 YEARS OF XAVIER



Dick Breitbach

Former Administrator & Coach
(Xavier & Regis High Schools)

What were some of the things you felt when Xavier first opened?

After all the hard work and countless meetings, the biggest feeling I had when Xavier opened its doors was pure excitement. Unifying the "east/west" students, teachers, and staff went better than I ever could have ever expected; it was truly remarkable. This community's people (teachers, staff, students, families) and the centeredness on our Catholic faith has been the strength of the past 25 years, and will be the strength for the next 25, which I'm proud to be a part of.



Tom Keating

Former Xavier HS
Principal & President



What are some of your favorite memories of your time at Xavier?



Dancing with the Saints! Who knew when we conceived the idea that it would grow to be such a phenomenal event. Having a chance to experience it from the stage was an added bonus! The chance to connect Xavier to the Arts Community in Cedar Rapids was something that I'll always cherish. It has truly become Xavier's community event and maybe Cedar Rapids'!

Also, Xavier's first state football championship in 2006. We were in the large class that year which made it extra special. Xavier was only eight years old at that time and there was still some lingering bitterness regarding combining Regis and LaSalle to form Xavier. That championship went a long way in uniting the community and leaving the bitterness behind.



Maggie (Berntsen) Roling^{x00}

LaSalle-Regis-Xavier Alumni Board Vice President

What are your thoughts on Xavier turning 25?

It seems impossible that it's been 25 years and actually makes me feel pretty old. After graduation, I lost a little bit of my connection but moving back, joining the community again, and having kids start at St. Pius X, I immediately felt the impact of our Catholic schools. Although our kids are not at Xavier yet, I still find myself there frequently through games, camps, performances, and the Alumni Board. Xavier has definitely made a name for itself and that is evident as you walk through the school and witness not only all of the accomplishments but also the caliber of students, teachers, coaches and staff members you encounter.

Chris McCarville^{R97}

Xavier High School President

What do you hope for Xavier's next 25 years?

There is a tremendous opportunity for Xavier to continue to help evangelize those who walk through our doors. I believe the need for this is even truer today than when we opened. Our world needs more Jesus, teenagers especially. The central mission of why we exist, I feel will be solidified even more in the next 25 years. I believe we are a big piece of helping young souls get closer to Heaven.





Exciting Times Ahead!

It's been another busy and exciting year at the Xavier Foundation as we look back on how we've continued to support Xavier High School.

Last October we proceeded with financing three new videoboards. These videoboards have been installed at Saints Field, Erusha Softball Field, and the Ken Charipar Baseball Field. The new boards were needed as the old scoreboards were old and difficult to maintain as our main source for repair was going out of business. These new videoboards will also tap into new revenue streams as supporters are recognized throughout varsity contests.

In supporting Xavier High School, we will also continue to remain focused on the President's vision. This includes facility repairs, upgrades, and expansions. The Foundation Board approved the planning and design work being done by Emergent Design that will propel Xavier into the future by meeting the evolving demands brought on by technology and relevancy.

We also entered the second year of the Teacher Matrix Initiative that provides the framework for getting our elementary, middle, and high school teacher salaries to within 91% of Cedar Rapids Public Schools. This very worthwhile framework is primarily funded by the Xavier Foundation.

Finally, through the hard work and dedication of our Foundation Director, Mary Harken, and her staff (Amy Thuente, Shari O'Rourke, and Nick Ireland), the Xavier Impact Fund met its **\$1 million goal** this year! A special thank you to all of our donors who made this possible. Your continued support of Xavier High School allows Catholic education to be taught to our most important assets, the students.

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary we want to acknowledge and thank all those who have and continue to support the Xavier Foundation. None of this would be possible without your generous donations.

Thank you again for your incredible support!

David Schimberg^{R91}

Chair, Xavier Foundation Board



Twenty-Five Proud Years

In the fall of 1993, I began as a freshman at Regis High School. My four years at Regis were awesome – I loved every minute there. But I have a feeling my four years at that school was a different experience than those who graduated before me. While we proudly wore the red and gold, took on the toughest competition as

by far the smallest school in the Mississippi Valley Conference, and embraced traditions passed down by those before us, something unmistakable was beginning at that time. Plans for a brand-new Catholic high school were being crafted.

I remember taking part in a vote for the new school's name and what the school's colors might be. I remember playing baseball at Iowa City West and Coach Schemmel asked if we thought the benches in the dugout might be good for the new school. I remember quite a few joint activities between the Regis and LaSalle student bodies - even wearing track uniforms which were black and white and said "Regis-LaSalle."

My high school experience at Regis took place with the leaders at the time keeping one eye solidly looking ahead. And praise God they did.

As one of the key leaders of that era often says today, "Look at the end result of all of that hard work. It resulted in Xavier! Does anyone today think that was the wrong decision?" Jeff Henderson, Xavier's first principal, couldn't be more right.

Today, people statewide view Xavier with much admiration. In 25 quick years, Xavier has EARNED a reputation of success and excellence. But I think many today either forget or are not aware of how difficult it was to get this school off the ground.

Everything, AND I MEAN EVERYTHING, about launching Xavier was extremely difficult. There were two failed merger attempts, a lot of disagreement on how this new school should proceed forward, even the financing method for the new building was controversial. Again, I loved with everything in my being what it meant to be a Regis Royal. But with that perspective in mind, coupled with beginning my teaching career here in 2002 and now today serving as president, I know unequivocally this: **The decision to build Xavier was worth every ounce of turmoil it once created.**

Students today are receiving a far better education. Students today have facilities and resources that both Regis and LaSalle couldn't provide. And most importantly, the Catholic dimension and the embeddedness of our faith within our students today is much stronger than what I experienced graduating in 1997. The leaders at that time put aside personal agendas and realized it was in the best interest of future generations of Catholic teenagers in Cedar Rapids to move forward with a new school.


The change was hard. Long-held traditions evolved. Many feelings were hurt. But to the credit of many who were fearless and brave, the result was Xavier. And to those individuals, too numerous to name, I offer a sincere "thank you."

So no, I'd say Jeff Henderson is not wrong. And on this 25th anniversary of our school, I too shout emphatically and proudly: **"LOOK AT WHAT WE'VE CREATED! WE ARE THE SAINTS, THE MIGHTY, MIGHTY SAINTS!"**

I'm so proud of this school and our community. Thank you for the many ways, 25 years strong, you've been there for us. Generations of Xavier Saints are, perhaps quite literally, eternally grateful.

Chris McCarville^{R97}

President, Xavier High School

 @CRXPres | chris.mccarville@xaviersaints.org

Giving in 2022-2023...

The Xavier Foundation is pleased to present the following information on gifts received July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, highlighted below. Every gift matters and makes the difference in the lives of our students, faculty, and staff. Thank you for your loyalty, even amidst challenging times. Financial support is garnered through a series of outreach efforts to partner parishes, businesses, alumni, and friends of Xavier. Additional funds are made possible by bequests, scholarships, endowed funds, and planned gifts.

The mission of the Xavier High School Foundation is to raise, manage and invest capital in order to strengthen and advance the mission of Xavier High School; to develop the total person in a Catholic environment.

We value each investment in our future and extend our sincere gratitude for entrusting us with your support!

2022-2023 Gifts By Source



Donor-specific lists for the 2022-2023 fiscal year can be found online at XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/DONOR.



The Xavier Foundation has taken great care to ensure the accuracy of these listings for gifts given between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

If your name was omitted or improperly noted, please accept our apologies. If you notice such an error, please notify us at advancement@xavierfoundation.org so our records can be corrected. Thank you!

Assets, Income & Expense

STATEMENT OF POSITION	
ASSETS	
CASH	\$ 286,452
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT	\$ 202,516
ALLOWANCE FOR BAD DEBTS	(\$ 7,017)
INVESTMENTS	\$ 8,131,172
PLEDGE RECEIVABLE	\$ 31,122
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 8,644,244
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
LIABILITIES	\$ 3,408,561
EQUITY	\$ 5,235,683
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 8,644,244

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	
INCOME	
BEQUESTS	\$ 178,905
ANNUAL APPEALS	\$ 896,149
ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS	\$ 290,122
TRUST INCOME	\$ 393,796
MATCHING GIFTS	\$ 19,399
RESTRICTED INCOME	\$ 213,646
MEMORIALS/GIFTS IN-KIND/OTHER	\$ 25,275
VALUATION ON INVESTMENTS	\$ 91,568
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 2,108,861
EXPENSES	
DISTRIBUTION TO XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL	\$ 2,752,127
FUNDRAISING AND ADMINISTRATIVE	\$ 557,909
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,310,036
NET INCOME	(\$1,201,175)

Financials as of 6/30/23. Detailed reviewed financial statements available upon request. Pre-auditor review completion numbers. Numbers do not reflect total pledges to campaigns.



WE DID IT!
\$1 MILLION
GOAL SURPASSED TO SUPPORT
XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS!

WE DID IT: \$1 MILLION FOR OUR TEACHERS!

Thanks to the combined efforts of the parish appeal, business appeal, Forever Saints Day/alumni appeal, and Dancing with the Saints, we raised a record-setting **\$1.1 million dollars** during the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Support of the Xavier Impact Fund allowed us to offer all our Xavier Catholic Schools PK-12 teachers a **six percent increase in salaries this school year**. Our \$1 million goal and our commitment will remain the same this year so we can continue to offer competitive and equitable salaries to our dedicated teachers.

LET'S DO IT AGAIN IN 2023-2024!

We ask for your continued prayers and support of our Xavier Impact Fund efforts and our Xavier Catholic School Teachers! Donate today at [XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/IMPACT](https://xaversaints.org/impact).



MAKE AN IMPACT IN 2023-2024 AT [XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/IMPACT](https://xaversaints.org/impact).

Real-World Experience Making an **IMPACT**

In conjunction with a unit on the "Four P's" of Marketing (Product, Price, Place, and Promotion), Mrs. Allard's Marketing classes of sophomores, juniors, and seniors made Xavier Impact Fund phone calls to parishioners during the month of October.

The phone bank offered the student an opportunity to learn important phone/customer service experience; making calls to parishioners, thanking them for their gifts, and asking them to renew their support for the Xavier Impact Fund and its goal to raise money for all K-12 Xavier Catholic School teachers. These students made more than 2,000 phone calls and helped the parishes of: All Saints, Immaculate Conception, St. Joseph, St. Jude, St. Ludmila, St. Patrick, St. Pius X, St. Wenceslaus and St. John XXIII. Thank you, Saints!





PARISH OUTREACH

2023-2024 Goal: \$575,000

Earlier this fall, we launched the Xavier Impact Fund – Parish Outreach in our 11 partner parishes. Thanks to the support of our priests, parishioners, principals, and leadership, we are excited to share that to date, we have **raised \$301,165 to our parish goal of \$575,000!** Help us continue the march toward our goal by donating at XavierSaints.org/IMPACT.



ANSWERING THE CALL TO MAKE AN IMPACT:
**2023-2024 PARISH OUTREACH
 VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP**



Overall Campaign Chairs:

Wendy and Sean (R90) Williams – St. Matthew
 Christina Chalhoub (X04) – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

All Saints
 Leaders: Andy and Sara Lang

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
 Leaders: Kyle and Patti Kunz & Darryl and Jamie Borcharding

Immaculate Conception/St. Wenceslaus
 Special appreciation to Maria Cavin for her guidance at these parishes.

St. John XXIII
 Leaders: Amanda and Chad Allard & Aaron and Rebecca Giese

St. Joseph
 Leaders: Nick and Joni Leymaster & Ed and Katie Walter

St. Jude
 Leaders: Justin and Tamara Norris, David and Jenn Olson, KJ and Kris Pilcher, & Brad and Tricia Simanek

St. Ludmila
 Leaders: Emery and Josh Tew

St. Matthew
 Leaders: Peter and Elizabeth Deegan

St. Patrick
 Leaders: Matt and Betsy Pithan & Dale and Jenny Emerson

St. Pius X
 Leaders: Mike and Jody Esker

A TRUE PARTNERSHIP

GIVING BACK TO PARISHES FOR GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND TO MAKE AN IMPACT

We greatly appreciate the generosity of our partner parishes to ensure Catholic education is available to all students and families. Just as we offered over the last several years, the Foundation will continue to offer that every dollar raised above the parish goal will go back to parish to use for whatever is deemed the greatest need.

In September, five parishes (All Saints, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Jude, St. Patrick, and St. Pius X) were awarded a combined \$39,669 for their parishes to use for their greatest need. Thank you for your wonderful impact on our school and parishes!



CAMPAIGN UPDATES



BUSINESS OUTREACH



BUSINESS OUTREACH

2023-2024 Goal: \$210,000

2023-24 Business Outreach Chair: Kate (Barnts) Lyon (X99)

Last winter we unveiled a new way to offer business recognition opportunities to our partnering businesses through the expansion of videoboards on campus. Five videoboards are now installed at Xavier, and we saw great success in our inaugural videoboard efforts, doubling our business campaign dollars this past year.

Our business volunteers will be seeking videoboard renewals and new opportunities for our business partners again this winter/spring. Reserve your recognition spot today! Packages are available on a first-come/first-serve basis. For a list of supporting business partners or to learn more about the videoboard initiative, visit: XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/BUSINESS.

WE ❤️ OUR TEACHERS!

XAVIER FOUNDATION
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF FAITH, SERVICE & XCELLENCE

There's Still Time to Help Make an **IMPACT** for Teachers in 2023!

2024

Year-End Giving...
The clock is ticking toward midnight on 2023.
Make your year-end gift to make an impact for our teachers at
XavierSaints.org/IMPACT.



Bormann Makes an **IMPACT** for Teachers

This football season we were blessed to have Walker Bormann of **Walker Bormann - Knights of Columbus Insurance** and his family on hand at Saints Field to present XHS president, Chris McCarville, with a generous gift. Walker has **pledged \$50,000** to support Xavier Catholic School teachers via the Xavier Impact Fund over the next three years! As an investment advisor, Walker helps his clients grow their portfolios through faith-based investment strategies. Please help us share our deep appreciation for Walker and this amazing offering for our teachers!



ALUMNI OUTREACH

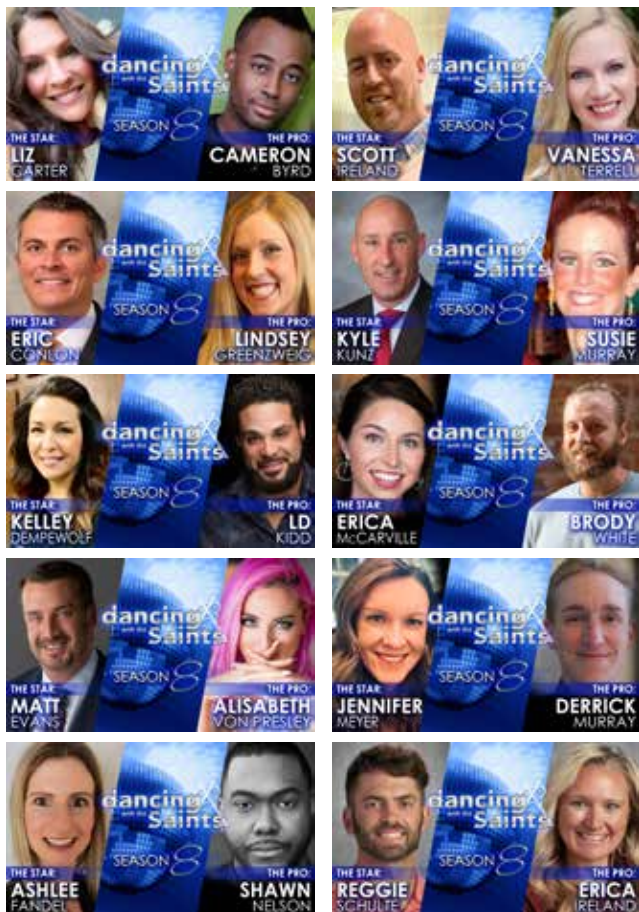


ALUMNI OUTREACH

2023-2024 Goal: \$125,000

With the focus of our 25th year on our alumni, we wanted to expand our outreach to celebrate our alumni community all year long! On the 25th of each month, we will look at some of the amazing things our Xavier alumni are doing in the world through a video series called '25 On 25'. Our grand finale will be held on April 18, 2024, as we celebrate all alumni during our 6th Annual Forever Saints Day. FSD event details can be found at XavierSaints.org/FSD and the new '25 On 25' video series can be viewed at XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/25.

See page 16 for more information on our '25 On 25' effort this year.



Save the date for Season 8 of Dancing with the Saints! Join us for a fun-filled, energy-infused evening as our 10 Xavier community "stars" pair with 10 area dance pros to perform and compete for your voting donations. This event sold out in 11 days after ticket sales went live with nearly 1,200 guests expected to be in attendance. Dancing with the Saints has raised over \$1 Million since its inception in 2016 for various project needs at Xavier. Season 8 proceeds will again go to support K-12 Xavier Catholic School teachers via the Xavier Impact Fund. The dancing couple with the most voting donation dollars will be crowned our DWTS Season 8 "People's Choice" Champions! Voting is open and will close at the conclusion of our live event on January 13, 2024.

Information can be found at XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/DWTS.

THE TWENTY-FIVE CLUB

COMMON Thread



YOU ARE INVITED TO
JOIN THE NEW
**Twenty-Five
Club**



With Xavier's 25th anniversary, the Xavier Foundation is excited to introduce **"The Twenty-Five Club"** which recognizes charitable gifts to our Forever Saints Day/ Alumni Appeal efforts of **\$250 or more** through June 30, 2024.

Twenty-Five Club Membership



Who is in the Club:

Donors who offer a gift of \$250+ toward Alumni Appeal/Forever Saints Day campaigns through June 30, 2024.

Membership Recognition:

- Name on physical "Twenty-Five Club" signage on display at Xavier.
- Name on XavierSaints.org/25 and in the Xavier Foundation's 2023-2024 annual reporting.
- Commemorative 25-Year pin.
- Commemorative decal.

DIAMOND LEVEL

Twenty-Five Club Membership



Who is in the Club:

Donors who offer a gift of \$2,500+ toward Alumni Appeal/Forever Saints Day campaigns through June 30, 2024.

Membership Recognition:

- **Twenty-Five Club "Gift Box" shipped to you (filled with commemorative Xavier items)**
- Name on physical "Twenty-Five Club" signage on display at Xavier.
- Name on XavierSaints.org/25 and in the Xavier Foundation's 2023-2024 annual reporting.
- Commemorative 25-Year pin.
- Commemorative decal.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TWENTY-FIVE CLUB, HEAD TO
XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/25CLUB



Honoring 25 Years of Xavier 2023 Donor Appreciation Reception

On August 7, 2023, the Xavier Foundation held its annual Donor Appreciation Reception, celebrating 25 years of faith, service, and excellence! This year, we moved the festivities outdoors, only steps away from where ground was broken for the construction of Xavier High School, and enjoyed some beautiful weather and the amazing musical talent of 'High Praise.' This event is held to honor and appreciate members of the Xavier Foundation's various giving societies. On hand to help us celebrate and offer their reflections of what it was like 25 years ago as Xavier first opened were former Xavier Foundation Executive Director, Anne Cunningham, and Xavier Board of Education Chair in 1998, Mike Tilson (R65). Also sharing their appreciation and poignant messages were Xavier Foundation Board Chair, David Schimberg (R91), Xavier High School President, Chris McCarville (R97), and Xavier Foundation Advancement Director, Mary Harken. We were also blessed to be joined by Archdiocese of Dubuque Apostolic Administrator, Bishop Richard Pates, who delivered remarks about this milestone and Xavier's continued commitment to its Catholic mission.

Those Who Helped Make it Possible

The Xavier Foundation also wishes to thank these five 'Xtraordinary women who have been instrumental in making an impact over the past 25 years through their leadership and dedication to the Xavier Foundation and Xavier High School. **THANK YOU!**



Anne Cunningham
Former Executive Director of the Xavier Foundation



Jody Pellerin
Former Executive Director of the Xavier Foundation



Lynn Jump
Former Annual Fund Director (Entered eternal rest Dec. 2022)



Jessica Schneider
Former Director of Marketing & Alumni Relations



Elizabeth (Hoffmann) Wright (X10)
Former Donor Relations & Appeal Coordinator

'25 ON 25' SERIES



'25 on 25' Video Series Launches

As we continue to celebrate 25 years of faith, service, and 'xcellence at Xavier High School throughout the 2023-2024 school year, we are excited to partner with XHS alumna/E Emmy-winning storyteller, Lauren Ready (X04), and her production company, Forever Ready Productions, to offer the "25 on 25" series. On the 25th of each month during the 2023-2024 school year, we will be taking a look at some of the 'xceptional things Xavier alumni are doing in the world as well as reflecting on the past 25 years of Xavier.

Episode 1: Focus on Faith

Air Date: September 25, 2023

Episode 1 starts in the same place everything else does at Xavier ... with a focus on faith. Listen to reflections about Xavier's continued growth in its Catholicity.

Episode 2: Joey Gase (X11)

Air Date: October 25, 2023

We focus on a Xavier alum who exemplifies our core values ... even on stages as big as the Daytona 500.

Joey will be back in Iowa June 2024 for the Iowa Speedway's first NASCAR Cup series.

Episode 3: Megan Lenss (X16)

Air Date: November 25, 2023

We visit with XHS alumna, Megan Lenss (X16), who has already amassed an impressive resume in the research field and is currently participating in a research project at the Norwegian Polar Institute.



Watch episodes on-demand at

XAVIERSAINTS.ORG / 25

New Episodes Available on the 25th of the Month



Spiritual Artwork on the March at Xavier

At our Homecoming Mass, we were excited to introduce a new sculpture of our patron saint, Saint Francis Xavier, which was made possible by multiple generous donations. The beautiful bronze statue which sits on a custom-crafted pedestal, was created by New York-based artist, Christopher Alles, who drove all the way from New York with the statue to personally deliver it to Xavier.

The statue was commissioned as part of Xavier's commitment to increasing and enhancing spiritual artwork around our school. It now resides in its permanent home just inside our main entrance on the "X," where it will greet all who enter through those doors.

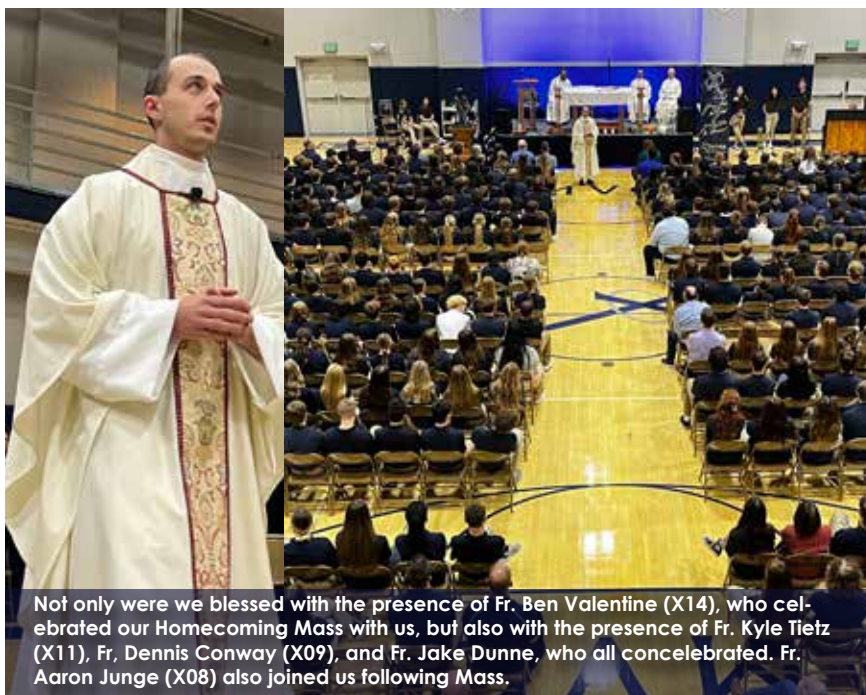
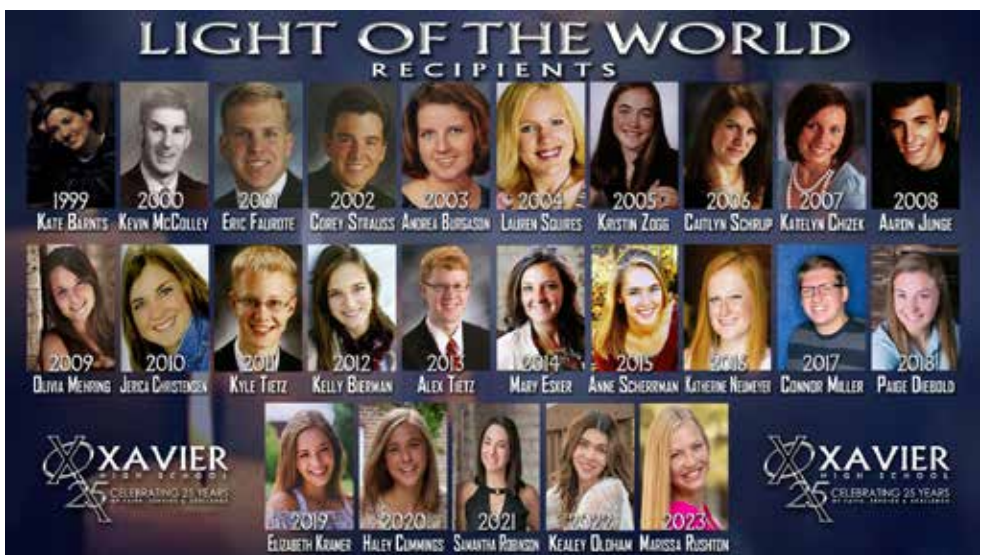
Additionally, XHS alumnus/graphic artist, Connor Miller (X17), has designed wall graphic murals of various saints (which include quotes from those saints). They will soon be installed on the "pillars" aligning our hallways.

Light of the World Alumni Return Home

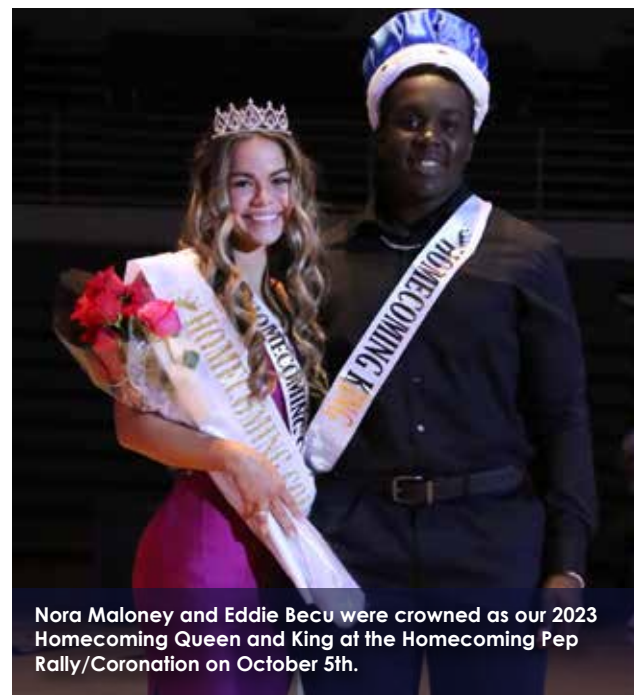
We were blessed to have some of our "Light of the World" award alumni return home for our Homecoming Mass on October 4th. Thank you to Fr. Kyle Tietz (X11), Fr. Aaron Junge (X08), Jerica Christensen (X10), Connor Miller (X17), Anne Scherrman (X15), Eric Faurote (X01), and Paige Diebold (X18) for "coming home" to celebrate with us!



The Light of the World is Xavier's highest honor, which is given to a senior who has lived out his or her Baptismal calling for living an 'exemplary life of service and sacrifice with strong faith -- and who proudly lives that faith daily in word and action. Each of our special alumni guests processed to the altar prior to Mass with lit candles as a symbol of their honor, the example they set for future generations, and the higher purpose to which we are all called to live. Our Light of the World honorees were presented with a commemorative XHS 25th anniversary pin at a reception following the Mass.



Not only were we blessed with the presence of Fr. Ben Valentine (X14), who celebrated our Homecoming Mass with us, but also with the presence of Fr. Kyle Tietz (X11), Fr. Dennis Conway (X09), and Fr. Jake Dunne, who all concelebrated. Fr. Aaron Junge (X08) also joined us following Mass.



Nora Maloney and Eddie Becu were crowned as our 2023 Homecoming Queen and King at the Homecoming Pep Rally/Coronation on October 5th.

An 'Xceptional Fall at Xavier

Xavier students are off and running in the 2023-2024 school year. Here are just a few updates about some of the 'xtraordinary things that are happening!



The Xavier Volleyball team punched its ticket to the state tournament for the eighth consecutive season. The Saints advanced to the state quarterfinal round under the direction of first-year head coach/alumna, Amy (Olberding) Weiland (X16).



Xavier Cross Country sophomore, Mia Deegan, punched her ticket to the 2023 state meet where she finished in the Top 50 overall.



The Xavier Boys Golf team completed one of the program's most statistically impressive seasons under first-year head coach, Brandon Schiltz. The Saints advanced to the 2023 Class 4A state tournament.



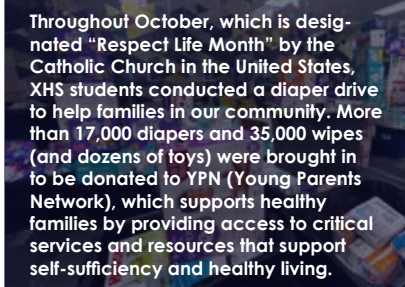
Longtime Xavier Boys Wrestling assistant coach, Henry Reicks, was named the first head coach of Xavier Girls Wrestling here at Xavier. 2023-2024 marks the first year Xavier will offer girls wrestling.



Xavier Football qualified for the state football playoffs and advanced to the quarterfinal round. The Saints also earned a district championship with their 7-2 regular season record.



Xavier Football head coach, Duane Schulte (L80), was awarded the IHSAA Certificate of Appreciation in October 2023. Coach Schulte was recognized for his dedication to preparing his students and players for adult life. Awarding this certificate to Coach Schulte is Grant Helmle (X24)/IHSAA intern.



Throughout October, which is designated "Respect Life Month" by the Catholic Church in the United States, XHS students conducted a diaper drive to help families in our community. More than 17,000 diapers and 35,000 wipes (and dozens of toys) were brought in to be donated to YPN (Young Parents Network), which supports healthy families by providing access to critical services and resources that support self-sufficiency and healthy living.





« Congratulations to Coach Jess Novotny and Xavier Dance Team on earning a state title in Class X Pom at the IS-DTA Championships! The Saints also earned 2nd Place in Hip Hop and 3rd Place in Jazz. Additionally, XDT earned the Team Academic Award as well!



On November 8th, Xavier students, teachers/staff, and parents observed our traditional Community Service Day by fanning out across the area to lend a hand to home owners, parishes, and local organizations.



Earlier this fall, area professionals from across various industries shared their time with Xavier seniors, conducting mock job interviews to help further prepare our Saints for life after high school.

« Congratulations to Mr. Chad Allard and the Xavier High School Bands Marching Saints on earning the program's 11th consecutive Division 1 rating at the 2023 State Marching Band Festival in October.



« Punching Their Tickets!

A number of Saints have earned a trip to State as individuals in their various activities:

BAND

- Ben Allard (Trombone)
- Sarah Garbe (Euphonium)
- Sophia Kepros (Trumpet)

CHOIR

- Davis Robe (Bass)

GIRLS SWIMMING

- Lilly Ancil (200 Med. Relay, 50 Free, 100 Fly, 400 Free Relay)
- Sarah Foerster (200 Free Relay)
- Maria Trotta (200 Med. Relay, 50 Free, 100 Free, 400 Free Relay)

DANCE

- Olivia Neal (State Soloist)
- Sophie Beenken (State Soloist)



New Xavier principal, Lynn Holverson, and Xavier maintenance staff member, Paul Suedkamp, helped mount the 25-Year banners hanging outside our main entrance.



New Faces in 2023-2024!

We welcome our new principal, Lynn Holverson, and our new chaplain, Fr. Jacob Dunne, to Xavier!

DONORS MAKING AN IMPACT!

Xavier Donor Funds Make Lasting Impact

Several generous supporters of the Xavier High School Foundation have created specific donor funds to help support students, faculty, staff, and a variety of programs and activities. We'd like to highlight a few in case you or your family would like to contribute toward one of these existing funds or have an idea for a future need.



Cousins Making a Difference!
Bruce Erusha & Peggy Erusha

Steve Erusha Employee Relief Fund

In 2022, the Steve Erusha Employee Relief Fund was created. Named in honor of longtime Xavier supporter and parent, Steve Erusha who passed away in 2022, this fund's purpose is to help an employee (and/or employee's family) financially when experiencing an unexpected financial burden. That could mean anything from outstanding utility bills, rent/mortgage payments, repair for a vehicle, or gas/lodging when facing an emergency situation.

Steve's cousin Bruce Erusha shared the inspiration behind setting up the fund in Steve's memory. "During the Covid challenges I was introduced to a program at Mercy Medical Center which provided assistance

to their employees who were facing unexpected financial emergencies and needed assistance," he said. "During Steve's life he and I had varied discussions about the lessons our family and mentors had taught us, and how grateful we were that they willingly shared their time, talents and treasures with us. We also talked about the impact education and church had on our lives, and the many sacrifices teachers, priests, religious orders and school employees make to our community."

"So after Steve's passing, I contacted his wife Peggy Erusha and talked with her about establishing a fund at Xavier High School in his memory to assist individuals within the Xavier Community who found themselves facing an unexpected financial need but without the resources to meet that need. Peggy embraced the idea and joined me to help establish an endowment."

Bruce said the focus of this fund to provide a source for temporary assistance and a small helping hand when a catastrophic financial need arises due to unexpected events such as a sickness, natural disaster or another type of emergency is a wonderful tribute to Steve. "We have all experienced tough financial situations whether it was the flood of 2008, the Derecho in 2020, Covid in 2021, an auto accident, a medical emergency, or a sudden death in the family. etc. This fund is there to make those times a little less stressful and give the recipient an opportunity to meet the unexpected challenge they face."

Having this fund available adds to the tight-knit feel of the Xavier Community, he added. "We are continuously reminded by Xavier High School that Xavier is a Community and we are all a part of it," Bruce said. "This Fund is just one small way we can help...it is a safety net for that person that has no other alternative. We hope this fund will continue to grow and evolve, and my personal hope is the fund will someday be open to families' of Xavier students and/or employees in all Xavier Catholic Schools."

DONORS MAKING AN IMPACT!



Jacob Sires^{X23} Lead with Your Heart Fund

In 2023, Hilary and Paul Ruffalo created the Jacob Sires Lead With Your Heart Fund. Named after Xavier graduate Jacob Sires (X23), who had a record setting year being named 5-time Outstanding Male Soloist during his senior show choir season, the fund helps support the costs of the show choir program.

"We were fortunate enough to experience Jacob's solo from the opening parent performance right through the year-end closer," said Paul. "Not surprisingly, he improved each and every time, and his clean sweep of the solo awards was genuinely expected. A perfect season deserved a life-long accolade. The fact that his entire family are genuinely beautiful people was icing on the cake for the fund."

"And while Sires is a generational talent, others will certainly come along," added Paul. "Our hope is this fund will allow Xavier to continue to grow and support talented performers."

He noted that the arts need more support, as costs to put the programs together are ever increasing. "We hope these funds open up the door to additional donations so Xavier Show Choir can start making their wishes come true," he said.

Show Choir Director, Phil Schroetter, was honored to present this newly named fund to the Sires family at the end of season banquet and expressed that there are no shortage of opportunities to leverage this Fund.



Other Opportunities...

While these are a few highlighted Funds, which can be added to by anyone wanting to increase the funds available to help those key areas, there are also ample opportunities to add to or establish funds. For example, the BPA Scholarship, created by Tom and Mary Beth Binder, which offers a Business Professional Association Scholarship intended to pay for a portion, or all, of a current Xavier student's expense to attend state and/or national BPA conferences. Or the Innovation Fund, created by supporter Steve Adams, which is intended to be used for sparking an interest and/or creating opportunity to elevate knowledge, expertise, or even equipment to better programs in science and activities.

There are more than 50 Named Endowed Scholarships at Xavier, and these are critical in increasing the endowment at Xavier for longtime success. Some examples of endowed named scholarships include James and Brenda Clancy Endowed Scholarship, the Dick and Kitty Breitbach Endowed Scholarship, Will Richmond Memorial Endowed Scholarship, and the Karen Schulte (R75) Endowed Scholarship. These funds help build the endowment and honor special people, and in turn allow the Xavier Foundation to provide needed financial assistance to Xavier High School students and their families.

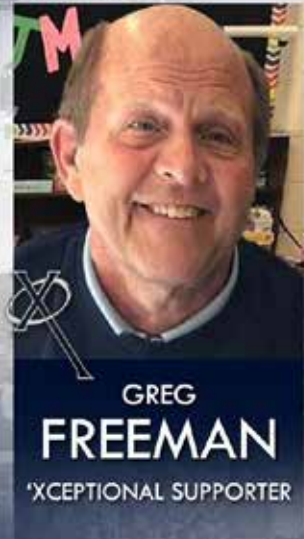
While each donor has an individual motivation for creating a fund through the Xavier Foundation, they each make a lasting impact on the school and its students. They also hope to inspire others to give as well, whether creating their own named fund or contributing to the ones they have created to help support these funds in even bigger ways.



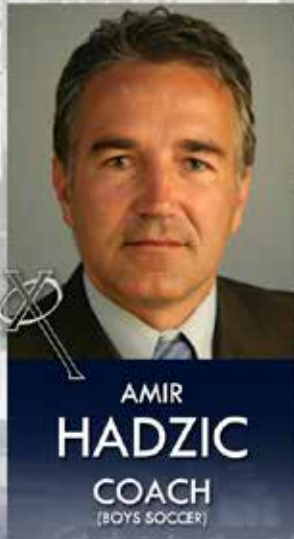
For more information about these funds, please reach out to Mary Harken, Advancement Director of the Xavier High School Foundation at (319) 378-4571 or mharken@xavierfoundation.org.



2023 ALUMNI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



GREG FREEMAN
'XCEPTIONAL SUPPORTER



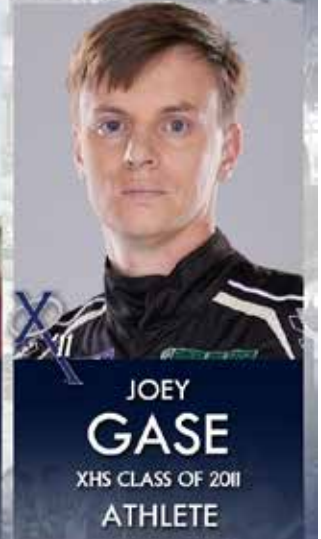
AMIR HADZIC
COACH
(BOYS SOCCER)



JAMES NOVAK
RHS CLASS OF 1965
'XCEPTIONAL SUPPORTER



AMANDA (COVINGTON) BREEDEN
XHS CLASS OF 2004
ATHLETE



JOEY GASE
XHS CLASS OF 2011
ATHLETE

Welcome to the Hall of Fame!

During Xavier's Homecoming football game on October 6, 2023, we welcomed these five 'xceptional individuals into the LaSalle-Regis-Xavier Alumni Hall of Fame: Amanda (Covington) Breeden (X04), Greg Freeman, Joey Gase (X11), Amir Hadzic, and Jim Novak (R65). A reception was hosted in the Schubert Commons for our inductees and their guests. Jim Novak was unable to join us, but we were able to present him with his award later in November. Congratulations to all five on their well-deserved Hall of Fame inductions!



2023 Alumni Hall of Fame inductees (L-R):
Amanda (Covington) Breeden (X04), Greg Freeman,
Joey Gase (X11), and Amir Hadzic.



Find full bios of our 2023 inductees and additional information about the Alumni Hall of Fame (including a nomination form) at:

XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/HOF



2023 Alumni Hall of Fame inductee:
Jim Novak (R65)



Record Turn Out for Alumni Basketball Tournament



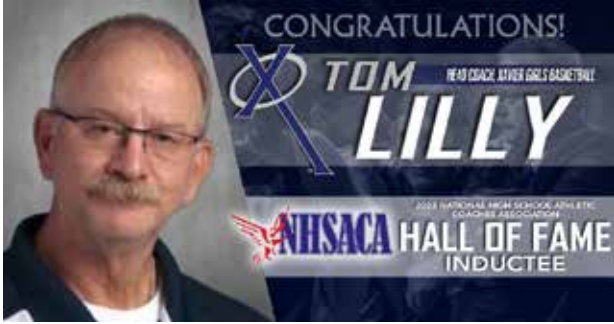
On November 25th, the LaSalle-Regis-Xavier Alumni Association hosted its 15th annual Alumni Basketball Tournament at Xavier with a record amount of teams participating: Four men's teams (Team Tenderloin, Team Banners, Covid Kids, and The Young & The Restless) and three women's teams (The OG's, 5th Year Seniors, and Lilly's Angels). The women played a round robin that ended in a three-way tie, while the men played a semifinal/consolation/championship format. It was the Brad Joens (R96)-captained "Team Tenderloin" claiming the championship for the sixth time in the last seven tournaments with their 74-51 championship victory over Team Banners, extending the reign of their dynasty. Thank you to all our alumni who participated in the tournament and to all who our guests who joined us. A special thank you to Alumni Association board members Brad Joens (R96), Maggie (Berntsen) Roling (X00), Jim Fitzpatrick (L94), and Casey O'Donnell (L97) for helping to make this event happen!



First Alumni Women's Tennis Tournament

Thank you to all our alumni who participated in our first ever Women's Alumni Tennis Tournament on August 12, 2023! Special appreciation to event organizer/Alumni Association board member, Cassandra (Chalhoub) Kotek (X09), and Elizabeth (Hoffmann) Wright (X10) for making this tournament possible! Stay tuned for 2024 tournament dates.

Professional Updates & Accolades



Xavier Girls Basketball head coach, **Tom Lilly (R73)**, was named to the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame at the NHSACA Conference in Lincoln, NE this past summer.



Xavier Football head coach, **Duane Schulte (L80)**, served as the head coach of the North Team for the Iowa Shrine Bowl All-Star Classic in July 2023 at UNI.



Jake Wegmann (X05) has been named the Executive Chef at new brewery/restaurant Field Day Brewing Co. in North Liberty.



Molly LaKose (X06) was honored as the Corridor Business Journal's "40 Under 40" in 2023. Molly serves as Leadership Support Specialist at Van Meter.



Cara Reilly (X12) was honored as the Corridor Business Journal's "40 Under 40" in 2023. Cara serves as Coordinator of Volunteerism at Mount Mercy University.



Madison Recker (X15), a graduate of the University of Iowa College of Law, is practicing as an attorney at Willems Law Office and Mediation Center in Cedar Rapids.



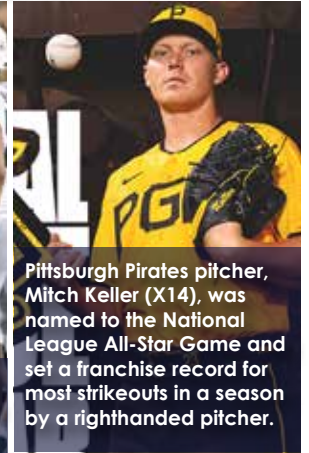
Miyako Coffey (X21) was recently named the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association's Female Athlete of the Week for her exceptional performance on the women's tennis team at Hope College.



Xavier alumni representing at the Archdiocese of Dubuque's Convocation for priests in June 2023 (L-R): Fr. Jeffrey Frieden (X15), Fr. Kyle Tietz (X11), Fr. Ben Valentine (X14), Fr. Jacob Rouse (X09), Fr. Aaron Junge (X08), and Fr. Dennis Conway (X09).



Iowa Hawkeye Football's Ethan Hurkett (X20) and Quinn Schulte (X19) celebrate a key fumble recovery to secure Iowa's victory over Michigan State earlier this season.



Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher, Mitch Keller (X14), was named to the National League All-Star Game and set a franchise record for most strikeouts in a season by a righthanded pitcher.



Scott Takes (R89), owner of Underground Art Studios in Cedar Rapids, was commissioned as the latest artist for the nonprofit, Murals and More, to complete a mural downtown Cedar Rapids. Takes is known nationally for his airbrush work on machines and motorcycles as an accomplished painter and muralist. One of his most recognizable public installations in Cedar Rapids is the mural 'Next Nature' at Fix Salon in NewBo. Takes' latest mural can be found on the Sacred Cow Tavern, downtown Cedar Rapids.



Religious Vocations



Colm Larkin (X12) entered Priesthood on May 27, 2023, and serves the Archdiocese of Kansas City of Kansas. Larkin is in a dual role as the parochial vicar at The Church of the Ascension and the chaplain of St. Thomas Aquinas High School; both in Overland Park, Kansas.



Jeff Frieden (X15) was ordained as a priest on May 28, 2023, at St. Pius X parish in Cedar Rapids. Jeff is now serving the Archdiocese of Dubuque as the Associate Pastor at Holy Family in Dubuque.

Recent Class Reunions



The Xavier Class of 2018 celebrated their 5th Class Reunion in August 2023.



The last high school graduating class of St. Patrick's (1963) held their 60th reunion in June 2023.

Weddings



Chad Eichler (X14) and Erin Pitz (X17) were united in marriage on July 29, 2023, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Hiawatha.

New Arrivals



Welcome Future Saint, Lance Trimble Lux! Born on February 28, 2023, to proud parents **Nate (X15)** and Taylor Lux.



Welcome Future Saint, Zayden Edouard Booto. Born on May 29, 2023, to proud parents Edward and **Bailyn (Bastian) Booto (X14)**.



Welcome Future Saint, Robert Thomas Lehman. Born on June 21, 2023, to proud parents, Maggie and **Brian Lehman (X03)**.



Welcome Future Saint, Charles Kyle Goerdt. Born on October 16, 2023, to proud parents Kyle and **Ellen (Jasper) Goerdt (X15)**; and adoring sister, Lucy.

Upcoming Class Reunions



SAVE THE DATE!
LaSalle Class of 1979

Reunion: Saturday, August 3, 2024
Location: TBD
Further details to be released at a later date.



Planning a Reunion?

Let the Xavier Foundation know so we can share your event details and assist you with contact information! Send your information to advancement@xavierfoundation.org OR call the Foundation at 319.378.4571.



Share Your Good News!

We would love to share your updates in our newsletters (weddings, new arrivals, professional updates/promotions, earned awards, etc.). Send your good news to the Xavier Foundation at advancement@xavierfoundation.org or head to XavierSaints.org/Alumni.

New Alumni Board Members

The LaSalle-Regis-Xavier Alumni Association is excited to welcome these new members to its board:



Jason Miller (R98)



Casey O'Donnell (L97)



Claire (Christianson) Kellen (X15)

The Alumni Association assists with hosting various events throughout the year, including the Alumni Hall of Fame induction, Alumni Basketball Tournament, Alumni Bike Ride, Alumni Tennis Tournament, Memorial Mass, and more.

If you are a Regis, LaSalle, or Xavier alum and you are interested in joining our Alumni Association Board or volunteer, contact the Xavier Foundation at advancement@xavierfoundation.org or 319.378.4571.

Alumni Business of the Month

Each month, the Xavier Foundation and LaSalle-Regis-Xavier Alumni Association spotlight an alumni-owned/operated business. Here is a look at some of our recent Businesses of the Month as Alumni Association President, Brad Joens (R96), and Alumni Association Vice President, Maggie (Berntsen) Roling (X00) present each business with their special recognition...



Schumacher Carpets

Alumni Owners/Operators:
Tom Miller (L76), Chris Miller (L98), & Nic Miller (X00)



Total Rejuvenation

Alumni Owner/Operator:
Josh Giles (X12)



Jersey Mike's

Alumni Owner/Operator:
Matt Erusha (X02)

Drees (X00) is New Foundation Board Member



The Xavier Foundation welcomes alumna, **Maria (Johnson) Drees (X00)** as its newest board member!

Celebrate and Re-Connect:

Congratulations to our Xavier Alumni Stay-in-Touch Survey Winners!

As a school that works to stay connected with our alumni, we are always in pursuit of new addresses, phone numbers, emails, and news about our alumni. Before Homecoming 2023, we sent a postcard to all the addresses we have in our database requesting updates for the past 25 years of Xavier alumni. Of the survey respondents, five winners were drawn to win a \$25 Amazon gift card. Congratulations to our Xavier Alumni Stay-In-Touch Survey Winners:

- Latisha (Roberts) Michel (X99)**
- Katie (Bellendier) Schons (X02)**
- Andrea (Eichler) French (X04)**
- Grant Hunt (X13)**
- Carson Jeffery (X22)**



MISSED YOUR CHANCE AT A GIFT CARD?

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO CONNECT WITH US AND FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A COMMEMORATIVE XAVIER 40 oz. INSULATED TRAVEL MUG TUMBLER TO BE GIVEN AWAY AT THE END OF 2023.

Learn more about these businesses and other past Businesses of the Month at XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/ALUMNIBUSINESS

Memorial Mass 2023

On November 15, 2023, the Alumni Association and Xavier Foundation hosted our annual Memorial Mass where we remember alumni, faculty/staff, and special friends who have gone to their eternal rest. Names of the deceased were displayed before and after the Mass, with a special reception for our guests who joined us following. A special thank you to our friends at Oscar's Restaurant for providing brunch during the reception.



WE REMEMBER... IN MEMORY OF ALUMNI & FRIENDS

We pray for the departed as well as their loved ones.

ALUMNI

- Edna (McCune) Pesek (SW43)
October 2, 1925 – February 22, 2023
- Elizabeth (Rock) Laiche (SP46)
September 22, 1928 – August 8, 2023
- Marilyn (Formanek) Cooke (SW48)
June 11, 1931 – April 15, 2023
- Doris (Gibson) Noel (IC48)
March 14, 1930 – June 23, 2023
- Irene (Gibson) Richards (SP50)
April 18, 1932 – April 2, 2023
- John Wilcox (IC50)
Entered eternal rest September 9, 2023
- Patricia (Harrington) Day (IC55)
October 21, 1936 – March 5, 2023
- Marglene (Cosgrove) O'Rourke (SP55)
September 11, 1935 – September 5, 2023
- Elsie (Rajtora) Schillig (SP56)
March 2, 1938 – June 24, 2023
- Eugene Smith (SP56)
September 15, 1938 – July 7, 2023
- James Stobaugh (IC56)
June 15, 1936 – May 27, 2023
- Jananne Baldridge (SP58)
February 12, 1940 – March 9, 2023
- William Burke (R60)
March 15, 1942 – August 6, 2023
- Joseph Zachar, Jr. (R60)
September 30, 1942 – June 30, 2023
- Lawrence Donner (SP60)
September 7, 1942 – November 6, 2023
- James Bibby (R61)
June 20, 1943 – July 4, 2023
- Margaret (Neal) Barthelme (R63)
December 1, 1945 – April 23, 2023
- Roger Glubka (R63)
May 19, 1944 – May 30, 2023
- Peter Millis (SP63)
December 12, 1945 – August 9, 2023
- Linda L. Schimberg (R63)
March 27, 1946 – May 18, 2023
- Judith (Trainor) Kelly (R64)
January 16, 1946 – April 6, 2023
- Thomas Hronek (R65)
May 18, 1947 – July 8, 2023
- Paul Hostak (L66)
July 12, 1948 – August 1, 2023
- Maureen (Boston) Boots (L67)
September 25, 1949 – April 2, 2023
- John Heasley (R67)
July 25, 1949 – April 11, 2023
- Anne (Taylor) Schmidt (R67)
August 6, 1949 – June 11, 2023
- John Siepman (L70)
May 26, 1952 – May 14, 2023
- John Harris (L71)
March 29, 1953 – July 18, 2023
- Steven Zamastil (L71)
August 20, 1953 – June 28, 2023
- Jacqueline Wherry (R74)
August 30, 1956 – August 31, 2023
- Anne (Foley) McCormick (R76)
April 3, 1958 – May 4, 2023
- Scott Smith (L77)
April 7, 1959 – June 26, 2023
- Deborah (Nunemaker) Bierman (R78)
January 27, 1959 – March 5, 2023
- David Mochal (R78)
March 31, 1960 – June 6, 2023
- Randi Ruzicka (L78)
August 4, 1960 – June 14, 2023
- Beth (Miller) Gadegaonkar (R79)
October 3, 1960 – March 8, 2023

- Michael Shea (L81)
January 14, 1963 – August 28, 2023
- Cathy Kelchen (R82)
Entered eternal rest July 2, 2023
- Caroline (Knudten) Godfrey (R85)
October 17, 1966 – December 18, 2022
- Joe Saari (R90)
August 21, 1971 – May 18, 2023
- Andrea (Pettyjohn) Henley (L94)
January 13, 1976 – September 5, 2023
- Scott Shoger (L98)
September 23, 1979 – June 3, 2023
- Stacey (Gibbs) Lehr (X99)
September 16, 1980 – June 2, 2023
- Tyler Reid (X20)
December 8, 2001 – November 27, 2023

SPECIAL FRIENDS

- Claire Sharp
November 9, 1940 – November 17, 2022
- Janis Kazimour
September 11, 1935 – September 5, 2023
- Tony Moeder
July 14, 1971 – April 4, 2023
- Jack Carstensen
Entered eternal rest October 9, 2023

FACULTY & STAFF

- Victor Breemeersch
October 31, 1939 – April 11, 2023
- Suellen (Karl) Flynn (L71)
August 8, 1953 – May 4, 2023
- Andrea (Pettyjohn) Henley (L94)
January 13, 1976 – September 5, 2023
- Randy Ray
November 15, 1955 – September 15, 2023



The Xavier family mourns the loss of beloved XHS parent, Regis Middle School teacher, and LaSalle High School alumna, Andrea (Pettyjohn) Henley (L94), who entered her eternal rest on September 5, 2023. As a family of faith, we work to lift Mrs. Henley's family, friends, and the many she has impacted as a teacher over the past 25 years in our prayers.

Thanks to a very generous donation made by a family who wanted to honor former XHS parent Tony Moeder, the bridge that links our main campus to our baseball/softball complex will now be named the "Tony Moeder Bridge."



THE NAMES OF OUR DECEASED ALUMNI, SPECIAL FRIENDS AND FACULTY/STAFF ARE ENTERED INTO OUR MEMORIAL BOOK IN THE XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL CHAPEL.

Additionally, these names are featured as part of the Xavier's annual Memorial Mass where students, teachers, staff and guests remember those who have gone to their eternal rest and lift their loved ones in prayer.

XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/MEMORIAL-MASS



XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION
P.O. Box 10956
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Parents: If this issue of the Common Thread is addressed to your son or daughter who has established a permanent residence, please notify us of that new address.

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Help Us Celebrate 25 Years of Xavier High School!

We invite you to join us throughout the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year as we celebrate 25 years of 'Xcellence and look forward as the Saints march on in to the next 25 years. Head to XavierSaints.org/25 to learn about all the ways you can help us celebrate this milestone and enjoy video content from our "25 on 25" series as we spotlight some of the 'Xceptional things Xavier alumni are doing in the world as well as take a moment to reflect on the past 25 years of Xavier High School.

XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/25