Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Also:
2 Philly 4 Francis
Poland: World Youth Day 2016
Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

An anonymous donation allows three of Prep’s presidents — Fr. Tom Neitzke, SJ, Fr. Tom Merkel, SJ and Fr. Tim Lannon, SJ — and several others the rare opportunity to visit the Holy Land.
I am delighted to bring you the spring 2016 Creighton Prep magazine that highlights the 2015 pilgrimages taken by Prep community members to the Holy Land and the World Meeting of Families as well as the preparations taking place with those heading to World Youth Day 2016 this summer in Poland.

Pilgrimages are a key component of Jesuit formation where novices are sent with very little money for many weeks at a time to faraway locations. There, they live at a subsistence level to learn the hardships of the people they are missioned to help and enjoy the generosity of strangers that becomes a symbol of God at work in their lives.

I, for one, am hoping new principal Jim Bopp’s journey from Brophy Prep in Phoenix to its brother school in Omaha will be less arduous but perhaps no less transformative for all of us who are excited at the science teaching and technical background he brings with him. Jim will begin his work on July 1, and John Naatz will assist him in the transition where needed.

I am also thrilled at the prospect of our first group of Loyola Scholars arriving this summer to begin their own trek toward academic and social success in a college preparatory environment. The Heider family has given Prep a new opportunity to set another bar of excellence through this endeavor, and I will be forever grateful to them for it.

Also in the works is a new, complete and balanced full-service dining program that will begin in the fall after renovations to the Henry L. Sullivan, SJ Campus Center. We’re partnering with Flik Independent School Dining to create a lunch service that centers on daily, fresh-made food as well as nutrition education. It promises to be another milestone in our health and wellness program and an important step forward in caring for the whole person.

In addition, I will be working with the Board of Trustees on revising the campus master plan as well as planning strategically over a longer time horizon to position Prep even more favorably while keeping tuition reasonable. Of course, all of these initiatives, present and future, take enormous resources, and your support of us through our Advancement Office efforts now led by Rick Berger ’76 is and will be vital to our success. Rick joined us on April 1 from Cosentry, and I encourage you to get to know him.

In closing, I want to thank all of you for making my move from Jesuit Academy to Prep such an amazing passage over the course of my first year in the president’s office.

In Christ,

Fr. Tom Neitzke, SJ
President
Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
Three Prep presidents share their reflections of the trip they took together last fall to the Holy Land.

2 Philly 4 Francis

Poland: World Youth Day 2016

2015 Loyola Dinner of Honor and Distinction

2016 Athletic Hall of Fame

Jesuit Spotlight: Fr. Jim Sinnerud, SJ
Born in Los Angeles and a graduate of Stanford University, Fr. Jim Sinnerud, SJ considered a career in the United States Marine Corps before a call from an archdiocesan priest sent him down the path of religious service.

Please Remember
A Letter from Raoul Jacques DeLier ‘37

CP Sideline Crew

Here & There

Alumni Basketball

Fall/Winter Sports

Prep Grads Living the Mission
Thomas J. Pleiss ‘59
Jeremiah M. Mans ‘94
Robert W. Leddy ‘13
J. Stephen Haney ‘87

JUNE 17-19
Reunion Weekend for the class of 1976
Omaha locations

AUGUST 26-27
Omaha locations

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
CP Trivia Night
Henry L. Sullivan, SJ Campus Center

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
Men for Others Golf Classic
Omaha Country Club

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
14th Annual Ignatian Dinner presented by the Jesuit Partnership Council of Omaha, Creighton Prep and the Wisconsin Province of the Society of Jesus
Henry L. Sullivan, SJ Campus Center

SEPTEMBER 23-24
Reunion Weekend for the class of 1961
Omaha locations

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
Creighton Prep Sports Night featuring Peter Jacobsen
The Heider Center

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
Homecoming Football Game
Burke Stadium

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6
Open House for prospective Prep students and their families
Creighton Prep

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Alumni Memorial Mass
Henry L. Sullivan, SJ Campus Center

NOVEMBER 14–DECEMBER 9
Christmas eBASH
www.PrepBASH.com/eBASH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
Midnight Mass
Henry L. Sullivan, SJ Campus Center

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PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND
After his conversion and before he founded the Society of Jesus, St. Ignatius of Loyola went on a pilgrimage in the hopes of imitating those of St. Francis and St. Dominic where the goal was to learn to trust God.

The way Ignatius achieved that trust was to essentially give away everything he had, live modestly and beg his way to the Holy Land where he longed to live. During the journey, the former soldier even laid down his sword at a Benedictine monastery as a symbol of his decision to lay down worldly things in the service of the Lord. He also went through three days of reconciliation as a way to become totally open to God’s will.

Last fall, three Prep presidents—Fr. Tom Neitzke, SJ, Fr. Tom Merkel, SJ and Fr. Tim Lannon, SJ—along with two other area Jesuits (Fr. Dennis McNeilly, SJ and Brother Jerry Peltz, SJ) and 19 diocesan priests from around the Omaha area were given a rare opportunity by an anonymous donor to make a pilgrimage. It would be a pilgrimage to the Holy Land most had never seen in person, to experience its wonders and to reflect on what it might mean for their understanding of faith and the understanding they would provide to their followers through discussions and sermons going forward.

The group settled for the first three nights in a hotel in Tiberias, a city in northern Israel on the western edge of the Sea of Galilee within easy reach of many of the sites where Jesus did much of his public ministry in the last three years of his life.

During their eight days of travel in Israel, they were guided to these sites and informed on them by Fr. David Walthen OFM, a Franciscan priest of the Holy Land province who specializes in guiding pilgrims on tours of the area. The Franciscans manage access to the many places there that hold special significance for Roman Catholics.

“His presence made a huge difference,” said Fr. Neitzke. “He had such a deep and rich historical understanding of every site and every church. He made the trip, and his knowledge and care for us were great.” Fr. Merkel also described him as a “fantastic” guide, and Fr. Lannon echoed both sentiments. “He was outstanding. He made the trip so remarkable because this was at least his 200th tour, and every place we went, they called him ‘Father David.’ They knew him, and we got in to places quickly.”

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Their time in the Holy Land was split almost equally between days in and around the Sea of Galilee early on and a latter half in the Jerusalem area. As they traveled, it was common for the group to recite Gospel passages that pertained to the site and the story honored there.

The sites associated with Jesus’ ministry made an immediate impact on the Prep presidents. “I think the most moving thing for me and probably the most special place to me was the Sea of Galilee,” noted Fr. Neitzke. “There it was, the Sea of Galilee, and a group of us were on a boat and read the Gospel of the calming of the storm. It was an overcast day then the sky opened, the sun came out and you could really imagine what it was like with Jesus there.” In his recollection of that time, Fr. Merkel remarked on the significance of seeing and understanding the geographical locations where Jesus traveled. “So, when I read scripture and it says, ‘He went to the other side,’” I know what that means now and what it might have taken.” He was also struck by the limited scope of the area where Jesus preached, with the Sea of Galilee just eight miles wide and 13 miles long. “It’s especially impressive when you think about how Christianity has expanded beyond this very small part of the world,” he said.

Also in those early days, the group’s first stop at the Church of the Transfiguration really caught the attention of Fr. Lannon. It was there that Jesus shined in rays of light to a group of apostles the Transfiguration really caught the attention of Fr. Lannon. It was there that Jesus shined in rays of light to a group of apostles of that time, Fr. Merkel remarked on the significance of seeing and understanding the geographical locations where Jesus traveled. “So, when I read scripture and it says, ‘He went to the other side,’” I know what that means now and what it might have taken.” He was also struck by the limited scope of the area where Jesus preached, with the Sea of Galilee just eight miles wide and 13 miles long. “It’s especially impressive when you think about how Christianity has expanded beyond this very small part of the world,” he said.

As they traveled, a wonderful camaraderie developed between the Jesuits and the diocesan priests. “We were all together as one community,” said Fr. Neitzke. “It was also special to be with Tom, Tim, Jerry and Dennis since we share a common vocation within our vocation. It was fun in the evenings when we got back to reminisce, to talk about things and share spiritually, and to celebrate Mass together.”

In and around Jerusalem, a city steeped in religious history and significance to four faiths (Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Baha’i), there were a number meaningful stops. Among them, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Chapel of the Ascension, Gehenna, Bethlehem, Gethsemane and the Western Wall.

“One of the most powerful experiences I had was at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre,” said Fr. Neitzke. “Here’s the tomb of Christ where he was resurrected. Our faith is based on that moment and to be able to celebrate the Eucharist there was very moving.” Fr. Lannon mentioned it as very important to him, too. “Under one roof was Calvary and the tomb where Jesus was laid to rest after the crucifixion, and we had Mass very close to the site where we could touch the stones of Calvary.”

Outside the Old City, a trip to the Chapel of the Ascension was especially compelling to the Prep presidents for it was here long ago that St. Ignatius, a man of scrupulous detail, sought to understand exactly in which direction Jesus was facing when he ascended into heaven from a rock that, tradition holds, has an imprint of Christ’s foot. “And here we were, five Jesuits and nearly 500 years later, trying to figure out the same thing,” recounted Fr. Neitzke.

Fr. Lannon also made note of the view they took in to Gehenna, now called the Valley of Hinnom and located south of Jerusalem. Though beautiful in its present form, in the time of Jesus it was a terrible place that burned with the fires of garbage and human waste. The Gospels note that Jesus referred to it as a symbol of the hell that awaited the wicked and the non-believers.

Fr. Merkel was especially moved by the visit to Bethlehem and the birthplace of Jesus that looked much different than the quaint, bucolic setting he imagined as a child. “At the site itself, there is a place where you can kneel down and venerate a rock where they believe Jesus was born,” he said. “Then you go just a few feet around the corner and see the cave hewn out of rock that they consider the manger. That was particularly powerful when you understand that God becomes human, spirit becomes flesh, and you say, ‘It happened here and I’m in the general space.’”

He also noted the power of being at Gethsemane near the Mount of Olives where Jesus was betrayed by Judas, an event that would lead to his persecution and death. “Today, there’s a wall that separates you from the actual garden,” said Fr. Merkel. “But from the garden you can see the journey that Jesus had to make across the Kidron Valley to enter the city (of Jerusalem), where he had to go, where Calvary is and the Holy Sepulchre.”

When asked if they felt the tensions between Israel and those in the West Bank that both borders and splits the city of Jerusalem, they mentioned the sight of a group of masked youth throwing rocks at Israeli guard towers and seeing Israeli soldiers at checkpoints as they journeyed into and out of areas in the occupied territory such as Bethlehem.

As for witnessing any tensions between the faiths at Jerusalem area holy sites, they noted the remains of an earlier arson attack on the Church of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes, a Christian site allegedly targeted by two Jewish extremists where Jesus is supposed to have performed the miracle. Also at the rooms of the Last Supper and at the nearby Tomb of King David, it was clear to them that these were Christian sites in an orthodox Jewish neighborhood where some may not enjoy the presence of Christians or the imagery they displayed there.

This was also true at the Western Wall, the holiest prayer site in Judaism where group members were welcome to add notes
of prayer between its famous stones and, at the same time, were softly encouraged not to wear Christian symbols that might offend very orthodox members of the Jewish faith. “So those tensions are there, and they are real. But never did I feel unsafe,” said Fr. Neitzke. “We could walk Jerusalem at night, and it was perfectly safe.”

In looking back on the trip, the Prep presidents were very thankful for the amazing opportunity it was to see the history of their Catholic faith up close, and they look forward to sharing their reflections on it for years to come.

“I’m so grateful that our benefactor was able to do something so wonderful for so many of us,” remarked Fr. Neitzke. “It was a privilege to go, a privilege to go with that group, and I think it’s a trip that will continue to give and give. In fact, when I was preparing my Christmas homily about Bethlehem, I was reliving the memories of being at that spot.” Fr. Lannon also said, “My life will be changed by this experience. I get excited just thinking about those points in the Gospel that mention one of the sites where I’ve been like Gehenna. It will change my preaching and my prayer as well.”

In addition to expressing his own gratitude for the experience, Fr. Merkel mentioned that he thought the trip was very beneficial to the diocesan priests “from a communal perspective” because they don’t get to “live together and spend time together the way they did” in the Holy Land. He also mentioned how great it was for all the travelers to be fully present to the trip without having to be the leaders or the authorities they are normally expected to be in matters of religious history and faith.
Theology teachers Kelly Barth and Mattie Olsen led six Prep students on a pilgrimage to Philadelphia in September 2015 to see Pope Francis and attend the World Meeting of Families that is a tradition started by Pope John Paul II. Held every three years in a different city since 1994, it is a celebration of marriage and the family that attracts the largest gathering of Catholic families anywhere in the world.

With the theme of “Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive,” the Philadelphia meeting consisted of both a Theological Adult Congress as well as a Youth Congress where speakers, breakout sessions and workshops helped explain the catechesis prepared for the event.

Earlier in the year when Mattie found out about the pope’s visit, she talked “immediately” with Campus Ministry and Theology Department colleagues as well as Principal John Naatz about the possibilities for a pilgrimage from Prep. Then a stroke of fate made the trip truly possible. “Within days, St. Joseph’s Prep (the Jesuit high school of Philadelphia) reached out to us and offered to host us,” noted Mattie. And the decision to go was made.

The school and its Church of the Gesu—conveniently located within walking distance of key meeting sites—would go on to host 300 pilgrims from 40 Jesuit high schools throughout the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico, employing the three themes of joy, encounter and mercy in its own programming that week.

A key highlight of the pilgrimage was the Festival of Families on Saturday night that included impromptu remarks by Pope Francis on the power of love to overcome challenges, testimonials by families from around the world on the presence of God in their lives and musical performances by artists such as tenor Andrea Bocelli and Christian music icon Steve Curtis Chapman.

This was followed by a very moving papal Mass on Sunday which, like the Festival of Families, was held on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. It was attended by over one million pilgrims.

“It is difficult, if not impossible, for me to compare a moment in my life to when the pope blessed everyone at the end of Mass on Sunday,” said senior Adam Mullin. “The feeling was indescribable, but one that will never be forgotten.” Classmate Patrick Delaney remembered Pope Francis’ homily on the meaning of family as one of his favorite moments of the week, and teacher Kelly Barth recalled as profound the silence of several minutes by such a large crowd, meditating on the word of God at the request of a bishop.

In looking back on his best memories of the trip, fellow senior Frank Masek was reminded of the moment when Pope Francis saw a boy in a wheelchair and asked the driver of the “popemobile” to stop the car so he could bless him as the child’s mother sobbed at the sight of it all.

In summarizing what the journey meant to him, Adam said, “I would undoubtedly make this trip ten times over. I hold the pilgrimage in high esteem because it showed me so many things about my personal faith and the universal Church that had not dawned on me before.”
POLAND
WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016
Your prayers and good wishes are requested for the 19 Prep sophomore and junior pilgrims and their moderators who will journey to Krakow, Poland in July 2016 to engage in World Youth Day, a tradition begun by Pope John Paul II in Rome in 1986 as a celebration of youth and their faith.

WYD 2016 will also mark a return to Poland for trip co-moderator Fr. Rob Kroll, SJ, the superior of the Jesuit community at Prep who also teaches theology and French among other duties. A graduate of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, Fr. Kroll was studying at the Centre Sèvres in Paris in 1991 when he traveled to Warsaw for a meeting with Jesuit scholastics from different provinces. After the meeting, they attended the WYD in Czestochowa along with over 1.5 million others.

“It was only two years after the Berlin Wall fell so there were all these eastern Europeans who could finally come,” said Fr. Kroll. “It was Pope John Paul (II)’s home country, too, so that was exciting as well.” Inspired by the experience, he went on to help three other groups make the pilgrimage to a WYD, including a Georgetown alumni group (to WYD 1997 in Paris) and two Marquette University High School groups (to WYD 2000 in Rome and WYD 2002 in Toronto).

International WYDs are held every two years with a meeting in Rome during the off years. In either setting, they are typically five-day events that start on a Tuesday. A large gathering with the pope usually begins the week and helps close it later at a Saturday evening vigil followed by a papal Mass on Sunday where the crowd can swell (for example, to 3 million in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2013). Each WYD also carries a unique theme throughout the week. This year, it’s the sixth Beatitude: “Blessed are the pure of heart, for they will see God.”

Between Tuesday and Saturday is a full slate of catechetical sessions by language as well as opportunities for adoration, reconciliation and many other events such as concerts and plays. Leading up to that week will be “days in the diocese” where, this summer, virtually every diocese in Poland will host pilgrims for additional catechesis.

“It’s very exciting for the students to be with peers who are on fire with the faith,” noted Fr. Kroll. “Then there’s the cultural exchange with people from around the world.” Visits to the Brandenburg Gate at the Berlin Wall, to the Black Madonna of Czestochowa and to the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Krakow are also on the Prep trip itinerary.

To prepare them for the adventure, Fr. Kroll and his co-moderators—theology teacher Paul Lawler ’01 (who also attended WYD 2000 in Rome), his fiancée Leah Latenser, science teacher Russell Walter and English teacher Karri Martin—have held periodic meetings with the Prep students on various topics such as how a pilgrimage differs from a vacation in intensity and the level of patience needed. “We’ll give them a packing list,” said Paul. “But they’ll be traveling fairly lightly and washing in sinks will be part of it.” A review of Polish history and culture was the focus of a recent meeting, followed later by discussions of the two patron saints of WYD 2016: St. Faustina and St. John Paul II.

To help cover the cost of the trip for themselves or another student who may be in greater need, the students are also expected to ask friends and relatives for financial assistance. If you would like to support these pilgrims with a modest donation, please contact Fr. Rob Kroll, SJ at rkrol@prep.creighton.edu.
Congratulations to the Loyola Dinner of Honor and Distinction Class of 2015

The **Alumnus of the Year** award is given each year to an individual who embodies the values Prep aspires to instill in its graduates through a commitment to living a life devoted to serving others. **Ronald N. Quinn '66** was honored as Creighton Prep’s 2015 Alumnus of the Year.

The **Hall of Fame** award is given each year to individuals who have displayed distinguished service to Prep as teachers, staff, coaches, alumni, parents or friends of Prep. The primary consideration is to honor individuals who have provided direct service to Prep and who are good examples of living personal lives of faith and service. **Fr. Bob Dufford, SJ ’61, Stephen W. “Steve” Monzu ’92 and Fr. Roc O’Connor, SJ ’67** were inducted into the 2015 Creighton Prep Hall of Fame.

The **Ancilla Domini** award is given each year to a woman characterized by her caring, nurturing and unselfish dedication to her faith, family and community. The celebrated life is an example of how to use to the fullest the gifts given to her by God. The 2015 Ancilla Domini award recipient was **Kathryn Sudyka**.

The **Sword of St. Ignatius** award is given to honor a person who has striven to demonstrate exemplary service for the Greater Glory of God (AMDG). This sword symbolizes the unique spiritual virtues associated with St. Ignatius of Loyola: courage, loyalty and service to the Catholic Church. **The Most Rev. George J. Lucas** received the first Sword of St. Ignatius bestowed by the school.
On Monday, March 7, Creighton Prep recognized the following for their outstanding contributions to the athletic program at the school. Their commitment, achievement and sense of sportsmanship set the standard for the young athletes who follow in their footsteps today.

Roman Roh '35 (dec.)
BASKETBALL, BASEBALL

Rich Moscrey '44 (dec.)
FOOTBALL, BASEBALL

Tom Dineen '67
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Tom Sutko '76
FOOTBALL

Brad Kucera '84
FOOTBALL, BASEBALL

Mickey Anderson '86
FOOTBALL

Dan Lohmeier '87
FOOTBALL, BASEBALL

Tim Ridder '95
FOOTBALL, BASEBALL, TRACK

Dudley Allen
MULTI-SPORT COACH

1994 Basketball Team

FRONT ROW L–R
Pete Coniglio '95, Erik Lauritsen '94, Scott Brag '95, Vince Pietro '96, Ben Fogarty '94, Tom Chapman '94

BACK ROW L–R
Dave Laughlin – assistant coach, TJ Pugh '95, Tim Ridder '95, Othello Meadows '94, Jim Esch '94, Mike Beacon '85 – trainer, Scott Sibbersen '68 – assistant coach

NOT PICTURED
Pat Brennan '94, James Brooks '95, Scott Hawk '74 – head coach, Ted Lipari '95, Kyle Peterson '94
Born in Los Angeles and a graduate of Stanford University, Fr. Jim Sinnerud, SJ considered a career in the United States Marine Corps before a call from an archdiocesan priest sent him down the path of religious service – a journey that has taken him from the West Coast to Europe, Canada and Creighton Prep.

The road traveled by Fr. Jim Sinnerud, SJ to teaching and coaching at Creighton Prep started in Los Angeles where he was born in 1937. At that time, his father was employed by National Shirt Shops, a coast-to-coast chain of men’s clothing stores, and his career there required the family to move fairly often, first to Phoenix for three years before a one-year return to LA that was followed by a two-year relocation to the San Joaquin Valley town of Porterville.

Near the end of the family’s time in Porterville, his father received a request from his company to manage a store that was opening in Portland, Oregon. So once again the Sinnerud family was on the move, but this time it would be for a permanent settling in Beaverton, Oregon, a community approximately 10 miles southwest of Portland where Jim entered 6th grade and, eventually, Beaverton High School, excelling in both academics and the sport of football until his graduation in 1955.

Because of his outstanding work in the classroom and on the gridiron, he was offered a football scholarship to Stanford University. There he played on both sides of the ball and, as a defensive back, routinely matched up in practice against one of the best passing offenses in college football, one that was led for part of that time by future College Football Hall of Fame quarterback and National Football League MVP John Brodie.

During his Stanford playing days, Jim also got to know teammates who had graduated from various Jesuit high schools, and he began learning about the Society of Jesus, even meeting with a Jesuit at nearby Santa Clara University at the suggestion of his freshman year roommate.

Jesuit High School in Portland was also founded while Jim was in college, and he remembers going there to ask a question of one of the priests. “So I came to be vaguely familiar with the Society,” he said. “And I thought, ‘If I ever wanted to be a priest, I think I would like to work in a high school.’”

He strongly considered the United States Marine Corps after graduating from Stanford but, during the application process, he received a call from an archdiocesan priest he knew from grade school, encouraging him to the religious life. A year later, he entered the Jesuit novitiate in Sheridan, Oregon and
became “absorbed” by the Spiritual Exercises. Jim then studied at Mount St. Michael outside Spokane, Washington, did his regency at Jesuit High School in Portland and attended the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, a time he remembers fondly today as “a transforming experience.”

After ordination at the Church of the Gesu there, service at Seattle Prep, additional studies at a theologate outside Frankfurt, Germany and time back in Portland at Jesuit High School, Fr. Jim Sinnerud, SJ studied French in Paris and completed his tertianship in Quebec, Canada. He then spent eight years teaching theology and coaching football at Brophy Prep in Phoenix before his hiring at CP in 1987.

At Prep, he became known as an outstanding teacher that also challenged his philosophy and theology students with exams that had multiple choices on top of multiple choices “so they had to get their facts right.” In addition to teaching, he continued to spread his football wisdom through his role as an assistant coach on various Prep teams.

In retirement now, he runs early every morning (and lifts four days per week), attends coaching clinics and is writing a defensive playbook while balancing work as a prefect, sacramental minister and substitute teacher. He also enjoys an annual trek to the Twin Cities where he takes in a Minnesota Vikings preseason game and discusses all things football with his former Stanford teammate Paul Wiggin, a consultant with the Vikings and longtime NFL coach.
Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will.
All I have and call my own. Whatever I have or hold, you have given me.
I restore it all to you and surrender it wholly to be governed by your will.
Give me only your love and grace and I am rich enough and ask for nothing more.

St. Ignatius of Loyola
Lawrence F. Mauro '74,
son of Robert '33 (deceased),
brother of Robert '67 (deceased), Jerry '77

David F. McCann '47,
father of Michael '91

Timothy P. McGowan '74,
brother of Mike '66

Bernard J. McGrath '51

Michael T. McKim '62

James E. MeKiney, Jr. '58

John P. Murphy '65,
brother of Daniel '70

James B. Murray '54,
son of Harold '30 (deceased), brother of Hal '52 (deceased)

Bernard C. Nalty '49,
brother of Patrick '55 (deceased)

Edward J. Nemec '49

Albert E. Nick '64

Thomas F. Norris '52,
father of Michael '77, grandfather of Connor '09

Daniel P. O'Connor '39

Michael O. O'Garro '09

Francis X. Parle '40,
brother of John '38 (deceased), Jerome '43, Richard '49

Donald E. Pedersen '47 (10.08.14),
brother of James '53

Courtney C. Quinn '44,
father of Courtney '71, Casey '76,
grandfather of Justin '99, Austin '10, F. Dominick Longo '93

Eugene W. Peter '44,
father of William '67 (deceased), Thomas '71 (deceased),
brother of Carl '24 (deceased), Theodore '25 (deceased),
Bernard '27 (deceased), Arnold '29 (deceased), Raymond '32 (deceased),
William '35 (deceased), Paul '41 (deceased)

Thomas R. Peters '72,
son of Richard '47, brother of Richard '67, Joseph '73, Michael '75

John E. Redmond, Jr. '60,
father of William '63

Sebastian J. Ricceri, Jr. '78,
brother of Benedict '81

John B. Ringel '39,
brother of Eugene '41 (deceased)

Christopher M. Robbins '79,
brother of Steven '83

Theodore J. Rynes, S.J. '49,
brother of Donald '52

John T. Sneckenberg '64

Fred J. Sommer '40

John S. Spelic '53

Edward C. Spethman '48,
father of John '81, Thomas '85, grandfather of Edward Gordon '17, Paul Gordon '18, William Krenzer '18, brother of Richard '50, Gerald '53 (deceased)

William P. Sullivan, Jr. '52

Eugene F. Tyson '49

Nicholas J. Vacanti '04,
son of Anthony '68, brother of Anthony '98

James G. Vetter, Jr. '50

John J. Vinardi '64,
son of Joseph '26 (deceased), grandfather of Bo Kurtz '19

Floyd C. Virant '54

Leo H. Von Tersch '56,
brother of Ronald '54 (deceased)

Thomas J. Waller '50

Michael C. Weidner '92

Robert X. Welsh (Vodra) '68

Dennis F. Williams '50

Richard A. Williamson '47,
father of Robert '74, Dennis '75

Robert L. Winters '60,
son of Francis '23 (deceased), brother of John '48 (deceased), James '50, Thomas '52

George T. Wruck, Jr. '56,
brother of James '60

Mary Beth Coate,
wife of Arthur '63

Patricia D. Czerwinski,
wife of Joseph '60

Helen T. David,
widow of Peter '29, mother of Michael '49, grandmother of Matthew '45

Coleen A. Donovan,
widow of James '50, grandmother of Benjamin Bonebrake '16, Samuel Bonebrake '19

Lucille M. Ehlers,
widow of Russell '48, mother of James '70, Bennie '87, grandmother of Kevin '06, Leo '16, Charles '19

Joan D. Ficenc,
widow of Joseph '39, mother of Joseph '67, grandmother of Joseph '00, Joseph Skudlarek '93, I. Andrew Skudlarek '95, Daniel Skudlarek '98, Peter Jessee '02

Mary Ann Filippi,
widow of John '38, mother of John '72, grandmother of Jordan '04, Austin '06

Kathleen R. Finnegan,
widow of James '42, mother of James '80

Tracey Finocchiaro,
wife of Peter '80

Josephine M. Fucinaro,
widow of Anthony '49, mother of Anthony '72, Joseph '74, grandmother of Anthony '99, Vincent '09, Stephen Bartlett '96, Jonathan Bartlett '01, Vincent Boulay '03, Thomas Boulay '15

Evelyn Kinsler,
widow of Thomas '51

Sheila A. Leahy,
wife of Terry '77, mother of Christopher Schaffart '01, daughter of William Neville '44 (deceased)

Margaret M. Lynam,
widow of Francis '39

Margaret R. Macaitis,
wife of Stanley '54, mother of Stephen '83, Michael '86, grandmother of Anthony '09, Andrew '12, Matthew Kaserlid '14

Shirley M. Marcelli,
widow of John '48, mother of Michael '78, William '79, grandmother of Daniel Belatti '07, Thomas Belatti '09, John Abt '10, step-grandmother of Daniel Poledna '10

Marge McCartney,
wife of William McCartney '42

Lorraine B. McGuire,
widow of William '51, mother of Timothy '71, John '80, William '82, grandmother of Jason Lawyer '06

WIVES

Mary Beth Coate,
wife of Arthur '63

Patricia D. Czerwinski,
wife of Joseph '60

Helen T. David,
widow of Peter '29, mother of Michael '49, grandmother of Matthew '45

Coleen A. Donovan,
widow of James '50, grandmother of Benjamin Bonebrake '16, Samuel Bonebrake '19

Lucille M. Ehlers,
widow of Russell '48, mother of James '70, Bennie '87, grandmother of Kevin '06, Leo '16, Charles '19

Joan D. Ficenc,
widow of Joseph '39, mother of Joseph '67, grandmother of Joseph '00, Joseph Skudlarek '93, I. Andrew Skudlarek '95, Daniel Skudlarek '98, Peter Jessee '02

Mary Ann Filippi,
widow of John '38, mother of John '72, grandmother of Jordan '04, Austin '06

Kathleen R. Finnegan,
widow of James '42, mother of James '80

Tracey Finocchiaro,
wife of Peter '80

Josephine M. Fucinaro,
widow of Anthony '49, mother of Anthony '72, Joseph '74, grandmother of Anthony '99, Vincent '09, Stephen Bartlett '96, Jonathan Bartlett '01, Vincent Boulay '03, Thomas Boulay '15

Peg Fitzgerald Gallagher,
widow of Eugene Fitzgerald '33, mother of J. Michael '61, Richard '62, Terrence '67, grandmother of Bowhay '96, Martin Cannon, Jr. '91, great-grandmother of Peter Kelly '18

Gina Hanlon,
wife of Patrick '04

Kathleen Regan Hughes,
wife of John '50, mother of John '84, daughter of James J. Regan '54 (deceased)

Dorothy A. Kemmy,
widow of Richard '44
WIVES (continued)

Margaret Milnamow, widow of Bernard '30
Virginia M. Nedley, widow of William '42, mother of Michael '81
Maureen M. Novotny, widow of Joseph '55
Katherine A. Olechowski, wife of Craig '98, daughter of Stephen Coffey '67
Mary Anne Peters, wife of Richard '47, mother of Richard '67, Tom '72, Joseph '73, Michael '75
Patricia A. Piccolo, widow of Louis '40, mother of Thomas '73, Joseph '75
Geri Ann Piotrowski, widow of Paul '75, mother of Andrew '02
Rita F. Ptacek, widow of Richard '41
Shirley A. Reilly, wife of Brian '48
Mary Jane Rossiter, widow of Robert '45, grandmother of Robert '04
Karen Sloup (12.18.14), wife of Joseph '52
Alice M. Smisek, widow of Joseph '45
Debra H. Vana, wife of Michael '74
Regina M. Weremy, mother of John '83, grandmother of Alex '19, Nicholas Ratajewski '09
Mary Jo Wilhelmsj, widow of Charles '46
Helen G. Zuegner, wife of Kevin '77

FATHERS

William L. Babb, father of Thomas '84, grandfather of William Latka '06, Jonathan Latka '13, Joseph Kotulak '07
Ben Blackwell, stepfather of Jacob Rezac '07
Paul J. “Jim” Brich, Jr., father of Timothy '85 (deceased), grandfather of Michael '09
C.R. “Barney” Buttner, father of Richard '74, Steve '77, Philip '79, grandfather of Zachary '11, Andrew '13
Daniel J. Christensen, father of Matthew '17
Edward K. Connors, father of Edward '63, William '65
Robert L. Crouch, father of Robert '87
George A. Crowe, stepfather of Thomas Griggs '01
John E. DeMay, father of J. Mark '79
James Devney, father of Patrick '04
George A. Douglas, father of Kip '67
Frank B. Evans, father of Joseph '81, grandfather of Christopher Edney '98, Matthew Edney '01
Horst “Skip” Glatte, father of David '89
William Goodro, Jr. (01.28.15), father of William '73, Terry '75, grandfather of Jonathan '04, Philip '05, Brian Glenn '07, Patrick Glenn '11
Arthur Goodwin, Jr., father of Chad '98
Jerome V. Greguska, Sr., father of Jerome '65, John '68
Louis J. Halamek, father of Louis '77
Gerald M. Haney, father of Douglas '80, grandfather of Henry Jenkins '06, John Jenkins '08, Samuel Jenkins '14
John D. Hartigan, father of John '63, Robert '66 (deceased), Thomas '68, James '71, Daniel '72, stepfather of William Hotz '67, Edward Hotz '68, John Hotz '71, Robert Hotz '75, Thomas Hotz '78, Daniel Hotz '85 (deceased)
Edward “Tex” Hazuka, father of Jeremy '89
Charles F. Heider, father of Mark '73, Scott '81, grandfather of Grant '17
James F. Herbert, father of James '91, Eric '94
Richard L. Herman, father of Richard '71, Michael '73
Mathias M. Hobza, father of James '66, Richard '70, Matthias '71, Jude '73
Howard A. Hollingsworth, father of Antonio '02
Patrick B. Hurley, father of Brian '96
Robert H. Johns, father of Joel '98
Jerome B. Ketteleer, father of Steven '65, Gary '66
William E. Kirk, father of Michael '81, Thomas '83, Patrick '85, Daniel '87, grandfather of Emmett Burns '12, Leo Burns '19
Gerald F. Kluzak, father of Chad '73, grandfather of Jared '10
Edward W. Koley, father of Thomas '79, Michael '81, grandfather of Nicholas '06, David '10, Matthew '11, Daniel '14, Jeffrey Gost '91, Kevin Kawa '07
Michael K. Larson, father of Michael '13, Nathaniel '17
William A. Lorenz, father of Michael '77 (deceased), David '78, Peter '81, Thomas '84
Francis J. Luebbert, father of David '72
Kelly P. Malone, father of Joy '10
Robert P. Mancuso, father of Robert '79, Joseph '80, Michael '81, grandfather of Robert '01, Jacob '04
James H. Maylan, father of James '79, Michael '82
Thomas J. Nastase, Jr., father of Raymond '95 (deceased)
Edward J. Nicola, father of Michael '00
Thomas O. Nitsch, father of Carl '90
James J. Novotny, father of Eric '98, Joseph '07
Robert S. Nystrom, father of Ryan '95
Edward J. Olsen,  
father of Anthony ’98

Arthur J. Palmer,  
stepfather of Ron Sersa ’68, step-grandfather of Nicholas Sersa ’98

William S. Ramacciotti,  
father of William ’83, grandfather of Matthew Ortman ’16

Jerry L. Reynolds,  
father of Robert ’78

Leonard S. Schaefer,  
father of Paul ’72, Leonard ’79

Gerald M. Schroeder,  
father of John ’66

Lester J. Schulte,  
father of Ronald ’67, John ’69 (deceased), David ’71

Richard H. Sheumaker,  
father of Philip ’86, Andrew ’88

Albert V. Sibilia,  
father of Michael ’71, Kenneth ’74, grandfather of Joseph ’04

Richard L. Siedlik,  
father of Benjamin ’01

Phillip Siragusa,  
father of Michael ’66

Nicholas J. Sloan,  
father of Ryan ’93, Michael ’95

James C. Smith,  
father of Paul ’76, Timothy ’77, grandfather of Louis ’07, Gregory ’12

James L. Smith,  
father of Timothy ’71

William F. Sus,  
father of David ’88, stepfather of David Archer ’85, Daniel Archer ’86

George M. Tarr,  
father of Stephen ’80, grandfather of Stephen ’09

Norman N. Uhing,  
father of David ’79

Maurice E. Waring,  
father of J.P. ’73, Thomas ’80, grandfather of Mark ’06

James R. Waszgis, Sr.,  
father of James ’69

James A. Watke,  
father of James ’79

Thomas J. Welborn,  
father of Mark ’79, Michael ’80

Phyllis Whalen,  
father of Michael ’86, stepfather of Michael ’88

Raymond P. White,  
father of Daniel ’78

Donald G. Wood, Jr.,  
father of Donald ’80

Raymond G. Zagozda,  
father of Raymond ’70, grandfather of Zacary ’16

Sebastian A. Zarbano,  
father of John ’68, grandfather of Vincent Gruber ’07

Peter P. Zorad,  
father of Michael ’65

Lawrence J. Zwart,  
father of Alan ’89, David ’91

Margaret Anderson,  
mother of Michael ’87, Mark ’89, Matthew ’92, grandmother of Jacob ’14, Joshua ’16

Marjorie E. Asche,  
mother of Jeffrey ’83

Mildred Baines,  
mother of Michael ’63 (deceased), grandmother of Brandon ’01, William Kizer ’88, Matthew Kizer ’94, Christopher Thelen ’01, Mark Mechaley ’03, great-grandmother of Peter Kizer ’17, Jackson Kizer ’19

Adelaide J. Bandur,  
mother of Rodric ’72, Scott ’75

Colleen C. Barry,  
mother of Thomas ’68

Mary M. Beisch,  
mother of Douglas ’70 (deceased), Mark ’71, grandmother of Gregory Garre ’88

Roberta C. Beisch,  
mother of Francis ’83

Beverly A. Blaney,  
mother of Aaron ’96, Kyle ’97

Sharon K. Cahow,  
mother of Scott ’90

Dorette Billig Cloninger,  
mother of John Billig ’82, Joseph Billig ’83, Samuel Billig ’85

Eileen J. Corns,  
mother of Bradley ’87, Jason ’89

Clare “Tupper” Cunningham,  
mother of Robert ’75, grandmother of John Kazlik ’08

Ann M. Dethlefs,  
grandmother of David Brennan ’07, Michael Roccaforte ’09

Mary K. Fenlon,  
mother of James ’64, Thomas ’66, grandmother of James ’02

Jacqueline Firmature,  
grandmother of Cole ’16, Zachary ’18

Clare J. Flecky,  
mother of Michael ’64, grandmother of Colin Flanagan ’99, Christopher Sweers ’95, Nicholas Davis ’10

Rita A. Giordano,  
mother of Christopher ’81, grandmother of Spencer Smith ’18

Margaret L. Graham,  
mother of Barron Neal ’77

Mary F. Greene,  
mother of Philip ’80 (deceased), grandmother of Earl ’13, Isaac ’15, Joseph ’16

Eleanor J. Hanus,  
mother of Gary ’64, grandmother of John McCabe ’05

Jane M. Harwood,  
mother of John ’74, Jeffrey ’80, grandmother of Grant Van Osdel ’17

Evelyn M. Hassett,  
mother of Shaw ’76 (deceased)

Josephine F. Hearty,  
mother of Frederick ’68, Paul ’69

Marjorie A. Higley,  
mother of David ’81

Patricia A. Hosking (11.28.13),  
mother of J. Martin ’83, Michael ’84

Lucille M. Italia,  
mother of Terry ’69

Grace M. Kathol,  
mother of Gary ’60, Timothy ’62, Gene ’64

Sara L. Kennedy,  
mother of Michael ’62

Carolyn Key-Suhr,  
mother of Ian ’06

Christine S. Kohout,  
mother of Joseph ’94

Judith Kreil,  
mother of Timothy ’79

Mary Kathleen Mahoney,  
mother of Patrick ’84

Kathleen M. Maloney,  
mother of Eamon ’03

Ada B. McDermott,  
mother of Michael ’61, Patrick ’62

Rita McDonnell,  
mother of Thomas ’81

June McGaugh,  
mother of Reginald ’86

MARCH 1, 2015 TO MARCH 1, 2016

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MOTHERS (continued)

Colleen Minturn,
mother of Gerard ’67

Roberta C. Norris,
mother of Mark ’78, Jeffrey ’84, Gary ’85 (deceased)

Darlene M. Odorisio,
mother of Francis ’69, Timothy ’70, grandmother of Joseph ’05

Elizabeth L. Organ,
mother of Gregory ’76, David ’79

Helen M. Pantane,
mother of Joel Hahn ’74, Victor ’77, grandmother of Brandon Hahn ’05,
Jared Hahn ’13, Nicholas Jesca ’10

Josephine T. Parisot,
mother of James ’66

Dorothy M. Pennington,
mother of Kenneth ’93

Emaline C. Pribyl,
mother of Gerald ’71

Barbara Pudys,
mother of Edward ’71

Betty A. Quinn,
mother of Courtney ’71, Casey ’76, grandmother of Justin ’99,
Austin ’10, F. Damien Longa ’19

Beverly J. Rawley,
mother of Patrick ’82, grandmother of William ’02

Dorothy S. Redding,
mother of David ’64, granddaughter of Benjamin Jaske ’94,
Theodore Snaddly ’97, John Hekat ’98

Ivel Reed,
mother of John ’94

Gayle E. Ringo,
mother of Robert ’71

Marian C. Rosenberg,
mother of Robert ’69

Therese M. Rosse,
mother of John ’79, Robert ’81, David ’82,
grandmother of S. Blake Groves ’07

Mary C. Savin,
mother of Joseph ’64 (deceased), Thomas ’65

Dorothy H. Sealey,
mother of John ’80, James ’84

Jeanette Slavin,
mother of Daniel ’79, Mark ’85

Barbara R. Standeven,
mother of John ’70

Elizabeth M. Stanislaw,
mother of Greg ’76, Anthony ’92,
grandmother of John ’17, Jethan Lehman ’11

Judie A. Stull,
mother of Eldon ’96, David ’97

Lois Theis,
mother of Ronald ’66

Marjorie Koeppen Thiel,
mother of S. Joseph ’82, grandmother of Augustine ’07, Louis ’16

Mary J. Thurmond,
mother of John ’63, William ’72

Marie Tillman,
mother of Irving ’76

Margaret D. Torpy,
mother of Stephen ’67, grandmother of Donald Breit ’96

Madonna A. Tribulato,
mother of Peter ’78, Matthew ’79, Michael ’82, Patrick ’84,
grandmother of Jason Brammen ’97, Mark Brammen ’06,
George Cleary ’01, Philip Cleary ’03 Benjamin Cleary ’08

Margaret V. Vocelka,
mother of Joseph ’68 (deceased), Michael ’71

Geraldine Vomacka,
stepmother of James ’63

Patty C. Waller,
mother of Todd ’81

Dorothy A. Warfield,
mother of Paul ’76

Gloria A. Weidner,
mother of Michael ’92 (deceased)

Mitrethia S. Wells,
mother of Damion ’92

Regina M. Weremy,
mother of John ’83, grandmother of Alex ’19, Nickolas Ratajeswski ’09

Jane J. Werthan,
mother of Jerry ’68

Judith A. Wheeler,
mother of Richard ’75

Julie Wilson,
mother of Holt Aikens ’81

CHILDREN

Thomas J. Begley,
son of Madeleine and Thomas ’46 (deceased),
brother of Richard ’81, Gerald ’82

Elizabeth A. Broderick,
daughter of Barbara and Gregory ’60, sister of David ’88

John F. Cogan, Jr.,
son of John ’44 (deceased)

Sarah J. Erftmier,
daughter of Anne and Donald ’83, sister of Donald ’15

Zachary D. Fogarty,
son of Mary and Edward ’50, stepbrother of Daniel McCarthy ’96,
grandson of Edward 1915 (deceased)

William J. Foxley,
son of Katherine and William ’53

Geoffrey P. Goodwin,
son of Joyce and Alvin, Jr. ’56

Pauline R. Kelly,
daughter of James 1908 (deceased)

John O. Kennison,
brother of Patrick ’67

Thomas M. Livingston,
son of Thomas ’51 (deceased)

Margaret E. Lonero,
daughter of Edward Fogarty 1915 (deceased),
sister of Edward ’58, Thomas ’67 (deceased)

Miles P. Mech,
son of Megan and Ryan ’04, great-grandson of Ruth Anne
and Dennis Kennedy ’54 (deceased)

Diondre D. Mitchell,
son of Rich ’88

Mary E. Swafford,
daughter of Daniel E. Nelson ’49 (deceased)

John A. Traia,
son of Anthony ’33 (deceased),
brather of James ’62, Frank ’65 (deceased)

Bryan P. Vovk,
son of Paul ’81

Jennifer L. Wagner,
stepdaughter of Eugene F. Tyson ’49

Margaret M. Walter,
daughter of Robert O’Leary ’42 (deceased),
sister of James O’Leary ’76, Mark O’Leary ’82
Edward C. Spethman

December 14, 1930 – October 6, 2015

Ed Spethman’s journey to the Creighton Prep Athletic Hall of Fame is the story of a journey through Jesuit education, his calling to serve in the Society of Jesus and his return to Prep as teacher and athletic director during a period of great athletic success at the school.

Born in Omaha on Dec. 14, 1930, Ed began his journey with the Society of Jesus when he attended St. John’s Grade School on the campus that also contained two other schools he would attend: Creighton Prep and Creighton University. At Prep, Ed worked two jobs to pay his tuition and became a skilled basketball player as well as a true example to his younger brothers Dick ’50 and Jerry ’53 (deceased).

After two years at Creighton, where he also played basketball, Ed discerned a calling to the Jesuits and went on to spend 11 years in the order. Along the way, he completed bachelors and masters degrees at Saint Louis University and taught at Prep as well as Campion High School and Marquette University High School in Milwaukee, instructing students in English, Latin and religion while coaching basketball.

After God guided him to teaching and coaching work at St. Mary’s in Menasha, Wisconsin, Ed married Bettie Ellis and the couple eventually returned to Nebraska, where Ed taught and coached in Norfolk and Fremont before Prep persuaded him to return in 1971.

At his alma mater, he would go on to teach for 29 years and direct the athletics program for nearly 20. During his time as athletic director, Prep won 23 state titles, at least one in every sport in which the school participated. Ed also instituted the popular Las Vegas Night fundraisers—the precursor to today’s Creighton Prep Sports Night—and helped move Prep soccer from a club sport with no funding to an official NSAA-sanctioned program that has won eight state titles to date and contended for many others.

Ed was inducted in the Creighton Prep Hall of Fame in 1989, the Athletic Hall of Fame in 2014 and received, among many awards from his peers, the NSAA Honor for Service & Contribution to Athletics in the State of Nebraska in 2006.

To notify Creighton Prep of the passing of a Prep community member, please contact Terri Haller at 402.548.3845 or thall@prep.creighton.edu.
A LETTER FROM RAOUl JACQUES DELIER ’37

The following letter was received by Fr. Tom Neitzke, SJ one day prior to Memorial Day 2015 and uniquely describes how profound an impact Creighton Prep and the Jesuits had on Raoul Jacques DeLier, class of 1937 and the fifth oldest living alumnus according to our records.

Dear Father Tom,

Just a note to inform you what AMDG means to me after all these years.

My name is Raoul Jacques DeLier and I am a Creighton Prep graduate of the class of 1937. When I attended Prep, we shared the downtown campus with Creighton University. Father Henry Sullivan was the principal and Paul Reinart SJ was a scholastic and the athletic director, the same Paul Reinar who was the long-standing president of St. Louis University. They and Coach “Skip” Palrang were helpful in securing a football scholarship for me at the University of Oklahoma where I majored in journalism and history. Due to the world situation at the time, I entered the Army Air Corps, later the United States Air Force. I was successful in leading 65 combat missions during World War II. After the war, I was a sales executive with Universal Motion Pictures and later president of a chain of television stations. My wife of sixty two years passed away in 2004. I am blessed with two wonderful children: my daughter is an attorney and my son is a retired executive in the television industry.

I am retired and in 2014 my left leg was amputated due to circulatory problems. I am now 96 years old with impaired sight and a new leg. As I stated, AMDG still means a great deal to me. Following the amputation of my leg, I was hospitalized for several weeks and then I was in rehabilitation and received a prosthetic leg. When I received a final prosthesis, the custom as described by the therapist is to inscribe the prosthesis with significant events in one’s life.

Ergo, enclosed is a picture of the socket of the prosthesis which I wear. Pictured is my Air Force Wings, beneath the wings is the number 65 representing the combat missions flown in World War II, beneath that are my medals including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, the Air Medal with Twelve Oak-Leaf Clusters and the French Croix de Guerre and finally, AMDG. This may be one of the most unique places ever to honor this description.

I will always cherish my four years with the Jesuits of Creighton Prep.

Very truly yours,

Raoul Jacques DeLier

P.S. My two grandsons attended Dallas Jesuit in Dallas, Texas.
Have you noticed a comforting consistency in how smoothly Prep football games have operated over time but you haven’t quite been able to figure out why? One reason may be that the “chain gang” working the games for the past 40 years has largely been comprised of Creighton Prep alumni.

“I remember sitting in the Rosenblatt bleachers at a Prep game in 1972,” said the Hon. Michael P. Cavel ’62. “And Mike Lynch (’60) came over and asked me if I could help on the crew. So I said, ‘Sure,’ not knowing what it entailed, of course. Then things kind of went from there.” Soon, Mike was recruiting other alumni to help on an ongoing basis such as the Hon. J. Michael Coffey ’65 and his good friend and classmate, the Hon. Gregory M. Schatz ’65.

Then in 1975, this trio of distinguished legal professionals was joined by future Prep parent Jim Killips, who would go on to recruit his friend and former Prep defensive line standout Michael R. McGlade ’76 to work University of Nebraska Omaha football games then Prep contests.

Though a few others have come and gone since the early ’70s, the chain gang of Cavel, Coffey, Killips and Schatz worked Jr. Jay football games into the early ’90s, when Mike Coffey and Greg Schatz stepped down and were replaced by fellow Prep alumni Michael J. Haller ’72 and, later in the 2000s, his classmate and former Prep running back great Joseph E. Dervin ’72.

Of course, the memories are numerous for this tenured group charged with keeping accurate down and distance throughout all home games and communicating with a five-person officiating crew via the head linesman.

During games, the head linesman instructs the chain gang on the visitor’s side of the field (opposite the press box) and is in charge of the line of scrimmage, spotting the ball correctly with their help and watching for line of scrimmage-related infractions such as illegal pre-snap movement by the offense or offsides by the defense.

The group recalled a Prep playoff game about ten years ago when the opposing coach didn’t like the way they clipped the chain to get an accurate mark then moved it. When the coach tried to convince the head linesman that it was cheating, the reply that followed was: “That’s what I told them to do.”

“I remember one game about 20 years ago when Prep was really trouncing the opponent,” said Mike McGlade. “It was fourth and forever for the visitors, and it looked like they were going to punt. Then they ran their offense back onto the field. So I saw 22 Prep guys in transition out there and yelled, ‘Call time-out!,” hoping the Prep coaches on the other sideline heard me. Well, after hearing ‘Call time-out!,’ the opposing quarterback pulled his hands from center, looked at his coach and said, ‘Time-out!’ As you can imagine, that coach wasn’t too pleased with me.”

Jim Killips also remembered a game at Northwest High School when the group couldn’t see the other side of the field because it was raining so hard. He also recalled many talented Prep and Central teams fighting to memorable finishes with the Junior Jays managing to come out on top most of the time.

Enjoyable work and the camaraderie that goes with it is what keeps them coming back when Dr. Dan Schinzel, the Director of Athletics at Prep, makes the request before each football season.

Postgame, in the days when Prep played its home contests at UNO, the crew went to Louis Market in Benson for hot dogs. Now, it’s typically a table at Big Fred’s Pizza because of its proximity to the new home for Prep football at Burke High School.

“For me, it’s a chance to see my friends,” said Mike McGlade. “Otherwise, if I didn’t have this on my calendar on Friday night, we might not see each other.” When asked how long he thought this chain gang might continue to work the sideline, 43-year veteran Mike Cavel put it even more succinctly: “Until they fire us.”
1950s

Rev. William J. Fitzgerald '50 completed his new book, “The Amazing Love of Dogs and God” this past summer, and it is currently available on Amazon.com. In it are many special stories of canines as well as the wonderful qualities they possess. Fr. Fitzgerald also draws parallels in the book between their goodness and God’s love for us.

John A. Hartley ’54 completed his tenth year as an instructor’s assistant with the Boone County (Kentucky) Sheriff Citizen’s Academy where he has taught all phases of law enforcement including traffic stops, drug enforcement and even weapons training.

1960s

Narciss Goebbel ’64 and Dr. Carl Holtfrerich ’60, two of Prep’s earliest foreign exchange students from Germany, reconnected last fall in Berlin. They reminisced about their days at Prep and marveled at the fact that Prep “connects people together from all over the world!” Carl lives near Berlin while Narciss is from the town of Worpsewe in the northern part of Germany. Furthermore, Carl was the 2015 recipient of the sixth Helmut Schmidt Prize in German-American Economic History. The award is presented every other year by the German Historical Institute located in Washington, DC.

1940s

Brian A. Reilly ’48 and his late wife Shirley Ann celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in March of 2015.

Dr. Leo J. McCarthy ’57 received the National Catholic Education Association’s Distinguished Graduate Award from St. Margaret Mary School for his contributions to American life and/or the Catholic Church. His generosity made possible the Dr. Leo J. McCarthy Scholarship that is awarded to a St. Margaret Mary eighth grade student. The University of Nebraska Board of Regents also approved the naming of the Special Collections Suite at the McGoogan Library of Medicine in his honor.

Thomas “Tiger” Lynch ’58 was inducted in the Omaha Marian Athletic Hall of Fame for his many years of team sponsorship at the school.
Jerome A. Merwald ’62, the Rev. Donald W. Shane ’60 and Ronald N. Quinn ’66 accompanied 30 St. Robert’s parishioners on a pilgrimage that included Frankfurt, Germany, Budapest, Hungary, Croatia and the village of Medjugorje in the Croatian section of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Frank A. Spenceri ’61, Sandy C. Buda ’63 and Dr. John C. “BJ” Bjelland ’63 toured Yankee Stadium in summer 2015 and attended a baseball game there. Jerry has also been elected president of the Serra Club of Omaha. The club is part of a worldwide organization formed nearly 60 years ago to promote, encourage, affirm and support vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life. In September, he attended the canonization of Junipero Serra, for whom the club is named, during Pope Francis’ visit to the United States. It was the first canonization ever in America.

Fr. George R. Sullivan ’62 received the Thomas F. Cavanaugh Lifetime Achievement Award during the Omaha-Douglas County Irish American Public Officials’ St. Patrick’s Day Breakfast at the Field Club of Omaha. He also served as the grand marshal of the Omaha St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

After working in the corporate world, John F. Guinan ’65 turned his hobby of winemaking into a business in 2005. The family also moved to Carroll, Iowa and converted an old machine shed into a temporary winery. In 2008, John and his wife Rose purchased an old automotive dealership and transformed it into a new winery, restaurant and event center called Santa Maria Vineyard & Winery. He recently donated his company’s altar wine to the Campus Ministry Department at Prep. Visit www.santamariawinery.com to learn more about the vineyard.

Anthony J. Militti ’65 and his wife Joan celebrated their 50-year wedding anniversary last summer.

Dr. Timothy C. Fitzgibbons ’66 and Kenneth W. Ferrari ’66 won the 32nd Annual Director’s Cup golf championship at the Happy Hollow Club in 2015. Tim was also appointed to the Physician’s Mutual board of directors in Omaha. He practices at GIKK Ortho Specialists, specializing in foot and ankle work, and holds a number of local, national and academic appointments.

Dr. Frederick R. Hearty ’68 is a senior researcher in astrophysics at Penn State University and is the project manager on the APO Galaxy Evolution Experiment North and South (also known as APOGEE-2). The project is aimed at finding out more about how the Milky Way galaxy was formed. Observations of star movements taken from powerful telescopes in New Mexico and Chile are important to the research and its eventual conclusions.

Larry C. Cimino ’69 was installed as president-elect of the World Federation for Mental Health at a ceremony in Cairo, Egypt and is scheduled to serve as president from 2017 to 2019. The World Federation for Mental Health was founded in 1948 and is an advocacy and education organization with members around the globe who work alongside governments and non-governmental organizations to promote mental health and respond to mental health crises.

Dr. Paul J. Hearty ’69 is an associate professor in the Environmental Studies Department at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. His background includes a wealth of experience in the natural sciences, and his research focuses on coastal processes that can be explained through the study of the sediment, climate, vegetation and various organisms in that environment.

John F. Lund ’69 was inducted the Commercial Real Estate Summit Hall of Fame in 2015. He is the founder and chief executive officer of The Lund Company, a commercial real estate firm that is also an alliance member of global powerhouse Cushman & Wakefield. John has been active in the commercial real estate business for more than 35 years.
1970s

Douglas R. Stroh '70 was recently honored at a luncheon to recognize his 40 years of work for the John Deere Company. In that time, Doug has served in several capacities for the firm and in a number of states including Missouri, Illinois, Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas.

Michael S. Bendon '72 is the manager of organization development, effectiveness and leadership for Stormont-Vail Health in Topeka, Kansas. He was widowed in 2013 and recently remarried. Mike has been and continues to be inspired by the core values of Prep.

Michael G. Mullin '73 was selected for inclusion in the International Who's Who of Commercial Mediation as one of the top 300 commercial mediators in the world. This is his fourth selection since 2011. Mike is a partner with Kutak Rock LLP and lives in Omaha.

Joseph W. Grant ’74 was named to the 2015 Class of Fellows by the Nebraska State Bar Association. Joe received the distinction for his work to improve the administration of justice and for his legal profession leadership as well as his integrity, his commitment to civic service and his support of the Nebraska State Bar Foundation.

Phillip E. Franco ’76 and his wife Sue celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary last July.

David M. Evans ’77 is now the senior fiduciary officer at TS Banking Group, formerly Treynor State Bank. He and his wife Kristine live in the Old Market, and he enjoys camping, golfing and playing the guitar.

Frank J. Kardell ’78 married Julie Walsh this past January and recently celebrated 30 years at Lamar Advertising in Omaha.

Mark Foxall ’78 and his son Mark J. Foxall ’06 visited Cuba in April 2015 on an educational immersion tour. The trip was said to be “life-changing” for both men.

Robert B. Green ’78 was inducted in the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame this past year for his amazing tennis career. Bob never lost a high school tennis match, posting a 67-0 record during three years at Prep. He went on to excel at Boston University then as professional on the ATP Tour, ranking as high as 37th in the world in 1984.

In June 2015, William M. Ojile ’78 joined the Denver office of Armstrong Teasdale LLP’s litigation practice as a partner. Bill’s work at the firm involves legal and policy issues that affect higher education institutions as well as organizations in highly regulated industries such as telecommunications companies. His 25 years of experience includes general counsel positions at Valor Telecom and Alta Colleges.

Mark R. Best ’79 recently retired from a 20-year career in the U.S. Navy and a number of years in post-Navy work. Mark and his wife Mary Ann provide a home for rescue beagles and enjoy working in their garden in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

1980s

John C. Huerter ’80 has been named chief financial officer at Lamp Rynearson & Associates. His responsibilities there include managing the finances for the firm, providing financial expertise at a strategic level and negotiating contracts.

Christopher D. Sempek ’80 was the military advisor on “Texas Rising,” a History Channel series about the Texas Revolution against the Mexican government in the early 1800s and the formation of the Texas Rangers. Among others, it featured Bill Paxton as General Sam Houston and Kris Kristofferson in the role of President Andrew Jackson. In addition to his native English, Chris speaks Spanish, Czech and Russian, and was a Russian major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is a veteran of both the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts and lives in Durango Mexico where he works as an English teacher.


Patrick E. Brookhouser, Jr. ‘82 was named to the 2015 Class of Fellows by the Nebraska State Bar Association. Pat received the distinction for his work to improve the administration of justice and for his legal profession leadership as well as his integrity, his commitment to civic service and his support of the Nebraska State Bar Foundation.
Mark C. Laughlin '84 was named to the 2015 Class of Fellows by the Nebraska State Bar Association. Mark received the distinction for his work to improve the administration of justice and for his legal profession leadership as well as his integrity, his commitment to civic service and his support of the Nebraska State Bar Foundation.

Jeffery L. Mausbach '84 is co-owner of Manos Negras wines in Argentina and has served as wine education director for the Bodega Catena Zapata winery for the past 13 years. He also travels the world promoting the uniqueness of Argentine wines. Visit www.manosnegras.com.ar to learn more about his company.

Michael J. O’Malley ’84 recently received his Master of Arts degree from Creighton University where he also works in estate and gift planning.

The Hon. Michael P. Burns ’85 was named to the 2015 Class of Fellows by the Nebraska State Bar Association. Mike received the distinction for his work to improve the administration of justice and for his legal profession leadership as well as his integrity, his commitment to civic service and his support of the Nebraska State Bar Foundation.

Michael J. Blum ’86 was promoted to president of client services at the Steier Group, a firm that assists Catholic organizations across the country with capital campaign planning and management. Mike has been with the Steier Group for the past 18 years, most recently as chief operating officer.

Paul F. Brich ’88 was promoted to group quality manager for Kiewit Infrastructure Group following his work as a project quality manager on the effort to widen the I-405 Sepulveda Pass in Los Angeles.

Robert J. Hladik, Jr. ’95 and his wife Katelin welcomed daughter Millie Kay Hladik into their family in October.

1990s

Nicholas B. Kent ’93 has been named Deputy Head of School at Jakarta Intercultural School. JIS is a PK-12 school of 2,400 students for expatriates in Indonesia. Nick, his wife Erin and daughter Alice will be moving after 10 years in Shanghai (China), where he served as principal at Concordia International School.

Paul J. Kramper ’93 was promoted to senior vice president of securities risk management at Mutual of Omaha. Prior to joining Mutual in 2006, he was senior vice president of HSBC Securities, Inc. in New York.

Matthew W. Vuorela ’94 was promoted to executive vice president of client services at the Steier Group in Omaha where he manages the daily operations of the client service division.

To update your contact information with Creighton Prep, please visit www.creightonprep.org/reconnect today.

Zachary Dominguez ’97 was the U.S. Greco-Roman coach for the Junior World Championships held in Salvador, Brazil in August. The competition featured the best 17-to-20-year-old wrestlers in the world and was a major stepping stone for athletes looking to compete in the Olympics. Zac is also president of the MWC Wrestling Academy in Papillion where his brothers Eli J. Dominguez ’00 and Esai P. Dominguez ’07 are coaches as well.

Scott R. Miller ’97 is the client accounting services director at Lutz, an Omaha-based accounting and business solutions firm. Scott’s specializes in business consulting for industries such as professional services and construction. He also works in the healthcare market with dental practices and private physician groups.

William R. Esch ’99 was selected to the Midlands Business Journal’s 2015 list of “40 Under 40.” Bill is the co-owner of Smith and Esch Fitness Systems and develops specialized fitness and diet programs for clients along with advising local companies on issues related to employee wellness.

Anthony J. Fucinaro ’99 was selected to the Midlands Business Journal’s 2015 list of “40 Under 40.” Tony is vice president and partner at MCL Construction where he leads the firm’s innovation group, a division that harnesses the latest technology to save time, money and improve efficiency.

Chad R. Kreikemeier ’99 began his new job last spring as Special Assistant to the President in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs. He and his wife Beth welcomed the birth of their third child, Nathan Joseph, last year as well. Chad and his family live in Arlington, Virginia.

Jeremy S. Wangler ’99 is a communications specialist at the Washburn University Foundation in Topeka, Kansas.

The Hollywood Prep group gathered for a round of golf at Harding Golf Course in Griffith Park, California, not far from the famous Hollywood sign. Participants included Sean M. Cawley ’96, Nicholas L. D’Agosto ’98, Timothy D. Tamisiea ’95, James M. Connor ’78 and Robert A. Wiltfong ’88.

2000s

Jake R. Holdenried ’01 was named to the position of director, commercial banking at First National Bank in Omaha. He is currently attending the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Andrew J. Huettner ’01 is a partner with the Erickson/Sederstrom Law Offices and practices estate, probate and trust law.

James M. Buhrman, Jr. ’02 joined DAAKE as senior creative lead, brand identity. He graduated from Creighton University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism and continued his education at Miami Ad School which led to internships with several nationally recognized firms such as Saatchi & Saatchi, DraftFCB (now Foote, Cone & Belding) and Carmichael Lynch.

Thomas M. Corrigan ’02 was promoted by Access Bank to senior vice president, senior credit officer. He will be responsible for oversight and administration of the bank’s loan portfolio.

Daniel A. Esch ’02 was appointed to complete the term of the late Douglas County Clerk Tom Cavanaugh by a 7-0 vote of the Douglas County Board. Dan has worked in the county clerk’s office since 2006, most recently as administrative assistant.

Nicholas J. Petersen ’02 is the jump coach for the University of Florida track team. He has coached, among others, five NCAA champions, two athletes that competed in the world championships in China and a men’s team that won two Southeastern Conference titles, sweeping both the indoor and outdoor competitions. Nic was named the 2015 South Region Indoor Women’s Assistant Coach of the Year by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association, and he and his wife Kerri welcomed their second son Cole Hanks Petersen into their family last fall.

Matthew B. Reilly ’02 was named partner with the Erickson/Sederstrom Law Offices and practices in litigation, insurance defense, workers’ compensation and bankruptcy/creditor’s rights.
Dr. Stephen P. Maher ’03 is a biological scientist in the Department of Global Health at the University of South Florida. He is currently working on a cell culture system to find new antimalarial drugs.

Michael P. Meyers ’06 was appointed last July to the position of administrator and director of economic development for the city of Hickman, Nebraska. He and his wife Paige have one son named Landon.

Peter D. Bailis ’07 was named to the Forbes “30 Under 30” list for 2016. He also finished his Ph.D. in computer science at Berkeley and accepted an assistant professor position in Stanford’s computer science department. Peter wrote his thesis on large-scale data management and is a recipient of a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.

Colin T. Walker ’08 was promoted to senior accountant at Lutz, an Omaha-based accounting and business solutions firm. With the firm since 2013, he also is a member of the audit department where his work focuses on sanitary and improvement districts (SIDs) that provide utility, sidewalk and road services to developed properties. He has a bachelor’s degree in accounting and finance from the University of Nebraska Omaha.

If you have an update for the Here & There section of the Creighton Prep magazine, please contact Nate Driml at 402.548.3851 or ndrim@prep.creighton.edu.

2010s

After a 2013 internship at Feltz WealthPLAN in Omaha, Timothy P. Gregg ’10 joined the company as a full-time associate wealth advisor. He graduated from Texas Christian University in May 2014.

Nicholas J. Mizaur ’10 has been added to the Cushman & Wakefield/Lund Co. brokerage team. He is responsible for the marketing, leasing and sales of commercial real estate properties throughout Omaha. Nick graduated from Brown University with a degree in business, entrepreneurship and organization.

Paul L. Floersch ’11 recently graduated from Benedictine College and is in his first year of studies as a pre-theology student at the Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis.

Luke R. Hautzinger ’11 graduated from Creighton University with a bachelor’s degree in environmental science and environmental policy. He is currently living in New York City and working in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, an organization in which Creighton Prep employees James P. Swanson ’82, Christopher J. Searl ’83, David A. Lawler ’95 and Mrs. Kathy O’Keefe have also served.

Derek C. Petrich ’11 and Nolan T. Winkelbauer ’12 traveled to Honduras this past year to participate in a Global Brigades water project where they dug over 600 yards of trench and installed 500 yards of PVC pipe. This system now delivers clean water to three communities affecting over 1,500 people.

James P. Richardson ’11 graduated magna cum laude from the Darla School of Business at the University of South Carolina after majoring in global chain-operations management and international business. He recently accepted a position with Boeing in Seattle, working on production planning and integrated scheduling for the company’s new 777X airplane.

Mark A. Moulton ’13 was named by the College Sports Information Directors of America as a second team Academic All-American athlete in Division 1 soccer. Mark is a midfielder at the University of Nebraska Omaha.

John M. Ambrose ’14 was recently admitted to the Edwin L. Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University, one of the top undergraduate business schools in the nation.

Auburn University swimmer Jacob P. Molacek ’14 received the Great Moments in Sports Award from the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame this past year for being the fastest swimmer in state history in every event except two during the 2014 NSAA Swimming Championships. At Prep, Jacob also became the first high school swimmer in U.S. history to break the 53-second mark in the 100 yard breaststroke.
HERE & THERE: JUNIOR JAYS

Please welcome the newest members of the Prep family!

Michael A. Buse '95 and his wife Jayme welcomed Hendrix George Buse into their family last year.

Mark J. Jaworski '95 and his wife Mary welcomed James Downey Jaworski into their family this past October.

Joseph D. Krebs '95 and his wife Nicole welcomed Benedict (Benny) David Krebs into their family this past September.

Ryan J. Nystrom '95 and his wife Kerri welcomed Aiden Robert Nystrom into their family this past May.

Michael M. Sloan '95 and his wife Megan welcomed Liam Nicholas Sloan into their family this past June.

Joseph R. Bezourek '97 and his wife Becky welcomed twins Mark Joseph and Ethan Kermit Alexander into their family this last December.

David J. Sykora '97 and his wife Helen welcomed Brogan Robert into their family last October.

Joel C. Johns '98 and his wife Jamie welcomed Juliet Grace Johns to their family this past October.

Dr. William “Pat” P. Kelsey '98 and his wife Amanda welcomed Quinn Bailey Kelsey into their family this past fall.

Thomas J. Fyfe '99 and his wife Melissa welcomed Grace Elizabeth Fyfe into their family this past October.

Dr. Robert J. O’Malley '99 and his wife Talia welcomed their fourth child Rocco John O’Malley into their family this past fall.

Nicholas A. Svehla '99 and his wife Meg welcomed Joseph Michael Svehla into their family this past July.

Joseph P. Naatz '00 and his wife Nicole welcomed Elizabeth Vallicott Naatz into their family this past September.

Matthew J. Edney '01 and his wife Liz welcomed Joseph William Edney into their family this past September.

Ted W. Pollack '96 and his wife Laura welcomed Joseph Theodore Pollack to their family this past fall.

Ryan J. Edick '96 and his wife Brianna welcomed Anthony James Edick to their family this past summer.
Nicholas A. Wilwerding ’01 and his wife Melanie welcomed twin boys Hugh Andersen and Everett Jude into their family this past June.

Tyler J. Mullen ’02 and his wife Laura welcomed twins Charlie and Cal Mullen into their family this past August.

Henry N. German ’03 and his wife Annie welcomed Max Patrick German into their family this past June.

Nicholas P. Mead ’03 and his wife Lacey welcomed Worth Allen Mead into their family this past July.

Michael A. Schmidt ’03 and his wife Kerry welcomed Sophie Ren Schmidt into their family this past fall.

David A. Lopez ’04 and his wife Sarah welcomed Benjamin Robert Lopez into their family this past November.

James A. (A.J.) McLeay ’04 and his wife Nikki welcomed Lydia McLeay into their family this past July.

Joseph A. Bost ’05 and his wife Rachel welcomed Thomas Joseph Bost into their family this past June.

Zachary D. Potter ’05 and his wife Tyeler welcomed Becket Edward Potter into their family this past October.

John D. Wilwerding ’05 and his wife Lauren welcomed Noah Francis Wilwerding into their family this past June.

Kevin M. McGuire ’07 and his wife Kayla welcomed daughter Kenzleigh into their family this past August.
The Alumni Basketball League (ABL) which is comprised of 24 teams separated throughout three divisions finished its fifth year of tournament play and crowned the following champions. Congratulations to all of the participating teams!

**RECREATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS:**

**TEAM SENIOR JAYS**
Josh Bullock, Eric McKnight, Scott W. Slezak ’10
Paul P. McLeay ’86, John A. Daneff ’92, Tom Beck ’84

*NOT PICTURED: Bartholomew L. McLeay ’77*

**JUNIOR VARSITY LEAGUE CHAMPIONS:**

**TEAM TROPICS**
Timothy R. O’Brien ’05, Jacob M. McGlade ’05, Joseph H. Temme ’05,
Scott C. Chisholm ’05, Stephen D. Ducey ’06, Scott D. Gordon ’06

*NOT PICTURED: Kevin M. Clarke ’05, Thomas S. McQueen ’06, Gorden W. Pang ’05,
Patrick B. Parr ’05, Stefen M. Shields ’05*

**VARITY LEAGUE CHAMPIONS:**

**TEAM BALLERS**
Don Steffensmeier, Nicholas A. Svehla ’99, Caleb J. Steffensmeier ’10,
Chad Burger, Mike Gitt, Scottie Davis, Peter T. Cunningham ’07
Championship Performances

The fall 2015 and winter 2016 sports teams produced more championship performances to add to the legacy of Creighton Prep athletics success in the Class A high school division in Nebraska.

The tennis, swimming and powerlifting programs continued their impressive runs by bringing state titles to the 74th & Western Avenue campus once more. For tennis, it was the 12th in the past 14 years and 34th overall. For swimming, it was a state-record tenth consecutive and 22nd in program history. And for powerlifting, it was the seventh in a row.

The cross country and basketball teams also followed up their state championship campaigns from 2014 and 2015, respectively, with third place finishes in the state.

Cross Country
3RD IN STATE COMPETITION
2ND IN DISTRICT COMPETITION

Basketball
3RD PLACE STATE FINISH
DISTRICT CHAMPIONS
RECORD: 25-4

Football
RECORD: 6-5

Tennis
STATE CHAMPIONS

Swimming
STATE CHAMPIONS
TENTH IN A ROW

Wrestling
SEVENTH PLACE TEAM FINISH
CADE BROWNLEE, STATE CHAMPION, 182 LBS.
“Turn Minutes Into Decades of Peace,” a phrase taken from the instruction sheet of Our Lady’s Rosary Makers International, brings a smile to the face of Tom Pleiss ‘59 every time he places it along with a handmade rosary into a plastic storage baggie.

Since 2001, Tom has been sharing his life of faith by crafting rosaries and then shipping them throughout Omaha, the Midwest and around the world free of charge. Tom recalls the Holy Spirit reaching out to him in a unique manner during the eulogy of his Aunt Josie who completed 10,000 of her own handmade rosaries prior to her passing in 2000. “The Holy Spirit grabbed me by my ears and said ‘Go do it!’ so I did.”

Tom has always been good with woodworking projects and wanted to take up a hobby when he retired around the time of her death. So he decided to learn how to make rosaries. Since then, he has produced an estimated 9,700 chain, chord or finger rosaries, with each taking an hour, 15 minutes and 10 minutes, respectively, to produce.

Tom credits his family upbringing for his strong faith and recalls weekly parish gatherings in the Holy Cross neighborhood where multiple households would say the rosary together. “Many families had sons serving in Korea so saying the rosary was a powerful way to pray for their wellbeing,” said Tom.

He estimates that he has ordered over 575,000 beads since he began and has shipped finished pieces to organizations ranging from the Columban Fathers in Bellevue and Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center in Lincoln to and pro-life and retreat groups at Creighton Prep, soldiers in Iraq, Hurricane Katrina victims and various missions in Africa, to name only a few. He keeps a tattered yellow folder with handwritten notes listing all the groups he has assisted over the years as a simple way to track his work.

Special personalized family rosaries have been made that list the names of his seven children and 13 grandchildren along with a special gold-colored rosary created to celebrate his 50th wedding anniversary.

He produces about 1,000 rosaries per year and prefers to have a surplus of 200 on hand in case there is a last minute need.

“I can’t just sit down and not do anything,” noted Tom. “I enjoy sitting on the deck, listening to a ball game and making rosaries. This is my passion which I consider a labor of love!”

For more information on Our Lady’s Rosary Makers, go to www.olrm.org.
If you could invite anyone on Earth into an extraordinarily scientific conversation about the workings of the universe and that invitee also had to be a Creighton Prep graduate, Jeremiah M. Mans ’94 might be at the top of a very short list.

Jeremy is an associate professor and the director of undergraduate studies in the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Minnesota. There, his research centers on the physical processes within and the data produced by the world’s most powerful particle accelerator, the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). The collider is located in Geneva, Switzerland and managed by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (also known as CERN).

At the LHC facility on the CERN campus, the study of matter and energy takes place around a structured ring approximately 16 miles in length that smashes protons, the cores of atoms, from opposing beams at incredibly high speed to recreate the earliest conditions of the cosmos. It is here that Jeremy searches for the existence of very specific types of neutrinos and bosons, two of the most elemental particles known to man.

The journey to a career on the frontiers of science started in Omaha where he became interested in working with computers and networks, especially from a programming standpoint. “I did several science fair projects at Prep, including a parallel programming project on the new Macintosh computers that were installed to replace the Apple IIs,” said Jeremy. “I took that project to the International Science and Engineering Fair in Birmingham, Alabama.”

From his years at Prep, he fondly recalls “great mentors in two areas,” science and writing. “(Now-retired chemistry teacher) Dave Dow in particular provided great opportunities to develop as an independent scholar and in service,” noted Jeremy. “Once I arrived at Prep, Dave’s annual science club trips were a major opportunity to see the world (Seattle, Winnipeg, Chicago) and learn about all kinds of science.”

Jeremy also credits his Prep English teachers for doing “an amazing job” getting him prepared for the reports and publications he generates as a teacher and researcher. In his Methods of Experimental Physics course at Minnesota, he reminds his students that the credit for a discovery “goes not to the first person to make an observation, but the first to make the observation and clearly communicate it to the community.”
Although only a few years removed from Creighton Prep, Midshipman Second Class (2/C) Robert W. Leddy ’13 is experiencing leadership like few ever will via The United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland where he is majoring in political science and has a minor in Russian.

A typical day for Bob involves a full load of classes, an afternoon of working out and a full night of studying. Every morning, noon and evening, he and his fellow cadets have to be accounted for. They are not allowed to leave campus on weeknights, and all must be in the dorms by midnight during that time.

He considers his style of leadership like that of a servant leader. He states, “I’ve learned in my few short years here that if you take care of your people first, they will take care of you and they won’t let you down.”

Bob feels that Prep instilled in him what it means to strive for the “magis” and what it means to be a man for others. These two core values have served him well in his experiences beyond Prep.

“I currently lead 10 other Midshipmen who are members of my squad. As their squad leader, I am the first one in their chain of command to deal with any issues that may come up. Prep taught me the importance of being understanding of all situations and backgrounds, as well as how to put the needs of others before my own.”

When asked about leadership advice he would give to current students, Bob replied, “Seek out as many opportunities as you can so that you can get outside your own comfort zone. Get comfortable with being uncomfortable. By doing this you will learn so much about not only yourself, but about those around you. Always take care of those around you and especially those below you.”

Upon graduating, Bob plans to join the submarine force.
Living a life of SERVICE

J. STEPHEN HANEY ’87

The mantra of living as a man for others has been etched in the mind of J. Stephen Haney ’87 ever since he experienced a simple yet lasting moment while delivering Operation Others dinners nearly 30 years ago. So it seems only fitting that volunteering nearly 20 hours a week to coach the sport of lacrosse sixth months out of the year is his way of giving back to his alma mater.

Steve was introduced to lacrosse during his second week of school at Saint John’s University in Collegeville, Minnesota and later assisted in building the clubs at St. Cloud State University, the University of Nebraska Omaha, Creighton University and, later, Creighton Prep.

His playing and coaching experience transferred naturally in 2002 as he became the youth lacrosse coach at the Omaha YMCA. This eventually segued into the creation of a four-team YMCA high school league in 2003 in which he also coached. After that, an 11-team league blossomed that today consists of three Iowa teams, one Lincoln squad and seven from the Omaha metro area.

Collectively, his strong parent board, assistant coaches and the only synthetic, lined lacrosse field in the state give him more time to focus on his coaching and training. Steve and his wife Cathy have also found a “balance that is now easier than before” when it comes to managing his family life and busy coaching schedule.

He is completing his 12th season as Prep’s head coach. In that time, he has led the Junior Jays to four state titles and four state runner-up finishes. He considers this unique service his passion and is pleased that he can help the players grow on and off the field as men for others.

When asked if he would ever consider coaching in a program where he received a stipend, he replied, “No. Prep is where I learned to be a man for others and this is where and how I want to give back!”

The entire Creighton Prep family is blessed that Steve leads by example and is fortunate to have him coaching the young players at the school today.
2016 CLASS REUNION INFORMATION

The following is a schedule of the reunions for those classes ending in a “1” or a “6.” Please contact the Alumni Office at ndrim@prep.creighton.edu or 402.548.3851 should you wish to assist with reunion planning as volunteers are needed.

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For those celebrating on August 26 and 27, plan on the following:

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 26**
- Golf in the morning
- A family-friendly tailgate with food, drinks and jump houses
- Varsity football game vs. Westside
- Class gatherings

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 27**
- Class gatherings with guests