



RONCALLI

THE LIFE PREP SCHOOL

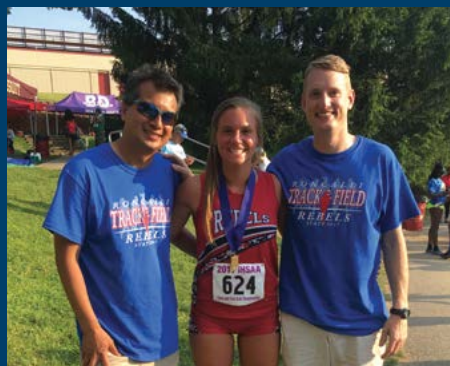
# update

Summer 2017

## Congratulations Class of 2017



LEZON WINS NATIONAL ARCHITECTURE  
COMPETITION



SAYLOR STATE LONG JUMP  
CHAMPION



SAINT JOHN XXIII AWARD WINNERS



# update contents

## Graduation



07

## Baccalaureate

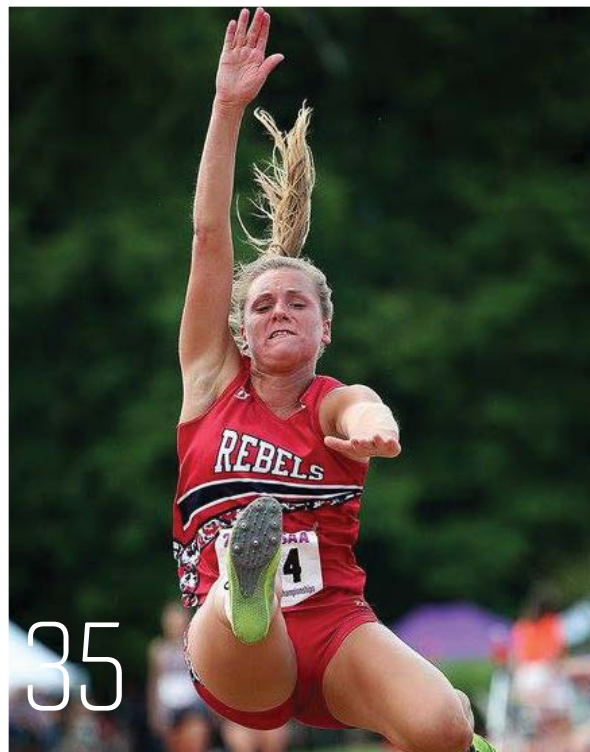


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Update Magazine is published by the Office of Institutional Advancement under the direction of Terese R. Carson, Vice President for Institutional Advancement. Its intent is to be a vehicle to inform alumni, family and friends of recent and upcoming happenings and achievements at the school, as well as showcase the talents and gifts of its students and alumni. Editor-in-Chief: Terese Carson | Deputy Editors: Rachel Brown and Gary Armbruster R'81 | Design Director: Michael Davey R'13 | Photographers: John Smith, Rachel Brown and Kory Marks | Inquiries/Correspondence: Fran Davey, Roncalli High School, 3300 Prague Road, Indianapolis, IN 46227, (317) 787-8277 ext. 238 fdavey@roncalli.org

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**Prom 2017**



**Rebel Choir and Ensemble Wins Gold At State**



**Rebel Athletics**



**Camp Rebelation**

## MISSION STATEMENT

As a Catholic high school, our pledge is to provide, in concert with parents, parish and community, an educational opportunity which seeks to form Christian leaders in body, mind and spirit.

Guided by prayer and the Gospel values of faith, love and justice, students are challenged to respond to the call of discipleship and to fulfill their potential as lifelong learners in service to others.

Our end is to make God's love complete among us.

## ADMINISTRATION

PRESIDENT:

Dr. Joseph D. Hollowell Hon'97

PRINCIPAL:

Charles Weisenbach R'79

VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT:  
Terese R. Carson

VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE AND FACILITIES:  
Dave Gervasio R'85

VICE PRESIDENT OF MISSION AND MINISTRY:  
Robert Tully Hon'93

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ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL FOR ASSESSMENT & DATA:  
James Kedra

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES:  
Shellie Hartford Hon'14

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Tim Puntarelli Hon'99

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Shelly Fitzgerald R'91 & Lynn Starkey Hon'07

CAMPUS MINISTRY DIRECTOR:  
Jeff Traylor

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR:  
David Lauck R'94

CHAPLAIN:  
Father Dave Marcotte

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1996

*On the Verge  
of Something **BIG***



2017



Joe Hollowell, Ed. D.  
*President*



For over a year now, we have been giving serious consideration to completing a project that has been over 20 years in the planning stages. We have not kept this project a secret. In the Spring of 2106, we sent out over 5,000 electronic surveys to our community to determine the level of interest in completing our plans to build a modern gymnasium and additional classrooms to accommodate our current enrollment. We received over 750 responses to that electronic survey which is a great rate of return. Additionally, we had over 90 families who came in to participate in individual conversations regarding this project. In both cases, the responses we received were exceptionally supportive of such a project to address our facility challenges.

After the return of such positive results from the interviews and the online survey, our Board of Directors carefully considered the findings and decided that our community was ready to embark on this project in earnest. Over the past year, we have begun to assemble a team of over 100 volunteers who

have helped us think about and plan for the major fundraising effort that will be necessary to complete this project. In August 2017, it is our plan to formally announce and embark upon a major capital campaign. Though we have completed many capital improvements at Roncalli over the years, this will be the first capital campaign that we have conducted since 2005 when we completed the Building Faith and Futures Campaign to construct the Fine Arts Center and classrooms, our guidance offices, and the STARS resource center. We received more than \$4.5 million in pledges to that particular campaign. With rising construction costs and the expensive nature of our current needs, we would expect our new goal to be higher than our last campaign.

In addition to the new gymnasium and new classrooms to accommodate our student body, we also plan to embark on a much-needed expansion and renovation to increase our food preparation and service capacity. Our current kitchen area and cafeteria were built to accommodate a student body of 750. With today's enrollment of 1,200 students we find ourselves in need of addressing this area of our facility as well.

To accomplish such an aggressive expansion project we will need to acquire new property. For the past several years we have been in productive dialogue with some of our neighbors and we have made substantial progress on these

necessary acquisitions. We will formally confirm that progress as a part our campaign announcement.

There is no doubt that this will be a challenging project for our school community. However, the past generosity of our alumni, parents, friends, and other benefactors gives us great hope and confidence that we can successfully meet these challenges in a way that gives our students and teachers the tools that they need to be successful and to fulfill their potential as lifelong learners in service to others.

I ask that you please join us in praying for our students and teachers. The families that we serve are raising children in challenging times. There are cultural, political, and economic pressures that all of our families face as they try to bring up their children in accordance with Catholic traditions. In order to help meet these challenges, a first-class Catholic high school needs a facility that matches the magnitude of the work that needs to be done. Our Catholic communities have a centuries-old tradition of providing what is needed for the work that God has called us to carry on. The Roncalli Family has certainly added to that Catholic tradition over the past couple of decades.

I hope and pray that you will help us add to that legacy as we launch this campaign. God bless you and all of those dear to you and every good way!



# Moving turns into Spring Cleaning my Life!

Terese R. Carson

*Vice President for Institutional Advancement*

It all started when I decided to downsize my home. Smaller and simpler seemed to be calling to me. I put my house on the market and within six days I had sold my home and purchased a smaller home and within five weeks, the moving occurred! What happened during those five short weeks was not anticipated but truly appreciated.

I knew that I was going to be packing up all the rooms in my home. I knew that I would be purging unneeded and unwanted items either by giving them away or saving for the dreaded garage sale! I literally touched every item in my house and made a decision to keep or not to keep. What I did not know was that all this solitary time of packing gave me time to contemplate and be mindful of spring cleaning my life as well. I decided that this was not only a time to move to a home where life would be more simple but to also restore my body and mind for a fresh start!

I did a little internet research about spring cleaning your life and there was certainly plenty to read. I ended up taking information from several articles and this is the grand sum of what I started to evaluate during those long hours of packing boxes.

## *Re-define your core values...*

These are the guiding principles of your life around which all decisions and actions should be measured. When you know your core values, it is easy to discern where and how your life supports and reflects those values.

## *Restore your integrity...*

Make sure that all areas of your life align with your core values and personal integrity.

## *Harmonize your close relationships...*

Make sure that the people in your life whom you love or care for deeply get the attention, communication and love that those relationships deserve.

## *Shine up your attitude...*

Well I love any concept that has the word SHINE so it is always good after a gloomy winter to enjoy the beauty and joy of every moment, of every day. Shift your attention to all that is right in your life and allow joy and gratitude to move to the forefront of your thoughts.

## *Simplify your thinking...*

Sweep out distractions, projects and tasks that drain your energy. Prioritize a few goals for each day and focus on those only.

## *Reclaim your inner peace...*

Did I need this one?!?! The month of May is super busy in a school environment and I needed to find my inner peace and slow down. Clear away those things that distract us from enjoying more calm and contentment in our lives.

## *Buff up your emotional intelligence...*

Emotional maturity simply means having control over our emotions rather than our emotions having control over us. This is being able to accept people and situations as they are without needing to change them.

I know that these seven things are HUGE things. I had plenty of time packing boxes to evaluate and do some spring cleaning of my life. I can say that it was worth it. The biggest bonus was that all of these things strengthened my spiritual life as well. I have found myself spending more time in prayer. I have found myself seeing Christ in others on a more regular basis. Summer is such a perfect time for rest, relaxation and rejuvenation. I feel like I am prepared for a great summer after doing some spring cleaning of the physical and emotional parts of my life. God is indeed good!



# A DOCTOR ON YOUR DEVICE. ON YOUR SCHEDULE.

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# Members of the Graduating Class of 2017

Paul Anthony Agresta  
 Abraham Zoé Aguayo-Trujillo  
 Grace Helena Albertson  
 Anthony Joseph Allen  
 Charles Aric Anderson  
 Jonathon Philip Anderson  
 Caroline Anne Armbruster  
 Lindsey Elizabeth Arthur  
 Josie Shane Asher  
 Micah Martin Attai  
 Benjamin Joseph Babb  
 Michael Patrick Bailey  
 Laurell Hope Baker  
 Elizabeth Anna Barrer  
 William Bennett Barrett  
 Alejandro Enrique Basto  
 Meghann Elizabeth Beaver  
 Devon Anthony Belcher  
 Kristen Ann Blankenberger  
 Devin Joseph Boehm  
 Halle Pauline Bova  
 Hannah Louise Boyle  
 Logan Sidney Brandenburg  
 Madilyn Teresa Rose Brewster  
 Kelsey Kay Brich  
 Theresa Hoa Grace Bridge  
 Max Joseph Bridgewater  
 Prajedes Eva Candelaria Briones  
 Carlie Grace Ann Brosseau  
 Madeline Noelle Brown  
 Samuel William Brown  
 Christian Paul Brueggemann

Marisa Jo Bryans  
 Molly Marie Buckel  
 Noah Jonathon Buening  
 Joseph Anthony Burns  
 Nicholas Thomas Cahill  
 Rebecca Lee Cahill  
 Nicholas Anthony Carpenter  
 Morgan Marie Clarke  
 Connor Thomas Cleary  
 Alexis Marie Clowers  
 Bryan Parker Colvin  
 Alexis Noelle Conjelko  
 Ana Belen Coroa  
 Conor Michael Cunningham  
 Davis Cole Cunningham  
 Kurt Alan Cunningham  
 James Matthew Curd  
 Sophia Marie Dallas  
 Noelle Angela Gonzalodo Dalman  
 Abraham Douglas Dant  
 Anne Marie Davey  
 Anthony Michael Davis  
 Campbell Joseph Davis  
 Katlyn Grace Deak  
 Maddison Marie DeWitt  
 Austin Gerard Dias  
 Kathleen Marie Ditton  
 Samuel Montgomery Dull  
 Grant Eston Duncan  
 Jake Edward Emery  
 William Patrick English  
 Jacob Michael Evans

Aubrey Elaine Everette-Koehler  
 Nicole Ann Farnworth  
 Carlton Paul Farrell  
 Andrew Bryce Faust  
 Madison Elyse Faust  
 Lucas William-Michael Firkins  
 Nathaniel Richard Fischer  
 Nicholas William Fischer  
 Joshua Isaac Ford  
 Jacob Cole Fryar  
 Madeline Kathleen Ganka  
 Emily Christine Gant  
 Ryan Cole Gerdt  
 Abigail Rose Gervasio  
 Kenneth Matthew Gillum III  
 Katherine Elizabeth Goebel  
 Christopher Thomas Golab  
 Andrew Christopher Gorbali  
 Alex Malone Green  
 Annabel Lorelei Gremore  
 Katherine Elizabeth Griffin  
 Jack William Guanajuato  
 Hayley Melissa Guerrettaz  
 Carmen Corina Guevara Leon  
 Emily Elizabeth Hall  
 Evan Patrick Hammans  
 Autumn Leigh Harris  
 Ashley Marie Harter  
 Ryan Nicholas Heckman  
 Luke Ronald Hedrick  
 Allison Patricia Heinrich  
 Liam Ronald Herbert

Joshua Daniel Hiatt  
 Abigail Alyss Hickson  
 Christopher Abram Hill  
 Emily Nicole Hollcraft  
 Molly Marie Hollcraft  
 Kyle Joseph House  
 Maxwell Louis Huebler  
 Samuel Franklin Jackson  
 Spencer Stanley Jewula  
 Sarah Margaret Johnston  
 Adam Riley Jones  
 Jacob Thomas Jones  
 Luke William Jones  
 Harrison Payne Kauffeld  
 Ronnie Daniel Kawak  
 Nicole Elizabeth Kessler  
 Peter Hau Suan Kim  
 Abigail Kristian King  
 Helen Rae King  
 Douglas James Kirkman  
 Jaylen Anthony Koehl  
 Kami Elizabeth Koors  
 Alexander Jacob Kuntz  
 Julia Marie Kurz  
 Bain Andrew LaFollette  
 Quentin Franklin LaFollette  
 Mariesa Christina LaRosa  
 Shayla Rose Laut  
 Grant Patrick Lenahan  
 Michael Anthony Leppert  
 Richard Anthony Leppert  
 William Thomas Leppert







Heather Huffine Lezon  
Jacob Robert Long  
Alexis Kirsten Ludge  
Kathryn Josephine Madden  
Daniel Joseph Maher  
Sophia Therese Marino  
Alexander Charles Martinez  
Luke Anthony Matis  
Samuel Joseph Matis  
Elana Maria Matlock  
Adam Christopher Mattingly  
Cassidy Lee Mattingly  
John Daniel McAllen III  
Rebecca Alison Yang McCabe  
Margaret Jane McCloskey  
Lauren Elizabeth McColgan  
Ashley Kristine McCollam  
Jackson Pdraic McHugh  
Alexis Nicole McKeand  
Cassidy Francis McMahon  
Tabatha Lee McNulty  
Luke Philip Mercuri  
Nicholas Theodore Meyer  
Lily Joi Miller  
Timothy Mark Miller  
Hannah Marie Minton  
Jose' Emanuel Miranda-Garcia  
Benjamin LeRoy Moore  
Mason Erik Morancey  
Samuel Raj Nathan  
Vignesh Bose Nathan  
Cameron Taylor Neal

Andrew Michael Nelis  
Madison Nichole Nelis  
Curtis Thanh Nguyen  
Josephine Ann Niezgodski  
Madison Rose Nolot  
Sabrina Lee Noone  
Samantha Denise Norman  
Lucas Graham Kennedy Normington  
Morgan Nikkole O'Brien  
Neil Francis O'Brien  
Derek John O'Connor  
Emily Thi Okerson  
Maria del Carmen Olivares Beltran  
Gabriel John Otley  
Michael Thomas Otley  
Lindsey Madison Overstreet  
Chloe Michelle Owen  
Aidan Thomas Parker  
Nicholas William Parrett  
Brian Richard Paul II  
Alexandra Troy Pence  
Zachary Thomas Peters  
Isabella Rose Ragsdale  
Peter Francis Ralston  
Chad Maguire Ransburg  
Shelby Patrice Ray  
Courtney Nicole Reece  
Nathaniel Garth Reeves  
Antolin Jacob Elpidio Reiber II  
Emma Christine Reising  
Jenna Nicole Roehling  
Marc James Roland

Michaela Rae Salazar  
Consuelo Jocelyn Salcedo  
Patrick Farrell Sandler  
Henry Sang  
Paige Alexandria Saylor  
Jackson Michael Schaefer  
Catherine Irene Scheaffer  
Sophia Corinne Scheer  
Madalyn Ashley Scheil  
Emily Christine Schmidt  
Jeremy Matthew Schmidt  
Mary Kathryn Schneider  
Joseph Michael Schroeder  
Katelin Elizabeth Jean Scott  
Noah Harrison Servies  
Khui Shing  
Madison Paige Sisk  
Jack Thomas Sizemore  
Courtney Paige Smith  
Lukas Meyer Smock  
Dakota Reese Solonka  
Collin Richard Sonderman  
Emelia Grace Spears  
Anthony Nelson Stallings  
Christian Thomas Stewart  
Victoria Frances Stewart  
Kathryn Elizabeth Strange  
Brandon Marcellus Sturdivant  
Savanna Lee Sullivan  
Weikai Sun  
Matthew Joseph Susemichel  
Joshua Joel Swan

Tyler Anthony Swiezy  
Alexis Michele Swingendorf  
Christopher Frederick Teney  
Claire Patricia Tutino  
Layke Elijah Vinson  
Payton Christine Volpp  
Zane Addisan Wagner  
Benjamin William Walesky  
Catherine Mossie Wallace  
Ryan Adam Warren  
Patrick Robert Waugh  
Claire Anne Whalen  
Aimee Kathleen Whelan  
Christie Michelle Wicks  
Parker John Williams  
William Johnson Wincek  
Matthew Blake Woodruff  
Jacob Gerard Wormann  
Cameron Thomas Wright  
Yan Yan  
Karlee Elaine Yanis  
Abigail Elizabeth Yohler  
Gavin Michael Young  
Nathaniel Robert Young  
Xinyu Zhang





# Senior Mass and Reflection

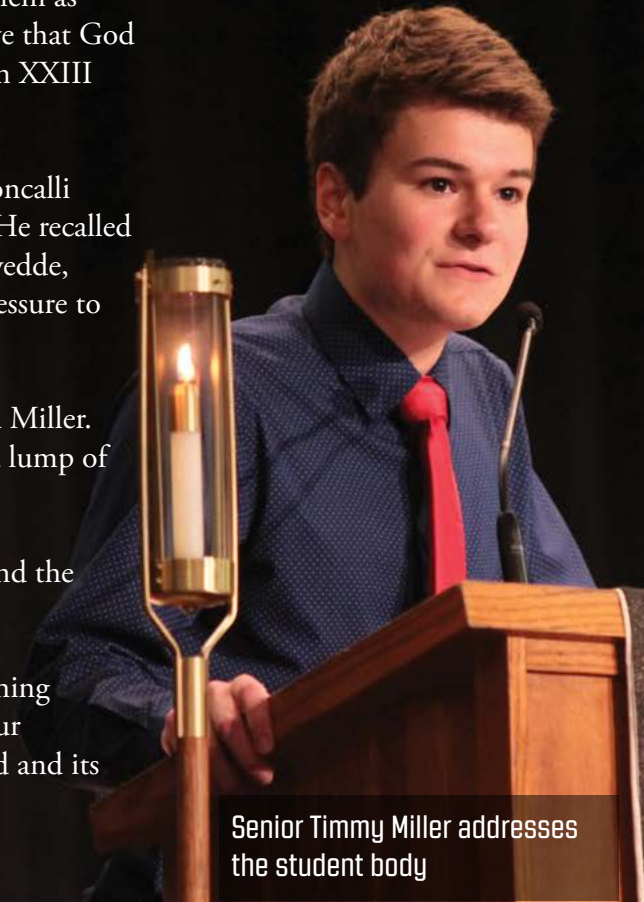
Roncalli Principal Chuck Weisenbach, clad in his iconic red jacket, addressed the senior class as they gathered for the last all school mass on Thursday, May 18. Mr. Weisenbach stressed that the purpose of a Roncalli education is to help students develop an agile learning mind that will serve them as lifelong learners. He also implored everyone to give out all the love that God puts in their hearts each day and to practice humility, as Saint John XXIII did.

Each year, one senior student is selected to speak about life as a Roncalli student. This year, the honor was bestowed upon **Timmy Miller**. He recalled early in his freshman year when his cross country coach, Mr. Niewedde, told him he was just a lump of coal that needed some time and pressure to become a diamond.

“Faith is like the coal in this whole diamond making process,” said Miller. “Initially, faith looks plain and rough around the edges, just like a lump of coal, but it actually possesses incredible potential.”

Miller said that the Roncalli Community is the furnace for faith and the diamond is your unique being.

“As you leave Roncalli and enter the real world, don’t ever let anything besides your own will and God’s will dictate how you will craft your diamond, and make sure that you never fear sharing your diamond and its awe-inspiring radiance with this world,” concluded Miller.



Senior Timmy Miller addresses the student body

## Senior Picnic

Roncalli’s Senior Picnic was held at Northeast Park in Greenwood on Friday, May 12. Seniors played basketball, soccer, ultimate frisbee, cornhole, baseball and some just enjoyed playing on the playground.

Of course, the highlight of the picnic was the ever-popular senior kickball tournament. Over 160 seniors competed in the tourney with the team of: **Sam Brown, Evan Hammans, Christopher Hill, Liam Herbert, Richard Leppert, Hannah Minton, Annie Davey, Lauren McColgan, Emily Hall, Sophie Sheer and Maddie Faust** walking away with the victory. Special thanks to the kickball umpires, Jeff Traylor and Pat Crosley.





# 2017-18 CLASS OFFICERS

<b>Andrew Burgan</b> Public Relations	
<b>Ellie Murphy</b> Service	
<b>Ryan Flick</b> Spirit	
<b>Erin Rooney</b> Web Promotion	
<b>Class of 2020</b>	

	<b>Ashlyn Streicher</b> Public Relations
	<b>Dominic Conover</b> Service
	<b>Kelli Mariutto</b> Spirit
	<b>Eiler Spayd</b> Web Promotion
<b>Class of 2019</b>	

<b>Collin Prince</b> Public Relations	
<b>Katie Kolis</b> Service	
<b>Dianna Perez</b> Spirit	
<b>Ben Asdell</b> Web Promotion	
<b>Class of 2018</b>	

	<b>Kathleen Soller</b> Public Relations
	<b>Grace Murphy</b> Service
	<b>Logan Schott</b> Spirit
	<b>Tyler Hicks</b> Web Promotion
<b>Student Council</b>	

# RONCALLI CELEBRATES ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Roncalli proudly honored students at the 28th annual Academic Honors Reception at the Atrium on May 4. Close to 900 guests recognized students for their many wonderful academic accomplishments during this school year. During the program the winners of the annual endowed scholarships were announced. We congratulate the following students:



**Kathleen Soller**  
Roncalli HS Leadership Scholarship



**Sam Hansen**  
Jeffrey N. Perkins Memorial  
Scholarship



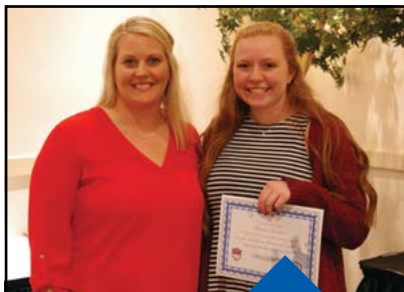
**Lucy Furiak, Kaitlyn Keigley**  
Martin R. Eckstein Scholarship



**Grace Albertson, Jacob Reiber**  
Katie Lynch – Live, Laugh, Love  
Memorial Scholarship



**Max Cross, Morgan Kincaid,  
Madeleine Russell**  
Anna's Celebration of Life Scholarship



**Hannah Minton**  
Jennifer McKinney Memorial  
Scholarship



**Kimberly Madden**  
Emily Winters Lipps Young  
Women's Scholarship



**Cassandra Petroff**  
Wong Family Scholarship



**Connor Gore, Kayleigh Winter**  
Kathleen Crosley Memorial  
Scholarship



**Olivia Beach, Max Cross**  
Clark Family STARS Scholarship



# AWARDS GIVEN AT BACCALAUREATE CEREMONY

The following students received awards during the Class of 2017 Baccalaureate liturgy on Friday, May 26, at 6:00 PM in the Roncalli Family Room:

**Khui Shing** received the Robert F. Tully Scholarship. This award is given to a graduating senior who has demonstrated service, religious involvement and academic performance for a future in either service to the church, church related employment or pursuing careers in faith-based organizations.

Seniors awarded with perfect attendance for all four years at Roncalli were: **Elizabeth Barrer, Devin Boehm, Madilyn Brewster, Max Bridgewater, Rebecca Cahill, Connor Cleary, Spencer Jewula, Quentin LaFollette, Michael Leppert, Timothy Miller, Benjamin Moore, Samuel Nathan, Vignesh Nathan, Sabrina Noone, Michael Otley, Jackson Schaefer, Catherine Scheaffer, Alexis Swingendorf and Parker Williams.** Madilyn Brewster was the only student with perfect attendance all 12 years.

**Jonny Anderson** was presented with the Bernie Dever Award, which was established in memory of the late Bernie Dever, principal of Roncalli from 1976 - 1983. This award honors one senior who embodies the personality, values and the academic achievements of Dever.

**Grace Albertson** and **Parker Williams** received the Saint John XXIII Award. To be considered for this prestigious award, seniors must have demonstrated putting their religion into practice by their words and actions at Roncalli and in their home parish, service to the school and community, personal contribution to the school and to the needs of others and have the respect of their peers and adults.

**Reecie LaRosa** and **Timmy Miller** were awarded with the Spirit of Roncalli Award, which recognizes graduates who have demonstrated integrity, a healthy lifestyle, diligence and perseverance in the classroom. The seniors possess leadership and positive character traits along with being both a positive role model in the classroom and a solid school citizen.



Robert F. Tully Scholarship Winner, **Khui Shing**



Bernie Dever Award Winner, **Jonny Anderson**



Spirit of Roncalli Award Winners,  
**Reecie LaRosa** and **Timmy Miller**



Saint John XXIII Award Winners,  
**Parker Williams** and **Grace Albertson**

## LEZON WINS NATIONAL ARCHITECTURE COMPETITION

Roncalli High School senior **Heather Lezon** won first place in the National Women in Construction architectural design competition. Her dentist office design was chosen over eleven other students' works from across the United States for the national title.

Three Roncalli architecture students, under teacher Jim Ratliff, swept the statewide competition. Lezon took first place, **Maddie DeWitt** second and **Noah Buening** third place.



*Left to right: Maddie DeWitt, Noah Buening, Heather Lezon*

## RONCALLI STUDENTS HONORED WITH CYO "SPIRIT OF YOUTH" AWARD



The Catholic Youth Organization of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis recently announced their 2017 Spirit of Youth Award winners. These high school students were honored for the commitment, dedication and contribution they have made to their parish and especially to their parish's youth ministry programs. Congratulations to Roncalli High School honorees: **Connor Cleary** (St. Mark), **Alexander Martinez, Jacob Reiber** (St. Jude), **Patrick Shilson, Adam Mattingly** (Good Shepherd).

## ALBERTSON HONORED WITH ARCHDIOCESAN SPIRIT OF SERVICE AWARD

Catholic Charities in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis named senior **Grace Albertson** the 2017 Youth Spirit of Service Award recipient. She was honored in a ceremony on April 26 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom.

Albertson, a parishioner at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, has committed the last six years to helping refugees to the United States make the adjustment to life in Indianapolis. She has taught English to Burmese and Syrian children, greeted refugee families at the Indianapolis International Airport and helped them make the transition to life in their apartments. She also spent parts of two summers in South Korea, teaching English



to children there. Albertson will continue that effort when she attends Marian University in Indianapolis this fall. She is the daughter of Rusty and Julie Albertson.



## LAFOLLETTE EARNS EAGLE SCOUT HONOR

Senior **Quentin LaFollette** earned the honor of Eagle Scout status, which is the highest honor bestowed upon a Boy Scout. For his Eagle Scout project, he made several storage benches and repaired doghouses for the South Side Animal Shelter. The storage benches are also used for customer seating. He is the son of Chris and Donna LaFollette and they are members of St. Mark parish.



## WEISENBACH AWARDED IBCA ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

Principal Chuck Weisenbach was honored with the Indiana Basketball Coaches Association (IBCA) Administrator of the Year award for District 2 on April 21 during the 39th annual IBCA Clinic at Lawrence North High School in Indianapolis.

The IBCA Clinic hosted about 1,000 coaches from around the state who heard speakers, visited vendor booths and honored both coaches and administrators for their excellence during the two day clinic.

## A SERVANT'S HEART: SENIORS WITH MOST SERVICE HOURS HONORED

Margaret McCloskey	711
Grace Albertson	638.5
Alex Martinez	548.5
Sophia Scheer	545.5
Spencer Jewula	541.5
Sarah Johnston	520.5
Jacob Fryer	506.5
Katelin Scott	489.5
Brandon Sturdivant	469
Michaela Salazar	452
Julia Kurz	434
Yan Yan	415
Katherine Goebel	407
Madeline Brown	403.5
Connor Cleary	402.5

Roncalli High School asks their students to complete hours of service each semester. The members of the Class of 2017 have been completing service hours for the past four years, and many have "gone the extra mile" in serving the needs of others.

A total of 96 seniors have received their service cord, which signifies a student completing 50% more than the expected hours. Among that group, the following have exceeded all expectations. They clearly answered the call to "be Christ to others" over the past four years.

These students performed over 400 hours, and will be honored with their name on a plaque, which hangs outside Mr. Striby's office.

## S.T.A.R.S FOUNDER MUSGRAVE RETIRES

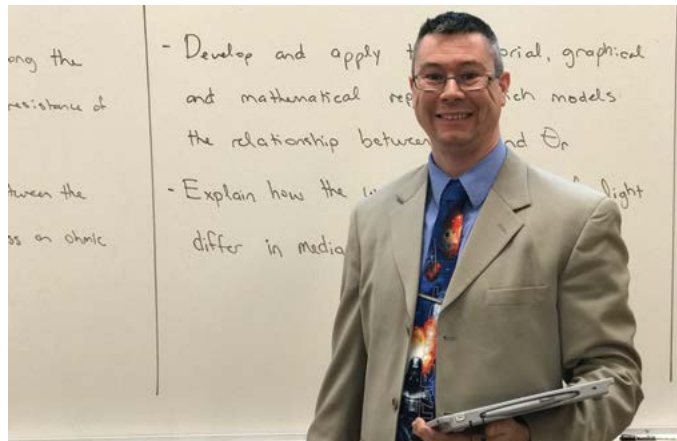


Mrs. Pat Musgrave, the founder of Roncalli High School's S.T.A.R.S program and the director of the program for the past 24 years, retired in May. A reception in her honor was held on Friday, May 19 in the Roncalli Media Center.

"It was always my dream to one day teach in a Catholic school. Having graduated with an undergraduate degree in special education I was not sure that would be a possibility, as at that time there were no programs for special education students in the private schools. I will always be grateful for the opportunity I was given to become a part of the Roncalli community and help develop the STARS special education program. It has truly been a dream come true that I will forever cherish."

## GRIMES EARNS TWO AWARDS

Physics teacher Benjamin Grimes was honored with two prestigious teaching awards in less than one month. Grimes first was bestowed the American Association of Physics Teachers Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award for the state of Indiana on April 22nd at the University of Indianapolis. He was selected over hundreds of candidates on the criteria of five plus years of teaching experience, innovative instructional techniques, collaboration with other teachers and leadership.



The following week, Grimes was awarded the Samuel F. Hulbert Outstanding Teacher of the Year for Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. Grimes was nominated by two of his former Physics students, Nate Eble and Matthew White, who are now freshman mechanical engineering students at Rose-Hulman. It is the first time that two students recommended the same teacher for this award.

When asked about why Mr. Grimes was being nominated, Nate Eble said, "He helped instill confidence in me to try my hardest. He believed I could get into Rose-Hulman when I never thought I could." Matthew White added "Mr. Grimes helps those who have no interest in Math and Science to see all of the great aspects of such subjects by presenting material in a way that truly captures the attention and interest of his students."

Grimes' love of Physics resonates throughout his classes at Roncalli High School. His students are enthusiastic to learn about everything from falling objects and forces to electricity and magnetism through hands-on educational experiences, many times outside of the classroom. Away from the classroom, Grimes serves with the Roncalli Senior Retreat program and as a mentor on school-sponsored service trips to the Appalachian region of West Virginia.



## RONCALLI RAISES MONEY TO HELP WATER WITH BLESSINGS

When senior **Cassidy McMahon** came back from a mission trip to Haiti, she was moved to continue to help. "I heard a statistic about the dangers of unclean water that made me sure that this was the issue that I needed to help solve. Half of all the hospital beds in the world are filled with people who are sick because of unclean water," McMahon said. So, she approached Roncalli and St. Mark parish to see if they would be willing to help and both schools offered to have their Lenten Almsgiving projects benefit Water with Blessings (WWB).

WWB provides water filters to mothers in developing countries who do not have access to clean, convenient water. These women then become missionaries of water, known as Water Women, but also of the Gospel messages and blessings of the organization. Each water woman then is called to share their filter with three other mothers, spreading the blessings throughout. With the funds raised by Roncalli, over 288 filters will be distributed to those in need.

At the beginning of Lent, Campus Ministry set a challenging goal for the school: to raise \$15,000 for Water with Blessings and they not only met that goal, they surpassed it to raise a total of \$17,326! "This Lent, Roncalli supported a truly amazing cause and exhibited incredible generosity that made me proud to be a Rebel," said McMahon.

## WHALEN NAMED INDIANA ACADEMIC ALL STAR



The Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP) named senior **Claire Whalen** a 2017 Indiana Academic All Star. Whalen, one of only 40 seniors in the state to receive this honor, was chosen by an IASP committee that reviewed over 400 nominations. She was Roncalli's 17th Academic All Star in the 30-year history of the program, which ranks among the highest of any school in the state.

Whalen, along with her "Most Influential Educator," English and Psychology teacher Mrs. Kim Striby, received her honor at a luncheon at The Indiana Roof ballroom on April 25, 2017. Whalen, Valedictorian of the class of 2017, is the daughter of Drs. Rob and Liz Whalen.

## KUNTZ RECEIVES ACADEMIC KIWANIS SCHOLARSHIP

Senior **Alex Kuntz** was one of five Marion County senior high school boys basketball players to receive the Kiwanis-Next Gear Academic All-Star Scholarship at the 71st annual Indiana State High School Boys Basketball Finals Luncheon at Bankers Life Fieldhouse on March 23. The \$1,000 scholarship was awarded to five senior Marion County basketball players who maintained the highest career grade point averages. Kuntz is the son of Joe R'86 and Amy Kuntz R'87.



## SPRING CONCERTS CELEBRATE PERFORMING ARTS

The band, orchestra, choral and dance classes performed sold-out spring shows on May 11 and 12. Thank you to our Performing Arts teachers: Phil Anderson, Kathy Peach, Joey Newton, Laura Horcher and Melanie Eakman. It was another stellar year of music, dance and live theater! We are blessed to have so many talented, hard working students in collaboration with such dynamic teachers.



## PROM 2017

Rebels danced the night away at Prom at the Children's Museum on April 22, 2017.



*Prom Court pictured left to right front row: Olivia Origer, Dianna Perez, Lauren Fey, Queen Sophie Daniel, King Sam Hansen, Grace Lawrie, Bri Beeson, Grace McGuire. Back row: Luke Dow, Michael Dill, Joe Kirkhoff, Harrison Koppenhofer, Patrick McManama, Conner Gore.*



## RONCALLI INDUCTS GROUP TO NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Roncalli High School inducted 129 juniors and seniors into the Roncalli High School Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS). To be considered for the NHS, students must meet the following criteria: minimum 3.6 GPA, completed five semesters of Level III or IV course work, verifiable evidence of service, leadership and outstanding moral character and written essay on which of the nine charisms of St. John XXIII is most special to them.



## PERFORMING ARTS RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE

The choral, theater and band programs held their annual end of the year banquets. In addition to celebrating another great year of Performing Arts at Roncalli, the following students were recipients of special awards:

### Theater Awards

Actor of the Year	<b>Reesie LaRosa</b> <i>as Ms. Hannigan</i>
Techie of the Year	<b>Jeremy Schmidt,</b> <i>Student Director Annie</i>
Outstanding Freshman	<b>Zachary Mayer</b>
Outstanding Senior/Patty Cunningham Award	<b>Chris Golab</b>
Tom Madden Memorial Scholarship	<b>Meghan Koleszar</b>

### Theater Officers 2017-2018

President	<b>Shannon Mitchel</b>
Vice President	<b>Natalie Stigall</b>
Secretary	<b>Mia Roberts</b>
Treasurer	<b>Cassie Petroff</b>
Historian	<b>Sam Gervasio</b>

### Choral Awards

Nouveau Award	<b>Trey Koch</b> <b>Abby Davey</b>
Singing Rebel Spirit Award	<b>Connor Cleary</b> <b>Annie Davey</b>
Director's Award of Excellence	<b>Michael Bailey</b>
Orpheus Award	<b>Grace Albertson</b> <b>Allison Pena</b>

### Band Awards

John Phillip Sousa Award	<b>Madeline Brown</b>
Semper Fidelis Marine Band Award	<b>Chloe Owen</b> <b>Katie Goebel</b>

# ARTISTS SHOW OFF THEIR TALENT



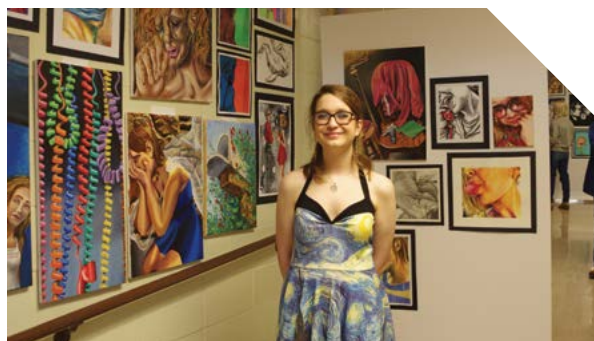
The Visual Arts Department, lead by their instructor, Mark Stratton, hosted hundreds of guests at its annual Art Show on Friday, May 5, from 5:00 - 8:00 PM in the Auditorium lobby. The Art Show featured student creations from the various art classes offered: 2-Dimensional Art, 3-Dimensional Art, Drawing, Ceramics, Sculpture and the portfolios of AP Studio Art students. Artists were on hand to discuss their work.



## ARTISTS HONORED FOR THEIR WORK

Juniors **Rachel Knierman** and **Hannah Brinker** each placed in the Right to Life of Indianapolis annual art contest. This contest was open to all students enrolled in grades 9 – 12 in Marion County, or any of the bordering counties.

For the second year in a row, Roncalli art students have been the recipients of two of the five awards. Knierman received second place. This is the third year in a row that she has placed in the top three, winning the contest last year. Brinker received fifth place for her work.



Knierman's art was also selected to be part of the 3rd annual Indiana High School Junior Art Invitational sponsored by Indiana University's Herron School of Art & Design. The artwork, submitted by Roncalli art teacher Mark Stratton, was on display April 8-22 at the Herron School of Art & Design Marsh Gallery.

## REBEL BAND & CHORAL ENSEMBLES EARN GOLD AT STATE



The Band and Choral programs had quite a day on Saturday, April 8th at the 2017 ISSMA Organizational competitions. The Concert Band, Advanced Women's Chorus and Show Choir all earned Gold ratings in performance as well as in sight-reading. The Beginning Women's Chorus earned a Gold in sight-reading and a Silver in performance.

# CAMP RONCALLI REBELATION SETS NEW RECORD



Over 440 friends of Roncalli High School gathered around the campfire for CAMP RONCALLI Rebelation on Saturday, April 29, 2017. The evening was led by principal and head camp counselor, Chuck Weisenbach R'79, and consisted of dinner, drinks, live and silent auctions and student entertainment. Over \$130,000 was raised to help Roncalli families in need of tuition assistance.

One high bidder won two tickets to see Jordan Donica (R'12) in his roles as Thomas Jefferson/Marquis de Lafayette in the touring production of "Hamilton" and a back stage tour with Donica after the show!





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# Boys Track 2017 Review

The boys' track team performed its best in the biggest meets of the year. The squad captured the team titles at the Archdiocesan Championship and the inaugural Circle City Conference Championship. At the conference meet, the Rebels won individual titles in eight of the 16 events. At the sectional, the team finished third, which tied its best finish since 2003. The Rebels had an individual sectional champion, three runners-up and 11 regional qualifiers. At the regional, the Rebels had an individual champion and two additional state qualifiers. This season's track team numbered nearly 100 athletes, which is the largest team in program history.

Senior **Gabe Otley** qualified for regional in the 400 meters with a third-place finish in sectional, before winning the regional the following week. He is the team's first regional champion since 2012. His regional title put him in the state final, where he ran a career-best 49.80 and finished 13th. Otley's performance at the state final earned him a spot on the Indiana All-Star track team, becoming the first athlete in program history to be named to the team. Sophomore **Nick Perkins** won the sectional 3200-meter title for the program's only sectional title in 2017. The following week, he finished third at regional and became the program's first-ever state qualifier in the 3200 meters. Senior **Will English** advanced through the postseason to qualify for the state final in the discus.



**Gabe Otley** earned the team's MVP award. Senior **Kurt Cunningham** won the team's mental attitude award. Sophomore **Grant Latimer** was named the most improved athlete. **Owen Herndon** was the freshman MVP. **Nick Perkins** was awarded the sophomore MVP and **Myles Lyngh** was the junior MVP. **Will English** won senior MVP honors.

Seniors **Kurt Cunningham, Will English, Timmy Miller, Neil O'Brien, Gabe Otley, Michael Otley** and **Luke Smock**, along with juniors **Cade Morgan** and **Nicholas Plahitko** were all named Academic All-State by the Indiana Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches (IATCC). Seniors **Luke Matis, Jacob Reiber** and **Tyler Swiezy** and juniors **Hayden Moran, Ethan Newett** and **Sam Sedgwick** earned honorable mention Academic All-State honors. Roncalli boys track had more first-team academic all-state selections than any other program in the state.





# Girls Track 2017 Review



The girls track season culminated in three school records set during the postseason and the program's second-ever state champion and first since 2002. Senior **Paige Saylor** capped a stellar track career with a school-record long jump of 19 feet, one inch at the state finals, earning her a state title. She broke her own school record of 18 feet, 10 inches (set during last year's regional) and finished an inch and half ahead of second place. Saylor joins **Anna Weber** (2002, shot put) as Roncalli's only girls track state champions.

Two relay teams set school records in the regional. The 4X100 relay team of Saylor, seniors **Josie Asher** and **Morgan Clarke** and freshman **Emily Sonderman** established a new record of 49.39 and advanced to the state final. The same four runners set a new school mark in the 4X400 with a 4:05.49.



Saylor and Sonderman shared team MVP honors. Sonderman qualified for the state finals in the long jump and was one of four freshmen in the field. She also ran the second-fastest 400-meter time in school history. Senior **Marisa Bryans** turned in the third-fastest time in school history in the 100-meter hurdles and the fifth-best high jump. Junior **Grace Lawrie** advanced to regional in the 100 hurdles and senior **Emma Schmidt** made it to regional in the shot put. Also moving on to the regional was the 4X800 relay team of juniors **Danielle Henke**, **Izzy Jahnke** and **Kate Morse** and freshman **Mary Roesner**. Senior hurdler and jumper **Claire Whalen** earned the team's mental attitude award.





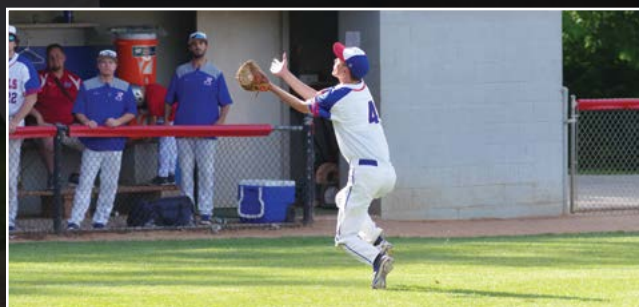
# Baseball 2017 Review

The baseball team registered an 18-10-1 record and repeated as sectional champions, despite graduating 10 seniors from last year's state championship squad. The Rebels defeated Perry Meridian (6-0) and Southport (5-1) to win the program's 13th sectional title. Prior to this season, the last time the Rebels won consecutive sectional titles was in 1998 and 1999. The Rebels defeated Avon (6-2) in the regional semifinal before falling 5-2 to Cathedral, the eventual undefeated state champion, in the regional final. The Rebels also advanced to the final of the Marion County Tournament.

Sophomore outfielder **Tommy Hansen** entered the national high school record books on April 7. In a game played in Louisville against Metamora

Township from Illinois, Hansen became the first player in national high school history to hit a grand slam in three straight plate appearances. He finished the game 3-for-3 and drove in all 12 runs in a 12-1 Roncalli victory.

Junior outfielder/pitcher **Nick Schnell** was named Marion County player of the year and earned a spot on the American Family Insurance All-USA Indy-area baseball Super Team. He was also selected to the inaugural All-Circle City Conference team. Hansen and junior infielders **Hayden Harper** and **Harrison Koppenhofer** joined Schnell on the all-conference team. Harper and Hansen were also picked for the all-county squad.

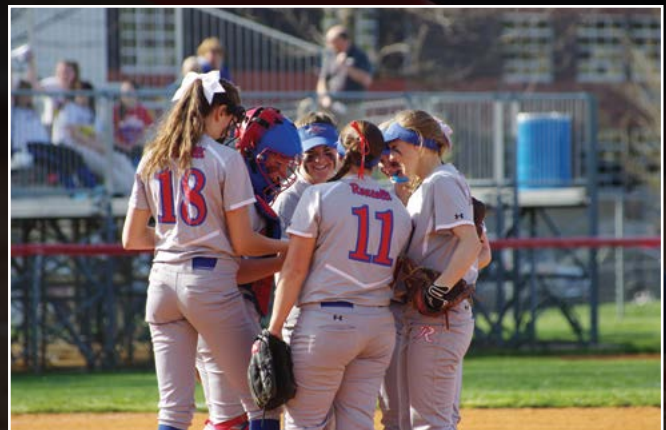




# Softball 2017 Review

The softball team logged another 20-win season, finishing with a 22-7 record and as the runners-up in the sectional. The team met its goal of winning at least 20 games and of capturing the inaugural Circle City Conference championship. After dropping two games during the regular season to Decatur Central, the Rebels lost a tight 1-0 affair in the sectional final to the Hawks, who were also Marion County champions.

Junior **Jordan Jenkins** and freshman **Amber Linton** split the team MVP award. Either Jenkins (11 wins) or Linton (10 wins) was the winning pitcher in 21 of the team's 22 victories. Junior shortstop **Amanda Prather** was the team's offensive player of the year. Junior second baseman **Lauren Fey** earned the team's defensive player of the year award, after winning offensive player of the year last season. Fey was also named large school third team all-state by the Indiana Coaches of Girls Sports Association (ICGSA). All four players – Jenkins, Linton, Prather and Fey – were named All-Marion County and All-Circle City Conference. The team's lone seniors – **Abby Hickson** and **Maddie Faust** – were both named honorable mention academic all-state by the ICGSA.





# Boys Volleyball 2017 Review

The Rebels worked through a season full of obstacles to post a 32-10 record and a trip to the semi-state. The team used 17 different players throughout the season and didn't have a consistent starting lineup until the state tournament. In the semi-state match, starting setter Sam Eiland went down with an ankle injury in the second set and the Rebels lost in four sets to second-ranked Noblesville. Along the way, the Rebels won their ninth consecutive regional championship and captured the first-ever Circle City Conference championship.

Senior **Conor Cunningham** was named the team's MVP, as well as the team's defensive player of the year. Senior **Matthew Woodruff** joined Cunningham on the All-Circle City Conference team and was a finalist of the Indy Star's state player of the year. He also won the team's mental attitude award. Junior **Jacob Luedeman** was also an all-conference selection, as was junior **Sam Eiland**. Eiland earned the team's offensive player of the year award. The Indiana Boys Volleyball Coaches Association (IBVCA) tabbed Cunningham, Woodruff and Eiland as all-state selections. Senior **Billy Wincek** was chosen to the all-tournament team by the state's coaches.

Wincek, Cunningham, Woodruff and juniors **Conner Gore, Kyle Carpenter, Michael Frausto, Murphy McManama** and **Patrick McManama** were all named to the IBVCA Academic All-State team. Five players – Cunningham, Luedeman, Carpenter, Frausto and Eiland – were selected to participate in the United States Volleyball Association (USAV) Talent Showcase. Only 50 players were chosen nationally to be involved with the event. **Sam Eiland, Michael Frausto**, junior **Blake Powell**, sophomore **Zach Straumins** and freshman **Zach Mayer** were picked to train with the USA National team and coaches for a week.

Three players entered the program record book. Connor Cunningham set a new season-record for digs (364). Sam Eiland established a new single-season assist record with 950 and Jacob Luedeman broke the single-season kills record with 250.





# Girls Tennis 2017 Review

The girls' tennis team posted one of its best seasons in recent years, finishing with a 17-5 record and capturing the program's first sectional title since 2013 and 10th overall. In the sectional final, the Rebels defeated Franklin Central 3-2, with the trophy-clinching victory coming in the number-two doubles match. Juniors **Ally Lewis** and **Lauren Liberto** won 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (7-4) and sealed the victory in a thrilling third-set tiebreaker. After

defeating Triton Central 5-0 in the regional final, the team dropped a 3-2 decision to state-ranked Center Grove in the regional final.

Freshman **Emma Hess** won an individual sectional title and advanced to the regional. She also earned the team's MVP award. Senior **Kathleen Ditton** won the team's mental attitude award. Senior **Abby Yohler** was named first team Academic All-State.





# Boys Golf 2017 Review

The boys golf team accomplished its goal of winning the inaugural Circle City Conference championship. The team improved throughout the season and shot its season-best score (311) in the sectional. That score was good for a fourth-place finish, but was one spot away from regional advancement. The Rebels' score of 311 was the lowest score in the state among teams that didn't advance to regional and was good enough to win over half of the 30 sectionals statewide. The Rebels' sectional included the eventual state champion (Center Grove) and the top two individuals in the state championship.

Junior **Evan Wray** shot a 75 in the sectional and was an individual regional qualifier. He also earned the team's MVP award. Junior **Drew Fleming** won the team's mental attitude award. The regular season featured many individual highlights. Fleming birdied three of his final four holes to help the team win a match. Freshman **Mark Poole** shot a 75 at The Trophy Club and finished high against the strongest field in the state. His brother, freshman **Luke Poole**, medaled in two of his first three high school matches. Junior **Logan Schott** fired a 37 at Sagamore. The team was the only Roncalli squad in 2016-17 to compete without a senior on the roster.





# Lacrosse 2017 Review

The lacrosse team finished the 2017 campaign in strong fashion, winning six of its final nine games. The team started the season 0-4, facing off against some of the state's top teams. After averaging 1.8 goals over the season's first four games, the squad averaged 8.1 goals over the season's final stretch and topped 10 goals four times. Junior **Evan Schiefelbein** earned the team's MVP award for the second straight season. Senior **Campbell Davis** was selected to play in the Indiana High School Lacrosse Association East versus West Showcase. Davis established a new program record for career points and sophomore **Erik Alstatt** set a new mark for single-season assists (22). Junior **Brent Wampler** won the team's mental attitude award. Sophomore goalie **Nolan Hoffman** was chosen to the All-Circle City Conference team.







## LAUCK WINS 200TH GAME

Roncalli softball coach David Lauck R'94 earned his 200th career victory in Roncalli's 7-1 home win over Southport on Tuesday, April 11. Lauck, in his ninth season as head coach, led Roncalli to the 2011 Class 3A State Title. Under his guidance, the Rebels have won six sectionals, four regionals and three Marion County Tournament titles. Lauck, who also serves as Roncalli's athletic director, owns a career record of 200-56.



## RONCALLI ATHLETES TO COMPETE COLLEGIATELY

Roncalli High School seniors **Max Bridgewater**, **Dakota Solonka**, **Christian Stewart** and **Patrick Waugh** signed letters of intent to compete collegiately.

**Bridgewater**, a member of the 2016 state championship team, signed to play baseball at Manchester University under coach Rick Espeset. He plans to study business and is the son of Kevin and Laura Bridgewater.

**Stewart**, who was named to the 3rd team All-County, will play basketball at Marian University for coach Scott Heady. He will study business and is the son of Jeff Stewart and Natasha Murphy.

**Solonka** signed to bowl at St. Ambrose University (Davenport, IA) under coach Eric Littig. Solonka, who was named to the Indianapolis South All-Conference team, plans to study marketing and finance. He is the grandson of Robert and Geri Mayhugh.

**Waugh** will continue his wrestling career at Manchester University under coach Kevin Lake. Waugh, who was a semi-state qualifier, plans on studying business. He is the son of Pat and Jennifer Waugh.





*Left to right: Derek O'Connor, Patrick Sandler, Coach Scifres, Zane Wagner, Christian Brueggemann*

## FOUR FOOTBALL PLAYERS TO PLAY COLLEGIATELY

Seniors **Christian Brueggemann**, **Derek O'Connor**, **Patrick Sandler** and **Zane Wagner** signed letters of intent to play football collegiately. They were members of the 15-0 Roncalli 4A State Championship team.

**Brueggemann** signed to play football at the University of Indianapolis under coach Bob Bartolomeo. Brueggemann, who was named first team Circle City Conference, plans to study business. He is the son of Tom and Krista Brueggemann.

**Derek O'Connor**, who was named the 4A Player of the Year, will play football at Wabash College for coach Don Morel. He will study economics and is the son of BJ and Kelley O'Connor.

**Sandler** will continue his football career at the University of Dayton under coach Rick Chamberlain. Sandler, who was named All-Marion County kicker, plans on studying accounting. He is the son of Steve and Pam Sandler.

**Wagner** signed to play at Thomas More College under the direction of coach Regis Scafe. Wagner, who was named the team's defensive lineman of the year, plans on studying criminal justice. He is the son of Donald and Heather Wagner.

## HANSEN SETS NATIONAL RECORD



On April 7, 2017, Roncalli sophomore outfielder **Tommy Hansen** hit three grand slams in three consecutive at-bats, driving in all 12 runs in Roncalli's 12-1 victory over Metamora Township (Ill.) High School in a game played in Louisville, Kentucky. Hansen finished 3-for-3 in the game.

According to the National Federation of State High School Associations' online baseball record book (NFHS.org), Hansen set a new national record by hitting grand slams in three consecutive at-bats in separate innings. Hitting out of the cleanup spot, he hit a no-out grand slam in the first inning. He followed that up with a two-out grand slam in the second inning. His final grand slam came in the fourth inning with no outs. According to the NFHS record book, six players shared the previous record with grand slams in two consecutive at-bats in separate innings. The most recent was Corey Bell of West Point James O'Neill (N.Y.) in 2007. According to the NFHS record book, Hansen is the sixth player to hit three grand slams in one game. The most recent was Zac Jancek of Montague (Mi.) in 2005.

# Thank you Coach Scifres!

- Winningest coach in Roncalli football history
- Career record of 248-88
- Won seven state titles -- 1993, 1994, 1999, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2016
- One of six head coaches in Indiana high school football history with at least seven state titles
- Ranks 24th all-time in career wins among Indiana high school football coaches
- Responsible for 40 titles -- 7 state championships, 8 semi-states, 11 regionals, 13 sectionals, 1 Circle City Conference title
- Accounted for 62% of the Roncalli football program's all-time victories (248 of 402) and 59%



of the all-time games played (336 of 568).

- Coached 70 all-state players, 20 Indiana all-starts and one Mr. Football
- Served as head coach for all three of the program's undefeated seasons -- 14-0 in 1993 and 15-0 in 1999 and 2016



# MARSH HIRED AS FOOTBALL COACH



Scott Marsh has been hired as the school's head football coach. Marsh is the eighth head coach in the history of Roncalli football. He served as the defensive coordinator on last season's team that went 15-0 and won the Class 4A state title. Last season's Roncalli defense allowed just 14.6 points per game and held six opponents under 10 points. Marsh replaces Bruce Scifres, who resigned after 27 seasons to become the new executive director of the CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

"I am honored and ready to get to work," said Marsh. "Roncalli is synonymous with excellence – academically, spiritually and athletically. This is a humbling day for me and my family."

Marsh has eight years of varsity head coaching experience, with stints at Thomas Carr Howe (2008) and Perry Meridian (2009 through 2015). While at Perry Meridian, his teams led the state in passing twice (2012 and 2013) and led all of Class 6A in rushing in 2014. In 2012 and 2013, he led Perry

Meridian to its first back-to-back winning regular seasons in a decade.

Marsh served as the linebackers coach/special teams coordinator for Warren Central's 2006 5A state championship team that went 15-0 and was called the "Greatest Team Ever" by the Indianapolis Star. The following year, he was Warren Central's assistant head coach/defensive coordinator. He also coordinated the defenses at Boyd County High School (Ky.) and Lake Gibson High School (Fla.). In the late 1990s, he was a graduate assistant at Morehead State University, where he played collegiately. During his college career, Marsh was a three-year starter at linebacker and a team captain.

"Scott Marsh has an extensive football background," said Roncalli athletic director David Lauck R'94. "His coaching experience, engagement with student-athletes, faith formation and family-oriented focus are what stood out through our evaluation process. We are excited for Coach Marsh to lead the Roncalli football program and to stay in our Roncalli community."

Starting in August, Marsh will teach advanced physical conditioning at Roncalli. He currently teaches at Perry Meridian. He and his wife, Missy, have four children and live on Indianapolis' south side. Missy R'93 is entering her 10th season as Roncalli's head girls varsity volleyball coach.

Roncalli opens its 49th season of football when it hosts Southport on August 18 at 7:00 p.m.

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## SENIOR FOOTBALL PLAYERS HONORED

Two senior football players were honored for their excellent seasons. Quarterback Derek O'Connor capped off his perfect 15-0 season by being named the 4A Player of the Year at The Griddy's on Sunday, March 26, 2017 at the Colts Practice Facility. Each year, over 400 attend this banquet that recognizes the best players, coaches, and media representatives in Indiana High School Football. These award recipients are chosen after a panel of media and coaches review over 18,000 varsity players in Indiana. Senior offensive lineman Marc Roland was selected to participate in this summer's North-South All-Star football game by the Indiana Football Coaches Association. The game was played on July 14, 2017 at North Central High School.

## COX HIRED AS SWIMMING AND DIVING COACH

Roncalli High School announced that Curtis Cox has been hired as the school's boys and girls swimming and diving coach. Cox takes over for Ed Merkling, who oversaw the programs for 19 years before stepping down following the 2017 season to take over as the Director of the IUPUI Natatorium.

Cox is a 2007 Roncalli graduate and has spent the last two seasons as the swimming and diving head coach at Decatur Central High School. He was a four-year varsity swimmer during his time at Roncalli. He currently works at the IUPUI Natatorium and is the Youth Swim and JAGS Team Coordinator.

## SAYLOR WINS STATE TITLE



*Left to right: Coach Royce Antolin, Saylor, Coach Kevin Banich*

Roncalli High School senior **Paige Saylor** won the state long jump title earlier today in the IHSAA girls state track championships at Indiana University. Saylor won the event with a jump of 19 feet, 1 inch, which was an inch and a half better than Washington senior Kaitlyn Davis. Last season, Saylor finished sixth in the state long jump competition with a jump of 18 feet, 2 and a quarter inches. Saylor's jump today broke her school record of 18 feet, 10 inches, which she set in winning last year's regional title. Saylor is the second Roncalli girls state track champion. Anna Weber won the state shot put title as a junior in 2004.



# RONCALLI CELEBRATES ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Roncalli proudly honored student athletes at the Athletic Awards Banquet at Primo Banquet Hall on May 17. Coaches, parents and peers recognized students for their wonderful athletic accomplishments during this school year. Christy Uttnage Pfeffenberger (R'01), Xavier University Head Volleyball Coach, was the keynote speaker. We congratulate the following award winners:



**Tim Bowman**  
Rebel Fan of the Year



**Cody Smith & Michael McAvane**  
Dave and Angie Toner Sportsmanship Award



**Claire Whalen**  
Most Outstanding Female Scholar Athlete



**Michael Otley**  
Most Outstanding Male Scholar Athlete



**Claire Whalen**  
RABC Award



**Alex Kuntz**  
Strader Family Scholarship



**Gabe Otley**  
Most Outstanding Male Athlete



**Paige Saylor**  
Most Outstanding Female Athlete



**Marguerite McMahon**  
Jonathon Page Memorial



**Bob Susemichel**  
Joe Mendez Distinguished Service Award



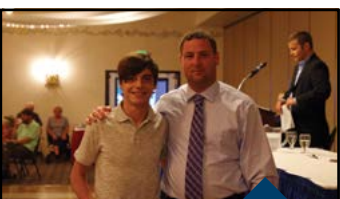
**Courtney Reece**  
Most Outstanding Female Mental Attitude



**Cross Country**  
Team Academic Excellence Award Male



**Paige Saylor**  
Mike Brewer Memorial Scholarship



**Devon Belcher**  
Rebel Courage Award



**Will English**  
Most Outstanding Male Mental Attitude



**Cross Country**  
Team Academic Excellence Award Female

# Class notes

1957

**James Schott SHC '57** was inducted into the Orange County (Florida) Public Schools



Hall of Fame this past year. Jim graduated from Sacred Heart to pursue degrees from Marian (College) University, Butler University and Purdue University with teaching and coaching stops at Cathedral and Bishop Chatard along the way. Jim states, "Whatever success I may have had up to this point in my life is owed in great part to my experiences noted above." His accolades over his lifetime are too numerous to list in their entirety but include; OCPS Deputy Superintendent for Instruction – 1977, Superintendent – 1980-92. Jim played an integral part in the development of many programs that have continued to make a profound and positive impact on the district, its students and the OCPS team.

1974

**Deb Sachs R'74**, Teach (STEM)<sup>3</sup> program director and assistant professor of

education, was recognized as Teacher of the Year at the University of Indianapolis for 2017.



1979

**Bob Kelly R'79** has obtained his life and health insurance license and is presently the field agent for The Knights of Columbus. His territory includes most parishes on the Southside that serve the Mater Dei Council (3660).

1984

Many members of RHS Class of 1984 made the trip to celebrate the wedding of classmates Mike Kindley and Veronica 'Roni' O'Connor on October 15, 2016 at St. Mary of the Woods College.

1988

**Meg (Arnold) Banta R'88** recently celebrated her 15th anniversary of employment at Spencer Fluid Power as a credit/collections manager. Meg lives in Federal Way, WA.

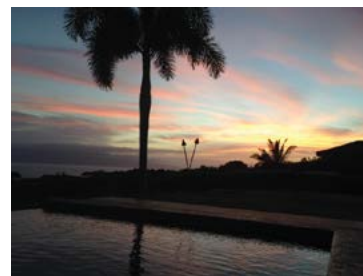
1989

**Margaret (Bradley) Beckner**

'89 was recently promoted to Clinical Nurse Manager at IUHP Primary Care South, a family medicine practice. Margaret states, "I've been married for 23 years to Brady Beckner. We have two children, Elliott, 19, a Biomedical Engineering/pre med student at IUPUI; and Ethan, 16, a soon to be junior in high school pursuing his musical talents! We enjoy traveling and serving God on medical mission trips through Mount Pleasant Christian Church."

1992

After 20 years of teaching and being a principal for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, **Becky Spitznagel R'92** moved



to Maui last summer to become principal at Sacred Hearts School in Lahaina, Hawaii. Although it can be tough being so far away from family and friends, the weather and ocean



views every day have helped to make the transition easier!

## 2002

### Mike R'02 and Lindsay (Squillace) Perry R'04

welcomed Josephine Margaret Perry into their family on May 5, 2017. She weighed 6lbs 14oz

and was 20 inches long. Mom, Dad, Josephine and big brother Mason are all doing great!



## 2003

### Brian R'03 and Erin (Ross) Bevis R'07

welcomed a daughter into their family on



Tuesday, June 13 2017. Keating Louise Bevis, named after her two

great-grandmothers and born on her great-grandfather's birthday, was 9lbs 3oz and 20.5 inches. Her big brother Julian loves her to pieces!

## 2004

### Michelle (Mislan) Faust

R'04 and her husband

Jacob welcomed their second

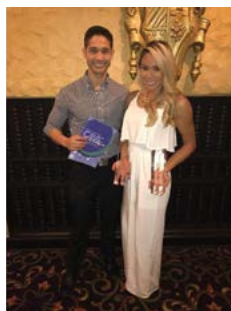


daughter into their family on March 18, 2017. Elyse Jeanne, named after her Aunt Jeanne Armbruster, weighed 7lbs 7oz and was 22 inches. She joins big sister Charlotte, who adores her!

### Michelle (Delacruz) Boyden

R'04 CPA, CGMA, Manager of tax services at mAccounting, was recently selected as one of this year's

Indiana CPA Society (INCPAS) Emerging Leaders. She was honored at the CPA Celebration on May 12 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom.



### Matt Heinekamp

R'04 and his wife Allison adopted

their son Theo Heinekamp from China on February 14, 2017. He joins his siblings Lydia, Garrett and Colbie.

### Megan (O'Gara) Delaney R'04

and her husband Sean welcomed their eighth child into their family on April 15. Cadyn

Charles was born five and a half weeks early, but is home now and doing great...all of his big brothers and sisters are so in love with him!



## 2005

### Justin Jenkins R'05 and Brittany (Klene) Jenkins R'07

welcomed son William Allen into their family on Wednesday, June 14, 2017.

William joins big brother Jackson in the family, and he was 9lbs and 8oz and 22in long. In the hospital, William was neighbors with Keating Bevis, future friends and Rebels in the making!



## 2006

**Sr. Tracey Horan R'06** was awarded the 2017 Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award by the US Catholic Bishops during their Spring General Assembly at the



University of Dayton. The annual Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award is sponsored

by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) and honors a Catholic between the age of 18 and 40 who demonstrates leadership in fighting poverty and injustice in the United States through community-based solutions.

Tracey also made her first vows with the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana on Sunday, June 25. Congratulations, Sr. Tracey!

**Rayta (Trumble) Nelson R'06** and husband Chad Nelson welcomed a baby



girl on February 13th. Reese Amylynn was 7lb 2.5oz and 20.5 inches long. Big sister Charlee loves helping out and playing with her little sister.

## 2007

**Stephen Sullivan R'07**

graduated from the University of Indianapolis in 2013 with a Bachelor of Music Degree. Recently Stephen completed his transition to teaching by completing the Indiana Wesleyan University Music Education program. He is considering several offers at this time and will be teaching music this fall.

## 2008

**Ryan Danhauer R'08 married Kaylee Schembra R'08** on September 17, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church, where Kaylee's parents **Larry C'68 and Kathy (Nally) Schembra C '68**, were



married. Rebels in the wedding, including groomsmen **Kyle Danhauer R'07, Andy Matis R'08, David Holmes R'08, Devon Parson R'08, Nathan**

**Allen R'08, Mike Agal R'08, Alan English R'08, Josh Buckel R'08, Tommy Schembra R'00, Larry Schembra R'97 and Sean Schembra R'98.**

Rebel bridesmaids included **Ashley (Holmes) Oechsle R'09, Tricia Schutz R'08, Jacquelyn Dossey R'09, Mallory (Opel) Jackson R'09, Kate (Eldred) Lane R'08, Brianna Kern R'08 and Melissa (Bradley) Schembra R'05. Erin (Perkins) Bohn R'94** read at the wedding, as Ryan and Kaylee met in her class at Roncalli, and **Bob Tully H'93** drove the bridal party members to church that day. It was definitely a Roncalli affair!

**Megan Bellamy R'08** graduated from Anderson University with her Masters of Business Administration on May 6, 2017.



**Jennifer (Fowler) McBride R'08** and her husband, Ryan, welcomed their bundle of joy on May 20th, 2017, Amelia Marie McBride.



2009

**Morgan Gibson R'09**

married her Prince Charming, Chad Pittman of Monrovia on June 3, 2017 in Shelbyville, IN. Fellow Rebel **Nick Heskett R'10** was in the wedding.



2010

**Augie R'10 and Katie (Groves)**



**Hibner R'10** welcomed twins to their family on April 29, 2017. Charlotte Shore (named after Katie's late grandfather Mike Shore, a substitute teacher at Roncalli while Katie and Augie attended Roncalli), Magdalena Elizabeth and big brother, Gus, are all doing great!

**C.J. Allard R'10**

accepted an offer to become an assistant volleyball coach at Coastal Carolina University. He spent the last two years as the



Assistant Volleyball Coach at The University of North Carolina Greensboro-UNCG.

2011

**Conner Writt R'11**, Indiana



University graduate, in March of 2016 was accepted into the Chicago Fashion Incubator, a two year program for fashion designers in Chicago. While working in the program, Conner was also developing a new business venture called, Thumb which will be launching in July, 2017. Thumb is a no-hassle long-distance carpooling service for college students.

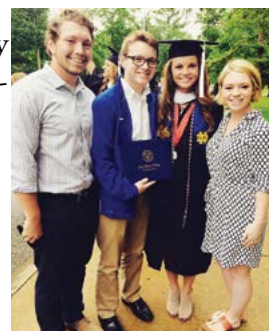
2013

**Daniel Buergler '13** graduated from the University of Indianapolis on May 9th, 2017 with a Bachelors of Arts in History and Political Science and accepted a position at Gleaners Foodbank of Central Indiana as the new Mixing Center Coordinator. Daniel continues to run competitively and recently finished 30th overall at the 500 Festival Mini-Marathon; 5th in his age group.

**Michael Scifres R'13** graduated from Indiana State University on May 14. Mike served as a Marine throughout his college career to fulfill the honor of a commissioned Marine Officer. On June 17, 2017 Lieutenant Michael Andrew Scifres received his USMC uniform gold bars to signify the completion of his education in college and as a graduate of the Quantico Officers Training Academy. We salute Lt. Scifres.

**Colleen Naumovich R'13**

graduated Summa Cum Laude from Saint Mary's College on May 20, 2017 in South Bend, IN and was recognized with the Juliette Noone Lester Award as the top student in the Department of Political Science. She plans to attend the Maurer School of Law at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN in fall 2017.



2014

**Dezmin Bowman R'14** has been selected for an internship at Palm Beach Illustrated in West Palm Beach, FL. PBI is known as the counties exclusive magazine, publishing for Palm Beach County, Naples Illustrated, Weddings Illustrated, Mar-a-Lago magazine, and The

Breakers magazine as well.

## 2015

**Drew Naumovich R'15** was the recipient of the Tull Endowed Scholarship from the Department of Business at Franklin College and was named to the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Academic All-Conference Baseball Team for the 2017 season.

**Caleb Matthews R'15**, pitcher for Kankakee Junior College and **John Herrick R'06**, Sports Director of Chisholm Trail Broadcasting in Enid, OK, met at this year's NJCAA World Series championship. Caleb's team beat Mercer County Community College 11-5 to win the NJCAA World Series championship.

**Alex Kelley R'15**, a junior architecture student at Miami University, landed an internship with Two Chicks and a Hammer from HGTV's Good Bones! She will be spending the summer working on floor plans as their design intern.

## In Memorium

Since the last publication of the Update, the Advancement Office has received word of the following deaths:

**Michael Snyder, SHC'61**

**Sue Luichinger C'67**

**Maria Schaub Gillum '84**

**Tanya M. Wright Irwin R'95**

If a Roncalli alum or former teacher has passed away recently, please contact us at [update@roncalli.org](mailto:update@roncalli.org).

## GOLDEN GUARD HONORED AT GRADUATION BREAKFAST



The beautiful weather for this year's Roncalli graduation helped welcome the **Bishop Chartrand and Kennedy Memorial Class of 1967** back to campus. For the 21st year, the Roncalli Alumni Association and Administration welcomed back to campus the 50-year graduating class. This year, the Class of 1967 was honored at graduation ceremonies. Everyone had a wonderful morning reminiscing about high school days and making new memories. Their morning closed by being presented with a 50-year pin and induction into the Golden Guard. From this day forward, they may enter any event at Roncalli High School whether it be sports, theater or academic competition free of charge. Congratulations Bishop Chartrand and Kennedy Memorial Class of 1967!





## Scifres Steps down as Football Head Coach

By: Star reporter *Kyle Neddenriep*

When Bruce Scifres was hired as Roncalli's football coach in 1990, he couldn't have imagined he'd spend the next 27 years in that role. And near the end of his nearly three decades at the school, he couldn't imagine he'd ever leave.

But Scifres, 60, is leaving. The seven-time state championship coach resigned on Monday and will take over this summer as the executive director of the Catholic Youth Organization in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

"The time I've been at Roncalli has been a true blessing," Scifres told *IndyStar*. "I've worked with amazing young people from great families. I'm a better man because of the time I've spent there. My faith is stronger as a result of me being there for 27 years. For a long time, I envisioned myself finishing my career there. It's been a calling. But now I'm moving on to another calling and an even bigger team."

Scifres led Roncalli to seven state championships to tie for fifth-most in Indiana high school football history. The Rebels were 15-0 last season, defeating NorthWood 34-22 to win the Class 4A state

championship. Roncalli also won state championships under Scifres in 1993, '94, '99, 2002, '03 and '04.

Scifres' record at Roncalli was 248-88 to rank 24th on the all-time win list in the state. He is one of nine coaches in state history to win three consecutive titles.

"As the parent of two former players in the football program, and as the principal, I frequently would tell Bruce that we could not have had a better person leading our football program," Roncalli principal Chuck Weisenbach said. "No football coach in the state of Indiana has done a better job in leading young men and being instrumental in their development of life skills. His impact on the program and our school will be sorely missed."

Scifres will replace Ed Tinder, who announced his retirement after serving as executive director of CYO for more than 30 years. Scifres said he attended a sports ministry conference last year where he was asked to write a two-sentence personal mission statement. His thoughts aligned with the opening at CYO.

"The more I thought and prayed about it, I felt in my heart like I was being spoken to," Scifres said. "The answer seemed to be very clear. CYO serves right at 24,000 young people and involved about 7,000 volunteers. As I reflected on my personal mission statement, I felt like this would be a chance to have a profound influence on young people."

Scifres, a graduate of Plainfield High School and Butler, started out as a graduate assistant at Butler in the fall of 1979. He was hired at Roncalli as the head track coach and assistant football coach in 1980. He left Roncalli for an assistant coaching position at Lawrence Central in 1983 and stayed for six years — with one year at Brownstown Central in between — before he was hired at Roncalli in 1990.

Scifres said he hopes Roncalli will look to hire from within the program.

"(To stay 27 years) is a testament in my mind to how special the school is and how awesome the kids and families are," he said. "I've had incredible colleagues. It's been a great place to teach and coach."

# Bruster's Bits

Gary Armbruster, R'81 *Director of Alumni Services*

Meriam-Webster defines Tradition, in part, as the following: an inherited, established, or customary pattern of thought, action, or behavior (such as a religious practice or a social custom). We have so many wonderful traditions at Roncalli that take place throughout the school year but it seems the end of the school year brings to the forefront many favorite traditions.

For the past ten years on the morning of Senior Mass, a recent college graduate is invited to come back to Roncalli and address our seniors as they prepare for their final days of high school. The alumni is asked to offer their reflections about being an alumni from Roncalli out in the world, how their Roncalli education aided them in college and to share some of their wisdom with our students. Without fail each presentation has included an element of appreciation for faith, favorite teachers, mentors and administrators along with the knowledge that expectations for a Roncalli graduate can be challenging because much is expected from them. "To whom much

is given, much is expected" is a recurring theme. The following list represents alumni that have graciously addressed our senior class beginning with the most recent.

**Andrew Stallings** R'13 Indiana University

**Joey Mulinaro** R'12 University of Indianapolis

**Kristen Thomas** R'11 Xavier University

**Ray Stallings** R'10 University of Dayton

**Danny Allen** R'09 Wabash College

**Jeff Soller** R'08 Wabash College

**Jake Kolisek** R'07 Wabash College - Rhetoric and Political Science - Attorney Morse and Bickel, P.C.

**Willie Matis** R'06 Wabash College - Economics - Financial Advisor Edward Jones

**Chad Peterman** R'05 Wabash College - Peterman Heating Cooling and Plumbing

**Matt Taylor** R'04 Franklin College Broadcast Journalism - Manager of Radio Production Radio host and sideline reporter for the Indianapolis Colts Network.

Another tradition occurs each year at baccalaureate when Roncalli invites back members of the silver anniversary class who served as senior class officers or student council officers, along with the class valedictorian and salutatorian, to be recognized by the Roncalli Alumni Association as Silver Scholars. This past year we honored two outstanding members from the Class of 1992, Maria Schott Halloran and Anne Lynch Jordan PhD. See more on page 43.

Following Baccalaureate, the next morning Roncalli High School hosts a very unique gathering in conjunction with the Alumni Association. Twenty-two years ago the Golden Guard Club was created. Membership includes those graduates from Bishop Chartrand, Sacred Heart Central or Kennedy Memorial High Schools from at least 50



*Tom Nelis, Bob Beck and Dave Toner (C'67) with Gary Armbruster (R'81)*



# Silver Scholars honored at Baccalaureate

years ago. This year marked the second class to ever graduate from Bishop Chartrand and the first class to finish at what was once known as Sacred Heart Central but then called Kennedy Memorial High School. A total of 39 graduates from both schools joined the Roncalli graduates on the stadium surface for commencement this year and all received a pass granting them free admittance to all Roncalli sponsored events on our campus for the rest of their lives.

Finally, graduation ends with a tradition that began almost back to the time of Christ, bell ringing. As our graduates process out of the stadium, the Chapel bell rings until all the graduates have left the stadium. For centuries bells have called the faithful to worship and signified celebration and so we celebrate the official end of the school year looking forward to future successes of our graduates. Even the Chapel bell has a tradition. The 2,600 pound bronze bell was forged in St. Louis in 1882. It was then shipped to Leadville, Colorado where it served as the bell for the schoolhouse in this once booming mining town. Now it is presented as the first thing seen when entering Roncalli's campus from Prague Road again rising towards the heavens; calling all those that hear it to come and celebrate.

The first honorees at this year's Baccalaureate were not members of the class of 2017 but rather members of the Roncalli High School Class of 1992. Each year at Baccalaureate Roncalli invites back members of the silver anniversary class who served as senior class officers or student council officers, along with the class valedictorian and salutatorian, to be recognized by the Roncalli Alumni Association as Silver Scholars. This year two members from the Class of 1992 were honored: Class Treasurer, Maria Schott Halloran and Salutatorian, Anne M. Lynch – Jordan PhD.

Halloran attended the University of Notre Dame where she graduated in 1996 earning a degree in Science - Business. She is married to her husband Matt and is a stay at home mom with their three kids, Matthew -11, Henry-9 and Leo-5. The Hallorans live in Carmel, Indiana and Maria is very active doing volunteer work at their parish, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Maria states, "I am so very grateful for the time I spent at Roncalli – the teachers and administrators were exceptional and were instrumental in helping me establish and be proud of my Catholic identity as an adult. My favorite memories from high school were Senior Retreat, Summer Field Studies, and being on the Cross Country team."

Anne Lynch-Jordan attended the University of Dayton and earned her BA in Psychology in 1996. She finished work on her PhD in Clinical Psychology, Specialization, Child Psychology at Purdue University in 2003.

Dr. Anne is a clinical psychologist in the Division of Behavioral Medicine & Clinical Psychology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. She is the author / co-author of over 30 journal articles in the area of pediatric chronic pain.

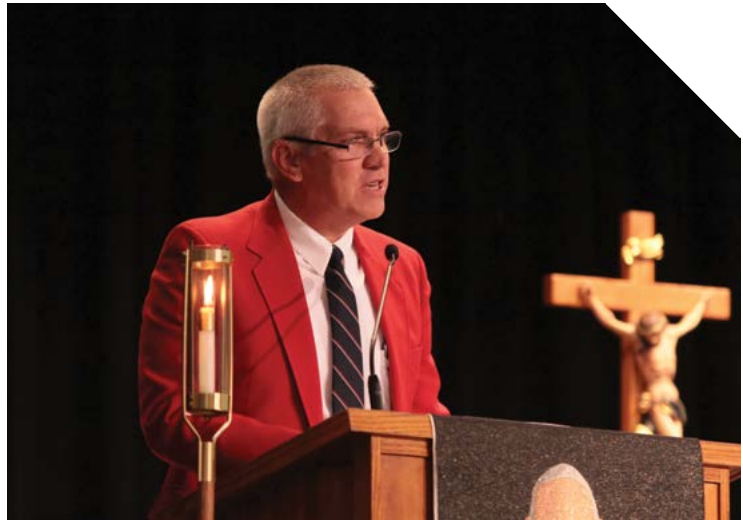
Anne met her husband Mike Jordan while a student at Dayton and the couple has two kids: Molly-6 and Erin-4. The family lives in northern Kentucky and belongs to St. Agnes Parish, where Molly is now finishing kindergarten.



*Left to right:  
Maria Schott Halloran (R'92) and  
Anne M. Lynch-Jordan (R'92)*

# The Last WORD

Chuck Weisenbach R'79, Principal



Summer Greetings!

I hope and pray that your summer to this point has been restful, relaxing and enjoyable for all in the Roncalli Family!

I will not take up much space in this article looking back but would be remiss if I did not say a quick thanks to all for a marvelous 2016-17 school year! Students, parents, teachers, and staff members - thank you for a great school year! A special thanks to the members of the Class of 2017 - what a wonderful group of talented young men and women! Thank you to them for being strong, positive, visible leaders for our school and community in so many

different ways. God's blessings on them and their life journeys!

I spend a fair amount of time these days being reflective. Not sure if this is related to my growing older, but I have come to value the beauty and power of reflection. I find myself encouraging our students and teachers, and even my own children, to be sure to include reflective time in their daily and/or weekly schedule. One life skill that has found its way into my reflections consistently this past year is the idea of personal accountability. This topic will be the focus of my article.

The general definition of accountability is "the willingness to accept responsibility for or to account for one's own actions."

My reflections on the concept of accountability are mostly driven by what I see unfolding around me in so many different facets of life. White collar professionals not accepting accountability for their illegal and/or immoral actions. Professional athletes not accepting accountability for their illegal and/or immoral actions. Politicians not accepting accountability for their illegal and/or immoral actions as well as not accepting accountability for their mistakes! On a more personal and daily level - students



not accepting accountability for their actions.

Author James Lehman wrote the following, “The simple truth is that most kids, and even some grown-ups, don’t take responsibility for their actions. Without accountability in place, kids blame others for their actions, refuse to follow rules they find unfair, and find ways to justify their behavior.”

Few things stunt the mental, emotional and spiritual growth of a young person more than a lack of personal accountability. All parents relish seeing their children succeed and flourish! However, it can be quite challenging and in some cases downright gut-wrenching watching our children struggle or make mistakes. However, as adults we should know that it is through the process of being held accountable for their actions and learning from these experiences that our children learn valuable, life lessons that will serve them

well as adults, in both their personal and professional lives.

Just as I commented earlier about the proliferation of high profiled business people, athletes and politicians who are unwilling to accept responsibility for their actions, I also see a proliferation of parents unwilling to allow their children to accept responsibility for their actions. This is an unhealthy foundation on which to build their future! We adults (parents, teachers, coaches, youth ministers, etc.) still love them (children/young people) unconditionally and will assist them as best we can in their life journey, but they must know with full clarity that they will be held responsible for their behavior. Anything less is in some ways neglectful on our part.

All of us in society must own our actions and be prepared

for the consequences of those actions. My intent in this article is not to imply that personal accountability pertains only to teens, but given they are at the center of the greatest amount of my daily work, I felt it appropriate to focus most specifically on them.

I close with a good exercise for all of us that ties back into my opening comments on the beauty and power of reflection. Questions for each of us to reflect upon:

*-What does personal accountability mean to me?*

*-How personally accountable am I?*

*-Do I foster personal accountability in my child?*

All in the Roncalli Family are in my prayers throughout these summer days, especially those who are fighting through challenging times!

God bless you and peace be with you!



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