Farewells and New Opportunities

INSIDE:
Class of 2014 Leaves Its Mark
From President to Provincial
Alumni Reunion
The 2013-2014 academic year seemed to fly by. They say that happens when you’re having fun.

At commencement it was evident that the Class of 2014 enjoyed their time at Siena, but they weren’t the only ones celebrating recently.

Athletics brought home multiple MAAC titles this spring. The men’s basketball team won its first-ever national championship. Faculty continued to secure record-breaking grant money. Our students seized unique research opportunities and alumni partied with classmates during reunion weekend.

The celebrating was tempered in June by the announcement that Siena president, Fr. Kevin Mullen ’75, O.F.M., Ph.D., would be leaving to lead Holy Name Province, the largest group of Franciscan friars in the United States and Siena’s founding institution. We are deeply grateful for his seven years of successful leadership at the helm of his alma mater, and he will be greatly missed.

With so much to celebrate, so much to remember and so much to be thankful for, we have expanded the magazine’s usual format by eight pages. I hope you enjoy this issue as much as our departing president and our newly minted alums enjoyed their Siena experience.

Jim Eaton

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Family members celebrate Siena’s 74th commencement at the Times Union Center in Albany, N.Y. The College awarded 758 bachelor’s and 54 Master of Science in Accounting degrees to the Class of 2014.
“They have their exits and their entrances, and one man in his time plays many parts,” says Jacques in Shakespeare’s “As You Like It.” Since June of 2007, I have had the privilege of playing the part of Siena’s tenth president, although play-acting had little to do with it. It’s a very real job with very real responsibilities and very real challenges. Fortunately, I’ve been surrounded by caring brothers in the friary, talented colleagues on campus and generous alumni throughout the world who are deeply committed to Siena’s mission. Together, I believe we have made great strides in being who we say we are: a Franciscan, Catholic, liberal arts learning community offering our students “the education of a lifetime.”

As fond as I am of Shakespeare, there is another poet who has a far greater claim to my allegiance. St. Francis of Assisi said that the friars are to be like “strangers and pilgrims in this world” who claim nothing as their own, least of all a permanent residence or a high-profile position. So, having made my entrance into the president’s office seven years ago, I now make my exit and continue my pilgrimage.

In June, the friars of Holy Name Province elected me to a six-year term as their provincial minister. It was, in the words of St. Francis, a summons to serve my brothers “with great kindness and love” and to encourage them in our shared vocation of praying, living and preaching the good news of Jesus Christ. Although I leave Siena with a touch of Irish melancholy, I do so with great confidence in Brother F. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., Siena’s interim president, and with profound gratitude for the trust my Franciscan brothers have placed in me.

Some might say that, like the proverbial bad penny, you’re never rid of me. Since the provincial minister is a member of the College’s board of trustees, my relationship with Siena will continue. While my “exits and entrances” through the front gates of the campus will be far less frequent now that I’m living in Manhattan, they will be all the more memorable for their intermittence and all the more cherished for the bonds of friendship I have forged with so many of you.

May you and your families be blessed with “peace and all good” in the days and years ahead.

Fraternally,

Fr. Kevin Mullen ’75, O.F.M., Ph.D.
Siena’s 10th President
Class of 2014 Leaves Its Mark On Siena

Instead of having a traditional commencement speaker, this year Siena let the Class of 2014 speak for itself. A video reflection from the class aired during their graduation ceremony and can be seen at siena.edu keyword search commencement 2014. Students selected by the class council were interviewed and shared their thoughts on the past four years.

Highlights of the video included science majors launching a NASA rocket into space, students cheering on the men’s basketball team to the College Basketball Invitational championship and young scholars engaging in service and research around the globe.

The class made a name for itself in other ways as well. They played a major role in suggesting student-friendly renovations to the Sarazen Student Union. These will be completed by the fall. They introduced Siena’s version of Dr. Phil at the annual Mr. Siena event and brought to campus the Roots Café which offers local, organic, fair trade lunches on Wednesdays.

Members of Siena’s Class of 2014 got a taste of success on campus. Now they are ready for their next big steps in life.

Five to Watch

Matthew Bullett ’14 served in Afghanistan in 2010-2011 as a member of the United States Navy. He graduated from high school in 2005 and entered the military. Bullett earned his bachelor’s degree in accounting and plans to complete his M.S. in accounting this December.

Chris Donato ’14 graduated as an American studies major and broadcast and society minor. He interned at “ABC World News,” working closely with anchor David Muir and meteorologist Ginger Zee to develop stories for the national broadcasts. Donato has been hired by ABC as a digital news associate. He will develop stories for use on “Good Morning America,” “World News Now” and “America This Morning.”

Brittany Tayler ’14 was a biology major in the Siena College/Albany Medical College Program in Science, Humanities and Medicine. The aspiring primary care physician was recognized by Capital Bank and News10 ABC as a “Capital Hero” for her achievements in the classroom and service work in Peru.

Denise Trantham ’14 is a mother of five daughters who established a successful career while attending college. Trantham graduated from high school in 1998 as a teenage mother. She went on to earn an associate’s degree in business administration and is graduating from Siena with her bachelor’s degree in accounting. Trantham currently works as a pension administrator at Creative Pension Consultants, Inc. in Albany, N.Y.

Layvon Washington ’14 earned a political science degree and was enrolled in Siena’s Higher Education Opportunity Program. He has accepted a teaching position in Washington, D.C. Washington was the recipient of Siena’s inaugural HEOP Excellence Award. This $5,000 award was established by Professor of Quantitative Business Analysis Doug Lonnrstrom ’66, Ph.D., and his wife Cris to help a HEOP student get started after graduation.
THE CLASS
From President to Provincial: Mullen Elected to Lead Holy Name Province

Siena College President Fr. Kevin Mullen ’75, O.F.M., Ph.D., announced on June 4 that he had been elected provincial minister of Holy Name Province, the largest Franciscan community in the United States.

“Being elected by my brothers in the Franciscan Order is a tremendous honor,” said Mullen. “I look forward to serving them well as I lead Holy Name Province the best way I know how – with compassion and through collaboration – as we continue to help communities and individuals in the spirit of an 800-year-old tradition founded by St. Francis of Assisi.”

As provincial minister, Mullen will oversee the long-range planning and day-to-day operations of Holy Name Province and its nearly 300 friars who serve on the east coast from Maine to Florida and abroad in Asia and South America. Mullen will also represent Holy Name Province to the wider Franciscan Order and to the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church. He was chosen by the friars during their triennial provincial chapter and was elected to serve a six-year term.

Mullen has been a Franciscan friar for 38 years and a Roman Catholic Priest for 34 years. To take on this prestigious leadership position within the Franciscan Order, Mullen resigned as Siena College president effective August 4.

“This moment is bittersweet. My new opportunity means that I have to leave Siena College, a place that I love,” Mullen said. “I have enjoyed serving as

Here’s to you, Fr. Kevin! A toast kicked off alumni weekend in June. During the past seven years, the Siena president’s presence was felt in the Capital Region and beyond. The community will miss his contagious laugh and smile on a day to day basis.
Siena’s president and I am proud of the successes that this community has shared, including the development of a new strategic plan, the expansion and improvement of campus facilities and academic offerings, and the launch of a comprehensive campaign to ensure that Siena College provides the education of a lifetime for years to come.”

While he will work from Holy Name Province’s headquarters in New York City, Mullen’s connection to Siena will remain significant. The provincial minister is a member of the College’s board of trustees.

Since being selected as Siena’s tenth president by the board in 2007, Mullen has guided the College through challenging times with prudent financial stewardship and vision. During his tenure, Siena’s campus expanded. Two new buildings were constructed and a third was completely renovated. Mullen also engaged faculty, administrators and staff to develop and strengthen academic offerings as well as athletic and residential programs while ensuring that Siena’s mission as a Franciscan, Catholic, liberal arts institution remained the priority.

Mullen credits his success as a college president to the hard work, dedication and cooperation of the entire Siena community and to the talented pool of students whom Siena consistently attracts to its degree programs.

“Fr. Kevin’s proven track record of strategic management and forward thinking will serve him well as he leads Holy Name Province. He is a true disciple of the Franciscan tradition, which is steeped in service, compassion and respect for all people,” said Howard Foote ’74, board of trustees chair. “When we learned that Fr. Kevin’s departure was a possibility, the board took time to reflect on possible courses of action and to plan for continuity in leadership.”

The board appointed current trustee and St. Bonaventure University Vice President for Franciscan mission Br. F. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., Ph.D., to be Siena’s interim president while it follows a process of selecting Mullen’s long-term successor during the 2014-2015 academic year.
Siena College launched its new website in May. The redesign process focused on the needs of our prospective student and alumni audiences and paid attention to creating navigation and content relevant to them. Most importantly, the site uses responsive design to ensure that the user experience is maintained no matter what device is being used to access it. Check it out at siena.edu.

Br. F. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., Ph.D., is a 66-year-old Buffalo, N.Y. native, who has led a distinguished career in Catholic higher education both as a professor and senior administrator. Author of more than 20 articles and book reviews, Coughlin holds a doctorate from the Catholic University of America, a master’s from Boston College and a bachelor’s from St. Bonaventure University. Coughlin has been a Franciscan friar since 1971. He took office as Siena’s interim president on August 4.

“I am honored to serve as interim president of Siena College,” said Coughlin. “As a trustee of the College and friar of Holy Name Province, I felt called to take on the responsibility of advancing the College’s mission to foster academic excellence in a liberal arts framework and spiritual growth in a Catholic and Franciscan community. I look forward to working with Siena’s faculty, staff and administration to build on the success of the College’s strategic plan and to continue the good work being done to serve our students.”

The Evolution of Siena.edu

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Research, Grants Propel Siena’s School of Science
By Mark Adam

Careers in science and engineering are growing at an impressive rate. According to the National Science Board, they are projected to increase by more than 20 percent by 2018. That's more than double the rate for all occupations. To meet that demand, Siena College has expanded its program offerings, improved its facilities and emphasized faculty-led student research in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

To support this growth, the College has maintained an intense focus on securing federal grants. The School of Science received 12 grants in the last year totaling more than $1.8 million from organizations such as NASA and the National Science Foundation. In the past 10 years, the School of Science has been awarded more than $14 million in grant funding.

“Siena’s grant activity has enabled us to offer unparalleled STEM research opportunities to our students,” said Allan Weatherwax, Ph.D., Siena’s dean of the School of Science.

Summer Research
Siena is one of just three undergraduate colleges that currently holds a NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates grant from the NSF Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering, said Sharon Small ’89, Ph.D., assistant professor of computer science. This $359,923 grant provides students with a 10-week summer research opportunity at Siena for four years. It comes with a $5,000 stipend, room and board.

“It shows how seriously we take research here,” said Small, who is the principal investigator on the REU grant. There are 13 students, including six from Siena College, doing artificial intelligence research on topics covering the environment, social media, interactive online searches and the effects of rap lyrics. The students work in small groups of three or four people under the advisement of faculty mentors.

“It’s a lot of new stuff for me. It’s a good experience,” said Drew Pintus ’16. His group, which includes students from the University at Buffalo and Skidmore College, is improving the results of a web search engine.

Scholarships for Students
In fall 2013, Siena announced a five-year grant for the Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics program, formerly the Tech Valley Scholars. The grant totals $618,689 and provides up to $10,000 in unmet financial aid to Siena students who enroll in STEM programs.

Siena had huge success with the Tech Valley Scholars, graduating 97% of its students in four years with an average GPA of 3.59. It also prepared students for exciting careers and top graduate programs.

Hans Hansen ’13 was a Tech Valley Scholar at Siena for four years. He said the scholarship helped him “afford to go to college,” and that the program trained him for his current position as a software engineer for Virtusa in Troy, N.Y. He was hired just two weeks after graduating.

“These are excellent students and they have significant financial need,” said Larry Medsker, Ph.D., professor of computer science and physics and the principal investigator on the S-STEM grant.

Training Future Teachers
Siena’s growth in STEM hasn’t been limited to training students for industry jobs or graduate school. They are also becoming teachers themselves, educating future generations of math and science scholars.

In 2012, Siena received a $1.2 million grant for the NSF Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program. Noyce Scholars are recruited and certified to teach in high-need middle schools and high schools. The grant provides them with financial aid totaling $40,000 during their junior and senior years. They are required to teach for at least four of their first eight years after graduating from Siena.

“Because of the additional programming we can do with Noyce funding, these new teachers will be even better trained for success in their schools,” said Jim Matthews, professor of computer science and mathematics and the principal investigator on the Noyce grant.

Siena’s first four Noyce Scholars graduated in May. Corinne delaGorgendiere ’14 has accepted a job in Maryland, two are matriculating to graduate school and the other is applying for teaching jobs in New York City. There are currently 12 Siena students still in the Noyce Program with space for five more.

“S-STEM and Noyce fit so well with the Franciscan mission, to encourage education but also to help students with financial need,” Medsker said.

As grant money continues to roll in, so do the opportunities for Siena students.
Professor of Social Work Donna McIntosh has been bringing students to the New York State Capitol to lobby lawmakers for nearly 20 years. “My goal is to help them demystify the legislative process,” said McIntosh.

Her social work majors have advocated for runaway and homeless youth. It’s an issue that hits home for her students in the same age group. “We are fortunate to be in college,” said Hansel Salcedo ‘14. “Unfortunately, there are people who don’t get the same opportunities that we do.”

Armed with their research, flashlight key chains, informational flyers they designed and their tagline, “Youth are the key to a bright future,” Siena students visited legislative offices to press for programs they believe will benefit homeless youth and mitigate future problems.

“I was a master’s level student before I got a chance to do something like this,” said McIntosh. “It fits very well with our mission to help those in need.”

If her students walk away with a deeper understanding of how the legislative process works and realize that they can make a positive impact, then for McIntosh, it’s already mission accomplished.
Four Students Receive Prestigious Study Abroad Scholarships

The following undergraduates are recipients of the U.S. Department of State’s prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for study abroad during the summer and fall terms:

Amryll Drayton Cummings ’15 – Chile, Fall 2014  Darlene Senat ’15 – Senegal, Fall 2014
Julia Smith ’16 – Morocco, Fall 2014  Adderlin Taveras ’15 – Bolivia, Summer 2014

Doing the Write Thing
By Mary Barrett ’14

Siena’s Loudonville campus and the nation of Myanmar are literally a world apart, but through the power of the written word, students and refugees from the Southeast Asian country are getting closer.

Approximately 40 Siena students spent the school year volunteering in the Writing Partnership Program and helping about 25 refugees, whose primary language is Karen, improve their English. The volunteers worked with high school students and young adults in Albany’s refugee community to develop their reading and writing skills.

“Getting to meet Siena students has been a good experience because they communicate with us and they’re very patient with us,” said Ar Kee, a refugee who attends Albany High School. “Some of us can’t speak English fluently and it is hard to understand us, but they help us.”

The Writing Partnership Program was created by John Harden, J.D., ACE academic coordinator and First-Year Seminar professor. Harden is inspired by watching students step out of their comfort zones to aid an unfamiliar population in need.

“It has been difficult for Siena students to come out into the refugee community and have Karen students embrace us, but they have,” Harden said, adding that the program teaches Siena students the value of reaching out to people who think their voices do not matter.

“It’s been great because we got to branch out from Siena and meet a really interesting group of kids,” said Daija Green ’17, an English and psychology major. “We got to know each other and experience things through each other’s eyes.” Green’s study partner, Dah Pay, said that their time together has sharpened her communication skills.

At the end of the semester, the refugees shared the work they produced with the support of their Siena tutors. The students received certificates for their efforts, but they also took away something even more powerful – the ability to express themselves in English and share their stories.
Students Go “Thrift Shopping” at Free Store

What do rap duo Macklemore and Ryan Lewis have in common with Siena College? They dig thrift stores.

Macklemore and Lewis burst onto the music scene with their Grammy-award winning song “Thrift Shop” in 2013, promoting the act of shopping in secondhand stores. Earlier this year, Alana Strassfield ’14 and her peers brought one to Hines Hall in the form of the Free Store. Students can donate goods they are no longer using, and they can “shop” for items donated by others. The best feature is everything is free.

“People are really into thrifting right now. I think thrift stores and secondhand stores are very popular, especially amongst young people,” Strassfield said, adding that it is a good way to build community on campus. “[The Free Store] is good to promote this idea of internal recycling.”

The store is home to a variety of merchandise, including clothes, books, body washes and jewelry. Students who come to the Free Store may or may not leave with what they came in looking for, but they’re sure to “pop some tags.”

Summer Construction

As the temperatures rise during the summer months so does the amount of campus improvements. Below is a list of the larger projects currently managed by the College’s facilities department. All are scheduled for completion by the fall.

A renovation of the Sarazen Student Union that includes designing a student-friendly lounge where the bookstore was located (Casey’s). The bookstore has relocated to the lower level of the Student Union and can be accessed via Lonnstrom Landing.

Other projects include:
- Siena and Kiernan Hall renovations
- Morrell Science Center SAIiT Laboratory construction
- On-going MacClosky townhouse renovations
- Grotto construction between McGuire Hall and the Fr. Ben Kuhn House
- Dedicated space for CURCA and Stack Center
- Office space modifications
Wachtler spoke with Siena students about the poor manner in which mentally ill prisoners are treated. He noted that frequently-used tactics such as solitary confinement only lead to increased mental and behavioral problems. Wachtler also explained that many mentally ill prisoners do not understand what they are doing wrong, and said that there is a lack of concern and compassion within the system for their issues.

Much of what Wachtler addressed was supported by his own personal experiences. Wachtler suffers from bipolar disorder, a diagnosis that he was initially ashamed of given his high position as Court of Appeals chief judge. Due to his embarrassment, Wachtler refused to see a psychologist and began to self-medicate.

While he was struggling with these problems, he began to send threatening letters to a woman with whom he was having an affair. Those actions led to an FBI investigation and, in 1992, he was arrested on charges of harassment.

After taking full responsibility for his actions, Wachtler served one year in federal prison in a mental health unit. During this time, Wachtler was sentenced to solitary confinement. He spoke about hearing the other inmates screaming and the way his confinement affected him, eventually causing him to hallucinate.

Since leaving prison, Wachtler has been dedicated to changing the way in which people in the prison system’s mental health units are treated. He has been working to help these inmates receive treatment rather than imprisonment. Wachtler also wrote a book about his battle with mental illness titled “After the Madness.”
History major Meghan Vreeland ’16 spent the past academic year learning that there’s much more to studying history than reading a pile of dusty old books.

Vreeland worked closely with Professor of History Karen Mahar, Ph.D., on an independent study project titled “Tailor-Made Men: Menswear, Masculinity, and the Rise of the American Business Executive.”

Their research examined the cultural evolution of the male executive’s appearance. Siena’s Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity funded a trip to New York City where Vreeland and Mahar combed the corporate archives of clothing manufacturer Van Heusen. “Having an opportunity to access the corporate archives of one of the world’s best known fashion companies was an amazing opportunity,” Mahar said.

Once their research was complete, Mahar and Vreeland co-wrote a paper based on their experience. They delivered it at the Capital District Feminist Studies Faculty Consortium in February.

In the spring, Vreeland shifted her focus from men’s clothing to Capital Region real estate. As part of Mahar’s Public History class, she and fellow history major Elizabeth Marsh ’16 examined Swyer Companies, the real estate firm that built Stuyvesant Plaza and Saratoga Performing Arts Center, two Capital Region landmarks.

“It was not only interesting to learn about the companies, and in our case their philanthropy over the years, but we met numerous Siena alumni along the way, including Assemblyman Jack McEneny ’69, who were happy to assist us,” Marsh said.

Their classmates also studied the impact that local businesses have had on the area over the years. Their research culminated in the production of museum-quality exhibits that were displayed at the Ten Broeck Mansion’s “Living History Day – Hidden Treasures of Albany.”
History Capstone Honors Family Member Killed in WWII

By Mark Adam

Kaitlyn Buscone ’14 wove together a 70-year-old family story as part of her history capstone last semester. Her story was also featured on NPR and Fox News.

To produce a 47-page research paper titled “Love, Your Son John: Letters from a Civilian Soldier,” Buscone read some 200 letters that her great-granduncle John Moloney wrote home during World War II.

The paper chronicles Moloney’s transition from a Boston College graduate who skipped commencement to report to boot camp, to a paratrooper who eventually died for his country two and a half years later in the Pacific. The letters reflect the change inside a “care-free” boy from Norwood, Mass., who became a “reflective” man fighting in a war halfway around the world.

“It was awesome that I got to work so closely with my grandmother and to do this for my family,” said Buscone, a history major and writing and communications minor. Her grandmother (Moloney’s sister) provided the letters for the primary research, as well as the death notice and a Christmas care package that was returned to sender with a stamp that said, “Deceased.” It remains unopened.

Buscone wrote an op-ed for Fox News and told her great-granduncle’s story on NPR during Memorial Day weekend.

“I didn’t expect that sort of response at all. That was a really good way for me to share my project,” she said.

All history majors must complete a capstone research paper before graduating. Buscone’s capstone advisor was Professor of History Jim Harrison, Ph.D. Her paper stood out from others that he has reviewed over the years, he said.

“I was really proud of what Kaitlyn produced,” Harrison said. “I don’t think we’ve had anybody who has done anything as personal as it was for Kaitlyn.”

Buscone has thought about expanding on her capstone paper in the future by writing a book. She lives in the Boston area and is applying for jobs in public relations.

Listen to Buscone’s story on NPR.
Students Return to Typhoon-Ravaged Philippines

By Jim Eaton

Last summer Ryan Chin ’14 and Nikita Gupta ’14 traveled to the Philippines as part of the Siena College/Albany Medical College summer of service. In June they returned to the typhoon-struck nation to assist in recovery efforts.

Since the inception of the program, more than 200 Siena students have participated in a summer of service in numerous countries. Due to the devastating impact of Typhoon Haiyan, Chin and Gupta are the first students to return to their service sites.

“We saw a need for food, water and medicine, and we wanted to give our students a chance to go back and help,” said Ed LaRow ’59, Ph.D., director of the Siena College/Albany Medical College program. The deadly storm hit the Philippines four months after Chin and Gupta initially visited. More than 6,000 people died.

“It was incredible to be able to see the children and their families again. The people were upbeat and positive despite what happened,” Chin said.

During their visit the Siena students worked with the same children they met a year ago, but noticed they had a different perspective on life.

“The children were telling us about the dead bodies in the street they saw after the storm,” Gupta said. “It was heartbreaking, but I was glad that we had a chance to go back, see that they are alright and help rebuild their school.”

“We spent time at a rural clinic distributing meds,” Gupta added. “We also worked at a nutrition site and helped organize supplies for sponsored children who make a promise to go to school.”

The school reopened in June, just in time for the start of their academic year. Chin and Gupta were just happy to see their friends again and help out where needed.
Dan Loman ’14 is an avid sports fan, and like many pro scouts, coaches and general managers, he examines statistics that go well beyond the ones you see in the box score. After reading the book “Basketball on Paper” by Dean Oliver and taking a numerical methods and data analysis course at Siena, Loman stumbled into the field of analytics and has been crunching numbers ever since.

“After I took that course during my junior year, I decided to pursue a career in analytics rather than nanotechnology,” said Loman, a physics major.

He began doing research with Matt Bellis, Ph.D., assistant professor of physics and astronomy. Their work concentrated on the NFL season during the fall semester and, after the mid-semester break, they spent spring focusing on the NBA. Loman is examining different analytics that contribute towards a team’s offensive efficiency and ultimately that team’s ability to win.

“This process has been very informative as I have learned different data techniques,” Loman said. “I recently had an amazing opportunity to attend the MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference.”

The conference’s keynote speakers included New York Knicks President and legendary coach Phil Jackson, new NBA Commissioner Adam Silver and Indianapolis Colts quarterback Andrew Luck.

“Many businesses, including professional sports teams, use huge amounts of data to help them be successful. The same tools we use in particle physics and astrophysics to analyze Big Data are now in regular use by these same businesses,” Bellis said. “Dan has taken advantage of the opportunities at Siena to gain experience in these techniques and set himself up for success in grad school and beyond.”

Loman will be attending the University of San Francisco to pursue his master’s degree in analytics. Until then, he’ll be watching as many games as he can, all in the name of research, of course.
Spring Awakening

By Jason Rich ’98

Men’s Basketball

It started with basketball in April and ended with baseball in June. In the span of 50 wild days, Siena captured four championships and reenergized the campus and Capital Region communities.

The fun started with men’s basketball’s unlikely run to the College Basketball Invitational championship. The Saints exceeded expectations all season and got hot at the right time, reeling off victories over Stony Brook, Penn State and Illinois State to earn a date with Fresno State at the CBI championship series in April.

Siena won the decisive third game 81-68 on campus at the Alumni Recreation Center. Brett Bisping ’16 was the runaway choice as MVP of the CBI, averaging a team-best 16.2 points and 7.5 rebounds in Siena’s six games.

When the dust settled, head coach Jimmy Patsos had guided the Saints to a 12-win improvement that tied for the second best in all of Division I. Patsos was rewarded with a one-year contract extension that runs through the 2018-19 season.

“I’m grateful to be here, I love this place,” Patsos said. “I’m just a passenger, along for the ride, and I’m lucky to be a part of it.”

Women’s Golf

The women’s golf program claimed its 13th MAAC Championship in the last 14 seasons at Disney’s Palm Course April 27. Kylie Strijek ’14 won the McLeod Award as the women’s individual champion. Teammate Victoria Nguyen ’15 placed fourth and Katie Nelson ’15 was sixth. The Saints bested second place Quinnipiac by a whopping 27 strokes.

Men’s Lacrosse

The following weekend, men’s lacrosse took center stage. The Saints completed a perfect run through the MAAC with their third conference championship in six years. The Tournament’s Most Outstanding Player Tommy Cordts ’15 made 13 saves to propel Siena to an 11-7 win over Marist in the title game in Poughkeepsie.

The Saints moved on to the preliminary round of the NCAA Tournament where they suffered a hard-fought 9-8 loss at Bryant. The Bulldogs advanced to the Elite Eight after shocking Syracuse four days later.

“We expect to compete for a MAAC championship every year,” said John Svec, who just completed his third season as head coach. “That’s something our players and the alumni who built this program have put themselves in a position to do.”
**Men’s Baseball**

The Siena baseball team and head coach Tony Rossi saved the biggest surprise for last, capturing their first MAAC Championship since 1999 by winning four straight games after dropping their tournament opener to Fairfield in extra innings.

The title was decided with a doubleheader sweep of regular-season champion and overwhelming favorite Canisius on May 25 at FirstEnergy Park in Lakewood, N.J. Rossi and the Saints were sent to the Fort Worth Regional of the NCAA Tournament.

After stunning the college baseball world in a 2-1 extra-inning loss to regional host and eventual College World Series participant TCU, the Saints rallied from a 7-0 deficit to shock nationally-ranked Dallas Baptist 9-8 for the first NCAA tournament victory in program history.

Neil Fryer ’14 delivered nine brilliant innings of relief, allowing just six hits and one run. Vincent Citro ’14 singled home the game-winner with two outs in the bottom of the 10th.

“It feels fantastic,” Rossi said after the win. “I’m really happy for our school and our baseball alumni. They’ve been all over me with texts and emails.”

Following the historic season, Matt Gage ’15 was selected by the San Francisco Giants in the 10th round of Major League Baseball’s draft. Gage excelled in the NCAA opener, tossing nine innings of six-hit baseball against the Horned Frogs of TCU.

Siena made a bold commitment to its athletic department in its strategic plan, *Living Our Tradition 2011-2016*. This spring proved the investment is starting to pay off.

Visit Siena.edu/Campaign to read our Q&As with Jimmy Patsos and John Svec.

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**Siena Loses a Legend**

By Jason Rich ’98

Billy Harrell ’52, perhaps the most transformative student athlete in Siena College history, died May 6. He was 85.

“Billy brought much joy to many as an outstanding basketball player, but more importantly he had a positive impact on so many people throughout his life,” Vice President and Siena Athletic Director John D’Argenio said. “He was humble, a gentleman, and had a fun spirit that lifted those in his company.”

Harrell was the first person to have his Siena jersey retired, and on March 8 of this year he was one of 20 inductees into the MAAC Basketball Hall of Fame Honor Roll.

Harrell played for Siena from 1949 to 1952, leading the College to a stunning 70-19 record. He was the leading scorer and rebounder for the 1949-50 team that compiled a 27-5 record and won the National Catholic Invitational tournament.

Harrell’s single-season rebounding record stood tall for 60 years before it was topped by Ryan Rossiter ’11.

Known as “The Flash,” Harrell earned United Press International’s Honorable Mention All-America honors in 1952. His athletic talents were not limited to the basketball court, however. He went on to play four seasons of Major League Baseball, three with the Cleveland Indians (1955, 1957-58) and one with the Boston Red Sox (1961). He was the third person inducted into Siena’s Athletics Hall of Fame in 1966.

Harrell attended the Saints’ College Basketball Invitational championship games on campus in April and was recognized upon his arrival with a standing ovation by the crowd.
Excellence Celebrated at Annual Year-End Dinner for Faculty, Staff and Administrators

Congratulations to the following faculty and administrators who were honored this year:

Jerome Walton Award for Excellence in Teaching:
Jennifer McErlean, Ph.D., Professor of Philosophy
Raymond Kennedy Excellence in Scholarship Award:
Fr. Dennis Tamburello ’75, O.F.M., Ph.D.,
Professor of Religious Studies
Fr. Matthew T. Conlin, O.F.M. Distinguished Service Award:
Fr. Dennis Tamburello ’75, O.F.M., Ph.D.,
Professor of Religious Studies
James Knust Award for Excellence in Administration:
Donna Tytko, M.S., Assistant Dean, School of Liberal Arts

Cheryl Buff ’82, Ph.D., professor of marketing, has been appointed Associate Dean for the School of Business. Buff will assume her new role in September. She is the 2010 recipient of the Jerome Walton Award for Excellence in Teaching and was the 2013 Beta Gamma Sigma Professor of the Year.

Chester Brearey, D.M., associate professor of accounting and business law, has been appointed Director of the M.S. in Accounting program.

His research interests involve the development of accounting and auditing thought, institutions that shape contemporary accounting practices and regulation of accounting disclosures. He is a former international audit partner.

Brearey received his bachelor’s degree in history from John Carroll University, as well as master of accountancy and doctorate degrees from the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University.

Seifert to Serve as School of Business Dean

After a national search, Siena College has selected Professor of Management and Executive Director of Siena’s Institute for Leadership Development Charles Seifert, Ph.D., as its new dean of the School of Business.

Seifert has taught at Siena College since 1996. Prior to working at Siena, Seifert held several positions in banking and finance. As a banker, he worked as a manager in branch operations and as a vice president of commercial lending.

Following his banking career, Seifert was the Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce’s chief financial officer. Seifert has also worked as a leadership consultant for several public and private organizations. He has presented papers and workshops on leadership, ethics, strategy, assessment and enhanced teaching methods to organizations ranging from General Electric to the Holy Name Province.

Seifert’s teaching and research interests include leadership effectiveness, enhancing multi-source feedback programs, influence strategies, corporate governance and applied statistics. He has shared the results of his research at more than 35 regional, national and international conferences and his work has been published in several highly influential peer-reviewed journals. Seifert is currently writing a textbook on leadership.

He replaces Professor of Management Frederick DeCasperis, Ed.D., who served as interim dean.
Erik Eddy, Ph.D., associate professor of management, was named executive director of the Institute of Leadership Development. His expertise is in human resource management, leading organizational change and strategic management. Prior to coming to Siena, Eddy worked at the Group for Organizational Effectiveness from 1995 to 2004 – first as a consultant, then as a project director – helping organizations enhance their effectiveness through strategic planning, large-scale change management and employee development initiatives.

Mathew Johnson ’93, Ph.D., associate professor of sociology and director of academic and community engagement, was awarded $60,000 as part of a federally-funded New York State Education Department grant to the City of Albany School District for after-school and summer enrichment programming. The grant supports development and implementation of the Siena College Citizenship TeenCorps, a program adapted from the Bonner Foundation’s proven model of youth development through civic engagement.

Johnson was also awarded a $137,530 continuation grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service to support Siena’s Volunteers in Service to America program. This funding supports VISTA placements in various not-for-profit agencies in partnership with Siena’s Office of Academic and Community Engagement.

Katherine Meierdiercks, Ph.D., assistant professor of environmental studies, was awarded a $9,975 grant from the New York State Water Resources Institute. This award supports the study of the effectiveness of storm water management practices at watersheds through geospatial, field and modeling analyses. Meierdiercks involves Siena students in her scholarly work.

Meierdiercks, Kevin Rhoads, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry, Mary Beth Kolozsvary, Ph.D., assistant professor of environmental studies and Jean Mangun, Ph.D., professor and chair of environmental studies, were awarded a $20,275 grant from the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission in partnership with New York State’s Department of Environmental Conservation’s Hudson River Estuary Program. This award supports the study of flooding and water quality issues in the Kromma Kill watershed. Siena students assist in this research.

John Moustakas, Ph.D., assistant professor of physics and astronomy, was awarded two grants from the Space Telescope Science Institute totaling more than $25,000 to analyze the most penetrating and sharpest observations of the sky ever obtained with the Hubble Space Telescope. In addition, he was awarded a $10,000 grant from the Spitzer Science Center to study infrared data gleaned from the Spitzer Space Telescope. These observations are part of his broader research program to discover and understand the formation of the very first galaxies in the 14 billion-year history of the universe.

Michael Pepe, Ph.D., assistant professor of marketing, received the Excellence in Teaching Award in the School of Business for the 2013-2014 academic year. He is the first faculty member to win awards in all three categories (teaching, research and service) in the School of Business.

In strategic partnership with the Office of International Programs at Siena College, a grant for $25,000 was awarded to FAE Centro Universitario, a Franciscan university in Curitiba, Brazil. The grant comes through the 100K Strong in the Americas program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

With this funding, FAE Centro Universitario will implement a four-week summer program in Brazilian Portuguese for Siena students. It is scheduled for mid-May to mid-June 2015.

The Siena College/Hudson Link Prison Education Program was awarded a $30,000 College Access Challenge Grant through the Higher Education Services Corporation of New York State to support college preparatory programming. This programming helps bridge the gap between GED-level and college-level learning, ensuring that incarcerated students enrolling in Siena College courses have the necessary skills to succeed.

Congratulations to the following faculty members and administrators on their recent retirements: Left to right: Michael Dick, Ph.D., professor of religious studies; William Kanalley, M.L.S., librarian; Donald Raux, Ph.D., assistant professor of accounting; Andrea Hotaling, C.P.A., associate professor of accounting; Jean Stern, Ph.D., professor of political science; Leon Halpert, Ph.D., professor of political science; Gary Thompson, M.L.S., director of the library and Robert Woll, Ph.D., professor of psychology.
“Building New Memories with Old Friends”

Annie Patenaude ’79 was surprised when she arrived at the annual golf tournament and her foursome included her college roommate Judy Manchester ’79. Patenaude, who is a member of Siena’s Board of Associate Trustees and lives in Fairfax, Va., said it was “a very uplifting beginning” and “a little bit like going back in time.” She was one of more than 1,000 alumni who returned to Siena College for Reunion Weekend June 6-8.

Alumni from classes ending in ’4’ and ’9’ played in the annual golf tournament, attended the Alumni and Family Picnic, class parties, a performance of the musical comedy “Four Play,” which was written by Rick Wilson ’74, and the President’s Brunch where nine Siena grads received Distinguished Alumni Awards. The weekend ended with an alumni mass in St. Mary of the Angels Chapel followed by the dedication of Lonnstrom Dining Hall (formerly Serra Hall).

The years melted away as alumni smoothly transitioned back to the good old days. “We picked up right where we left off,” said Andrew Horvath ’09, an audit manager for KPMG in Albany.

Patenaude put it best, saying that Reunion Weekend was about “building new memories with old friends.”

Reunion Stats
- Reunion giving totaled $2,317,531
- Class of ’59 donated $617,136, the most of any class
- Class of ’79 had the most donors (209)
- Class of ’89 had the highest class attendance (90)
- Class of ’64 celebrated its 50th reunion with 47 alumni coming back to campus. Joe Varkey traveled the farthest, coming from India.
- Tom Huerter ’91, Mike Frantangelo ’91, John Bocketti ’91 and Mike Zurlo ’92 won the annual golf tournament
Distinguished Alumni Awards

Standing left to right: Dennis Winger ’69, Ed Fennell ’64, Michael O’Leary ’74, Mel Kelsey ’59, Jolleen Wagner ’04, Fr. John Bradley ’63 and Johanna Daily ’84. Sitting left to right: Joe Lapetina ’46 and Eric Hungershafer ’04

Dining Hall Rededicated to Celebrate Lonnstrom Legacy

Siena College’s dining hall, which first opened in 1959 as Serra Hall, will now be known as Lonnstrom Dining Hall in honor of Professor of Quantitative Business Analysis Doug Lonnstrom ’66, Ph.D., and his wife Cristine. The dedication occurred during reunion weekend.

The Lonnstroms’ commitment to serving Siena students and supporting the College has led to their philanthropic support of several initiatives over the years. Their latest gift, which demonstrates leadership in the College’s ongoing $50 million dollar comprehensive campaign, will support an endowment to perpetually underwrite activities and improvements to the dining hall and other buildings.

Doug Lonnstrom has taught business courses at the College for nearly 40 years and is the founding director of the Siena Research Institute.

Distinguished Alumni Awards

Franciscan Spirit Award:
Eric Hungershafer ’04
Jolleen Wagner ’04

Fr. Ben Kuhn Award for Service to the Siena Community:
Mel Kelsey ’59
Joe Lapetina ’46

Prof. Joseph Buff Award for Career Achievement:
Johanna Daily ’84, MD, MS
Michael O’Leary ’74 MD
Dennis Winger ’69

Prof. Egon Plager Award for Efforts Advancing the Welfare of Others:
Fr. John Bradley ’63
Ed Fennell ’64
Heart of a Saint

Ed Fennell ’64: A Rare Disease Champion

By Ken Jubie ’04

The letter and number combination CDKL5 forever changed the life of Ed Fennell ’64. CDKL5 is the rare genetic mutation his granddaughter Haley was born with in 2007. “It’s not even a syndrome that has a name. It’s simply identified by the gene,” Fennell said.

CDKL5 deprives Haley of the proteins necessary for synaptic growth. It's affected her ability to walk, talk and use her hands. She also struggles with intractable epilepsy. “At the age of six weeks, she started spiking some seizures and they only got worse,” Fennell said. “They’re terrifying.”

Despite her disabilities and when Haley’s seizures are under control, she’s a star – strong, silent and bright. “We do find that there is a tremendous amount of cognitive ability inside,” Fennell said. “I believe she was one of the first with her syndrome ever to use a computer.”

In 2010, Haley’s sister Emily was born. She also struggles with a rare disorder. Hers was caused by an in-utero complication called gastroschisis. At two days old, she lost about 98 percent of her small intestine, about 25 percent of her large intestine and the valve that connects them. Since then, Emily has battled short bowel syndrome. She lives with nutrition tubes and an ostomy bag.

Fennell, a retired consultant, is the primary caregiver for his granddaughters while their parents work. He’s also a champion for people struggling with rare diseases. Fennell spearheaded a partnership with Albany Medical Center and Albany Medical College to host the annual Rare Disease Forum, which strives to improve care and develop resources for those in need. Last year, Fennell founded the New York State Rare Disease Alliance to support the Forum’s policy goals.

“We’re dedicated to shortening the time to diagnosis as well as better management of services,” Fennell said.

For his efforts, Siena honored Fennell with the Professor Egon Plager Award for accomplishments in advancing the welfare of others. Receiving the award in his former professor’s name was emotional for Fennell, but he knows Plager would have helped him keep it in perspective.

“He’d say to me, with no smile on his face at all, ‘You still got a lot of room for improvement,’” Fennell said.

Plager would’ve been right – there is room for improvement, which is why Fennell remains dedicated to enhancing healthcare services for people with rare diseases, like his granddaughters. As for Fennell’s relationships with Haley and Emily, well, they’re already perfect.
As the National Football League is gearing up for its 2014 campaign, former players are pursuing litigation against the league due to brain injuries they sustained while playing.

Don Brady ’68, Ph.D., Psy.D., NCSP, a licensed clinical psychologist, estimates 1.6 to 3.8 million sports and recreation-related concussions occur annually. Brady’s interest in the field was sparked in the 1980s when a close family friend suffered two sports-related concussions followed by his own a few years later. He subsequently encountered various health care professionals who encouraged him to research cognition, emotions, senses and other areas of brain function. The Syracuse-area resident conducted the pioneer study of Active and Retired National Football League Players’ knowledge of concussions. His 2004 findings detail a lengthy historical perspective regarding the adverse effects of concussions/brain injuries. He also uncovered apparent conflicts of interest existing in the assessment, management, return-to-play decisions and research of concussions by various NFL personnel.

He credits his alma mater for laying a framework for this investigative journey.

“My liberal arts education at Siena exposed me to multiple disciplines and provided me with numerous lenses for viewing and comprehending the world and its peoples,” Brady said.

After graduating from Siena with an accounting degree, he eventually pursued his doctorate from Union Institute. His studies again required him to explore multiple disciplines and gave him the freedom to conduct his dissertation research within the generally unknown arena of sports related concussions.

Brady’s 2004 research continues to receive significant attention. He believes that since each of us receives only one brain, the possession of accurate brain injury knowledge serves as a cornerstone for effective brain health care.

“Health care professionals have a responsibility to accurately educate others about the dangerous effects of concussions,” he said.

Some of Brady’s findings on former NFL players include:
- Many players lacked accurate and essential knowledge pertaining to various aspects of a concussion.
- Many players did not realize that a concussion is a brain injury.
- Despite concussions being discounted as insignificant by athletes, trainers, coaches and physicians, there is a diverse range of lifelong negative consequences of a concussion.
- Sports team health-care personnel need to focus primarily on the athletes’ health and well-being, and not minimize an injury or concentrate primarily on the players’ capacity to perform on the field.
- There is a cumulative adverse effect of suffering multiple concussions.

Today, Brady maintains his connections with former NFL players regarding their long-term health concerns and will continue advocating for those suffering the adverse effects of a concussion.

For more information on his work visit donbrady.com.
Ken Raymond’s relationship with Siena began when his oldest daughter enrolled at the College in the late 80s. Today, he is a proud father of three Siena graduates (Mary Anne ’92, Michelle ’97 and Michael ’10). Raymond employs more than 15 Siena alumni and the College’s golf center bears his name.

As a Capital Region business leader and community philanthropist, Raymond actively recruits Siena alumni into his organizations and has been known to steer prospective students to the school while serving as a longstanding member on the board of trustees.

“My involvement with Siena has brought many joys to my life and I am excited by what the future holds for the College,” Raymond said. Siena’s Franciscan values have always held a special place in Raymond’s heart as he enjoys reaching out to those in need. “I emphasize with my employees the importance of making a positive difference in the communities in which we do business,” Raymond said. From assisting the Diocese of Albany in the rebuilding of Camp Scully to partnering with the Siena Bonner Program to support the Boys and Girls Club, his company remains true to his values.

As a member of the board of trustees he has worked with numerous people associated with the College over the past 11 years. “One of the things I have enjoyed the most as a trustee is the network of relationships I have built. That is a big part of the Siena experience.”

During the basketball season he and his wife Pat, enjoy cheering on the Saints with their friends and family.

“My fondest basketball memory was witnessing Siena beat Ohio State in 2009 at the NCAA tournament. Ronald Moore and ‘double onions,’ now that is something I will never forget,” he said.

Something the Siena community will never forget is Ken Raymond’s outstanding generosity to the College he has embraced as his own.
Siena Campaign Reaches $43.2 Million

"Living Our Tradition: The Campaign for Siena College has received $43.2 million as of July 1, which is 85 percent of the way toward its $50 million goal. The campaign will fund academic programs, scholarships, facility renovations and athletics."

“I am proud of the progress we have made as a community in our comprehensive campaign” said Siena President Fr. Kevin Mullen ’75, O.F.M., Ph.D. “As I prepare to leave the president’s office, I am confident in Br. Ed’s leadership and in our dedicated faculty and staff who will continue Siena’s forward momentum. I hope that everyone connected with the College contributes to this exciting campaign.”

Two initiatives – scholarships and Academic Community Engagement – have exceeded their goals of $10 million and $2.5 million, respectively.

Visit sienacampaign.com to learn more.

New Student Lounge to be Named “Casey’s”

The new lounge in Sarazen Student Union is set to open this fall. This student-centered space will be named “Casey’s” in honor of the classmates who enriched the lives of the two alumni who made the lead gift to fund construction.

Cathy (Casey) Bjorklund ’85 and her husband Trustee Ron Bjorklund ’85 decided that their social life at Siena was so intertwined with their entire Siena experience, they wanted to support this new space for future generations of students. The sign that will hang in the entrance will read “Casey’s est. 1985.”

During reunion Ryan Hungershafer ’02 and his brother Eric Hungershafer ’04 ensured that their legacy at Siena will be carried on for generations by having two townhouses named after them. Alumni interested in this new affordable opportunity can contact Development at 518-782-6919 or alumni@siena.edu.
CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Siena has received a 2014 Educational Fundraising Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education for its “superior fundraising programs” over the past three years. The award was given for Overall Improvement based on the judges’ analysis of fundraising data.

“This award recognizes both the hard work of our board of trustees and our development team, as well as the thousands of Siena College alumni, parents, friends, faculty, staff, administrators and students who have generously supported the College with leadership and financial assistance,” said David B. Smith ’79, Siena’s vice president for development and external affairs.

Siena College is in the public phase of its $50 million comprehensive campaign titled Living Our Tradition: The Campaign for Siena College. So far the campaign has raised more than $43 million for academic programs, scholarships, facilities and athletics.

Siena was one of 79 higher education institutions to win a 2014 CASE award, and was one of five institutions to win an Overall Improvement award in the category of “Private Liberal Arts Institutions with Endowments Over $100 Million.”

Celebrating Scholarships

Grateful students and their proud scholarship donors gathered in the Marcelle Athletic Complex during Siena’s 23rd annual Scholarship Appreciation Dinner. It’s a tradition that began as a small gathering almost a quarter-century ago. The dinner has blossomed to become a celebration of Siena’s 285 endowed scholarships.

“Scholarships are the lifeblood of Siena College,” said Director of Stewardship and Donor Relations Ruth Richards. “They ensure that Siena is accessible and affordable. Scholarships have made – and continue to make – a difference in the lives of countless Siena students.”

The program included remarks from hosts and scholarship recipients Gladys Veloz ’14, Tom Kaczmarek ’15 and Siena President Fr. Kevin Mullen ’75, O.F.M., Ph.D. Veloz and Kaczmarek are among the 86 percent of Siena College students who receive scholarship aid.

The formal program also included a video presentation featuring Siena alumni and scholarship donors Brian ’96 and Amanda ’97 Bull and their scholarship recipient Katie Risolo ’14.

Living Our Tradition: The Campaign for Siena College set a $10 million goal for its Scholarship and Endowed Funds initiative. Siena has already exceeded that goal and has received more than $11 million in donations to date.
When John Leonard ’64 received a scholarship to attend Siena College in September 1960, he didn’t know what the future would hold for him. He knew this scholarship provided the opportunity for him to be the first person in his family to earn a college degree, and he was committed to make the most of his Siena experience.

Leonard’s time at Siena gave him the tools to excel in the insurance industry. First, he climbed the corporate ladder of a large national insurance company. Then, in 1993, he started an insurance company known as MEMIC. The company’s record-setting growth culminated with their assets exceeding $1 billion last year.

“I owe much of the success I have to the great education that I received from Siena,” he said. “The liberal arts education I received taught me how to think critically and to communicate with my employees, clients and stakeholders.”

After all of these years, Leonard has never forgotten the scholarship that made all of this possible. In honor of his 50th Siena reunion, he created a significant estate gift to endow a scholarship to allow generations of students to receive a Siena education. As Leonard said, “It was just natural to ‘pay it forward’ as someone had done for me.”

“I owe much of the success I have to the great education that I received from Siena.”

- John Leonard ’64

If you would like to learn more about creating your legacy at Siena College, please contact Director of Gift Planning, Jack Sise ’75, Esq. at jsise@siena.edu or 518-783-2315 for a confidential conversation.
the invocation and Don Van Stone represented the class with a brief talk.

The committee for the 50th consisted of Mike Roche, Mike Winter, Don VanStone, Tom Wolf, John Leonard, Doug Sharp, Pete Donnelly, Dave Fulton and Joe Suozzi.

Ed Fennell was presented with The Professor Egon Plager Award for Accomplishments in Advancing the Welfare of Others at the Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony.

James E. (Jay) Ryan, was again named AV preeminent lawyer per Martindale Hubbell for the New York area in his specialty of admiralty, maritime, transportation, insurance and commercial litigation, as announced by American Lawyer Media.

Charles Tripi '69 is an accomplished poet with more than 100 poems published. He founded The Paulinskill Poetry Project in 2007, which draws community poets from New Jersey and surrounding areas to develop and live their poetry.

Bob Hermann would like to start an online support and information group for those with prostate cancer. Please email Bob at Rher311@aol.com if you would like to help, or to ask questions. Bob has researched the topic extensively. Many men in their mid-sixties do not have accurate information with which to make educated choices about PSA tests, biopsies or treatments.

Charles Tripi '69

Charles Tripi '69 is an accomplished poet with more than 100 poems published. He founded The Paulinskill Poetry Project in 2007, which draws community poets from New Jersey and surrounding areas to develop and live their poetry.

1951
John Hourigan
johnica@comcast.net

1959
Frank Martin
fimartin@nycap.rr.com
At the recent Reunion Weekend, the Class of 1959 gathered for dinner and conversation with classmates. A class check was presented to Fr. Kevin Mullen for use by the Annual Fund. As we said goodbye, we were thinking about the 60th reunion in 2019. Look forward to seeing you there!

1963
Kevin Raymond
kraymond27@comcast.net

1964
Joe Suozzi
joesuozzi@msn.com
The Class of ’64 had a very successful 50th Reunion on June 6th.
Forty eight members came from far and wide (Joe Varkey from India and John Schober from Colombia) to attend a fabulous dinner event on campus hosted by Father Kevin Mullen and the Siena alumni staff. Father Peter Pagones led

1965
Jack Mulvey
jkmulvey@gmail.com
HEADS UP!!! This is a big year for our class! We have begun to plan for our 50th reunion that will happen next June. Start making plans to come home to Siena and celebrate with classmates.
If you would like to get involved in the planning, please email me and we will get started on reaching out to friends. It will be a weekend full of fun, laughter and memories.
Here’s to 50 years!

1967
Rick Spataro
rspataro67@gmail.com

1968
Jim Donsbach
jamesdonsbach@gmail.com

1969
Ken Dedrick
Ken.dedrick@carolina.rr.com
Charles Tripi is an accomplished poet with more than 100 poems published. He has written more than 600. He founded The Paulinskill Poetry Project in 2007, which draws community poets from New Jersey and surrounding areas to develop and live their poetry.

1970
Bob Hermann
Rher311@aol.com
Edward Cahill recently gave the keynote address to the Chief Fiscal Officers Conference for the U.S. State Health Departments. The conference took place in Minneapolis, Minn.

1971
Nicholas Pusiano
njpositano@hotmail.com
Tom Killeen’s love of writing comes from a lifetime in education, as well as a passion for baseball and American history. His most recent work, “No
Greater Grief,” is a novel focusing on two young baseball players, one African-American and the other Caucasian, who are drafted by a Major League Baseball team. While the book mostly focuses on baseball, the story is set in the late 1960s, with the ramifications of the Vietnam conflict clearly at the forefront.

Tom resides in Wayne, N.J., with his wife, Katherine. The couple has a daughter, Heather, who is a teacher. Tom is also the founder of Alternative Education Solutions, an educational consulting firm. He continues to work with school districts in helping students succeed.

1972
Jack Callahan
Jackcallahan33@gmail.com

1973
Brian Valentine
bgvalentine@verizon.net


Unlike other books on the subject, “Perish Island” delves into the history of the Parris Island Recruit Training Depot, from its days as a naval prison through 1969. The book is available on Amazon.com.

1974
Robert McGrattan
rmcgrattan3@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone who came to Reunion the first weekend of June! We had a great turnout from our class but we want to see all of our friends at the next one!

Denise Herb Mazzotta, Michael Quigley, Rod Brooks and Philip Burden made it all the way from California to celebrate at Siena.

Tim Corbett came up from Virginia while George Fritz and Don Rafferty traveled from Florida to be part of the party!

We also had many local classmates come to Reunion such as Tom Bigos, John Blatchford, Vince Capasso, Jack Chaskey, Doug Engles, Howard Foote, Anne Gabriel, Marc Kaplan, Richard Marini, John Miller, Robert Murphy, Ralph Musella, Ted Pasinski, Neal Renzi, Michael Serge, Mary Sise, Vince Sweeney, Ray Walsh, Gerald Wilmot and Rick Wilson.

Rick Wilson put on a wonderful production of the musical comedy titled “Four Play” during Reunion Weekend. Check it out when it comes to your area. Congrats on all your success with the show, Rick!

1975
Janet Gutowski Hall
janet.hall@celebration.fl.us

1976
Jean Reamer
jpreamer@comcast.net

First Communion and graduation season have just passed us by. Congratulations to you and your loved ones who celebrated either.

A special shout out to Pat Maher Arcodia whose daughter Marybeth graduated from Georgetown University in May.

Congratulations to Sue Vincelette Van Nostrand on the marriage of her oldest, Michael, to Courtney Wall on May 31 at Bishop Farm in Lisbon, N.H.

Congratulations to Barbara Mulholland Rivera and Bob Reda ’75 on the marriage of their daughter Janine to Chris Brumfield on May 17 in Chapel Hill, N.C.

A small group of ladies from the class of ’76 gathered at Kettle Village, Ronks, Pennsylvania while George Fritz came up from Virginia to celebrate at Siena.

The Class of ’76 celebrates 60th birthdays! Gail Pecora Gates, Sue Vincelette Van Nostrand, Linda Schepis-Forte, Jean Reamer, Pat Maher Arcodia, Maureen Fairlie, Margaret Leifels Lanahan, Barbara Mulholland Rivera, Carol Walker Bouyea, Mary Ellen Youngkin Semple.

1977
Linda Fitzsimmons
lindafitzsimmons@gmail.com

1978
Rick Gabriel
rgabriel6yr@gmail.com

Jay Girvin recently co-authored a booklet on “Understanding the Dignity for All Students Act: Navigating the Scope and Impact of NY’s Anti-Bullying Legislation,” published by Thomson Reuters.
stories, news notes, reunions with long lost friends, etc. that I can include in my next column! Meanwhile, here are some of the tidbits I picked up. Congrats and best wishes go out to Scott Bailey who is engaged to Tammy Podesva, with a wedding date set for October 25. Dave Smith, always fashionable, was sporting a custom made belt that was a gift from his daughters, many of his favorite places and pastimes were needlepointed onto the colorful accessory. Both girls are varsity lacrosse players (Lauren at Siena and Maddy at Holy Cross) and Dave would love to see a match-up between the two teams sometime during their college careers. Speaking of weddings, Pete Hansen was at the reunion solo (we missed you, Andrea Hansen ’80!) as his wife was home working on last minute details for their daughter Lauren’s wedding. Both Lauren and her brother Steve are living in the Seattle area. I definitely see a Pacific Northwest trip in Pete and Andrea’s future! Best of luck to Pat Lewis who is starting a new job on July 15 with SyneractHRC, overseeing clinical research trials. Kathleen Canter Ognibene also made a career move in 2014, retiring from her HR job with the city of Alexandria, Va., and accepting a new post as HR Director for the District of Columbia Health Department. Congrats to both Patty and Kathy. Their employers are lucky to have acquired such talent!!

A real highlight of my Loudonville visit was the chance to reconnect with my 3W pals Anne McKenna Collins, who flew in from Baltimore so she could get home for her daughter’s high school graduation, and Lisa Calvelly Meyer, who drove up from Raleigh, N.C., with her husband Jim, a former Swamp denizen! Memories galore were shared with wingmates Connie Cahill Sise and Mary Cronin Buser and all agreed that a 3W Reunion was in order, sooner rather than later! (Shout out to my roommate Lori Collins you were greatly missed!) Although the ’79ers didn’t win the golf tournament this time around, three cheers for Annie Patenaude, who was the female winner of the longest drive contest!

1980
Diane DeSilva
diane0429@gmail.com

1982
Bob Young
rjy60@yahoo.com

1983
Elvira Altimari-Jaeger
Eaj6@optonline.net

The lazy days of summer are upon us and I have a few updates for the column.

Fr. Mark Reamer, O.F.M., can now add doctor to his name. Mark was a member of the first class to receive a Doctor of Ministry degree from Duke University at the May 2014 commencement ceremony. The topic of his doctoral thesis was “Breaking New Ground: Pastoral Leadership in the Roman Catholic Church Through the Lens of Bowen Systems Theory.” Mark, the pastor of the Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi in Raleigh, N.C., celebrated 25 years as a friar in 2011. Congratulations, Mark on such an incredible achievement.

Jackie Klepper Higgins was honored by the Family Service League at a luncheon in Huntington attended by many of her Siena friends. Jackie was the house tour honoree and was presented with the Community Leadership award for her many years of service to the Huntington community. Jackie is the owner of Beach Glass Designs, an interior design firm.

If you have any updates or noteworthy items or if you want me to do a shout out, please email me for inclusion in the next Alumni News. Shout outs to Jim O’Connor, Barry Strobel, Anne Callahan and Noreen Keating. Where are you and what are you up to? Email me so I can say that you shouted back. Hey, keep in touch 83!

1984
Lisa San Fratello McCutcheon
mcclisa@yahoo.com

1985
Cathy Casey Bjorklund
Ron Bjorklund
Bjork90@comcast.net

Michelle Annese, co-owner of Annese & Associates, Inc., recently took part in a panel that discussed the importance of young women finding their voice, and the importance of creating a healthy corporate culture of equality.

Dr. Joe Bidwell is the new chair of the Department of Biological Sciences in East Tennessee State University’s College of Arts and Sciences.

Joe comes to ETSU from the University of Newcastle, Australia, where he was professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Science and Management. He was previously an associate professor of zoology, interim
Empire Financial Advisors, Inc., is a new financial firm in Latham, N.Y., founded by Gil Chase, who serves as the executive vice president. Gil’s firm will customize appropriate strategies to suit the vision and objectives of clients and can help them execute a sound financial program using tax management, investment management, retirement strategies, estate conservation and insurance and annuity products.

1986
Edward Giordano
Edward86@thegiordanos.us
Susan Slattery
susanslattery@gmail.com
Michelle Roche
mroche@comcast.net

Aanarian “Nate” Stevens

1987
Gerry McAndrew
Geraldine.m.mcandrew@comcast.net

Robert Donnelly was promoted to lieutenant at the Colonie Police Department on May 5. He is the shift commander for the midnight patrol shift. He has been with Colonie P.D. for more than 16 years and has almost 19 years total in law enforcement.

1988
Jim Monaghan
Jimmonaghan65@yahoo.com

Andy Heck and his family business, Alpin Haus, celebrated their 50th anniversary this spring. Started by Siena alumnuus Bud Heck ’63, Alpin Haus employs more than 200 people and has expanded to four locations in the Capital Region, with a fifth in Port Jervis, N.Y. Today instead of just selling ski equipment, they have expanded into selling swimming pools, boats, RVs and snowmobiles. Congrats to the entire Heck family!

1989
Mike Carbonaro
Sienanews.1989@yahoo.com

Kate Gutmann was recently named senior vice president for worldwide sales and solutions at UPS, which elevated her to the corporation’s 11-member management committee that sets strategy for worldwide operations. She will be responsible for leading UPS’s global sales solutions and customer engagement strategy.

1990
Janet Shotter Swierbut
jsnierbut@yahoo.com

Antonio Civitella received the 2014 Stack Center Entrepreneur of the Year Award on March 24 at Siena College. The award honors a Siena College alumnus/alumna who has positively impacted their community and was driven by the true spirit of entrepreneurship and Siena values. Tony began his career as a computer software intern with James Forth & Associates, a management consulting firm. He successfully developed and launched the company’s flagship product, Routefinder Pro.

1991
Kevin Clarke
siena91@optonline.net

Greg Stewart ’89 stopped by to host the Late Show.

Kate Gutmann ’90 was recently named senior vice president for worldwide sales and solutions at UPS.

in December 2000 and became president and CEO. He changed the company’s name to Transfinder to reflect the focus of the products and services associated with pupil transportation. He has successfully led the development of the company’s full product line, management, development and support teams, growing the company’s employee base to more than 75 professionals.
1993
Sue Hannon
Shannon@ryeneck.k12.ny.us

Christopher Hanfin, of Delmar, N.Y., a veteran of the war in Afghanistan who served as a U.S. Army Reserve officer, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. Hanfin, a hearing officer with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, recently served as a command judge advocate/international law officer with the 403d Civil Affairs Battalion of Mattydale, N.Y. Lieutenant Colonel Hanfin also has been selected as the deputy commander of the 7th Legal Operations Detachment, a U.S. Army Reserve unit headquartered in Albany, N.Y. Congratulations, Chris!

Jeffrey Dorrance has joined TD Bank as vice president, business development officer in small-business administration lending for upstate New York. In his role as an SBA (small business administration) lender, he is responsible for providing a range of deposit and lending services to small-business clients throughout the Upstate New York region.

1994
Glenn Hofsess
gh@endcap.com

Another reunion is in the books and what a great weekend it was! After 20 years, it was amazing how easy it was to just slip back into conversations with old friends as if it was still the early 90s again. I want to thank everyone who came and made this reunion such a memorable one. Upon returning to Siena, it was surprising to see how large the campus has grown, how many new buildings have been constructed and how alumni are permitted to walk around campus with open containers. No matter how long it has been since you’ve been back, the sense of familiarity embraces you immediately when you step foot on campus. The spirit of Siena that we all carry throughout our daily lives was omnipresent, and it was so wonderful to reconnect with our alma mater and all of our classmates who have made such lasting impressions on our lives. Getting together 20 years after graduation and feeling the same sense of community provides a nice milestone for the lifelong friendships established way back when we were still young. Have a great summer, everyone!

1995
Neil Wilcove
nwilcove@fmglaw.com

1996
Brian Murray
murray21@hotmail.com

1997
Selena Dutcher
selenadutcher@gmail.com

1998
Janine Trapp Scotti
Sienasaints98@yahoo.com

1999
Brendan Fitzgerald
nyfitzgerald@gmail.com

2000
Shaymus Schweitzer
Sienasaints2000@hotmail.com

Andrew Geyer was recently promoted to Partner at Hunton & Williams in the firm’s Richmond, Va., office. Andy’s practice focuses on global outsourcing, commercial contracting and technology transactions.

Shari Quinn has written her first novel, “Disloyalty,” which is available now on Kindle, and August 29, 2014 in paperback on Amazon.com. “Disloyalty” is an intense suspense about lust, betrayal and friendships gone wrong.

2001
Maura Mack
Maura820@yahoo.com

Congratulations to Maj. Ben Genthner of the New York Army National Guard, who has been named commander of a critical joint New York Army and Air Guard unit. Ben leads New York National Guard’s 2nd Civil Support Team, comprised of soldiers and airmen who are trained to identify chemical, biological and radiological weapons.

Congratulations to classmate Mike Pierce and his wife, Shannon, who announced the birth of their second child, Nora Kathryn Pierce, born November 8. Nora is doing great and her big sister, Claire, is very happy!

Kevin McCabe and his wife Kristen just had their second child, Kelly Erin, on May 1. She joins her big brother Mikey, who is thrilled.

Please continue to stay connected and email me your updates:
Maura820@yahoo.com or Sienanotes01@gmail.com.
I look forward to hearing from more of you!

2002
Christine Cinnamond
Christine.cinnamond@gmail.com

Mike Hennessey has accepted the position of European finance director at Carestream Health. Mike and his family will be relocating from Rochester, N.Y., to Paris for this international assignment. Mike has been with Carestream since 2007. Prior to this role, Mike worked as a WW Service finance manager, MFAPS FP&A manager and in Corporate Controllers as manager of financial reporting. Mike, a certified public accountant, previously worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP.

Is there a doctor in the house? Joshua Quick is in his last year of residency training in anesthesiology at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Mass. After completing his residency, he will start in an adult cardiothoracic anesthesia fellowship program at Tufts Medical Center in Boston, Mass.

Allison McCourt Hocoluk wed Heath Hocoluk on August 11, 2012, in Seataket, N.Y., surrounded by family and friends, including fellow Saints Ryan and Marisa Leary Hungershafer, Mike and Jenn Fahr Mangino, Stef Morris, Jen Walker Vella, Brie Brolley Ellwood and Chrissy Cinnamond. Allison and Heath welcomed their first child, Hudson William, on October 11, 2013. The Hocoluk family lives in Bay Shore on Long Island. Allison is a guidance counselor at Lindenhurst High School.

Ryan and Marisa Hungershafer and his brother Eric ’04 and his wife Amy named and dedicated Townhouses 37 and 36 this spring. Ryan and Marisa named theirs “The Hunger House” while Eric and Amy named theirs “The Shafer House.” Ryan said “Siena was such an important place to Marisa, my family and myself, and as we get older, we realized how much goes into providing such an experience. We wanted to contribute, so that other students can have the same experience.” He went on to say, “Leaving a legacy gives you a real sense of pride. It’s a great way to honor the sacrifices our families and so many others made for us. It’s something that we can show our son, and other family members in perpetuity. Who knows, maybe someday one of them will live in TH 37 or 36. I think that would be pretty cool.”

2003
Kelly Quist Demars
kqdemars@gmail.com

2004
Melissa Termine Goetz
Mtermine24@yahoo.com
Lauren Weber
Lwebs13@gmail.com

Eric Hungershafer and his wife Amy dedicated a Townhouse in June during Reunion Weekend. His brother Ryan ’02 dedicated one as well. Townhouses 36 and 37 are now known as “The Hunger House” and “The Shafer House.” When asked why they did it Eric said, “First, I thought it was simply a cool idea that my brother came up with so I wanted to do my part. The fact that it was in the old townhouses was cool, because we had a lot of great memories there. Secondly, I am passionate about giving back to Siena and Siena athletics. Lastly, being able to direct the money to things on campus that are meaningful to me and still get the name recognition was important.”

Eric and Jolleen Wagner were honored during Reunion Weekend with The Franciscan Spirit Award for their service to Siena and to their community. It was a well-deserved honor for both. You can check out their award videos on the Class of 2004 Facebook page. Congrats!

2005
Breanne Suhrland Elsesser
bsuhrlan@att.net

Greetings Class of 2005, Michael Hartigan was the overall winner in the Institutional Investor’s 2013-14 All America Student Analyst Competition. A part time student at Fordham’s Graduate School of Business, Mike has been involved in the financial industry since graduating from Siena. Mike said, “Markets have always been exciting and intriguing.”

Chris Moro and his wife Jessica welcomed their first child, daughter Alyson Eveline Moro, on July 19, 2013. Congratulations to Chris and Jessica!

Melissa Guiry was promoted to director of annual giving and alumni relations at Union Graduate College. Guiry is a 2010 graduate of Union’s Master of Arts in teaching degree program.

Rob Manfredo has joined Bond, Schoeneck & King Law Firm in its Albany office as an associate. He advises employers on compliance issues arising under federal and state law, including the Family Medical leave Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act and the New York State labor law.

Peter Allegritti and Michael Tanki ’12 are co-founders of the Dumbstruck app, developed by their startup company Doctored Apps in Albany, N.Y. The app is for photo and video sharing. “This is a huge opportunity for us to generate buzz and exposure on a national level,” Allegritti said.

Dr. Abigail Cochran, who is a resident physician at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield, Ill., has been awarded a two-year federal grant from the Plastic Surgery Foundation to study fat grafting in breast cancer treatment and reconstruction.

2006
Chris Elsesser
Christopher.elsesser@gmail.com

Hello Class of 2006! I hope you are enjoying your summer and that this edition of “Siena News” finds you in a happy and relaxed state of mind. I am sure that there are many wonderful things going on in your life and I, along with your Siena family, would LOVE to hear about them. The summer is a great time to take a moment and shoot me an email with YOUR NEWS! You can share anything you want, including: engagement, wedding or birth announcements, career advancement news or just some general gossip about yourself or your old roomies! NO NEWS IS TOO SMALL! If you have already shared, please encourage other Siena classmates to join the party! I hope to hear from you all soon! With that being said, let’s start spreading the news!
Katie Luker Cherney and her husband Keith welcomed their new son Luke Joseph Cherney to their family on March 12, 2014. Luke was born just after lunchtime at 1:02 p.m. Congratulations Katie and Keith!

Sarah Chilson Plante and her husband David Plante ’05, welcomed their new son Oliver Louis Plante to their family on February 18, 2014. Sarah and David are currently living in Canton, Ohio. Congratulations to the Plante Family!

Peter O’Brien became engaged this past July to Erin Hodne. Peter and Erin will be getting married on August 16, 2014. Congratulations Peter and Erin! We are looking forward to seeing your wedding photo in an upcoming edition of “Siena News”!

2007
Mike Ulzig
mutzig@siena.edu
Jackie Shelburne
jacqueline.shelburne@gmail.com

Class of 2007! What’s the good word? We hope everyone is out soaking up the sun and enjoying some time out on the water, at a concert or BBQing in the back yard! Send us all your awesome updates for the next edition of “Siena News.” Have a fantastic summer!

Julie Clancy, who has been serving Emma Willard School in Troy, N.Y., in the role of assistant to the head of school, has now moved onto a new opportunity. Her new position there is manager of admissions operations. She will also be at the helm of the 2015 Troy Mini Maker Faire, which will be held on the Emma Willard campus on April 25, 2015.

Cristina Polizzi wed Brian Woods on May 25, 2014 in Stony Brook, N.Y. She also graduated from the University of Houston College of Optometry. She has relocated back to her home state of New York so that she can work alongside her father at Eye and Vision Care Associates. Congratulations to Dr. Polizzi-Woods!

Kristen Turner wed Matthew Salvatore surrounded by Siena best friends. Congrats Turner – you looked beautiful!

Mike Dowd started working for Greystone Management Solutions as the director of accounting and billing in May. GMS recently won the contract to provide asset management and advisory services to the MBTA and MassDOT across all of their real estate assets in Massachusetts. Mike’s main responsibility will be to work closely with the agency to ensure accuracy of accounting related data input and lease information in the agency’s tenant management system while developing a professional relationship with the MBTA Real Estate Department. He will also oversee monthly billing procedures and practices, month end reporting, annual and monthly arrears analysis and reports and other reports to ensure completion of scheduled tasks.

Regina (Connelly) Gibbins had her second son this year. Brandon Robert Gibbins was born on February 25, measuring 19 in. long and weighing 7lbs 1oz. Congrats to the entire Gibbins family!

Patrick Henry has been selected by Super Lawyers as a “Virginia Rising Star” in the field of business litigation, an honor presented to fewer than 2.5% of attorneys in Virginia.

Stan Horton just got a new job as an academic advisor at Southern New Hampshire University. Way to go, Stan!

2008
Danielle Grasso
Patrick Preston
sienacollege2008@gmail.com

While we can’t believe another class has graduated Siena, we’d like to welcome the Class of 2014 to the alumni family! That being said, our fellow class members have been quite busy with a variety of major life events. Here are we go, updates!

We got this great message from Dr. Sean Figy, “I got married on January 11, 2014 to Anna Muller. I met her while I was in medical school in Toledo. We are living in Worcester, Mass., while I do my residency at UMass in plastic and reconstructive surgery. She works for the Walden School for the Deaf. At the wedding were Kyle McEllhoney, Kevin Hogan, Marybeth (Bumbelow) DeSario, Jenn Armstrong, Erin Steffen, Carly (James) Ogden, Sam Ogden ‘09 and Amy McCarthy ’09.”

For all of us that have become social media adults, I’m sure we’ve all joined the LinkedIn network. Our very own Nicole Fleming was promoted to their sales development manager in NYC in January. Nicole is living and working in NYC where she is managing a team of nine. Congratulations on this promotion! And we encourage everyone to join our Siena College Alumni group on the site.

On October 19, 2013, Nicole Cappuzzo added Santora to her name when she married fellow ’08 member, Mike Santora. The pair got married at Sacred Heart Church in Southbury, Conn., and had a reception afterward at Candlewood Inn in Brookfield, Conn. They live in Stamford, Conn., and will be moving to Newtown, Conn., in August. Nicole also received an MBA in finance this May from Baruch College. It’s been a very productive year for the pair and we wish them many congratulations on their success and marriage!

In some personally exciting news, the ladies of Townhouse 41 have had a very eventful last few months. On January 21st, Kathleen McManus Mancini and her husband, Brett Mancini ’07 welcomed baby Max Richard Mancini. He joined his furry older brother Jackson and the family recently moved to Raleigh, N.C., and are doing great. Fellow Class of 2036 member, Mason William
Hutnick was born on May 9th to parents Laura Mazzaferrro Hutnick and Pat Hutnick ’07. The Hutnick’s currently live in the Capital Region. On May 16, 2014, I had the pleasure of being a part of the wedding of Katie Simone Gallagher and Matthew Gallagher ’09. They were married in Long Beach Island, N.J., and are living in Syracuse, N.Y. Our final summer event will be the wedding of Ciara Greene to Michael Erdman on July 27th, 2014 in Long Island, N.Y. I’m so excited to share this great news of my former housemates. Can’t believe we’re all so grown up!

Adam Sopris might have the best job ever! He is now manager and marketing director at C.H. Evans Brewing Co. at the Albany Pump Station.

We hope everyone is having a great summer! Hope to see you during basketball season when Siena once again plays host to the MAAC Tournament in February. Let’s go Saints!

2009

Tiffany Salonich
tsalonich11@aim.com

Hello Class of 2009,

It was wonderful to see many of you at the Siena College Reunion. Thank you for sharing your news.

John Behrens is a product developer for PepsiCo. He just launched his first U.S. product, which is Mug Root Beer made with real sugar. It recently launched in the Midwest and will be coming to the Northeast soon.

Chris Bopp was recently accepted into The College of St. Rose’s graduate program for communication sciences and disorders.

Conor Geary recently joined Ted Turner’s restaurant venture, Ted’s Montana Grill, and managed the opening of their newest establishment in the Front Street District of Downtown Hartford, Conn.

Erin Guldenstern graduated from Albany Medical College with a master’s degree as a physician assistant in May.

Rebekah Lehtonen graduated from Franklin Pierce University in March 2013. She is now a practicing physician assistant at Valley Sports Physicians in Connecticut.

Sam Ogden is in his fourth year at Albany Medical College and is planning on going into pediatrics.

Love is in the air for the following couples:

Jaw Pollock became engaged to Elizabeth Fischer on February 28, 2014. They are planning a winter wedding in 2015.

Tiffany Salonich became engaged to Orlando J. Valerio on March 16, 2014. They are planning to have a spring wedding in 2015. Tiffany also went on a Celtic Tours trip to Ireland with several Siena College alumni and community members. The tour included Barbra Cox ’75, Joseph Houghtaling ’13, Kelly Houghtaling ’12, Kat Newsholme ’06, Devin Rigolino ’13, Holly Walsh ’06, Sue Houghtaling in business services and Ruth Richards in development.

Stephen Popham Jr. graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a Master of Science in engineering on May 17.

Ned Marziglano and Crystal Rosekrans ’10 became engaged on October 13, 2013. Their wedding will be on August 8, 2015.

Amanda Banner became engaged to Brian Davey ’10 in July 2013. They are planning a wedding on October 25, 2014 at the St. Mary of Angels Chapel at Siena College.

Marissa Zumbo and Nicholas Fusella wed on May 23 at St. Mary of the Angels Chapel at Siena College with Fr. William Beaudin ’76, O.F.M., performing the ceremony.

Elizabeth Murphy and Michael Sica are expecting a baby in November 2014.

Robin Sansonetti and Michael Kilroy are engaged and are planning a winter wedding in 2014.

Laura Costello became engaged to Brendan O’Connor on January 20. They are planning a wedding in December.

Lauren Amendola and Jason Biscardi were married on July 4.

2010

Kelly Peckholdt
kellypeckholdt@gmail.com

Congratulations to Maggie Glover and her fiancé, Croix Bouquot, on their recent engagement! They plan to marry in June 2015.

Courtney Lynch was recently promoted from senior event marketing representative to regional fitness and endurance event specialist for St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital.

Matthew Horan was named the supported employment coordinator for the Arc of Onondaga in Syracuse, N.Y.

2011

Allison Collins
am27coll@gmail.com

John Ambros currently resides in Los Angeles, Calif., where he started his film production company. He’s currently developing a feature film titled “Inheritance,” a political drama that takes place in Albany, N.Y. The film examines the erosion of the American dream and the ways we can revive it, not just through public policy, but also as individuals.

Allie Collins finished her third year of teaching at Success Academy Upper West in NYC and just received the Teacher’s Excellence Award through her network. This summer, she is currently teaching a master’s in education literacy class at Touro College.

Tommy Gelok graduated with a master’s in higher education administration from the University at Buffalo. He has recently accepted a residence coordinator position at the SUNY Purchase College.

Concetta D’Alessio graduated with her master’s of education in higher education administration from the University at Buffalo and will become a residence director at Ithaca College beginning August 2014. Kate Boucher is teaching English in the Hartford school district in upstate N.Y., and finished her master’s in school library and information technology.

Meagan Greiger graduated from Hofstra University with her master’s in higher education leadership and policy studies. Kelsey Higgins is working in Worker’s Compensation at Lemire, Johnson, and Higgins LLC in Malta, N.Y. Kelly Figser is a licensed insurance agent for Allstate in the greater Cleveland area. She is currently engaged and will be married.
in Binghamton, N.Y., in June 2015.

Dana Mazer is currently teaching world history at Sandra Day O’Connor High School in Phoenix, Ariz.

Davia Litz finished her third year of teaching at Blue Creek Elementary School as a math specialist. She also just finished her master’s in adolescent and special education at The College of Saint Rose. Brian Litz is currently a clinical quality analyst for CapitalCare Medical Group in upstate NY.

Chris Pearce got married on May 24 to Chelsea (Brumagen) Pearce ‘13. Chris had his pre-reception at Siena College!”

Meg Dufour will be graduating in October from Argosy University in Phoenix, Ariz., with her master’s degree in mental health counseling. She is currently working for a nonprofit child/adolescent outpatient center as a counselor. Mackenzie Watroba is celebrating one year working for Make-A-Wish Northeast New York where she has become an invaluable member of the team as they grant wishes for children throughout the 518 area code. She performs administrative functions for all aspects of the organization including operations, the wish-granting program and development. She is also a volunteer wish granter and is working now with her first wish kid.

Laurel Flatley and Lauren Connell just graduated from Stony Brook School of Nursing this past May.

Alana Brady graduated with her juris doctorate from Albany Law School and will be starting as an ADA in the Bronx in September.

2012

Therese Daly
Classof2012classnotes@gmail.com

Lots of work updates for our class this time around!

Victoria Huber is a sales account manager, E-Commerce THRO – Home Décor Companies. Olivia Bizovi is an anti-human trafficking intelligence cell operations manager at the Center for Intelligence Research, Analysis and Training (CIRAT). Taimese Revell is a service advisor at Hassel Mini. Mary Kate Zimmermann works for The Walt Disney Company, in park operations.

Meg Davis graduated from University of Albany with her master’s in social work and accepted a position at Vanderheyden. Katie Carew accepted a position as sales and service Coordinator for ANC Sports. Bobby Zimmerman graduated this May from the School of Nanotechnology in Albany and has accepted a position with Northrop Grumman and will be relocating to Baltimore, Md. Jules Malone has been accepted into the accelerated Bachelor of Science in nursing program at Concordia College and will be starting in the fall.

In education news, Katie Ness graduated from Saint Joseph’s University with a master’s in psychology. Lauren Marenzana will be attending Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., to pursue her master’s in public policy. Kathryn Ornelas passed her Series 7 and 63 as well as coming up on her two-year anniversary at JP Morgan. Shawn Reap accepted an offer to attend Northeastern University. He will be relocating this summer.

Tara Keough has accepted an offer to attend University of Albany with the intent to earn her master’s in social work this fall.

Tyler Fane was appointed to the Board of Directors for the Lansingburgh Boy’s and Girl’s Club. Congrats Tyler!

Renee Benedetti is engaged to her boyfriend, Nick DeVita. Congrats!

2013

Cassy Jane Werking
C18werk@siena.edu

Maureen Jeffery will be entering her second year in her mathematics Ph.D. program and currently serves as an instructor at Syracuse University.

Michelle Campbell is currently working as an account coordinator at Potratz, an advertising agency in Schenectady, N.Y. She is currently living in Troy, N.Y., and volunteers at the Troy Farmer’s Market on the weekends.

Chelsea (Brumagen) Pearce wed Christopher Pearce ‘11 on May 24, 2014. Their ceremony was at St. John the Evangelist church in Schenectady, N.Y., followed by a pre-reception at Siena in the Maloney Great Room and a full reception at Longfellow’s in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

In education news, Katie Daly is pursuing a post baccalaureate degree at William Paterson University in Wayne, N.Y. The initial dual licensure program is for elementary education and for prospective teachers of students with disabilities. Rebecca Grasso is pursuing her doctorate of physical therapy at Russell Sage College.

Gary Czosnykowski is at Siena getting his masters of science in accounting and interning at the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. Renee Bourgeois is pursuing a M.A. in medical physics at the University of Pennsylvania. Sara O’Shea will be attending Pace Law School in the fall.

Katherine Krawiec moved to London this past fall to get her master’s of research in microbiology and the use of natural plant extracts in the inhibition of bacterial biofilm development. Stephen Casavant is at the University of Albany studying to receive his M.A. in economics.

The Class of 2013 would like to congratulate President...
Father Kevin Mullen on his newly elected position and thank him for all his support and dedication to Siena College students throughout his tenure. As we reflect on the one year anniversary of our graduation, we celebrate the journeys we have embarked on and the opportunities that we have embraced, while remembering the school that made it all possible. It is the only beginning! Have a great summer!

2014

Kaitlin Harrison
ke06harr@siena.edu

Congratulations, Class of 2014! Hope everyone is enjoying summer so far! We’ve already received exciting announcements from several members of the class. If you have anything to share, feel free to contact me at ke06harr@siena.edu.

Dana Tricarico just recently accepted the University of Miami’s offer in Miami, Florida to get her master’s of professional science in marine conservation.

Jonathan Skabowski accepted and began his position at The Ayco Company as an associate in the financial related services department in June.

In May, Kendall Veasaw was commissioned as a 2nd Lt in the Air Force as an Intelligence Officer. She will be reporting to Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas, in October for technical school for training to be an intelligence officer.

Ericka Pier is currently working as assistant director of financial aid at Siena College. She is enrolled in the doctor of psychology (PsyD) in school psychology program at the University at Albany for fall 2014.

Jon McRae will be attending The College of Saint Rose beginning fall 2014 in pursuit of his master’s and specialist degree in school psychology.

Alexis Benedetti got engaged to Mateo Minniefiel. Congratulations!! We wish you all the happiness in the world at this exciting time!

Enjoy the summer! Hope to see you all at the 100 Days Reunion!

In Memory

Siena College mourns the loss of the following members of our community:

Anne M. Ellis ’49
Nicholas J. Bua ’50
James H. Collier ’50
Charles A. Connell ’50
Patricia Fritschler ’50
Joseph A. Maio ’50
Adrian C. Gonyea ’52
William “Billy” Harrell ’52
William V. Iacocca ’52
Joseph Losier ’52
John J. Carnevale ’53
Rev. Frederick C. McQuade Jr. ’54
William J. Sullivan Jr. ’54
Richard “Dick” Tatro ’56
Dr. John J. Santini Sr. ’58
Paul A. Anostario ’59
Richard P. Osielski ’59
Arthur P. Cotugno ’60
Robert S. Yakubec ’60
Thomas E. Aiken ’62
Joseph D. Davies Sr. ’62
Donald G. Ramroth ’63
Richard C. Diesing ’64
Julie Foley ’68
William M. Cranker ’71
Joseph C. Breen ’73
Donald J. FitzGibbon ’76
Paul E. Pugh Sr. ’76
Roger J. Bailie Sr. ’77
John E. Cocca Sr. ’77
Loretta Epstein ’77
Regina M. DaPrato ’80
Irene F. Saulsbery ’80
James E. Douglas ’86
W. Roger Barnes ’91
Mark A. MacMillan ’94

In an effort to publish alumni wedding photos in a more timely manner and to allow alumni to share these photos via social media all future weddings will be posted at www.siena.edu/weddings. The wedding announcements will continue to appear in the class notes sections. Cheers!

Update us!

Want to stay connected and well-informed about the goings-on at Siena? Make sure to update the Alumni Relations Office with your contact information! If you haven’t already, send your current address, phone number and email to alumni@siena.edu today!
Remembering Jim Snyder

By Mark Adam

The founder of Siena’s Mentoring Program, Jim Snyder, died on February 28, 2014 at the age of 78. Snyder’s program brought underprivileged children from the Albany area to Siena’s campus and paired them with volunteer Siena students.

Snyder arrived at Siena in 1964 and started the Mentoring Program, formerly named the Big Brothers and Sisters initiative, a year later.

Every Saturday during the school year, Snyder and Siena students spent one-on-one time with their “littles.” He also created a six-week, full-day summer program for elementary school students. The children, who arrive by bus, eat lunch in Lonnstrom Dining Hall. Then they set out as a group for activities such as roller skating, bowling and snow tubing.

“I witness the impact the program has had on kids,” Snyder said in 2012. “When I see them going to Siena and other colleges I’m proud of them.”

J’Vanay Santos ’16 met Snyder when she joined the program as a 10-year-old student at St. Casimir School. She is now an accounting major at Siena and a coordinator for the Mentoring Program. She recalled Snyder’s sense of humor and his inclusive spirit.

“He was really kindhearted,” Santos said. “He had the roughest of kids with the biggest of attitudes, and I was one of them. He sought me out to go to Siena. He was an amazing mentor.”

One of Snyder’s closest friends at the College was assistant director of admissions and former Siena basketball player Dale Taylor ’02. They met the summer before Taylor’s freshman year. Snyder offered Taylor a part-time job working with the Mentoring Program, which led to a 16-year relationship. Snyder welcomed Taylor into his family, inviting him to his home for holidays and birthdays.

“He contributed to the man I’ve become,” said Taylor, who still volunteers with the Mentoring Program. “He embodied Siena’s Franciscan tradition.”

When the Mentoring Program was in danger of budget cuts during the recent recession, Snyder worked to secure a $250,000 U.S. Department of Justice grant to expand services to high school students and increase membership.

“Jim made it possible to not turn away interested youth who wished to spend their Saturdays at Siena College,” said Alfredo Medina Jr., associate vice president for academic affairs. “I wonder how different their life would be if Jim were not a part of it. Jim’s commitment to diversity and helping the less fortunate will be enormously missed.”

Left: Dale Taylor ’02 met the Snyder family during his freshman year and has been involved in the Mentoring Program ever since.
In a span of 50 days this spring, Siena captured three MAAC titles (women’s golf, men’s lacrosse and men’s baseball) and won the school’s first-ever Division I national postseason championship (basketball). Page 20 for story.