

CBA *Today*

Winter 2006-07
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ESPN's Tony Reali
CBA '96

CBA Junior
Witnesses
War in Lebanon

New Tools for Teachers



Cover photo: Lorenzo Bevilacqua/ESPN

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Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends,

The 2006-07 academic year will be nearly at the halfway mark when you read this, it's midway through the second quarter marking period as I write. It's going well! The first report cards showed the satisfying results of hard work on the part of most of the students. Some showed areas where students must work a bit harder next time. I trust they will.

That's something that struck me as we were putting together this issue of CBA Today. So many people here work really hard — the faculty, the staff who run the offices, cafeteria and physical plant, the coaches, the students. And the results show it!

Take the 2006 Colts varsity soccer team, whose achievements this past season are summarized on pages 16 and 17. What they accomplished is fantastic. I'm so proud of them!

I'm amazed at what our Alumni Association, Mothers' Club, and Fathers' Club accomplish. We have space only to mention their activities very briefly. But I so appreciate all their hard work on the events and projects that help to reinforce our values, strengthen the sense of community at CBA and raise funds for scholarships and our endowment.

And our teachers are great. We are fortunate to have on our faculty some of the finest teachers anywhere. As you will see in several of the articles in this issue, they work very hard — both individually and with each other on faculty-wide and department projects — to maintain and continually improve our superb academic programs.

Everyday in classrooms up and down our corridors, our teachers challenge our students to do their best work. When the students respond to this challenge, they not only achieve success in their courses here, they also form habits and develop skills that will stand them in good stead later on, in college and beyond.

Tony Reali, the '96 graduate we interviewed for this issue, told us something that I've heard time and time again from our young graduates when they come back to visit during their college vacations. "I don't think I realized what kind of effect CBA had on me until I was well into my freshman year at Fordham," Tony said. "All of a sudden it struck me that this college stuff was easy. I mean cake. And I had this conversation with other guys from CBA at the time. They agreed. Easy. That's CBA at work."

Now of course, that doesn't mean that boys can just come here as freshmen, pick up their books and their locker combinations, and then sit back for four years. They have to work. But if they do, the results will surely follow.

As we begin this new year, I pray that with God's help, all of us will continue to do our best work each day.

May God shower His blessings on all of you throughout this year! You are all always in my prayers.

Sincerely,

Bro. Andrew O'Gara, FSC

President



PRESIDENT

New Tools FOR TEACHERS ENHANCE CBA'S TRADITIONAL EXCELLENCE

FOCUS ON FACULTY

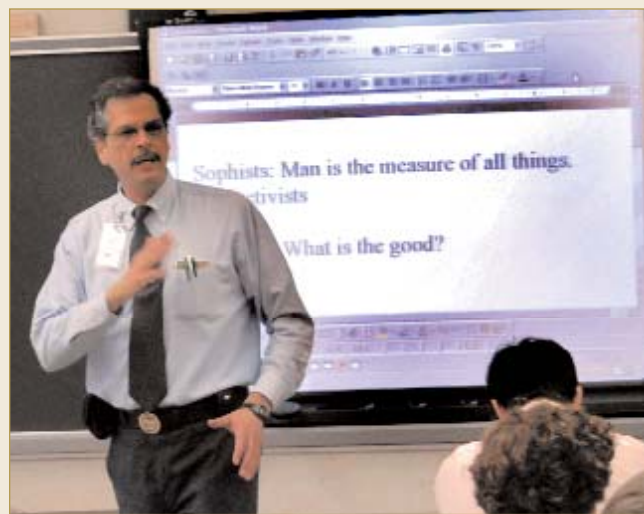
The basics of good teaching at Christian Brothers Academy have remained essentially the same since the school was founded nearly a half-century ago: highly qualified teachers with a love for and a masterly command of their subject matter, who know how to communicate their material and, most importantly, how to capture their students' interest and engage them in the material at hand. Their goal is to motivate the students to think about what they are learning, and to work with it or write about it on their own.

Like excellent teachers everywhere, CBA's teachers draw on a wide array of tactics and techniques, many developed over years of experience, and some newly



Cathleen Carroll (History)

acquired. Actually, much of their skill is not deliberately "tactical" at all, but inherent in the teachers' own excitement about their subject and their genuine interest in their students. Walking through the school corridors during class time, one sees many instances of the lively teacher-student interaction that is central to good teaching. Teachers perched on the edges of desks, leaning over lecterns or moving around the classroom, explaining, prompting, cajoling, challenging. Students jotting notes and listening intently — at least partly because in many classes, each one knows that he



Joseph Fili (English)

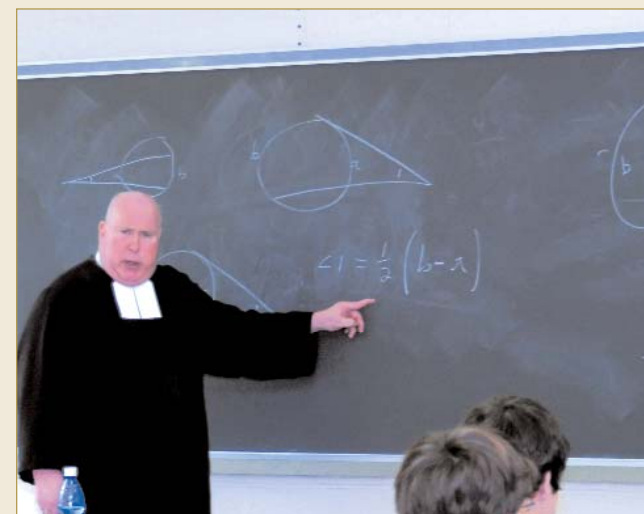
will surely be called on sometime during the class period, whether or not he volunteers, to read, answer a question, do a problem, express an opinion. Teachers at CBA clearly know how to engage their students, and they have been doing it effectively for years.

But while the basic essentials of good teaching have not changed a great deal over time, the classroom tools that teachers have at their disposal are continually being refined and improved. The most recent addition to



Bob Maier (English)

teachers' "tool kits" at CBA is the availability of digital content media for presentation and interactive applications in the classroom setting. Of course, both

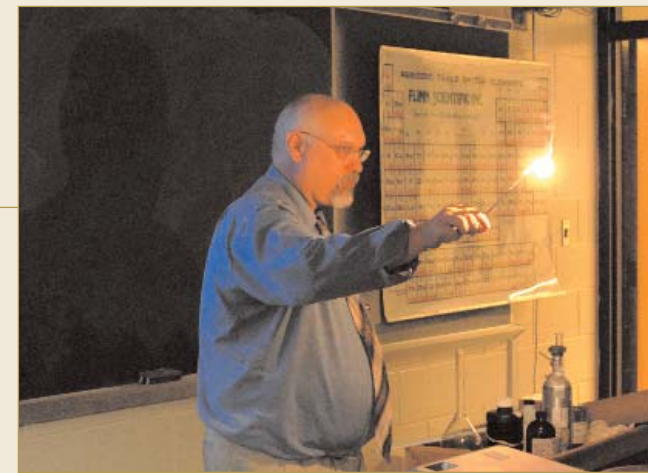


Brother Stephen Haubrich (Math)

teachers and students have used computers for individual and small group projects for years. At present, there are nearly 200 PCs available for students and staff in the school, reports technology director Joseph Prioli. A wireless network covers all of the school buildings as well as much of the outdoor campus. In addition, wired network connections have been retained in the classrooms and laboratories as well as in the library and staff rooms.



Gary Cappetta (World Languages)



David Duh (Science)

Over the past few years, CBA has been providing teachers with the equipment and technical support to permit the regular use of digital media in the classroom. All of the teachers now have their own Tablet PCs, and over the past several years, digital media projection equipment has been installed throughout the school. To date, some 40 mounted or portable data projectors are

available for classroom use, and more are gradually being installed. In addition, sixteen classrooms (divided evenly among the various departments) are now equipped with SmartBoard interactive whiteboards.

By connecting their laptops to digital media data

projectors, teachers can enhance their lectures and lessons with much more than traditional visual aids. Projecting images on a screen or directly on the classroom wall, teachers can display text, diagrams, maps, pictures, video clips, and the like. The projectors are controlled from the teachers' laptops, and presentations can be retrieved as



Hugh McKenna (English)



Michael Tomaino (Computer Science)

FOCUS ON FACULTY

New Tools FOR TEACHERS ENHANCE CBA'S TRADITIONAL EXCELLENCE

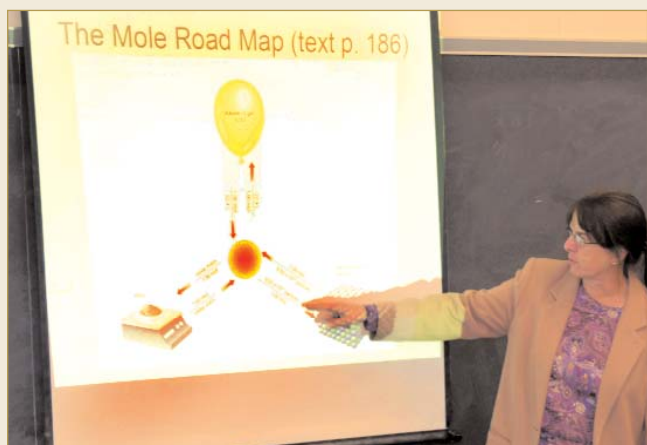
FOCUS ON FACULTY

FOCUS ON FACULTY



Marcos Orozco (Science)

needed to enhance topics in lectures, graphically demonstrate processes or techniques, or provide reference information to answer students' questions. Using material that they have developed themselves, or drawing from the wealth of educational materials available from web-based educational resources or elsewhere on the internet, teachers can create presentations that are customized to fit specific topics or lessons, and to meet the needs of their various classes. Since these



Carol Baker (Science)

presentations are preserved on the laptops, they can easily be saved for use in subsequent years, and improved or adapted as needed.

The SmartBoards add a further dimension, in that the interactive whiteboard becomes, in effect, a large-sized computer screen, which teachers or students can control either from the keyboard and mouse of the computer to which it is linked, or directly on the screen itself, either by touching the screen to "click," or by using electronic pens to "write" directly on the screen.



Tom Heath (Math)

One of the first teachers to put this technology to use outside the computer science department was English teacher Joseph Fili, who has been using a SmartBoard in

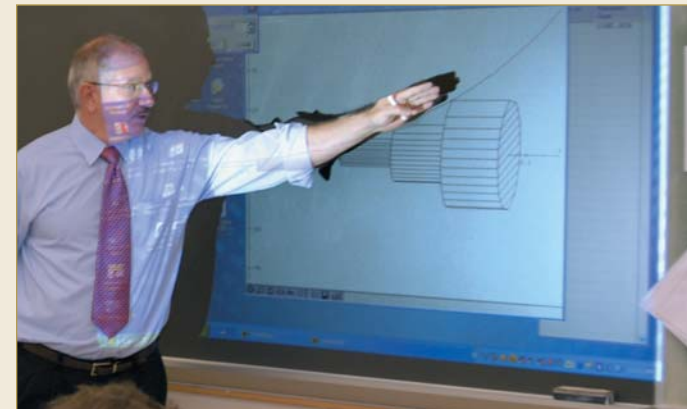
his classroom for several years. The SmartBoard, says Fili, "has revolutionized my ability to teach writing." Fili has always found it most effective to build writing lessons around students' own work, taking the class step

by step through the process of evaluating and improving their own writing. With the SmartBoard, Fili can project a student's paper on the screen, zoom in on particular passages at will, and use (or have



Sean Nunan (English)

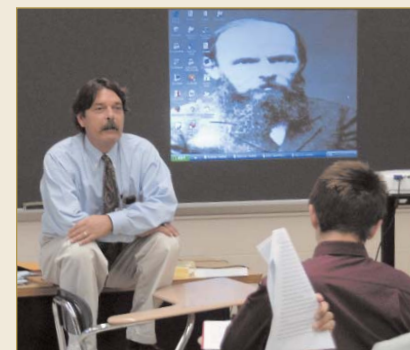
the students use) electronic pens to mark possible changes. Whenever a different edit seems warranted, Fili



Peter Santanello (Math)

simply taps the screen, the pen markings disappear, and the students try again. In addition to the writing lessons, Fili uses the SmartBoard constantly in all his classes, searching online with the students to find background information on what they are reading, using the electronic pens freely, like chalk on a blackboard, to highlight, underline, or add to what appears on the screen.

Digital media projection and SmartBoard applications are also much used by teachers in the science, math, world languages, religious studies, history, and of course,



Jeff Matson (History)



Tom Mulligan (Science)

computer science departments. Many of the teachers adopted this technology eagerly as soon as it became available. For some, it has



Ed Wicelinski (Physical Education)

presented something of a challenge. Peter Santanello, associate principal for academic affairs, and a math teacher, laughingly recalls his first attempt to include a digital presentation in one of his classes. He plugged everything in, found the presentation in his laptop, started the projector — and nothing happened.

He panicked, turned everything off, and his class did not see the presentation that day. Now, however, Santanello is a regular user of the data projector in his classroom, and finds it a very effective aid in communicating difficult math concepts.

Many teachers have taken advantage of the training seminars that the school has provided, as well as the technology department's "help desk." Science teacher Carol Baker took a graduate education course last summer on the use of this technology, and has shared with her colleagues the techniques and resource information she gained from the course. ■



Virginia Decker (World Languages)

MAUREEN MARONEY

DOUBLY HONORED AS A
DISTINGUISHED LASALLIAN EDUCATOR



English teacher Maureen Maroney has been selected as CBA's Distinguished Lasallian Educator for this year. Heightening the honor, both for herself and for Christian Brothers Academy, is her selection by the De La Salle Christian Brothers' New York District for the district-wide Distinguished Lasallian Educator award.

Together with this year's Distinguished Lasallian Educators from the six other Christian Brothers' districts in North America, Maureen Maroney was recognized at the Awards Banquet that concluded the Huether Lasallian Conference in San Francisco on November 30 to December 2. Also in attendance at this year's Huether Conference — an annual meeting of more than 200 educators from the US, Canada, and abroad — were associate principal Brother James Dries and teachers Neil Begley (science), Cathleen Carroll (history), and Timothy Sewnig (religious studies), who applauded proudly as their colleague accepted her award.

In calling for nominations for this year's Distinguished Lasallian Educators, the Christian Brothers Conference urged each school to select "a Master Teacher, a great teacher who is one of the quiet heroes of your school, day in and day out."

Those words aptly describe Maureen Maroney, said religious studies teacher Garry Koch, himself a New York District Distinguished Lasallian Educator (2004). "Maureen Maroney is certainly a master teacher," he said, having worked with her on the CBA faculty for more than twenty years. "She possesses a command of the material she teaches and can communicate that to her students in ways that are positive, and enriching. She is always available to

her students for extra help, and is a consistent presence in the classroom well after hours."

Maureen Maroney has been a member of the English department faculty at CBA since 1985, having taught previously at Saint Vincent Academy and at St. Joseph's High School, Toms River (now Monsignor Donovan High School). In addition to her teaching responsibilities at CBA, she also assists with the intramurals program, and she has generously given a great deal of time — and considerable flair — to the "Sunshine Club," a one-person social committee that has helped foster a warm sense of community among CBA's faculty and staff.



Remarking on the Maroney wit, which has made her a favorite with both faculty and students at CBA, guidance counselor Jack Brennan, last year's Distinguished Lasallian Educator, remarked that "Maureen's sense of humor was established long before I came to the Academy, but it continues to enliven our spirits with her quick wit and her willingness to laugh at herself. This humor has also assisted in her effectiveness as a teacher and a mentor to our students. She can often be seen in the cafeteria, the hallway, or in the classroom surrounded by students, and usually after a few moments a hearty laugh and a warm smile will follow."

Noting that Maroney's unassuming manner is a particularly admirable trait, Brennan adds that "as a woman of faith, she quietly goes about her day preaching the good news of the gospel through her attention to her subject matter, her concern for the individual, her respect for our diversity of interests, thoughts, and activities, her participation in prayer services and liturgical celebrations, and her dedication to the mission of Christian Brothers Academy. I think that Maureen represents the best of our faculty."

With characteristic modesty, Maroney tries to draw attention away from her own accomplishments. Asked about her selection as CBA's Distinguished Lasallian Educator, she replied, "I'm thrilled, of course. But there are at least a couple of dozen others who could have been given this award. The people I work with are some of the finest teachers — and

people — I've ever met." As for the district-wide award, she said, "It's not really about me. I feel that I was there [at the Huether Awards Banquet] as a representative of all of us." ■



Maureen Maroney possesses a command of the material she teaches and can communicate that to her students in ways that are positive and enriching.

Garry Koch

MOVING FORWARD THROUGH EVALUATION AND PLANNING: THE MIDDLE STATES AND LASALLIAN ASSESSMENT PROGRAMS

FOCUS ON FACULTY



The 2006-07 school year is a particularly busy one for CBA administration and faculty. In addition to their usual administrative, teaching, and extracurricular responsibilities, they are working through two separate but complementary programs of self-study, evaluation and assessment — one in preparation for the renewal of the school's accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and the other, the Lasallian Assessment Process required by the New York District of the De La Salle Christian Brothers. Together, the two constitute "a wonderful opportunity to look at ourselves as an academic institution and as a Lasallian school," said Brother Stephen Olert, principal. "This is an affirming challenge."

CBA's accreditation by the **Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools**, one of six regional associations that accredit schools in the United States, ensures that the school meets or exceeds expectations in twelve distinct areas: (1) philosophy, mission, beliefs, and objectives, (2) governance and leadership, (3) organizational design and staff, (4) educational programs, (5) learning media services and technology, (6) student services, (7)

student life and student activities, (8) facilities, (9) health and safety, (10) finances, (11) assessment of student learning, and (12) planning.

CBA has long participated in the Middle States accreditation program, and has already gone through several cycles of evaluation and re-evaluation. "Our school continuously tailors its programs to meet new challenges," said former principal Brother Ralph Montedoro. "By participating in the Middle States process, we're plugging into a system that ensures we're on top of current educational standards and meeting the needs of students today."

Led by Peter Santanello, associate principal for academic affairs, and Sean Nunan, an English teacher at CBA for the past 15 years and a CBA graduate, the current re-accreditation process begins with a year of self-study. Over the course of this year, said Santanello, "we are evaluating all of our programs and identifying priority areas for school improvement." The administration and faculty are most intensively involved in this project, but all segments of the CBA community are invited to contribute to it, most recently through a series of on-line surveys in which Santanello gathered opinions and suggestions from parents, alumni, and students.

In faculty meetings and smaller committee workshops throughout the year, CBA's teachers are examining the school's basic philosophy and goals, its programs and services, in preparation for external evaluation by a Middle States accreditation team who will be visiting the school in fall 2007. Working from what Nunan calls "a shared acknowledgment of why the school exists," teachers and administration have been meeting to identify the best ways in which CBA can meet its own objectives and to develop specific strategies for meeting those objectives.

Characteristically, CBA's administration and faculty view the re-accreditation process not simply as a requirement to be fulfilled, but as an opportunity for greater achievement. The school can take pride in "the fact that we are as good as we are," said Nunan. "And one of the ways we can maintain that is by going through this process."

Separate, but in many ways complementary, is the **Lasallian Assessment Process** that CBA is undertaking at the direction of the Christian Brothers' New York District. A new program, the process was designed by the Brothers and their associates "to build on strengths within the school, affirming and encouraging efforts to live out the Lasallian character in all aspects of the school's life" (from the District's *Lasallian Assessment Process Guide*).

Science teacher David Duh has been appointed to manage the process at CBA. Following an introductory presentation to the faculty last October, CBA administration and faculty formed committees to identify "best practices" and "practices to improve" in terms of five Lasallian characteris-



tics: commitment to the mission of St. John Baptist de la Salle, programs that encourage a spiritual life of faith and zeal, commitment to service of the poor, educational excellence across the curriculum, and a commitment to working together among administration, faculty, coaches, students and stu-

dents' families. Duh has organized separate committees for each of these areas, charging each group with identifying the policies, programs and practices which meet or exceed the expectations of the District, and those which can be improved. Like Middle States, the Lasallian program requires that spe-

cific plans be set in place in those areas identified for improvement.

Remarking on the organizational challenge of undertaking the two evaluation programs during a single school year, Brother Stephen Olert declared himself "delighted with the approach and seriousness of the faculty in responding to the processes of both Middle States and the Lasallian Assessment."

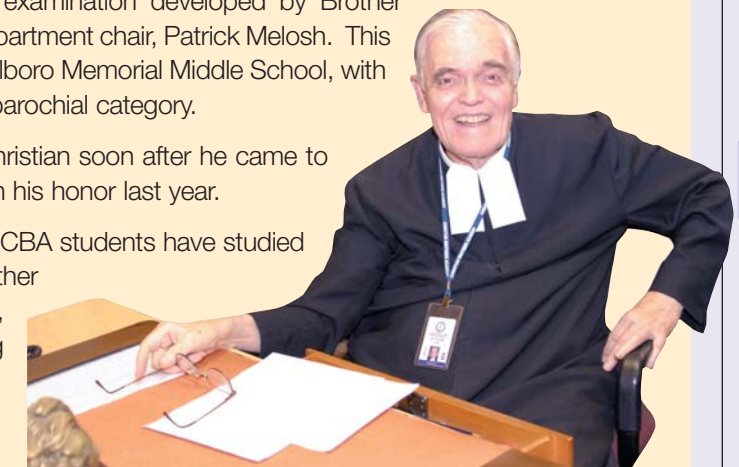
The school will no doubt benefit from the synergy between the two programs. They involve the evaluation of similar matters: the school's philosophy and goals, its programs and policies, and their functioning in practice. But they look at the CBA through different lenses: Middle States, from the point of view of educational standards applicable to all schools, and the Lasallian process, from the point of view of Christian, Lasallian education. Both will ensure the continued excellence of Christian Brothers Academy. ■

BROTHER CHRISTIAN JONES 8TH GRADE MATH CONTEST

CBA's 35th annual 8th grade math contest — now officially renamed The Brother Christian Jones 8th Grade Math Contest — was held on October 21, 2006. As usual, this year's contest attracted teachers and students from dozens of public, private, and parochial schools to CBA, where the schools' most talented math students were pitted against each other in a challenging examination developed by Brother Christian Jones and presided over by CBA math department chair, Patrick Melosh. This year's winner in the public school category was Marlboro Memorial Middle School, with the Ranney School taking first place in the private/parochial category.

The CBA math contest was begun by Brother Christian soon after he came to CBA as a math teacher in 1972, and was named in his honor last year.

Over more than three decades, several thousand CBA students have studied math under Brother Christian's tutelage. Brother Christian has now retired from classroom teaching, but he continues to preside over class scheduling and to work with the CBA Math Team.



FOCUS ON FACULTY

WAR IN LEBANON

HALTS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

FOCUS ON STUDENTS

When fifteen-year-old Anthony Kordahi packed his bags last June for his second summer of community service work in Lebanon, he little knew that his summer project this year would be cut short by the outbreak of war.

Anthony, now a CBA junior, was born in Red Bank and grew up in Navesink, attending Holy Cross elementary school. On a first meeting, this young man strikes one as a quite typical CBA student, having much in common with most of his classmates. Unlike many of them, however, Anthony has grown up with strong family ties to two quite different parts of the world. His father, Maurice Kordahi, is originally Lebanese, and Anthony spent several childhood summers visiting his paternal grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins in the mountainous countryside east of Beirut. Anthony's mother, Mariana Martinez Kordahi, is from Guayaquil, on the Pacific coast of Ecuador, and Anthony, who has become fluent both in Lebanese Arabic and in Spanish, has also traveled frequently with his parents and sister to Ecuador, to spend time with his extended family there. He is currently planning to spend a few weeks in Guayaquil during the Easter or summer vacation this year, for a community service project at a hospital there.

During his freshman year at CBA, Anthony spoke to Brother Joseph Miggins, CBA's community service coordinator, about a community service opportunity for that summer, which his relatives in Lebanon had brought to his attention. A cousin of his father's was organizing a summer camp near the mountain town of

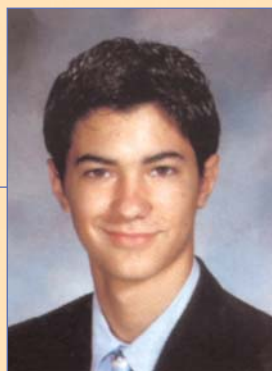
Bzibdin, to offer young boys, mostly from Beirut, a few weeks of rugged outdoor activity, away from the heat of the city. The hiking routes and camping experience would be designed to introduce the boys to the historic sites and traditional mountain way of life that are an important part of their country's heritage. He needed some help with preparations for the expedition and with supervising the seven- to twelve-year-old campers.

The idea appealed to Anthony. Through the value that his father places on his Lebanese background, and through his own summers with his relatives there, Anthony had developed a keen interest in his family's Lebanese heritage. He knew that his father's cousin, Chamoun Mouannes, had been making a project of identifying and visiting old monasteries and other historic sites in the region, which had been all but forgotten in the long years of civil war that devastated much of the country from 1975 to 1990. He was eager to help with the project, and to share his interest with the youngsters in the camp that

Chamoun Mouannes was organizing.

And so for four weeks in July and August 2005, Anthony worked with his uncle, first traveling through the area by themselves to find the best campsite for their group, then returning with their young charges to camp and explore the natural beauty and historic ruins of the region. In a letter to Brother Andrew O'Gara a few months later, Father Joseph Mouannes, of the Catholic Information Center in Lebanon, commended Anthony for his leadership in the camp, adding that he had "created such lasting camaraderie within the group that the friendship he fostered between them will endure for a long time."

Indeed, everyone involved deemed the camping experience a great success, and Chamoun Mouannes immediately began planning another such expedition for the summer of 2006. Anthony planned to join him again; the project would



dovetail nicely with the Kordahis' plans for a family visit with their Lebanese relatives in July.

Anthony flew to Lebanon on June 15th, three weeks before his family's arrival, and after spending a few days with his grandparents, joined his uncle. This year they had another project, in addition to preparing for the camp. Caritas, the international Catholic relief agency, was holding a conference in Lebanon for a group of young volunteers, mostly from France. Their program included a series of visits to historic and cultural sites in the Mount Lebanon region. Anthony and his uncle were to serve as guides for part of their tour, and at the beginning of July, Anthony assisted with the group's visit to the ancient Maronite Catholic monastery of St. Ephrem.

Soon after that, Anthony's family arrived, and he joined them at his grandparents' home in Chebanieh, a small town across a deep valley from the main highway that connects Beirut with Damascus, the capital of neighboring Syria. Like their relatives, as well as the Lebanese and international visitors who swell the population of Mount Lebanon villages in the summer, the Kordahis were concerned about the sudden increase in tensions between Hezbollah, the Shi'a Islamic political and military group in Lebanon, and

the Israelis. These tensions had long been simmering under the surface of political life in the region, and on July 12th what in Lebanon is now known as "the July War" broke out with airstrikes and ground warfare in southern Lebanon.

The Kordahis and their relatives



immediately began considering their options. Air travel had suddenly become impossible when the airport was bombed, but summer visitors who had come to the area by car from Kuwait and elsewhere in the Middle East, began to leave as soon as the

bombing started. Airstrikes were aimed mostly at points in southern Lebanon and around Beirut, but targets also included strategic infrastructure throughout the country. From their mountain village, the Kordahis could hear much of the bombing. "The first day or two it was at night," recalls Anthony, "and then, when they started hitting the suburbs of Beirut, it was just continuous, night and day." Around midnight on Thursday, July 13, the Kordahis were awakened by enormous explosions as Israeli bombs destroyed the major bridge – previously the highest bridge in the Middle East – on the main

Beirut-Damascus highway a few miles from their village.

Like other Americans in Lebanon, the Kordahis had registered with the American embassy and were awaiting evacuation instructions. Local and cellular telephone service



FOCUS ON STUDENTS



On board the U.S.S. Nashville

had been disrupted by the bombing, and radio reception was spotty. Since overseas telecommunication relied on underground and undersea cables which the bombs had not damaged, Maurice Kordahi found that he could more easily get news on the conflict and on American plans for evacuating US nationals, by calling his colleagues at Tyco Telecommunications in Eatontown, than he could obtain from local sources in Lebanon. At first, Americans were advised to await instructions for evacuation by helicopter, but after several days, it was clear that evacuation would be by boat from the coast near Beirut. Early Sunday morning, July 16th, a local taxi driver, an old family friend, offered to drive them to the coast if they could be ready to leave immediately.

Passing no one along the road except military sentries, the Kordahis arrived safely at Jounieh, the coastal point north of Beirut from where evacuation would take place. There the Kordahis shuttled back and forth to the American Embassy for a couple of days. On Wednesday, they joined hundreds of other evacuees on the beach, where they waited through that day and the

next, until they were boarded onto transport vessels to ferry them out to the USS Nashville, a troop carrier waiting at sea to carry the evacuees to Cyprus.

On landing in Cyprus just before dawn the next day, the family joined thousands of other evacuees awaiting flights that had been chartered to transport them out. In the confusion, Anthony and his father became separated from his mother and sister, and, since the Kordahis, who had no local-working cell phones, could not



Evacuees being ferried to the U.S.S. Nashville

communicate with each other, there followed nearly twenty-four hours of frantic travel back and forth between Cyprus' two major airports, and relaying of telephone messages through friends in the US, before the four were re-united on Friday evening, July 21st, and with much relief, secured seats on a pre-dawn commercial flight home.

Back in New Jersey, the Kordahis were able to talk frequently by phone with their relatives in Lebanon, and all of them were relieved when the August 14th ceasefire ended the bombing, and when the Israeli naval and aerial blockades were lifted on September 8th. Still, they are distressed at the loss of life and the destruction that the conflict caused — more than 1,000 Lebanese civilians and about 160 Israelis were killed during the month of war, more than 4,000 were injured, and over one million Lebanese were displaced from their homes. "The sadness of all this is that the country had been recovering," said Maurice Kordahi. "Obviously, we would not have sent Anthony if we didn't feel it was a safe place to be. We were hoping it would be a calm summer for him and the rest of us, but it turned out to be full of agonies and surprises." ■

CBA COLTS SPORTS

CBA Sports Program Continues "One of the Best in New Jersey"

For the third consecutive year, the Christian Brothers Academy sports program has been recognized as the best interscholastic sports program in the NJISAA's non-public high school Group A. CBA is one of six New Jersey high schools (two non-public and four public) awarded the prestigious 2006 ShopRite Cup in association with the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJISAA). CBA can take special pride in the margin of its victory: while this award is given to the top school sports program in each of the NJISAA's six groups, CBA's point score was the highest of all the schools in all groups.

An annual award, the Cup was established in 2003 to recognize the best athletic programs in each of the six group classifications in which sports competition is currently held. Prior to the Cup, high schools had been acknowledged by the NJISAA for championship performance in individual sports, but the ShopRite Cup is the first award in the state's history that honors a

school's entire sports program using performance-based criteria.

To receive the award, schools must accumulate points based on their performance in championship play in 32 individual sports sanctioned by the NJISAA. Fall, winter and spring sports are all included. Schools receive points for finishing first, second, third and fourth in group state championships.

The winners of this year's Cup in the other five classifications are Bishop Eustace Prep, Pennsauken, for the best non-public Group B program (also for the third consecutive year), and in the public school classifications, Mountain Lakes (Group One), Haddonfield (Group Two), Ramapo (Group Three), and Bridgewater-Raritan (Group Four).

Representatives of the NJISAA and the Wakefern Food Corporation /ShopRite visited CBA on October 5, 2006, to present the award. ■

“

“The NJISAA - Shop Rite Cup recognizes excellence in athletics and sportsmanship. I am very proud of the athletes and coaches who earned this honor for Christian Brothers Academy.”

*John Przygocki
Athletic Director*

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CBA VARSITY ROWING

The CBA crew team, which has been a club sport at Christian Brothers Academy since 2004, was elevated to a varsity sport in October. This new status, announced by Brother James Dries, associate principal for student affairs, and John Przygocki, director of athletics, offers exciting new challenges to the young team.

Last spring the team, coached by Scott Belford, won a silver medal in one of the nation's finest annual national championship regattas, the 72nd annual Scholastic Rowing Association of America National Championships, a 26-event regatta, held in Saratoga Springs, New York.

A feature article on the CBA crew team appeared in the fall 2006 issue of CBA Today.

FALL SPORTS WRAP-UP: COLTS CROSS - COUNTRY AND SOCCER

CROSS-COUNTRY



Fall 2006 was a strong season for the cross-country and soccer teams. Both upheld CBA's legacy of effort, teamwork, and good sportsmanship, and both continued CBA's long tradition of championship.

For the cross-country team, perhaps the most satisfying achievement was maintaining CBA's dual meet winning streak, a national record, begun in 1974, against a challenge from Colts Neck, led this year by two strong runners. The CBA-Colts Neck meet was scheduled for October 3rd in Colts Neck's Bucks Mill Park, and as the pressure mounted in the days immediately before the meet, CBA Coach Tom Heath received an e-mail for his team from former CBA runner Chris Bennett '94. Heath passed Bennett's message

along to the team on the morning of the Colts Neck meet.

"It sounds like now might be a time to call in the ghosts," Bennett wrote. "Those names from long ago or not so long ago that still hold claim to the blue jerseys that all of you now pull over your shoulders. Now maybe more than ever, you realize that you are sharing that uniform with those that came before and those that will come after you.." "As soon as I read it, I knew we were going to win," said junior Brendon Pierson, who at 16:40 was CBA's top runner that afternoon, coming in right after the two Colts Neck runners, and leading the CBA pack that took the next seven places. Chris Lombardi (16:52 and third in the CBA pack) said, "This was for Bennett, Kerwin, Coyle and everyone else that ran for CBA over the last 32 years. It was our turn to do our part."

With the win against Colts Neck, Coach Heath's streak now stands at 282 straight dual meet victories. He knows, he said, that "the streak has to end someday. But I knew it wasn't going to end today, and it wasn't going to end here."

Later in October, the CBA runners won their fifth straight and 32nd overall boys title at the Monmouth County Championships. On November 18th, CBA ran (for a record 25th straight appearance) at the 35th NJSIAA/Star-Ledger Meet of Champions, and without

Chris Lombardi, who was ill, placed fifth with 181 points.

The JV and freshman cross-country each had an excellent season, with both taking first place at the Shore Conference Championships at Ocean County Park on November 1st, and again at the New Jersey Catholic Track Conference championships at Warinanco Park, Elizabeth, on November 4th.

SOCCER



2006 began as a challenging season for CBA varsity soccer, which had a rough 2-5-1 start. Said Coach Dan Keane, "We had some talent, but the guys didn't really play together." But by late September, all of that changed. On September

25th CBA played a close game against the then number one Manalapan team, and the team saw it as a turning point. "We lost to Manalapan in the first game of the season 0-3, so playing them 0-1 and just playing a good game against them gave us some confidence," said CBA captain Tim Brady, a senior.

With some mid-season changes in the line-up, CBA's defense improved markedly, and in the Non-Public South A championship game against St. Augustine, the score remained at 1-1 until just 5:02 before the end of the game, William Liapis stole the ball and made the goal that gave CBA the game and the sectional title.

In a toughly-fought game against the North leader, Pingry, in November, CBA lost 1-0, ending the season as Non-Public Group A runner-up, finishing the season 14-8-2 — 9-1-1 in the last 11 games before the state final. "We showed that we have the character of a champion," Brady said "That's what CBA does every year, and we are proud to keep that tradition going."



Mark Lee

2006 FRESHMAN RUN

One of CBA's oldest traditions, the annual Freshman Run is held soon after school opens each year. The entire freshman class, wearing their brand-new CBA gym uniforms, runs a cross-



country race through the playing fields and wooded areas at the eastern and northern ends of the campus — under the appraising eye of cross-country and track coach Tom Heath.

The 2006 Freshman Run took place on a warm, sunny Monday afternoon, the first day of the first full week of classes. This year's freshmen darted forward from the starting line near the chin-up bars. A little over seven minutes later, Mark Lee crossed the finish line, this year's winner.

The first 10 runners and their times were:

- Mark Lee7:25
- Raymond Bogan7:35
- Jordan Beltran.....7:49
- Daniel Bailey.....7:50
- Jordan Rizzo7:55
- Paul Schepel7:57
- Richard Bohny7:59
- Matthew Morgan8:02
- Michael Vargetto.....8:02
- Sean O'Connor8:06

GATHERING OF FRIENDS

Some 600 CBA mothers and their friends attended the annual Mothers' Club luncheon and gift raffle held on October 22, 2006, at the Shore Casino, Atlantic Highlands. Kudos to this year's luncheon chair, Karen Bergamo, and her committee, as well as Mothers' Club president Kimberly Favia, for a delightful afternoon!



2006 Mothers' Club Fall Luncheon and Gift Raffle Standing left to right, Aura D'Amato, Brenda Mergenthaler, Lisa Murray, Karen Bergamo, Eleanor Favia, Kimberly Favia, Anmmarie Bell.

PRESIDENTIAL DINNER 2006

The Presidential Dinner, hosted annually by Brother Andrew O'Gara to honor CBA's major benefactors, was held this year on December 5, 2006. Brother Andrew thanked all his guests for the extraordinary time and energy they have devoted to CBA events and projects, and for their very generous financial support. Chosen this year for special honors were Bill and Betty Barnett, whose exceptional support for Christian Brothers Academy has continued for nearly thirty years.



Betty and Bill Barnett surrounded by (from left) former principal Brother Peter Mannion, Kevin '88 and Tara Barnett, Amanda and Bill Barnett '83, Kathleen Barnett Einhorn and Ken Einhorn, and Brother Andrew.

2006 BROTHER ANDREW O'GARA GOLF CLASSIC

Some 35 foursomes filled two courses at the Forsgate Country Club, Monroe Township, for the annual Fathers' Club golf outing on October 2, 2006. Joe Grabas, who has masterfully organized this event for the past several years, generously stayed on beyond his son's 2006 graduation to produce another very successful golf outing!



The registration table at the start of the day.

KENNETH RUSCIO '72 NEWLY-INAUGURATED PRESIDENT OF WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY



Courtesy of Washington and Lee University

Kenneth P. Ruscio, a 1972 CBA graduate, was inaugurated on October 21, 2006, as president of Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. A distinguished scholar in the study of democratic theory and public policy, Dr. Ruscio served as Dean of the Jepson School of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond for four years before assuming his present position.

As president-elect last spring, Ruscio

talked with an interviewer about his vision for his new role as leader of one of the country's top-ranked liberal arts colleges. Speaking of the importance of moral and civic education in the liberal arts curriculum, he noted that "it would be worth thinking about how best to prepare students for a world in which most problems require ethical insight and moral reasoning, as well as technical and analytical skills."

In his inaugural address in October, Ruscio spoke of the "different patterns of student learning, some brought on by the technology which shapes our lives, some by the culture in which we live. Attention spans collapse under the weight of instantaneous and multiple forms of communication. We tend to forget," he said, "that information is not knowledge and knowledge is not wisdom."

Prior to his tenure at the University of Richmond, Ruscio was a professor of

politics at Washington and Lee, and held several administrative positions there. He has been a postdoctoral research scholar at UCLA, taught at both Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Kansas University, and is the author of many articles and the book, *The Leadership Dilemma in Modern Democracy* (2004). He has served on numerous academic, professional, and civic committees, and assumed leadership roles in many of them, including two terms as national president of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society founded in 1914

Ruscio earned his B.A. in politics from Washington and Lee, and an M.P.A. and Ph.D. from Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. He is married to the former Kimberley O'Donnell of New York; they are the parents of a sixteen-year-old son. ■

W. THOMAS MATTHEWS '67, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MEDAL OF HONOR FOUNDATION

W. Thomas Matthews '67 was appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors, Medal of Honor Foundation in March 2006. The Foundation, together with the Medal of Honor Society, both of which Matthews has supported for many years, exists to educate Americans about the Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor against an enemy force that can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the United States armed services.

Notable among recent projects that the Foundation has engaged in is the "Living Histories" project, established

to capture on video the stories of living Medal of Honor recipients as told by the recipients themselves. Other current projects include a Medal of Honor exhibit in the new Capitol Visitor Center, soon to open at the United States Capitol in Washington, the Circle of Honor award program, and numerous outreach and educational programs designed to increase public awareness of the Medal of Honor and the values it embodies. "There are 111 living recipients of the Medal of Honor," Matthews said, "and we just do all we can to get their stories

out there."

Matthews, who currently is a special advisor to Citigroup Global Markets, recently retired as president and CEO of Smith Barney's global private client group, having been with Smith Barney for nearly three decades. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Aiken, South Carolina. ■

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AN INTERVIEW WITH TONY REALI '96

Anthony Joseph Paul Reali (he often enjoys using his full name) has a job that is many a young sports fan's dream. Now 28 years old, Reali has been appearing regularly on ESPN for four years, first as "Stat Boy" on *Pardon the Interruption*, and for the past two years, also as host of the nightly talk show *Around the Horn*.

Born in Staten Island, Tony Reali moved with his family to Morganville, New Jersey, while he was in elementary school. He graduated from CBA in 1996 — a National Honor Society student, Student Council member, Eucharistic Minister, member of the Latin Club, Rocketry Club and Christmas Club, and an intramural basketball player. He went on to Fordham University, where he double-majored in communications and history, covering football and men's basketball for Fordham's WFUV.

Reali joined ESPN in 2000 as a researcher for the short-lived sports quiz show *Two-Minute Drill*. In October 2001 he moved to ESPN's new *Pardon the Interruption*, initially as a researcher, but he soon joined Tony Kornheiser and Michael Wilbon on air as "Stat Boy," also appearing occasionally on *Around the Horn*, which premiered in November 2002. In February 2004 Reali replaced Max Kellerman as host of *Around the Horn*. The two half-hour shows are broadcast daily in adjacent time slots, *Around the Horn* at 5:00 and *PTI* at 5:30.

Reali spoke with *CBA Today* one evening recently, in a wide-ranging talk about his sports interests, his broadcasting background, and his memories of CBA. Tim Britton '05, now a sophomore at Duke University and a sports writer for the *Duke Chronicle*, joined in the conversation, asking many of the questions about sports and sports TV.

Were you part of the Colt Crazy's back at CBA?

Sure! I had a couple of Colt T-shirts. We played Lakewood in a couple of amazing games — took a five-overtime game my sophomore year to win that.

The St. Anthony's game my junior year — the Gaffney game-winner. That was the team with Billet, DeBlasi, and Gaffney as seniors. That was probably my best CBA team.

Now that I'm a professional sportscaster, people expect me to have been some kind of ex-athlete. I wish! The biggest joke of all this is that I couldn't even make a team at CBA. In fact, I probably owe Coach Wiz, McGann, and Kenney a thank you for cutting me. That's when I started yelling about sports, instead of playing them.

That being said, I'll never forget my sophomore year intramural basketball team. Should have won the championship!

Were you a big overall sports fanatic when you were growing up?

I always wanted to be a sports broadcaster. It just seemed like a job that had been built for me — being able to talk and yell at the top of your lungs. That's what we do on my two shows.

It was something I always wanted, to get my opinion out there. I was the kind of kid who would stand in front of the TV with a fake microphone and speak into it as the game was happening, describing what I saw.

Shows like *Around the Horn* and *Pardon the Interruption* (PTI) weren't part of the universe when you were a kid, were they?

No, they weren't. Sports banter, which is I guess what these two shows are, really started with *PTI*. It was a different type of television altogether.

When I moved down to Washington, DC, to work with those two guys, I wasn't sure the show was going to work. Two guys yelling at the top of their lungs about sports?

When you see it in front of you, it works, but when it was pitched to me, I thought my producers were crazy. You're going to have people sit down and watch people yell at each other?

But in sports, I think you can get away with that, because everybody has an opinion. And a lot of times the person who wins that argument is just the person who's louder. It's why I enjoy *PTI*. It's why I really enjoy scoring the argument on *Around the Horn*.

Your shows are kind of like sports radio, only now on TV . . .

Yes, but I also think there's something to the opinions that are being expressed. Tony and Mike have a combined 55 years of sports-writing history. They've been in the locker room for that long. That was one of the toughest things that I had to get through when I first started working on *Around the Horn*, how to somehow score an argument with guys I read everyday in the

paper or had seen on TV. A guy, Bob Ryan, who's literally in the basketball encyclopedia, and now I have a mute button and I have to silence him?

Was it tough for the panelists to switch from print journalism to the TV banter mode?

I think so, but I think if you ask them today they'd say they love TV. It seems like these guys can't get enough television. There's something about the grind of writing a column everyday, being on deadline for newspapers, that is one sort of thing, and being on TV is a different animal altogether.

It certainly looks like they're having a great time up there . . .

Sure, that's what it is. These shows are relationship shows more than anything. They yell about sports, but it's more about the relationship between the guys. How Tony and Mike argue with each other. How Jay Mariotti and Woody Paige, when they're together, how they can make television. I think that's what you're watching.

It's like *Siskel and Ebert* and the *Crossfire* shows. Those were about movies and politics, but you watched because you liked the personalities. And that's what *Around the Horn* and *PTI* do. That's what I'm trying to do when I'm scoring the argument — just trying to open things up so people at home feel like they're part of the conversation.

With your role on *Around the Horn*, you're really kind of a moderator, but do you ever get tempted to throw your own opinion out there?

That's what you want to do the first time you sit down, but the show is so fast-paced! It's almost like I can't catch my breath even if I wanted to get my opinion out there.

Actually, I learned early on that nobody



Photo by: Lorenzo Bevilacqua/ESPN

really cares what I might be thinking, but rather what somebody thinks who's in the locker room, or who just interviewed the newsmaker the night before. That's certainly better television. I'd rather just wisecrack in the background.

Can you describe how you got the hosting role? Was it really that you just walked in one day . . .

I'd filled in a few times as a guest panelist. That was usually something I found out the "morning of" — you know, the satellite in Los Angeles isn't working today, can you fill in? I'd done that about a half dozen times. I'd also filled in for the previous host, Max Kellerman, a friend of mine, three, four, maybe five times, when he was out and they couldn't find anybody. But the circumstances for me taking the job were a little bit different. I had known that Max was going to be in contract negotiations because we had the same agent, and he said, "Stay tuned, you might get a call Sunday night."

Got the call Sunday night at 11 o'clock. They told me to wear a suit to work the next day. I did that. And somehow, some way I made it through the show.

You gotta just put yourself in my shoes. I'm 25 years old and I have maybe ten seconds of airtime on television daily, that's about it, and now I'm going to host a thirty-minute show. Not to mention score an argument that you have to really focus on and pay attention to. While there are so many people yelling.

While there's a producer in your ear. While there's a director in your ear.

But I got the first show done, and they said "You're going back in the next day." So I needed a new shirt. Wednesday I needed a new tie. Needed to buy a whole new wardrobe by the next week because it was clear Max wasn't coming back.

I was always under the impression that I was going to give way to somebody else once they found the person they wanted to bring in. But I was told by one of the producers here, "Just keep your mouth shut and continue doing what you're doing, and let's see where this goes." And where it went was, they never brought anybody else in.

I always remember thinking, "Is this how it works in television, you're in college one year, two years after that you're now hosting a show because they didn't have anybody else to fill in?" But for me that's how it was. I snuck in the fire escape when nobody was looking.

When was the first time you went on screen on *PTI*?

MY first time on *PTI* was I guess the second show. The first show, we went a little bit long. But it was designed like that. I wasn't hired to be on air. I was hired to be a show researcher, help Michael and Tony, the hosts, form their arguments.

But then about a week and a half before, Kornheiser said he wanted a sidekick. At that time, I had been doing

dry runs for the cameramen. I sat in the chair where Tony sat — something like I'm not Tony Kornheiser but today I'm playing him on TV. I did shtick for about four hours that week, just in that chair. And they kind of liked the stuff I was doing. So they said all right, we'll make you the sidekick. I found out a week before. A week after that, show number 2, the red light's on, and I have to give 10 seconds. I had done radio in the past while I was at Fordham so I knew, sort of, how to actually broadcast. But this was something I had never imagined.

I learned soon enough that it's more about the banter between myself and the two guys and their relationship on the show. I've always been thankful to Tony and Mike for even allowing me into their conversation

While you're taping the show, do you catch their errors, do you kind of hear them say something, and say "Yeah, that's not right," or do you have to look a lot of it up?

I do catch a lot. I have a brain for that sort of thing, which helped me get the job in sports trivia when I was working for the *Two-Minute Drill*. It also helped me to go completely dateless my four years at Christian Brothers Academy. But that's who you are, and that's who I was. I was a sports fanatic who knew a lot of that minutiae.

It's something that I catch quickly, then sometimes I check for reinforcement. There have been plenty of shows where I've missed mistakes, and those are the days you get tons of e-mails and people want your job. They're asking for your head. And then I usually reply back to them in a nice e-mail saying, "You got me there. I hereby promote you to Stat Boy, Lincroft Chapter. Hold the office with honor." And then they

send me a nice e-mail back. That's part of the job, and I've always enjoyed that.

There's pressure to catch those mistakes, though, because you gotta make 25 seconds, sometimes 40 seconds. You can't change the clock. There's always a clock ticking, and you need to fill up the time.

You tape *Horn* early in the afternoon and then *PTI* right afterward?

My *Horn* day is about 8:00 to about 2:00, taping from 1:00 to 2:00. 8:00 to 9:00 is when I finish up reading the columns I read in the morning before I go to work, or watching *SportsCenter*.

By 9:00 to 10:00, I'm writing the show. I cannot read other people's writing for some reason, so I write all my material. Early on, some other people tried to write with me, but it never came out natural. So I do all the writing from 9:00 to 10:00.

I talk to the guys from 10:00 to 11:00 on a conference call. I tell them what the stories are, and kind of let them open up a conversation right there to see how they feel about it. If they have strong feelings about something that wasn't in the show, I'll stick it in there.

Eleven o'clock, I'll fine tune the script, get some make-up, get some lunch, then do the show from 1:00 to 2:00. And then it's straight to *PTI* by 2:15. I'll sit down with Tony and Mike and see where they're going with their arguments. The producers already have the stories for that, and then by four o'clock we'll start taping *PTI*.

Do you come up with the topics yourself?

For *Around the Horn* I do it with the producer, who comes in at eight o'clock, too. Sometimes we start on

the phone the night before. Mondays you know you're talking NFL, and stories happen Sunday night.

Is there any communication between you on *Around the Horn* and the *PTI* producers in terms of what topics you cover so there's not a lot of overlap?

Well, actually the executive producer is the same guy. The two shows are married, actually, and there has been some overlap.

There are ten to fifteen major topics to talk about in a day, and of course, there are going to be similar stories. But we like to think that we have different opinions, different angles in the two shows

We've seen guys go from *Around the Horn* to *PTI*. Jay Mariotti does it occasionally. But we've never seen it the other way around. How do you think Kornheiser and Wilbon would be on your show?

It would be a dream for me to have a chance to mute those guys!

I'm sure they would do very well. On *Around the Horn* it's a little bit tough, though, because the guys have to be really concise. You get 30 seconds and then it's somebody else's chance to talk. Maybe have a chance for a rebuttal, but that doesn't happen often. I don't think Tony and Mike would like that. They would want to interrupt as often as possible and when that happens, that's when you get the mute button

You're only 28. How long do you see yourself on *Around the Horn*, and doing the sports thing in general?

What I've learned from one of my previous jobs, the trivia game show, is that you never know how long these shows are going to last. But the fact that *PTI* and *Around the Horn* are the two highest rated studio shows on ESPN... I'm not going anywhere for awhile.

I would never leave a show that's as much fun and doing as well as these two shows are for now

Maybe in the future I would like to be a producer and have my own show from the start — create the show, write for the show. Maybe not necessarily on air. I love being on air, but it's not the be all and end all for me. I'd rather be an ideas guy.

Do you ever think about writing for print?

I've thought about it. But it just seems like newspapers are heading in a direction that's not the same as it was. You see a lot of guys leaving for TV. Sports sections across the country are cutting in half. The climate right now is "give it to me right now, why should I wait for newspapers — yesterday's news today — when I can get it on-line immediately." I have an idea for a sports column, and maybe I'll look into that sometime.

Sports are your job. Do you ever get tired of them?

There are days when you really have to step back and say "I'm not gonna watch anything tonight" because you need to get some other things done. But I've got four TIVOs at home and I'm recording games all the time. I watch *SportsCenter*, of course, every night and I'm on the computer a couple of times every night. But that's what I love doing. I love watching West Coast baseball in the middle of a summer night. I love watching the late games on the NBA. If I wasn't doing this for a job, I'd be doing the same exact thing.

When you leave the studio, are there any places you can go where you can walk in and people don't know you?

Hey, let's not overrate this! I can go out any night and not be recognized. At sports venues people will recognize me because those are people who are fans



Photo By: Lorenzo Bevilacqua/ESPN

of the show. And it's always cool. Even when people say, "You know, I'm not that big a fan of the show but it's kind of growing on me" — that's the best compliment you could possibly get.

I'm very extroverted on the show, of course, but I'm a little bit more introverted in reality. I'm one to stay at home and watch my games and relax a little bit.

Is there any one sport you like watching the most?

Baseball. I'm a baseball fan. The first time I had a catch with my father I was hooked. I love going to games, and I love staying at home and playing fantasy baseball — I do that for hours at night during the summer.

I think baseball's had a very hard rap the last couple of years, the last decade or so, but it's still my love.

You've mentioned somewhere that you grew up watching the Yankees. Do you still root for them?

It's very, very hard to do that now. I root for stories. I don't root for teams anymore, which is kind of depressing.

When you're a kid growing up, it's all about your favorite player and your favorite team. You figuratively live or die with the season and how it finishes up. I can remember everything in the 1996 World Series. But now it's to the point where I'm just rooting for the better story. This year the better story was if the Yankees lost to the Tigers. I didn't want that to happen, but I was fine with it

happening. You get to a point where you're just rooting for stories, for better or for worse.

Who was your favorite player, growing up?

Dave Winfield. Rickie Henderson. Those were my two favorite players. A little later I liked some of the guys like Alvaro Espinoza and some of the younger players. I was an enormous Yankee fan. My father and I, my brothers, we went to a handful of games a year, and those are some of my favorite memories of growing up.

My first baseball game ever was July 3, 1983. My father asked me if I wanted to go on my birthday which was July 4th, and I said, "No, I want that day to be my birthday and I'll stay at home." So we went the day before that. On July 4th Dave Righetti threw a no-hitter. I missed that game by one day.

Speaking of favorites, any favorite classes that you remember from CBA? Teachers?

Jeff Matson. That was one of the classes that changed my way of thinking. You weren't taking everything you read and believing it. Everything wasn't law, now you had to think for yourself, make your own judgments. You had to write in a way that concisely and cogently put an argument together.

Hugh McKenna. I always enjoyed his foray into English literature and how he told stories in class.

Pat Melosh was my math teacher for

three years. I remember he once did an experiment in class where he allowed us to teach a class, maybe my senior year. That was my first attempt to actually “broadcast” a message. I remember liking the rush of standing in front of people and explaining yourself.

Matson, Melosh and McKenna — their lessons continue to teach me. I don’t think it’s any overstatement to say I wouldn’t have my job now without those three teachers. Matson taught me how to think. Melosh, how to analyze. McKenna, how to write.

One of my favorite things at CBA was Father Folchetti’s morning Mass. My bus dropped me off a half hour early every day and some days I found myself in the chapel. Great way to start a day. Faith continues to be a big part of my life. The first year of the show, on a certain Wednesday in Lent, the producer asked me if I was going to keep that smudge on my forehead. I of course told him it was an ash, not a smudge,

and that the answer was yes. Every year I wear the ash, and every year I get e-mails. Some don’t know what it is, others commend me for wearing it.

I remember Brother John Gavin and his Latin class.

Sometime during the first year of PTI, I got an e-mail from Sean Nunan, my freshman year homeroom teacher. The fact that a teacher who had me for 10 minutes a day at 7:50 in the morning when I was 14 thought enough to send me an encouraging email was uplifting. I printed it up and put it above my desk. Speaks exactly to what type of family CBA is.

I owe an enormous debt to Brother Patrick Higgins. In actuality, he probably did more for me than any other teacher at CBA. Taught biology, got me to do Christmas Club, and above all else, gave me a nickname. He called me “Mensch.” Not sure why, and at the time I didn’t know what it meant. A man of faith, a man of reason, he led by

example — *he* was the Mensch.

You know, I always thought, and I always say to this day, CBA was the best thing that could have happened to me in my high school years.

In my business, opportunities are everything, and seizing opportunities are everything. They are rare, and they are rarely perfect. When I had the opportunity to host *Around the Horn* I would have never had the job the second day and the third day without the proper infrastructure and the proper foundation. And I’m not talking about broadcasting. I’m talking about knowing how to conduct yourself and how to think. I give CBA all the credit for that.

Look, I came to CBA for three reasons. The girls, the snow days, and to learn how to be a man in the tradition of the Brothers. Two out of three ain’t bad. First about the snow days — it’s true! My senior year we set what has to be a modern day record: 17 snow days. And two of them were for rain. Gotta love that. I will always respect CBA’s snow policy.

As for reason number 3, that’s still a work in progress. You’re probably never done becoming a man. But I think CBA gave me the best blueprint to follow.

If I had any advice for current students it would be take advantage of all that CBA has to offer. Not just the snow days, the intramurals, the game vs. St Anthony’s every year, the inside track to RBC girls. I’m talking about the living, breathing part of CBA. The Brothers. The teachers. The morning mass, the Communion Breakfast, the campus. Life quite often gives you tests long before it gives you the lessons. CBA gave me some of those lessons in advance, and for that I’m forever grateful. ■

SCOTT GARLEY '74 HONORED BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES



R. Scott Garley, CBA graduate, CBA father, and member of the school’s Board of Trustees, was honored by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton, at the agency’s annual gala on September 29, 2006. Garley was one of

four individuals — one for each of the four counties that make up the Trenton Diocese — selected for this year’s “Light of Hope” award, which recognizes the recipients’ support and commitment to the work of Catholic Charities in their communities.

“I am honored to recognize Scott’s dedication to helping Catholic Charities fulfill its mission to alleviate human suffering,” said Francis E. Dolan, executive director of Catholic Charities. “He has been a ‘light of hope’ over the years to those we serve.” A long-time member of the Monmouth County Advisory Board of Catholic Charities, Garley has been a major participant in and contributor to the initiatives and fundraising efforts of Catholic Charities and other charitable organizations.

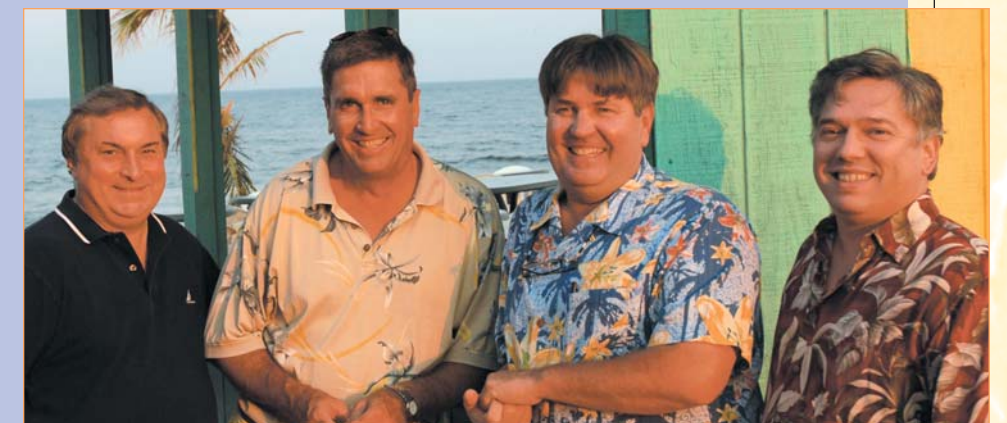
Garley is the administrative director

in charge of the New York office of Gibbons, Del Deo, Dolan, Griffinger & Vecchione, one of New Jersey’s and the region’s largest law firms, where his practice focuses primarily on securities and complex commercial litigation matters. He and his wife Janet are the parents of three children, the youngest currently a CBA freshman.

“I have seen firsthand how the dedicated employees and volunteers of Catholic Charities carry out its mission and make a profound difference in the lives of the people they serve,” said Garley. “I am very grateful to Catholic Charities and to my colleagues on the Monmouth County Advisory Board for honoring me this year. I hope that my efforts will continue to support the good work of Catholic Charities and help bring the light of hope to those who need it most.” ■

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CLAMBAKE

The Water’s Edge, Sea Bright, was the setting once again for a delightful evening on the beach for CBA alumni, their wives, current parents and faculty. The annual Alumni Clambake benefits the Alumni Scholarship Fund. Planning has already begun for next year’s Clambake, set for September 7, 2007.



Spiro Pappas '71, Rick Bott '72 (President, Merri - Makers Catering and Special Events), Paul Molzon '72, and Joe Kolakowski '82 ready to welcome guests on the beach at the Water’s Edge



Photo By: Lorenzo Bevilaqua/ESPN

ALUMNI AWARDS 2006

The Alumni Association's 13th Annual Awards Dinner, chaired by Spiro Pappas '71 and Paul Molzon '72, was held on Friday, November 10, 2006, at the Reception Center, PNC Bank Arts Center, Holmdel. Honored this year were Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski, Jr., Alumnus of the Year Award (posthumously), Fred C. Casagrande, Founders' Award (posthumously), and Helen Doyle, Colt Spirit Award.

The **Alumnus of the Year Award**, given annually to a CBA graduate, seeks to recognize an individual who has achieved distinguished accomplishments in his chosen field, has received public recognition for them, and through his actions has enhanced the reputation of the school — an individual who can and should be held up to all current and former students as an example to be emulated.

Dennis Zilinski died in Iraq on November 19, 2005, when his HMMWV was struck by an improvised explosive device during combat operations. A 2000 graduate of CBA, he was a valued member of the CBA swim team, captain of the team during his senior year. He went on from CBA to the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he received the 1923 Memorial Award, presented to the outstanding member of the men's swimming team, and the Capt. Michael W. Kilroy Memorial Award, presented to the captain of the army men's swimming team. He earned the right to wear a Ranger Tab in March 2005, and was stationed with the 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Comabt Team of the 101st Airborne Unit. He was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the Bronze Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Purple Heart, and the Iraq Campaign Medal. Dennis's hope was that all humankind would learn to respect and care for one another, despite our differences.

The **Founders' Award** is bestowed each year on



Elizabeth and Chuck Hopkins '71 (left), Elayna and Spiro Pappas '71 (right).



Helen Doyle with her husband, Bob, and sons (from left), Jack, Mark, and Robert.



Marion and Dennis Zilinski with their son Matthew (CBA '02).



Board of Trustees chairman John Giunco '70 and his wife, Janet, with Paul Molzon '72, Alumni Association president.



Mrs. Casagrande with her sons and grandsons (from left) James '07, Peter '79, Paul '72, John '93, Gene '63, Charles '68.



Brother Ralph Montedoro catches up with (from left) Joe Cangelosi, Steve Pisani '95, George Conway '96, Chris Pisani '97 and Joe Dattola.

a person who has achieved a degree of public recognition and distinguished himself or herself in some way. It seeks to honor a person who embodies the spirit of the founders of Christian Brothers Academy, and whose life exemplifies a commitment to the principles upon which CBA was founded.

Fred Casagrande — known to many as “Mr. C” — was born in Belmar on June 20, 1913. A lifelong resident of Spring Lake, he played championship football, basketball and baseball both in high school and at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. He was the proprietor of Casagrande's Liquor Shop in Spring Lake from 1934 until the end of his life, welcoming the assistance of his son Eugene, but never retiring. He married the former Marjorie Bork in 1940, and raised ten children. The eldest of their five sons reached his high school years before CBA was founded, but the other four are all CBA graduates, as is a grandson. Another grandson is a member of the current senior class. The Casagrandes have been loyal supporters of Christian Brothers Academy for more than four decades.

The **Colt Spirit Award** annually recognizes an individual who has shown an affinity for and dedication to the school through service or support, and individual with and abiding respect for and incorporation of the spirit and ideals upon which CBA is built.

Officer manager for Hall Construction and administrative assistant to the company's president, Mark D. Hall, a CBA alumnus and trustee, Helen Doyle was asked five years ago to help with a summer fundraising event for the Alumni Association. She accepted the assignment with cheerful enthusiasm, and took on the responsibility of organizing the Association's annual Clambake for the next five years. Helen is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Holiday Express, a non-profit organization whose mission is to “deliver the gift of human kindness” during the holiday season. She and her husband Bob are the parents of three sons. ■

1963

John Croddick – and his wife, Virginia, were honorary co-chairs of the annual Cancer Ball sponsored by the American Cancer Society, Eastern Division.

F. Gary Stover – now working in the finance department of Dean Technologies, an international electronics company, in Farmingdale.

1964

Greg Gill – has lived in California for the past 35 years and has been working in commercial real estate in the Palm Springs area for the past 17 years. He has an 18-year-old son.

Joseph Santanello – a dentist for 34 years, he recently retired and with his wife, Karen, is enjoying their six grandchildren.

1967

Vince Agamennone – moved to Nevada – great weather, low taxes, lots of open space.

Douglas Capone – is on sabbatical in France during the 2006-07 academic year. When he returns, he will chair the department of biology at the University of Southern California.

1968

Robert Delaplain – Chief Compliance Officer (CCO) at Strasbourger Pearson Tuccin Wolf, Inc., New York. He and his wife, Sadie, are enjoying their seven grandchildren.

John Weinstein – celebrated his 25th year with the federal government as a senior official in the US Nuclear Command and Control System support staff. Also working as a fully certified police officer in Quantico, VA.

1969

Lawrence Smith – and his wife, Susan, live in East Greenwich, Rhode Island. Their daughter, Jacklyn, is in a masters program at the University of New Hampshire; Andrew, is a sophomore at Gettysburg College.

1970

Joe Grause – and his wife, Maria, are in their second year in Great Britain. It has been a terrifically rewarding experience, both personally and professionally! Joe has been with Morningstar for two years now, and at an age where the end of one's professional years starts to become an issue, it has been terrific to be involved in something where he can continue to learn new things and contribute to the development of Morningstar's international businesses in a meaningful way. Their kids are all doing well: Joe, two years out of college, lives in the DC area; John graduated from Columbia last spring and has recently "returned" to New Jersey, living in Little Silver and working in New York; Alex is a sophomore at the University of Vermont. His mother is in good health (she turned 80 in July) and still lives in Shrewsbury.

1974

Jeffrey Jones – is a child psychologist in Atlanta. He has three sons and is making a lot of music. You can check it out on line at www.icompositions.com/artists/j0j0.

1975

William Moss – has been named president of Two River Community Bank and has been elected to its board of direc-

tors. He is also vice-president and senior loan officer of Community Partners Bancorp.

1976

Stephen Mindnich – senior vice-president listed trading Jefferies & Co., in New York. Wife, Laurie, and sons, Andrew, Chris and Peter, are doing well.

1978

John Briody – is a B747-400 captain with Atlas Air.

1979

Javier Damien – has been a criminal defense attorney, solo practitioner, in New York and New Jersey for the past 19 years. He moved back to Monmouth County two years ago, and has been a Court TV analyst for the last 3 years.

Chris O'Connor – recently joined Morgan Stanley, Red Bank, as a vice-president/financial advisor. His son Andrew (CBA '04) is a junior at Providence College; son Nick is a junior at Rumson Fair Haven High School where daughter Emily is asophomore. He and his wife, Sabine, recently celebrated their 23rd wedding anniversary.

1982

Robert Weiler – is living the good life in Los Angeles with his wife (and prom date) Melissa. They have 8-year-old-twin boys, Matthew and Jake. When not playing with the kids, traveling, or attending sporting events, he works for Trust Company of the West, a Los Angeles-based asset management firm. Look him up if you find yourself in the LA area!

1983

Dave Dean – is continually impressed by the fortitude and wit of Brother Andrew. He has been married for 18 years to Karen Halter (Mater Dei '84 and TSC '88). Dave and his family live in Ocean City, New Jersey, where he is a painter and paper-hanger and Karen is a pre-school teacher. Alexandra (14) is a student at Ocean City High School and Connor (10) is in fifth grade. His e-mail address is djd08226@aol.com

Rob Kennedy – and his wife Gina introduced the youngest of their three future Colts to CBA at the Alumni Association Clambake in September. Sean Kennedy was born on July 16, 2006. His older siblings are, Robbie (11), Erin (8) and Liam (6).



Rob and Gina Kennedy with two-month-old Sean at the Clambake, September 2006

1984

Frank Condon – and his wife Samantha have 3 sons, Jake (7), Matthew (5) and Ryan (2). The Condons live in Marlboro.

Richard Loeffler – is an Army Reserve major currently mobilized in support of OIF training units leaving for Iraq. Son Richard (14) is hoping to join the Academy ranks next year as a freshman.

1985

Raymond Kyriakos – was married in September 2005. He and his wife, Miriam, expect their first child in December 2006.

James Vickers – lives and works in San Diego.

John Ziemski – is the proud father of twin boys, aged 8 (a righty and a lefty for Coach Keane as a potential killer doubles team in a few years). He also has a 5-year-old-daughter. He lives in Shrewsbury and works in Eatontown in manufacturing of thermal interface materials for electronics cooling.

1987

John Fortunato – and his wife, Danielle, have three sons Jack (9), Mark (4) and Tim (1). An M.D., he recently completed training at Johns Hopkins in pediatrics and gastroenterology and is now an assistant professor of pediatrics at Wake Forest University. A naval officer assigned to the Marines (reserve) he completed a humanitarian mission in Senegal in September.

Colin Murphy – graduated from Drexel University graduate where he met his wife, Tiffany. In 1990 he became a chef in Philadelphia and spent 8 years in the industry. He was invited to cook at the prestigious James Beard House in New York. In 1998 he threw away the restaurant career in search of holidays off, more money, and the ability to spend more time with family. In 2002 he started an educational company with his father James (www.idilearn.com). In 2005 the Murphy family purchased a 1790s farmhouse on 14 acres with a lake. This property, in Walnutport, Pennsylvania, has changed hands only four times since 1790. Their

first child, Taegan, was born within the year. A "Big Hello" to my buddies who left us for the sunny west coast...you know who you are! Get in touch; it has been way too long.

1988

Dennis Shea – had the unbelievable experience of being inside the ropes at the PGA Tour's Chrysler Championship in Tampa, Florida, in October. He caddied 18 holes pre-tournament for two-time Masters champion Bernhard Langer, and met Ernie Els, Zach Johnson, Stewart Cink, and others. The opportunity came about through Dennis's bid in a silent auction held by Caddy for a Cure, which benefits the Fanconi anemia Research Foundation and other charities. Dennis, who is vice president of Brand Aromatic, Inc., Lakewood, fondly remembers his four years of varsity golf with Brother Andrew. He and his wife, Erin, live in Wall with sons Dennis III (3) and Brady (2).



Dennis Shea with Bernhard Langer at the Chrysler Championship in Tampa, October 2006

1989

Michael Flood – began teaching Spanish at St. Peter's Boys High School on Staten Island in September. He finished law school, passed the New York bar, and spent a year in Alaska for a year.

1990

Tony Chiappetta – recently engaged to Monica Filachek (sister of Christopher '92 and Andrew '00). He works as an associate director for recruiting and employer relations in career services at Princeton University.

Gerald Clark – was listed in the *New Jersey Law Journal's* feature "40 under 40" in July. A partner with Lynch Keefe Bartels, he was described as "a well-traveled plaintiffs' lawyer with a solid record of personal injury awards," and "one of the youngest and most profitable partners in history of his law firm." Among his most notable cases are: *Castro v NYT Television et al*; *Kinsella v Lynch*, and *Talabai et al v Cooper Tire & Rubber Co.*

Doug Sitar – and his wife, Leann, are the parents of Sadie Grace, born on September 24.

1991

Jimmy Byrne – reports that life is good. His son, River, 20 months old, is already entertaining audiences with his singing and dancing. They live in Carbondale, Colorado.

1992

Craig Conte – and his wife, Erin, relocated to Ridgefield, Connecticut, where he has accepted a position at Wiggin & Dana.

1993

Scott Barkey – is the proud father of twins, Scott Christopher II and Sarah Kate.

Kelly Burke – and his wife, Karen, have a second son, John (Jack), joining his brother Ryan. They live in Raleigh, North Carolina.

1994

Nicolas Poruchynsky – has joined Master Consulting in Red Bank in their private development department.

1995

Scott Cirillo – has been married to Stacey for five years. They have an 18-month-old son, Zachary and live in Morris Plains.

Ian Trammell – ordained a priest in 2005, has been appointed by Bishop Smith as Director of the Respect Life Ministries for the Diocese of Trenton. Father Trammell is parochial vicar at St. Joan of Arc Parish, Marlton.

1996

Kennedy Crossan – married fellow Villanova graduate Kerri Clark in November 2005. They live in South Orange. He has a degree in chemical engineering and works in finance in New York.

Hance M. Sitkus – graduated from Lehigh University in 2000 with a BS in accounting and BA in journalism/public relations with a minor in history. After three years in public accounting at Ernst & Young LLP, he is currently accounting and operations manager for Primedia (includes Channel One News), based in New York. He is also vice chairman of Allaire Village Inc., alumni board treasurer for Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at Lehigh, treasurer for the Jersey Shore Commuters Club (private train car operating between New York and the Jersey Coast), and author of local New Jersey historical topics - two published books to date and another one on the way! Feel free to drop a line at hancesitkus@aol.com.

1997

Kevin Dugan – was named head lacrosse coach at the University of Scranton in July. A graduate of Notre

Dame, Kevin was previously head coach at Gordon College and served as an assistant at both Wheeling-Jesuit and Yale Universities.

1998

Matthew Falvo – graduated from La Salle with a BA in political science, and was commissioned into the US Army in 2002. Graduated in 2005 from the University of Texas, El Paso, with a MA in leadership studies. Currently a captain in the 506th Regimental Combat Team (unit featured in "Band of Brothers") on Forward Operating Base Loyalty, East Baghdad, Iraq. Duty includes project manager for over \$20m in humanitarian reconstruction projects in East Baghdad. He attributes the successes in his life to the strong Christian values and work ethic instilled in him during his years at CBA.

2000

Geoffrey Crossan – married Natasha Young in May 2006. They met at the University of Pennsylvania and now live in Hamilton. He graduated from Penn *cum laude* with a degree in civil engineering and works as a project engineer at Helmark Steel, Inc. in Wilmington, Delaware.

Ken Hamill – is working on a Ph.D. in biochemistry at M.I.T.

2001

David Scholl – completed service with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in northern California and is now studying for a Masters in Divinity degree from Weston Jesuit School of Theology.

Steve Vento – graduated from Middlebury College (Vermont) in 2005

with a degree in economics. He currently lives in New York and works on the institutional equity sales desk at Prudential Equity Group. Go Colts!

2002

Nicholas Abbate – graduated with distinction from the US Naval Academy in May. He earned his degree in aerospace engineering with a minor in French. He was recipient of the US Marine Corps Burke Scholarship and the Olmstead Scholarship for graduate education. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps and is currently stationed at Quantico, Virginia.



Nicholas Abbate receiving his diploma from Vice-President: Richard Cheney, United States Naval Academy, May 2006

James Miceli – is attending Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Michael Miceli – is a staff accountant at Amper, Politziner & Mattia.

Michael Schatzow – works as a quantitative analyst for SAC Hedge funds in New York. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and lives in New York.

2004

Thomas DeFelice – junior at Boston College studying economics.

2006

Chris Horel – a freshman at US Naval Academy, was named the Patriot League Outstanding Rookie at the league's cross-country championship meet. He placed among the team's scoring-five six times during his rookie campaign.

Ryan McQuade – enjoying the College of the Holy Cross where he is participating in crew and studying Chinese.

IN MEMORIAM

Alumni

Roy Schwartz '65
David Kelley '66
Joseph Hageman '69
Robert Illes '69
Jeffery Morris '78
Gene Bailey '98
Nicholas Fedyszyn '02

Family & Friends

Richard Bertodatti, father of Richard Bertodatti '90

Patrick Brake, father of Patrick Brake '88

Stanley Burtnick, father of John Burtnick, business manager, grandfather of Joseph Burtnick '96

John Caverly, brother of Paul Caverly '64

Brother B. Edward Cleary, FSC, former faculty and long-time resident at CBA

Elizabeth Gagne, mother of Paul Gagne '88

Richard Koch, father of Garry Koch, faculty and director of advancement

Gerry Olert, mother of Brother Stephen Olert, FSC, principal

Elizabeth Palmisano, mother of Todd Palmisano, faculty

Robert J. Pflieger, Sr., father of Robert '76, Daniel '77, Martin '80 and Richard Pflieger '89

Thomas Sheehan, father of Thomas Sheehan '78

Please help keep CBA Today supplied with news and photos for the Alumni at Large pages! Material can be submitted at any time, and will be held for the next issue.

By Mail: CBA Advancement Office
850 Newman Springs Road
Lincroft, NJ 07738

By Email: alumni@cbalincroftnj.org

By Phone: (732) 747-1959, ext 212

By Fax: (732) 576-8057

Be sure to include your name, class year, current address and phone number. Thank you for your interest and for your support of CBA!

DATES TO REMEMBER

JUNE 18, 2007
Whackers & Hackers Golf Outing

SEPTEMBER 7, 2007
Alumni Association Clambake

SEPTEMBER 29, 2007
Grand Reunion

Watch for information coming soon regarding the CBA Alumni 5K Run planned for Fall 2007!

2007 **SAVE THESE DATES**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2007

Art Show Preview Party

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3-4, 2007

Annual CBA Mothers' Club Art Show and Sale

FEBRUARY 22, 2007

*Honors Convocation and
National Honor Society Induction*

MARCH 2-4, 9-10, 2007

*Spring Musical **Guys and Dolls***

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2007

Alumni Mothers' Craft Show

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2007

45th Annual Father/Son Communion Breakfast

THE ACADEMY STORE

*Shop at our college-campus-style store during regular hours, or for your convenience,
you can shop online at cbastore.com.*

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