

# Review


✚ *The Magazine for Alumni, Parents and Friends of Saint James School* ✚

Winter 2015

## HONORING A PATRON

**A TRIBUTE TO JEREMY BIGGS '54**





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Review • Winter 2015

## *first look*

Welcome to our fresh, new and improved *Review* magazine. The feedback you provided in last spring's readership survey guided many of the changes you will see inside. Thank you very much for your input. In addition to the magazine, our website, School Store, athletics uniforms and other communications resources have received makeovers designed to help Saint James promote a strong brand and graphic identity, build a lasting image and distinguish itself from other private schools in a manner that reflects and honors the School's history, tradition and reputation. We hope you will like the new look and feel.



Review • Winter 2015

# featured



The Review is a publication of the  
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Jeremy Hunt Biggs '54



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Spring brings the anticipation of buds on the Saint James tulip poplar, one of Maryland's oldest known trees.

## LONG WEEKEND SERVICE



Students traveled to Philadelphia over winter long weekend to mentor young children.

## Business Manager William Wivell Appointed to Maryland House of Delegates

In March, Maryland Governor Larry Hogan announced the appointment of Saint James School Business Manager and Washington County Commissioner William J. Wivell as the District 2A delegate to the Maryland House of Delegates. The swearing in took place on March 16th in the House chamber in Annapolis.



William Wivell

Mr. Wivell will remain in his position with Saint James School. "We are fortunate that Bill will be able to remain on staff as our business manager. I am pleased to congratulate him on this honor," said Father Dunnan.

Mr. Wivell was recently elected to the Washington County Board of Commissioners, but is now replacing Senator Andrew Serafini, filling one of three vacancies on the Republican side of the House. His confirmation means the county Republican Central Committee will have to nominate someone to fill a vacancy on the board of commissioners.



## Lessons and Carols

This festive service, a long-time Saint James tradition, was held December 13th and 14th. The choir performed many traditional Christmas carols, and students read verses from the Bible. The chapel was beautifully decorated by volunteers from the Parents' Association. "When everyone in the congregation stood up to sing, it was a proud unification of the whole chapel," said Alexia Tiches (third form), summing up the event.



Jerry Fernandez-Mena



Skip Windsor

## Welcome New Trustees

The Saint James School Board will meet on Friday, April 24, 2015. The Board welcomed new Trustees, Mr. Gerardo "Jerry" Fernandez-Mena '83 who resides in Mexico, and (The Rev.) Mr. Robert G. "Skip" Windsor '65, a Massachusetts resident.



## In the Classroom

James Marshall '15 (left) and Sean Tolton '15 (right) enjoy a moment in Mrs. Quinn's science class.



## SAINT JAMES CHOIR PERFORMS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED KINGDOM

In early March, the Saint James School choir spent spring break performing in several of the United Kingdom's most venerated cathedrals. A total of 38 choristers sang in Evensong services, a Sunday Eucharist, and noonday concerts. The students spent a total of 13 days in Great Britain.



The Choir at Tewkesbury

The choir performed in seven cathedrals and churches that included: Winchester Cathedral, Guildford Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral (Oxford), Tewkesbury Abbey, St. John the Baptist Church (Cirencester), Bristol Cathedral, and Wells Cathedral. The choristers also had time to sightsee and to visit iconic destinations such as Windsor Castle.

During their time abroad, the students were hosted by local families, providing them with a unique window into British culture. The choristers were also joined by several parents from Hagerstown, including Mrs. R. Brandon (Haven) Younger, Dr. Laura Zimmerman, and Mrs. David (Gabrielle) Ludwick from Chambersburg, PA.

"The choir sang Evensong at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, where I studied Theology and first trained for the priesthood," said Father Dunnan.

"The present Sub-Dean is also a former undergraduate of Lincoln College, Oxford, where I served as Chaplain, and he was gracious to issue the invitation to our choir."

Oxford's Christ Church choir is one of the most famous in England. "This is quite an honor," continued Father Dunnan, "and one that is well-deserved by our talented and dedicated choir. This is a wonderful affirmation of their good effort over the last four years."

Our students take five academic subjects and participate in three seasons of athletics. Despite the School's academic and athletic demands, the Saint James Choir has received considerable recognition for its talent and hard work.

"They benefit from the discipline of singing two Choral Eucharists a week, in addition to tours, special services

*continued on pg. 6* ▶



► choir (continued from pg. 5)

and concerts, including a recent performance at the Washington National Cathedral on February 8th,” noted Father Dunnan. “This teaches strong sight-reading skills and creates a very strong, unified sound.”

The trip presented a special opportunity for the students to perform in another country, to experience British traditions, and to expand their repertoire, and hopefully, their horizons. “The choir performed where choristers stood for over 1,000 years,” said Fine Arts Department Chair and Choir Director, Mrs. Linda Morgan Stowe.

“The experience provided a connection to the past and to the present that is unique in the choral experience,” she continued. “We also had the opportunity to work with two of the cathedral choir directors, and to learn from their choristers.”

The trip was documented on the Saint James School Instagram account. To trace the chorister’s journey throughout the United Kingdom, please visit:

<http://instagram.com/onlyatsjs>.



Clockwise from top left: Heading to Windsor Castle; panoramic view inside Christ Church, Oxford; performing at Christ Church; afternoon in St. James Park; Pusey House; the group visits London



## Notes from the Choristers



*“My most memorable performance was at Bristol Cathedral. It was our last evensong and brought tears to my eyes. It was truly spectacular.”*

– Samuel Townsend (third form)



*“Singing with the BBC ‘Chorister of the Year’ at Guilford Cathedral, home stays, and learning about the history of ‘Alice in Wonderland’ during the Oxford tour.”*

– Sophie Abeles (fifth form)



*“Climbing to the top of Saint Paul’s Cathedral, seeing the Queen, the Roman baths and Tewkesbury.”*

– Hannah Lee (fourth form)



*“Traveling to England to sing may not sound too exciting. But, I can honestly say that it was the best school trip I have ever been on. I have many stories to prove it...I climbed to the top of an enormous cathedral with Nolan, got lost in a town with James, and came across some of the best English food I have ever eaten.”*

– Nicholas Tiches (sixth form)



*“The Roman baths and the never-ending supply of biscuits in our hotel room.”*

– Nolan Peters (sixth form)



*“Singing at Oxford was a highlight. I also loved the personalized tour of Oxford by Father Dunnan”*

– Annette Abu (sixth form)



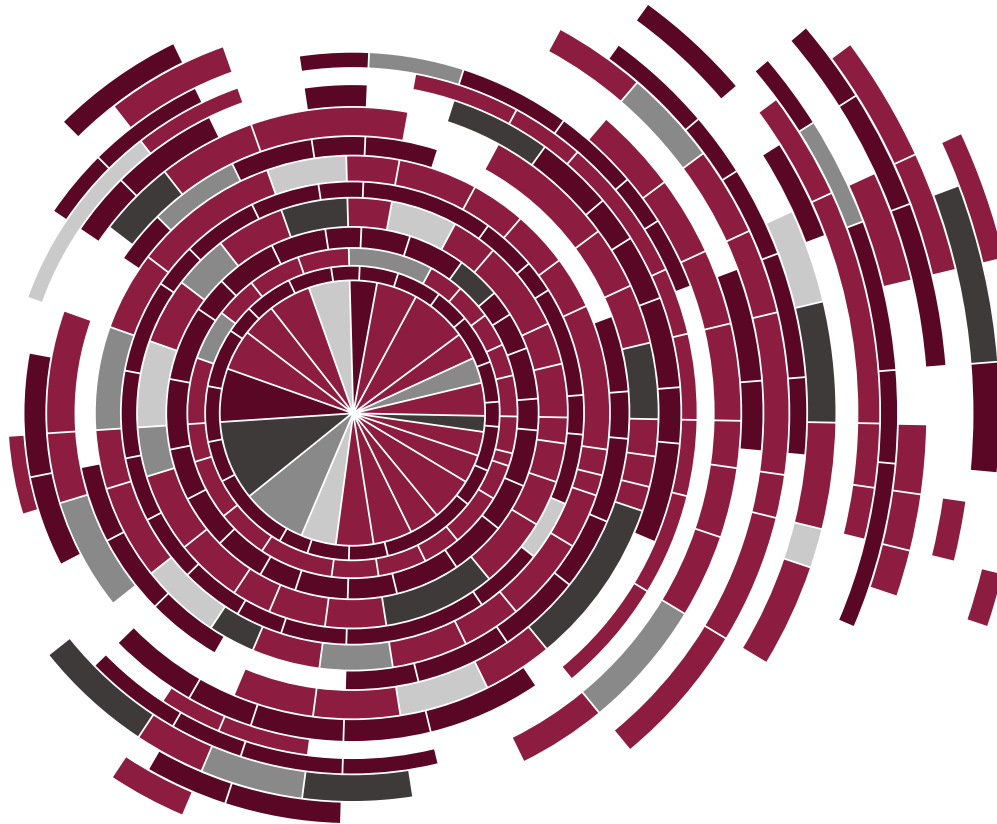
*“In Wells Cathedral, when Nolan practiced his solo, and the entire cathedral was silent.”*

– James McElroy (sixth form)



*“I loved London and seeing Buckingham Palace. We saw the Queen of England twice!”*

– Winnie Chang (sixth form)



## SAINT JAMES UPGRADES INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT WITH THE HELP OF TWO ALUMNI

While Saint James students took a well-deserved respite in March, there was a great deal of activity on campus. With the help of two highly skilled alumni, Parker Turner '02 and Grant Moerschel '83, the Information Technology (IT) Department was reorganized in order to resolve a number of serious issues.

From long-term internet connectivity problems to missing inbound and outbound email messages to a series of network and server issues, there were a host of IT problems that have required thoughtful analysis and the help of highly skilled professionals.

Grant Moerschel, an alumnus and Saint James parent, is co-founder of WaveGard, a cybersecurity consulting

firm. He currently works for a startup called Cylance. A nationally-recognized expert in WiFi security, a contributor to *InformationWeek* (an online trade publication), and author of several books, he is well-versed in IT risk management. According to this technical specialist, the bulk of his expertise is in Internet security, which encompasses things like firewalls and anti-malware technologies. The School has been most fortunate to be able to call on his expertise, and has greatly valued his assistance.

Trustee Parker Turner is also a leader in the IT field. This young, talented alumnus serves as President of Liberty Port, a global telecommunications company in Sarasota, FL owned by the

Turner family. The company provides telecommunications and information technology equipment, consulting and maintenance for business customers, and maintenance and upgrades for older legacy systems. After graduating from Saint James, Turner attended Elon University in North Carolina and then received his master's degree in business administration from the University of Florida. He joined Liberty Port in 2006, and was named president in 2012.

Working together, the pair has been instrumental in helping the School upgrade its IT systems and reorganize this department. They also helped School administrators identify and vet prospective candidates for the new

positions. Currently, they are helping to develop strategies and tactics to guide Saint James in the long-term.

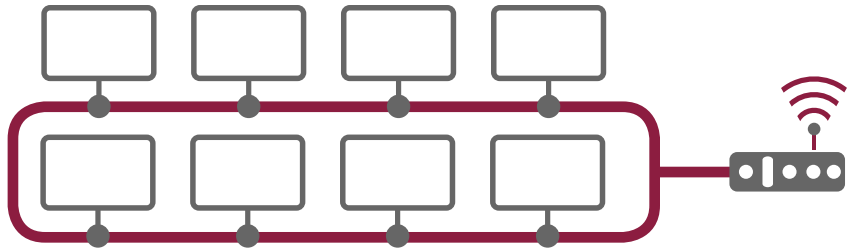
“It has been a real privilege to translate what I do in my profession at Liberty Port to directly support immediate challenges and longer term initiatives that ultimately will allow Saint James to be at the forefront of network and more specifically, educational technologies,” said Parker. “I also was really grateful to have connected with Grant whom I had not met before this opportunity. I really appreciated his time and efforts with our team at Liberty Port.”

“We are blessed to have such extraordinarily gifted and gracious alumni,” said Father Dunnan. “Their efforts went far above and beyond the call of duty, and have been nothing short of transformative.”

Parker spent a week on campus in March, and brought with him Liberty Port’s Director of Technical Services, Rich Bokoski. Mr. Bokoski was on site during spring break, making necessary repairs and enhancements to prepare for our new IT staff members.

“Rich proved to be highly valuable during this transition,” noted Grant. “He used his detective skills to figure out how many things worked in the environment, and then went about fixing them in a methodical manner. He was very helpful to me, including the time we were working on some of the equipment until midnight one Saturday night.”

As a result of the team’s hard work and long hours, the School’s IT functionality is already markedly improved. In addition, Mr. Casey Hoffman was hired as the new Director of Campus Networking. Casey began on March 30th, and brings a wealth of experience from his previous position at Andrews Air Force Base. School administrators are currently interviewing candidates for a second position titled, Director of



Academic Technology that will, among other duties, support educational enrichment technologies.

“Personally, I am really excited for the prospects of technology on campus, such as: incorporating technologies and applications into the curriculum, implementing an IT roadmap, fortifying internal/external security threats, and more,” said Parker. “It was very appropriate for Saint James to take a ‘time-out’ with IT and involve third parties to perform a thorough due diligence. This has permitted the School to make more informed decisions with regards to staffing, network upgrades, cost-saving approaches, network redundancy, disaster recovery, and security protocols.”

In terms of next steps, Grant and Parker are interested in forming a

Technology Oversight Committee. This body would help develop an IT roadmap, and would become the basis for enhancing the curriculum, where appropriate. “Whereas today we are in the tactical ‘fixit’ mode, we (the Committee and School administration) need to define what the future strategy needs to be in order to ensure tactical changes support that strategy,” said Grant. †



## NEW FACULTY ADDITIONS

### Saint James Welcomes New Latin Teacher

by Widad Khokhar (Fourth Form)

We are happy to welcome Mr. Nathan Zawie as our new Latin teacher. Mr. Zawie graduated from Loyola University with a degree in classics, which led to a teaching job in Birmingham, AL as a Latin teacher. After three years of teaching, he enrolled into the University of Virginia's classics Ph.D. program.

"Between earning an M.A. in May and gearing up to write term papers in November and December of the fall semester, I felt myself being drawn back to the high school classroom," he said. After discovering a job posting for the Saint James Latin position, he and his wife visited in early December, and are now both part of Saint James faculty. "What ultimately clinched my decision to accept the position was my interaction with the students during my campus visit. They are my favorite part of Saint James," he smiled.

While at UVA, Mr. Zawie taught Latin 101, 102, and 201 to undergraduate students. "Honestly, it is more rewarding (and fun) to teach younger students," he said.

Mr. Zawie is teaching six Latin classes, from Level I to AP. He began in the middle of the second trimester, jumping right into his new assignment. Currently, his job is predominantly academic due to his large class load, but he does have his own advisee group and is adjusting to life in Hagerstown, MD.

"This move to Saint James (and Hagerstown) is different than any I've made so far. Mrs. Zawie and I have come to Saint James with the intention of staying long-term," he noted. Mr. and Mrs. Zawie are a wonderful addition and we welcome them to the Saint James community. †



Veronica and Nathan Zawie

### Saint James Welcomes New Director of Tutoring and International Support

by Widad Khokhar (Fourth Form)

This December, Veronica Zawie joined the Saint James faculty as the new Director of Tutoring and International support. She was introduced to Saint James through her husband Nathan Zawie, who is now the School's Latin teacher.

Before coming to Saint James, Mrs. Zawie majored in English in college and worked as a high school English teacher. "I was drawn to the field of education because I had wonderful teachers when I was in high school, and I wanted to inspire students the way I had been inspired," she said.

During the school day, she works with students to organize their classwork and develop good study habits. She also produces a weekly tutoring schedule that takes into account every student's unique needs. She will also be working with our international students to register for the TOEFL test.

"I am still becoming acquainted with some of the aspects of life at Saint James," she smiled. "I am normally asleep by 10 p.m. So, staying awake for evening study hall is a challenge." She continued, "I did not expect the transition from Charlottesville to Hagerstown to be as seamless as it has been."

Mr. and Mrs. Zawie moved to Saint James from Charlottesville, VA, where Mr. Zawie pursued his Master's Degree from the University of Virginia. She says she came to Saint James because, "I believe in the School's mission. I want to challenge and inspire students in order to prepare them for their lives after Saint James; and, I want to be able to work towards that goal in a faith-based environment that focuses on educating the entire person." †



# The Dean's List

GETTING TO KNOW DEAN OF STUDENTS,  
MICHAEL MACEWEN

**W**hile most parents may be familiar with Mr. Michael MacEwen's thoughtful demeanor and encouraging words, or, at the very least, his weekly "Parent Newsletter," which faithfully arrives in Inboxes every Tuesday afternoon, Saint James alumni may not yet be acquainted with the School's new Dean of Students. In August, along with a complement of new faculty, Mr. MacEwen assumed his new position, replacing Mr. Marc Batson as Dean of Students. (Mr. Batson is now the School's College Counselor.)

Mr. MacEwen, an engaging, young administrator, who recently earned his MBA degree and is wedded to Spanish teacher, Mrs. Daphne Clyburn, sat down for an interview five months into his new position. Here, he reflects on his new job, on his life, musical tastes and much more. If you thought you knew this interesting and refreshingly quirky member of our community, read on to learn even more...

*continued on pg. 12* ▶



► the dean's list (continued from pg. 11)

**1. What kinds of things do you enjoy doing in your free time?**

Working at a boarding school means there isn't a lot of free time, but when I do have some, I enjoy going for walks with my dog, Leila, and my wife, Daphne. On longer breaks, I love to travel to warm places. I love going out to new and different restaurants, especially Indian restaurants. Of course, there is some binge-watching of Netflix involved also.

**2. What's your favorite place in the U.S.?**

I'm torn between Colorado and Southwest Ohio—polar opposites I know! I lived for a year outside Estes Park, Colorado, which is the town next to Rocky Mountain National Park. It was incredible to be in such a beautiful place. It is also where Stephen King wrote "The Shining" about the famously haunted Stanley Hotel.

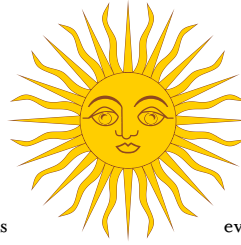
On the other side of the spectrum, I grew up in Southwest Ohio; and, while it doesn't have the mountains, it is beautiful in its own way and feels like home. My oldest sister has a farm there where she raises chickens, turkeys and pigs. She also teaches Pharmacology at the University of Cincinnati. We like to joke that our family has two farms/pharms. That farm is as close to feeling home as I get (besides Saint James, of course).

**3. What's your favorite place in the world?**

I would say Argentina. The cities were beautiful, the food was wonderful and the people are some of the nicest I've ever encountered. Overall, it was a great experience. I visited in 2009 as part of a longer trip through Peru, Chile and



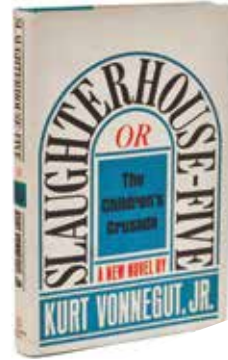
Argentina for three-and-a-half months. Funnily enough, we never planned on visiting Argentina; but, we met so many cool Argentinians that we decided to change our plans and go and visit.



me, I love his novels, especially "Slaughterhouse Five." One of my other favorites is a collection of short stories called "Welcome to the Monkey House," that I re-read every couple of years.

**4. What's one of the most interesting places you ever lived and why?**

In South America, I lived and worked at a hostel in Valparaiso, Chile for six weeks. Ms. Clyburn and I helped run the hostel; and, I got to meet and get to know people from all over the world. It was so cool. We got to know the city and to experience it in a way that was very personal. We found the bakery for the best empanadas, and discovered all of the insider places that you don't get to explore from just spending a few days in a foreign country. We were also close to the beach, which was great.



Recently, I have really come to appreciate Dave Eggers, who wrote a book called, "What is the What" about Sudanese refugees. It's tragic, funny and intense, all at the same time. Eggers also created a website called <http://www.mcsweeneys.net/> It's a writers' forum with a lot of funny, great content that is worth taking a look at. He also wrote a book called "Zeitoun" about a man living in post-Katrina New Orleans that I read while in Puerto Rico for spring break.

**7. What are a few of your favorite movies or television shows, and why?**

My favorite TV show is "The Wire." It's a show that aired on HBO in the early 2000's. It's about the drug trade in Baltimore. Each season focuses on a different aspect of Baltimore. It was written by a *Baltimore Sun* journalist and covers topics ranging from political corruption to the education system. But, it focuses on a core group of characters and on their interaction around those topics. It's gritty and realistic—not for the faint of heart. It's the kind of show that when an episode ends, you can't help but start the next episode. It's dangerously easy to binge watch.

I love any movie by Wes Anderson. If pressed to choose a favorite, I would probably say "The Darjeeling Limited." It's funny, quirky and I love how it illustrates Indian culture.



**5. When you need to relax and clear your head, what do you do?**

Dog walking is my go-to relaxation activity. Most of the really deep thinking I get done happens on dog walks. I also love to toss the Frisbee. It's a great way to get outside, to move a little, and think. Initially, when we got Leila (our border collie), the idea was that she was going to be a Frisbee dog, but she could not be less interested. She does love to chase a lacrosse ball though. I guess she truly is a boarding school dog.

**6. Who are a few of your favorite authors or teachers, and why (or, how have they moved or influenced you)?**

Kurt Vonnegut. I love the way he blends humor and great story telling. He doesn't take himself too seriously. At the same time, he is able to tackle serious topics and subjects. I haven't read all his books; but, I've read most of them. Although some of the early science fiction stuff is a little out there for

**8. What is one of your favorite Saint James moments?**

My favorite moments have been those times when I have surprised the student body with events such as Boarders' Night In and Boarders' Night Out. When I announce those kinds of events at dinner, it's really fun to see kids' faces



as they realize what's in store. Those reactions make all the planning worth it.

**9. Who are some of your favorite musicians? What song could be the soundtrack of your life?**

My favorite band is a bluegrass band called Yonder Mountain String Band. I started listening to them when I was in college (at the University of South Carolina, Columbia). I like a lot of different music—too much to name in just this interview.



**10. What kinds of causes interest you and why?**

I'm really into the way that food is grown, and care about responsible growing and transportation practices. I don't think everything we eat must be organically grown; but, we need to think about where our food comes from, how it's grown and how it gets to our plate. Sustainability and traceability are really important.

**11. What do you love most about your job?**

I love that we're all in it together. We, as a community, are all working towards building a school that we can be proud of. I love seeing students having fun, whether it's in the classroom, or engaged in a weekend activity. It's satisfying to see them enjoying themselves and feeling that they are at home at Saint James. This makes the work involved in planning these activities very rewarding.

**12. What are some of the challenges you confront?**

I want everyone to be happy all the time. And, intrinsically, in this job, there are times during which a certain percentage of people won't be happy. They may not have been able to attend an activity because of a sports obligation, or because they had to study for a test, or some other reason. It's tough knowing that with any decision, there may be some who will be disappointed.

**13. What is one of your favorite professional moments?**

Last year I finished an MBA program at Mount Saint Mary's. It was a one-year accelerated program. Most MBA programs take two or more years, so this was an intense year. I went to classes every other weekend for about sixteen hours, while working full time. It was a big challenge; and, I'm really proud that I did it. Right as I was finishing grad school, Father Dunnan offered me the Dean of Students position, which came as an unexpected and great surprise. So, I finished graduate school and started at Saint James within about two weeks of each other.

**14. What is one of your favorite personal moments?**

I have an 18-month-old nephew named Aidan. One of the coolest things I've had the opportunity to see is watching him grow from infancy into a little human, and tracking the development of his personality. When I last visited, he recognized me and got excited when I would come down the stairs in the morning. I can't wait until he's old enough to take out to amusement parks, baseball games, etc. I'm going to be that cool uncle who loads him up with sugar and junk food and then drops him back at home with my sister.

**15. What's your favorite word or quote?**

I like the word "genre." It rolls off the tongue.

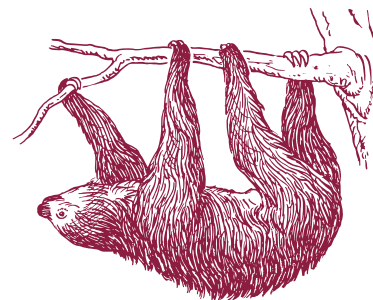
My favorite quote is "before you criticize someone, walk a mile in their shoes. That way, you're a mile away from them, AND you have their shoes."

**16. If your finances were infinite, what would you do with your money?**

I think I would start traveling and never look back. Of course, that would be after I paid off my student loans and made a generous donation to the annual fund.

**17. What have you learned from Saint James students?**

I've learned that they can eat Chipotle three times a day, seven days per week, and never tire of it.



In all seriousness though, I've learned that Saint James students are a really special group of kids. They enjoy being around each other. They take care of each other in a way that is pretty unique to teenagers. Like everyone else, they have issues from time to time, but when the chips are down, I have no doubt that they would do anything to help each other.

**18. If you could influence a major global change of some sort, what would it be?**

I would love to see various renewable sources of energy used to power the things we use the most—cars, planes and so on.

**19. What is your favorite snack food or dessert?**

Buffalo wings. The spicier the better.

**20. How do you take your coffee?**

I drink black hazelnut coffee every morning, though the best coffee I've ever had was in Nicaragua.



**21. Sloth or puma?**

Sloth. I don't know why, but my gut says sloth.

**22. What's your favorite type of animal?**

Conventionally, I would say I'm a dog person. However, if I could have a wild animal for a pet, I think it would be a polar bear provided that it wouldn't maul or eat me, and I could keep it comfortable.

**23. If you could have one superpower, what would it be?**

I go back and forth between being able to speak every language on earth or being able to pick up any musical instrument and to be a virtuoso instantly. Both would help me with my actual career as a spy. ✚



# PEOPLE OF SAINT JAMES

Interviews by Widad Khokhar (Fourth Form)

Inspired by Brandon Stanton's "Humans of New York," a poignant, web-based compilation of photos and quotes excerpted from conversations with New York residents, Saint James student, Christelle Fayemi (sixth form), developed similar "portraits" of members of the School community for the fall issue. The editorial team thought this was a great way to get to know our students, staff and faculty. So, once again, we invite you to meet several of the "People of Saint James."

## JAKE FISHKIN (SIXTH FORM)

**What is your favorite Saint James memory?:** Traveling to China on the school trip with Mr. McDonald during my fifth form year. It gave me the opportunity to explore and discover the culture that is home to many of my friends back at Saint James.

**What advice would you give to new students?:** Saint James is a nurturing community that is going to give you the chance to try many different things. During your early years, expand your horizons and try things you would not normally do, discover your hidden passion, and develop it during your later years at school.

**What do you think is most unique about Saint James?:** Our small size encourages students in lower forms to befriend those in upper forms and vice versa. This leads to unique friendships and also provides insights and social value that could not be gained any other way.

**If you could meet one SJS alum, which would it be?:** Mr. Parker Turner '02. His success in business and generosity towards the School is inspiring and has improved the daily lives of every student on campus. I also admire Mr. Biggs '54 because of his love for the School and his success in life.

**If you could describe SJS in one word, what would it be?:** Stimulating.



Jake Fishkin on the Great Wall.

**What do you envision yourself doing in ten years?:** I envision myself continuing to pursue my passion for business, doing consulting work in the technology field.

**How are you impacting the Saint James community?:** Through the events, sports, and clubs I help to coordinate, I strive to improve the School's image on, and off, campus.

## GRACE HOTUNG (FIFTH FORM)

**What is your favorite Saint James memory?:** Probably all the hilarious times in Coors last year and winning the soccer game against Goretta back in the fall.



**What advice would you give to new students?:** I think to realize quickly that you don't have a lot of time in between required things like classes, sports, and meals. So, you have to manage your time with homework real well to stay on top of it.

**What do you think is most unique about Saint James?:** I think it helps you learn more about yourself like what kind of a person you are and how you adapt to different lifestyles and challenges. I know I have definitely learned things about myself during the time I've boarded here.

**If you could meet one graduate, who would it be?:** Maybe Alfred T. Mahan just because we learned about him in U.S. History and he was Admiral of the U.S. Navy which is pretty cool!

**If you could describe Saint James in one word, what would it be?:** Developing.

**What do you envision yourself doing in ten years?:** I've changed my mind so many times, but right now probably an environmental lawyer or a canine rehabilitation therapist.

**How are you impacting the Saint James community?:** To be honest, not much. I did join the Micah's Backpack project because I think it's doing a great thing... addressing the issue of children's hunger. It's real and I think that it's important to take opportunities that help others.



**MR. STEVE LACHUT**

(ASSOCIATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, BOYS' VARSITY LACROSSE AND WRESTLING COACH)



**What made you want to work at Saint James?:** I started coaching at Saint James in the spring of 2011, and was extremely impressed with how well-rounded and enthusiastic our student athletes were. I took the job because I wanted to be a greater part of the school environment, and get to know students away from the wrestling room or lacrosse field.

**What was your first impression of Saint James?:** When I first came to Saint James I was so impressed with the campus. I had not experienced anything like it at the high school level. It's just so beautiful.

**If you could describe Saint James in one word, what would it be?:** Versatile.

**How do you describe your job?:** I didn't go to a boarding school, nor do they exist where I'm from (Buffalo, NY). So, I certainly had a learning curve in my role as a (Claggett) hall master, getting up to speed on how duty weekends work, and so forth. As for my job as Associate Director of Athletics, I usually say two things: First, I teach life lessons on the playing fields of Saint James; and, second, that Mr. Fahey and I do all the things that people don't think about in terms of athletics on a day-to-day basis.

**What were you like as a student?:** Wow. To be honest, I'm not sure if I would have succeeded at Saint James when I was a teenager. I don't think I had the academic discipline. I loved history and English, and that is where I focused the majority of my study time. On the other hand, I did get voted "best eyes" and "most athletic" in high school.

**What was the best lesson you've learned in the classroom, as a student or teacher?:** The best lesson I've learned as a student, athlete, and coach is that you have to be honest with yourself. As a student, you have to know your strengths and weaknesses, and address them appropriately with study habits, time management, etc. Same thing as an athlete—if you are the athlete who may not be the quickest or strongest, you need to make sure you do other things well, and compensate by being smart and having strong fundamentals. As a coach, I constantly remind myself about being realistic and honest about our ability from year to year, as well as the particular strengths of our team. The best way to get noticed in the classroom, on the field, or in a job interview is to know what you do well, and accentuate it.

**KIRA DAVIS (FOURTH FORM)**

**What is your favorite Saint James memory?:** The boys' varsity basketball games! As an athletically-challenged person, I am able to greatly appreciate not only the incomprehensible skill and athleticism displayed by the players, but the positive ambience of the fans who come to the game and truly invest their hearts in the outcomes.

**What advice would you give to new students?:** Don't be afraid to try new things that may be outside of your comfort zone; and, take advantage of all opportunities as they are presented. At the same time, be sure not to lose who you are, or compromise your morals.

**What do you think is most unique about Saint James?:** How easy it is to not only find a group of friends with whom you have infinite shared interests, but to immerse yourself in a group that you might not get to know elsewhere, and to make more friends.

**If you could meet one Saint James graduate, who would it be?:**

Jeremy Biggs '54. Father Dunnan spoke of his late friend in a wonderful light. I am able to envision his selflessness despite having never made his acquaintance. It would be humbling to speak with a man who contributed so much to the world and to Saint James, about what motivated him and why he loved the School so much.



Kira Davis, upper right, with friends Naydia Rowe (left) and Imani Mustaf

**If you could describe Saint James in one word, what would it be?:** Prolific.

**What do you envision yourself doing in ten years?:** Earning a degree in international law; learning a third language; semi-annually volunteering at both Saint James School in Hagerstown, and in Philadelphia; considering a career in international relations or business; and, hopefully, meeting up with some Saint James alumni regularly.

**How are you impacting the Saint James community?:** By thinking of others before myself, and my future before the present. In doing so, I project a positive image by how I treat others, as well as how I expect to be treated. By thinking of the future, I make sure to always take advantage of opportunities so that I minimize regrets later in life.



# HONORING A PATRON

**A TRIBUTE TO JEREMY BIGGS '54**

Within a week of ringing in the new year, and with it, the renewal of dreams and aspirations, there was another, more somber transition—one with an impact that weighs heavily on the hearts of the Saint James community. Beloved alumnus and benefactor, Jeremy Hunt Biggs '54, died on January 7, 2015 in Santa Monica, California at the age of 79.

Jeremy was known not only for his generosity and philanthropic dedication, but for his great love for Saint James School—a love expressed in many capacities throughout his decades of service. An exceptionally steadfast alumnus, he served as President and Chairman of the Board and contributed to several of the School's most seminal capital campaigns. In addition, Jeremy and his wife, Friederike, have provided generous scholarships for a number of talented young students from New York, providing these bright young men with an educational foundation that has, in more than one instance, changed the course of their lives.

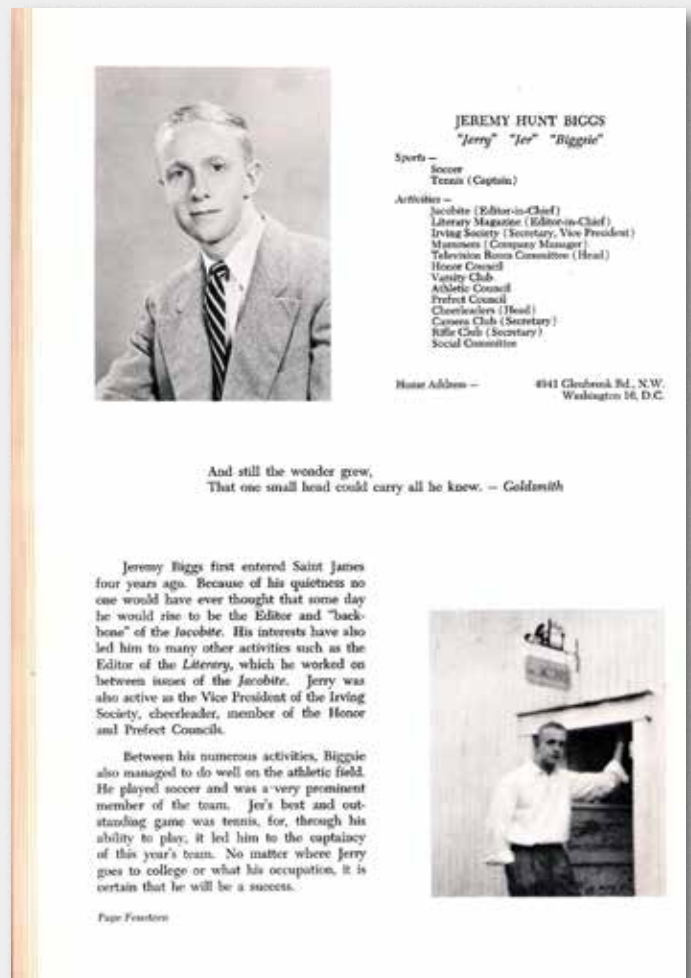
After graduating from Saint James School in 1954, Jeremy attended Yale University, earning his degree in 1958. He then studied at the London School of Economics before returning to the U.S. to work as an investment manager for U.S. Steel. The young entrepreneur co-founded the investment firm Davis, Palmer and Biggs, which was acquired in 1978 by Fiduciary Trust Company International. At Fiduciary Trust, Jeremy led the research department and served as Chief Investment Officer until 2002. He also served on Fiduciary Trust's Board of Directors for many years and remained Vice Chairman until his death.

As a trustee, and later as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Jeremy worked diligently to ensure that Saint

James grew and diversified, and that the faculty was well-housed and fairly compensated. He also used his personal contacts and connections to help publicize and draw national attention to the School. The Board of Trustees honored his leadership by funding the Biggs Chair in History when he retired as Chairman.

Jeremy's connection with the School was also personal and abiding. He visited campus frequently and kept a watchful eye on the annual budget. He particularly admired Admiral Holloway, his predecessor, and enjoyed long-term friendships with fellow trustees, senior faculty members, and others who shared his love for Saint James.

"He was a particular patron of the Owens Library and the new playing fields," noted Father Dunnan. "He personally gave the Headmaster's House, appropriately named the Biggs Rectory, although he was joined in this effort by four other trustees who 'would not let him have all the fun.' He was also supported by his daughter Fiona Biggs Druckenmiller, who knew that her

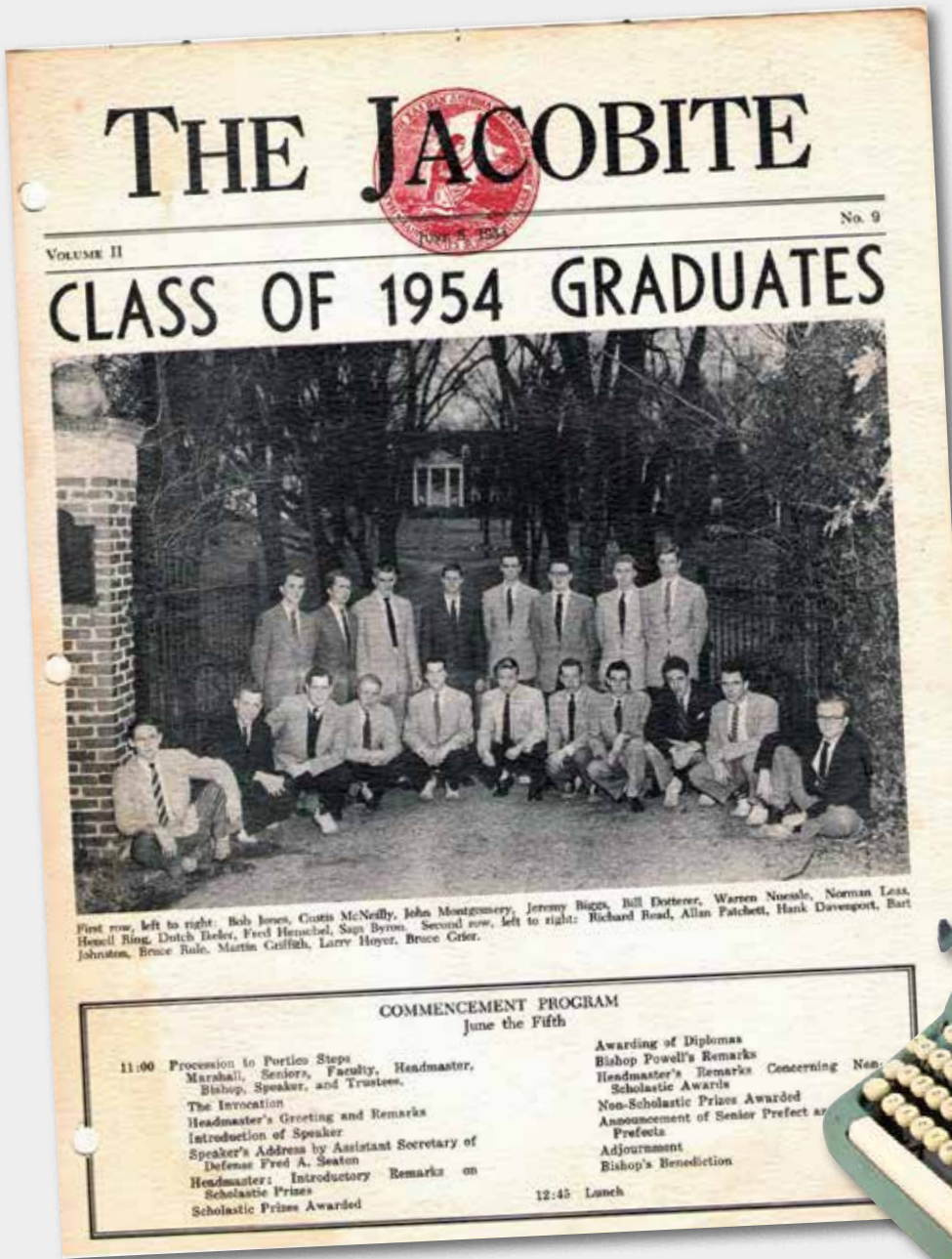


Jeremy Biggs' 1954 Bai Yuka entry

father's favorite Christmas or birthday present was a gift to Saint James," said the Headmaster.

Jeremy also funded a program for qualified students from the Boys Club of New York to attend Saint James. "Seven of his boys graduated from Saint James, and two are presently enrolled, continuing what has become a well-established tradition," stated Father Dunnan. "This has provided a wonderful opportunity for these fine young men, and a gift to Saint James.

continued on pg. 18 ▶



**The Jacobite**  
 Published by the Students of  
 Saint James School  
 Member of the Columbia  
 Scholastic Press Association



*Editor-In-Chief*  
 Jeremy Biggs '54

*Assistant Editor* ..... Larry Hoyer '54  
*Make-Up Editor* ..... Pringle Pipkin '56  
*Production Chief* ..... Perry Johnston '55

*Business Staff*

*Circulation* ..... Norman Leas '54  
*Exchange* ..... Preston Lancaster '55

*Editorial Staff*

Bruce Grier '54                      Bill Daisley '54  
 Bill Perry '55                        Tom Cleaveland '56  
*Faculty Advisor* ..... Mr. G. L. Hopkins

Biggs rose to the role of editor and was affectionately known as the backbone of the *Jacobite*. The publication approached its apex under his guidance and offered great opportunity for those involved in its production.



The 1954 Jacobite staff  
 First row: Preston Lancaster, Pringle Pipkin, Bruce Grier, Jeremy Biggs (editor) and Joe Swanson  
 Second row: Larry Hoyer, Norman Leas, Mr. Dochtermann, Hencil Ring, Pearre Johnston, John Robb, Bill Perry, Winter Cullen and Jeffery Franklin

► biggs (continued from pg. 17)

These students have been prominent and active on campus, and their presence has greatly enhanced the Saint James experience for everyone. We could not be more grateful, or more proud.”

“He thought of this program as his special tribute to his wife Friederike, who has been devoted to the Boys Club for many years. It is therefore an especially wonderful testament to his

love for her,” continued Father Dunnan.

Jeremy was predeceased by his brother Barton M. Biggs and is survived by Friederike Kemp Biggs; his brother Christopher N. Biggs '58; his four daughters, Fiona Druckenmiller, Allegra Lubrano, Melissa Bradley, Robin Noble; his two stepsons, Christopher and Alexander Kemp; and twelve grandchildren and



Founded by Biggs (seated at the right) in 1954, the literary magazine, *The Lit*, received unprecedented praise in its short history. The magazine was comprised of the best literary works of all kinds from the various classes at the school. Also pictured are Larry Hoyer, Wallace Parker, Pringle Pipkin, Mr. Scott and Norman Leas.

four step-grandchildren. Thanks to their continued generosity and thoughtfulness, Saint James was named in Jeremy's obituary as his designated charity, and has received many donations in his honor—a fitting tribute to his life, his memory and his love for Saint James.

Jeremy's classmates and several of the students he has mentored and supported for over a decade were kind enough to share their thoughts. We hope you will enjoy their memories of this remarkable man.

If you would like to make a donation in honor of Jeremy Biggs, the School has established the Jeremy H. Biggs Memorial Scholarship fund. To contribute, please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations. †



Biggs was a member of the Irving Society, Honor Council and the Prefect Council (pictured above). Seated are Charles Sine and Bart Johnston. Pictured from left to right are Sam Byron, Lawrence Hoyer, Henry Davenport, John Montgomery, Warren Nuessle, Robert Jones and Jeremy Biggs.

"I would like to say how very much Saint James meant to Jeremy—how it shaped his destiny—how much he cared about equality and education and how very much he loved his books—all books. I would love to include this little poem: 'Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Dance like nobody's watching. Sing like nobody's listening. Live like it is heaven on earth.' This is painted in Jeremy's library on Martha's Vineyard—his favorite place at the end of his life. Oh, I miss him so very much!"

—Friederike K. Biggs

JEREMY H. BIGGS  
150 EAST 73RD STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

November 2, 1964

The Rev. John E. Owens  
Headmaster  
Saint James School  
St. James, Maryland

Dear Father Owens:

It was with somewhat overwhelming and certainly mixed emotions that I received your letter telling me unofficially that I had been elected a trustee of the School. Of course I will accept, and will serve as best I can until the Board deems it appropriate that I be replaced.

My emotions are mixed because there is no position that could mean as much to me. Yet I recognize at least some of my limitations in ability - regarding financial support, experience, maturity, and so on. I feel particularly humble in that I owe this to you, and yet my four years at Saint James were in between your years.

I can only, therefore, express my gratitude to you and my most earnest desire to do whatever I can for the School, its ideals and goals, and its people. I have felt that Saint James has been for me the most important moulding force in my life after my parents. Whatever I can do to continue and extend this influence in and for others, I shall certainly try to do.

Very sincerely,



November 10, 1964

Mr. Jeremy H. Biggs  
150 East 73rd Street  
New York, New York

Dear Jeremy:

I was delighted to receive your letter of November 2 informing me of your acceptance as a member of the Board of Trustees of St. James School. It will be a pleasure working with you and I am looking forward to seeing more of you in the future.

Under separate cover you will receive my last report to the Board, together with a number of enclosures. Our next meeting is scheduled for sometime in the spring.

With kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

John E. Owens  
Headmaster

JED:afb

Pictured above is the correspondence between Biggs and Fr. Owens regarding Jeremy's appointment to the Board of Trustees.

# REFLECTIONS ON JEREMY BIGGS

## Gino Rosignano '09

"Mr. Biggs was an inspirational mentor and an admirable role model. Through his generosity, he provided me with the unique opportunity to attend a renowned academic institution and grow into a leader. I am so thankful for the blessing he has bestowed upon me. Without his support and guidance, I would not have come as far as I have today.

During my time at Saint James, Mr. Biggs made sure to regularly check on my progress and ensured that I blossomed into a Saint. We would exchange letters and he motivated me to stay on the path of success. He was always prolific in his praise and encouraged me to strive for nothing less than perfection. I will forever cherish his words. He has inspired me to give back to the world as he did, thus allowing his legacy to live on forever.

Mr. Biggs was a wonderful man and I am grateful that he was part of my life. May his soul rest in peace."

## Custis McNeilly '54

"Even then, as his classmate, I knew that Jeremy was exceptional. He belonged to the Saint James Irving Society—a society of writers that included many of the brightest students. He wrote very well. In particular, I remember a piece he authored about race relationships. That piece represented Jeremy so perfectly. Reading it, you knew what a wonderful, concerned, decent person he was, and would always be."  
*(Editor's note: We searched for this piece, but were unable to locate it. We regret that we were unable to include it in this issue.)*

## Henry Davenport '54

"I arrived in 1947. Jeremy came to Saint James several years later, as a third former. He was a good athlete, a good soccer player and an especially good tennis player. He was also editor of the Jacobite newspaper. He was a really good student. We lived in the same dormitory.

Nearly every night, after lights out, we snuck down to a part of the building with exposed pipes. We engaged in a fitness competition that involved push-ups and pull-ups. The push-ups were no problem for me. But, it used to be so exasperating that Jeremy always won the pull-up contest! He also had very good grades and went to Yale.

There is no one way to describe him: He was a good student, a good athlete, and flat out, a good guy. When I got to be a Trustee, we re-connected and would visit at those meetings. After Admiral Holloway retired, Jeremy became Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He always did a great job."

## William "Will" Moyet '02

"These are my immediate feelings about the EVERLASTING impact Mr. Biggs has had on our lives." (Editor's note: William is referring to his brother, Jon Moyet '02.)

"Mr. Biggs was the most real person to want to help us. He was always there, and not simply for the satisfaction he might have received for sponsoring and supporting two students, or for the good standing he was accorded by offering scholarships to two inner-city New York kids. The way I see it, Mr. Biggs was there for us because he had the foresight to know that by benefiting Jon and me, this support would not only make our lives better, it would plant the seeds for

us to help him improve so many other lives. He was right! Mr. Biggs spoke to us in a way that let us know we could pursue everything we wanted to accomplish.

From what I am aware, we were the first scholarship students from the Boys Club of New York (BCNY) educational program that he sponsored through full scholarship. Thereby, we have been fortunate enough to be able to inspire those around us, and those who have followed us, to do better, and to work hard in order to succeed.

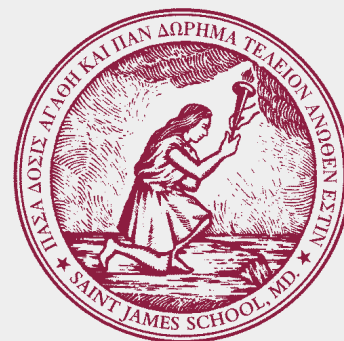
Truthfully, Mr. Biggs was a real person to me because he ALWAYS listened. He wanted to know how we (Jon and me) were feeling, and if there was anything he could do to help us better ourselves. Every summer, he arranged a lunch for the three of us to sit and enjoy each other's company. The pure happiness on his face when he saw us assured us that each of those lunches would be another one of the best days in our lives. Mr. Biggs always asked how things were going, and wanted to know how he could help.

He spoke to as if he had no doubt about our capabilities. He was right. We became two of the first students, through the BCNY educational program, and the first two in our immediate family, to graduate from four year college institutions. Mr. Biggs is the person, and the sole reason, that it was possible for me to attend and graduate from Trinity College (Hartford, CT) and for Jon to attend and graduate from New York University (New York, NY).

Mr. Biggs always helped and encouraged everyone around him. Jon and I learned from him that everyone matters.

Mr. Biggs will always continue to guide us all to make a better, more meaningful, future in the world.

*The following talk was given by Father Dunnan at a memorial service held in honor of Jeremy Biggs on February 5th, 2015 at The City Museum of New York.*



**O**n September 11, 2001, that day which we all remember, I am sure many in this company much more powerfully and personally than I do, I was standing in the student center watching those awful events on the television there. The students had called me in after the first tower was hit, so I was with them watching when the second tower was hit, realizing at that moment, as I am sure so many of you did, that this was not “an accident,” but an attack.

And then, one of the students turned to me and asked, “Isn’t that where Mr. Biggs works?”

I have never forgotten that, as it revealed to me just how deep and how personal Jeremy’s connection with us was, and I have often wondered how that student knew where he worked. Perhaps one of the Moyet brothers had told her, as they were the first of Jeremy’s “Boys’ Club boys” and were at Saint James at that time, or perhaps Jeremy had told her during one of his many informal chats with students on campus. I just don’t know.

But I do know this. I had forgotten. And it is particularly remarkable that I had forgotten, as I had often visited Jeremy in

his office, and I had in fact tried to visit him the day that the World Trade Center was first attacked. The cab had dropped me off several blocks away because of the traffic, and I had walked in to the commotion of it, only to be directed into the triage center to help with the victims because of the way I was dressed.

Later in the day, Jeremy called to invite me to dinner instead. Ever the New Yorker, he had walked down 94 flights of stairs and taken the subway home.

On 9/11, Jeremy was not in his office as we know; he was in Chicago at a client meeting, but he called school that very afternoon and spoke with Betty Barr who was serving then as our receptionist. Betty was a faculty wife who knew Jeremy when he was a student at Saint James. When I was preparing these remarks, I called her to ask what Jeremy had said. She said that she knew exactly what he said, so I quote her directly: “I can’t talk right now. I just want everybody to know that I am safe.” She also told me this: he was crying.

He called home.

There cannot be anybody in this great company tonight who was close to Jeremy, a member of his family or one of

his friends, who did not know how much he loved Saint James.

All I would like to do tonight is to point out to you how truly inspiring his love for Saint James was, and what it reveals to us about his quality as a man.

First of all, Jeremy loved Saint James because he was grateful, because unlike the vast majority of our alumni and every other school’s alumni, Jeremy was not too proud, too busy, or too important to be grateful. He never forgot what Saint James did for him academically and socially, how he was loved at Saint James by his teachers and his friends, how he became a strong student at Saint James, a leading soccer and tennis player, and a frequent actor in the Mummer’s Society’s productions. He is still remembered by his classmates, by the way, for his standout performance as Miss Preen in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*.

And being grateful, he was generous to us with his time, his talent, and his treasure, for many years before me, and then most especially in my time, when we became his great project, and he our great patron.

And yes, we needed him, but he did not need us. He got no social credit for

all that he did for us here in New York or on the Vineyard where he worked and lived. And this meant two things. Firstly, that his great generosity to us was in addition to everything that he did elsewhere, his many good and worthy causes, which he also cared about and was happy to support. It was a both/and for him, not an either/or, and we never suffered for that, and I am sure that no other cause ever suffered either. He was that generous to all of us.

Secondly, Jeremy took charge of Saint James and gave to Saint James because he knew that he could make a difference to Saint James, so his presence with us was “hands on” and “personal.” When he came to school, he always wanted to visit with the students and the faculty. His favorite thing to do was to enjoy a glass of wine with the senior faculty on Mr. Camp’s back porch after the Alumni Dinner, as he would much rather join in the conversation of a small circle of friends than preside over a great gathering of friends, acquaintances, and strangers.

In many quite wonderful ways, Jeremy carried our culture at Saint James with him into the rest of his very distinguished life. As someone whose best friend at school was a boy raised by his widowed mother on a farm in West Virginia, Jeremy was never too grand for a friendship, nor did he ever “move on,” as so many do. He cherished that friendship all his life, traveling to West Virginia in his seventies to see his friend and fellow alumnus honored at a banquet.

He also followed the model of his teachers at Saint James, taking a real interest in the young, most especially his own children of whom he was very proud, but also quite particularly those who worked for him at Fiduciary. He told me several times that you were

the reason he stayed, so that he could mentor and promote you.

He even told me to let him know when I had a good candidate for an internship at Fiduciary. When I recommended Joon Mo Ku to him, who was then an undergraduate at Bowdoin, Jeremy made it happen, and then met with him every evening he was in the office for a chat before he went home. Joon Mo tells me that he always left with a reading assignment.

This is why Jeremy encouraged me to stay at Saint James, to make a difference in the lives of our students, and why he was so happy to manage other people’s money. He cared about his clients, and he took care of them. It was never about his career or his salary or his fame; it was always about his responsibility and the good he could do.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not say personally how truly wonderful Jeremy was to me, especially when I was a new, very young and completely untested headmaster. He loved me, as he loved so many of you: personally, generously, and thoughtfully. And he supported me in all the gracious and kind, but also honest and blunt ways that a good board chair supports his head of school. Most remarkably, he was proud of me, when he really should have been proud of himself.

I can feel him behind me, even now, signaling for me to hurry up.

So, I will end with just one more story from one particular June morning some nine months after that fateful day when he called us. It was a beautiful early summer day in Maryland, Commencement Day at Saint James. The graduates processed from the chapel through the central circle to the steps of Claggett Hall, as they had for over 160 years, the boys in their white duck trousers and blue blazers, the girls in

their white dresses, their families seated on folding chairs on the front lawn, Friederike proud and elegant in the front row.

Graciously and bravely, Jeremy had agreed to be our commencement speaker, to bring New York to us. Because of what he had recently endured, his stutter was more pronounced, so he had prepared a very short speech, and the audience listened attentively to every single word. As in that last scene in *The King’s Speech* when George VI is speaking to his people at the beginning of World War Two, there was a strong sympathy between the audience and the speaker, a deep and tangible feeling of empathy and connection.

Jeremy spoke about his journey since 9/11, his grief for his colleagues lost, his pride in his colleagues remaining: “We have put our firm back together,” he told us, “and a lot of us are closer than ever, having come through this terrible period together.”

And then he said this: “I suggest that in some ways 9/11 was like December 7, 1941 for our grandparents, and maybe November 22, 1963 for your parents. It was a day when everything seemed to have changed, and indeed much has. But there are some things that need not change, like faith in God, faith in our country, faith in your family and friends, and faith in yourself. The best thing you can do in the face of new horrors will be to reaffirm these familiar faiths, and then go on with the things that Saint James has taught you to do.”

As I think about it, this is just what Jeremy did himself, which is why he loved his school so much, and why we shall miss him especially.

May he rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon him.

Amen. †

THE MUMMER'S SOCIETY PRESENTATION OF

# SAINT GEORGE AND THE DRAGON



The beloved annual performance introduces second formers into the Saint James community, and marks the beginning of Christmas break. This year's performance drew inspiration from horror movies—referencing *Frankenstein*

and *Dracula*, among others. And, recurring performances from the dragon, the hobby horse and Father Christmas did not disappoint the full house. Many alumni returned for the event.





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**SPRING  
"SEUSSICAL"  
MUSICAL**

May 22-23, 2015

Begins  
7:30 p.m.

Kellam Auditorium

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## WINTER VARIETY SHOW

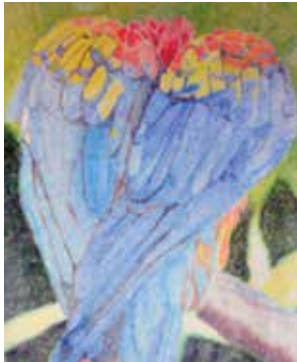


This year's Variety Show did not disappoint. As always, the choir put on a superb performance. Our student musicians played a variety of music, showing off their skills and evidencing the School's impressive music instruction. The karate students brought action drama, and several students added levity with hilarious performances. The dance performances, particularly a dance focusing on a young girl who died in a car accident, while texting, brought many in the audience to tears. A hearty congratulations to our students and their instructors for a memorable Variety Show.



## WINTER ART COLLECTION

Our art students were inspired by animals this winter. Their poignant works capture each subject in a personal way, bringing the halls of Saint James to life.



# A Sermon

## For Christmas Eve, 2014 In the Chapel of Saint James

The Revd. Dr. D. Stuart Dunnan

*“And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.” (Luke 2.18)*

### In nomine . . .

For all of us who are Christians and even for those who just have the good fortune to live in a historically Christian country like ours, the Christmas story is one that we hear from the earliest years of our childhood to the end of our lives every year.

Indeed, even the most secular American hears Christmas “songs” and probably some carols on the radio, has seen the occasional Christmas movie or watched the occasional Christmas special on t.v. My chiropractor, for instance, who is Jewish and a very nice man, told me that he loves Christmas music, and sure enough, this morning he was playing the “Christmas channel” in his office as he “adjusted” me.

And you really have to be a thorough curmudgeon to “hate” Santa Claus and one of those committed and humorless atheists to ban him from your son or daughter’s childhood. And “Santa” is of course just the modern representation of St. Nicholas, who was a remarkably brave and faithful Christian bishop who loved and defended children as the vulnerable amongst us, so someone who still reveals to us, when we pause and reflect upon the true meaning of his actual story, the abiding purposes of Christ. And yes, most don’t, but that image of a kind and

loving man inspiring us to be generous and encouraging hope in the innocent remains remarkably close to the message.

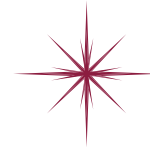
But it is now of course much more “correct” to say “happy holidays” or “season’s greetings,” even to me dressed as I am, as I walk out through the checkout line. Nonetheless, the embarrassed employee looks visibly relieved when I respond “merry Christmas,” and almost always says “merry Christmas” back, this time with eye contact and a grateful, if conspiratorial, smile. I suppose that this is the modern equivalent of the way that Christians used to greet each other in the days of the pagan Roman Empire by drawing a fish in the sand, the Greek word for “fish” being “Icthus,” the Greek letters being the first letters of “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior.”

And we all remember, do we not?, that moving scene in the Peanuts’ Christmas Special when Linus sweeps all the consumerist foolishness of our modern American celebration aside and brings us back to basics by reading the very passage from St. Luke’s gospel which I just read tonight: “And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to

them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, ‘Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.’” (Luke 2.8-11)

And so, I think, as we grow older, Christmas speaks to us in all the stages and occasions of our lives, adding layers of additional meaning to our understanding of what Christmas is about, that news that those shepherds first told to all who would hear them, that they still tell to all who will hear them now: “for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

Surely, the first level of understanding is the most important, the understanding that comes to us as children that this is good news, exciting news, transforming news which makes our world magical with loving affection and surprising generosity. Our grandparents, like the magi of old, travel to see us, or we travel to see them; the family gathers for meals, and friends and neighbors join us, and everyone is reminded to be good in all the ways that we should be good and can be good but



all too often fail to be good.

And when we are older but still young, not yet responsible but no longer quite as believing, we find ourselves still gathered at Christmas with those we love, or better love us, in ways that we perhaps have begun to take for granted with our new sense of self-importance, cleverness, and independence. And the miracle of Christmas does still speak to us, reminding us of a greater meaning, a greater purpose to our living which we have yet fully to experience because no one has given us that power yet, with its burdens and responsibilities.

But then we grow up, and we find our ways to give, especially those of you who marry and have children, but all of us now commissioned to do the work of Christmas and to perform the miracles which Christ inspires: to make our world magical for children, to commit to those we love, and to care for those who need us, even to reach beyond our immediate circles of family and friends to neighbors and strangers, to those in need at Christmas.

I always feel sorry for children who grow up in families where they are the only ones who get presents from their parents and where there are no guests at their Christmas table, or for grown men and women who still make a profit in their gift giving. I think that they are all of them missing the point, failing to perceive and thus to enjoy the magic which God intends for us to rediscover and to experience again at Christmas so that we can live the year to come that much more generously and joyfully.

And there comes a time when the beauty of Christmas really speaks to us: the beauty of its music, the good cheer of its decorations – the Christmas tree

in our living rooms, the lights on our houses, the wreaths on our doors, the bunting on our light posts. This is, I think, particularly true for Anglicans with our choral traditions at Christmas, celebrated here at Saint James: Lessons and Carols and Christmas Eve Mass. And this beauty reminds us of our ability to make our world more beautiful, not just outwardly and audibly for our eyes to see and our ears to hear, but also relationally and really: to make that extra effort, to build that better world as Christ inspires us to do in all the small ways that each of us know we can but often forget, but also in the larger ways, the more generous ways, the braver ways, the truly forgiving ways that seem at times too difficult.

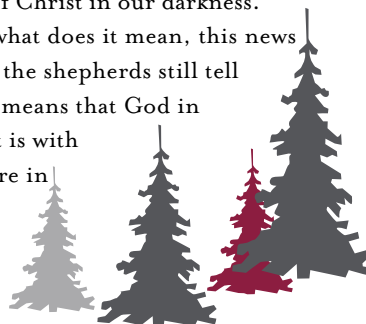
And perhaps you have had a time when you needed Christmas, but maybe also feared Christmas, resented it even, as Christmas came at a time when you felt hurt or angry, aggrieved or abandoned. Or maybe there was a time when Christmas caught you unprepared because you were too distracted by a great challenge or a terrible sadness or a debilitating loss. I have had two times in my life when I have had that kind of Christmas, and I can tell you that at both times and in both circumstances, Christmas helped, for there is a gift of perspective and a feeling of love at Christmas that does indeed shine the light of Christ in our darkness.

So what does it mean, this news which the shepherds still tell us? It means that God in Christ is with us, here in

the world, not triumphant and glorious to make our lives easy for us, but here as we are here: humble and human, in need of love and capable of giving love, revealing to us the very purposes of love. And this is how he saves us: by showing us how to live our lives, how to be brave and generous, steadfast and forgiving, bold and boundless, his miracles to perform.

For there is this truth which is revealed to us most especially at Christmas: God came to us; we did not come to him. And he came to us in great humility, as a child born to poor parents in a stable behind the inn, in our equivalent of a garage on the wrong side of Hagerstown, not to make himself more wonderful, but to make us more wonderful, as wonderful as we felt that first Christmas we could not wait for Santa and then he came, that first Christmas we were more excited about the gifts we were giving than the gifts we were receiving, that first Christmas we heard his angels in the beauty of the music which we had never really heard before, saw the light of his star in the light of a candle, and felt his presence in our time of need – not overpowering us, not saving us from hardship or forgiving us our journeys, but here with us, loving us, traveling faithfully with us, reminding us always with his redeeming purpose just how wonderful we can be.

Amen.✝





# BORDER STORIES

## Saint James Alum Reports the News from Mexico City

American playwright Arthur Miller once said, “A good newspaper, I suppose, is a nation talking to itself.” If one were to agree, then it would follow that a good journalist must reflect the truth(s) of a nation’s people. No small responsibility.

It may come as no surprise to our alumni that Saint James School has birthed its share of journalists, many of whom are affiliated with some of the nation’s most prominent newspapers and news wires, including the *Wall Street Journal* and The Associated Press. Among this accomplished group is Hagerstown native, Christopher (Chris) Sherman ’93, a tall, sanguine, self-effacing graduate who works in Mexico City as a news correspondent for the Associated Press.

We were fortunate to be able to interview Chris just five months after he joined the Mexico City bureau, relocating from McAllen, Texas, his home for nearly six years. Similar to our last two alumni profiles—author and anti-drug trafficking crusader, David Hume ’62, and communications director/political advisor, Meghan Pennington ’03, Chris is also an accomplished communicator. And, much like the journalist heroes he cites as influences, including Pulitzer Prize winners, Katherine Boo and David Finkel, Chris has not shied away from challenging assignments. The young reporter has made a name for himself investigating the drug trade and human smuggling along the U.S.-Mexico border, and, through his writing, has exposed corruption among our nation’s law enforcement officers. Here, in his own words, he provides a glimpse into his new life across the border.

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Photoillustration compiled from images by tobyotter@flickr, nationalfarmworkerministry@flickr and tm-tm@flickr

**First, congratulations on your new position with the Associated Press (AP) in Mexico. What inspired you to relocate from McAllen, Texas where you were also an AP news correspondent?**

Thank you. My goal since getting into journalism has been to work as an overseas correspondent. McAllen, on the Texas-Mexico border, was close; but, joining the Mexico City bureau is the real deal.

**How are you adjusting to your new beat and locale?**

Five months in, I'm starting to feel settled at home and in the neighborhood with all the little adventures of daily life. But, as a reporter I still feel a bit naked without many sources. I'm slowly building them as I go. But, going from being so well-connected in McAllen to "sourceless" here has been uncomfortable.

**Culturally, is this a big change from McAllen, Texas? Can you say a little about your new culture and lifestyle?**

In many respects, it has been a big change. McAllen, while growing extremely fast, still has its roots in agriculture. Also, border towns are always distinctive. You feel and see two cultures swirling into each other. With more than 20 million people in the greater Mexico City area, our new home is a completely different animal. There is so much going on, so much to explore. It is a major world capital and the cultural heart of Latin America. The city is a behemoth, but the neighborhoods are very manageable. One thing I'm really enjoying is the 35-minute walk to work every day. In Texas, I was always in my car. Here, I might go a couple weeks without driving.

—Journalism can never be silent: that is its greatest virtue and its greatest fault. It must speak, and speak immediately, while the echoes of wonder, the claims of triumph and the signs of horror are still in the air."

—Henry Anatole Grunwald

**What parts of Mexico (geographically) do you cover in your journalism?**

We don't formally divvy up the country geographically, but in the five months I've been here I have done most of my reporting in the southern state of Guerrero. It is a beautiful state of steep mountains and golden-sand beaches (home to Acapulco). But, it is also one of Mexico's poorest and most violent states. On September 26th, just a few days before I started my new post, 43 students from a rural teacher's college disappeared in what the federal government has attributed to a collaboration between the local mayor and a drug cartel. Additionally, I expect to continue covering the northeastern state of Tamaulipas, which I know from my years covering that stretch of border from Texas. I also hope to work in other parts of Mexico I have not visited yet.

**What do you hope to accomplish in your new position?**

I want to continue telling stories about Mexico for an audience that doesn't live here. Our countries are inextricably linked and only through a better understanding on both sides is that relationship going to improve. You don't have to look far for examples. The ongoing debate about immigration reform and border security in the U.S. has tremendous consequences in Mexico. Also, our country's incredible appetite for drugs is reflected in not only the current heroin epidemic in the U.S., but the brutal violence unleashed in so many parts of Mexico, including Guerrero where they grow opium poppies.

**You've covered drug trafficking and human smuggling along the U.S.-Mexico border, immigration issues, the impacts of natural disasters and organized crime. Did graduate school (University of Maryland's Philip Merrill College of Journalism) prepare you to work in hostile environments and on highly controversial issues? How have you adapted to this?**

I learned the basics about reporting and writing in journalism school and got some practical experience reporting in the capitol in Annapolis through the School's news service. It's also an excellent environment for debating topics such as ethics and some of the thornier questions in the business. But navigating difficult issues or inhospitable conditions is something you learn on the job. That can range from knocking on the door of a family you know just lost a child to seeing a dozen cartel gunmen hop out of vehicles with assault rifles. The AP also sent me to a week-long hostile environment training, which was helpful. You just learn to pay attention to your surroundings and try to be prepared.

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Chris Sherman inside the news bureau in Mexico City.

**What are some of the kinds of hazards you confront in your work?**

The daily one is accuracy. We've been given a great responsibility and getting something wrong is like a punch in the gut. Additionally, we do our best to mitigate risks to personal safety and the safety of our sources. In hostile areas, our sources who stay behind and continue on with their lives are always more vulnerable than we are.

**Have you ever received any backlash from your stories?**

Oh sure. Nothing specific comes to mind. But I have certainly been on the receiving end of some rants, as well as some very thoughtful critiques of my work. Local politics in suburban Florida has probably been the touchiest arena. But, it's nice to be reminded that people care so passionately about things. It's a sign of a healthy democracy.

**What issues are most important to you and why? And/or, what interests you about the issues you cover; and, why are they important to you, and to your readership?**

Telling the stories of people at the margins whether due to geography, poverty or bias is important to me. These are the people who have fewer resources to work the system, and thus, less of a voice. But, they're often the ones who feel the impact of government decisions most acutely. I try to highlight elements—emotions, aspirations, struggles—common to individuals, even if the context in which they find themselves living is very different. As a reader, that's how I relate to someone living a reality far different from my own.

**What do you love most about your work? What do you find most rewarding?**

I'm a naturally curious person. So, having the license to dig into things and get paid for doing it is a thrill. The reward is seeing some small impact from your work, whether it's just hearing from a reader who has a new understanding of a subject, or actually seeing a shift in someone's actions or policy. I get to meet a rich array of people and learn about their lives.

**Is there an article or articles that you are most proud of? Why?**

I felt good about our coverage last year of the surge in unaccompanied child immigrants crossing the Texas-Mexico border. Drawing on the geographic breadth of the AP, we were able to explain what was happening from the points of origin in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador to the dangers of human smuggling through Mexico to the U.S. government's response once the immigrants crossed into Texas. My experience on the border enabled me to provide some valuable context to a public discussion that quickly turned overheated and hyperbolic.

**When did you know you wanted to become a journalist? What inspired this career choice?**

It's almost embarrassing now to think how long it took me to figure it out. I was already a couple years out of college and still fishing around for what I wanted to do. I loved newspapers and always turned first to international stories. I travelled whenever possible. After a year studying in Spain, and another year working in Argentina, I was smitten with living abroad. I wanted to gain a deeper understanding that only comes from living in a place. I enjoyed trying to explain these places to family and friends. It just took me awhile to



Chris Sherman near Falfurrias, Texas investigating a story about immigrants with the local sheriff and rancher.



Chris Sherman visits Finca Bellavista in Costa Rica (owned by Matt Hogan '92 who was profiled in the fall 2013 *Review*).

put everything together and to see that journalism was the right path.

**You worked as a reporter for the *Orlando Sentinel* for five years, covering local politics. What drove you to pursue a job in Texas working for the Associated Press? And, how is it different working for a news wire versus a specific paper?**

The *Orlando Sentinel* was a great place to learn the business. I had some excellent editors and colleagues. But my goal was to work overseas. It was a difficult period for newspapers economically. Many were cutting their overseas coverage and growing more dependent on the AP. In the AP, I saw one of the biggest, most trusted news organizations in the world, and a way to get where I wanted to go. The AP has bureaus and correspondents throughout the world. A post on the

Texas-Mexico border seemed like an intermediate step; and, I knew that with the increasing attention on immigration and border security, it would be a good place to spend a few years. In terms of comparing the two, the nuts and bolts of the reporting are the same for a newspaper and a wire. Newspapers were already starting to post stories on their websites as soon as they were ready, rather than waiting for the next morning's paper. That sort of get-it-out-fast (and accurate) style was what AP had always been doing. At the AP, my stories have far wider distribution. The tradeoff I see is that I don't have as close of a relationship with my readers as I did in Orlando. That's just the nature of the wire. I don't know where my stories will end up from one day to the next. Twitter has been helpful in allowing for more interaction with readers.

**What has been the most outlandish story you've ever reported?**

I remember one in Orlando where a man put a classified ad in the paper seeking a surgeon for a procedure on his kidney. He was uninsured, poor and in terrible health. After the initial story ran, several doctors stepped forward to help him. But, in the end, he didn't follow through and died a couple months later. [http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2006-08-19/news/AD19\\_I\\_L\\_flynn-medicaid-hester](http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2006-08-19/news/AD19_I_L_flynn-medicaid-hester)

**Have you ever followed a story only to find out that it's a hoax?**

Fortunately, I haven't gone so far as to publish a hoax, but I've reported things out far enough to discover what they were.

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**When you are writing a story, do you have a certain process you use?**

My process has evolved over the years and I'm always curious to hear how other journalists work just to see if there's something I might learn. Daily, spot stories are one thing. By necessity they need to come together quickly and are usually written and continuously updated on the fly as new information becomes available. But, for longer-term pieces, where reporting takes place over a period of days or weeks, I generally like to get all of my interviews and supporting information in one file and then highlight the quotes and facts I want to use. I like to identify the first quote for the story and the last. I start trying to arrange everything into a structure, a rough outline. Then, I set to work on crafting the top, and everything follows from there. Many edits follow.

**While you were at Saint James did you see yourself where you are today?**

No, I had no idea.

**How did Saint James prepare (or not prepare) you for a job in journalism?**

The clearest line I can draw is from the Spanish classes I took with the late Mike Anders, aka "Don Miguel." I took four years of Spanish at Saint James and continued in college, finishing with it as part of a double major. I would not have

been hired for my first job with the AP, or probably by the *Orlando Sentinel*, if I did not speak Spanish. I certainly wouldn't be working here in Mexico now. Beyond that, Saint James is where I learned to write and think critically, both of which serve me well today.

**Could you share a favorite Saint James moment, or a memorable experience?**

I spent five years at Saint James, so it's difficult to choose one. I have a lot of good memories stemming from the camaraderie and competition I found on various athletic teams.

**What is something that most people wouldn't know about you?**

I like to cook almost as much as I like to eat.

**If you could say one thing to a current SJS student considering a job in journalism, what would it be?**

Follow whatever your interests are. The best journalists aren't necessarily the ones focused on being journalists from day one. The more diverse the interests and experiences of its practitioners are, the better the journalism.

**What do you enjoy doing for fun?**

Travelling, even if it's just exploring a corner of my neighborhood I haven't visited yet.

**Do you have a favorite style of music, or musicians?**

My musical tastes are all over the place, which has served me well on long road trips with an international assortment of colleagues.

**Who are some of your favorite authors or journalists? Who are some of your greatest influences?**

Journalists. There are so many, but here are a few: David Finkel of the *Washington*

*Post*—anything he's written for the paper, as well as his books, including "The Good Soldiers" and "Thank You for Your Service;" Adrian Nicole LeBlanc, especially her book, "Random Family;" Katherine Boo, from her days with the *Washington Post* through *The New Yorker*, and her book, "Behind the Beautiful Forevers;" and, the late globe-trotting, Ryszard Kapuściński.

**Can you share a few things (hobbies, interests, pursuits, causes...) you are passionate about?**

I like to read, travel and cook. I'm just beginning to explore my new hometown of Mexico City, which has more nooks and crannies than I could see in a lifetime.

**Where did you grow up? Do you have any brothers and sisters?**

I grew up in Hagerstown and I have one sister, Jennifer Langman, class of '96. †

**AND NOW, FOR A FEW FINAL, DARING QUESTIONS:**

**SLOTH OR PUMA?**

Sloth. What's the hurry?

**FAVORITE ANIMAL?**

I had a golden retriever named MacGyver back in high school.

**SALTY OR SWEET?**

Salty.

**FAVORITE DESTINATION?**

The next one.

**VIEWS ON REALITY TELEVISION AND/OR MEXICAN SOAP OPERAS.**

Still looking for my telenovela. Suggestions?



The Shermans dedicated the Admissions Office in their family's name (and in their dog, MacGyver's name).

# WINTER ATHLETICS AWARDS

Please join us in congratulating the following student athletes for an exceptional season.

## Basketball

**Justin Robinson:** Player of the Year (Hagerstown Herald-Mail); All IPSL and All MAC; First Team All-County; Sportsmanship/MVP (Big Apple Classic); Maryland Gatorade Player of the Year

**Omar Habwe:** All IPSL and All MAC; First Team All-County

**Caleb Goodie:** Microsoft Student/Athlete Award

**Coach Dan Prete:** Microsoft Coaches Award

## Wrestling

**Tucker Almany:** All MAC, All IPSL

**Levi Schindel:** All MAC, All IPSL

**Henry Meehan:** All MAC

**Gavin Smoot:** All MAC

**Lukas Pank:** All IPSL

**Ian Treger:** All IPSL

**Sean Tolton:** All IPSL



Justin Robinson



Omar Habwe



Caleb Goodie



Coach Dan Prete



Tucker Almany



Levi Schindel



Henry Meehan



Gavin Smoot



Lukas Pank



Ian Treger



Sean Tolton



## Basketball Great Justin Robinson Named "Gatorade Player of the Year"

On March 19th, point guard Justin Robinson (sixth form) was named the Maryland "Gatorade Player of the Year." Justin is one of only 50 winners—one per state—to win this coveted award.

Criteria include level of play, academics, accomplishments and citizenship. The young player averaged 22.2 points and 7.8 assists per game, leading Saint James to the Mid-Atlantic Conference Semifinals. He shot 53 percent from the floor. He also scored his 1,000th career point during his senior season.

"This is an incredible, highly prestigious award," said Coach Dan Prete. "It's not only an acknowledgment of Justin's talent on the court, it also recognizes what a caring and well-rounded individual he is. This is a big moment for Justin, and for the School," he continued.

Coaches from all teams nominate the players, making it an especially notable award for the player. Next fall, Justin will play for Virginia Tech.

### READ MORE

USA Today: <http://usatodayhss.com/2015/maryland-boys-basketball-poy-justin-robinson>

247 Sports: <http://virginiatech.247sports.com/Bolt/Virginia-Tech-BBall-Signee-Wins-Gatorade-POY-36270970>



Please note: JV and Junior Sports Summaries are available on the website

# JUSTIN ROBINSON MAKES HISTORY AND RECONNECTS WITH A MENTOR

**F**ourteen trophies line a special display case in Alumni Hall. Each award represents student athletes whose exceptional talents on the basketball court earned them 1,000 points over the course of their varsity high school careers. On Wednesday, February 18th, during the Saints varsity boys' basketball game against Sidwell Friends School, Justin Robinson brought home a trophy of his own, adding his own legacy to this display that marks the School's distinguished basketball history.

"I knew how many points I needed," said Justin, "but didn't realize I hit 1,000 until we were hitting free throws. Our assistant coach, Don Shopland was holding a sign with the number 1,005. That's when it settled in."

According to Coach Dan Prete, "He accomplished most of his points in two years where most players would take four years. That's pretty special."

There was a second surprise for Justin that same evening. Mrs. May Domingues, a long-time mentor to the young player, showed up with her foster children to cheer Justin to victory. Mrs. Domingues worked as a teacher's aide at Parkside Middle School in Manassas, VA, where she met Justin. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she found kids who needed mentoring and helped guide them.

"I would go to her for help in my classes. She knew everything about every subject, and every aspect of life," said the sixth former. "She taught me a lot about the meaning of life and about God. Last



Robinson hugs his mentor, May Domingues, at his record-setting game against Sidwell Friends School.

night was the first time she's seen me play in high school, and the first time she met my mom and dad. It was an incredible night," continued Justin.

"I remember watching Justin play in the middle school gym and thinking to myself, 'that kid is going places.' Justin

was always very humble and had a great sense of humor," said Mrs. Domingues. "He also got along with everyone in school. As he has grown, he has remained centered in who he is."

After the game, Justin had the opportunity to return the favor by doing some mentoring of his own. Two of Mrs. Domingues' children are playing basketball. "They asked me questions about being nervous and asked for guidance about playing," said Justin. "It was surprising and touching to be able to mentor these kids in the same way I was once mentored."

The two plan to continue to stay in touch. According to Justin, his mentor and his parents are talking about carpooling to his games at Virginia Tech. †

## THE SAINT JAMES 1,000 POINT BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

Justin Robinson '15	1,048
Obinna Enechionya '14	1,450
Avery Wilmore '12	1,156
Heather Lowery '08	1,090
Mike Russ '06	1,750
Jared Knotts '02	1,438
Billy Keyes '01	1,136
Phillip Scott '01	1,022
Larry Scott '99	1,254
Javan Steadham '94	1,092
Mike Pitts '94	1,411
Sam Short '92	1,628
Eric Bryant '89	1,039
Don Anderson '78	1,850



## VARSITY BOYS' BASKETBALL

### **Coach Dan Prete**

**MVP:** Justin Robinson

**MIP:** Jordan Bartlett

**Coaches' Award:** Caleb Goodie

### *Junior Varsity Boys' Basketball Award Winners*

**MVP:** Myles Nicholson

**MIP:** Timmy Awofiranye

**Coaches' Award:** Daisuke Negishi

### *Junior Boys' Basketball Award Winners*

**MVP:** Spencer McNamee

**MIP:** Guillermo Gomez

**Coaches' Award:** Elliott Lyles



The varsity boys' basketball team finished the season with an 18-9 record. The Saints were led by two outstanding sixth form students, **Justin Robinson** and **Caleb Goodie**. The team had to overcome many injuries and illnesses to be able to compete, particularly while confronted with one of the toughest school schedules in recent history.

The MAC and IPSL have been extremely competitive over the past few years.



Outside of the conferences, the team played some of the top teams in the state, region and even the nation. Trips to major events, including the Nike National High School Hoopfest, Hoodies House for Hope, IAC/MAC Challenge and the Big Apple Classic were all very exciting and rewarding events for the team.

The Saints finished first in the IPSL regular season and second in the MAC regular season. The Saints had many outstanding performances along the way. Justin Robinson and **Omar Habwe** (third form) were named First Team All-Conference in the MAC and IPSL. They were both also named First Team All County in the *Herald Mail* newspaper. And, that same newspaper named Justin Robinson the region's Player of the Year. This is the second year in a row that a Saint James player has been named Player of the Year (13/14 Obi Enechionya,



Temple; 14/15 Justin Robinson, Virginia Tech).

This group of Saints did a wonderful job representing the School. The team worked for the Hoodies House for Hope non-profit while in North Carolina. They participated in soup and clothing distribution lines at Hoodies House,

which is one of the leading homeless shelters in the state. While in New York City, Justin Robinson won the Sportsmanship/MVP for the Big Apple Classic; Caleb Goodie won the Microsoft Student/Athlete Award; and, Coach Dan Prete won the Microsoft Coaches Award.

The team will look to the future with six returning players next season. They are very excited for the future. On behalf of the team, we have really appreciated the fantastic and highly supportive Saint James community.

## VARSITY GIRLS' BASKETBALL

### **Coach Nate Naylor**

**MVP:** Christa Bartlett

**MIP:** Joelle Schultz

**Coaches' Award:** Leanne Ludwick

### *Junior Varsity Girls' Basketball Award Winners*

**MVP:** Lilly Noel

**MIP:** Maddie Sappenfield

**Coaches' Award:** Naydia Rowe



This basketball season began with new coaches, new philosophies, and a young team that did not know what to expect from the season. However, the coaches set a goal—one that was met, and then exceeded.

The team included many talented athletes. Even so, the beginning of the season was a learning experience for the Saints. Facing some of the more competitive teams early in the season gave the girls a 1-8 record going into Christmas break. For a normal team, this might have been seen as an omen for the rest of the season. However, this special group of young athletes did not let the early losses determine their fate. They came back from the break with renewed energy and competitive spirit. From this time forward,

the coaches noticed a new demeanor. The team members began learning new concepts faster, playing harder, and communicating with each other far better. This shift marked the beginning of their 10-0 winning streak. Despite a few injuries, the Saints continued their winning streak.

Every player improved during the season. Some gained self-confidence, while others learned to make good plays. The team adopted the motto, "Onto the Next," and never worried about the last play. This is what kept our momentum, leaving us with an 11-8 record for the 2014-2015 basketball season. We are sad to say goodbye to our

sixth formers, but are eager to see what next season has in store.

With this team, it was hard for the coaching staff to determine which players deserved awards because every player has been so important to our success. After much consideration, we felt that our Most Improved Player Award should go to **Joelle Schultz**



(third form). She didn't know much about the sport at the beginning of the season; but, with a lot of hard work, she became a player the team relied upon. The Coaches' Award went to fifth former, **Leanne Ludwick**. She never seemed to have a bad day, and did everything the coaching staff asked of her. The Most Valuable Player Award was given to **Christa Bartlett** (second form). She was asked to be the general and to run the offense as a second former. At times, the coaches asked a lot of her; and, she delivered. Although the coaches could only give three awards, every player on this team was valuable.

# VARSITY WRESTLING

## Coach Steve Lachut

**MVP:** Tucker Almany

**MIP:** Sean Tolton

**Coaches' Award:** Henry Meehan

## Junior Varsity Wrestling Award Winners

**MVP:** Noel Patterson

**MIP:** Ben Herrera

**Coaches' Award:** Andrew Shen



The Saint James varsity wrestling team had an unclear outlook to begin the season. With only five returning wrestlers with significant varsity match experience, and a litany of first-year wrestlers, no one was sure what to expect. This relatively inexperienced team had a rough beginning. However, with hard work and a commitment to detail, the Saints were able to accomplish some impressive feats this year.

The Saints ended with a 14-7 record for the year. Fourteen wins are the most in Coach Lachut's four years as head coach. The highlight of the dual meet season was a 42-27 win over Mercersburg Academy that allowed the Saints to capture their second straight IPSL Championship, the team's third title in four years. Many wrestlers put in solid performances during this match; but, **Tiger Hao** (fourth form) secured the victory with a big pin in one of the last matches of the night.

Several wrestlers earned individual accolades this season. Four Saints won their respective weight class

at the MAC Championship: Fourth former, **Tucker Almany**, 126 pounds (his second title); Fifth former, **Levi Schindel**, 138 pounds; Sixth former, **Henry Meehan**, 182 pounds; and, third former, **Gavin Smoot**, 220 pounds. These champions helped the team earn a second place finish in the MAC this year.

Leading the way this season were Tucker Almany with a record of 29-7, Gavin Smoot with a record of 24-7, Levi Schindel with a record of 22-11, and **Paul Jin** (fifth form) with a record of 21-14. Finishing with .500 or better were **Lukas Pank** (fifth form), **Tiger Hao**, **Grant Tribble** (sixth form), **Sean Tolton** (sixth form) and Henry Meehan.

This year's captains **Ian Treger** (sixth form), Henry Meehan, Tucker Almany and Levi Schindel, did an excellent job leading with their hard work and enthusiasm. With a core of wrestlers returning, and a great deal of JV talent moving up, the 2015-2016 squad could be one of the best in recent years.

## SAINT JAMES HIRES FORMER SOCCER PRO TO COACH VARSITY TEAM

Many in the Saint James community know Patrick Matthyssens as the limousine driver who shuttles students to and from area airports. For three years, since founding his own business, Time Advantage LLC Limousine & Sedan Transportation, the affable Belgian native has become a Saint James School institution, and a friend to many. As it happens, there is more to this business owner than meets the eye.

Matthyssens, who moved to the U.S. in 1983, is a native of Antwerp, Belgium. He worked as a marketing consultant for many years. But, one of his greatest loves is soccer.

The entrepreneur has played the sport since the age of five. At age 17, he was so proficient that he joined the Belgian Pro League—the top competitive league for association football (soccer) clubs in the country. He played for four years until a knee injury ended his professional career.

Since that time, the former pro athlete has channeled his love for the sport into coaching. He has coached at the Naval Academy and at the Delaware Military Academy, and has also volunteered for camps and recreational leagues.

Beginning next fall, he will take over as head coach for the varsity boys' soccer team. "I really like the atmosphere of Saint James," he said. "Father Dunnan and I have had many great conversations, and it was he who told me about this opportunity."

Matthyssens has also gotten to know many students and feels a calling to "give back" and to share much of what he learned on the soccer field. When asked about his coaching philosophy, he responded, "I look at life as a soccer game. All players must work together to be successful. I believe in team work. No position is more valuable than another. From the water boy to the forward, everyone is important and everyone is equal."

# JONATHAN PELLISH '00 INSPIRES STUDENTS TO REACH FOR THE SKY

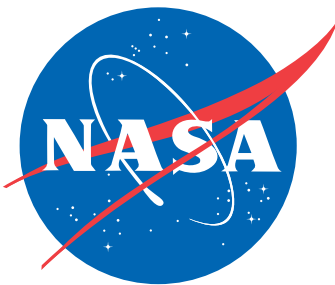
By Widad Khokhar, Fourth Form

This winter, Saint James alumnus, Dr. Jonathan (Jon) Pellish '00 visited campus to speak with Saint James students about his incredible job. Mr. Pellish works as an associate head at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD (Washington, DC metropolitan area). He works in the Flight Data Systems and Radiation Effects Branch, which, according to NASA, "provides technical expertise in the areas of flight data systems engineering; radiation hardness assurance engineering; discipline engineering expertise; and technology development."

Jon's work as an electrical engineer includes verifying that the space crafts and instruments the Goddard Space Center produces will withstand the radiation in space. He has been involved with more than five successful missions. He also mentors interns in the Pathways Internship Program, who are simultaneously students and federal employees for NASA.

"Getting to see our interns advance in their academic careers while also working, and developing into engineers we will hopefully hire, is very gratifying," according to the alumnus. Pellish noted that his workplace is comprised of the world's leading experts in their fields, and compares his office to a professional research university. He said, "Almost every minute of every day is different and educational. I never wake up dreading to go to work."

Jon's road to NASA began as a



student at Vanderbilt University where he received a B.S. degree in physics and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering. He credits elements of his success in the field of science to his time as a Saint James student.

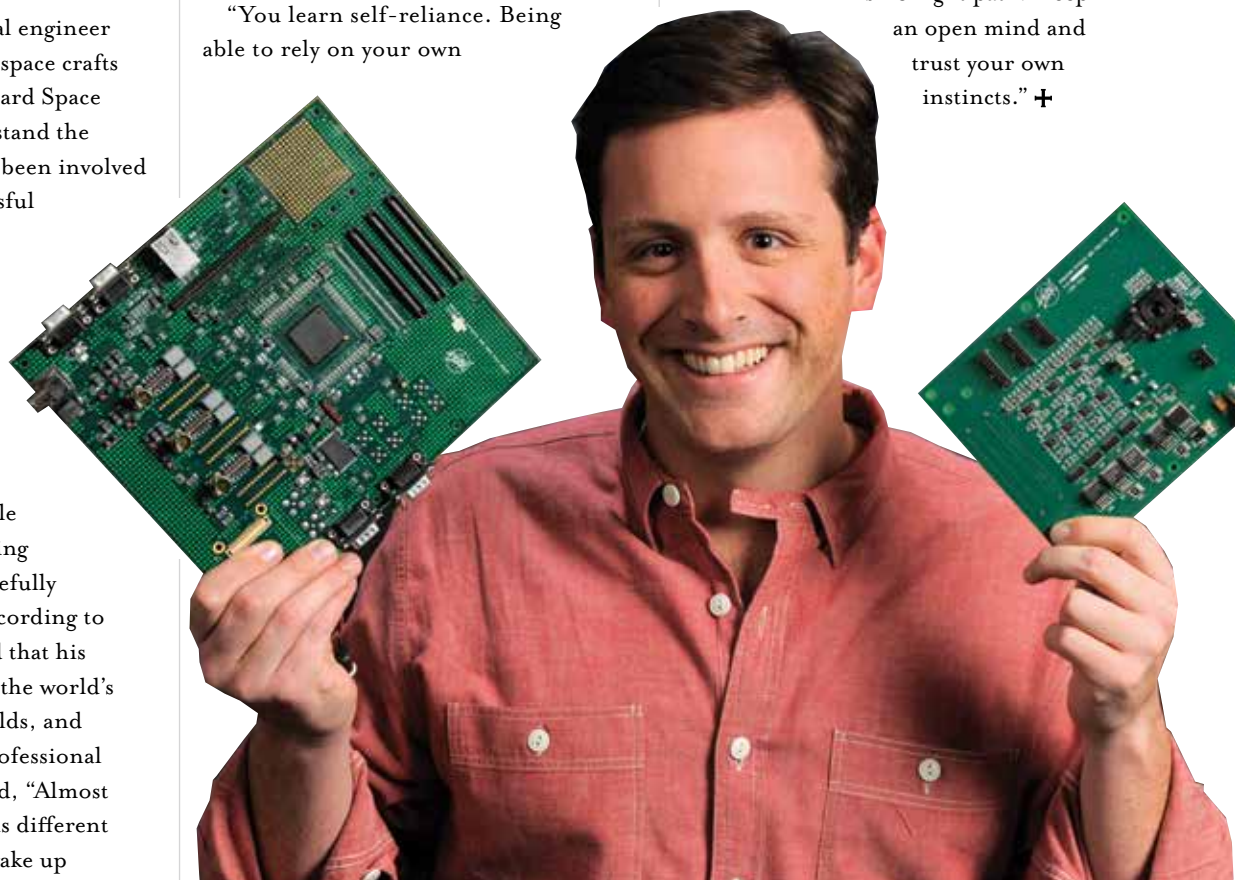
"You learn self-reliance. Being able to rely on your own

abilities serves you well in college, graduate school, in your professional life, and as a person," he said.

His favorite memory of Saint James comes from his time as a sixth form student—playing bridge during study hall, or after lights out. He says his favorite part was, "the conversations we had while playing cards. Playing bridge was an excuse to get together and spend time getting to know each other."

He also has advice for sixth form students considering his field of study:

"There are many different ways to get to a particular objective. There is no right path. Keep an open mind and trust your own instincts." ✦



Goddard technologist Jonathan Pellish holds a Goddard-developed digital test board and a specially developed card containing an analog-based data-processing integrated circuit. The devices were used to test spaceflight processing applications.

## Ishin Ueyama '06 Visits Campus



Ishin Ueyama is pictured with Father Dunnan.

Ishin Ueyama '06 visited campus several months ago to connect with old friends and to update Father Dunnan on his current whereabouts. The alumnus is working as an Automotive Sensors Application Engineer for TE Connectivity in Detroit, MI. For the past three years, he has worked to develop sensors (small computer devices) for a variety of automotive manufacturers. From blind spot monitors to oxygen sensors to tire

pressure monitors, sensors have become vital technologies in cars today. Ishin is passionate about his love for technology and for cars. "I always imagined doing this work—even as a student at Saint James," he said. "I'm proof that if you really envision a career for yourself and study hard, you can do it." The grad also reminisced about his favorite Saint James memory—"That would be playing cards with my friends after lights out," he smiled.



Campus buildings are aglow at night, warming even the darkest winter nights.

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### 2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT UPDATE

We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of our Annual Report. However, sometimes omissions and mistakes do occur. We apologize to the families for the omissions/errors noted:

**Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Allen '67** were omitted in the Gifts by Alumni section of the Annual Report. Recognition of their gift should have appeared in the gifts from the Class of 1967 section and their name should have appeared with an asterisk next to it designating five or more consecutive years of giving.

**Mr. Stephen C. Allerton '70** made a gift in honor of **Mr. Lindsay Steward, III '70**. This honorary contribution was omitted and should have appeared in the Honorary and Memorial Contributions section of the Annual Report.

**Mr. and Mrs. David R. Finn '85** were omitted in the Annual Fund Gift and Recognition Clubs section of the Annual Report. They should have appeared as members of The Headmaster's Circle. Their gift was made in memory of **Mr. John E. Stonebraker, IV '82**.

**Mr. and Mrs. John M. Robb, III '98** have donated to the Annual Fund for more than five consecutive years and an asterisk should have appeared next to their name.

## CLASS NOTES

### 1948

**Thomas B. Whitbread** is still teaching English full-time at the University of Texas. He loves inspiring students with imagination to understand, dream from, and be exalted by, great poems. Several eye surgeries have helped restore his vision and he now sees very well.

### 1949

**Eugene L. Binda** and his wife, Lois began a new chapter in their lives. They have moved to Sunrise, FL from Cape Cod, MA. They are near their daughter, Joanne and her family. The couple has two great grandsons, Timothy and James, and a great grandson. They are thankful for their many blessings during their 64 years of marriage.

### 1950

**Jack Efir** has spent much of the last 30 years traveling the world. In 2013, he and his wife moved to Texas to be close to their family because of his wife's medical condition. Jack resumed his travels with a Danube River cruise in 2014 and has visited 91 countries.

### 1956

**Peter Shields** and his wife, Grace have five children and seven grandchildren. He is now retired after 45 years in consumer product marketing at Procter and Gamble. They recently moved to Madison, WI.

### 1960

At present, there are seven members of the Class who have indicated they plan to attend the 55th reunion and three "maybes"—quite a showing for such a small group that set out into the world those many years ago.

Unfortunately we lost one of our brightest and most fun-loving classmates this past year when **Richard Wagner, Jr.** passed away on February 16, 2015. After graduating from Saint James Cum Laude, Rick went on to get his B.A. in Economics from the University of Cincinnati. In addition to a 45-year career in commercial insurance, Rick served on the Saint James Board of Trustees for six years. He also volunteered on many boards in the Cincinnati area. Our deepest sympathies got out to his wonderful wife, Barbara and their family.

On a more cheerful note **Bill Allison** continues to serve on the Jim Thorpe Board of Education and has published a video tour of his home town which can be found at [jimthorpehistorytour.com](http://jimthorpehistorytour.com). He currently is working on his second book, a historical novel for young adults that is about an 1880's New England apprentice. Just to make it a bit more challenging, he is writing much of the book in Elizabethan English.

**Jim Blachely** and wife are enjoying their eleven grandchildren as they plan another cross country car trip this summer to visit some of his ancestral roots in Colorado.

**Pete Clements** has finally given up his Florida roots as he and Wendy have moved to Rabun Gap, GA to be closer to some of their children and their eight grandchildren. He has already gotten a promotion at the local Home Depot. He sees quite a bit of several of his classmates during the year, and promises to regale us all with grand tales of flying circles around the North Pole for the United States Air Force during the Cold War at our 55th Reunion.

**Bob Kay** is still very involved in the investment world, and continues to pursue his love of golf. (We're not sure which one is financing the other.) He and **Mons King** see quite a bit of each other and enjoy playing in different tournaments together up and down the east coast. Unfortunately his son was transferred by the United States Air Force to Los Vegas, NV. So, seeing his all-star grandson play ball is a bit more difficult than it was when they lived in MD. But, he has made the trip west on two occasions.

**Mons King** is still working as an area representative for the company he once owned. He still manages to sneak away with **Bob Kay** for a few rounds of golf. (It depends on who you are talking to as to who is the payee or the payer.) He also continues to help with TV broadcasts of the U.S. Open and the Tour of Champions at East Lake, Atlanta, GA.

**Archie Michael** and wife Carol are enjoying retirement. When they are not watching one of their six grandchildren playing sports, they can be found relaxing on the beach at their house in Ocean City, MD. This past winter, while everyone else on the east coast was fighting the

# CLASS NOTES



Fred Hunt '66 working for the volunteer Campus Improvement Squad (CIS).

bitter cold and many feet of snow, they had the foresight to serpentine their way across Florida while using up some of their time shares.

Unfortunately, **Don Nichols** fell and broke his arm. The up side is that, with a titanium plate and several screws in his repaired arm, he now claims to be the bionic man we all knew he was. “Sparky” continues to work in his shop until all hours of the night and loves playing with his ham radio. During the 1960’s, this MIT grad helped the United States Navy develop a simulator for their aircraft carrier-based light attack jet, the A7A, which left him wanting one of his own.

Guess what he is doing in his garage now?

**Clinton Pitts** is still active in the horse racing world, stewarding at some steeplechase race meetings. He again spent some time with **Doug Fout** '77 at Saratoga. He’s continuing to run his crab picking business and is helping clean up the Chesapeake Bay by aqua farming about a million oysters a year. When he is not on the eastern shore of VA, he can be found plowing some of the 8 feet of snow they have had in Maine this winter, and working on his tinsmithing for the Shaker Village Museums.

**Henry Satterwaite** is still doing consulting work in the tech industry which takes him to India and Europe several times a year. He also serves as chairman of a homeless shelter for men in Connecticut, which provides food, clothing and medical attention through volunteers. He is an avid NASCAR fan. He and his wife enjoy spending time with their nine grandchildren and vacationing on the Jersey shore.

**George Reinhart** continues to enjoy retirement. He and wife Doris have settled in nicely at their new residence on Sea Brook Island, SC. As a member of the Board of Trustees, and with two granddaughters at Saint James, he is seen around campus quite often. One granddaughter is a sixth form student, captain of the lacrosse team, prefect, and senior marshal. She will attend Elon in the fall. The second, a fifth former, plays goalie for the lacrosse and field hockey teams.

**Luddy Sells** continues the unenviable job of leading our Board of Trustees as well as continuing his job at the Leesburg, VA office of Wells Fargo Advisors. He and wife, Brianne got a well-deserved respite from the winter

weather when they took a National Historic Trust cruise from Cartagena, Columbia through the Panama Canal to Costa Rica.

**Sandy Shaw** has cut back his work load at Mid-Maryland Rentals and turned the bulk of the responsibilities over to “Little Sandy” in his attempt to retire. He says this is working out rather well as he can now get better tee times with his Bel Air buddy, Archie.

**Cliff Sheppard** and his fishing team are looking forward to their 40th year of competing in the Cape Hatteras and Nags Head Tournaments this fall. Other than that, he is doing the same thing he was when he showed up at Saint James—working on his favorite car.

**Toby Young** is retired from a career in banking. He enjoys playing lots of tennis and bridge in New Orleans.

*continued on pg. 46* ▶

► class notes (continued from pg. 45)

## CLASS NOTES

### 1966

Memories from **Fred Hunt**: “In 1966, Saint James implemented some structural improvements, and the grounds needed some upgrading too. So, a small group of us volunteered to use our athletic periods to be the Campus Improvement Squad (CIS). This picture shows me while planting the now-large pine trees around the campus entry near the gym. The girth of those trees has expanded significantly in 48 years... and so has my own. The CIS also got creative. We laid out and built a golf pitch and putt course around the Bai Yuka, for example. None of us knew the first thing about golf, so the shots were impractical or impossible ... such as from behind what is now the Headmaster’s House, barely across the lake to a green by the little bridge to the island...and another that was a semi-circle route over to the train track and back. There was also a green half-way up the hill near the spring house. I don’t think it was ever playable, but it looked nice to non-golfers. I think we posed a few times with golf clubs in order to give the impression that Saint James had a golf course. I suspect there are still a few level, mysterious flat-top areas that were our greens. Tearing down the old chapel was another project. We

also buried a few “historical artifacts” (cement slabs with messages carved in) during projects around campus. Some future archaeologist will be totally confused.”

### 1971

**Thomas M. Bruggman, Ph.D.** and his wife, Julie have a son named Twill who turned 10 in February. He has enjoyed championship lacrosse since the age of five. Twill is looking forward to varsity lacrosse at Saint James. The Saint James team was established nearly 50 years ago with the help of this alumnus.

### 1972

**Will Anderson** has nine children (seven boys and two girls). All are flourishing in various fields.

### 1973

**James McCannless II** and his wife, Betty have a second granddaughter who lives in Louisville, KY.

### 1998

**Mr. John M. Robb, III** is a partner in the law firm of LeClairRyan. He was recognized as the 2015 recipient of the John C. Kenny Pro Bono Award by the Richmond Bar Association.

### 2001

**Andrew Richwine** and his wife, Frida welcomed their first child, Ethan on November 5th.

### 2002

**John R. Clark, IV** graduated from the University of North Carolina’s Kenan-Flagler Business School with an MBA degree. He began working in Washington, DC in 2014 at Tandem Legal Group as a business advisor.

**Thomas “Tommy” Syverson** says that Hawaii is great. It’s hard to complain living in paradise. Life on the island has been a big adjustment, professionally, given how business is conducted. He is working at the University of Hawaii Cancer Center as a coordinator for cancer trials. His wife, Jo-Anna is working at HMSA, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Hawaii, as a project manager for pharmacy benefits. Tommy has been a practicing Hawaii Realtor

for several years. He is also head coach of a high school boys’ lacrosse team with the Honolulu Lacrosse Club.

### 2005

**John Richwine** and his wife, Alicia are now in Great Falls, MD.

### 2006

**Mike Siegel** shared a touching story about classmate, **Shannon Strange**. Shannon works as a Washington, DC police officer. His quick-thinking and actions saved the life of a 9-year-old boy who was shot in the head last year. Shannon cradled the young boy following the shooting and drove him to the hospital in his police car, likely saving his life. The brave officer was honored at a reception in February.

**Katie Richwine** is an ensign with the NOAA Corps and is assigned to the USS Fairweather in Alaska.

## GET IN TOUCH WITH US

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations wants to hear from you. Send your news items to:

**Amy Painter**  
 Director of Communications  
 Saint James School  
 17641 College Road  
 Hagerstown, MD, 21740

or, send an e-mail to: [alpainter@stjames.edu](mailto:alpainter@stjames.edu)



## IN MEMORIUM

**Hope Syverson**, the grandmother of **Tommy Syverson '02** and **Peter Syverson '97**, passed away Dec 17, 2014.

**Jeremy Hunt Biggs '54**, passed away on January 7, 2015. *See feature story on pg. 20.*

**Douglas Samuel Wright**, the father of **Stephen Michael Wright '75** and the grandfather of **Sid Huguenin '02**, passed away on January 23, 2015.

**George G. "Greg" Plitt, Jr.**, the son of **George G. Plitt, Sr. '67**, passed away on January 17, 2015.

**Richard E. Wagner, Jr. '60**, passed away on February 16, 2015. *See sidebar.*

## IN TRIBUTE: RICHARD "RICK" E. WAGNER, JR.

By L. Ludington Sells '60

**T**he Sound of Silence" was a hit recording by Simon and Garfunkel many years ago. As I pick up the phone, as if by reflex, to call my Saint James roommate from Cincinnati to hear how he is doing, I realize that there is only silence now. No need to call.

I would usually call Rick every few weeks since learning of his cancer several years ago. But recently, as his cancer spread, I would call him on Mondays to hear if there was renewed hope for remission of this dreaded disease. On Monday, February 9th, Rick confided in me that his physician had stopped by his home Sunday afternoon to inform him that no further treatment would be necessary and that nature would take its course. True to form, Rick was positive, stoic and brave. As fate would have it, the next Monday was February 16, President's Day, and I had the day off. My first call to Rick was Tuesday and it was then that I learned from his daughter, Chrissy and wife, Barb that he passed away peacefully on Monday surrounded by his family and his loving pet dog "Barney."

Rick and I were roommates and prefects in Buckingham, and then in a sixth form dormitory. He was conscientious, studious, serious and humorous. He participated in numerous activities with a particular passion for baseball, the Glee Club, and the Episcopal experience. He went on to graduate Cum Laude and at the top of his class. He went to Kenyon and then on to graduate from the University of Cincinnati. He had a very successful insurance career in his home town, where he was much beloved and widely regarded as a person of influence in Cincinnati society.

Rick became "re-engaged" with Saint James School 20 years ago, initially returning for a class reunion and

eventually being elected to the Board of Trustees where he served for almost 10 years. He was subsequently elected Trustee Emeritus by unanimous Board decision. In 2009, he received the Outstanding Alumnus Award for his dedication and many contributions to the School. Rick was extremely generous to the School he loved and could be counted as a lead donor for every annual fund drive and various capital campaigns. He was one of the main contributors helping to fund our class gift to the School for our 50th Reunion. With his enthusiastic support leading the way, our class raised \$106,000, which was presented to Father Owens on behalf of the School during Alumni Weekend in 2010.

Rick was true to his family, his faith and his school. He was looking forward to celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary this September.

He was seriously considering returning to Saint James this spring for one more Alumni Weekend celebration with his classmates at the "Half Century plus five" reunion.

I am deeply honored and privileged to call Rick Wagner my roommate, good friend, classmate and fellow trustee. He was generous, loyal, caring, thoughtful, humble, and of strong moral conviction. At Saint James, he worked very hard to graduate with distinction. Mission accomplished. May he rest in peace, for he hath done all that he could.

I hear the phone ringing in the background. Are you there? I will miss you terribly, good buddy. †





## SAINT JAMES SCHOOL

*Alumni Weekend 2015*

### ALUMNI WEEKEND 2015 EVENTS

#### FRIDAY EVENTS – APRIL 24, 2015

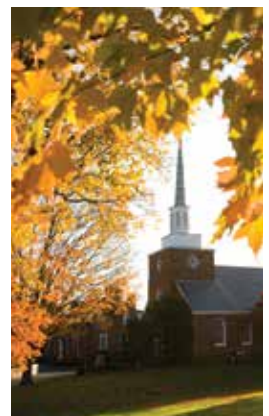
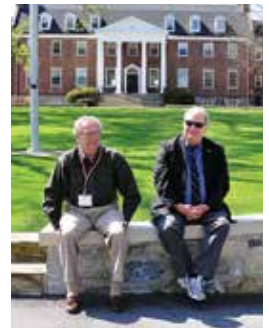
5:00 pm	Half-Century Club Reception (by invitation, for classes of '65 and earlier)
TBD	Class Reunions

#### SATURDAY EVENTS – APRIL 25, 2015

10 am – Noon	Registration and Information
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	David Hume '62 Book Signing
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Student Art Show
11:00 am	All-Alumni Meeting
Noon	Buffet Lunch (Open to All Visitors)
Various	Student Athletic Events (schedule subject to change)
1:00 – 4:00 pm	Golf: Driving and Chipping Contest
1:30 pm	Campus Tours
2:00 pm	Tours with Ted: Mattingly's Hidden Secrets
2:00 – 4:00 pm	Kids' Activities
4:15 pm	Chick Meehan's Open House
6:00 – 6:30 pm	Cocktails prior to Alumni Dinner
6:30 pm	Alumni Dinner (formal invitation to follow)
8:15 pm	Student Concert

#### SUNDAY EVENTS – APRIL 26, 2015

11:00 am	Remembrance Service: Eucharist of Thanksgiving for our Founders and Benefactors
Noon	Farewell Brunch



two thousand

1970

1945

1990

1965

2010

1995

Welcome back alumni! You and your families are invited to Alumni Weekend 2015.

Please join us for fun and festivities for all ages.

1975

This year, we honor members of the class of 1965. This class will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

1985

nineteen fifty

1955

1960

2005

nineteen eighty



### ALUMNI DINNER HONOREES

We are very pleased to announce that the Alumni Council has selected Don and Mary Woodruff for induction to the Kerfoot Society for Distinguished Faculty this year. We hope you will join us in honoring them and the Alumni Award recipient at the Alumni Dinner on Saturday, April 25.



### ALUMNI WEEKEND FEATURED EVENTS

**10:30 am – 12:30 pm**  
David Hume '62 Book Signing

**1:00 – 4:00 pm**  
Golf: Driving and Chipping Contest

**2:00 pm**  
Tours with Ted: Mattingly's Hidden Secrets



David Hume

### ATHLETIC EVENTS – APRIL 25, 2014

- 11:00 am Boys V Baseball vs. Georgetown Day School
- 11:00 am Boys JV Tennis vs. Jefferson High School
- 11:00 am Girls JV Tennis vs. Jefferson High School
- Noon Boys JV Lacrosse vs. Mercersburg Academy
- Noon Girls V Lacrosse vs. Woodrow Wilson High School
- 1:00 pm Boys V Baseball vs. Georgetown Day School
- 1:00 pm Boys V Tennis vs. Spring Mills
- 1:00 pm Girls V Tennis vs. Spring Mills
- 1:30 pm Girls JV Lacrosse vs Woodrow Wilson High School
- 2:00 pm Boys V Lacrosse vs. Mt. Carmel High School



# SAINT JAMES SCHOOL

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