

INSIDE TROJANS TODAY











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WELCOME TO THE WINTER ISSUE OF TROJANS TODAY, TROJANS TODAY, for for for the winter is the winter is

In this issue of *Trojans Today, Trojans for Life*, we celebrate some remarkable students, faculty, and alumni whose quiet dedication makes a meaningful impact on important causes and our Bishop Chatard community. Often working behind the scenes, they embody humility, selflessness, and a commitment to serving others, prioritizing the greater good over personal recognition.

We're excited to showcase the incredible spirit of fellowship and service displayed by our student body during the holiday season. From collecting over 11,000 cans of food during our can drive, to spreading cheer through Christmas on Crittenden, the true meaning of Christmas was truly vibrant at BCHS.

Additionally, this issue features our annual report card. The data affirms that Bishop Chatard students graduate well-prepared for the challenges of college, many with a head start thanks to AP and Dual Credit opportunities. Yet life as a Trojan extends beyond academics. As you'll discover, Bishop Chatard students thrive in extracurricular pursuits, with higher levels of club, team, and activity participation often correlating to higher GPAs.

Finally, we'd love to hear from you! Share your thoughts or updates with us by visiting alumni.BishopChatard.org/share-news.

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BILL SAHM
President

This is an exciting time to be a Trojan! BCHS has received numerous accolades in recent years thanks in large part to the incredible talent and dedication of our faculty, staff and administration along with the generous support of our community. What often goes unheralded, however, is the planning that underpins the transformative educational environment at Bishop Chatard.

For the past 16 years Bishop Chatard has developed and implemented four strategic plans serving as the foundation and roadmap for our growth and continuous improvement, all centered around the "whole person" formation of our students. Over this time, we put in place plans that included all aspects of our mission. These were developed with input from the students and their families, faculty and staff, the Board of Regents, alumni and school leadership. Here are just a few highlights of the results of these strategic efforts.

A focus on developing Campus Ministry and Theology leadership has led to dynamic student retreat and service opportunities, a strong Theology curriculum and faith formation support to our faculty and staff. This has greatly enhanced our ability to incorporate faith into all areas of the curriculum and extracurricular activities.

We have put in place meaningful professional development for our faculty that has provided for personal growth as well as innovations in the delivery of our expanding and evermore rigorous curriculum.

Our focus on providing quality administrative leadership of our faculty and staff has been foundational to the success of our students.

Over the last 16 years we have raised over \$20,000,000 through our Annual Fund primarily for tuition assistance and teacher compensation. This has allowed us to attract and retain the highest quality educators and make Bishop Chatard affordable to all who desire our educational experience for their children.

Our enrollment has increased from a low of 650 to a current enrollment of 760 and expected to grow again to approximately 780 for the 2025/2026 school year. Approximately 50% of our students require financial aid (in addition to the School Choice Scholarship) to afford a Bishop Chatard education. We are blessed by the generosity of our community to be able to make this possible each year.

We have also raised \$7.9 million in two capital campaigns that allowed us to expand our campus and add and renovate much needed facilities, as well as grow our endowments. In addition, we have embarked on an historic capital campaign to further expand our facilities and capabilities in meeting the needs of all of our students.

As we wrap up the work being done to develop the 2025-2028 strategic plan, please pray that we can continue to fulfill our sacred mission for the benefit of our students and the North Deanery parish communities. Thank you for all you do in support of this wonderful ministry of Catholic education at Bishop Chatard!



The Bishop Chatard 2023-2024 Annual Report is available for online viewing. Scan the QR code above to view or access a PDF version at: www.BishopChatard.org/news/publications.

There are many ways to support Bishop Chatard High School. Learn more at www.BishopChatard.org/giving/ways-to-give.







2024 AP COLLEGE BOARD PLATINUM SCHOOL

Bishop Chatard High School continues to excel in academics with, for the second year in a row, recognition from the College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) Program as a Platinum member of its 2024 AP Honor Roll. To qualify for this designation at least 80% of the graduating seniors must have successfully completed an AP course and received college credit.

NUMBER OF AP COURSES TAUGHT AT BISHOP CHATARD, ACROSS 43 SECTIONS, TAUGHT BY A TEAM OF 16 TEACHERS

28% PERCENTAGE OF THE CLASS OF 2024 WHO TOOK FIVE OR MORE AP EXAMS

83% PERCENTAGE OF THE CLASS OF 2024 WHO TOOK AT LEAST ONE AP COURSE BEFORE GRADUATING (AP PLATINUM THRESHOLD: 80%)

PERCENTAGE OF THE CLASS OF 2024 THAT EARNED COLLEGE CREDIT BY EARNING AN AP EXAM SCORE OF 3 (AP PLATINUM THRESHOLD: 50%)

100%

GRADUATION PATHWAYS COMPLETION

45% 50% 55% 60% 65% 70% 75% 80% 85% 90% 95% 100%

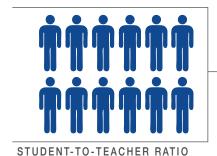
STATE AVERAGE 89%

The Indiana Department of Education's **Graduates Prepared to Succeed (GPS)** performance dashboard showcases how students acquire the essential knowledge and skills needed for success beyond high school. As the global economy evolves and technology advances, it is crucial for students to build these competencies throughout their K-12 education, creating strong connections to college and career pathways that prepare them for life after graduation.

One key metric the GPS measures is the percentage of 12th-grade students who fulfill graduation requirements. As shown in the chart above, **Bishop Chatard currently achieves a 100% Graduation Pathways completion rate.**

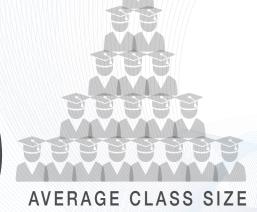
Source: Indiana Department of Education

BCHS



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19



CURRENT AVERAGE GPA:3.5 20%

Students Served by Academic Support Program 88% Catholic Student Representation
- 63% Students Supported by Financial Aid
23% Minority Student Representation

1,890 S T U D E N T SERVICE HOURS COMPLETED IN 2023-2024

758

CURRENT ENROLLMENT

66% 2024 GRADUATES WHO EARNED AN ACADEMIC HONORS DIPLOMA

100% GRADUATION RATE

9

93% PERCENTAGE OF 2024 GRADUATES WHO PLANNED TO PURSUE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

28M SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS COLLECTIVELY EARNED BY THE CLASS OF 2024

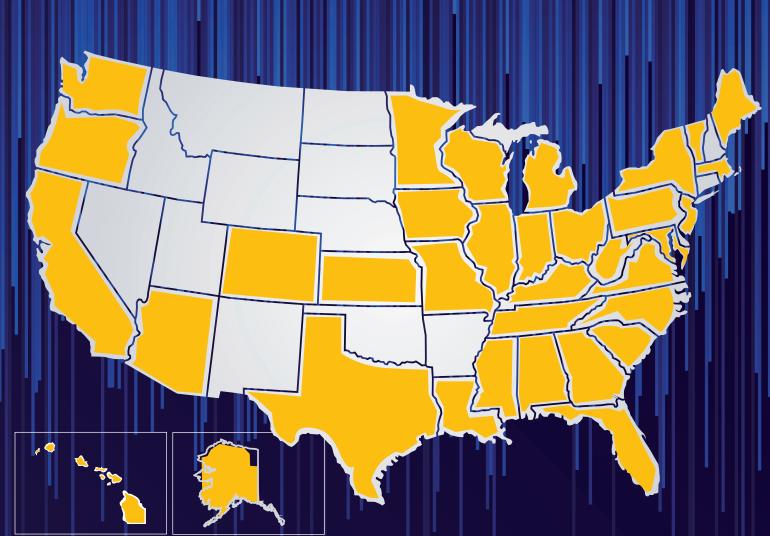
SUMMA CUM LAUDE DISTINCTION GRADUATES

CURRENT STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN CLUB, SPORTS, OR LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

89%

THE CLASS OF 2024

The 157 graduates of the Class of 2024 collectively earned more than \$28 million dollars in scholarships and grants, averaging nearly \$178,700 per student. Members of the Class of 2024 were accepted to these outstanding colleges and universities across the United States.



ALABAMA

Alabama A&M University Auburn University Samford University University of Alabama

ALASKA

University of Alaska

ARIZONA

Arizona State University

CALIFORNIA

University of California-Davis University of California-San Diego University of California-Santa Barbara University of San Diego University of San Francisco

COLORADO

Colorado State University University of Colorado University of Denver

FLORIDA

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Florida Gulf Coast University Florida State University Nova Southeastern University University of Tampa University of Florida

GEORGIA

Berry College Clark Atlanta University Savannah College of Art & Design Spelman College University of Georgia

HAWAII

Hawaii Pacific University

ILLINOIS

DePaul University
Dominican University
Lake Forest College
Lewis University
Loyola University
Millikin University
Monmouth College
Northern Illinois University
Quincy University
University of Chicago
University of Illinois

INDIANA

Anderson University
Ball State University
Butler University
Depauw University
Hanover College
Indiana Institute of Technology
Indiana State University
Indiana University-Bloomington
Indiana University-East
Indiana University-Indianapolis
Indiana University-Purdue University
Indianapolis
International Business College

Ivy Tech Community College
Manchester University
Marian University
Purdue University
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Saint Mary's College
Trine University
University of Evansville
University of Indianapolis
University of Notre Dame
University of Saint Francis
University of Southern Indiana
Valparaiso University
Vincennes University
Wabash College

IOWA

Drake University

KANSAS

University of Kansas

KENTUCKY

Bellarmine University
Kentucky State University
Kentucky Wesleyan College
Northern Kentucky University
Transylvania University
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville

LOUISIANA

Loyola University Southern University and A&M College Xavier University

MAINE

University of Maine

MARYLAND

Towson University
United States Naval Academy
University of Maryland

MASSACHUSETTS

Curry College Emerson College Fisher College

MICHIGAN

Albion College
Central Michigan University
Grand Valley State University
Kettering University
Michigan State University
Oakland University
Western Michigan University

MINNESOTA

University of Minnesota

MISSISSIPPI

Alcorn State University Jackson State University University of Mississippi

MISSOURI

Saint Louis University University of Missouri

NEBRASKA

University of Nebraska

NEW JERSEY

Seton Hall University

NEW YORK

Alfred University Saint John's University Syracuse University

NORTH CAROLINA

Belmont Abbey College Johnson C. Smith University North Carolina A&T State University North Carolina Central University Saint Augustine's University Shaw University Saint Andrews University

OHIO

Baldwin Wallace University
Bowling Green State University
Kent State University
Miami University
Muskingum University
Oberlin College
Ohio State University
Ohio University

Ohio Wesleyan University
University of Cincinnati
University of Cincinnati (Clermont College)
University of Dayton
Wilberforce University
Wittenberg University
Xavier University

OREGON

Oregon State University Portland State University

PENNSYLVANIA

Arcadia University
Carnegie Mellon University
Penn State University
Temple University
University of Pittsburgh
Villanova University

SOUTH CAROLINA

Claflin University
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
College of Charleston
Furman University
South Carolina State University
University of South Carolina
Winthrop University

TENNESSEE

Belmont University
Fisk University
Tennessee State University
University of Tennessee

TEXAS

Baylor University Jarvis Christian University

VERMONT

University of Vermont

VIRGINIA

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Virginia Wesleyan University William & Mary

WASHINGTON

University of Washington Washington State University

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia State University

WISCONSIN

Carthage College Marquette University University of Wisconsin



SCIENCE TEACHER AMANDA HORAN AWARDED PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATH AND SCIENCE

In January, BCHS science teacher Amanda Horan received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)—the nation's highest honor for STEM educators. Presented by the National Science Foundation on behalf of the White House, this prestigious award recognizes outstanding teachers who make a lasting impact in math and science education.

As a recipient, Horan will be honored at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C., where she'll receive a certificate signed by the president and a \$10,000 grant from the NSF. It's a well-deserved recognition for her dedication to inspiring the next generation of scientists and innovators!

Amanda has been an integral part of Bishop Chatard for 14 years, teaching Physics, Chemistry, Honors Chemistry, and Advanced Placement Chemistry. Before her teaching career, Amanda worked in pharmaceutical manufacturing at Eli Lilly & Company. She transitioned into education through the Woodrow Wilson Indiana Teaching Fellowship in 2010, driven by her passion for working with young people.

Amanda's dedication to innovative teaching led her to adopt Modeling Instruction, a hands-on, inquiry-based teaching method that enhances student understanding. She also leads workshops to support fellow educators and mentors new teachers as an instructional coach. Her implementation of standards-based assessment has further refined her approach, helping students achieve their goals and clarifying expectations.

In 2023, Amanda was honored as the top K-12 educator in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis with the St. Theodora Guerin Excellence in Education Award. She is also an active contributor to the academic community, serving as a reader for the AP Chemistry exam and presenting at national conferences like the Biennial Conference on Chemistry Education.

Amanda holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering, *summa cum laude*, from Purdue University, and an M.S. in secondary science education from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

"Through her continued commitment to serve our students, Mrs. Horan lives out our mission daily," says BCHS Principal, John Hasty. "Her personal commitment to faith, continuous learning, leadership, and service profoundly impacts our students and staff, inside and outside the classroom."

Reflecting on the award, Amanda shared, "Early in my career, I wrote a recommendation letter for PAEMST for a teacher I deeply admired. To now receive this award myself is an unbelievable honor. I believe in the potential of every student, and I show this by maintaining high expectations while supporting them on their educational journey. Being recognized with this award reaffirms that teaching is my true calling and that my impact extends beyond the classroom."

"Students often credit Mrs. Horan with helping them find a love for science and learning," continued Mr. Hasty. "We are excited to see her earn this well-deserved and distinguished recognition. It is a testament to her hard work, dedication, and transformational impact."



LET THEM LEAD - TROJAN STYLE

J.T. FUNK
Vice President of
Institutional
Advancement

If you know me, you probably know I love hockey. I played in high school here and at Saint Louis University, and I've been coaching for 11 years, including four with the Central Indiana Knights. Originally, the Knights were a joint effort between us and Cathedral High School as the Cathedral-Chatard Hockey Club. In 2013-2014, we became the Central Indiana Knights, expanding to include more schools and provide hockey opportunities for all high school students, regardless of whether their school had a team.

I mention this because, while coaching is a passion and hobby of mine, it has greatly enriched my role at BCHS. I'm always seeking new strategies to coach our kids and exploring resources on leadership and personal development.

These insights not only benefit our team but also contribute to the growth of our students and our community.

I recently came across a book by John U. Bacon titled *Let Them Lead*. It chronicles the author's experience coaching the Ann Arbor Huron River Rats High School hockey team in Michigan during the early 2000s. The River Rats were the worst team in high school hockey when he took the reins, finishing the prior year with 0 wins, 22 losses, and 3 ties. By applying his leadership style and empowering the team to lead themselves, they transformed into one of the top high school hockey teams in Michigan. Bacon's book has prompted me to reflect on not only our hockey team, but on our broader community.

OUR CULTURE,
FAITH, AND GUIDING
PRINCIPLES ALL
GIVE US REASON
TO STEP BACK AND
LET OUR STUDENTS
LEAD, OFTEN
REVEALING LEADERS
AND UNSUNG
HEROES CALLED TO
SOMETHING GREATER

The underlying theme of this issue of *Trojans Today, Trojans for Life* highlights many perspectives, stories, and accounts of unsung heroes demonstrating leadership here at Bishop Chatard. While I could share many more stories, what impresses me most is how we utilize some of Bacon's lessons to create a culture where individuals are empowered to lead themselves. Through numerous clubs, teams, class offerings and peer ministries our students and community members are provided abundant opportunities to lead.

Bacon's approach was to instill a culture of pride and hard work, embodied by a phrase they often used to push themselves to greatness: "Huron—it's harder here," a sentiment that is aligned with our continual drive to strive for

excellence. What sets us apart is the presence of the Holy Spirit and a shared foundation rooted in faith, and an educational experience modeled on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. Our culture, faith, and guiding principles empower us to step back and let our students lead, often revealing leaders and unsung heroes called to something greater. Perhaps we can take a page from the Ann Arbor team and use our own guiding phrase: "Bishop Chatard—the Holy Spirit lives here."

BEYOND THE SPOTLIGHT!

UNSUNG STUDENT

Bishop Chatard is filled with unsung heroes—including students who quietly go above and beyond, making a real difference in their communities. Whether behind the scenes or lending a helping hand, they show what it means to lead with humility, dedication, and selflessness, always putting others and the greater good before seeking recognition.



MAGGIE MCGOWAN

Maggie McGowan may not appear in the Bishop Chatard football stat sheet, but her impact as a student manager is undeniable. A lifelong football fan, she grew up immersed in the sport, learning with her dad and predicting plays during

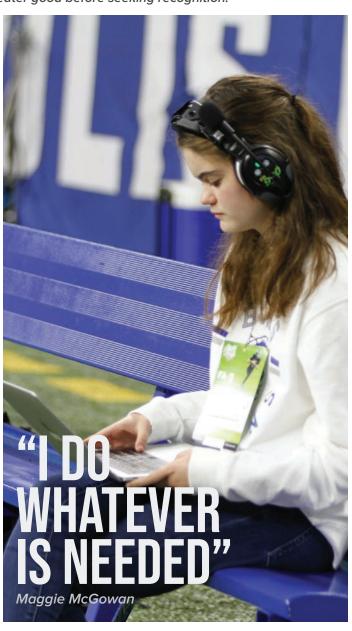
televised games. When she joined Bishop Chatard, she quickly became a dedicated student manager.

From the start, Maggie impressed players and coaches with her football knowledge and adaptability. Assigned to the freshman team, she quickly earned trust. When asked to lead drills, she hesitated but stepped up, showcasing leadership that would define her role.

By sophomore year, Maggie had joined varsity, handling equipment, running the clock, and tracking plays on game nights. Wearing a headset, she quietly monitors the field, speaking up only when necessary—like spotting 10 players on the field or a looming play-clock violation. "I know my place," she says. "But if something needs to be said, I'll say it."

Head coach Rob Doyle calls her an unsung hero, praising her football IQ and calm demeanor. "She's in tune with everything we do," he says. "Her ability to step in seamlessly has earned respect across the program."

With humility and humor, Maggie ensures everything runs smoothly, making the program feel like home. "I do whatever is needed," she says. Her story proves that leadership isn't always about touchdowns—it's about dedication, knowledge, and selflessness behind the scenes.





A young Bryce and his heroine: his mother Tristan.

BRYCE HACKMAN



Bishop Chatard sophomore Bryce Hackman would say his mother was a hero, but he is undoubtedly following in her footsteps. When Bryce's mother Tristan passed away in 2015, her choice to be an organ donor saved multiple lives. Now, Bryce carries on her legacy as an advocate for organ donation through the Indiana Donor Network.

As a speaker at the organization's galas and a volunteer at Donor Hero Camp—designed for children of donor heroes like himself—Bryce is dedicated to raising awareness.

"I care about this because of my mom," he said. "My mother is a hero because she saved four lives."

The need for organ donors is urgent. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 20 people die each day waiting for an organ, with over 113,000 currently on waiting lists. In Indiana, nearly 4 million Hoosiers are registered donors, but the demand still far exceeds availability. Residents can register through organizations like the Indiana Donor Network or while obtaining a driver's license, learner's permit, or state ID.

Bryce's grandmother, Tammy, is also a champion for the cause. "Tristan was a giving person all her life, and she loved to help people," she said. "I know she'd be pleased that others now have the opportunity to live fuller lives."

Engaging and full of creative ideas, Bryce suggests integrating organ donation into school health curricula, as his teacher Mrs. Bultinck did, and maybe incorporating it into driver's education courses.

An inspiring young man with a big heart, Bryce has transformed loss into purpose. In doing so, he proves that heroism runs in the family.

BCHS STUDENTS ATTEND INDIANA YOUTH RALLY & MASS FOR LIFE

BCHS students joined youth from across the state last month to celebrate the gift of life at the Indiana Youth Rally & Mass for Life.









RECOGNIZING OUR VOLUNTEERS

MARGARET RUFFING Executive Director of Development

For most volunteers, volunteer leadership roles come with a commitment and investment of time and resources to support a cause they care about. For those who step even further in as leaders or chairs, the role involves assuming the responsibility of guiding the group forward.

I hope you'll join me in recognizing and thanking the many leaders—some of our greatest champions—who have volunteered this past year to make our fundraising efforts not only possible but successful. Together with our Board of Regents and Alumni Board, who regularly assist in our fundraising efforts, we had 70 Trojans volunteer as Table Captains for our biggest fundraiser of the year: our Annual Fund Dinner.

Even more champions for Bishop Chatard took on a variety of roles. Chatard-a-Bration alone brought us: 46 co-hosts for gift-gathering parties, 15 leaders on the CAB Advisory Committee, 12 auction logistics and decoration committee members, 26 team basket leaders, and nearly half of our faculty and staff, who stepped in to provide an auction item. Each of these roles helped us create an engaging and exciting Chatard-a-Bration—even the Trojan Horse approved and donated to the auction!

These are just the champions who volunteer through our development office! More champions across BCHS serve through our Trinity Club, bringing joy to our faculty with monthly luncheons and meditative mornings with their monthly praying of the Rosary. Our theatre champions contribute their design and building expertise, while our music and athletic programs benefit from dedicated volunteers. Alumni career speakers, athletic teams, and BC Club parents also step up to help, whether in the Spirit Shop or beyond.

Every one of our volunteers makes a difference for our students each day. I sincerely thank everyone who has taken on a volunteer role and contributed to something greater than ourselves in building a vibrant and sustainable program at Bishop Chatard. Our volunteers demonstrate that the strength of an institution reflects the dedication of its volunteers.

May God bless our generous volunteers-thank you, thank you, thank you!



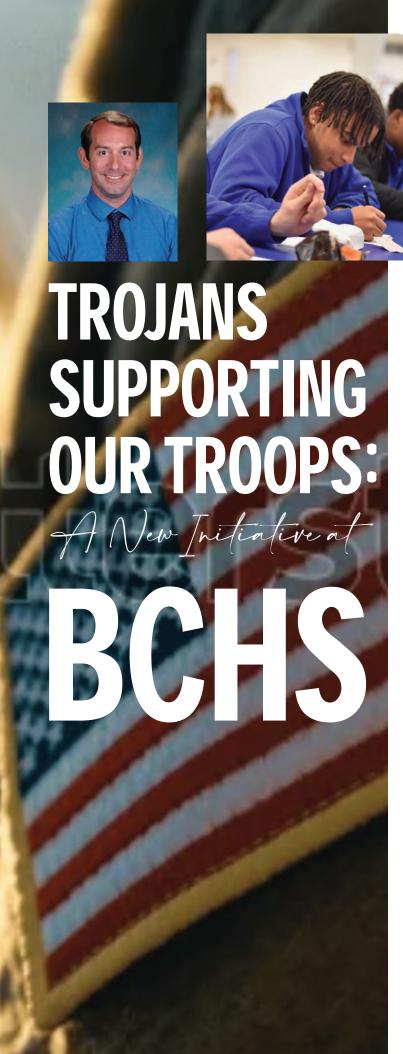
DiSalvo '02.



Executive Director of Development Margaret Celebrated journalist and alum Sia Nyorker '96 Ruffing with Erin (Downs) Hines '99 and Joseph shared insights about her career at Career Day.



Chatard-a-Bration 2025 Co-Chairs Nicole and Kip Chase.





Jeff Getty, a current teacher at Bishop Chatard High School and a proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps, has launched a heartfelt initiative to connect the BCHS community with alumni currently serving in the military. The new club, Trojans Supporting Our Troops, aims to bridge the gap between home and the frontlines by fostering a supportive and enduring connection between BCHS alumni, students, and military personnel.

Jeff's inspiration for starting the club comes from his own experience as a deployed Marine. "I remember what it felt like when I was deployed and disconnected from my family, friends, and home. But when we got a mail drop and I saw letters from my former teachers letting me know they still thought of me and supported me from Chatard, it made that disconnect much easier to deal with," Jeff shared. "If we could reach alumni who are currently serving and let them know they are not forgotten, it would make a world of difference. I want them to know they are still a valued part of our community, even after graduation."

The club's mission includes honoring service members through prayer, letters of encouragement, and acts of support such as care packages. Jeff has currently compiled a list of service men and women to be honored by the club.

Trojans Supporting Our Troops meets monthly to discuss updates on BCHS alumni in the military, write letters, and organize efforts to support them. The club's mission statement perfectly captures its purpose:

Our mission is to foster a supportive and enduring connection between our Bishop Chatard High School community and alumni serving in the military, both home and abroad. Guided by the values of faith, service, and solidarity, we strive to honor and uplift those who defend our freedoms through acts of care, encouragement, and prayer. We commit to bridging the gap between home and the frontlines by providing moral support, practical assistance, and a sense of belonging to our courageous alumni. In doing so, we honor their sacrifice and reflect the love and compassion of Christ in every action.

Jeff Getty and the members of Trojans Supporting Our Troops invite the entire BCHS community to join them in this meaningful effort. Together, they aim to ensure that no service member feels forgotten, and that the spirit of Bishop Chatard's support extends well beyond the walls of the school. BCHS alumni. friends, or family members who would like to add someone to the list can email Jeff directly at jgetty@bishopchatard.org. ₁₅



ANNUALFUND

BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL DINNER & ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

2024



THE SPIRIT OF GIVING: BISHOP CHATARD'S ANNUAL FUND

At Bishop Chatard High School, our commitment to excellence extends beyond the classroom. The Annual Fund serves our two paramount financial commitments: tuition assistance and teacher compensation. In addition, it helps ensure the ongoing care and enhancement of our beautiful campus.

Each year, we launch our fundraising efforts in grand fashion with the Annual Fund Dinner, a celebratory event that brings our community together in support of our students and faculty. This gathering is also a time of recognition, as we honor outstanding individuals with our prestigious Achievement Awards. This past August, we were proud to present our first Lifetime Achievement Award to Joe Ford '69, whose unwavering dedication and passion for Bishop Chatard exemplify the true Trojan spirit.

But our fundraising doesn't stop there. Throughout the year, we host a variety of events that allow alumni, families, and friends to make a lasting impact. The Harv Sutton Memorial Golf Outing, Chatard-a-Bration, and our Day of Giving each offer unique opportunities to support the school while fostering a deep sense of community. Even our students take an active role, organizing their own fundraising initiatives—an invaluable experience that teaches them the power of generosity and the direct impact of their efforts.

As you explore this publication, we invite you to relive the highlights of these meaningful initiatives and celebrate the achievements of those who make them possible. We hope to see you at a future event, where you can experience firsthand the camaraderie, joy, and inspiration that define the Bishop Chatard community. Until then, enjoy reading about our incredible Achievement Award honorees and the many ways BCHS continues to thrive!

BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL

Achievement Awards

The Bishop Chatard High School Achievement Awards recognize the generosity, kindness, and support that surround and bless the Archdiocese of Indianapolis North Deanery High School. Please join us in congratulating and celebrating the 2023-24 Achievement Award honorees.



Outstanding Faculty/Staff

Matt Hilton '04



Outstanding Parent/Volunteer **Eileen Countryman '90**



Outstanding Alumni
Greg Stephens '88



Outstanding Community Member
John Traub '84
Thiele Heating &
Air Conditioning



Lifetime Achievement

Joe Ford '69



STUDENT MINISTRY LEADERS/ SERVING WITH SPIRIT

MATT HILTONDirector of
Faith Formation

Ministry, almost as a rule, is a matter of behind-thescenes work. At the heart of effective ministry is a process of creating contexts in which others can experience the presence of God in their lives. It is humble, joyful work. Every Thursday, when we gather as a school community to celebrate the Eucharist, our students have an opportunity to engage in the kind of behind-the-scenes work I am describing. To make these weekly liturgies possible, Campus Ministry is supported by a dedicated team of students who volunteer their time to help us transform the gym into a worship space and then back again.

Arriving at 7:15, our students joyfully take on a host of responsibilities. Some students come to help us set up the nearly two hundred chairs on the floor and to roll out the bleachers. These students take great care to line up each row and tidy the gym. Other students have taken on the responsibility of making sure that the statue of Mary is carefully brought from the main office to our improvised sanctuary.

Other students still have committed to serving as sacristans. These students take great care in placing the linens on the altar, setting the credence table with the gifts to be transformed into the body and blood of our Lord, and making sure that the proper readings for the day are ready for when the priest arrives. After Mass these same students reverently return our Lord in the Eucharist back to the tabernacle in the SBC chapel.

Last but far from least, we are blessed each week by the music of our band and choir, who add depth, body, and power to our liturgy. Of course, this is only possible because they have dedicated hours to rehearsal, tirelessly preparing to elevate our prayer through their aift of song.

The joyous spirit of service shown by these young people, who selflessly give their time to support their community and honor God, are what BCHS is all about. Like so much of what happens at BCHS, it is unsung heroes like these that make it possible for us to live out our mission.







NORTH DEANERY TEAMS SPELL THEIR WAY TO SUCCESS

The annual North Deanery Spell Bowl took place at Bishop Chatard High School on January 29 as part of the Catholic Schools Week celebration. The competition was as close and exciting as ever, with all participants showcasing incredible talent and effort!

Congratulations to the 2025 North Deanery Spell Bowl Champs, Christ the King! Congratulations also to runner-up St. Luke, and third place winner St. Simon.









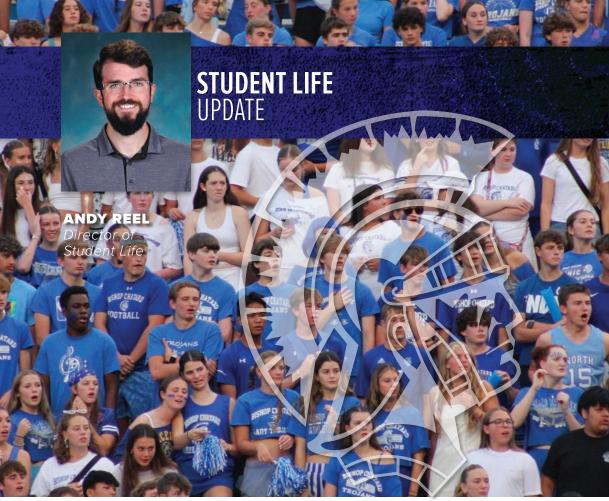
BCHS BRINGS BELOVED CLASSIC ANNIE TO LIFE THIS SPRING

BCHS is thrilled to announce its upcoming spring musical, *Annie!* Coming to the stage April 10-12, this heartwarming production, based on the beloved comic strip and timeless Broadway hit, promises to bring joy and inspiration to audiences of all ages. Set against the backdrop of 1930s New York City, the story follows the adventurous young orphan Annie as she searches for her parents and discovers the true meaning of family.

Director and choreographer Holly Stults reflected on the thoughtful process behind selecting a musical or play for the school year. "Choosing a musical or play title is not as easy (or fun!) as it may seem! We proudly put education before entertainment at Bishop Chatard, and there are many other factors to consider," she explained. Stults elaborated on criteria such as appropriateness, the school's ability to manage the technical aspects of the show, the availability of student talent to cast the musical, and whether the title would appeal to BCHS audiences.

"We like to rotate between contemporary and traditional musicals each year, and Annie definitely fits the traditional musical profile," Stults said. "No doubt we will have some 'hard-knock' rehearsals, but by the time the show opens, the 'sun will come out' and shine on the cast and crew!"

With a talented cast of students, vibrant choreography, and memorable songs like "Tomorrow" and "It's the Hard Knock Life," this performance is sure to be one of the highlights of the school year. Join us as we bring this classic tale to life on the BCHS stage!









As I reflect on my first semester as Director of Student Life, I find myself tremendously impressed and inspired by the work of students and staff alike. There are so many amazing things happening at Bishop Chatard that are only made possible by the diligent work of student leaders and staff volunteers. Thank you to all of our unsung heroes leading the initiatives to enhance the student experience!

A significant part of this success rests on the shoulders of the Student Council and their teacher moderators. The Homecoming Dance was a roaring success, with a record 488 tickets sold, capping off a week of class competitions like Powderpuff Football, hallway decorations, and themed out-of-uniform days.

Beyond these celebrated traditions, there have been a myriad of new opportunities for students. Campus Ministry and Student Life teamed up to host a Dodgeball Tournament to raise money for Hurricane Helene relief. A Christmas Advent Calendar full of student ideas brought events like a Winter Pep Session, a cookie baking/decorating contest, and an ugly sweater day. Student members of Latinos Unidos played guitar and sang in the cafeteria to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.

Several new clubs have been started or revived by student leaders and staff, including the Film of the Month Club, Hiking Club, International Food Club, and Video Game Design Club. These clubs join the varied selection of student opportunities available at Bishop Chatard. Our Performing Arts program continued to dazzle audiences throughout the fall semester with two music concerts, the fall play, three improv comedy shows, and two performances of student written/directed plays.

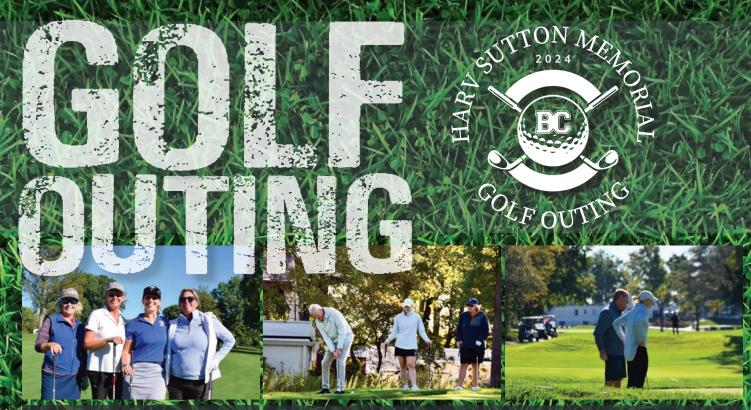
The continued success of traditions and the creation of new opportunities can only occur with students and staff who dedicate themselves fully to the betterment of the student experience. Thank you to all of our unsung heroes!











PUTTING WITH PURPOSE

On October 7, 2024, Bishop Chatard hosted its annual golf outing at the Highland Country Club. The event hosted 36 foursomes and raised more than \$75,850 for the Harv Sutton Fund for Tuition Assistance.

Congratulations to our winners! The men's team included Dan Rogers '04, Kyle Fairchild '04, John Zimmerman '04, and Nick Karas '03. The women's team included Julia Kaercher '05, Allison Roe '00, Jody Petrie, and Paula Klipsch. We extend our gratitude to all participants, as well as the businesses and organizations that sponsored the event. A special thanks also to our dedicated committee members for their invaluable support: Chris Brown '09, George Van Vliet '10, Joanna Tuohy, Kyle Fairchild '04, Nick Brown '04, Tyler Brazill '12, and Will Hurrle '04.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 GOLF OUTING SPONSORS!

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The Guymon Family: Steve & Kari Guymon, Samuel '16, Patrick '18 & Katie '20

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The McGinley Family: Grace '19, Moira '21, Anna '22, Rose '24 & Michael '25 The Millman Family: Sally, Clark, Christine '20

& Grant '21 The Sergi Group: Steve & Sophie Sergi Cathy & John Wagner Family Williams and Caskey HOA Management



BEYOND THE SPOTLIGHT/ ALUMNI MARK MALOOF & TOM O'CONNOR

DEANNA MURPHYDirector of Alumni Relations
& Special Events





Tom O'Connor and wife Patty.

Mark Maloof and family.

High school is often regarded as a pivotal time in a young person's life, marked by academic challenges, social dynamics, and personal growth. While many graduates achieve notable success in various fields, there are many alumni who make significant impacts in their communities, but may not always be in the spotlight. We are fortunate to count many such unsung heroes among our alumni population, and I would like to highlight two in particular: Mark Maloof and Tom O'Connor, both proud members of the BCHS Class of 1974.

Mark and Tom selflessly took on the responsibility of planning their 50th class reunion last fall. Balancing work, family, and the demands of daily life, they worked diligently to put on the best weekend celebration they could. On top of planning the event, they also encouraged their classmates to give back to Bishop Chatard High School. The class raised an astonishing \$10,000 for tuition assistance! When I spoke with Mark after the event, he shared that he always strives to leave things better than he found them. Thank you, Mark and Tom, for continuing to support the Bishop Chatard High School legacy!

ALUMNI UPDATES

1966

PATRICK PRICE lives full-time in a 45-foot motorcoach, embracing a nomadic lifestyle without a permanent address. Constantly on the move every few months, he follows the best climates. He stays connected with fellow alumni from an Indianapolis-area Catholic school, especially for the all-city reunions. Patrick fondly recalls gathering with over ninety classmates from the Class of 1966 for their 50th reunion—and now, they're approaching their 60th! He takes pride in being part of one of the school's founding classes, which began with the Class of '65.

1969

JANE (THUER) SCOTT cherishes staying connected with the women she bonded with in high school and beyond. She also loves her role as "Giqi" to her grandchildren, Noah, 3, and Bear, 1.

1973

MARK JOSEPH retired from Fanning Howey Architects in June 2024, and is currently enjoying family, travel and doing what he wants, when he wants to! He currently lives in Noblesville.

1974

APRIL (PIERSON) ROSE shares that she and her husband, Thomas, have called Carmel home for 39 years. They have three children and four grandchildren. After a fulfilling 45-year career as an RN, including 26 years at Naab Road Surgery Center, April is now enjoying retirement. She and Thomas love cruising through Europe, Alaska, Hawaii, and the Caribbean as often as they can. So far, she says, retirement has been sweet!

1976

MICHELE (LAWLESS) WEISSERT has returned to Hamilton County after spending 30 months in Fort Myers, Florida. For her, there's truly no place like home!

1977

MIKE FINNEGAN shares that his son, JR, is a senior at BCHS this year. He finds it amazing to witness and experience the school's evolution over the years!

TERRI (WEAVER) MCLAUGHLIN retired in May 2024 after a 43-year career in education at Spring Branch Independent School District in Houston, Texas.

TIM BIRELEY has been married to wife Laura for 38 years. They have four daughters and five grandchildren. A semi-retired business owner, Tim is an avid Packers and Badgers fan, and enjoys woodworking, travel, golf, and hot yoga.

1978

CHRIS (CUTSHALL) DIANA is currently serving on the Executive Board of Directors for the Abigail Adams chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She also volunteers at the Camp Dodge lowa USO and teaches arts and crafts to seniors. Through researching her genealogy, she also traced her ancestry back to the Mayflower!

1979

CAPTAIN RON CONGER celebrated his 35th year with American Airlines in July 2024. He and wife Julie also celebrated 40 years of marriage this past May. They have three children and two grandchildren, all of whom live in Indianapolis.

1981

SISTER KATHLEEN YEADON, OSB, fondly recalls her time at BCHS, especially her 19 years of teaching. She cherishes the memories of students doing incredible work and serving those in need.



1987

MICHAEL HUDSON was honored with the Augustus Witherspoon Award for outstanding leadership, fraternity community service, and mentoring in the 2024 Georgia district of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. He was also recognized as the 2025 Brother of the Year for his chapter, Tau Gamma Lambda.

2001

NICK SCHELLINGER '01 was named the American Heart Association's 2024 Leader of Impact for the state of Indiana, and earning the distinction of national runner-up! In just seven weeks, Nick raised an incredible \$250,000 for the campaign—nearly three times the previous record set by an Indiana nominee, and one of only three instances in the campaign's history where an individual has raised six figures. Nick's dedication to this cause is deeply personal, as he experienced a stroke in 2023, inspiring him to drive meaningful change and make a lasting impact in the fight against heart disease and stroke.





JAMIE (BOESE)
COLLINS and
husband Kevin
welcomed son
Cooper William
on June 8, 2024.
Cooper joined big
brother Colton,
who is a 5th grader
at St. Luke where
Jamie teaches
kindergarten.

2004

MEREDITH (MCGREGOR) NYBERG celebrated the birth of daughter Madison Oline Nyberg in May 2024.





JODY (BREZETTE) VOGELGESANG, daughter of Fran & Joanne Brezette, married Tim Vogelgesang, son of Phil '71 & Ruth Vogelgesang on June 14, 2024 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with many Trojan alums present. Pictured are Paul Krebs '05, Mary (Brezette) Aaron '91, Nancy (Brezette) Collins '95, Andrew Sullivan '06, Katie (Brezette) Riggs '92, and current students Riley Riggs '25 and Claudia Riggs '26.

2008

Working in publishing since 2012, KAMILLA BENKO '08 has contributed to beloved children's books like Pinkalicious, Pete the Cat, and Fancy Nancy. She has most recently worked with Disney's Frozen II filmmakers to create Frozen II: Forest of Shadows, a novel bridging the two blockbuster films. Kamilla's next series, The Unicorn Legacy, begins in February 2024 with the release of Tangled Magic.

ALUMNI UPDATES

2010

EMILY (MORAN) GERMANO and husband John are proud parents of Gianna Mack Germano.

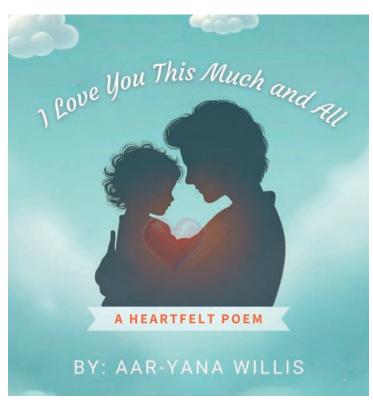


AMANDA (SANDS) SAUERTEIG and husband Tyler welcomed their first baby, Peyton Rae, on July 17, 2024.



2013

AAR-YANA WILLIS is excited to announce that she has recently published a children's book entitled "I Love You This Much and All," a heartfelt poem that expresses the unconditional love, support and bond a loved one has for their child. Aar-Yana is currently a lead teacher for Early Learning Indiana.



2014

BETSY (EVANS) VANDERBERG welcomed her first baby in 2023, and celebrated his first birthday in November.



2016

After four years of teaching middle school, **SARAH FULTON** transitioned to high school education and now teaches Freshman and Sophomore Honors English at her alma mater, BCHS. She is thrilled to be back, shaping the next generation of Trojans!

2017

JACOB DECASTRO serves as the Associate Director of Communications at Transportation Alternatives.

2020

After having secured a highly competitive internship at the White House, ISABELLE DECASTRO recently accepted a prestigious position there in the Office of Personnel.

2023

CHARLEY SZYDLYK, a student at Ohio University, was recently named a semi-finalist in the College Photographer of the Year (CPOY), the world's largest collegiate photojournalism competition, which draws over 600 students from more than 160 schools worldwide.

Alumni updates include submissions received through January 23, 2025.



TELL US WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU!

Scan this QR code or visit the BCHS alumni website to share your news or updates!

NEW BABY? LET US KNOW, AND WE'LL MAIL YOU A FUTURE TROJAN ONESIE

WWW.ALUMNI.BISHOPCHATARD.ORG alumni.bishopchatard.org/share-news

MILESTONE REUNIONS OLLO

Calling on these classes!

 1965
 1980
 1995
 2010

 1970
 1985
 2000
 2015

 1975
 1990
 2005
 2020

2025 is the year to celebrate your milestone reunion! If you would like to organize your class reunion this year, please contact Deanna Murphy, Director of Alumni Relations, at dmurphy@bishopchatard.org.



Bishop Chatard remembers and offers prayer for our beloved alumni who have passed away in recent months. These alumni include those whose obituaries were received by the Bishop Chatard Alumni Office since the publication of the Summer 2024 issue of *Trojans Today, Trojans for Life* magazine. This issue includes remembrances received through January 23, 2025.

Catherine "Cathy" (Monaghan) Bailey '68

Sandra "Sandy" (Hintz) Benedict '66

Linda (Schomaker) Coyne '66

John David Crockett '97

Timothy Doyle '79

Danny Ferguson '66

Laura (Kennedy) Flanagan '95

Dustin Gardner '03

Susan (Hall) Green '66

Eric Henson '03

Keith Jennings '98

Nancy (Rockwell) Likens '65

Maryann (Sherbert) McDaniel '74

Mary Catherine (Klee) Morrow '72

Anne (Scanlon) O'Hara '65

Peggy (Poynter) Phillips '74

Judy Ann Schulz '69

Karen (O'Brien) Swickheimer '66

BREAKING BARRIERS: LADY TROJANS EMBRACE NEW SPORTS







Although BCHS has previously had a girls' wrestling team, 2024 marks a milestone as the sport is officially sanctioned by the IHSAA. "We are excited to grow this program with the support of our community and dedicated athletes who want to achieve something amazing for themselves," said girls' wrestling coach Vance Erwin.

The Lady Trojan wrestlers had an impressive season, especially considering that three of the five athletes were first-time wrestlers. Despite being new to the sport, four advanced to regionals—a testament to their determination and rapid development.

"We have a philosophy of always improving no matter the results, good or bad," Erwin said. "We certainly celebrate our wins, but come back into the room every week focused on refining our skills for the next competition. I am super proud of this team and what we have done this season."

Looking ahead, recruiting is a top priority, as three of the five team members will graduate this year. "I'd love to have ten committed Lady Trojans next season," Erwin added. "By year three, if we can reach fifteen athletes, we'll be in a strong position to compete for more dual meets and a sectional title."

As girls' wrestling continues to gain traction, some parents express concerns about injuries. However, beyond the inherent risks present in any sport, wrestling offers one of the most effective forms of self-defense a young woman can learn. "Wrestling builds strength, resilience, and mental toughness while significantly boosting self-esteem and confidence," continued Erwin. "The lessons learned on the mat extend far beyond competition, empowering girls in all aspects of life."





Flag football, traditionally dominated by male athletes, is experiencing a remarkable surge in female participation. Indianapolis, a city known for its deep-rooted sports culture, is quickly becoming a hub for this growing movement. The introduction of girls' flag football programs in local schools is creating exciting new opportunities for young athletes to engage in a fast-paced sport that emphasizes teamwork, strategy, and physical fitness—without the contact associated with tackle football.

The Indianapolis Colts are playing a key role in expanding the sport, with hopes of surpassing 100 teams across Indiana next year. This milestone would earn flag football "emerging sport" status with the IHSAA, a critical step toward becoming a sanctioned varsity sport by 2027.

At Bishop Chatard, the launch of girls' flag football has been met with enthusiasm from students, parents, and alumni. "It's an exciting development to include our female students in a sport that already means so much to our school community," said Head Coach Josh Schaffner.

Reflecting on the team's inaugural season, in which they posted a 3-1 record, Schaffner recalled how the team progressed through the season. "By the end of the season, it was a completely different team. Sophomore quarterback Olivia Lehmkuhler was calling her own plays, the defense was locking down opponents—the girls' passion was on full display. It was a truly special ride."

Flag football not only builds foundational football skills, but it fosters teamwork and creates inclusive opportunities for young athletes. As one of the fastest growing sports worldwide, Bishop Chatard is proud to be a part of the movement.

"We had a great turnout," said Schaffner. "We had almost 25 girls sign up to participate and look to just grow that next year. We've had good student support. It's in the announcements at school. Some of the parents and friends come out to watch. It's really good."

ATHLETIC RECOGNITIONS

ACADEMIC ALL STATE RECOGNITIONS

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

J.D. Haines - Honorable Mention (IATCCC) A.J. Kroner (IATCCC) Paddy Boyle - Honorable Mention (IATCCC)

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Julia Score (IATCCC)

FOOTBALL

Eddie Benson (IFCA)
Sam Bustamante (IFCA)
Tony Cuniffe (IFCA)
Harrison Forestal (IFCA)
Cam Hardaway (IFCA)
Declan Hostettler (IFCA)
Michael McGinley (IFCA)
Luke Monahan (IFCA)
Landry Priser (IFCA)
Kade Rickard (IFCA)

BOYS SOCCER

Lorenzo DeVettori (ISCA)
Reiley Kumler (ISCA)
Matthew Marrano(ISCA)
Nicholas Marrano(ISCA)
Marcus Monachino (ISCA)
Cash Moore (ISCA)
Tommy O'Gara (ISCA)
Alex Paz (ISCA)
John Reynolds (ISCA)
Lawrence Deypalubos (ISCA)
Jude Forestal (ISCA)
Jack Ryan (ISCA)
Andrew Taylor (ISCA)
Cooper Teeple (ISCA)
Vikas Walling (ISCA)

GIRLS SOCCER

Olivia Berzai (ISCA)
Morgan Collins (ISCA)
Anna Dixon (ICGSA & ISCA)
Eileen Forsee (ISCA)
Lucy Frasier (ICGSA & ISCA)
Lily Gries (ICGSA & ISCA)
Lauren Millard (ICGSA & ISCA)
Addie Sandifur (ICGSA & ISCA)
Reese Sochacki (ISCA)
Maggie Ellis (ISCA)
Addie Fleming (ISCA)
Sophia Reed (ISCA)

BOYS TENNIS

Gavin Guffey (IHSTeCA) Keaton Kuehr (IHSTeCA) TEAM ACADEMIC ALL STATE (IHSTeCA)

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Ellie Burchard (IHSVCA)
Courtney Kramer (ICGCA & IHSVCA)
Renae Waugh (ICGCA & IHSVCA)
Blake Konger (IHSVCA), Support Staff
Patrick Mark (IHSVCA), Support Staff
Andrew Moriarty (IHSVCA), Support Staff
Blake Konger (IHSVCA), Support Staff

ATHLETIC RECOGNITIONS

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Phoenix Boyer: All City
Paddy Boyle: All City
J.D. Haines: All Conference, City
Champion, All Sectional, All Regional,

State Finalist

Quinn Hostettler: All City Eli Hummel: All City Marcus Pivec: All City

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Macy Betz: All City
Emmerson Bloede: All City
Maisie Chesebrough: All City
Ceci Jackson: All City, All Sectional
Grace Leppert: All City, All Sectional
Julia Score: Conference, City,
Sectional, & Regional Champion, All
State, State 5th Place

FOOTBALL

Eddie Benson: All Conference, All City (Coaches) Harrison ForestaL: All Conference, All City (Coaches), All State (IFCA), SUPERTEAM

Zach Gantz: All City (Coaches)
Zion Haney: All Conference, All City
(Coaches), All State (IFCA)
Declan Hostettler: All Conference
Mike McGinley: All Conference,

All City (Coaches)

Kade Rickard: All Conference Lucas Tremain: All Conference

GIRLS GOLF

Caroline Boyd: All City, All Sectional Clare Kirchgessner: All Conference, All City, All Sectional Emily Wendt: All City

BOYS SOCCER

Sam Kauffman: All City
Tournament Team
Cash Moore: All City Tournament
Team, All City (Coaches)
Tommy O'Gara: All Conference,
All City (Coaches)
Bryan Rodriguez: All Conference,
All City Tournament Team
Vikas Walling: All Conference, All City
Tournament Team, All City (Coaches)

GIRLS SOCCER

Olivia Berzai: All Conference, All City Tournament Team, All City (MCCGSA) Marcy Boyle: All Conference, All City Tournament Team, All City (MCCGSA) Reese Sochacki: All Conference, All City Tournament Team, All City (MCCGSA), All District (ISCA), SUPERTEAM

BOYS TENNIS

Casey Beckmann: All Conference, All District (IHSTeCA), All State (IHSTeCA) Gavin Guffey: All Conference, City Champ #2 Singles, All District (IHSTeCA), Senior All-Star (IHSTeCA) Matthew Haas: All Conference, All District (IHSTeCA), Senior All-Star (IHSTeCA)



TROJAN SPIRIT SHOP

Spring is just around the corner, and so is the busy spring sports season! Gear up with a visit to the Trojan Spirit Shop, where new items are added daily to help you show off your Trojan pride. Plus, team t-shirts for all Trojan athletic teams are available year-round—so you're always ready to cheer on your favorites!







5885 N Crittenden Ave Indianapolis, IN 46220



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SUMMER CAMPS AT BCHS

Registration is now open for Summer Camps at BCHS! Athletic and enrichment camps focus on a variety of activities and interests designed to appeal to a range of ages. Visit our website to learn more about the camp opportunities offered and sign up today!

W W W . B I S H O P C H A T A R D . O R G / C A M P S



DAY OF GIVING

2025

MARCH 11, 2025

THE TROJAN DAY OF GIVING IS A 24-HOUR DAY OF GIVING CAMPAIGN SUPPORTING STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND TEACHER COMPENSATION. IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GIVE! VISIT BISHOPCHATARD.ORG/GIVING TO SUPPORT CATHOLIC EDUCATION AT BISHOP CHATARD TODAY.









