

# Ramview

A PUBLICATION FOR THE ALUMNI, PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF FORDHAM PREP

Vol. 29 — No. 3  
Summer 2009

## — 2009 INDUCTEES —



Bernard J.  
Daenzer '34



Dwight D. Darcy '63



Rev. Vincent J.  
Duminuco, S.J., '51



Rev. Mallick  
Fitzpatrick, S.J.



Earl "Zev" Graham



Rudolph L. Hanish



Rev. Thomas C.  
Hennessy, S.J.



James G. Kane '44



Thomas F. Leahy '55



Rev. John J.  
Leonard, S.J.



Rev. Horace B.  
McKenna, S.J., '16



James P. Melican



Joseph H. Moglia '67



Most Rev. Martin  
Neylon, S.J.



William T.  
O'Donnell '43



Eugene J. Pabst '60



Norbert W. Sander '60



Michael K. Stanton '50



Rev. Victor R. Yanitelli,  
S.J., '33

FORDHAM PREPARATORY SCHOOL

HALL OF HONOR  
INDUCTION DINNER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009

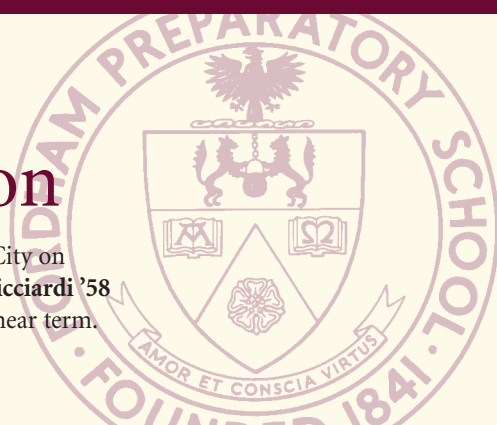
Hall of Honor 2009



# Wall Street Forum

## The Eleventh Annual Wall Street Forum & Luncheon

Over 90 alumni, parents and friends converged on the Yale Club of New York City on Wednesday, April 8th for fellowship and the opportunity to hear **Larry (Lawrence R.) Ricciardi '58** share his views of the current economy and the prospects for economic recovery in the near term. A lively question and answer session followed Mr. Ricciardi's address.



Wall Street Forum Speaker Larry Ricciardi '58



Peter Murray '63, Michael Tierney '56, George McKeegan '65



Lou Aidala '56, Ray Farrelly '58, Father Boller, Michael Tully '58



Brad Smith '95, Chris Carolan '91



Ray Farrelly '58, Jim Melican '58, Michael Tully '58



Jim Kane '44, Father Boller



Jack Geraghty '60, Michael Quinlan '71



Paul Williams '56, Lou Aidala '56, Joe DioGuardi '58, Shirley DioGuardi



Marc Burton '88, Graig Suvannavejh '88





# From the President's Office



"Summer time and the livin' is easy..." The words from a song elicit everyone's ideal of life in the school world but the reality here at Fordham Prep is quite different. No sooner were the exams over than the demolition

crew started taking apart the third floor science labs to make way for new physics labs, six classrooms and a music room. Various crews are scrambling to complete their work over the summer. Meanwhile, we are readying the second floor for the Higher Achievement Program (HAP) and the Summer Academy which will

work with 275 seventh graders and 30 sixth graders during July.

Off campus, a steady stream of service trips will come and go to Camden, NJ and Appalachia as part of our summer service program.

I am making preparations to go to Indonesia in August with two of our faculty members, Dr. David Gelpi and Mr. Raymond Gonzalez, to visit Maria Regina School. Maria Regina is a new Catholic international school in the city of Semarang, about an hour's plane ride from Jakarta. The school was started by Catholic laymen and women with liaison support from the Jesuits of Indonesia. As an international school, they are seeking connections around the world and, through the Jesuit network, they asked us to consider some affiliation. At the moment they are a middle and junior high program but they are planning to start a secondary

division. Initially, we will go to observe and learn about their school system as well as offer some presentations on moral development programs, the use of technology in the classroom, etc. It is expected that a delegation from Maria Regina will come to the Prep next year. Indonesia is the largest Muslim country in the world and the opportunity to open a portal between their world and ours is very exciting. I'm sure it will take a while to establish a mutually beneficial and lasting relationship literally around the world, but this is the first small step.

I hope your summer offers a blend of respite and rejuvenation.

Rev. Kenneth J. Boller, S.J.

## From the Principal's Desk

Robert J. Gomprecht '65

Athletics has a long and successful history at Fordham. In *When September Comes*, the superb history of Fordham Prep from its founding through 1991, Frank Holbrook '45 and Gus Stellwag '49, report that the first regular athletic teams on our campus began in 1859 when the Rose Hill Baseball Club was established. The team played St. Francis Xavier College on November 3, 1859, in what is thought to be the first collegiate game in which nine men competed on each side.

They go on to say that down through the years the baseball teams as well as teams in other sports took on a variety of colorful, intriguing names – the Rose Hills (College Varsity); the Live Oaks (Second Division) which evolved into the Invincibles in 1862, which, in turn, became the Fordham Prep Varsity in 1904; the Actives (a second team to the Invincibles); and the Tyros (a team for the Third Division smaller boys). The Live Oaks were a strong squad, soundly beating the Rose Hills' second nine in three out of three games played in 1861. This was the impetus to change their name to the Invincibles.



Fordham Prep has come a long way since 1904. Today, we field 16 varsity teams and most have junior varsity and freshman levels. Our athletic programs fit into the larger picture of Jesuit education. Within that context, we always strive to achieve the *magis*, working to improve and better our accomplishments. By any standards, the 2008-2009 school year has been a remarkable one of athletic achievements. In what might be a school record, five varsity teams and two junior varsity teams won City Championships. These championships include the teams from all five boroughs of New York City and Westchester County.

Varsity Swimming and Diving completed their season with an 8-0-1 dual meet record and then proceeded to win the 2009 CHSAA City Championship for the third consecutive year. Eleven Prep swimmers qualified for the New York State Championships where they placed 9th as a team. Senior Michael McVicker won the 100 Meter Breaststroke at the New York State Championships. McVicker broke both the school and CHSAA record in the event and was named All-American.

Varsity Indoor Track & Field won the 2009 CHSAA City Indoor Champions for the second consecutive year. The team was also the Jesuit, Bronx and Archdiocesan Champs. On January 30th at Madison Square Garden, the Prep 4x800 relay team captured the CHSAA Millrose title. It was the 6th time in eight years that the Prep team had captured the title. Nine track and field athletes qualified for the New York Championships. Several more qualified for the Scholastic Nationals. The Shuttle Hurdle Relay team placed 1st at the National Scholastic Championships with the fastest time in United States history. Fordham Prep ended the Indoor season as the #1 ranked team in New York State.

Golf completed its season with a 15-1 record dual match record and went on to win its second consecutive CHSAA City Championship. The team defeated Iona Prep 3-2 in the championship match at Pelham GC. All five starters qualified for the CHSAA States at James Baird Golf Course. Junior Jon Renza finished 2nd and advanced to the New York State Federation Championships in Elmira, NY. Renza finished 4th at the Federation Tournament.

Varsity Outdoor Track & Field took the 2009 CHSAA City Championship. Senior Wayne Seaton won both the 110 and 400 Meter Hurdle races and senior Andrew Hemmings broke the school records in both the long jump and the triple jump. At the New York State Championships, Seaton broke the school record in the 110 Meter High Hurdles. The 4x400 relay team ran the 2nd fastest time in the CHSAA at the Reebok Grand Prix meet. The relay team went on to place 3rd at the New York State Championships and the 4x800 relay team broke school record

at the Warwick "Fast Times" Relays.

In mid June, Baseball won the 2009 CHSAA City Championship. The team finished with a 23-13 (11-7 league) record. Strong pitching and timely hitting led the baseball team to their first title since 1992.

The team won 9 playoff games including 7 elimination games. Included in their playoff run was a 4-3 victory over number one seeded Xavierian, the 2008 City Champions. On the final day of the playoffs, they defeated Stepinac in a doubleheader 9-4, 5-3 to come from loser's bracket to capture city championship.

There were other notable achievements. The Soccer team was a CHSAA City Championship Finalist, losing to Molloy in the final game. The Football team defeated Xavier 41-28 in the Turkey Bowl which was covered live by Madison Square Garden Network from Jack Coffey Field at Fordham University. Senior football players Connor Brown and Charlie Argast were both selected to play in this year's Outback Steakhouse Empire Challenge All Star Football Game played at Hofstra University during the summer.

Junior wrestler Andrew Lenzi completed another outstanding season. After becoming the first city school wrestler to win a New York State championship (130lbs) in 2008, Lenzi followed that up with a 2nd place finish at the 2009 New York State championship. Andrew already has broken the school record for wins with 123 and he still has his senior year to wrestle at the Prep. The Varsity Hockey Team played Monsignor Farrell at Madison Square Garden on November 30th after a Ranger game. The Lacrosse team played in the 2009 CHSAA City championship game, losing to Iona Prep. Senior Lacrosse goalie Chris Moffa was named an All-American.

And two of our lower level teams also won city championships. JV Basketball took the 2009 CHSAA JV City 'A' Champions and JV Lacrosse captured the 2009 CHSAA JV City Championship.

Today, of course, we are simply known as the Rams. It's nice to note, however, that the moniker the Invincibles is as apt today as it was in the 1860s.





## Eloquence on the Rise

by Meg Brätt and Dan McCarthy, '10

What a difference four years can make! In April of 2006, two, and only two, Fordham students made their lonely way to Albany for the State Championship Tournament in Speech and Debate. This April, sixteen Fordham students went to Albany, and two returned as State Champions.

The Fordham Prep Speech and Debate Team enjoyed an astonishingly successful '08-09 season. In addition to local league events, the team attended six college invitational tournaments, as well as the New York State Tournament, the National Forensics League Championship Tournament, and the National Catholic Forensics League Championship Tournament. Sixteen students in all qualified for States this year; that is twice the number of students that qualified last year, and eight times as many as in '05-06, when Meg Brätt, a Prep English teacher, first started coaching the team! Two Fordham students brought home the ultimate prize: State Championships!

Jovalin Dedaj, '09, is the two-time State Champion in Varsity Extemporaneous Speaking ('08 and '09), and Matthew Zuckerman, '11, took 1st place in Impromptu. Three other students also advanced to final rounds: John Zanzano, '09, Matthew Khoury, '11, and Nick D'Angelo, '10, and two made it to semis: Dan McCarthy, '10, and Kevin Morley, '11. Out of the over 60 schools from all over New York State who were represented at the tournament, Fordham came in fifth place in both the Speech Sweepstakes and the Congress Sweepstakes, solidifying our new status as a team to watch.

At the Grand, the culminating tournament of the local NYCFL, which enables students to qualify for Catholic Nationals, Fordham Prep came in third place behind only Regis and Stuyvesant, both of which have significantly larger speech and debate programs. We qualified five students in all for Catholic Nationals. At Catholic Nationals, which took place in Albany over



Memorial Day Weekend, Nick D'Angelo, '10, was a finalist in Congress and Jamie Marshall, '09, was a quarter-finalist in Extemp. In addition, three students qualified for the prestigious Extemp Tournament of Champions hosted by Northwestern University. Of these, Jovalin Dedaj, '09, made it to semi-finals. Jovalin Dedaj also qualified for NFL Nationals by coming in first place in International Extemp at our District qualifier out in Syosset. He will represent Fordham and the NYC District in Birmingham, Alabama, this June.

During the past few years the team has grown in numbers, experience, and success. We hope to continue to improve in the years to come. Furthermore, we know this success cannot be measured merely by counting

trophies; the team is a close knit community of friends, inspired by the ideals of our local NYCFL league, whose motto is "leadership through speech." One of the goals of Jesuit education is "eloquentia perfecta," defined by the Fordham University website as "felicity with written and spoken expression and the ability to make sound arguments." In fact, Fordham University considers "eloquentia perfecta" such an important part of Jesuit education that they just instituted a new "EP" core requirement for undergraduates. The Fordham Prep Speech and Debate team doesn't need to be convinced—the approximately twenty competing team members know that the skills they hone for tournaments are the same that will bring them success long after high school graduation.

## Prep Students Tackle Immigration Reform



Eric Lynch '10

One of the six qualities of a Graduate of a Jesuit High School, as outlined in the document called "The Grad at Grad" is to be "Committed to Justice." In the past two years, several new initiatives have been underway to help educate the Prep community regarding justice issues. This year the Prep tackled the issue of Immigration Reform. A committee comprised of faculty and students met throughout the year to learn about the issue and plan ways to educate the Prep community. One of the highlights of the year was the Prep's participation in the Ignatian Family Teach-In on Immigration. Below is an excerpt from a speech given by Eric Lynch '10 to the student body about his experience at the Teach-In.

Late last March, I squeezed myself onto one of Fordham Prep's legendary yellow buses in the back parking lot with ten other members of the Fordham Prep community. The group consisted of Mr. Chavez, Dr. Carney, Mr. Kravatz, and Mr. Homer as well as fellow juniors Derek Alma and Eric DeFina, senior Ernest Zalamea, in addition to sophomores Cruz Orozco, Jonathan Schreier, and Victor Chatelain. We were on our way to the greater Washington D.C. area to visit Georgetown Preparatory School for the Bi-annual Ignatian Family Teach-In

sponsored by the Ignatian Solidarity Network, better known as ISN. The trip consisted of a three-day seminar and gave all attendees the opportunity to hear about the processes of citizenship, naturalization, and the lives of migrant families. I learned a lot about immigration and how it's handled in the United States from different speakers during this entire weekend. But one speaker blew me away with her own personal story: Amalia Molina. She presented the troubling tale of her family's difficulties migrating to the United States from El Salvador. Her story made it clear that our system of dealing with immigration is broken and must be revamped. She described the grueling details of being split from her children as she was dragged to a detention center and prompted me to fathom a day when I would not have my parents cooking me dinner when I arrive home from school or not driving me to the train station every morning; how did Amalia's children survive without their parents? Her family's struggle not only left me stunned, but disgusted by the way they were treated by our policies. I began to ask myself, what could I do to make a change in our system?

Luckily, in the events following the Teach-In, a day of action was encouraged by ISN. The object was for all the groups that attended, after learning about immigration for the entire weekend, to reach out to their

local area's congressmen and advocate comprehensive immigration reform. Our journey to Capitol Hill consisted of meetings with the offices of Representative José Serrano of the sixteenth district in New York, which is a large majority of the Bronx, as well as Senator Charles Schumer. At each meeting our group held a discussion with the congressman's aide, explaining our hopes in the field of immigration reform, specifically the five teachings of the Catholic Bishops pertaining to migration. Our points addressed a call for global anti-poverty efforts, a need for the reduction of backlogs and more visas for reuniting families, a desire for a far superior temporary workers program, a demand for those in this country without proper documentation to be provided a chance to earn legalization, and finally the restoration of due process.

The day was a success because of our group's ability to seek reform by means of democratic action. In our meetings, both of the aides listened to our opinions and were impressed by our motivation and the sincerity in our message. They expressed both their respective boss' support for comprehensive reform and that they were allies of the cause. Just thinking about sitting in the board-room atmosphere of Sen. Schumer's office and promoting the reform of a flawed structure still brings me the same gut-wrenching excitement and chills as when I sat in his office that day.

But now we are back here at the Prep and my high and mighty feelings of changing government policy are months behind me, and yet I am still as devoted to

this movement today as when I marched up the steps and into the offices of my Congressmen. It is not because I am forced to attend meetings or because I feel obligated to help the cause after being a member of the Teach-In, but due to my own overwhelming passion in the issue.

Comprehensive immigration reform fights for people to be treated as people who contribute to society; to be treated with dignity. It allows immigrants the opportunity to work towards a better life for themselves and their family; to live the American Dream, while ensuring the right of the US to enforce its borders and protect the economy. Consider your family: what if all of you were dwelling in an area under outrageous living conditions, starving, and poor, what would you do? Would you make the journey to a foreign land and leave everything you know behind for a greater dream?

Many have asked me why this has become such a large mission at Fordham Prep. Why am I worrying about people who are traveling to the United States illegally and then campaigning with our local Representative for their benefit? I see this answer from multiple perspectives. First, as a Catholic and as a student who has been involved in Campus Ministry for two years, I perceive this issue from a standpoint of the Catholic Church's Social Teachings. The core of the Social Teachings is for all people to be treated as people without condemnation. The Church claims that I should be allowed to participate and not be actively or passively left out of the community as if I were not a person of the human race; we must all live in solidarity and stand-up for one another in times of desperation. While many immigrants are coming here illegally, I cannot simply turn my back on them. Rather than desert a family of poor migrant workers when they need me the most, as a Catholic I have welcomed their plight with open arms and am striving for a solution to this problem.

As a student and learning member of the community, I identify another position from the Grad at Grad. By graduation I am supposed to have grown in understanding the many needs of local, national, and global communities; and have begun to take a

(Continued on page 11)







## The Fordham Prep Model United Nations Club

Fordham Prep welcomed Model UN into its activity community this year. Model UN is a group that focuses on international relations and diplomacy. The club was first founded in 2008 by Michael Grasso '10 and a group of juniors and sophomores: Brendan Duffy '11, Nick Townsell '10, Eric Lynch '10, and Gavin Reidy '10. In September, during their first General Assembly meeting, twelve dedicated students showed up: this number, however, shot up extraordinarily throughout the year to approximately seventy students. The group has an average E-day attendance of about forty-five to fifty students, depending on the time of year. Michael Grasso's goal in establishing Fordham's Model UN was simple, he wanted to increase geo-political understanding throughout the school by allowing students to debate and resolve tricky and complex world issues. Students who join the club not only learn about the topics, but can also learn about the politics of the nations they are representing. The Fordham Prep Model UN gives students a different nation in each debate. As ambassadors, they must know the socio-political

climate of their nation, prior statements made on the issues at hand, and information on the topic in general. The Model UN spends about four to five E-day periods discussing an issue. The first day tends to be an introductory film or presentation by the Secretary-General, or another moderator. The next three days in the cycle concentrate on debate; students listen, learn, and question other groups and explore the issue through constructive dialogue. The last day of the cycle pivots around resolutions, countries work for about fifteen minutes with each other and try to negotiate agreements. Finally, countries nominate and vote on the new resolutions, the majority resolution is then adopted by the MUN. Throughout the year, the group focuses on a plethora of different topics, from civil war, to human rights issues. This year alone, Model UN was able to tackle four major topics, each with unique twists and interesting outcomes. In the autumn, students worked through the MUN Security Council to enact a resolution for the Georgia-Russia Conflict of 2008. Arguments from both sides were heated, but, after the votes were

tallied, they agreed to an immediate cease-fire, and aid to the autonomous regions within Georgia. They debated over the proper course of action in Darfur, and also addressed the definition of genocide. They concluded the year with an intense debate of the Israeli-Gaza conflict, which not only concentrated on the Israeli invasion of the region, but also the authority of Israel in Palestine. Over ten countries submitted resolutions to be heard by the council, and although the results were close, the major components of Israel's proposition were ultimately accepted; the proposition included a call for UN Peace-Keeping troops on the Gaza strip border, who would be provided by a neutral country in regards to the Israeli-Gaza conflict, as well as for plans for a negotiation between Israel and Palestine for a cease-fire agreement. On a more offensive note, the proposition sternly requested that Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic socio-political organization that currently governs over Gaza, be excluded from the negotiations, due to the fact that Hamas is recognized by the US, Canada, Israel, Japan, Australia and the European

Union, among other countries, as a terrorist organization. Despite this, Hamas' proposal was also one of the more popular ones at the hearing; demands ranged from a three-mile wide strip of land that would connect Gaza to the West Bank, with two one-mile strips on both sides of the pass acting as de-militarized zones, to the transformation of Jerusalem into an "international" city under the stewardship of the UN. It was an interesting and controversial debate, but the students were able to successfully operate through the UN system and adopt a resolution.

Model UN is entering its second year and, according to Secretary-General Grasso, will be focusing on "bigger and better projects." The FPMUN will open new projects including a new Service department, magazine group, and Catholic social teaching seminar forum. These three projects will work within the MUN to make the group more diverse and exciting to the members. Model UN has been a great success so far, and will continue to thrive in the future.



## The Italian Club UPDATE

The Fordham Prep Italian Club had another great year with many activities and events. In addition to another successful Carnevale dinner dance, which was attended by approximately 250 people, some of the other events this year included: an "Iron Chef" dessert contest, a hands-on cooking class hosted by FP's own Stephen Traendly, and the "Arthur Ave. Experience" tour. More importantly, the club raised money for earthquake relief for the victims in Abruzzo. We also held a phone-in campaign to Verizon and were successful in having an offensive commercial changed. Some upcoming events in the fall are a trip to the Metropolitan Opera House to see *Turandot* and Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Columbus Day.



## 2009 Track Alumni Hall of Fame Dinner & Reunion

The 14th Annual Track & Field Hall of Fame Dinner saw the inductions of some of the greatest names in Prep Athletic History. Donald O'Connor '59 was inducted as captain of the Prep's first ever Cross Country City Championship team in 1958, a team that repeated in 1959. All but one of the living members of that team were in attendance and were honored for their golden anniversary. Eugene Pabst '60 was a member of those great teams, and was also inducted. Gene was killed in action over Vietnam in 1966.

The 40th anniversary of the still standing State Catholic Mile Relay record team was honored with a special ceremony, which included the induction of Eugene Costello '70 (RIP). Teammates Fred Miller, John Hallinan and Pat Reilly were on hand



to receive the honor. Reynaldo Mendez '93 became the first athlete from the "Febles Era" to be inducted, noting his outstanding accomplishments on the track and at Van

Cortlandt Park.

The night ended with some rousing recollections from and about our final inductee, Fr. Mallick Fitzpatrick S.J., who

has supported Prep Track and Field from his scholastic days in the 1950s.



photo by Shannon San George

## Reebok Grand Prix 5/30/09

The Prep track team took 4th place in the Reebok Grand Prix which was run at Icahn Stadium on Randall's Island. Wayne Seaton 49.6, Mike Jennings 50.7, Carlos Petrovich 48.8, Zach Keefer 47.3. 3:16.66 is 2nd fastest relay in CHSAA history and ranks behind only Fordham Prep '69 team (3:17.0y)!

(left-right) Coach G. Febles, Pat Reilly '70, Wayne Seaton '09, Mike Jennings '09, Fred Miller '69, Carlos Petrovich '09, Coach I. George Febles, Zach Keefer '09 and Coach Paul Collins '05

## Operation Smile

William Magee '62 returned to the Prep at the invitation of the Operation Smile Club at Fordham Prep to make a presentation to the school community and to receive a check for \$3,000 from the club in support of Operation Smile. The money was raised through bake sales, Guitar Hero competitions, the sale of Mothers' Club cookbooks, and donations from members of the Prep community.



## What to do with that Old "Stuff" from your Fordham Prep Days?

If you have jackets, yearbooks, letters, posters, clothing, trophies, sweaters, diplomas or other Prep memorabilia that you no longer want or are using, consider sending it to the Prep Alumni Office.

## ALUMNI HALL Continues to grow

### On The Wall

#### 1920s & 1930s

1929, 1936, 1937

#### 1940s

1945, 1944, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949

#### 1950s

1950, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1958, 1959

#### 1960s

1962, 1966, 1968

#### 1970s

1971, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1979

#### 1980s

1980

#### 1990s

1995

#### 2000s

2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

### In Production

(as of June 1, 2009)

1932, 1964, 1969, 1973, 1983,  
1986, 1988, 1992, 2009

If you would like your class poster to hang in Alumni Hall, please contact the Alumni Office, by e-mail at [alumnioffice@fordhamprep.org](mailto:alumnioffice@fordhamprep.org) or by telephone at 718-367-7500 ext. 208. The cost to produce, frame and hang class posters is \$400 per poster.



## The Alumni Dinner Lives

A question that is frequently asked when we meet with alumni, both locally and nationally, is "Whatever happened to the Alumni Dinner that was always held in the Spring?"

We are happy to report that the Alumni Dinner is now an annual event held yearly on the first Thursday of November. The 2009 Alumni Memorial Mass and Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2009. Details will be mailed in September.

THE ALUMNI DINNER LIVES! And you are invited to attend. Bring your Prep friends and classmates.





# Reunions



1959

The class catches up at the class conversation



1964

Margaret Sparzani, Anthony Santomero,  
Anthony Motta, Sharon Motta,  
Richard Sparzani



Frank Dunn, Ed Trawinski, Vito Catania

1969



Tim Neale, Fred Miller

1974



John Planell, Pat Marrinan



Vincent O'Leary, Tim Pine

1979



Christopher Lauber, Armando Crescenzi, Angelo Mascia



Andy Gentile, Peter Ianniello



# Reunions



1984



1989

Alexander Maldutis, Reena Nasr-Maldutis, Shannon Ortiz, Anthony Cavanna, Jonathan Henery, Father Boller, Jason Shramko



1994



Chris Hourihan, Philip Salo, Matt Loftus



The Class of 1994 celebrates their 15 year reunion



1999

David Garcia, Nelson Gerena, Robert Dyson, Patrick Boustead, Frank Henderson, Michael Fraina

2004



Class members view the reunion video





# Class Notes

1935

**Joseph Kelly** turned 91 on June 1st. He sends his best, along with God's blessings to his classmates.

1950

**Fr. Joseph E. Billotti, S.J.** has returned state-side after 20 years in Micronesia. He is assigned to Canisius College in Buffalo where he will be an assistant to the Executive Vice President. While in Micronesia, he worked on Kwajalein and Ebeye in the Marshall Islands, on Pohnpei in the Federated States of Micronesia and on Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. **Paul Victor** was honored at the Columbian Lawyers Association First Judicial Department Forty-Fourth Annual Rapallo Award Luncheon at the Waldorf Astoria in April of 2009.

1953

**Max Pelisson** sent in the following report on the Annual Class of 1953 reunion. "**Ed Flynn** was able to gather sixteen classmates for our annual 1953 class reunion at the Water Club in NYC on Tuesday May 19, 2009, the sixteenth consecutive reunion since its inception. We welcomed our classmate **Ernie Linneman** who we had not seen for some-time. "**Buzzy**" **O'Keefe '55**, the Water Club's proprietor, stopped by to say hello as he usually does. We also welcomed **Father Boller** who led us in prayers for the wife of our classmate **Bill Mulderig**, Joan Gilday Mulderig who had just passed away on May 18. We also prayed for the continued recovery of classmates **Bruce Berger** and **Gene Ferrick** who usually attend. Later in the evening, Father provided us with the on-going activities at the Prep and the upcoming events for the balance of 2009. He thanked all who contributed to the development of our class poster with the excess contributions targeted toward our class scholarship fund. **John Murphy**, our class scholarship coordinator, provided us with an update and also thanked all for their efforts to keep the fund alive given the economy. We reminded everyone about the Golden Rams Luncheon and Mass in October, and encouraged as many as possible to attend. Again, it was a great evening of stories and laughter but it went too fast."

1956

**James O'Connell** is going to test the retirement life style. He has decided to take the summer off and will be in residence at his home in Beach Haven NJ, on Long Beach Island, a resort community on the Jersey Shore. "If Lucille, my wife of 49 years can put up with me being around, this retirement will continue. If not who knows what the next adventure will be. If you are in the area, please give me a shout and stop in to say hello."

1959

**John Halligan** (1959) has written his fourth book on the New York Rangers hockey club. *100 Ranger Greats* ranks the greatest Rangers from one to a hundred. It will be published in September by J. Wylie & Sons of Toronto. **Gerry McLaughlin** has written what he calls a "feel good" novel titled *The Bishop of Lipoppo: A Fable*. Gerry says it is a tale of many things – a pilgrimage to the Bronx Zoo, a dog who eats a papal encyclical, a woman who wears a bishop's cassock into St. Peter's Basilica, a lion who helps save a Middle East peace initiative, and a herd of elephants who save a Kenyan village from burning down. To unravel the tale, you'll have to read it. *The Bishop of Lipoppo* can be purchased at major on-line bookstores.

1960

**Robert Stauf**, a retired teacher and presently most active in the Yonkers community seeks Prep volunteers to participate in a "Christmas in July" bell ringing Kettle Drive to help the mission of the Salvation Army. The drive begins July 13 and will last for a week. An anonymous donor will match every dollar raised. Please call Bob (914) 476-2284 if interested in pitching in for God's poor. Bob describes this activity as "an example of Christianity with its sleeves rolled up."

1961

**Gerard Pelisson** and **James Garvey '62** have completed *The Castle on The Parkway, The Story of New York City's DeWitt Clinton High School and Its Extraordinary Influence on American Life*. The book can be ordered through The Hutch Press or online at [www.castleontheparkway.com](http://www.castleontheparkway.com).

## George J. Wade, Jr. '55 Honored by New York Episcopal Church

On the occasion of The 11th Annual Law Day Choral Evensong, held at historic St. Paul's Chapel in lower Manhattan, Prep alumnus and former trustee, George J. Wade, Jr. was presented with the Servant of Justice Award for his eighteen years of volunteer service as "chief legal officer" for the New York diocese. According to Bishop Mark S. Sisk, "Though there is no such thing as an indispensable man, George Wade comes about as close to that description as I can imagine when it comes to the life of the diocese." (From *The Episcopal New Yorker*, April/May 2009)



1963

**Jenik Radon** sent in this update on his activities: "In the last few years I have traveled extensively overseas as I am prone to, having been to about 25+ nations. Just in the last two years, I have been to Laos to lecture and advise public authorities on mining; to Cambodia at a conference hosted by the government and the UNDP to also lecture on mining; to Turkmenistan as part of Columbia University's initiative to engage educationally with a nation long closed to the world; China to present on politics of Georgia and Russia and the future of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization; to Mexico to lecture on investment and nation branding, to Oxford to lecture on Eurasian pipeline politics. On the Georgia question and the impact of the Russian invasion in August 2008, I have also appeared on TV and in the papers as Georgia is a particular expertise of mine. By Monterrey Tech, Queretaro, Mexico, I have been honored by being named "Distinguished University Professor," while continuing to teach at Columbia University in the area of energy, corporate responsibility (CSR) and human rights as well as continuing to practice international corporate law. A high point, of which I am particularly proud, has been my involvement with Nepal and its peace process, where I authored the new Nepalese constitution that gave millions of stateless people of Indian origin citizenship and which helped bring peace to a civil war-torn nation. I have also co-authored, among others, an article entitled "Getting Human Rights Right" in the *Stanford Social Innovation Journal* which notes the need to have human rights impact assessments incorporated into company policies and "See No Evil, Hear No Evil and Speak No Evil" in the *UN Global Compact Journal* which expands on the meaning of the concept of the term complicity and human rights violations by corporations. And I attribute my ever increasing involvement in and contribution to human rights and related fields to the humanistic education and training that I received at the Prep. I have also been included by Columbia University as one of its 21 faculty members in *Who's Who in Human Rights at Columbia*."

1972

**Patrick Malgieri** joined the law firm of Harris Beach, PLLC as a partner in the Public Finance and Economic Development and Commercial Real Estate Practice Groups and the Financial Institutions and Capital Markets Team. Harris Beach has offices throughout New York State.

1974

**Frank Colarusso** was awarded the Dill Howard Award by the Tacoma Pierce County Baseball Oldtimer's Association for meritorious service to baseball in the Tacoma community.

1977

**Alfred Pucci** is a registered financial representative at New England Wealth Strategies in Tarrytown, NY.

1979

**Peter Ianniello** completed his Ph.D. in education from the Division of Curriculum and Teaching at Fordham University's Graduate School of Education. His dissertation was entitled *Concerns, Level of Use and Reflections of Interns in a Hybrid Teacher Education Program*.

1980

**Terrence P. Dwyer** just completed his 2nd year as Assistant Professor of Legal Studies at Western Connecticut State University where he was named 2008-09 Outstanding Faculty Member in the Ancell School of Business. Terry retired in 2007 after 22 years with the New York State Police to join Western Connecticut State University and continues to maintain his law practice in the Hudson Valley.

1981

**Patrick Fraioli**, a partner at Ervin Cohen & Jessup, LLP, a prominent Los Angeles business law firm, has been appointed Temporary Receiver in the highly publicized federal case, Carter Bryant v. Mattel, Inc. **Edward Lenci** is a partner of the law firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP in NYC. He invites his classmates to contact him, via e-mail at [elen-ci@hinshawlaw.com](mailto:elen-ci@hinshawlaw.com).

1982

**Thomas Curran** is a regular guest commentator for CNBC, he has been named to the Board of Prisoners Legal Services of New York, the chair of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York Committee on Criminal Advocacy, and been named as a "Superlawyer" under the area of White Collar Criminal Defense.

1984

**Steven Mitrakos** sends thoughts and prayers to the friends and families of fallen classmates. He sends his apologies to all for missing the 25 year reunion but promises to be at Rose Hill for the next one.

1985

**Vincent Heintz** returned to his position as a lawyer at UBS after returning from Afghanistan where he served as a combat advisor to the Afghan security forces. **Joseph Bastianich** opened a new restaurant, Tarry Lodge, in Port Chester, NY.

1986

**William Ehbrecht's** documentary on the book *Angels & Demons* aired on the Discovery Channel on Sunday, May 17, 2009.

1987

**Christopher Santangelo** appeared in an episode of *Law & Order*. **Thomas Okon** appeared on the front page of *The New York*



On Saturday, June 6, 2009, several members of the **1987 Fordham Prep Varsity Football Team** came together for a dinner honoring their head coach, Mr. Bruce Bott '59, at Roberto's Restaurant in Little Italy, the Bronx. A photo collage, including photos from the Oxford-Guilford football camp and the team's many victories, was signed by everyone in attendance and presented to Mr. Bott. A great time was had by all as the team reminisced about their 7-3 record (including a crushing victory over Xavier) and toasted Mr. Bott as their coach, mentor and friend. In attendance from the 1987 team were: Rudy Armbruster '88, Mark FitzPatrick '88, Eugene Rooney '88, Mark DiPaolo '88, Robert Hagan '88, Jim Polyak '88, Jim Smith '88, Ruben Rivera '88, Charlie Ray '88, and Kevin Rooney '88. Also in attendance as special guests were: Donn McNamee '87, John Neary '87, Kevin Fitzpatrick '87, faculty member Mr. Ferd Beck, and former coach James Feddeck '64.





The Prep was well-represented at the wedding of **Andrew & Laura Preisser '97**. Pictured are **David Sarli '97**, **Christian Lange '97**, **Robert Hemsing '60**, **Bernhard Preisser '64**, **Andrew Preisser '97**, **Joseph Preisser '94**, **Alphonse Preisser '57**, **Thomas Maguire '97**. Also in attendance but not pictured was **Norbert Dengler '49**

*Post.* The article was a look back at the Coca Cola ad that Tom appeared in with Mean Joe Greene in coordination with the thirtieth anniversary of the ad.

**1989**  
**Daniel Halloran** is running for the New York City Council in the 19th Council District in Queens, NY. For further information on his campaign, you can visit his website at [www.danhalloran.org](http://www.danhalloran.org).

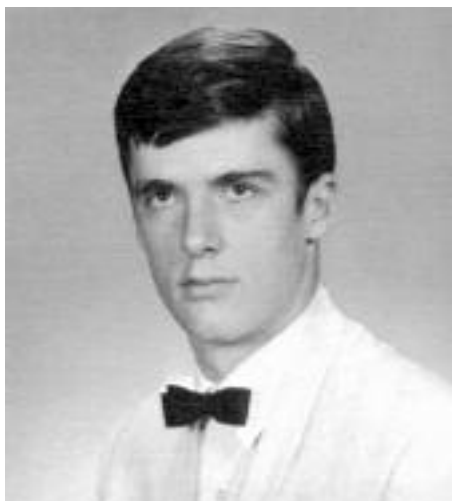
**1993**  
**Justin Bienkowski** graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Veterinary Medicine in May of 2009.

**1994**  
**Marc Baiocco** was appointed principal at the Alexander Hamilton Junior-Senior High School in Elmsford, NY. **Daniel Loyd**, the creative director at Silent City Productions, proudly reports that his company was nominated for a Webby Best Online Campaign Award for their production of *Lord of the Rings: Sweded*. According to the Internet's *Urban Dictionary* website, Sweded means "the summarized recreation of popular pop-culture films using limited budgets and a camcorder. The process is called sweding. Upon completion, the film has been Sweded."

## RAMVIEW CORRECTIONS

Apologies to **John A. Kearney '97** for not including his name in the list of contributors in the 2008 Annual Report.

Apologies to **John B. O'Donnell, M.D. '70** for not including his name in the list of top scorers in a single Prep basketball game. John scored 42 points in a Catholic High School Athletic Association playoff game against Saint Helena High School. John's 42 points ties him with **Tom Hage '92** for most points scored in a single Prep basketball game.



John O'Donnell '70

**1999**  
**Landon Dais** is running for the 9th City Council District in NYC. For further information on his campaign, you can visit [www.LandonDais.com](http://www.LandonDais.com).

**2004**  
**John Connor** is the assistant to the chief financial officer at Gabelli Funds in Rye, NY.



Faculty member **Kevin Phipps '01**, **Braulio Perez '09** and **Father Boller** at the March 2009 St. Aloysius Dinner. Braulio was honored at the dinner. Kevin served as his mentor.

Dear Graduates of Jesuit High Schools,  
**You are invited to**

## *a weekend with the Lord at Loyola House of Retreats*

in Morristown, NJ. Enjoy the serenity of this unique setting. Take the opportunity to revitalize your spiritual life and enhance your focus on day-to-day issues.

Amenities at the 33-acre Loyola Retreat House are superior, and a number of weekend and mid-week retreats have openings. The lay retreat season begins in September and runs through June. There are both men's and women's retreats, Days of Recollection, directed retreats, and opportunities for spiritual direction.

Call Andrew Coll at 973-304-1832, or Loyola directly by phone 973-539-0740 or email [retreathouse@loyola.org](mailto:retreathouse@loyola.org). Also, feel free to visit Loyola's website at [www.loyola.org](http://www.loyola.org).



## Our Tenth Anniversary was a Night of Firsts

The Tenth Annual Alumni Hockey Hall of Fame Event was well attended on Saturday June 6th and chock full of first time occurrences. The game was the most exciting ever played by virtue of the evenly matched teams selected by Coach Pilla; and was the first game to be tied at the end of regulation. The game was won late in our first overtime period by a blast off the stick of Phil Fusco '08. Both Goalies (Pat Ford '02 and JV coach Mike O'Brien) were superb in net; handling numerous hard shots. The final score was White Usztobees Team- 6 (note a team consisting mostly of 70's and 80's players) and the Maroon Hasbeenz- 5. We enjoyed strong play from the alumni of the 70's (most notably Dennis McKiernan) the 80's Kenny Labarca; 90's (John Kevlin/John Detone) and the 00's (Luke Malone / Hal Mackenzie). The most recent Prep Championship Team was well represented in the game as they also came out in numbers to witness the induction of one of their own.

The next first time occurrence was a double edge sword. We were extremely proud to induct our first woman (A true Hockey Mom) into the Hockey Hall and to further that first; we also inducted her son as the first Parent/Son inducted on the same day. Francesca Connolly has done so much encouraging top quality players to attend the Prep. Her son Kevin Connolly '04 had a legendary hockey career and was admired for his leadership and tenacity on and off the ice. Michael Reynolds '91 was also inducted as a player for the ages. Coach Abbatine noted that a Hockey Coach's dream would be to have a team of all Mike Reynolds. All our new members were also deserving of their Inductions for their love of the game, of the Prep, their teammates, coaches and the Fordham Prep Hockey Program.

I would like to thank the tireless efforts of my teammates on the Hockey Alumni committee: Bill McIntyre '79 and Jeff Brown '79. All their hard work always ensures a successful yearly event. This year we also received strong support from the FP coaching staff, Alan Pilla, Joe Abbatine and Nelson Ritter '96. All the players in the game also thank and rave about our Alumni game jerseys made entirely possible from Terrence Fay '87. We also thank Kevin Dolan '10 for being the game Referee the last two years. The event has become legendary for the induction speeches which are open to all and any who would like to give testimony of the deeds and sometimes minor mishaps of the Inductees. Memories are shared; laughter and good cheer (food/beer) are always in good supply.

We hope any Hockey Alumni not able to make it this year will drop in next year Saturday June 5, 2010. The event is always on the first Saturday in June. Come out and play or just be a part of all the fun.

John J. Murphy '77



Births/Adoptions

- 1994 Thomas Joseph, to John and Christina Fink
- 1994 Zander Zachary, to Daniel and Angela Loyd
- 1995 Owen Patrick, to John and Bridget Dunleavy
- 1996 Emily Virginia, to Michael and Brianne Franchi
- 1998 Caroline Anne, to Vincent and Patricia Murray

Marriages

- 1996 Michael Gorman and Katelin O’Rourke

IN MEMORIAM

Vincent J. Cahill ’37  
Nicholas J. Picciano ’39  
Rev. William A. Kelleher ’40  
William F. McLorn ’43  
Francis X. O’Neill ’43  
John V. Murphy ’45  
Msgr. John T. Servodidio ’45  
Edward J. Lowe ’47  
Brendan J. Connick ’48  
J. William DeMarinis ’48, *father of J. William ’76, Robert ’76, Paul ’76*  
Richard J. McGowan ’48  
David P. Brown ’52  
William H. Garland ’54  
George M. Mulligan ’54  
Joseph P. Cristiano ’55  
Joseph R. Mannix ’56

William E. Landry ’57  
Kenneth R. Smith ’57  
Frederick J. Brunner ’58, *father of Thomas ’81, Matthew ’83*  
Malcolm E. Hair ’59  
F. Bruce McCallon ’59  
James W. O’Callaghan ’59  
Thomas F. Perdisatt ’59  
Robert J. Malang, Jr. ’62, *son of the late Robert ’29*  
Anthony J. Panepinto ’65  
Peter J. Murray ’68, *father of Daniel ’09, brother of James ’63 and the late Robert ’64*  
Rudolph J. Saurel ’72  
Cyrus S. Wathey ’73  
Jon Schneider ’75, *son of the late F. Russell, ’33, brother of Thomas ’63, Russell ’66*  
Michael LaPettina ’79  
Peter L. Pischera ’81

Elizabeth Simermeyer, *wife of John ’46*  
Joan Mulderig, *wife of William ’53*  
Kathleen Finnen, *wife of Robert ’54*  
Annette Saraceni, *wife of Gerard ’55*  
Fran Foley, *wife of faculty member Jack Foley ’63*  
Bernadette Moglia Cracco, *sister of Joseph Moglia ’67*  
Isabella Torna, *mother of Vincent ’69, Anthony ’87, grandmother of Louis Buccheri ’07*  
Jerome Plunkett, *father of Kevin ’72, Brian ’73, Michael ’80*  
Mary Malanga, *former member of the Development Office and mother of George ’73*  
Jack Keller, *father of Richard ’75*  
John LaGattuta, *father of Michael ’75, John ’77*  
Louis Moscatello, *father of Louis ’79*  
William McElhenny, *father of Thomas ’84*  
Paula Berberich, *wife of Dennis ’87*  
Brian Martin, *brother of John ’96*  
Eugene Ritter, *father of faculty member Nelson ’96*

IMMIGRATION REFORM  
(Continued from page 4)

place in these communities as a competent, concerned, and compassionate member. To sum it up, I should be a “man for others,” committed to doing justice. The Grad at Grad beckons me to recognize this broken pattern in our government and to protest for justice.

The Jesuits are our link between the Catholic Church and Fordham Prep. They exemplify the road I should take to conquer injustice for they are widely known for their work towards social justice and their stand for human rights. The Jesuit order has attached itself to the call by the Catholic Bishops which I campaigned for in D.C., stating that all people have the right to migrate, but the government also has a right to control its own borders.

As an activist for comprehensive immigration reform, it is tough for me to acknowledge that not every person who wishes to enter the United States as a legal citizen can do so. At some point, someone must be turned away and it weighs very heavily on my soul to think about this. There is simply no way that the United States could accommodate every person from another country that wishes to prosper here in America. But what about

a law for those illegal migrants that have already crossed the border and dwell within the United States? What can be done to make undocumented immigrants come forward and not be afraid of the government’s actions? Currently there is a bill circulating through Congress, the DREAM Act and I believe it is a part of the solution and a way for the Prep community to get involved and show support.

Remembering Al Mehmel

By Dimitri A. Cavalli, ’90

Since graduating from the Prep in 1990, I’ve come back several times for a visit. For some strange reason, Mr. John Haag of the Science Department always looks at me with suspicion and asks, “What are you doing here?” Like many alumni, I’ve been amazed by some of the changes such as the Leonard Theater, which used to be the Prep’s unofficial handball courts.

Not too long ago, I went up to the Religious Studies Department and took notice of one of the desks. I remembered how each morning before class, Mr. Al Mehmel sat there reading his copy of *The New York Times*. When Mr. Mehmel died 20 years ago, his loss to the Prep family was tremendous.

Mr. Mehmel arrived at the Prep in 1966. He was a life-long Bronx resident and a graduate of Fordham University. For 23 years, he taught Religion and German. Mr. Mehmel was more than a teacher. He was an experience. Wherever Mr. Mehmel went, he brought laughter, love, and a little gentle mayhem with him. In fact, his reputation managed to travel beyond the Prep’s walls. During my Freshman year in 1986, the deacon at my local parish asked, “Do you have Al Mehmel for anything?”

I was fortunate to have Mr. Mehmel twice. The one thing everyone remembers about him was his wonderful sense of humor. It wasn’t uncommon to walk past one of his classes and hear roars of laughter

from his students. Who could forget his camel jokes or his world-famous impression of a certain science teacher? No matter how difficult things got for us at the Prep, at least some of us always had Mr. Mehmel’s class to look forward to. We students would spend hours telling his jokes and laughing about some crazy thing he did or said in class. On many occasions, Mr. Mehmel and I would exchange jokes, which we would pass on to others.

Mr. Mehmel often had some of us fooled. It wasn’t until his funeral that I learned that he and the late Father Russell Sloun, S.J., were not half-brothers. Mr. Mehmel seemed so sincere when he told us this in class. Other rumors about him turned out to be true. He did spend one year in a Capuchin monastery before leaving.

As Mr. Ferd Beck, Mr. Mehmel’s colleague in the Religious Studies Department and frequent co-conspirator in mischief, said, “For a long time, it was impossible to mention his name without laughing.”

Mr. Mehmel is also remembered for his favorite saying, “Love knows no rules!” For him, it was more than just a clever phrase to be listed every year in the school yearbook; it was a way of life. To his family, friends, co-workers, and students, he gave us great amounts of love and gave it unconditionally. Anytime you needed help, advice, encouragement, a prayer, or just a friend to talk to, Mr. Mehmel was there. The late Father

Edward Maloney, S.J. once told me that “Al Mehmel had a warm outgoing personality. His caring and jovial spirit endeared him to students and colleagues alike.”

At Fordham University, I got to know Mr. Mehmel’s son, Al Mehmel III. Over coffee, we often traded amusing stories about his famous father. One day, we both exploded into laughter when we recalled how Mr. Mehmel specifically wanted to be presented at his funeral. (Since this is a family publication, I’ll spare you the details.)

Mr. Mehmel’s unexpected death on June 19, 1989 shocked us all. We all knew that he had experienced some health problems, but we never dreamed that he would leave us so fast and at such a young age. The news of his passing spread very quickly. At the wake, there were literally hundreds of people. We all waited in line for hours to say good-bye to him and offer condolences to his wife, Patricia; son, Al; and daughter, Katherine.

Over 2,000 people attended his funeral at Holy Family Church in the Bronx, where Mr. Mehmel had also served as a deacon. His family, friends, colleagues, parishioners, and students all came to mourn his death, and, as the music pamphlet for his funeral Mass said, celebrate his life.

Al III said that his father “loved waking up each morning to go to the Prep and teach his boys who would be great men one day as he once said.” Al III also wants his father



remembered as “a man who breathed life, love, and knowledge into the hearts of every student, colleague, friend, and family member he was surrounded by.”

In his 23 years at the Prep, Mr. Mehmel earned a lasting place in this school’s history, and deserves to be mentioned among names such as Shea, Leonard, Holbrook, and Stellwag. Today, we honor the man he was and the legend he became. We remember Mr. Mehmel because he was a great teacher and a great friend. The joy he gave each of us can never be forgotten.

Above all, he loved us.



# Construction Update

## 4th Floor Construction

The creation of additional space for science on the Prep's newly constructed fourth floor allows the school to open space for renovation and conversion on the third floor of its main building.

Biology and chemistry laboratories that currently reside on the third floor will be moved to the fourth floor, creating space for the construction of six classrooms for general use.

In addition the multi-purpose science room on the third floor will be converted to Physics laboratories, increasing to three the number of Physics labs for student and faculty use. Two existing third floor classrooms will be converted for use as a Band Room.

The construction is expected to be completed in time for the opening of the 2009-2010 academic year in September.



Outside – Awnings being added to the exterior



Fourth Floor – The interior stairways are extended to the fourth floor



Work continues on the Greenhouse



One of the hallways on the fourth floor



The faculty patio



Only the outer walls remain of the third floor biology labs



Third floor science corridor under construction



The walls in what used to be the Chemistry Labs were torn down



The Hall of Honor elevator shaft has been extended to the third and fourth floor

## STAY CONNECTED TO FORDHAM PREP

Send your e-mail address to [alumnioffice@fordhamprep.org](mailto:alumnioffice@fordhamprep.org) <<mailto:alumnioffice@fordhamprep.org>> to receive class news and information about reunions and Prep events like the Turkey Bowl and the Wall Street Forum.

Communicate with Prep Alumni through the Fordham Preparatory School Alumni Groups that can be found on Facebook and LinkedIn.