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Dear Friends,

You’ll see in this issue that the fine arts are booming at U of D Jesuit. From our bands and a new orchestra to the growing choir and fall play, the surge we’re experiencing in these areas is actually consistent with the rich history of our order.

Over the centuries, schools founded by the Jesuits were special in many regards, but one of the most interesting is the way they cultivated the arts. This phenomenon came about as a part of the pursuit of excellence in education, as the Jesuits were pioneers in what we today call “active learning.” Students had to be able to present what they had learned aloud and in front of a group. More specifically, the Jesuits felt that it was not enough to read a great play — to gain a full understanding of the work, students had to take part in a production of it.

It was initially through theater, therefore, that the Jesuit schools became famous for the fine arts. To produce a play (and to entertain the audience during intermissions), music was needed. And in addition, dance. So that students did not make fools of themselves, they had to have good instruction in both of these arts.

Finally, a focus on the fine arts furthers a concept referenced frequently by Jesuits — the notion of finding God in all things. Whether in a concert, halftime show, or one of our theater productions, I encourage each of you to witness firsthand the splendor of the arts here at U of D Jesuit and be uplifted, as I am, by our talented Cubs.

God Bless,

Karl J. Kiser, S.J.

Karl J. Kiser, S.J.
President

Mission Statement
University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy is committed to providing the highest quality of Jesuit college preparatory education to young men in southeast Michigan. U of D Jesuit, in collaboration with parents, will challenge its students to go beyond academic excellence, to be reflective, to be committed to the service of personal faith and the promotion of justice: to be “Men for Others.”

NOTE: While this publication of Highlights was being completed, white smoke above the Vatican signaled the election of Pope Francis. As the world welcomes the new Bishop of Rome, the Jesuit Community here is proud that one of its brothers in the Society of Jesus has put himself so generously at the service of the Universal Church. Let us keep him in our prayers.

Dear Friends,

Last fall, one of the parents new to our school community mentioned that he and his spouse were impressed by how well things are run at U of D Jesuit. That brief conversation is similar to other comments Fr. Kiser and I have heard from people when they get involved at U of D Jesuit. They discover an educational institution that thoroughly examines each facet of its operation, and strives to further improve the content and delivery of its mission. I thought I would share with you a few of the behind-the-scenes details that makes U of D Jesuit a premier educational institution.

Let me start with our Board. The Board of Directors is truly a governing board. This means that its fiduciary responsibility is to ensure all policies, practices, decisions, and activities are conducted in accordance with the mission of U of D Jesuit. The Board of Directors has five scheduled meetings each year. In addition, there may be more meetings and conference calls as needed. This year’s Board has 22 members including five Jesuits. The members receive no compensation for their service. Board members include Presidents of three Jesuit high schools as well as professionals with experience in areas such as secondary and higher-level education, finance, human resources, law, marketing, and technology.

Supporting the Board of Directors are twelve committees to the Board. The committees comprise Academic, Admissions & Enrollment, Executive, Facilities, Finance, Governance, Human Resources, Investment, Jesuit & Catholic Identity, Marketing, Security & Safety, and Technology. In total, there are over 100 individuals with relevant professional experience who are members of these committees. These members, who also do not receive any compensation, comprise alumni, parents of current students and alumni, as well as other friends who believe in the mission of The High. Each committee meets a minimum of four times each year with some having ten meetings per year. Each committee oversees, monitors, and reviews activities critical to the success of U of D Jesuit. Each Board of Directors meeting includes reports from the various committees, as well as reports from both the Principal and the President.

There is a common theme I hear from our new board and committee members as each individual becomes involved with U of D Jesuit. They are impressed on the scope and seriousness of the deliberations in these meetings. Further, listening to them, you will hear an overarching desire for our school to continue to be a first-class educational institution for which you can be proud.

If you would like to know more on how you can support U of D Jesuit, please contact me at thomas.totte@uofdjesuit.org or 313.927.2347.

We are grateful for your generosity. You are integral in making the mission of U of D Jesuit a reality for our 880 students.

Thank you again for all you do for U of D Jesuit.

Tom Totte ’74
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Christian Service Team’s Mountain of Food

This fall, the U of D Jesuit Christian Service Team organized and implemented a food drive, Mountain of Food – sponsored by Rick Young Insurance, collecting both food and financial donations to benefit Gleaners. Competing with 45 other schools from metro Detroit and Ann Arbor, U of D Jesuit won the competition by collecting the most food and financial donations. The High collected over $3500 and 3,809 pounds of food, which will provide over 24,000 meals for our hungry neighbors. For their effort, Gleaners awarded U of D Jesuit with $100 for a pizza party and Rick Young Insurance provided a generous donation of $5,000. Congratulations to the Christian Service Team and the U of D Jesuit community.

Archbishop Allen Vigneron

makes a special visit to U of D Jesuit High School and Academy

Archbishop of Detroit Allen Vigneron met with the senior class in the chapel after celebrating Mass with the entire student body. During his visit, the Archbishop blessed all the Christmas gifts and food the school’s 880 students collected as part of the annual Adopt-a-Family program conducted in cooperation with Focus:HOPE.

Archbishop Allen Vigneron makes a special visit to U of D Jesuit High School and Academy

Cubs enjoy “Close-UP” look at nation’s Capital

Four U of D Jesuit students: Steven Mannrique ’15, Robert Pytel ’13, Nick Forte ’14, and John Baker ’14, spent five exciting days in Washington D.C. They joined with students from around the country for the annual “Close-UP” pilgrimage to our nation’s capital. The Cubs spent their days engaging in civic dialogue, meeting with government officials and U of D Jesuit alumni, as well as visiting the memorials, Smithsonian, and Capitol Hill.

Upon arrival, the students met Bob Joseph ’64, at the Vietnam Memorial. There they gathered to pay tribute to fallen soldiers, especially Michael Rich ’63, 2LT, USMCR; KIA; Kenneth J. Spencer ’64, 1LT, USA, KIA; and Frances Girardot CPT, USA, KIA, who left after his sophomore year.

Congressman Joe Garcia (D-FL), a Jesuit educated alumnus of the Close-UP Program, met with the Cubs along with students from St. Brendan Catholic High School and Belen Jesuit Preparatory School on the floor of the House of Representatives as honored guests of the newly-elected Congressman. Afterwards, Congressman Garcia posed for pictures with U of D Jesuit students on the steps of the Capitol building.

Representative Joe Garcia (D-FL) poses with U of D Jesuit students.

Every Tuesday, Michigan’s junior Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) hosts a reception to meet with constituents who are in town. The Cubs stopped by to attend the reception with the Senator.

Prior to the trip, U of D Jesuit students learned about antitrust cases, using the FTC Guide to Antitrust Laws. While stopping by the Federal Trade Commission, they engaged in discussions regarding horizontal and vertical determinations to antitrust law, the role of the FTC and the Department of Justice, as well as major antitrust cases of the last century. Students met with Bob Joseph ’64 to further their understanding of the role the FTC plays in antitrust cases.

On Thursday, at the FTC, the Director of Policy Planning, Andrew Davi spoke to the students in depth about the role of the FTC as an independent administrative agency that is not part of Congress or the Executive Branch.

A former Chairperson of the FTC and current professor of law at The George Washington University Law School, William E. Kovacic ’70, an expert in antitrust cases and policy, who has traveled the world extensively to help other governments set-up anti-trust policies, joined the U of D Jesuit students at their FTC visit.

Lastly, the Cubs met with the Honorable Commissioner Maureen Ohlhausen who gave the students great advice about work ethic and integrity.

Journalism class brings in big name guest speakers

Faculty member Sam Evrat ’98 invited numerous local media personalities throughout the semester to talk about their experiences to our students in Journalism.

Speakers included:
- Angelique Chengelis, The Detroit News
- Dan Miller, Fox 2 Detroit/Play-by-Play Voice of the Detroit Lions
- Mike Householder, Associated Press
- Larry Lange,Associated Press/ Channel 7 Sports
- Eric Chase, The Detroit News
- Angelique Chengelis, The Detroit News
- Dan Miller, Associated Press/ Channel 7 Sports
- Eric Chase, The Detroit News
- Matt Dery, The Ticket

Dan Miller talks with U of D students about his experiences in broadcasting.

Highlights welcomes any comments, positive or negative.

Letters policy:
All writers must provide their full name. Letters should be 150 words or less and are subject to editing for length, accuracy and clarity. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Letters, opinion pieces and articles submitted to Highlights may be published or distributed in print, electronic or other forms.

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Kristine Hoover , Development Office – ext 2328

Check the alumni homepage for news and event updates:
www.uofdjesuit.org/alumnievents
Coach O!

A year later, after enjoying the experience so much, he accepted a position on the faculty where he taught math through 2003. Now he returns again and is more excited than ever. Olejniczak takes over the reins of the Cub football program as well as a full-time position in the Admission Department.

It is so great to go back to a place that gave me so much,” Olejniczak said. “It’s my alma mater and ever since I’ve been a coach, the thought has always been there that I wanted to be the head coach at U of D Jesuit. The opportunity arose to go back and I said that this is just too good to be true.”

In addition to his father, his two younger brothers Keith ’94 and David ’99 also attended The High – and they were students at The High – and lived together as members of the inaugural Alumni Volunteer Corps class in 1995, dedicating a year of service to the school.

“Baseball is about going home,” former Major League Baseball Commissioner Bart Giamatti once wrote, ”and how hard it is to get there and how driven is our need.”

Coaching, as he is popularly referred to amongst his players, may disagree. This time football is the reason for going home — to fulfill a dream serving at a school he truly loves and calls home.

Read more online

Find out what Coach O learned from three past Cub coaches: Dick Kennedy, Ron Birdi, and Scott Merchant. Also, Joe Kelly ’91 knew Oscar before they were students at The High – and lived together as members of the inaugural AVC after college. Read his thoughts on seeing his classmates assume the helm of the football program.

www.uofdjesuit.org/highlights

Familiar face returns home to guide Cub football program

By Mike Gill ’87

A year later, after enjoying the experience so much, he accepted a position on the faculty where he taught math through 2003.

Now he returns again and is more excited than ever. Olejniczak takes over the reins of the Cub football program as well as a full-time position in the Admission Department.

It is so great to go back to a place that gave me so much,” Olejniczak said. “It’s my alma mater and ever since I’ve been a coach, the thought has always been there that I wanted to be the head coach at U of D Jesuit. The opportunity arose to go back and I said that this is just too good to be true.”

In addition to his father, his two younger brothers Keith ’94 and David ’99 also graduated from The High.

Olejniczak (pronounced 0-le-knee-check) packs an impressive resume of success at both the high school and college level. Since 2007, he coached on the staff of Campbell University, a Football Championship Subdivision school located in Buies Creek, North Carolina. Part of the original coaching staff that started the program from scratch, he served since 2009 as the Camels’ Offensive Coordinator, gaining a reputation for creating a high-energy offensive scheme.

Prior to his time in North Carolina, Olejniczak held coaching positions at Detroit’s Wayne State University and Michigan State University.

But alumni from a decade or more ago remember him for his time at The High.

Beginning in 1995, he held positions on the coaching staffs for football and baseball including two years as the baseball team’s head coach. From 2000-2003, he was the Cubs’ Defensive Coordinator, when the Cubs made three state playoff appearances, a Prep Bowl Championship, and a Class A State Final Four appearance.

When it gets down to specifics on the field, Olejniczak promises that the team will be “fun to watch” with an emphasis on speed and physicality. “We like to run,” he laughs. “Running will never be a punishment for not doing something right. Why? Because we like to run. We are going to run all the time.”

Coaching, as he is popularly referred to amongst his players, may disagree. This time football is the reason for going home — to fulfill a dream serving at a school he truly loves and calls home.
Champion Cubs

Winter season truly special for hoops and hockey squads

The 2012-2013 winter sports season could arguably be called the best in U of D Jesuit history.

The basketball team won the Central Division Championship, the Catholic League Championship, and their District Championship. The hockey team skated all the way to the Frozen Four before bowing to eventual state champion Brighton. Throw in that the bowling team came within a pin of the Catholic League title and Cub fans had lots to cheer about.

So was it the best ever? Grab a stool and a root beer and let the debate begin.

For basketball, it was the first Catholic League Championship since 1992 and the fourth in school history. Never before has a hoops squad completed the trifecta that this team did: Central Division title, Catholic League Championship and District Champs, in addition to winning a school-record 19 games. In the state playoffs, they are the first team since 1990 to make it to the Regional Final.

The hockey year’s squad set a school record of 19 wins (including playoffs), captured the program’s third Regional title and advanced to the Frozen Four for the second time in school history and the first time since 2004-2006.

All the while, students and fans packed the gym and arena to cheer the Cubs on with loud and boisterous cheering sections energizing the atmosphere both home and away. Combine the fact that both basketball and hockey had perhaps their best season ever in the same season and you can rest your case on whether or not this was the most successful winter season in Cub High history.

Basketball: Catholic League Champs

Winning the Catholic League Championship for the first time in 21 years brought about a wild celebration at half court at venerable Calihan Hall. Students swarmed their basketball heroes after the game and broke into a spontaneous rendition of the Fight Song. This occurred after defeating their division rival DeLaSalle for the third time this season, 58-39.

The Cubs protected a first-half lead and relied on a strong, stifling defensive effort to beat the Pilots. Led defensively by seniors Andrew (AJ) Horde and Malik Donnelly, U of D Jesuit played its best basketball of the season before a raucous Cub student section, with 15 key points between the two seniors.

Coach Pat Donnelly joined a distinguished list of Catholic League champion U of D Jesuit basketball coaches—Bill Thibeudeau (1972), Dan Haber (1979) and Scott Hammond (1992).

"It definitely was the goal this year," Donnelly said. "We sat down as a team and had them write their individual and team goals down. It was amazing how many kids put down winning the Catholic League.

The more than two decades since the Cubs defeated DePere High School to claim the 1992 title have included a handful of chances to bring back the title to Curley Hall. Horde remembers one such opportunity well: a loss in the 2011 title game to DeLaSalle.

"It was great to beat them in the championship especially after losing my sophomore year," Horde said. "It feels really good to know the alumni will be happy and that we got a new number on the banner." The freshman team, who finished 18-1, and junior varsity squad each won Catholic League titles, too.

As the state playoffs got under way, the pinnacle of the Cubs’ playoff run would by chance be their last game of the season. First, the Cubs grabbed the District Champion hardware by defeating Renaissance, 69-56. Next in the Regional Semifinal, they muck by a tenacious Birmingham Groves squad, 64-62. Then just two weeks after facing Detroit Pershing in Operation Friendship, the Cubs would face them again for the Regional Championship.

Sports: Frozen Four

The hockey team’s run to the Frozen Four captured the excitement of the student body too. The team grew more confident as the regular season waned, ending the campaign on a five game winning streak to enter the playoffs at 15-8-1. The tough regular season schedule, which included three wins over DeLaSalle, two wins over Trenton, Wyandotte and Calumet, and a win over Division 2 champion, Livonia Stevenson, prepared them well for the playoffs.

After winning their first game 8-0 in the state playoffs against St. Clair Shores, the Cubs stared down a familiar foe, league rival tenth-ranked Grosse Pointe North at the end of the first quarter – a drastic change compared to their first match-up.

Eyes widened when the Cubs led by four with 2:30 left.

"It definitely was the goal this year," Donnelly tweeted shortly after to his legion of Twitter followers.

 entonces, the Cubs' #7 Class A #16 in the country by USA Today.

The Cubs celebrate a goal as they move onto the next round.

As fans jammed Compuware Arena on the first day of March and others tuned in on their internet to catch the smooth voice of Cub senior Jeremy Otto calling the play-by-play on the Cub Sportscast station, everyone hoped the Cubs could upset the defending state champion, Brighton. Despite having many opportunities and many shots on goal, Brighton moved on to the finals with a 4-1 win and the next day, won the title for the second year in a row.

"The 12 seniors were instrumental," Bennett reminisced of his team. "They set goals that were realistic and measurable. It was one of those seasons where you just wanted to keep getting on buses, going to places and playing in venues. You did not want it to end. Our team came a game and a couple goals away from the ultimate destination."

Then, the Cub comeback began. A steal, a three and another steal gave the Cubs the ball trailing only by four with 1:30 left. They cut it to two with 1:11 left. Trailing by three with thirty seconds left, the silky freshman Winston drained a three to tie the game at 60. But a Pershing bucket at the buzzer let them escape with the victory. Season over.

The Cubs celebrate a goal as they move onto the next round.

As short winter days turn toward long summer nights and spring quickly approaches, it is time to close the books on the winter sports season. However, these history books will be kind to those who partook in the magical Cub winter of 2013.

Ediors Note: Regular winter season recaps (basketball, hockey, bowling, skiing, swimming and wrestling) as well as individual athletic awards will appear in the next edition of Highlights.

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2012 FALL SPORTS ROUND UP

**Football**
All-State Academic Team #3 in Division 2
Record: Overall: 2-7  Catholic High School League: 0-4

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Individual Honors</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic All-State</td>
<td>Mitch Gaynier ’13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic All-State</td>
<td>Mitch Gaynier ’13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-Catholic</td>
<td>Curtis Smith ’13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-Catholic</td>
<td>Michael Wroblewski ’13</td>
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<tr>
<td>All-League</td>
<td>Parris Bennett ’14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-League</td>
<td>Jaron Faulkner ’14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Team All-Detroit</td>
<td>Parris Bennett ’14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention All-Detroit</td>
<td>Michael Wroblewski ’13</td>
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**Tennis**
All-State Academic Team
MHSAA Regional Champions
CHSL Runner up
Record: Overall: 3-2  Catholic High School League: 2-1

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<tr>
<td>All-State</td>
<td>Connor Maks ’13</td>
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<td>All-State</td>
<td>Evan Beale ’13</td>
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<tr>
<td>All-Catholic</td>
<td>Connor Maks ’13</td>
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<tr>
<td>All-Catholic</td>
<td>Evan Beale ’13</td>
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<tr>
<td>All-League</td>
<td>Kevin Hurley ’14</td>
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**Soccer**
All-State Academic Team (3.63 GPA cumulative)
Record: Overall: 4-10-6  Catholic High School League: 1-4-1

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<td>Ray Bauer ’13</td>
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<td>Academic All-State</td>
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<td>Academic All-State</td>
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<td>Academic All-State</td>
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<td>Academic All-Catholic</td>
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**Cross Country**
Catholic High School League: 2-2

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<tr>
<td>All-League</td>
<td>Nicholas Salomon ’13</td>
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<tr>
<td>All-League</td>
<td>Jack Dolan ’13</td>
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| www.uofdjesuit.org                          |                               |

Cub Creativity Captured at The High
It’s just your typical February Wednesday morning at The High.

Walk into the band room and you’ll find the Symphonic Band working on Glenn Miller’s American Patrol. Listening to the trumpets, Music Director Chris Charboneau exhorts, “Breathe!” A few minutes later, out comes the sheet music to Variations on a Korean Folk Song.

A few minutes later, long-time faculty member Michelle Mooney stands in her art room working with upperclassmen – mostly seniors – in their Ceramics I class. Most students are in the process of finalizing their current pieces with paint. “Don’t look at the bottle, look at the sample,” she explains to one student as for what the paint will look like once it has been fired in a kiln.

This is the familiar refrain of the day as students saunter over to her to ask questions. “You can’t go by what it looks now. It is way darker than that,” she explains to another student. Fast forward a few more hours to alter the final bell has rung. Now, it’s time for members of U of D Jesuit’s theatre arts program to practice their craft, rehearsing for their upcoming Spring Musical (even if it did take place in the dearth of February), Damn Yankees. Others are working on set design. Of course, for this extra-curricular, there are more than just Cubs rehearsing: girls from high schools throughout the entire metro-Detroit area converge on The High for this production.

If all of this sounds similar to the Fine Arts experience an alumnus had while at The High 10, 20 or 60 years ago, it very well likely is. Musicians play, artists create and actors perform. But the Fine Arts program has continued to evolve over the years to offer Cub students a top-notch curriculum as a career.

For the first time in decades, the Marching Band has brand new uniforms, after wearing hand-me-downs from another school’s music program for the past handful of years. The band raised just over $30,000 to purchase 80 new maroon, white, and black uniforms, custom-designed for The High. Using the University of Michigan’s band uniform design with Cub colors, the outfits have the letters AMU on one shoulder. The other shoulder says “Jesuit” while the back of the uniform features the U of D Jesuit crest. “People just went crazy for them,” Charboneau says. The band also added a whole new drum line.

The curriculum in the department is growing too. For this school year, a String Orchestra class has been offered for the first time, as the department hired its second faculty member, Sarah Paquet, to head up this initiative. She works part-time for the school at this point, also directing the Cub Choir. Thirteen students participate in the String Orchestra during its inaugural year but it is expected to grow to over 20 next year. A goal for down the road would be to pair them with the Symphonic Band for special performances. Students are taking notice of the music program’s development. The Marching and Symphonic Band (marching during football season; symphonic the rest of the year), grew from 59 members last year to 71 this school year. Charboneau expects it to grow even more but notes he does not know how to accommodate more than 80 members in the music room’s square footage.

The Jazz Band is a true show-piece band for the school. They played for over an hour, an 18-song set – very long for a high school group – at the school’s Auction. Made up of both symphonic band members and others not in the music program, it performs other gigs throughout the year and helps raise the energy level during the Cub’s home basketball schedule. This band is open only by audition and meets from 7:00 to 7:45 a.m. before school starts.

You’ll hear at least one Cub band, orchestra or choir at the following events:

- Home Football Games (4)
- Christmas Concert
- Home Basketball Games (7)
- U of D Jesuit Auction
- 25 School Masses (School Masses (7), Class Masses (6), Auction Mass, Family Masses (4), Alumni Reunion Mass, others)
- Graduation
- Open House
- Grade School visits
- Music in the Park in Chicago (May 2013)
- Spring Concert
- Fr. Kiser’s Birthday Party
- Detroit St. Patrick’s Day Parade
- Other events

Music
Undergoing the most radical reinvention in the Fine Arts Department is the music program.
Chance meeting leads Music Director to U of D Jesuit

Over the years, U of D Jesuit’s President, Fr. Karl Kiser, has served as a weekend assistant at Holy Name Parish in Birmingham — a place where current U of D Jesuit Music Director Chris Charboneau has served as the Saturday Mass Music Director. The two got to know each other. When the Pastor, Monsignor John Zenz, celebrated his 60th birthday, he asked Charboneau’s Jazz Band at Oak Park High School to serve as the entertainment for the evening. With Kiser in attendance at the party, he was impressed with what he heard. It was the beginning of what brought Charboneau to U of D Jesuit.

Beginning his music career teaching in Harrison, Michigan near Houghton Lake, Charboneau arrived with 31 kids in the band program and left five years later with 110 participants. He moved to Birmingham’s Seaholm High School where he led their music program as Director of Bands for six years. But Oak Park lured him away, hoping for stability they could not previously find as Charboneau became the eighth Band Director in nine years. He remained for seven years before moving to U of D Jesuit in 2011. All three stops proved to be great training for his experiences at The High.

"I taught in a very poor, rural town where I had kids who did not have running water," Charboneau says. "I taught in a very rich school district and I taught in an urban situation. I had success in all three settings and now with the diversity at U of D, every one of those types of kids, I have all at once now. I think it is a huge reason why they are making such nice music now." After 18 years in public schools, Charboneau was ready for a move when he learned about U of D Jesuit’s music director opening for the 2011–2012 school year.

"I just realized that happiness — true happiness every day — was more important," he notes. "I enjoyed Oak Park but I grew weary of it and this has been a great fit for me. I have been a Band Director for 20 years but I am also a liturgist and a church musician and have done that all my life. This brings two of my strengths together. That’s a hard thing to find. For me it was exciting to come into a school like this. I love this place."

Band to host Dueling Pianos Fundraiser at Holy Name Parish

U of D Jesuit Music Boosters is co-sponsoring with the Holy Name Knights of Columbus a fun night out for adults. If you have never visited a dueling pianos night club, here’s your chance. Dueling Pianos is a live show featuring two professional piano players who play music from the 1950s to today. It is an all-request show and one big sing-a-long. You’re invited to show your support for the U of D Jesuit music program and enjoy 88 keys times two of excitement.

**Saturday, May 11, 2013**

**8:00–11:00 PM**

Holy Name School Gym
460 Harmon, Birmingham, MI 48071

Cost: $25 per person

Chips, pretzels and pop provided

Cash bar (beer and wine) 21 and over

The theatre program’s Spring Musical is one big song and dance — literally.

The school still puts on two productions each year. The fall play is overseen by faculty-member Justin Manwell ’94. In the mid-1990’s, the late Father Ron Torina ’65 revived the musical as the school’s spring production, a tradition that continues to this day. College counselor Holly Bennetts oversees this work. She calls working on a show “magical” and enjoys watching talent develop right in front of her.

"Theater is about taking risks," she notes. "Students who have never put on a pair of dance shoes are tapping by show time. You put yourself out there for critique and review." Bennetts points to the various skills that are developed by being part of a production outside of the obvious acting.

For instance, instrumental music students learn how to accompany a singer, a difficult skill to learn. The stage crew deals with the fact that U of D Jesuit does not have an auditorium and thus, whatever, they build needs to be transported. (U of D Jesuit rented Bedford Thurston High School’s auditorium for the production). The entire set needs to be set up and taken down two to three times for the musical which allows students a chance at some logistics engineering when constructing it. “Really quite remarkable," Bennetts adds.

Recent alumni from The High who wanted to pursue acting have been accepted at schools such as Bentley College of Music, the University of Michigan, and Roosevelt in Chicago.
Art

When Michelle Mooney came to U of D Jesuit 29 years ago, her art classes met underneath the bleachers in a crowded room with little natural light off of the gym. Since 1986, a new work space has enhanced everything about the art program.

“It is much easier to work in this room,” Mooney says. “We have wonderful light and a nice kiln room, a big kiln, and materials that we never had room for in our previous storage area.” She also notes that she now has the ability to display students’ art work.

With large windows that look out over the athletic field and neighborhood, Mooney calls the area a true “gathering place” that gives people the right mindset when they arrive to put their creativity to work. She has a large area in her classroom, known as her gallery, where she hangs and displays students’ artwork. Art work that dates back to the 1980s presides in this area – all done by students. Each year, five works are framed and hung. Sometimes, faculty members or administrators seek art for their offices or hallways.

Seven art classes are offered to students (three ceramics courses, Academy Art, Art I, Drawing, and Advanced Art). The art program is set up for two distinct interests: those who want to pursue a career in art, whether it be in architecture, advertising applications, or graphic design, and those who don’t. About 250 students take an art class each school year.

With a Fine Arts requirement for graduation, she has seen the number of students in her class grow, calling her Ceramics I class a “senior rite of passage.” When she started at U of D Jesuit, four kids took her Ceramics class. Now, there are over 100 students taking Ceramics courses. But she points out that it truly helps shape a student’s experience differently than anything else they go through at The High. “We actually make something in class,” she says. “It is very hands-on. Clay is fun to work with. They are focused and are very proud of their work.” Typically, over the course of the semester, a student will make 12 pieces of art in the class.

Hundreds of students are awarded for their work each year through the Scholastic Art Awards that take place every year with schools from Southeastern Michigan participating.

Advanced Placement classes offer 3D and 2D design. The art room also has things that just weren’t around when Mooney started at The High. There are several computer design facilities that include Photoshop and other software.

Spring Fine Arts Festival

Sunday, April 28, 2013

Noon

Art Work will be on display.

Music performed by:
• Jazz Band
• Beginning Band
• Cub Choir
• String Orchestra
• Show Choir
• Symphonic Band

Three questions to Ron Simons ’78

How did you go about switching from a business/tech career into acting and producing?

Well as the Nike ad says, I just did it! I was working at Microsoft at the time and was offered a promotion and I had the clear sense that if I accepted the position, my working life would end in the corporate world. I’d had a long simmering desire to pursue acting since the day the Yale School of Drama Admissions Director called me to extend the application deadline for me (but that’s a story for another day).

After a few weeks of holding off the hiring division at Microsoft and much wringing of hands and gnashing of teeth, I left the corporate world and started acting in Seattle non-equity theaters. I was in some good, some bad and some quite literally dangerous productions. After a while, I decided I should go back to school to really learn the craft and was accepted into University of Washington’s Professional Actor’s Training Program. When I graduated, I moved to New York City and started acting. I landed an agent and started working in film and television and became a company member of the Classical Theatre of Harlem.

In 2009, after having met many gifted writers and actors, I decided that I wanted to help get some of these projects off the ground and I started producing. I continue to act and haven’t looked back since.

What was it like to see a film of yours get picked up and premiered at Sundance?

I recall writing a blog for Filmmaker Magazine and noting that during the opening credits of my first film’s premier at Sundance (Night Catches Us), I got choked up. I felt like “Wow, we did it! We made it through all the daunting challenges and we’ve got a movie!” Then to have Magnolia pick up the film for theatrical release and subsequent sale to Showtime, Netflix and Amazon, it was validation that we created a quality product.

How did U of D Jesuit help influence where you are today?

I have to thank U of D Jesuit for teaching me to think critically and view all sides of an issue. This has helped me approach projects with a wide lens of examination. I think that has helped me become a better producer. I have to thank the late Mr. Hall, our Harlem founder and drama teacher, who first ignited the flame of passion for good storytelling. I think I’ve come a long way from “Sharecropper Number Two” in P Thinking’s Rainbow to where I am today. Thanks U of D and Mr. Hall.

Background

Ron Simons is a Tony Award-winning producer and actor as well as the founder of SimonSays Entertainment – a film stage and television production company dedicated to developing and presenting the stories, fables and narratives of under-represented communities.

SimonSays Entertainment produced the critically acclaimed films: Night Catches Us, Gun Hill Road, Blue Caprice and Ma George (all premiering at Sundance). He also produced Porgy & Bess (Tony Award), Streetcar Named Desire and Radio Golf. The company’s second feature — the 2011 movie, Gun Hill Road — stars Easi Morales and Judy Reyes and was a Sundance Grand Jury nominees.

Education

U of D Jesuit High School
Columbia University, BA
Columbia University, MBA
University of Washington, Master of Fine Arts

Before Acting Called

After several years as a software engineer developing Manufacturing Operating Systems at Hewlett-Packard and later, as a Knowledge Engineer, Simons developed Artificial Intelligence systems for companies such as Chrysler Corporation, Morton-Thickel, General Motors and the Northrop Corporation. After earning his MBA, he joined Microsoft where he managed several marketing businesses including Microsoft Mail, Microsoft LAN Manager and Microsoft’s back office suite of products.

TV
Includes appearances in “Law & Order” and “Law and Order: CI”

Personal

Four children: Elise, Zora, Langston and Isaiah.

Three Questions:

Summary: For students, the Fine Arts curriculum serves them very well. “We are small but we’re excellent,” Mooney, the art teacher says of the entire department. “We try very hard. Every year there are a few students who want to go into the arts. They get into the best schools. They have the portfolios or musical skills to apply to any school they want and they don’t get turned down. They get in.”

Michelle Mooney

Michelle Mooney

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Detroit. Our Home
Built tough and made to stay that way

While pundits paint today’s Detroit as a Russian novel in search of a happy ending, a city still hoping for better things, two centuries of innovation and industry have rendered Detroit a city steelped in re-invention. Like the iron and steel that are heated to create the vehicles that gave Detroit its “Motor City” moniker, Detroit has repeatedly shown itself to be tough yet malleable as it shapes itself to fit the curvature of today’s business landscape.

While Detroit’s travails are well documented, less so are the stories about what makes the city resilient: Why internationally renowned conductor Leonard Slatkin chose to be music director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra; why Aretha Franklin and Kid Rock could live anywhere but continue to call this area home; why the Detroit Institute of Arts’ European art collection is one of the finest in the United States; why Detroit’s professional sports teams win or lose, fill arenas; and why a Detroit Tigers manager’s stoic veneer yields to tears when he takes his city to the World Series. The reasons for Detroit’s slow but steady resurgence are complex but likely rooted in a mindset that has long endured the city: “We are a city of innovation and industry, only hard workers need apply.” Our people are our treasure.

Re-invention comes at a cost. The business of putting a city back to work relies on business leaders, philanthropists, and hard workers need apply. “Our people are our treasure. Re-invention comes at a cost. The business of putting a city back to work relies on business leaders, philanthropists, and workers need apply. “Our people are our treasure. Re-invention comes at a cost. The business of putting a city back to work relies on business leaders, philanthropists, and hard workers need apply. “Our people are our treasure. Re-invention comes at a cost. The business of putting a city back to work relies on business leaders, philanthropists, and hard workers need apply. “Our people are our treasure. Re-invention comes at a cost. The business of putting a city back to work relies on business leaders, philanthropists, and hard workers need apply. “Our people are our treasure. Re-invention comes at a cost.

Motivated by the challenges and successes of doing business in downtown Detroit, the Ilitches took a chance on the historic but neglected Fox Theatre when they purchased it in July 1987. They painstakingly restored the 5,000-seat Fox Revival theatre – designed by C. Howard Crane and built in 1928 – to its original splendor and reopened its doors in November 1988. The Fox Theatre continues to attract record crowds for a mix of concerts, theatre, family shows, and restored classic films.

Additional IT and tech companies with names like Atomic Object, GalexSolutions, Doodle Home, and UpTo are also found here, some of them housed in the Midtown building, just named one of the world’s coolest offices by business monthly magazine, Inc. Explosive growth in mobile and cloud technologies have led companies like CrowdBlue, a website that uses crowdsourcing to raise charitable donations; Pandora and Mog, online streaming music providers; and the offices of Google and Twitter, to call Detroit home. Numerous other initiatives are also in place to help revitalize the city, including TechTown, a Detroit business incubator started by Wayne State University and Invest Detroit, a nonprofit loan fund that helps bankroll Detroit redevelopment.

A notable addition to this tech scene is Stik.com, founded in 2010 by U of D Jesuit alum, Jay Gierak ’02 and his business partner, Nathan Labenz, who moved their offices from Silicon Valley to join Detroit’s booming technology community. Gierak and Labenz, both originally from the Detroit area, attended Harvard University, where they were classmates with Mark Zuckerberg and the other founders of Facebook. With loads of young professionals moving here, Detroit has seen a surge in neighborhood revitalization, solidifying community hubs like the midtown and downtown areas, echoing what cities like New York and San Francisco offer with boutiques, new bars, restaurants, yoga studios, and spas. To help, some local companies offer rental rebates to employees who live in the city. Property developers got in on the act by rehabilitating historic apartment buildings, offering modern amenities in gorgeous landmark buildings like Broderick Tower. The result: Occupancy rates in these areas are at more than 90 percent and in some buildings, there are waiting lists for lofts and apartments.

When people think of Detroit, often they see it as a metonym for the automotive industry and manufacturing jobs. But the Detroit tech movement mirrors in many ways a sea of change within the automotive landscape. Increasingly, global competition between automakers is focused on the rapid development of advanced propulsion technologies (electrification, hybrid, clean diesel, alternative fuels, and hyper-efficient internal combustion engines), telematics, and in-car connectivity. In this, Detroit finds itself in a curious predicament: it suffers unemployment but also has thousands of open jobs in tech, engineering and high-skilled manufacturing, underscoring the need for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)-based education in our high schools and in our colleges. The need for a high skilled workforce is in such high demand that companies are practically hiring college students in the parking lot of Society of Automotive Engineers’ student competitions!

Yes, there are good things happening in Detroit and if you listen closely, you can still hear that collective Detroit voice that says, “We are a city of innovation and industry, only hard workers need apply.”
Scholarships bring lessons to both those who give and receive

By Tom Totte ’74

“I don’t know how to thank you for everything you have done for me over the last few years. U of D Jesuit has been an unforgettable experience, and has given me much more than just an education. It has helped mold me into a ‘Man for Others.’ My family and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts for greatest school on the planet. I know that when I am older, I have given me an education here. Go Cubs!”

— An excerpt from a recent graduate’s letter to his sponsor

The Circle of Care Scholarship program began at U of D Jesuit in the early 1990s with three sponsors. Today, it has grown to 91 sponsors. These benefactors have made a special commitment to fund a U of D Jesuit education.

There are two possible Circle of Care Scholarship options: Annual and Endowed.

The Annual Circle Of Care Scholarship Program has these features:

• The sponsor is matched with a student selected by the school’s Financial Aid Committee. Selected students must meet and maintain certain academic, financial, and discipline eligibility standards.

• The gift is a four-year pledge of $10,500 per year (a total of $42,000 over the four years). A four-year pledge ensures that the student will have tuition assistance during his years at U of D Jesuit.

• Several benefactors have taken an extra step and have endowed their Circle of Care Scholarship gift. The endowed gift allows them to link their legacy with that of U of D Jesuit in the form of a named scholarship. These gifts will fund the tuition for a high school student in perpetuity. All the features of the Annual Circle of Care Scholarship also apply to the Endowed Circle Of Care Scholarship. An Endowed Circle Of Care Scholarship is a gift of $210,000. The gift may be paid over a period of five years. The School’s spending rate is five percent on the endowed amount. Hence, this computes to $10,500 per year available for tuition assistance.

If you are interested in hearing more about the Circle of Care Scholarship, please contact me at (313) 923-2347 or at thomastotte@udjesuit.org.

At the most recent Annual Prayer Service and Dinner, one of the sponsors read a poem which captured his personal joy in making a Circle of Care Scholarship gift. This is an excerpt from the poem entitled, The Bridge Builder by Will Allen Dromgoole:

“Good friend, in the path I have come,” he said, “There follows after me today A youth whose feet must pass this way...”

“Good Friend, I am building this bridge for him.”

“IT ALL JUST FITS”

Cowper family keeps U of D Jesuit, its lessons and spirit close to their hearts

By Thomas O’Keefe ’64

I met Jim Cowper ’77 shortly after I started working at U of D Jesuit in January 2004, where he was a leader and key member of the Development Committee. He has always supported The High with his time, talent, and treasure. Jim and his wife, Cindy, included The High in their estate plan in 2004, and I was always curious what made him decide to make this generous contribution at a relatively young age. Here is Jim’s explanation:

U of D Jesuit, giving, the Cowper household; it all just fits. I was the youngest of four children. My three older sisters attended St. Gerard and I attended Christ the King, which was a huge feeder to Catholic Central. I always assumed the high school located at “6665 West Outer Drive” was next for me, until I went to the CC and U of D High open houses on the same day. CC held a wrestling match, while U of D simply offered tours of the school.

I decided that night — U of D High, that building, that neighborhood, those students — I found my new home, and I have never left.

Cindy attended Birmingham Public Schools, but when it came time to enroll our daughters in school, it was Catholic schools all the way. St. Hugo and Mercy. Cindy was immersed in the U of D Jesuit culture from day one by me and my classmates. Talk about a baptism! She volunteered for almost everything at St. Hugo; ran the auctions, craft shows, coached both JV and Varsity cheerleading, and was the president of Mercy Pompon Boosters.

My family had a tradition of service and giving. My grandmother worked for the parish priest, my dad was an usher, and my mom cooked for the funerals and cleaned the altar. We were raised in a spirit of giving back. St. Ignatius, U of D High; it all just fits.

All along, U of D Jesuit giving was natural in our household. Cindy and I were 46 when we made our planned gift to U of D Jesuit. We felt it was something we wanted to do sooner rather than later, as an example to our daughters. As the girls entered Mercy, Cindy, the convert, deemed the “gifting was to be equal” to both schools. We were able to contribute to both schools and hopefully encouraged our daughters to do the same.

I am absolutely convinced that any of our good fortune has evolved from a spirit of giving, and any successes and happiness we have enjoyed has been a result of giving first to others. U of D High is a proud extension of our family. As we continue to strive to protect and grow our family, we have chosen to treat U of D High in the same manner. My involvement with my classmates, the two major capital campaigns, scholarship auctions, reunions, sporting events, and every Cub I run into is a gift to me and my family. Our household is proud and grateful to share in the U of D Jesuit tradition and our giving is simply a way of saying “Thank You.” My dad used to say “give till it feels good.” Every time I see a U of D Jesuit bumper sticker, enter the building, or hear the fight song, it feels good!

Jim Cowper ‘77 with daughters Jessica and Danielle

www.udjesuit.org
Alum uses The High as part of his study

Dr. Robert Simmons ’92 authors books exploring race

What are some of your favorite memories at U of D Jesuit? My favorite memories at U of D High are the lessons I learned during the initial years of BASE. The freedom to explore this type of work as a high school student has propelled me into my current work exploring the ways that race impacts the schooling experiences of African American students. Without this experience I am not sure what direction I would have taken professionally beyond teaching in K-12 in the Detroit Public Schools. Also, my senior service project in a Catholic school in Detroit had a significant influence on my commitment to teaching and conducting research in urban schools across the United States. Perhaps the most powerful lesson — being kicked off the football team as a sophomore the year my class won the JV division. This was a reminder of what was important... a lesson I pass along to students at the university today! JUG of course — was a frequent visitor as well.

What teacher at U of D Jesuit most influenced you? Why? The teachers who influenced me the most were Mr. Knight, Mrs. Rowe, and Mr. Gumbel. Their influences were different but just as significant. Mr. Knight — for allowing us to have a class discussion after BASE received a harassing letter from someone. It was a powerful moment to have a teacher, who wasn’t a teacher of color, embrace an exploration of race and racism in a high school classroom. Mrs. Rowe — for allowing me to be me and giving me a chance to grow up. Mr. Gumbel — for being fair with me and helping me deal with some of my behavior challenges...I wasn’t the model student early on in my time at U of D High.

Looking back on your experience at U of D Jesuit, is there anything you would change? I would have been more serious about academics.

Can you briefly explain what your book is about and why you chose to write on this topic? The title of the book is, Talking About Race: alleviating the fear. This book sprung out of several conversations I had with people when discussions of race and racism came up. There always seemed to be an awkward silence or a hesitation around this issue. While these conversations aren’t always uncomfortable, schools in the United States have become more racially diverse beyond the borders of urban communities. With that in mind, I sought to explore this space in a way that allows people to recognize that it’s not about being comfortable but more so about being honest and willing to be uncomfortable at times.

The second book, Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline in an Urban Jesuit High School: The Academic Journey of African American Males from an Urban Community, is based on a research project that was conducted at a Jesuit high school in an urban community that has successfully graduated African American males at a rate well above the national average. This book is not completed yet but has been a wonderful exploration of how a school meets students and families where they are in an effort to help produce “men for others.” What’s amazing about this school is their ability to nurture students while also providing them with the academic support they need.

What perceptions based on your research did you have about U of D Jesuit both before and after you wrote the book? How do they differ? Before I began my research on African American males attending urban schools I felt that I had a great experience at U of D High but knew that race was an issue. I wasn’t sure how it was an issue but I knew that race was part of my experience. After the research at eight Jesuit high schools, including the school that is discussed in the book, I realized that racial microaggressions and resilience theory are central to the experiences of African American males attending Jesuit high schools. This project gave me words to reflect on my experiences.

Has your research shown anything unique regarding U of D Jesuit? The research on other Jesuit schools has shown me that U of D High has a different history. Many of the Jesuit schools where I conducted the research have left the city and relocated to the suburbs. U of D High has stood firm in their commitment to the city of Detroit and remained there. The second piece — U of D High was one of the first schools to volunteer to participate in my research project. The candor of Fr. Kiser and Mr. Chandler, and their willingness to help explore this topic, wasn’t the same “silence” I received from some Jesuit schools who either didn’t respond to my request or believed that all of their students had the same experience.

After writing your book, do you have any suggestions or recommendations for current U of D students or administration? I offer numerous suggestions in a forthcoming article I have coming out in the Journal of African American Males in Education. For students: learn when to walk away from ignorance. The primary lesson that I would share is this: everyone needs to be open to discussing the relevance of race and racism in Jesuit schools. When we walk around as if “we have figured it out,” as was told to me by an administrator in one school but contradicted by multiple students — including some white students, we run the risk of not embracing the centrality of race in America and falling victim to the post-racial rhetoric associated with the election of the first African American president.

What are you currently doing? Are you currently working on any further research in this field? I am currently the director of the Center for Innovation in Urban Education at Loyola University Maryland in Baltimore, MD, and submitted my materials for consideration to become a tenured, associate professor. I will be traveling to Spain and Italy this summer for the Ignatian Pilgrimage sponsored by College of the Holy Cross.

My latest research is still focusing on African American males in two different areas: (1) understanding the racial identity development of African American males in Jesuit high schools and elite private schools using WEBI Dulbois understanding of “double consciousness” and Prudence Carter’s theory of “cultural flexibility”; (2) a study of 50 African American high school students who have experienced the incarceration of one or both parents. I am also working on a new book proposal that will explore the life experiences of African American males who have dealt with the incarceration of their fathers. Much of this work is based on my own experiences of dealing with my father’s consistent incarceration during my life.
Tell me about why you’ve been at Colombiere and your prognosis?

Eight to ten years ago I had a vertigo experience and I landed on my bed. I never said anything to anybody but the 16th of December I had the same thing happen to me. This time I bounced off the bed and landed on the floor and couldn’t get up. Luckily, there was another Jesuit in the house who was just leaving. He just had a premonition to stop in and see how I was doing. He found me on the floor. He took me to the hospital. My legs were like two rubber bands.

I spent a week in the hospital. They were doing tests from head to toe. At the end, the doctor said “we are going to have to release you from the hospital because we cannot find anything wrong.” All the tests came back negative – no evidence of anything wrong. That is when I was shifted here to Colombiere, our health care center, for observation. I have been going through physical therapy to get my legs strong and they have been and are much improved. But while I have been here, they have discovered an aortic aneurism that I have had that they have been watching for years has reached a critical stage. In the next two weeks, I will have that taken care of. (Editor’s Note: On February 28th, Fr. Radloff underwent successful heart surgery and is recovering well.)

You hope to return to work though?

My plan is to get stronger and to get back to work. I have been on loan to the Bishop of Toledo as an Associate Vicar for Priests, deacons, and deacon’s wives for spiritual direction only. It is a wonderful job for me at this time in my life because there is no paperwork. I am not correcting papers or reporting to anybody. Everything is confidential.

I was in Rome for six years doing spiritual direction for the major seminarians. It was perfect preparation for the job I have now.

When you were at U of D High, you had your office in the breezeway where you did a lot of counselling. You did a lot of marriage counseling then, right?

When you were at U of D High, I was assigned to teach a course in Marriage and Family to 17 and 18-year old students. The first question I always got – always – was “What are you doing teaching us a class in marriage and family.” I learned to always respect thoroughly in that particular class any question a student asked and I encouraged them to ask any question that they wanted to ask even if they had to use street words. I told them, if I didn’t know the answer, I would find it out and bring it back to them. They would remember that, and remind me of it.

People of the High

Fr. Tom Radloff, S.J.

Fr. Tom Radloff, S.J. spent his time as a Scholastic at U of D Jesuit (1955-1958). Ordained in 1961, he returned shortly thereafter and stayed for over 20 years (1963-1987). For much of that time he taught seniors Marriage and Family. For one school year, he served as the school’s President (1967-1968). While it has been over a quarter-century since he last taught at the school, Radloff still has many fond memories of his time at The High. After a fall at the Jesuit Residence in Toledo, where he serves as the Superior of the Jesuit Community at St. John’s Jesuit High School in addition to working for the Diocese of Toledo, he has been recuperating at Colombiere in Clarkston, Michigan. In early February, he spent time reminiscing with Highlights and catching everyone up to date on what he’s been up to since leaving The High.
I told them of a wonderful Jesuit teacher that I had in high school. I had just heard a word, and I did not know how to spell it. So he spelled it for me and he said "Any words that you hear that you do not know the answer, you come and ask me and I will give you the answers."

You have to know because when you go to college, you have to know the street words and you have to know adult technical words. Otherwise you are going to get mocked right out of your shoes. The guys who think they know all the answers – the seaports – will teach you and they are going to teach you false ideas. Come and get the ideas here. If I don’t have the answers for you, I’ll get them for you. So they were free to ask any question. I’d write the word on the board. We would discuss it here and see what it means on the street.

If I recall with that class, you created your own curriculum. There was no textbook.

They didn’t have textbooks in those days that were worthwhile in what we needed to do. I did a lot of reading and I got a lot of subscriptions to magazines. So I’d get the stories and this is what they are saying today and this is what is like. At that time also since I was going to teach a course called marriage and family it was a good question… what is a guy like you dealing with a certain problem; or sometimes a high school teacher will tell you it’s a breed apart. The big thing is I made the mistake that they were human beings and that I could treat them as human beings and respect them. Ha…. Ha… Ha. I got an ulcer out of it – a real, live ulcer. Still, when I get really upset, I still live with it. My second year of regency, they got ulcers. They taught me to teach sophomores.

What did you teach during your Scholastic time here?

English and Latin.

And when you were a priest, Marriage and Family?

I came in to teach theology and then it shifted to Marriage and Family.

Do you keep in touch with a lot of your Detroit connections because it has been 25 years since you lived here?

I don’t make an effort because my life is pretty full without keeping in touch but I still get a lot of wonderful written communications. I should have saved one. A guy wrote to me and said “I want to thank you for the big impact you’ve had on my life.” The point that came out of it was “Father, you cured.” And I know that. I was important to him. It is profound and it brings tears to my eyes. I don’t have kids of my own but I do get communication from people like that. And sometimes I get a phone call, “Father, I haven’t talked to you in 25 years. How ya doin?” That is what is going on in my life now.

One of my memories, I remember vividly seeing you and the Reverend George R. on a slow walk around the campus but hands gesturing a lot. On those walks, were those theological debates, arguing about house stuff or what?

First of all, we were talking about our students and how we were going to deal with a certain problem; or sometimes a fellow faculty member who was messing up or how we could help him.

At that time, you had a lot of great minds living over on the left side of the school. Was it hard to keep everyone’s ego in check or their opinions in check whether it was about theology or how to run the school?

Oh yeah. Oh yeah. Sure. Definitely. Remember, that George Follen had a lot of ideas of his own – strong ideas. A lot of people didn’t know how to handle George because they would be offended because he came on so strong. I could listen to George without getting upset and because I listened to him I could tell him “George, you are off-base on this.” Because I learned from George. I learned a lot from high school kids and I learned a lot doing marriage counseling. I learned how to listen.

Looking back, entering the Jesuits in the 1950s, that seems like that was a high water mark of the American Catholic Church. Is it difficult now for you to look around and see where it is today, with church attendance dropping, less priests and of course the scandal? Is it tougher now being a priest?

The scandal has been a harm in the church that we will never be able to erase the memory of in the history of the American Catholic Church. The scandal has left a mark on us. We are no longer respected as we were. I’m not sure that respect was very well-founded! [laughs] We don’t have that today and perhaps if we can say something good came out of it, we better work for whatever respect and give the faithful some good reason to respect us. Irreparable harm was done and we cannot get the vocations we need. We are a church of the sacraments – the seven sacraments that largely only the priests can give us as we bring Christ into our present, everyday life. We just need them.

What would you guess is the number of marriages you presided over involving U of D High alumni?

I used to keep track of them all and I decided not to. I’m not in this role and responsibility just for numbers, I’m not going to do that so I lost count. It would be hard for me to guessimate.
Humorous anecdote or funny moment?
What was really funny was at the desk after class I was talking to kids about a test they had just finished and it was the end of the school day also. I was really wrapped up in answering this and a kid took a piece of chalk from the blackboard and you know that round face that they draw with a smile on? Kid drew that on the back of my cassock. It was really laughable. The black cassock with chalk on it. It was worth laughing about because it was funny.

When you are back at work in Toledo do you still wear your camel colored sportcoat with your clerics?
I used to wear that because I wrote on the board a lot and I’d get chalk all over my black cassock. That is the reason I wore it. I don’t wear it anymore but if I was back in the classroom, I’d probably be wearing it.

Friends of mine always refer to tan jackets as a “Father Radloff jacket.” The interesting part of that is that one of the mothers who was good at making things like that, I had her make that for me.

Make a sport coat?
Yeah. I said I always have chalk dust on me and she said “Why don’t I make you a tan coat that will go fine with your black pants? I’ll make that for you.” She did and in a week she was back with it. I gave her one of my old sportcoats that she made right from it with a pattern.

Was it tough moving from a place you had lived most of your adult life at the time across the ocean to Rome?
It was something I did not plan on but the Provincial called me up and said “I want you to go to Rome. I want you to be the Spiritual Director of major seminarians.” I said, “I don’t know if I could do that.” He said, “Well fly over there and interview them and let yourself be interviewed by them.” I flew back and said, “Yeah, I think I could do that job.” He said, “Get back there.” That was wonderful dealing with adult guys — major seminarians, they were like graduate students. Guys I worked with were all diocesan. All the bishops around the world were encouraged to start their own seminaries for their own country in Rome. So that was the American college founded by the American bishops. I had one of the best bosses I ever had in or outside the Jesuits and he is now the Cardinal Archbishop of New York, Michael Timothy Dolan.

Have you visited U of D High lately?
I have a tendency not to go back to any place I have been to — I just do not have a desire to go back. I think largely because I enjoy what I am doing now, I enjoyed what I was doing then, I just don’t want to mix them up. I don’t even go back to my high school reunions or ordination reunions. I just don’t.

I have good memories that I enjoyed. I enjoyed it while I was doing it, I learned a lot and everything that I did all those teaching years at U of D. I have become a religious superior of a community and I have enjoyed caring for my fellow Jesuits and making sure they take care of themselves. I find everything I have done is a preparation for what I am doing later.

To my consolation, I’ve had men say you know, you are the best superior I’ve ever had. This is just a replay of what the students taught me… it’s because I cared. I cherish that. I relish that because I cared. It brings me a sense of genuine satisfaction.


Ron Belardinelli ‘59 and his wife Nancy Marie Cacoby celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary this year on July 22.

Tim Marks ‘71 had his essay “The Askins of Sandwich: A Family Experiences the War” published in Border Crossings: The Detroit River Region in the War of 1812 which is being published by the Detroit Historical Society.

Michael Costello ‘78 was honored by the University of Detroit Mercy with the Time & Talent Award, which honors alumni who have given their time and talent through distinguished leadership and dedicated service to the School of Law and its Alumni Association.

Ben Johnson ‘91 LTC, US ARMY was stationed in Uzbekistan as a Contracting Liaison Officer at the United States Embassy.


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Phil Tchou ‘96 sports the latest U of D Jesuit cycling jersey as he prepares to participate in the Bike MS: Valens 2012 Alamo Ride to the River on 10/13/2012. This event raised money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Phil is currently working as a medical physicist at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgery Center, Lackland Air Force Base, TX.
CUB BIRTHS and ADOPTIONS

Audrey and Bill Miller ‘89 welcomed Stella Parisi on October 10, 2012. She weighed 5 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19.5 inches.

Meg and Andrew Goodman ‘97 welcomed Rhys Kelley on October 8, 2012. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 3 ounces.

Peggy and Joseph Kelly ‘91 welcomed their son, Edmund Brennan, on October 10, 2012.

Catherine and Joe McCarthy ‘92 welcomed Frances Elaine on October 14, 2012. She weighed in at 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21 inches.

Vicki and Joe McGrath ‘97 welcomed Sofia Marie on December 6, 2012. She weighed in at 8 pounds.

Alyssa and Peter Lenga ‘92 welcomed Peter Michael on October 2, 2012. He weighed in at 6 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 19.75 inches.

Elizabeth and Stephen Dunn ‘98 welcomed Colin Patrick on November 1, 2012. He weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and is 20 inches long. He joins sisters Abigail and Claire and brother Aiden.

Anna and Colin Killeen ‘98 welcomed their daughter, Lucy Adele.

Sarah and Christopher Rennie ‘93 welcomed Adelle Ethel-Marie on November 29, 2012. She weighed in at 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20.5 inches.


Sarah Warbelow and Karl Nelson ‘94 welcomed Jack on September 30, 2012. His two older brothers, Ben (10) and Ian (8), are very excited to have a new baby brother.

Caroline and David Larabell ‘98 welcomed Harry Porter on December 1, 2012. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 8 ounces.

Send us your marriage or birth announcements. If you were recently married, or have recently become a father or grandfather, we’d like to share your news with Highlights readers. Send your marriage or birth announcement news to highlights@uofdjesuit.org. Make sure to include a photo and as much pertinent information as possible.

Meg and Andrew Goodman ‘97 welcomed Rhys Kelley on October 8, 2012. She weighed in at 6 pounds, 2 ounces.

Maria and Chip Baker ‘00 welcomed Charles Thomas on December 19, 2012. He weighed in at 9 pounds, 10.5 ounces and measured 20.75 inches.

Laura and Jeff Beauchamp ‘00 welcomed their son, Maxwell Joseph, on September 4, 2012.

Katherine and Michael Tait ‘00 welcomed their son, Brooks, on March 31, 2012.

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Alexandra and Ryan Sledge ‘00 welcomed Jordan Ashley on November 23, 2012. She weighed in at 8 pounds, 8 ounces and measured 21.5 inches.

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wa rren Dubitsky ’00 and Mary Lynch were married on July 30, 2011. Fellow Cubs helped celebrate the couple’s special day. 

Eric Dubitsky ’03, and Aldo Dekovich ’67.

Christopher Burke ’03 and Rebecca LaPlante were married in July 2012 in Spokane, WA. Many U of D Jesuit Cubs joined in the celebration. 

(Chris Jordan ’03, Kevin Burke ’08, Bill Godwin ’73, Chris Burke ’03, Dan Wilson ’03, Joe Obedzi ’03, and Dan Palmer ’03).

Christopher Wilson ’05 and Rachel were married in Cincinnati, OH. Many U of D Jesuit Cubs helped celebrate their special day. (Tom Paglia ’05, Emeka Ezekwemba ’05, Julie Fontana ’05, JD DeFour ’05, Michael Tame ’06, John F. Kozaczynski ’1963, and Keith Bellovich ’81).

Andrew Fromm ’00 married Christie Hendrickson, on September 28, 2012 at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Detroit. The reception was held at Orchard Lake Country Club. The Wedding Party included Best Man, Jeffrey Beauchamp ’00, and ushers, Steven Gray ’00 and Christopher Adams ’00.

In Memoriam

The U of D Jesuit community joins in prayerful remembrance of those alumni who have died. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Eternal rest grant unto them, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Walter B. Connolly 1934
J. Timothy Cruise 1934
William E. Carroll 1935
William T. Piersante 1939
Thomas C. Montgomery 1940
Green. S. Davis 1943
William F. Denreen 1944
John M. Malone 1944
Thomas J. Burke 1945

James E. Bennett 1946
John F. Breen 1947
John D. O’Neill 1947
John R. Graus 1948
Richard M. Mackowski 1948
Thomas C. Mayer 1949
Thomas Stapleton 1948
Eli B. Becht 1949
Keith F. Binnale 1951

J. Peter Deane 1951
Michael J. Charlbonne 1954
John P. Delaney 1955
Zemmer S. Grzegorzek 1965
Paul F. Heeman 1955
Thomas J. Langan 1955
Steven H. Ostrauwski 1955
Charles M. Heide 1957
Charles C. Cotman 1959

David M. Reaume 1959
Frank A. Donagrandi 1962
Jesse Kozaczynski 1963
Thomas M. Malone 1971
John R. Lundberg 1982
William C. Dominguez 1987
William A. Schnittman 2006
Justin M. Brown 2008

THE place to be on November 10, 2012 was 8400 South Cambridge for the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy Scholarship Auction – Cruisin’ with the Cubs! A revved up 675 guests walked along a backstop road, followedHigh-way signs, saw a Spirit of Detroit monument, and found Silent Auction tables filled with hundreds of “must have” items. Back-ups were eye-catching and backslapping were the Rules of the Road.

Our own junior and senior Cubs served dinner in the Grand Prix Dining Room (gym). The Super Silent and Live Auctions kept things lively, especially with the spirited bidding war over a Golden Retriever puppy. “Who would have thought?”…was a common response from a stunned and excited crowd.

The Auction Video produced by Jim Adams continues to be a topic of conversation. The clip featured a car full of Cubs cruising to school the long way - through many familiar neighborhoods. When Fr. Kiser hopped into the 1956 Chevy and the Cub mascot jumped out of the trunk, cheers erupted from the packed house. (To view the video, go to uofdjesuit.org/scholarshipauction)

Before the evening ended people sat behind the Curley Lobby Soda Shop created by Michelle Flyte; Casino Night at the Model T Factory Museum hosted a party at the Historical Piquette Avenue Park; and back again to Pleasant Ridge for Parents of Current Students. Finally, they hopped onto 6 Mile Road and cruised to a Casino Night at the Grove Pointe Yacht Club.

Cruisin’ with the Cubs netted over $370,000 and is our most successful Auction to date!

Spring 2013 | Highlights
2012 Auction Recap

Auction Donors – Individuals
Sanford and Vincent Abahma
Vendela and Larry Abbot
Liz and Michael Abdon
Mary and Marwan Aboujoud
Linda and Jeffery Acknav
Linda and Jeffery Acknav
Jennifer Acknav
Meagan and Vince Acknav
Leslie and Walt Czarnecki, Jr.
Liberty Hyundai
Ladywood High School
Holy Name Parish
Michael V. Polsinelli ’69
PNC Bank
Plunkett Cooney
& Marketing
DuMouchelles Art Galleries
Elle Imaging Systems, Inc.
Paul T. Fortin, M.D
Germano Management
Headlines Public Relations & Marketing
Mark A. Herman, M.D. ’86
Holy Name Parish
E. E. Mills, Inc.
The Kovacik Family
Lawry High School
Liberty Hyundai
Maco Connect, Inc.
Mary High School
Mim Neurology Associates, P.C.
Nep Racing
Oakland Orthodox Partners
Paravel, Inc.
Pilate & Moran, PLLC
Pilates Corporation
Planit Croyee
Rebecca R. Rome
Michael V. Feldman ’99
Kenneth E. Parth, P.S.”
Margaret and Ed Zerby ’94
Andrea Abram and Frank Kuplicki ’82
Yvonne and Tom Lamberg ’78
Lisa Stanczyk and Skip Lemon
Loretta and George Lenko
Yvonne and Tom Lamberg’78
Spring 2013 | Highlights
2012 AUCTION Recap

Honorary Chairs:
U of D Jesuit Celebrates

MICHIGAN

The 42nd Annual Scholarship Auction
NOVEMBER 9, 2013

SAVE THE DATE

Buy your 2013 Scholarship Auction Raffle ticket today!* Great odds… only 500 tickets will be sold!

1st Prize: $10,000
2nd Prize: $3,000
Four Bonus Early-Bird Drawings of $500

July 1, August 1, September 3, October 1, 2013
Note: Early-bird winners are still eligible for all other drawings

Total Prizes of $15,000
$100 per ticket.

Drawing: November 9, 2013

*Need not be present to win. License #C26057

PURCHASE ONLINE AT
WWW.UOFDJESUIT.ORG/RAFFLE

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WWW.UOFDJESUIT.ORG/RAFFLE
U of D High’s swing orchestra performs under the direction of Mr. Conrath, S.J.

The band and orchestra developed a repertoire of sixty of the best college and hit parade tunes.