

St. IGNATIUS

ST. IGNATIUS MAGAZINE

SPRING 2006

A.P. Comparative Government and Politics Course Receives Top Ranking

Story and photos by Julie Futterer, Director of Publications at St. Ignatius College Prep.

There aren't many times in life when someone or something is named "best in the world," but St. Ignatius College Prep recently captured the impressive title for one of its Advanced Placement (A.P.) courses. A February announcement by the College Board ranked St. Ignatius's A.P. Comparative Government and Politics course as the best in the world, based on the test results of students who were enrolled in last year's classes.

The College Board, an organization that facilitates and monitors nationwide SAT/PSAT tests as well as the A.P. program for high school students who are preparing for college, offers 35 various course curricula that are available to high schools around the globe. Currently, St. Ignatius offers 19 of those courses, and students are eligible for college credit at most colleges and universities for their work. Ms. Diane Haleas Hines (pictured below) and Mr. Larry Socha made up the teaching team that made it all possible last year.

to speak to the school community about "intellectual competence" for an Ignatian Values Day, where students reflect on the five Jesuit characteristics of being open to growth, religious, loving, intellectually competent and committed to doing justice.

"Diane's energy and enthusiasm are infectious," said Socha. "Anyone who can take a classroom and turn it into the House of Commons can make politics come alive for students."

Determination for the honor was based, quite simply, on student A.P. test scores. The College Board identified our school by comparing the number of students who scored 3 or higher (out of a possible 5) on the Comparative Government and Politics A.P. exam (given worldwide) to the total school enrollment.

Said Haleas Hines, "I love this class... it is my passion. One year, I taught it six times per day. Each group brings new kids with different ideas and diverse issues. I believe that A.P. classroom performance and test scores are a better indicator of how kids will perform in college than high school grades or standardized test scores. Even college credit isn't a main motivator for kids taking this class... they love being challenged just as much as I do and that's why they enroll."

those countries, and compare their political systems to that of the United States. There is a huge focus on current events. Each day, one student finds and presents a recent news item, related to one of the countries being studied, to the class.

"Students know that if they do take the current *Economist* off the coffee table or magazine rack, they'll have a greater understanding of the events that shape our world," said Socha.

In addition, role-playing, which was introduced many years ago by Haleas Hines, has become an incredibly effective way for students to understand and relate to important ideas. No doubt, the excellent test scores in the spotlight are a testament to innovative teaching strategies such as this one. While role-playing, students dress like political leaders and debate issues related to their country's hot topics. Every year, role-playing seems to have a profound and lasting impact on student learning.

"Role-playing is key," stated Brian Hardy, social studies department chair and Haleas Hines' current partner teacher for the A.P. comparative courses. "If students are only learning facts, it doesn't get personal. With this method, they begin to think like people from the country they're studying."

LOOKING AHEAD

This course is just one example of how the school and its teachers are working to achieve two major goals, as developed with influence from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. "North Central" works to encourage and support cooperative relationships among schools, colleges and universities holding membership in the association. St. Ignatius's two goals are to "encourage students to be active learners whose learning crosses traditional academic boundaries" and to increase students' "ability to apply what they learn to living their lives as people of faith, justice and love."

Said Brendan Conroy, St. Ignatius's Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs, "We determined the goals through a long process involving an internal steering committee, department chairs, the faculty, administrators and counselors. About everybody on the school side had some part in discussing what was worthwhile and important. We knew North Central was coming, but we articulated the goals because they are important for our students and for us as a school and not because of a North Central mandate."

Using Haleas Hines' class as an example, A.P. Comparative Government and Politics students will focus their studies, at some point, on China. Instead of memorizing facts from their textbooks, they will role-play as Chinese political leaders and discuss pressing issues such as over-population. The justice-related issue of abortion also comes into play and is discussed at length.



"Our main drive was to open our students' eyes to the breadth of cultures and political systems out there," said Socha, who last year, was in his second year as a Jesuit alumni volunteer and teacher at Ignatius. "Every country sees the world differently. Our hope was that students would walk away with an understanding and appreciation of these unique perspectives."

Socha has since moved on to study for his masters at the London School of Economics and Political Science but was very happy to hear about the honor.

A.P. programs were first introduced to St. Ignatius College Prep nearly 50 years ago, and this course, in particular, was first offered to St. Ignatius students in 1988, when Haleas Hines was hired to teach it. She has led the program for 10 of the last 18 years, with an eight-year break from 1990-1998, and has been referred to many times as a "favorite" by students and colleagues alike. In the fall, she was asked

ABOUT THE COURSE

The course involves understanding political systems in various countries, and how those systems operate in the world. The College Board builds the curriculum and sends A.P. teachers an outline of what countries and topics within those countries to study. Instructors are then given the freedom to teach the material however they want to. A lot of extra preparation is needed on the part of the teacher. Researching the economy and political structure of the countries to be studied is a "must," as well as keeping up with current events in those parts of the world. Said Haleas Hines, "Time management and commitment is essential for this course."

Last year, the countries studied were Britain, China, France, Mexico and Russia. This year, students are studying all the same countries except France, which was replaced by Iran and Nigeria. Students consider the history, culture and environment of

It goes without saying that teachers at St. Ignatius College Prep often work harder than they have to in order to assure that our young people are receiving the finest education possible. That education is well-rounded, catering to the "whole person" as is often noted in the Jesuit "Grad at Grad" document (outlines qualities a Jesuit high school grad should possess when he/she graduates). These young people don't just walk away with knowledge of math and English. They understand it from a personal perspective—from a spiritual perspective.

For students to continue to receive the fine education that St. Ignatius College Prep is known for, the school needs to attract and keep talented teachers like Diane Haleas Hines and continually enhance programs that make students "better" on all levels. Young people at St. Ignatius are yearning to be challenged, yearning to learn and yearning to grow. St. Ignatius caters to those needs by setting high expectations and standards—not just for students, but for faculty and staff alike. By giving teachers resources to grow themselves, students also become beneficiaries.

One way the school community can help in this endeavor is by supporting the current *Greater Glory Campaign*. The biggest needs identified at the onset of the campaign were programmatic, therefore, the campaign's biggest thrust is for a programmatic endowment, to support good teachers and raise the bar for student programs such as fine arts and technology. Currently, campaign goals have been reached in a few areas, but there's still a while to go before the school reaches the \$18 million mark for the programmatic endowment.

school news

- Faculty and staff enjoyed a luncheon in honor of **Fr. Bob Thul, S.J.**, who will be leaving St. Ignatius College Prep to work with the Spanish-speaking community of Lexington, Kentucky. Fr. Thul has been a math teacher at St. Ignatius since 1979. He will be deeply missed by his colleagues, current and former students, and the Jesuit community in Chicago.

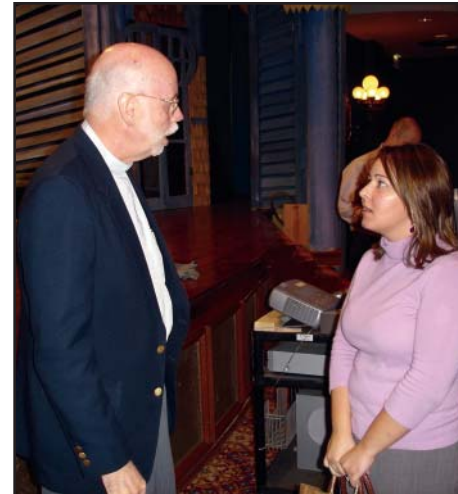
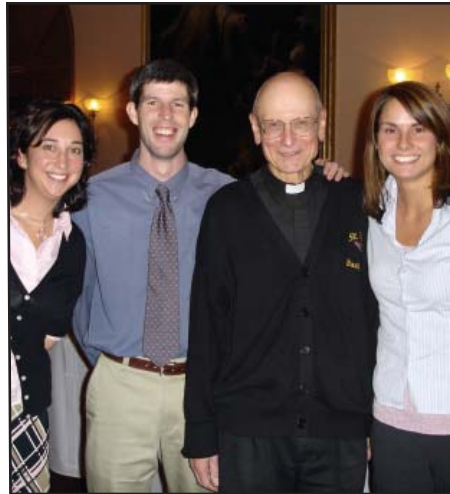
- On March 16, St. Ignatius College Prep welcomed **Fr. Terry Charlton, S.J.** from St. Aloysius Gonzaga High School, located in Africa on the outskirts of the Kibera slums in Nairobi, Kenya. Fr. Charlton, from the Chicago Province, spoke to classes about the challenges faced by his students, particularly that every student enrolled has lost either both parents to AIDS, or has lost one parent while the other is HIV-positive. Fr. Charlton hopes to raise approximately \$1 million for a permanent school building in Nairobi.

- Choir and orchestra students participated in the **2006 Opera Workshop** on April 1 and 2. This year's workshop, which was prepared in only five weeks, featured music from Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Over 150 students participated in the quite "amazing" production, directed by Ms. Mary Ellen Schneider.

- **Maggie Hickey '82** visited with St. Ignatius students on March 23, in honor of Women's History Month. Ms. Hickey is currently an assistant attorney to U. S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald. Prior to her time with Mr. Fitzgerald, she served as the Illinois Chief of Staff and general counsel for former U. S. Senator Peter Fitzgerald. Ms. Hickey spoke about opportunities for women in politics and the legal field, as well as her experiences at both the local and national level.

- The 15th annual **St. Ignatius College Fair** on March 22 was a tremendous success this year. More than 150 colleges and universities were represented, and 700 students and families visited tables throughout the evening. Special thanks to the Director of College Counseling, Tom Shorrock, as well as the rest of his staff, including counselors Emily Cady and Susan Weiss and assistant Ellen Middendorf.

AT RIGHT: Top photos - Ms. Lynne Ruozi, Mr. Charlie Stanley and Ms. Amy Bucio say "farewell" to Fr. Bob Thul, S.J.; Fr. Terry Charlton, S.J. talks to Ms. Heather Paquin about young Africans affected by AIDS. Bottom photo - students in choir and orchestra put on the annual Opera Workshop.



Spotlight on Past and Present Parent, Trustee: Barbara Perry

Barbara Perry, an Ignatius parent and member of St. Ignatius College Prep's Board of Trustees, grew up in Minnesota. During her youth, Minnesota's Archbishop had openly refused Jesuits the right to practice their brand of Catholicism in that state. Perry remembers that her father was deeply affected by the Archbishop's decision since he had attended Campion Jesuit High School in Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin and then went on to St. Louis University to earn his doctoral degree in medicine.

Perry's uncle (her father's brother) became a Jesuit priest and the family played host to many Jesuit friends who were visiting the area. The influence of the Society of Jesus in and around her family was great enough that her four siblings chose to attend Jesuit universities (she was the only one who did not). She will carry the lessons she learned from the Jesuits through her entire life.

Today, the mother of Rachel '02, Zachary '06 and Grace '08, Perry is a freelance producer in news and information in the Chicagoland area. She has produced pieces for NBC, WTTW and has done work on the A&E series "American Justice," hosted by Bill Kurtis. She also is the President of the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the Television Academy (the regional representatives of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences), which is the member group that presides over the Emmy Awards®.

When the *Greater Glory Campaign* was launched at St. Ignatius, she accepted the invitation to serve as member of the executive committee and graciously helped to produce the campaign video in 2004. Perry is in her third year as a school trustee and serves as the chair of the Jesuit and Catholic Identity Committee (JCIC).

"It is great work and a great committee with some amazing people who are involved," Perry says about her work with the JCIC. "My predecessor was an alumnus, and prior to his appointment, the seat was always held by a Jesuit. While most of those people remain on the board, I think that I'm able to bring in a different point of view to the committee to help it grow."

Being actively involved in their children's education has long been an important part of parenting for Barbara and her husband, Marty, who is a graduate of Loyola Academy in Wilmette. Teaching their children that giving back to ideas they believe in became a central part of raising their family.

Prior to her children's acceptance to St. Ignatius, Perry was lucky enough to have been exposed to a mini-campaign at her children's grade school. The focus of the campaign was one that would build an endowment that would support teachers' salaries and benefits so that the burden of these costs would not raise tuition.

"The idea that not placing the burden upon parents to fund that endowment through tuition increases ultimately helped to preserve a diverse student community at the school," Perry states.

When the Perry's oldest child, Rachel,

enrolled at St. Ignatius in the late 1990s, the *Greater Glory Campaign* was just beginning to be developed. She immediately recognized the goals of the campaign at St. Ignatius as being something

she had recently been involved with at the grade school level and immediately became a part of the burgeoning campaign by offering valuable in sight into the success she had witnessed a few years earlier.

"I don't want to sound glib, but I am one of those people who believes that teachers should be paid like CEOs," Perry said. "While St. Ignatius does offer a very good pay and benefits package to its faculty, it can always be better.

With the *Greater Glory Campaign*, we are not turning to parents and saying 'this is your responsibility,' then increasing tuition astronomically without giving them another option. By targeting a wider base of constituents, children and families who can come here won't have to worry about not being able to afford to earn one of the finest high school educations in the nation that continues to grow as the campaign and the students do."

Perry goes on to say, "I love the fact that the Programmatic Endowment portion of the *Greater Glory Campaign* supports the tenants of Jesuit education through the classroom, in that it will continue to offer more opportunities to the faculty, staff, and ultimately the students. At the same time, the growth of all of these individuals, classes and programs

through out the school will reinforce in the students to always strive to become religious, loving, intellectually competent, committed to justice and open to growth."

To date, the Perrys have given well in excess of \$100,000 to the programmatic endowment of the *Greater Glory Campaign*. Yet, it is not merely an attempt by them to throw money at an issue in hope of "fixing" it. Each spring, Marty donates his time and knowledge as the head coach of the Ignatius Rugby Football Club, a non-school sponsored organization he co-founded in 2001. A rugger since the early 1970s, his hard work with the club has brought the Wolfpack a great deal of individual and team acclaim. For Barbara and Marty, giving back in numerous ways to support the students of St. Ignatius during the campaign was as important as giving a large financial donation.

"Whether we're giving our time, talent or treasure, all of us in the St. Ignatius community make those choices of what we can realistically do to help support to goals of this campaign and the students," Mrs. Perry says. "Our family is fortunate enough that we are in the position to make a financial donation to a cause that we believe in. However, with having children in the school, it became equally important for my husband and I to give more than just money. My husband and I learned early on from the Jesuit educations we received that our example of giving our time and talent to a cause we believe in is another way that we can see the effects it has on the student body. The active involvement of this community with these kids will be reflected in how they go out and live their lives as men and women for others while continuing the cycle of giving back to society for the rest of their lives."



ALUMNI OFFICE

Following two successful new events for alumni, the Historic Church Tour and Taste the World Through Wine, the 25th annual Law Luncheon capped off the spring special event season on March 10. At the luncheon, **Kevin Conway '69** was honored with the Award for Excellence in the Field of Law, and **Joy V. Cunningham** was given an honorary diploma. This year, the St. Ignatius Law Society was founded and the establishment of a law society endowment was announced at the luncheon. For more details, contact Joan Kistner, Director of Alumni Gifting, at (312) 432-8348 or joan.kistner@ignatius.org.

WOMEN'S COUNCIL

On a day promising a respite for "Profoundly Busy Women," members of the Women's Council and female friends traveled to the Lindenwood Retreat House in Donaldson, IN for a women's retreat. The majority of attendees at the March event were moms of present students, but also represented were alumnae and mothers of alumni. Every participant said she would attend again, listing the benefits derived from being with intelligent, funny and spiritual women, feeling renewed spiritually, eating too much (thanks to all the goodies everyone brought), and walking through the peaceful, forest and farm grounds of Lindenwood.

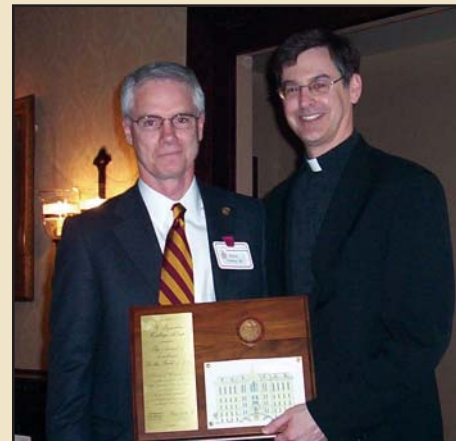
PARENTS' ORGANIZATION

The Parents' Organization annual auction, "Puttin' on the Ritz," was a tremendous success this year! A record attendance and many new highlights, including a band with space for dancing, made it one of the best auctions ever. Special congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. Vince Rangel '63**, who won the raffle drawing for a brand new BMW 325i; **Mr. and Mrs. Alan Lougee** and **Mr. and Mrs. Steven Welsh**, who won tuitions for the 2006-07 school year; and **Ms. Teddi Ebersohl**, who won a luxury vacation in Hawaii.

GOLF CLASSIC

The annual Joe Gentile '42 Golf Classic will be held July 17 at Silver Lake

Country Club in Orland Park, IL. Registration is available on the school website: www.ignatius.org. Click on "Alumni," and there, you will find an option to log onto the online community, where you can register for this and other events. Thanks to co-chairs **Mike Kirchberg '78** and **Vince Volante '78**, as well as committee members **Kathy Bliss**, **Charlie Brown '58**, **Dave Casalino '83**, **Tom Goldrick '72**, **Michelle Hansen '82**, **Debbie Harris**, **Dave Kavanaugh '57**, **Colleen Kirchberg**, **Julian Murphy '82**, **Pat O'Brien '71**, **Jim O'Keefe '62**, **Joe LoBraco '70**, **Kevin O'Mara '76**, **Tom Pikarski '89**, **Vince Rangel '63**, **Mike Rice '78**, **Tony Rosinia '84**, **Tricia M. Ruffolo '83** and **Marcia Spingola**.



ABOVE: Top - Fr. Brian Paulson, S.J., president of St. Ignatius College Prep, honors Kevin Conway '69 with the Award for Excellence in the Field of Law. Bottom - Dr. Catherine Karl, principal of St. Ignatius, congratulates Joy Cunningham for receiving an honorary diploma.

AT LEFT: Participants of the St. Ignatius Women's Council retreat "strike a morning pose" in Donaldson, IN. The retreat was a wonderful experience for all who attended.

With gratitude for recent gifts and services of \$5,000 or more given to St. Ignatius College Prep between January 1 and February 28, 2006:

The GREATER GLORY CAMPAIGN

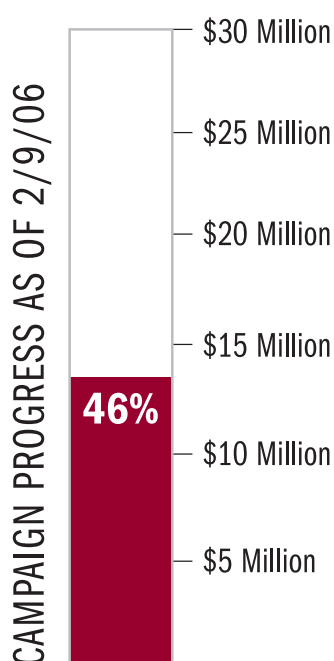
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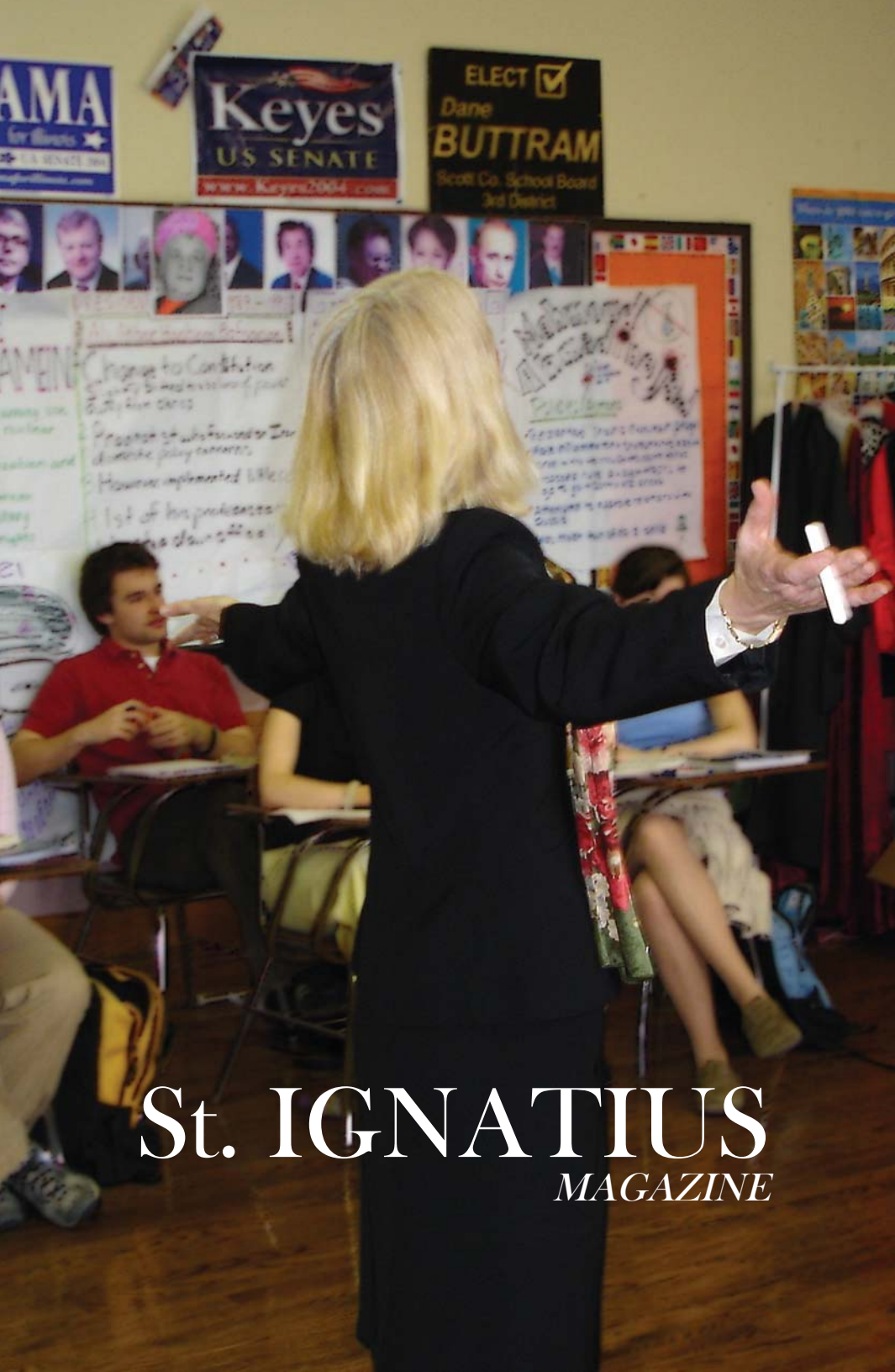


AT RIGHT: Top row - Patrick and Ann McAloon enjoy the Parents' Organization annual auction; guests peruse the book that listed all items up for bid at "Puttin' on the Ritz." Center row - A sax player and his bandmates provide music for dancing (offered for the first time at this year's event); Loretta Dooley Wetzels and her husband, Perran, are faithful workers at the annual event. Bottom photo - Attendees crowd around the Home and Garden Table to make last minute bids before the table closes in the 3rd floor gym.



with gratitude

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APRIL

13: No Classes - Easter Break Begins

24: Classes Resume

29: Reunions for the Classes of
 1981, 1986 & 1991

MAY

11: Reunion for the Class of 1949

20: Prom

24: Baccalaureate Liturgy

26: Jubilee Reunion

29: No Classes

JUNE

3: Graduation

9: 60th Reunion for the Class of 1946

JULY

17: Joe Gentile '42 Golf Classic for
 St. Ignatius College Prep

AUGUST

31: Mass for the Feast of St. Ignatius



WELCOME!

We warmly welcome Mr. Jamaul Webster as the new assistant in the Alumni Office. Jamaul, who recently graduated from Marquette University, is no stranger to St. Ignatius College Prep. He is an Ignatius alum from the Class of 2001, and looks forward to getting involved!

ON THE MAILING PANEL:

On top of the world... Ms. Diane Haleas Hines teaches bright students in her A.P. Comparative Government and Politics class. The course at St. Ignatius was recently honored as "Best in the World" by the College Board.

upcoming events