

# DE SMET JESUIT

Spring 2014

# Odyssey



*Open House 2013*

## **In this issue:**

Trevor Bonat  
Named New DSJ  
Principal

Odyssey Under the  
Sea Gala & Auction  
Has Record Year

Alumni Charity  
Spotlights: *The Half  
Fund* and *Robots for  
Humanity*

# A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

During a recent span of a couple of weeks, faculty member Jim Saali and his wife Sallye welcomed their first child, a baby boy, into the world; as a school community we said goodbye to eight faculty and staff members who retired from De Smet Jesuit, among them long-time coaches Hawkey, Cerneka and Vitello; and we lost Robin Davis, a co-worker and friend, who died after suffering a massive stroke. The question often asked, especially when it comes to a sudden and unexpected death, is: Where is God in all of this?

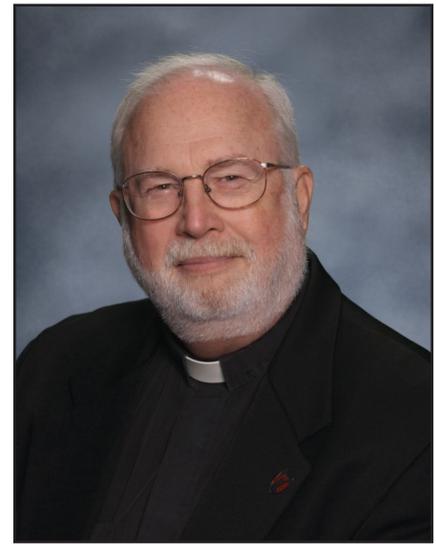
I, probably like you, find it easy to find God in moments like the birth of a baby, the graduation of another senior class and the ordination of a brother Jesuit, like Chris Schroeder '00, as a priest. In moments like these the presence of God is abundantly evident. But our faith teaches us that God is not distant. God is present in every human experience – the good and the bad.

Finding God in all things is at the center of the spirituality that St. Ignatius blessed us with. His worldview instills in us an awareness that we can find God in every person, in every place and in every thing. God is present and active in our world. As Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J. wrote: "God is not remote from us. He is at the point of my pen, my pick, my paintbrush, my needle – and my heart and my thoughts." When we are able to discern God's presence in our daily lives, we become more devoted, more thankful and more deeply in love.

De Smet Jesuit will see many changes in the fall. Trevor Bonat, formerly principal of Bishop Brady High School in Concord, New Hampshire, will become our new principal in July. Over a dozen of our faculty and staff have retired, accepted positions elsewhere or are simply moving on. As you know, next academic year will be my last at De Smet Jesuit and a nationwide search is underway for my replacement. As we experience the excitement and pain that comes with change, God is with us and is opening us up to the possibility of greater growth.

God is also found in places we don't always expect, like in aspects of our work (p. 6), on the athletic field or arena (pp. 16 - 17) or during a vacation period like Spring Break (p. 18). God can be found in these ordinary activities of daily living, not just in "churchy" moments but in the commonplace events and humdrum activities of our everyday lives.

Henry Evans '80 and his nephew, Henry Clever '90, know firsthand how even a personal tragedy can lead to an experience of God's care and result in a greater concern for others. At age 40, Henry Evans suffered a stroke-like attack caused by a hidden birth defect that left him paralyzed and mute. What may have reduced many of us to despair has provided Evans an opportunity to help others. As he writes in his story on pages 10-11, "The 'Man for Others' mantra makes you see yourself as a part of a larger whole; a whole that you can and should positively influence." By the way, he wrote his responses for the entire interview with a device



that allows him to type with his head.

The path of spiritual growth laid out by St. Ignatius challenges us to discern God's presence in both the good and the bad, the ordinary and the unexpected events of our everyday lives – to find God literally in all things. We then are called to respond to God's presence not only by becoming more reverent and thankful but also by becoming more selfless and serving. Please enjoy the stories and updates found in this edition of the *Odyssey* magazine. I hope they help you reflect on where God is present in your own life.

May you and your family have an enjoyable and safe summer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wally Sidney S.J." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Fr. Wally Sidney, S.J.

# The ODYSSEY



## Mission Statement

De Smet Jesuit High School is a Catholic, college preparatory community whose members work together to build a challenging, academic environment set in the context of the life and spirit of Jesus Christ. While members are constantly encouraged to develop strong personal values and convictions, they achieve success by realizing their leadership potential through impacting the lives of those around them. They also learn to live the values of St. Ignatius by being intellectually competent, open to growth, religious, loving, and committed to doing justice in generous service to the people of God.

## On the Cover:

2014 Open House Student Volunteers  
*Photo by Kala O'Connor*

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## 4 New DSJ Principal Named

Trevor Bonat, current principal of Bishop Brady High School in Concord, NH, will move to St. Louis and serve as De Smet Jesuit's new principal for the 2014 - 15 school year.

## 8 Dan Duffy, an Accidental Activist

Alumnus Dan Duffy '90 reflects on surviving cancer, starting his own charitable foundation, and his experiences at De Smet Jesuit High School.

## 12 Odyssey Auction Has Record Year

The Odyssey Under the Sea Gala & Auction, held Mar. 29, raised more than \$500,000 this year.

## 20 Current Students Cheer, Volunteer, and Compete

The fall of the 2013-14 school year was a busy time at De Smet Jesuit High School.

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# Search Committee Selects New Principal

Rev. Wally Sidney, S.J., announced in March that Trevor Bonat, currently principal of Bishop Brady High School in Concord, New Hampshire, will serve as the new principal of De Smet Jesuit High School, beginning July 1, 2014.

"We are excited to welcome Mr. Bonat to De Smet Jesuit High School," said Father Sidney. "He brings with him a long association with Jesuit apostolates, and a rich experience in leadership within a diocesan high school. We look forward to his fresh perspective as we continue our mission of offering a quality, Catholic, accessible education to young men in the St. Louis area."

Bonat earned a B.A. in Classics and Religious Studies at College of the Holy Cross, an M.A. in Religion and Religious Education from Catholic University of America, and an M.S. Ed. in Secondary School Administration from Johns Hopkins

University. He previously taught religion and theology before moving into leadership positions at Catholic high schools.

"I am eager to return to my Jesuit roots at De Smet Jesuit," said Bonat. "St. Louis has a deep and rich tradition of excellent Catholic education, and I'm excited to be a part of it."

Dr. Ron Rebore, Jr., acting principal at De Smet Jesuit High School, will continue to serve De Smet Jesuit as Assistant Principal for Staff Development. ♦



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## Longtime Teacher, Coach to Retire after 46 Years

Greg Vitello, biology and physical education teacher and varsity soccer and baseball coach, announced his retirement, effective at the end of this school year.

"I am so grateful for my time at De Smet Jesuit," Vitello said. "Ever since I decided to coach, I wanted to challenge every young man I encountered to love the sport he chose. More importantly, I wanted to help the young men grow into good friends, good parents, and good citizens."

Coach Vitello is a member of the inaugural class of the Missouri State High School Soccer Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the St. Louis Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame, the Missouri High School Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame, and the St. Benedictine (now Benedict) College Hall of Fame.

Over his 46 years at De Smet Jesuit, Vitello coached swimming, football, and track and field, in addition to baseball and soccer. He coached two MLB players, Bob Keppel and 2003 AL batting champion Bill Mueller, and five players who played on United States National Soccer Teams (Bill McKeon, Matt McKeon, Chris Klein, Pat Noonan, and Will Bruin).

"While it's an honor to be a coach to students who would become professional athletes, I am just as honored and inspired by those students who, day in

and day out, played their sport as hard as their ability let them," said Vitello.

Father Wally Sidney, S.J., President, wrote in an email to faculty: "Greg is one of the true pioneers of our school. He began his teaching career here the very first year after De Smet Jesuit opened its doors. While the public knows Greg as a coach and respects him for his accomplishments on the field, we are blessed to know him as a friend and colleague and have been inspired by his sharing his faith with students on retreat, building the Marian grotto outside the cafeteria for the mother of one of our cafeteria workers, visiting injured players in the hospital after a game, and helping out in selfless and generous ways, such as with the soccer shoe drive for kids in Haiti. Greg really models what it means to be a 'Man for Others.'" ♦





The gymnasium has been repainted, and new bleachers were installed last fall.

Composite photos of each graduating class have been printed, framed and hung in the freshly-painted hallway above student lockers.

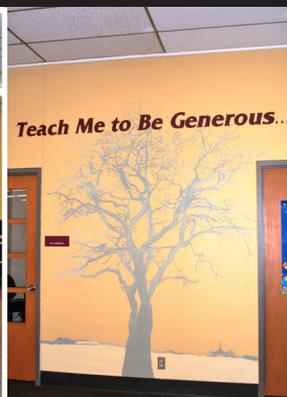


The cafeteria boasts freshly painted walls in DSJ colors, as well as a school shield and updated flooring.

# NEW PROJECTS AT DE SMET JESUIT HIGHLIGHT TRANSITION, TRADITION



The library has undergone a thorough reorganization; at the end of the school year, art students also painted a "Wall of Gratitude" that will eventually honor retired teachers and staff.



The newly-erected lacrosse wall sports the DSJ shield logo. Players have utilized the wall throughout the entire year.

# AT BAT FOR MEN

Suzanne and Bobby Keppel '00 bring faith and values to the mainstream

BY JENNIFER BRINKER,  
*Catholic St. Louis Magazine*

**B**obby and Suzanne Keppel have baseball in their blood. Bobby has played professional baseball for 14 years and most recently signed a contract with the Cincinnati Reds. The couple has lived in 15 cities in their seven years of marriage, and they're expecting their fourth child this summer.

If that wasn't enough to keep them busy, the Keppels decided in 2012 to enter the world of magazine publishing. By January 2013, they published their first issue of *The Nines* magazine, a men's lifestyle publication – with what they describe as a “fresh” twist.

The Keppels, active members of St. Joseph Parish in Cottleville, recently shared with us the mission behind their magazine and how faith has influenced their work.

How did you become involved in the magazine business?

**Bobby:** “One of the reasons is because out there right now in America, you can't find a men's lifestyle magazine that's got clean content throughout. (*The Nines*) doesn't offend women, it's visually clean and the stories are uplifting, but also inspiring and entertaining. Contemporary classic is a term that we like to use.”

**Suzanne:** “It's helping men become better men, which, in turn, makes better families and a better world.”

Describe your faith upbringing.

**Bobby** grew up in Incarnate Word Parish in Chesterfield and is a 2000 graduate of De Smet Jesuit High School. He's a product of Life Teen at Incarnate Word. “But faith-wise, I really didn't understand or become my own (person) until marriage prep,” he says.

**Suzanne** was raised in Lake Villa, a small suburb north of Chicago. She, too, is a cradle Catholic, attending Catholic

high school and eventually graduating from the Franciscan University of Steubenville. Disinterested in her faith as a teen, she didn't want to go to Steubenville and only attended at the urging of her father. “By the grace of God, I got in and got a room. It was one of the best experiences I have ever had,” she says.

How do you incorporate your faith into *The Nines* magazine, while maintaining a “secular” presence?

**Bobby:** “In baseball, I am surrounded by a bunch of men who are looked to as role models. And often these men who have these large platforms are able to influence others... guys like Mike Sweeny and Jeff Suppan.” As a minor-league player, “I'm not going to be able to do that to a crowd. I can share these inspiring stories to more people through this medium than just through me trying to talk.”

The content they share in the magazine is meant to open minds and hearts to new ways of thinking, he says. “So we might be talking about vasectomies, and we ask, ‘What's the alternative to that?’ And there are other issues, like what do women want from sex? We ask, ‘What do they want within their marriages and their relationships?’ You're not going to see that elsewhere. We do not do anything that's counter to the teachings of the Catholic Church. The natural beauty of the world can still come out without even using the word ‘Christ.’”

“People say dress the nines; we take that as no one's perfect, no one's a 10. We encourage (readers) to take whatever aspect of your life and make that grow.”

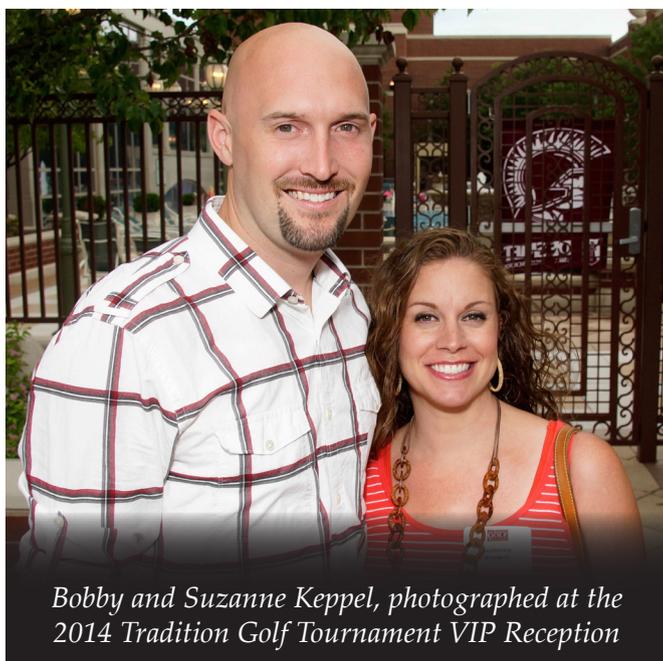
How does your faith challenge you in the work that you do?

**Suzanne:** “A year ago, there was a fertility center (offering in-vitro fertilization and artificial insemination) who approached us,

and they were all about our magazine and wanted to be in it. And I had to say that we could not advertise for anyone that is against” – Bobby interjects – “the teachings of the Church. That's touchy stuff, but we will never promote something that goes against the teachings of the Church.”

**Bobby:** “The big question is, how do you even start that conversation with people? How can you at least let them see the other side and the beauty behind it?”

**Suzanne:** “We also want to make sure we, as Pope Francis has continued to say, put the judgment aside and let everyone know they are loved by God. And everyone has an opportunity to receive God's love, as long as they are open to the graces that He gives us. We are not passing judgment ... by any means.” ♦



*Bobby and Suzanne Keppel, photographed at the 2014 Tradition Golf Tournament VIP Reception*

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# Balaban's Promotes Catering, Banquet Chef D. Scott Phillips '88 to Head of Kitchen

BY KRISTIN BRASHARES, *FEAST Magazine*

After nine months as Balaban's catering and banquet chef, D. Scott Phillips is moving up to executive chef of the Chesterfield restaurant and retail wine store.

Co-owners Steve McIntyre and Brian Underwood made the announcement in a press release:

"Unique as a chef, Scott manages and cooks superbly. In a short time, he proved himself invaluable to our operation, so we reorganized the kitchen to take advantage of his talents and experience," McIntyre says.

Phillips joined Balaban's last fall when Balaban's expanded and renovated an additional 2,046 square feet of adjacent space in their Dierbergs Marketplace location on Clark Road.

The owners' plan at the time provided for Phillips to lead Balaban's into the catering and event market and to build the variety of their offerings and services for their new private event space.

Commenting on his plan for Balaban's, Phillips says, "My byword is consistency, consistency, consistency. Balaban's will highlight fresh vegetables, fresh ingredients, classic flavors and some different versions of the classics."

Phillips aims to take Balaban's back to its standard for the classic recipes: "We will focus on every element of every dish. That includes the quality, the flavor and the presentation."

With nightly specials, Phillips also wants to respond to customer requests. "I hope customers call and ask for what they want," he says.

In his first move as executive chef, Phillips hired two new kitchen staffers. "I look not so much for



Photo courtesy of FEAST Magazine

training and academic levels but competency and individuals with integrity and a strong sense of pride in their work," he says.

Phillips, a 1994 graduate of Johnson and Wales University, Providence, R.I., worked as executive chef and kitchen manager at the respected Provisions Gourmet Market in Creve Coeur for eight years before joining Balaban's.

His resume includes substantial stints at Food Service Consultants and their subsidiary, Specialized Catering, both in St. Louis and both involved in preparing meals for large offices and schools.

"We will get to where we want to go by creating a team, a team with pride. As the coach, I'm building that team in the kitchen. Together, we will make the food and rally around our great legacy.

"What I envision a year from now consists of growing the business to the point that Balaban's receives recognition in the marketplace for banquets and catering. Our team will take great pride in where they work,"

he says.

"Foods from our kitchen—some rich, some less so—will reflect proper technique and represent foods cooked the way they were intended to be."

Formerly an executive chef and knowledgeable about pairing food and wine, Phillips originally appealed to Balaban's owners for his specialty in sizeable groups, suited to the new space. In the new private event space, Balaban's created an intimate Wine Room for eight which houses the older, library wines from the original award-winning Café Balaban cellar. The other party space room seats 80 for dinner, 100 for cocktails and includes state of the art audio video fittings. ♦

Reprinted with the permission of *FEAST Magazine*, August 19, 2013.

# THE ACCIDENTAL ACTIVIST



De Smet Jesuit alumnus Dan Duffy '90 reflects on his experiences surviving cancer, starting his own charitable foundation, and how his high school classmates have helped him through it all

## BY DAN DUFFY '90

**H**i. My name is Dan. And I'm an accidental activist.

I did not start out my life's journey with the mission of becoming an activist. It just kind of happened that way. Like most of you who went to De Smet Jesuit, I had my ups and downs in high school. I'm not exactly sure how I graduated in 1990, and I am even more shocked that it was my only year to escape summer school. But hey, even a blind pig finds a truffle.

Throughout my life, I've had good fortune like that which I did not deserve. I got my dream job in radio by simply writing a letter to the show. Some scribbling on a paper got me a three-month internship, which turned into a full time gig doing sports on Steve and D.C. because the news reader couldn't pronounce a single last name of any Blues player.

"And in the Blues contest last night, Keith Tuh-Kay-Chuck pulled off a trick with a hat to beat Quebec Nor-Dee-Q's 2 to 1. Back to you in the studio."

In 1996, I survived being thrown out

of my Jeep at 60 mph. I was hit and spun out by a guy who had slowed his brand new Mitsubishi Eclipse to 105 before impact. I flew through the air, skipped like a rock across a lake down the median of I-70 near Riverport (it will always be Riverport), and stood up 10 seconds after my last "thud." When I looked back at that incident, I thought, "I'm invincible."

And eight years later, I found the lump.

On the surface, it felt like a golf ball. That Titleist ended up being the tip of a very large iceberg of a tumor. It had started in my left testicle, and moved throughout the left side of my abdomen. My mortality came completely crashing down around me.

Thankfully, I had an amazing oncologist named Burt Needles at St. John's, and he assured me that I was going to be okay. While those words were reassuring, they didn't come from someone I fully trusted. So I did what any rational human being would do: I sent a bulk email to all of my friends and confidants, letting them know of my situation. One of those friends was

Bobby Holthaus, also class of 1990.

It wasn't twenty minutes after sending out that email when I got a reply from Ron Johnson '90, a man I hadn't talked to since the day we graduated. I had no idea how he'd even gotten my email. And then I checked the entire body and realized that Bobby had forwarded my note to every single member of our graduating class for whom he had an address. I started hearing from people that, to be honest, I never thought I'd hear from.

I was so shocked and humbled. Since that day, Bobby has become one of my favorite people, and it started the day he saw a fellow Spartan in need of nothing but a prayer, and he made it happen. That day, and many times since, he's been a Man for Others.

After surviving cancer, I realized that battling the disease was one of the most reactionary experiences of my life, which made the fight that much harder. For instance, I would love to have known that one of the major side effects of my chemo drugs was constipation. After a week, I stopped eating because everything inside

basically stopped, and there was literally no room. You know how you feel after eating a big meal, like having a bowling ball in your gut? Picture it for a solid week and a half and you will feel my pain. You know what finally worked? A prescription. Know when I could have used it? Maybe the day after I started chemo. I will spare you the details of the sheer suffering when the “electricity” was restored.

But the physical was only part of it. The mental minefield is even worse. With so many messed up things, I thought to myself, “There has to be a way to warn people about these sometimes scary, sometimes silly aspects of my walk with cancer. But how?”

So I did what every accidental activist does: I used what I know. I had graduated from radio to video and film, so I wrote a screenplay. And with the help of some great advice from some wonderful writers, especially the immensely talented and accomplished Bart Baker '77, we have a much better script with which to make our film.

And originally, our only goal was to make a film. But as time went on, we realized that this could be so much bigger. So we started on a path that was definitely the road less traveled.

I reached out to the local office of the American Cancer Society to tell them that we wrote a script, and were interested in sharing some profits with the ACS. Two hours after sending the email to a lady named April Dzubic, she was able to navigate our crazy idea all the way to the national headquarters, where we befriended and partnered with them in our goal.

But then we went even further. We found a fantastic lawyer, applied for 501(c)(3) status, and nine months later, a bouncing baby charitable organization called The Half Fund was born. Wayne Else, the man who started Soles4Souls, took us under his wing to mentor us. An editor for the Huffington Post came across one of our blogs on our website. He liked it so much that he asked us to submit one to HuffPo. Thirty-five blog posts later, we're still writing for them.

The goal of The Half Fund is simple: to further cancer education through commercially viable art forms, such as movies or documentaries or books or music.

Anyone who gets money from us must agree to split all net-profits in half: half going to any charitable cancer organization of the artist's choosing, and half coming back to us where we do it all again. It's actually a self-regenerating fund.

We are currently in the process of raising funds for the first project, a feature film tentatively titled “Half.” One of the things we are doing to raise funds is collecting shoes. For each pair we collect, we receive a fee. And the shoes end up in the poorest regions on earth, where people can use them for safety, sanitation, and more importantly ... currency.

And believe it or not, shoes not only save lives, they enrich them. While I was in Port Au Prince, we went to a shoe distribution at a school. I was fortunate to be asked to sit in and put shoes on three children. The final child was a girl who could not have been older than seven. She sat

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“ **The goal of The Half Fund is simple: to further cancer education through commercially viable art forms, such as movies or documentaries or books or music.** ”

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down and I washed her feet. I then put socks on them, and then put on a pair of black shoes about three sizes too big. When she stood up, everyone cheered. I realized that they weren't clapping for me, so I asked what had just happened.

“She gets to go to school now.”

In Haiti, there is no money for school. In order for a child to be able to attend, he or she must have a pair of black, closed-toed shoes. This girl just got the opportunity to attend classes for the first time in her life because of a single pair of black shoes. And because they were so big on her, she will be able to attend for at least three years.

Never underestimate the power of a pair of shoes.

I was able to tell the Men's Club about our idea, and not only did they agree to

collect shoes for us, but they also volunteered themselves and their sophomore sons to work at our inaugural Movember 5K this past October.

And not only that, but fellow 90'er Matt Horwitz's two sons held a massive shoe drive at their middle school right around Christmas. 450 pairs were raised.

And another 90'er, Tony DiFranco, continues to help us spread our message while working on his own initiative to change the world, The Cries of a Child ([www.thecriesofachild.org](http://www.thecriesofachild.org)).

De Smet Jesuit students continue to be Men for Others. It's so refreshing to see, because that's why we're here, anyway: to leave the world a better place than we found it. They don't just know it. They live it.

It's one reason why I am always so honored to take part in the Mentorship Lunch each year. I had my second such event a few weeks ago with my dear friend Bart Baker as one of the speakers. Both Bart and I have seen a lot in the entertainment business, and we are passionate about a few things: don't settle in your career, take initiative, and remain true to yourself, your principles, and your desire to be a Man for Others.

Since the lunch, I have been contacted by a few of the students who attended, asking advice on blogging, writing, and really just telling their stories. I'm huge into telling stories, because it's through stories that we are given clues about life: about the life we want to make for ourselves, the life we want to make for others, and the legacy we want to leave.

I thank my Maker for a great many things every day, and many of them had a direct link to De Smet Jesuit... my friends, my desire to help others, and my gratitude for all that I've been given. If I leave the world with one thing, I hope it's that I've been able to live my life as a Man for Others. It is so much more than a saying or slogan. Hopefully, I'm living proof. ♦

*Dan Duffy '90 is filmmaker and video editor living in St. Louis. He is married with two young sons, and hopes that The Half Fund will eventually become irrelevant once cancer is finally eradicated. For more information on their efforts to lift the veil on cancer, please visit [www.thehalfund.org](http://www.thehalfund.org).*



# ROBOTICS AID PARALYZED ALUM

A Conversation with Henry Evans,  
Class of 1980

At age 40, Henry Evans, Class of 1980, was left mute and quadriplegic after a stroke-like attack caused by a hidden birth defect. Years of therapy helped him learn to move his head and use a finger, which allows him to use a head-tracking device to communicate with a computer using experimental interfaces. Evans completed this interview using this technology.

A co-founder of Robots for Humanity ([www.r4h.org](http://www.r4h.org)), Henry has become a pioneer in adaptive robotic tech to help him, and other disabled people like him, navigate the world. In November 2013, Henry was a featured presenter at a TED event, a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks. TED began as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics, from science to business to global issues, in more than 100 languages.

You have two Bachelor's degrees from Notre Dame – one in Accounting and one in German – plus an MBA from Stanford. You went on to become a CFO in Silicon Valley, but that doesn't mean you were a hands-on engineer. When did you get bitten by the technology bug?

I have always liked technology, but I am an engineer by necessity, not by formal education. Most of what I do now is inspire engineers, versus doing hands-on engineering myself.



TELEPRESENCE ♦ Henry Evans addresses the crowd via a robotic video monitor on stage at the TEDxMidAtlantic Conference, Oct. 2013. The device allowed him to speak to the assembled crowd in Washington, D.C. from his home in Los Altos Hills, CA.

Your TED bio describes you as a “robotics activist.” Can you define that for us?

Basically I’m making sure that the latest robotic technologies are being used to help disabled and elderly people, whose own bodies don’t perform well anymore.

You’re a drone pilot. Drones have a reputation as spying tools and weapons delivery systems. Do drones have an “image problem”? If so, what will it take to correct that?

Yes, drones have an image problem. We need to show the world that drones are just like any other technology. They can be used for good or for evil: ever since man first picked up a rock, he has had to decide what to throw it at.

You said that drones offer the potential for bedridden people to explore the outside world. What advice can you offer to bedridden people or their caregivers?

The basic concept is that all you need to transport around to experience the world are your sensory organs [in this case your retinas], not your whole body. The advice is, never stop thinking of alternative ways to do things, now that your body is broken. Remember, if you want something, you look for options. If you don’t want it, you look for excuses.

Part of your college studies included studying in Austria. How has that overseas educational experience influenced you?

It shattered my provincial view of the world and made me realize that people are the same everywhere – they have just adapted to their environments differently.

How did your experience at De Smet Jesuit shape you into the man you are today?

I always valued my Jesuit education. The ‘Man for Others’ mantra makes you see yourself as part of a larger whole; a whole that you can and should positively influence.

What is your next project?

I am currently involved in numerous ongoing projects with researchers from almost a dozen universities. The one project I will talk about is the World Tour of Museums for quadriplegics and other mobility-impaired individuals that I am organizing. Using telepresence robots, several other quadriplegics, including one from Lithuania and one from England, and I will tour museums all over the world. We have already been to museums in Mountain View, California and Sydney, Australia, and have plans to tour museums in San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and London. The point is to bring attention to this groundbreaking technology and its ability to open the world’s museums to paralyzed people, residents of nursing homes, students of all ages and able-bodied people who can’t take afford to travel. All you have to be able to do is manipulate a mouse cursor, regardless of how. I do it with my head. In fact, if you know an individual or group [school class, elderly, disabled] or museum who would like to participate, please email me at [hevans1000@gmail.com](mailto:hevans1000@gmail.com). They can physically be located anywhere in the world. ♦

To see Evans’ TEDTalk in its entirety, visit [http://www.ted.com/talks/henry\\_evans\\_and\\_chad\\_jenkins\\_meet\\_the\\_robots\\_for\\_humanity](http://www.ted.com/talks/henry_evans_and_chad_jenkins_meet_the_robots_for_humanity)

## HENRY CLEVER ‘09 DEVELOPS NEW TECHNOLOGY TO ASSIST QUADRIPLAGIC UNCLE

BY ANNE STEFFENS

The head-tracking device Henry Evans used to answer our questions was created and designed by his nephew Henry Clever ‘09. Clever grew up in St. Louis, and was 11 years old when Evans had his stroke. Clever’s relationship with Evans was challenged, then, by distance and age. But it was Clever’s interest in technology that brought them closer.

“I’d always been fascinated with tech companies and since he (Evans) worked with many of them, I’d travel out to California and hang out with him and his friends and learn from them,” said Clever. “I made these visits after he had his stroke, so I don’t really remember much about him before then.”

Clever remembers how the idea came up about the new technology his uncle uses now: “He (Evans) bought the sensors that read head movements, but they had to be configured, some things had to be soldered, and then we had to hook them up to the microcontroller. He said ‘Build it,’ so I built it!”

The University of Kansas student credits De Smet Jesuit teachers for his desire not only to help his uncle, but others who may be able to benefit from his new technology.

“They always encouraged service work and emphasized reaching out to our community, just because it’s the right thing to do.” ♦



Photo courtesy of Dorie Clever



The 2014 Odyssey Under the Sea Gala & Auction was a smashing success! The sold-out event, held at the Frontenac St. Louis Hilton, featured both silent and live auctions and raised over \$500,000. Sponsorships alone totaled over \$100,000, and the Fund-A-Need portion of the auction grossed the highest amount in the program's history.



- 1 - Emcee Chris Higgins '88 informs Judy Schnoebelen that she has won the trip to Cabo.
- 2 - Mike Stumpf, Amy Stumpf, Jim Ortvals, Eileen Ortvals, Diane Kavanaugh, Jim Kavanaugh, Auction Co-chair Kim Koenig, Joe Koenig, Bill McKeon '79, Kathy McKeon
- 3 - Bob Ferguson, Ann Ferguson, Libby Wolf, Andy Wolf, Catherine Brown, Michael Brown
- 4 - John Goessling '71, Tom Eschen '71, Ken Luecke, Larry Linkul '71
- 5 - Student Guest Speaker Alec Muhr '14



*Did you go to The O?*

*It's a sea anemone!*



6 - Members of the President's Ambassadors  
 7 - Bill Schmidt '72, Lucy Schmidt  
 8 - Co-Chair Heather Hebson, John Stiles, Co-Chair Kim Koenig

For more photos of this event, please visit [desmet.org/odyssey-auction.html](http://desmet.org/odyssey-auction.html)



## World Wide Technology (WWT) is Proud to Sponsor the Odyssey Under the Sea Gala and Auction!

WWT and Our De Smet Jesuit Alumni Thank You for Continuing to Form and Inspire "Men for Others."

World Wide Technology brings an innovative and proven approach to how organizations explore, evaluate, architect and implement new technology.

Visit us online at [www.wwt.com](http://www.wwt.com)

### ALUMNI

- BILL MCKEON, 1979
- MIKE HORNER, 1983
- STEVE FUCHS, 1983
- MATT HORNER, 1988
- BOB FERGUSON, 1988
- JOHN REBHOLZ, 1988
- DAN GLARNER, 1993
- CHAD STUART, 1995
- BRIAN ORTBALS, 1996

- ERIC BECKER, 1998
- MATT ORTBALS, 1999
- DAN CATALANO, 2003
- JEFF PRUELLAGE, 2005
- PATRICK WITZOFSKY, 2006
- JEFF MARXKORS, 2006
- ANDY KLING, 2006
- BRENDAN LOUGHMAN, 2010
- BRIAN CATALANO, 2010

### PARENTS

- MARK CATALANO
- NORM DEL CASTILLO
- ROB ERUSA
- JIM KAVANAUGH
- JOE KOENIG
- STACY LOUGHMAN
- TIM LOUGHMAN
- DAN WALTERS
- KAREN WITZOFSKY



TECHNOLOGY RUNS ON  
**GREAT PEOPLE**

# 2013 - 2014 FALL AND WINTER SPARTAN SPORTS RECAPS

## FOOTBALL

Success in the football season is measured by the growth of the team as they bond and form relationships, especially as they face hardships. We were a very talented team, with ten of our players signing letters of intent to play college football. We had a winning season (6-5), with the losses to state-ranked teams by a total of 22 points. However, we define success by the closeness of our team members just as our theme, "Only the Family," would exemplify what a family should do in times of trouble. The evidence of their bonding is how they have supported each other after the death of senior defensive back Adrian Bowman, and the work they have done to help each other and Adrian's family. This is the true measure of this year's team's success. It is far more important to see how these young men have matured and become



responsible citizens. This team is well on its way to continue the success of this season in their personal lives and will carry the experiences of the season for the rest of their lives. In twenty years, they will remember the struggles, the relationships, and the spirit of "The Family" that they created.

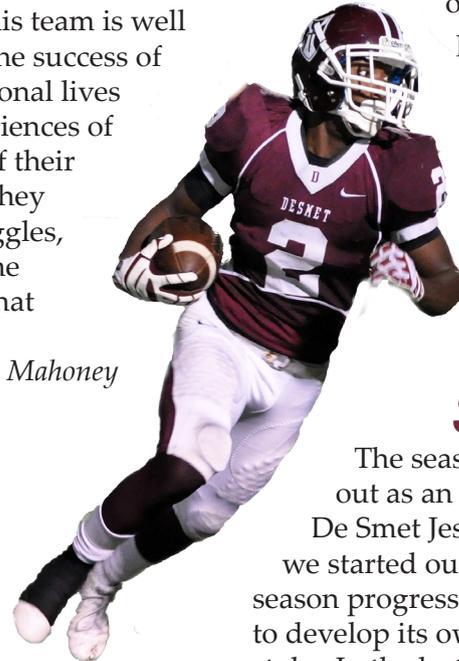
— Coach Pat Mahoney

## CROSS COUNTRY

The senior leadership of Austin Del Rosso, Stephen Plasmeyer, and Matthew Barkofski proved to be the cornerstone of the 2014 De Smet Jesuit cross country season. These Spartan captains led the way for a season that included a first-place finish at the Webster Warmup and second-place finishes at The Fleet Feet Kickoff, Missouri Catholic Conference, and Sectionals. Throughout the season, the team matured on and off the field. Each and every day the team members worked to improve and compete in accordance with our school's motto – AMDG – for the greater glory of God. The season finished with the team earning a trip to the

Missouri State Cross Country meet for the 19th consecutive season. Our team, which included our captains and Tyler Blechle, Nick Dolan, Nick Trunko and Blake Waters, finished a respectable 14th place. Austin Del Rosso broke our school record with a time of 15:53 and a sixth-place finish. This year's team proudly contributed to the Spartan cross country team's long-standing tradition of excellence.

— Coach Bryan Traugher



## SOCCER

The season pretty much started out as an unknown. In typical De Smet Jesuit soccer fashion, we started out slowly. As the season progressed, this group began to develop its own personality and style. In the last half of the season, this team performed well beyond the expectations of the coaches. Victories over Vianney and Chaminade highlighted the end of the season. The season ended with a tough loss, 2-1, to CBC in the district semifinal. We finished with a record of 15-10. This team learned to focus on team play rather than individual performances and statistics. They truly played for the name on the front of their jersey. There were a number of players on this team that may not have been able to crack the starting lineup on teams in the past, but, by turning their efforts to team play, they were most effective for this year's squad.

— Coach Greg Vitello

## BASKETBALL

Henry Ford wrote, "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."

These words outline the journey of the 2013 - 2014 basketball season. With the graduation of four starters, four seniors new to the basketball program, and three sophomores new to the varsity team, the early season focused on coming together as a team. As the season progressed, finding victory on the scoreboard was difficult, and the task of keeping together had just begun. Injuries like a broken leg, a concussion, and a severe leg injury kept some of our players off the court. Despite making obvious gains in play on the court, the grind of the season began to take its toll. After the sudden death of senior classmate Adrian Bowman, the guys came together, supported each other and found a way to keep together. In the final weeks of the season, their efforts to work together began to bear fruit. The team worked together to win four of the final six games against quality opponents. The effort of this team to come together, to keep together and to work together is commendable. They gave everything they had to give.

— Coach Kevin Poelker



## RACQUETBALL

With seven of eight positions manned by first time varsity players, the racquetball team posted a 4 and 6 record, beating teams from all four Metro Catholic Conference schools. Returning letterman senior Adam Otto brought leadership to the program, serving as a co-captain with senior Patrick Hannegan, who was half of the doubles' team paired with fellow senior Ryan Lane. Seniors Matt Sulentrup and Merritt Harvey performed strongly, while juniors Ray Sanchez,

Andrew Marino and Andrew Jackson improved steadily throughout the year and will be top players next year. Competing in the U.S. High School Nationals in Portland, Oregon, De Smet Jesuit placed 15th out of 30 teams nationally. Otto, Lane, Sanchez and Jackson represented the Spartans.

With a talented group of sophomores and juniors on the JV teams, the future looks promising. The Spartan trademark this year was continual improvement, complemented by a strong team camaraderie. A constant compliment from our opponents was "what incredible sportsmen" we were – "Men For Others" in "deeds more than words"!

— Coach Ken Luecke

## SWIMMING

The 2013 De Smet Jesuit swim team entered the season having lost many talented leaders to graduation. Captains Zach Holtgrewe, Billy Donley, and Sean Oca led a team dominated by seniors and freshmen, who were largely untested as swimmers. Three months and over a million collective yards later, several individuals emerged as leaders on the team. Veteran seniors Taylor Dalske and Zach Holtgrewe led the team as two of the hardest workers in practice, setting a tone of dedication and effort. Junior Sam Davis, in his first year on the De Smet Jesuit swim team, surfaced as a standout sprinter and was second in the team's high-point standings. Sophomore Marc Schneier was Most Improved, and will be a cornerstone of the team in coming seasons. Freshmen Mitch Orf and Ben Kinnison demonstrated just how much strong work ethics pay off by consistently dropping

time in the 100 butterfly and 500 freestyle events, respectively. The season culminated in a strong showing by all our swimmers at conference and an outstanding solo effort by Zach Holtgrewe at the MSHSAA State Swim Meet. The 2013 De Smet Jesuit swim team exceeded expectations and has laid an excellent foundation for future success.

— Coach Doug Maitz

## WRESTLING

As a first-year wrestling coach at De Smet Jesuit High School, my goal was to simply get young men interested in wrestling. Nine freshmen started on varsity, with little wrestling experience, and 18 young men stayed with the program through the entire season. Many of these student-athletes tried something they either thought they would never do, or tried something that was a bit out of their element. Our season finished with a 5-7-1 record. We've made many changes this year and the student-athletes are excited for next season. These wrestlers are close and they all really want to succeed. We did well not only on the mat, but in the classroom as well. We finished with a 3.45 cumulative GPA, which is the best I have seen in all my years as a coach.

— Coach Colby Robinson





*Photos by Conrad Dorn '15*

# SPARTAN HOCKEY HEADS TO MID-STATES CHAMPIONSHIP

The De Smet Jesuit hockey team had a tremendous year. Four years ago, the team won only three games the entire season. With hard work and dedication, the team was able to completely turn the program around, closing this year with a record of 25-4-2. De Smet Jesuit faced many formidable opponents this year, but maybe none more exciting than SLUH in the Jesuit Cup game. The players worked diligently, without giving up, to overcome a two-goal deficit twice in one game and claim the Cup. It was the first Jesuit Cup victory for De Smet Jesuit in four years.

The team hit their stride going into the Jesuit Cup and set their next goal: to win their 15th Challenge Cup Mar. 2. The team finished the season ranking second in the state and headed to the Scottrade Center. The fan support was exceptional – the team felt that the fans were just as much

a part of the season’s success as the players on the ice. The support of the entire student body was beyond what anyone expected – the team and coaching staff were overwhelmed with the creative videos made to support the team and the sales of golden t-shirts and hoodies that created a “Gold Rush” in the stands. The team fought hard despite tough obstacles and played with great heart and perseverance. Although the team was not able to bring home the Cup this year, the future of the hockey program is extremely bright – the current freshmen, sophomores and juniors are strong players, and the incoming freshmen have great promise. The program is destined to compete for state championships for many years to come.

— Coach John Mattingly