

# Blanchet Catholic School

## *Cavalier Magazine*

SPRING/SUMMER 2014



# BCS



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## REGIONAL MASS

On January 30 the entire Blanchet student body attended the Willamette Valley Catholic Schools Regional Mass with Archbishop Sample at Regis High School. Our warmest appreciation goes to the Archbishop, priests, deacons and seminarians for celebrating with this group of nearly 1,300 students. Thank you also to Regis High School for hosting, to the musicians for the wonderful music and to Bob Perron, "Stooge 4 Christ" who provided the entertainment following Mass.





# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Blanchet Catholic School families and friends,

School has just concluded and, as we engage in summer activities and begin the significant work of preparation for next year, it is fitting that we celebrate the accomplishments and successes of Blanchet's 19th year.

This edition of *The Cavalier* will highlight our recently graduated class of 2014. These young people are a fine example of what we aim to develop...properly educated people of faith, character, compassion and service. I think we are all in awe of the amazing number of scholarships and grants awarded to the 58 members of this class totaling over \$7.8 million dollars, a new record! We thank them for their many contributions to our school and pray that God's abundant blessings will be theirs.

As I reflect on the success of this recently graduated class, I think of all of the people that contributed mightily to the effort and share in this important ministry. First and foremost their parents, many of whom struggled and made sacrifices to provide this opportunity of a Catholic college preparatory education for their children. And what of the teachers and staff who gave unselfishly of their time, energy and expertise to prepare these students

for the rigors that lie ahead. Quite significant in their support of these students, too, are our benefactors: individuals, families, and foundations who generously endorse our mission with their contributions and investment. Most importantly, our school community's prayer, that prayer that joins us together and asks that God's grace be with us as we each do our part to ensure that Blanchet offers similar experiences to countless graduates yet to come. Thank you, one and all.



Enjoy the blessings of summer! Blanchet's 20th year is a short two months away as we look forward to another engaging, dynamic and successful year for all the students entrusted to us.

By Courage and Faith,

Anthony Guevara, President

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## SAVE THESE DATES!

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**August 25, 2014**  
**Crescent Golf Course**

Mark your calendar for a day of golf in support of Blanchet athletics. Join other Cavalier supporters for great golf, tee and raffle prizes, a BBQ dinner, and more.

[www.blanchetcatholicschool.com/cavclassic](http://www.blanchetcatholicschool.com/cavclassic)



**Blanchet Catholic School's**  
**Annual Benefit Auction**

[www.blanchetcatholicschool.com/auction](http://www.blanchetcatholicschool.com/auction)

# THE CLASS OF 2014



*Blanchet Catholic School is very proud to present the class of 2014. These fifty-eight outstanding seniors received their diplomas during commencement ceremonies on June 7. The class was pleased to welcome former president Chuck Lee as their commencement speaker. Over the years, Mr. Lee has observed that this class in particular has bonded as a family, with most having attended Blanchet since the 7th grade.*

*The class of 2014 exceeded the previous school record set by the class of 2013 by earning \$7.8 million in scholarship offers. Graduates were accepted to 97 colleges and universities across the country including Baylor, Creighton, Johns Hopkins, Notre Dame, Santa Clara, Villanova and many more.*

## VALEDICTORIANS



COLLEEN COEN maintained a 4.0 GPA while attending Blanchet and was a National Merit Finalist. She was active in numerous co-curricular activities including National Honor Society, where she served as chapter secretary, and DECA Club, where she qualified in three International Career Development Conference

events. Colleen was a member of Blanchet's Math Team, an Oregon Girls State Citizen, a state qualifier for mathematics and has been recognized as a Ronald Reagan Student Leader and as an

OASSA Math Student of Merit. Additionally, Colleen is a talented athlete who competed at the open championship level as an Irish Dancer. She was captain of the varsity volleyball team and served as the manager and statistician for the football and basketball teams. Colleen will attend the University of Notre Dame and is interested in studying finance and pre-law.



SOO YON KIM (Sarah) graduated with a 4.0 GPA and was a National Merit Commended Scholar. She served as President of the National Honor Society and International Club and as Secretary of the Student Council. Sarah was awarded the East Salem Rotary Club



Youth Excellence Award, the Optimist Club Award as outstanding math and science student, and was named the Blanchet Math Student of the Year. A gifted musician, Sarah has performed for eight years with the Salem Youth Symphony and earned first place in their Concerto Competition and third place in the Connie Fritz Concerto Competition. She was also a member of Blanchet's Math Team and Science Olympiad and Campus Ambassadors. Sarah has participated in numerous fine arts productions and volunteers countless hours at Salem Hospital. She will attend the University of Notre Dame as a double major pre-professional in science and biology.



DAVID LEONARDO maintained a 4.0 GPA while participating in a multitude of co-curricular activities. He was Blanchet's Student Body President and Vice President of the National Honor Society. David served as Captain of the football team and of the Sprague High School lacrosse team and was a

member of the varsity basketball and golf teams. He participated at the state level of competition a total of six times in three sports and was selected All-League in both lacrosse and basketball. David was named one of the Statesman Journal's Academic All-Stars, received the Ronald Reagan Leadership Award and was a member of the Friends of Benedictine Service Club, the International Club, the Math Club and DECA, where he was a two-time international competitor. David will attend Santa Clara University in the fall and will major in mechanical engineering.

MALVIKA RAMESH graduated with a 4.0 GPA, was a National Merit Commended Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society. She held the offices of President of the DECA Club and Secretary of the International Club. Malvika was a Spirituality Team member, a Campus Ambassador and a Math Club and Science Olympiad member where she was a three-time medalist. She was a two-time DECA international qualifier and competitor, a Girls State attendee and has interned

for Heppner Chiropractic. Malvika was one of Blanchet's most talented tennis players, earning the title of district champion two times and taking fourth place at the state level. She was named MVP four years running, was nominated as a Statesman Journal Athlete of the Week and named Athlete of the Week by the Salem Sports and Breakfast Club. Malvika will attend Texas Christian University's John V. Roach Honors College to study biology and pre-medicine.



## SALUTATORIAN

MADELINE NORTH earned a 3.983 GPA and was a member of the Blanchet chapter of the National Honor



Society. She was an active member of the Speech and Debate Club and the Friends of Benedictine Service Club and participated in the Leadership Youth program. Madeline is a talented actress who portrayed numerous characters in Blanchet productions, earning the title of Best Actress in the Chorus in the 2013 production of *Les Mis*. As a musician, Madeline performed with the Blanchet choir and band, and was named "Most Improved" for 2013. Madeline is also an excellent athlete and was selected as "Most Valuable Swimmer" on the 2014 swim team and "Iron Man" award winner on the 2013 swim team. Madeline will attend Pacific University where she plans to study psychology.

## SENIOR AWARDS



Each year, the Blanchet administration and faculty, with thoughtful deliberation, selects a few exceptional students for the following prestigious awards presented during graduation:

### COLLEEN COEN

***St. Thomas Aquinas Award for Academic Excellence*** ~ This award honors a student who has a high degree of intellectual curiosity and academic knowledge.

### JAKE HANDRAN

***Mother Teresa Spirituality Award*** ~ This award honors a student who demonstrates great character, service and spirituality.

### DAVID LEONARDO

***Archbishop Francis Norbert Blanchet Outstanding Leadership Award*** ~ This award honors a student who best demonstrates character and leadership and who is a great role model.

### MASON FESSLER

***Guido Caldarazzo Principal's Award*** ~ This award, in memory of Blanchet's first principal, honors a senior that most exemplifies Mr. Caldarazzo's commitment to education and love of learning.

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## THOMPSON RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP



Blanchet is pleased to announce that Connor Thompson, class of 2014, is the recipient of the A/101 Aviation Association Inc. Memorial College Scholarship in the amount of \$4,000. The A/101, nicknamed Comancheros, was a helicopter unit assigned to Special Forces in the Vietnam War. Their missions were classified for 30

years, and they are recognized as one of the most highly decorated aviation units in the Army. The A/101 Aviation Association provides an annual

scholarship to a son, daughter, grandson, or granddaughter of current and former members of the A/101 Aviation Association. The scholarship is awarded to a student that is accepted to a four year university and meets the academic and community service criteria along with three letters of recommendation and a written essay about what it means to be a patriot. Connor wrote an essay titled, 'Why Serving One's Country Is Important.' It is a moving tribute to those that serve our country, including his father who served as a Comanchero.

Connor will be attending Montana State University in the fall.



# Class of 2014

Daisy Alejandra Alvarez  
 Alee Michelle Banuelos  
 Emerson Edward Lyon Bartch  
 Sierra Nicole Bassett  
 Thomas Richard Bay  
 Marius Paul Becker 8  
 Nicholas William Becker  
 Katherine Margaret Carey 8  
 Dongwon Choi  
 Colleen Gayle Coen 8  
 Mitchell Charles Coleman 8  
 Patrick C. Counts 8  
 Quinn Austin Duvall 8  
 Gregor Cameron Falk  
 Mason Anthony Fessler 8  
 Chuyi Gao 8  
 Naomi Suarez Guerrero 8  
 Kexin Guo 8  
 Harley Kamakaneko'opaipai Ha'i  
 Linda Han  
 Jacob Tierney Handran 8  
 Trevor James Howard 8  
 Alexandria Nichole Kosma Jordan  
 Anmolpreet Kaur 8  
 Lauren Marie Kessel  
 Soo Yon Kim 8  
 David B. Leonardo 8  
 Jeffrey Noah Lieder 8  
 Sheila G. Limas dela Cruz  
 Haiwen Liu  
 Saul Arellano Lopez

Ashley del Carmen Mendez  
 Yayuan Mo 8  
 Jacob Sterling Myers  
 Madeline Elizabeth North 8  
 Anthony Ryan Orlandini 8  
 Bretton Elizabeth Ostby 8  
 Siwon Park 8  
 Malvika Ramesh 8  
 Alicia Rain Romero-Rosillo  
 Aubrey Chrysann Ruiz 8  
 Kyle Ashton Ruiz  
 Stacey Alexandra Ruiz  
 Bryce Jordan Santibanez  
 Ashley Marie Scanlan 8  
 Matthew Charles Schnurbusch  
 Connor James Schumock  
 Amelia Anne Seifer 8  
 Michael Sullivan  
 Connor Frederick Thompson  
 Kara Joan Van Zandt 8  
 Zixuan Wang  
 Shea MacGregor White-Toney 8  
 Robert Adam Willburn 8  
 Charles August Wiseman  
 Taylor Lynn Wolf 8  
 Mitchell James Woodry 8  
 Shiyuan M. Zhang



# FOUNDERS DAY

## HONORING THE BLANCHET



The Blanchet Catholic School community joined for its annual Founders Day celebration on February 27. The evening began with the National Honor Society induction ceremony honoring thirty-six outstanding Blanchet students. The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation's premier organization recognizing outstanding high school students who demonstrate excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service and character.

The Founders Day event also included recognition of Blanchet faculty, staff and board members.

Faculty and staff members Robin Smith, Steve Herb and Megan Johnston were honored for five years of service, and John Andreas, Sherrie Bashaw, Kasey Roberts and Filo Ortega were honored for fifteen years of service. Additionally, Blanchet Board of Directors member Garth Brandaw was honored for five years of service and Donna Garaventa for seventeen years of service.



The **2014 Community Partner of the Year Award** was given to CB|Two Architects. Accepting the award was Matthew Stoffregen, principal Architect and Gretchen Stone, interior designer for CB|Two. CB|Two has been partnering with Blanchet on facilities projects since 2008. They provided expert advice and support for second floor renovations in 2008, designed and upgraded the mid-high bathrooms in 2010 and 2011, designed and built the new Lee Student Center and courtyard in 2013, and designed and implemented the fire suppression upgrades in 2013. CB|Two provided excellent communication, coordination and support to Blanchet regarding the widening of Market Street and the relocation of the driveway. Garth Brandaw and his CB|Two staff have been wonderful advocates for Blanchet Catholic School.



# T COMMUNITY



Krishna Namburi and Roger Desrosiers were honored as Blanchet's **2014 Volunteers of the Year**. Both are Blanchet parents and professionals in the information technology field and have

made incredible contributions to the school's technology infrastructure. Krishna Namburi is the IT director/CIO for the City of Salem. Krishna helped to define the strategy for how Blanchet would implement the technology objectives for the Five Year Plan. She accompanied staff to St. Mary's in Portland to look at best practices for iPad rollout and serves as a consultant for developing the school's overall technology strategy. Roger Desrosiers is the network administrator for Salem's emergency services. Roger has worked countless hours to replace network cabling, servers, and computers. Both are actively involved with their children's activities including athletics, fine arts and co-curricular clubs. Krishna and Roger were recognized for the countless hours they dedicated to improve Blanchet's technology, and in doing so, saved the school tens of thousands of dollars.

The **2014 President's Award** was given to Dick and Joanna Kreitzberg. Dick and Joanna do not have children or grandchildren at Blanchet, and yet they have been among the school's most faithful supporters.



They began donating to Blanchet in 1999 to fund the renovation of St Patrick's Chapel and have made significant contributions to capital campaigns including Belief in Blanchet and Foundation for the Future. They are members of the Archbishop Blanchet Society and have also helped pay off the school's mortgage. Since 2001 Dick and Joanna have made considerable donations to be used for tuition assistance and have helped over 100

students attend Blanchet Catholic School. We are truly grateful to call them benefactors, and more importantly, friends of Blanchet.



The **Distinguished Educator of the Year Award** is the highest honor a faculty member can receive at Blanchet. Band, choir and music teacher Kami Hettwer is a deserving recipient of this prestigious

honor. Nominated by her peers, Kami is recognized for going above and beyond to build a successful and growing music program. She uses her talent to support other programs at Blanchet including drama, liturgies and athletic events. She inspires students to excel and sets high expectations for her students and for herself.

Fellow teacher Gretchen Wunderlich comments, "I nominated Kami because she is someone who I look up to as a fellow educator. Kami's commitment to her students and their learning is evident in her desire for



every student to grow, not only as a musician, but as a whole person. She is dedicated to the Blanchet community through countless hours, both inside and outside of the classroom."

Blanchet Principal Brian Heinze adds, "Kami Hettwer's commitment to improving Blanchet Catholic's music program has been dynamic. She has given so freely of her time, effort and energy, which has been incredibly demanding. She demonstrates a sense of selflessness and continually overextends herself in order to be productive and successful in achieving results. Not only have students achieved goals beyond their initial expectations, they have also gained the confidence to challenge themselves in their future endeavors."

# Fast Friends

## JACOB & VICTOR



Class of 2014 graduate Jacob Myers has grown up on the race track. He first expressed an interest in racing at the age of 5 and, with the support of his entire extended family, was racing a full size car at Sunset Speedway by the time he turned 12. At the tender age of 13, he was racing Pure Stocks with his grandfather, Uncle Ron, Aunt Shawna and Uncle Steve...and winning first place. In 2011, Jacob was the Sunset Speedway track champion. He was just 15.

Last year was Jacob's first year in a Late Model Crate Motor car and he finished in 5th place overall, competing against 35 other adult drivers and driving the smallest of three allowed engine sizes. Jacob also took honors as Rookie of the Year, a coveted prize for anyone, let alone a 17 year old.

For Jacob, growing up at the track has meant more than just gaining in years. Through racing, Jacob has learned how to talk to hundreds of people in a crowd after winning a race, how to talk intelligently

to fellow racers about set-ups for their race cars and ideas that can change their racing results, and he has learned how to shake a man's hand when he gets beat fair and square. Jacob has sponsors that contribute to his racing possibilities, and he never forgets to thank them personally. Above all, he has learned how to humbly include others in his racing experience. Jacob is not just a champion driver, he is a champion in the eyes of his race fans and, most importantly, the hero of one very special fan named Victor.

Victor is a 25 year old mentally challenged young man and an avid race fan. He lives in Beaverton with his adoptive parents Gary and Carol. Victor suffers from many debilitating health conditions that affect his quality and, ultimately, his length of life. Like many mentally handicapped individuals, Victor has had a difficult time fitting in and feeling like he was a part of something. In 2008 he accepted a job working as a ticket taker at Sunset Speedway's main gate. That's where he first met



race car driver Jacob Myers, who made a point of taking the time to visit with Victor each time he arrived at the track. Victor was immediately Jacob's number one fan, and the two became fast friends.

Victor comes to the track every time Jacob races and can be heard cheering each and every time Jacob laps the track. This past year, Jacob asked Victor if he would like to be a member of his pit crew, a dream come true for Victor! He is now the official tire pressure checker and plays an important role in keeping Jacob's car running smoothly and Jacob racing safely. With his new job, Victor feels he is a part of something, a feeling he has been searching for for many years. Last December when Jacob took two trophies for his 2013 racing results, he gave one to Victor. Victor cherishes this trophy and keeps it on his headboard so he can see it every night before he goes to sleep.

Jacob has scaled back somewhat on his racing program this summer. He'll continue racing in the NW Extreme Dirt Late Model class in Banks, Lebanon and Cottage Grove this season, but will sit out several additional races as he prepares for his next endeavor – freshman year at Linfield College where he plans to study athletic training. He and Victor will keep in touch with continued weekly phone calls to discuss NASCAR results and with occasional visits. Most importantly, they'll still get to see each other at the track.

Gary, Victor's dad, remarks, "Jacob is just an outstanding young man. He is compassionate and caring when most people his age are thinking mostly of themselves. He doesn't see that Victor has a disability and never treats him as if he does. We have truly enjoyed watching Jacob grow into the wonderful young man that he is today, and we are grateful that he has become and will always be an important part of Victor's life."



Last year, all of the drivers in the NW Extreme Late Model class decided to repaint their cars with a cartoon character theme. When his family asked Jacob what character he wanted to depict, he decided to let Victor choose. Victor made a fantastic and fitting choice, and the car was decked out as Captain America!



# BCS Alumni

**Amy Angyal '00** ~ Amy Angyal is currently attending the Academy of Hair Design in Salem.



**Caitlyn Connolly '04** ~ Caitlyn graduated from Santa Clara University in 2008 with a degree in history and minors in political science and urban education. She went on to complete a masters degree in education from the University of San Francisco in 2010.

For the next two years, Caitlyn will be teaching first grade at Shanghai Community International School in Shanghai, China.

## **Kimberly (Hopewell)**

**Knackstedt '05** ~ In 2012

Kimberly graduated from the University of Kansas with a Masters in Functional Special Education. She taught for two years in a special education resource room then moved to an urban elementary school in Kansas City. There she took over a program for students with emotional and behavioral disabilities working toward supporting the students academically, behaviorally, and socially. By the end of Kimberly's time at the school, most of her students were spending 60-100% of their school day in the general education classroom with varied levels of support. She also served as the district trainer for crisis prevention and conducted a variety of professional development opportunities to support teachers in understanding emotional and behavioral disorders.



Kimberly left teaching after the 2012-2013 school year to begin a doctoral program at the University of Kansas. She was accepted into the program with 13 other individuals from around the world. KU is the #1 public special education graduate program in the United States and is said to be the top in the world. Her emphasis is on education policy and systems change (school reform). This summer she

is teaching an undergraduate course, Introduction to Special Education, with two members of her cohort. She is also involved in supporting KU's transition of the masters programs online; specifically, helping develop and coordinate a new program for individuals to obtain certification in Special Education Administration. Kimberly lives in Kansas with her husband Joe of four years. Joe currently works for Key Bank on low income housing tax credits, and is working on his Masters in Urban Planning.

**Katherine Dezsofi '09** ~ A double major in biology and anthropology at Western Oregon University, Katherine has been a field researcher in an ongoing project to discover the cause of declining populations of Rocky Mountain Trumpeter Swans. Her research has centered on summer breeding grounds at Grays Lake in Yellowstone and wintering habitat along the Snake River in Idaho.

**Alexandria Nanneman '09** ~ Alexandria



Nanneman graduated from Pacific University in June 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Creative Writing and Art History. She will begin graduate studies

in Art History at the University of Oregon next September. This summer she traveled to Turkey, Greece and Italy. While in Greece, Alex wrote home to say, "Here I am on the Greek island of Santorini overlooking the city of Fira. Santorini was once a massive volcano that erupted and caused damage as far away as Troy in modern day Turkey. All that is left is a crescent shaped island surrounding a cauldron of the bluest water you have ever seen and a little mountain cone in the center that grows every year because the volcano is still active. Santorini is maybe most famous for the donkeys that will carry people from the harbor up the cliffs to the cities. However, most people now



ride the cable car. Santorini also has a beautiful Catholic cathedral that I was fortunate enough to be passing by and was able to sit in on an afternoon prayer.”

***Meredith Palandech '09***

~ Meredith Palandech graduated from Arizona State University in June 2013. She is currently attending the Cinema Makeup School in Los Angeles, California. This summer she was just one of four students selected for the Leonard Engelman Fellowship to participate in a



workshop in beauty and high fashion. Leonard Engelman is vice president of the makeup and hair branch of the Academy Awards and has done makeup work in films since 1948, including

*Ghostbusters, Batman Forever, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, Heat, Burlesque* and many more!

***Jacquee Belleque '10*** ~ Jacquee graduated from Franciscan University, Steubenville and was on the Dean's List this spring. She will be teaching first grade at Loretto Catholic School in Douglas, Arizona.

***Kayleigh Cannady '10***

~ Kayleigh is currently attending Oregon State University where she is a member of Bella Voce, the auditioned women's choir at OSU. Bella Voce has been selected to perform at the ISME conference in Brazil this summer. They will be abroad



for seven days in Porto Alegre, Brazil representing the United States in an international celebration of music and talent from around the world.

***Joseph Sacchi '10*** ~ Joseph

graduated from Central Washington University with a Vocal Performance degree and will be attending Manhattan School of Music in New York, New York to pursue a masters degree in Vocal Performance.



***Brian FitzPatrick '13*** ~ Brian FitzPatrick is among the top five students participating in the Chemeketa Law Enforcement Program. He's in a two-year program teaching police tactics through hands on methods. He is the record holder for CORPAT testing for physical abilities, a test that utilizes speed, agility, stamina, and strength. Upon graduation, Brian plans to work towards becoming a SWAT medic.

SAVE THE DATE!

***Blanchet Alumni Homecoming Social***

Friday, September 26, 2014

Don't miss this great opportunity to catch up with friends and cheer for the Cavaliers!

More details coming soon.

CALLING ALL SERRA CATHOLIC AND SACRED HEART ACADEMY ALUMNI!

The Legacy Alumni Steering Committee has been busy planning for the next ***Gathering*** to be held at Blanchet Catholic School on ***Saturday, August 9, 2014***. Whether you're celebrating a milestone reunion or just looking to reconnect with old friends, we hope to see you in August! Registration and additional information is available on-line.

[www.blanchetcatholicschool.com/legacyalumni](http://www.blanchetcatholicschool.com/legacyalumni)



# NEWSBRIEFS

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## BLANCHET HIRES NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



Blanchet is pleased to announce that Tom Howard has been hired as the school's new Athletic Director. Tom takes over for Ron Miller

who has served as the school's AD and Facilities Director for the past 15 years. Mr. Miller will now be able to focus his efforts on managing the many needs of a growing campus.

Tom Howard has over 14 years of experience in athletics and multi-sport coaching with programs including Salem Swish Basketball Club, Keizer Soccer Club and Keizer Youth Basketball Association. Tom is a graduate of Sacred Heart Academy and Oregon State University and has been a small business owner in the local community for many years.

He and his wife Lisa have two children: Rachel, a sophomore at Blanchet, and Trevor (Blanchet class of 2014) who will begin his college basketball career as a freshman at Linfield next fall.

"I am excited to serve the Blanchet community in this role and look forward to helping assist in the growth and development of our students both physically, mentally, socially and spiritually. My goal is to help our students leave school with many memorable and positive experiences while always remembering that we win with class and lose with dignity. Blanchet has so many talented students and staff, and I feel very privileged to have the opportunity to work alongside them on a daily basis and contribute to the school's mission."

Former Athletic Director Ron Miller comments, "Tom Howard brings a fresh perspective and enthusiasm to the Blanchet community. I'm very confident that he will keep the Blanchet athletic program in the spot light for many years to come."

## MOVING ON TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES

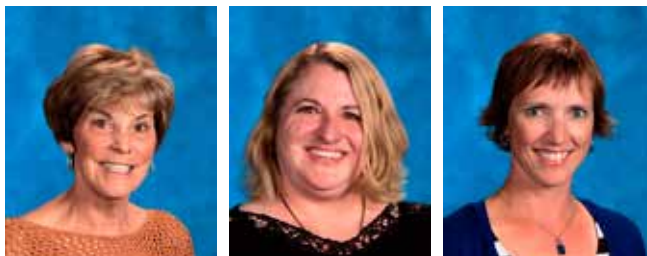
Blanchet says farewell to three wonderful faculty and staff members.

College Counselor Nancy Parks has been looking forward to her retirement. "I have had a long career working with young people in counseling or college counseling, and Blanchet has been a wonderful place to end my career. The students have been such a respectful and responsible group. It has been my pleasure to work with them," she comments.

Science and religion teacher Gretchen Wunderlich says, "I am excited to be moving on to teach biology, AP biology and chemistry at Sprague High School in the Salem-Keizer School District.

"Blanchet was a great place to start my career in education. I am most proud of the relationships that I formed with students, parents and the outside community, especially the members of the class of 2015. Many students within that class helped shape who I have become as a teacher, and I will carry each of them in my heart as I move forward."

Finally, English teacher and DECA advisor Eileen Virden has decided to continue her growth and development in the finance field. "I have enjoyed watching Blanchet thrive during my eleven years teaching here, and I am proud to have had a part in that success working with wonderful colleagues and students. My family and I have been truly blessed to be a part of the Blanchet community," she says.



## SCSF PROVIDES TUITION FUNDS

Our deep gratitude goes to the Salem Catholic Schools Foundation that has made a generous contribution to help fund tuition assistance for the 2014-15 school year. These funds are given specifically to help make tuition affordable for eighteen incoming students from Salem area Catholic schools.





## LEE STUDENT CENTER

Blanchet Catholic School has named its new student center in honor of Charles E. Lee, former principal and president of Blanchet.

President Anthony Guevara and fellow Board of Directors members Donna Garaventa and John Salstrom announced the dedication to a gathering of donors, parents and board members attending an annual Archbishop Blanchet Society dinner in May. The "Lee Student Center" is dedicated to Mr. Lee in recognition of 16 years of unwavering service and dedication to Blanchet Catholic School.

## BLANCHET RECEIVES EPPING GRANT

It is our distinct pleasure to be able to announce that Blanchet Catholic School has received a generous grant from the Larry & Jeanette Epping Family Foundation. The Foundation has donated \$200,000 to fund several important facility upgrades. Some of the projects funded include fire suppression upgrades in the gymnasium, the remodeling of two bathrooms and the purchase and installation of a new phone system.

Blanchet Catholic School is truly blessed to be a supported organization of the Larry & Jeanette Epping Family Foundation. Ongoing support from the Foundation has allowed us to renovate our campus and provide a modern learning environment for the more than 350 mid valley youth that attend our school annually. The renovations funded by the Foundation have transformed our campus and made it more fully functional for our college preparatory curriculum.

The Blanchet campus would look very different without the support of the Larry & Jeanette Epping Family Foundation. Our faculty, board of directors, parents and students are truly grateful for their investment in our school and programs.

## JAKE HANDRAN ~ OPTIMIST STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Recent graduate Jake Handran was honored in May by the Salem Optimist Club as Youth of the Year. He was also selected to receive the Mother Teresa Spirituality Award for 2014 and, in 2013, he received the Good Citizenship Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution. He is a Blanchet 12-Sport Athlete and has received several PacWest Conference honors. Jake sang in the Blanchet choir and performed at Masses and music concerts. He has been a wonderful student both academically and in service to his peers and community.



## SCIENCE FAIR SUCCESS



In early March, eleven Blanchet mid high students participated in the Valley Catholic Middle School Science Fair competition in Beaverton. There were six other Catholic schools that took part in this event. The students were required to present their projects to at least three judges and answer questions

about it. We are proud of all their hard work and determination.

The following students placed and received trophies:

- Savannah Barchus - 2nd place Life Science
- Nikhil Namburi - 3rd place Chemistry / Earth Science
- Zachary Gwyn - 3rd place Physical Science
- Tryp Schaffer - 2nd place Engineering
- Megha Joshi - 1st place Engineering

Megha Joshi also competed in the Broadcom MASTERS, a science fair in Eugene, and was one of five nominated out of 40 to continue to participate and possibly go to nationals. Congratulations to all the students for their amazing effort. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Armstrong for coordinating this project.



## A SEASON IN REVIEW - CAVALIER SWIMMING

*Written by Coach Hannah Bauer,  
Blanchet Class of 2009*

The Blanchet swim team perfectly embodies the spirit of Blanchet athletics.

Like all sports, the participants balanced rigorous classes and homework with challenging swim practices. They navigated the busy holiday season, still dedicating time to improving their technique and building strength and speed in the water.

But the true beauty of the 2013-14 swim team lies in the athletes.

A handful of seniors stepped into the pool for the first time, facing the challenging journey of learning to be swimmers. That would have been enough, but they worked tirelessly to drop time and reach greater distances--and they did. Finishing a race wasn't enough for them; they persevered until they beat their best times over and over again.

Many members of the swim team gracefully balanced participation in the drama productions, music, DECA, and club swimming with their swim team commitments. One of the blessings of coaching at Blanchet is having students who are competent in balancing their passions and responsibilities. In turn, it's a blessing to have other coaches and teachers who understand how unique Blanchet students are, giving them the leeway to succeed on many different levels.

Each and every swim team member, from beginner to state qualifier, performed phenomenally at the district meet. Nearly every swimmer hit a personal best, and the outpouring of team spirit and support was inspiring. This year, other teams beat us by sheer numbers, but nobody can match Blanchet spirit, talent, and drive.

We took twelve swimmers to the state championship meet. It was a superhuman year at state with blazing times in all events, and Blanchet held its own against the competition. Jeremy Darst '15 took 4th and 5th in the 200 IM and 100 yard backstroke respectively. Vincent Kelly '15 took 6th place in the 100 yard butterfly. Megan Waguespack '15 took 9th place in the 200 yard freestyle. The girls and boys relay teams beat school and personal records.

The swim team was also supported by a dedicated parents group who filled in as timers and meet facilitators whenever a volunteer was needed. The swim team parents travel great distances to watch their student's minute-long race, and they cheer just as loudly for the teammates. The dedication shown by every person involved with the team - student and parent alike - made this a season to remember.

*Hannah Bauer (far left in team photo above) graduated from Blanchet in 2009 and Whitman College in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in English. She works as Technical Communications Coordinator for Salem Hospital in charge of internal department, project and disaster communications.*

## WELCOME HEAD COACH CANTONWINE

Scott Cantonwine has been named as the school's new head varsity boys basketball coach. Coach Cantonwine has an extensive background in coaching basketball and, over the past eight years, has helped develop the boys mid high program at Blanchet. He enjoys working with athletes and said, "I take pride in the relationships I have developed with [my players] and their parents that have continued long after the season ends."

Scott and his wife Angie have been long time supporters of BCS. They have three children who graduated from Blanchet: Scott Jr. (2006), Alix (2007), and Nick (2011). Their fourth son, Nate, is a sophomore at Blanchet.





## ST. PAUL TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to the boys and girls eighth grade basketball teams who had a spectacular showing at the annual St. Paul Tournament at Marist High School in Eugene. The girls team finished fourth overall and the boys took third place. Emily Collier and Andrew Bartholomew were named tournament all stars. Collier also placed second overall at the free throw competition.



## ATHLETES RECOGNIZED FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

The OSAA's Academic All-State program, sponsored by the Dairy Farmers of Oregon, recognizes outstanding achievement in the classroom. Members of the top ten schools in each activity at each classification are recognized. Two of the Cavalier winter teams and two spring teams were honored with top finishes. Boys varsity swimming took sixth place overall at the 4A/3A/2A/1A classification with a team GPA of 3.48; the varsity boys basketball team took first place overall in the 3A classification with a combined team GPA of 3.80; the boys baseball team took first place with a team GPA of 3.87; and the boys golf team took first place in 3A/2A/1A with a GPA of 3.85. Because the basketball, baseball and golf teams finished with the highest team grade point average in their classification, they earned the Academic All-State Award. Each athlete received a "got milk?" sweatshirt, commemorative pin and a certificate. Blanchet was also presented with plaques in honor of their achievements.

## BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL ~ PACWEST CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS



## RON MILLER ~ AD OF THE YEAR



We are very proud to announce that Mr. Ron Miller has been selected by the Oregon Athletic Directors Association as the 3A Athletic Director of the Year! Mr. Miller was honored at the annual OADA state conference in April at Sunriver Resort.

In his nineteen year tenure at Blanchet, Mr. Miller has filled virtually every role on campus - from teacher, coach and bus driver to Facilities Director, Athletic Director and administrator. Ron Miller is an integral part of everything that happens at Blanchet.

President Tony Guevara remarks, "Ron is quite simply the most dedicated, loyal and hard working man that I know. We are blessed by his contributions to our school and proudly congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition from his peers."





# Fine Arts



A standing ovation to Director Tom Hewitt, Musical Directors Carol Ann Manzi and Kami Hettwer and to the cast, crew and orchestra of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*. The performances drew sell-out crowds last April!



## "Fabulous Fable Factory" Hits the Road

The cast of this fast-paced improvisational journey through Aesop's most beloved fables took the show on the road last May. The group dazzled audiences at local elementary schools.



FIND ADDITIONAL ATHLETIC & FINE ARTS COVERAGE & PHOTOS ON BLANCHET CATHOLIC SCHOOL'S FACEBOOK PAGE



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## Spring Concert



In early March Ian Barth and Theresa Thurston competed in the 2014 OMEA District 4 Solo and Ensemble Festival. Ian placed 1st in the Baritone voice category, qualifying him for the state OSAA State Solo Competition on May 3rd. Ian also competed in the trumpet category, placing 5th and Theresa Thurston placed 2nd in the oboe category. Blanchet is proud to recognize these two students for their musical successes.



## Jazz Night



## Mid High Art



Congratulations to Courtney Hofstetter whose artwork was selected for both the People's Choice Award and the Best

Slab Built Award at the Willamette Art Center's 3rd Annual Invitational Ceramic High School Show. Artwork by Alyssa Walsh, Jeff Lieder and Nate Cantonwine were also selected to be on display during the show.

Blanchet art students also participated in the Salem Keizer Student Art Show including Jackson Martino, Harley Hai, Sawyer Hemstreet, Brooklyn Vandehey, Adrianna Ruiz, Jessica Reyes, Kaho Misako, Moeko Hanyu, Gwyn Arguello, Autumn Howe, Tegan Thurston, Jonathan Cuello-Romualdo, Annie Ruef, Perla Brambila, Jake Fessler and Nate Cantonwine.



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Congratulations to the 2013-14 eighth grade class as they celebrate the completion of middle school! A special Mass and celebration was held on Wednesday, June 11 with Fr. Tim Mockaitis. The Eighth Grade Celebration is a unique opportunity to honor our eighth graders as they make the transition to high school and to thank God for the gift of each of these special young men and women.

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