SCECINA Magazine

SUMMER 2017





CAMPUS CRUSADE WALKATHON 500

Firefighters from Station 20 added to the fun atmosphere of Scecina's Campus Crusade Walkathon 500 on May 19. Students and staff raised more than \$11,500 for tuition assistance for Scecina. Thank you also to Indianapolis police officers **Romeo Joson '87** and **Matt McDonald '96** for helping with traffic control for the walkathon.



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On the cover: Scecina's softball team hoists the IHSAA State Championship trophy. (Photo by David Leszcynski '09) Story on page 8.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings, Crusaders.

It was an eventful and exciting spring at Scecina. The Class of 2017 became the 61st graduating class of Scecina Memorial High School and the softball team won the 2017 IHSAA State Championship in Class 2A softball. I'm impressed with the talent, energy and confidence these young people exhibit. They show obvious pride in being Scecina Crusaders. Congratulations!

Switching gears, I'd like to note that it's been seven years since four Indianapolis East Deanery schools came together to form a partnership that's enduring today and reaping benefits for our students.

The Eastside Catholic School Partnership (ECSP) was formed in 2010 to strengthen Catholic education on the Eastside. The partnership includes Scecina and three elementary schools, Holy Spirit, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) and Our Lady of Lourdes. The parish priests, the principals, and I meet regularly to collaborate, plan and

share resources.

The initial thrust of the partnership was to market all of the ECSP schools as a collaborative entity. Since the inception of the partnership, we have created advertising materials that market the missions and benefits of all the schools.

A recent generous and significant gift to the partnership will directly help our students by bolstering the schools' education efforts in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The gift of \$225,000 is from a Catholic family who wishes to remain anonymous and who wants to help the schools collaboratively increase their STEM education efforts.

At Scecina, we will begin a Computer Science curriculum and create an additional computer lab with the gift. In addition, this gift will help us leverage the investments we have made in our four-year Project Lead the Way biomedical sciences curriculum and a new healthcare careers course we are developing with the leadership of Community Hospital East and will launch this fall.

The ECSP has been a terrific collaboration that will help our schools well into the future.

As Scecina moves into the 2017-18 school year, Principal John Hegarty will assume new responsibilities. John will take on the new position of Scecina's Vice President for Community Initiatives. John has been a dedicated servant of Scecina as principal since 2011. He has given countless hours to our students and the school community. During that time, he's also seen his two sons, Joseph and Eamon, come through Scecina, graduate and start successful college careers.

In his new role, John will oversee Scecina's expansion of our international student program; seek partnerships to provide technical training for our students who plan to enter the workforce straight from high school; and expand our CREST program (Crusaders Reaching Educational and Social Success Together) to enhance the academic and life skills for students with high-functioning autism.



John Hegarty

I've had the pleasure of working closely with John for several years, and I look forward to continuing our partnership for the benefit of the Scecina community.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Father Scecina magazine.

Peace and blessings,

Joseph S. Therber

President



Scecina Memorial High School graduated its 61st class on Friday, May 26, in the Scecina gymnasium. The members of the Class of 2017 received their diplomas from Annette "Mickey" Lentz, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis; Scecina President Joe Therber; and Principal John Hegarty.

CLASS OF 2017 AWARDS

JOHN J. HENNIGER CHRISTIAN SERVICE William John Ferree

OUTSTANDING SENIOR GIRL

Jacqueline M. Kennedy

OUTSTANDING SENIOR BOY
Robert Lee Beauregard Sims

ATHLETIC SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT Jacqueline M. Kennedy Robert Lee Beauregard Sims

MENTAL ATTITUDE (ATHLETICS)

Rachel Cox Andrew Clegg

CAROLE J. HAMILTON (ATHLETICS)

Sara Beers

MICHAEL C. MCGARVEY (ATHLETICS)
Will Therber



Salutatorian Robert Sims and Valedictorian Jacqueline Kennedy



Henninger Award nominees Will Therber, Robert Sims, Jacqueline Kennedy, Will Ferree (winner), and Spencer Douglas

SISTER LAVONNE LONG OUTSTANDING SENIOR FEMALE ATHLETE

Mary O'Connor

KENNETH LEFFLER OUTSTANDING SENIOR MALE ATHLETE
Will Ferree

INDIANA CROSSROADS CONFERENCE MEDAL OF HONOR

Jacqueline M. Kennedy

Carlos Caldera

Class of 2017



Moments from this year's Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement









Congratulations!

STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN UPDATE June 2017

By Joe Therber

Scecina Memorial High School is committed to forward-looking, successful and inclusive planning that leads to continual improvement and faithfulness to our Catholic mission. We are four years into implementing our Strategic Growth Plan. I am pleased to report the following accomplishments, which are benefiting our students and community, thanks to the generous commitment and work of hundreds of faculty, staff, students, parents, volunteers, donors, and other friends.

Catholic Culture

 Held the first Distinguished Servant Leader Award ceremony during which four senior students shared personal stories of learning and growth through Christian service during their time at Scecina.

College & Career Preparation

- Implemented LabSim by TestOut, an online program with interactive lessons in Microsoft Office 2016 to help prepare students for college and careers.
- Expanded Biomedical Sciences into fourth-year curriculum during 2016-17.
- Designed and launched a healthcare careers class taught by Scecina science faculty and Community Hospital East professionals to begin in the 2017-18 school year.
- Added computer science class and began constructing additional computer lab for the 2017-18 school year.

Maximizing Enrollment

- Attained 95 percent of current target enrollment of 475 students.
- Gained acceptance to be a pilot school in the archdiocesan Latino Outreach Initiative.
- Created Vice President of Community Initiatives position to aid the expansion of the International Student Program.
- Developed "Discover Opportunities" marketing strategy to highlight students' learning and growth opportunities inside and outside the classroom.

Technology

 Researched, purchased and began faculty training in a university-level Learning Management System that facilitates online curricula, academic resources and grading of student academic work.

An Inspiring Campus

- Transformed the library into the Gerald R.
 Matheny Community Library and the John P. Hofer
 Collaboration Room, which opened in October 2016.
- Designed, funded and planned \$400,000 in classroom renovations for Summer 2017.

High Expectations and High Support

- Initiated and have nearly completed the process of seeking approval from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis to conduct a capital campaign to fund vital initiatives.
- Completed first year of CREST program (Crusaders Reaching Educational and Social Success Together) to enhance the academic and life skills for students with high-functioning autism.

Strategic Partnerships

- Continued as founding member of Eastside Catholic School Partnership with Holy Spirit, Little Flower and Our Lady of Lourdes schools.
- Created Vice President of Community Initiatives to explore partnership opportunities to provide technical training for students who plan to enter the workforce straight from high school.
- Partnered with Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership to offer home purchase and improvement assistance to employees.
- Entered into a partnership with Franciscan Health for athletic training services for student athletes.
- Maintained ongoing partnerships with Museum of Science and Industry, Community Hospital East, Project Lead the Way and Marian University.

Development

 Created the Scecina Women's Circle and the Scecina Business Connection to foster community, networking opportunities and philanthropy among our alumni and friends.

Sustainability

- Attained eight consecutive years of financial surplus operations.
- Engaged the Financial Model Subcommittee to review and update the school's multi-year financial model for income and expenses.

A NEW CAMPUS MINISTRY INITIATIVE: **DISTINGUISHED SERVANT LEADERS**

Scecina's mission is to motivate "our diverse and gifted community of students to attain educational excellence, be lifelong learners, and live as servant leaders in the inspiring footsteps of Father Thomas Scecina."

This year, Scecina began a program to strengthen the process of forming servant leaders. The Distinguished Servant Leader program is a new opportunity for senior students to share their stories of service with the community and to articulate their own theological reflections on their service experiences.

During this pilot year, four seniors were selected to receive the Distinguished Servant Leader Award: Nathaniel Smith, Jacqueline Hurst, William Ferree, and Jacob Monday. These



Principal John Hegarty, Jacqueline Hurst, Nathaniel Smith, Jacob Monday and President Joe Therber. (Not pictured: William Ferree).

students were chosen based on their outstanding participation in service-oriented activities throughout their time at Scecina. Their witness is a testament to our school's mission to teach students to live as servant leaders.

On May 3, 2017, during a special event in Scecina's new Gerald L. Matheny Library, the four students shared indepth reflection on their service experiences and received their Distinguished Servant Leader awards.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Following Jesus' example of meeting people's needs and helping them fulfill their highest destinies.

ANDREW SMITH NAMED 2017 INDIANA HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Scecina's Andrew Smith has been named the 2017 Indiana History Teacher of the Year, an award presented annually by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the nation's leading organization dedicated to K-12 American history education.

Mr. Smith received his Bachelor of Arts degree in American History from Hobart College with a triple minor in Education, Russian Studies and Religious Studies. He received his Master of Arts in American History from George Mason University. He has taught at Scecina since 2012.



Mr. Smith also has organized overseas educational tours for Scecina students and escorted them. This year, he escorted Scecina students on a tour of Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris and London.

Mr. Smith will receive a \$1,000 honorarium at an award ceremony in Indiana. Scecina's library will receive a core archive of American history books and Gilder Lehrman educational materials. Mr. Smith will be invited to a 2018 Gilder Lehrman Teacher Seminar, a weeklong program that offers teachers daily discussions with eminent historians, visits to historic sites, and hands-on work with primary sources.

Discover Opportunities at a great Catholic high school

Each day at Scecina, students discover opportunities inside and outside the classroom and tap into the passions that help them become the best versions of themselves that God envisions. Over the 2016-17 school year, Discover Opportunities stories were featured each week on scecina.org. Here are a few of the featured stories.

ROCK BAND

Junior Hannah Higgins can belt out a tune. She likes being on stage and singing songs with "vocal variety." Hannah indulges her passion to perform as lead vocalist in Scecina's Rock Band. Rock Band, which has



been going strong for 10 years, offers a musical outlet beyond the typical band and choir classes.

LEADERSHIP SKILLS

For two years in a row, junior **Jack Wright** has taken the leadership class taught by Crusaders football coach **Ott Hurrle** and defensive coordinator **Brad Purcell**, who also are teachers. The past two winters, Jack returned to Scecina on six Sunday evenings to absorb the coaches' lessons on leadership. "I knew it was the opportunity to get to be a captain (of the football team) and to help me become a better leader," said Jack.

LITURGY LEADERS

The students involved in ministries at weekly school Masses give of their time to be lectors, servers, cantors, choir members and Eucharistic ministers and to share their faith with the Scecina



community. Serving as a Eucharistic minister helped senior **Blanca Urzua** come out of her shell and build her leadership skills, as well as her faith. "I was really shy," said Blanca. "It helped me become more confident."

TEST OUT

Students in the Preparing for College and Careers class get hands-on Microsoft Office 2016 experience with an entirely online program called LabSim by TestOut. It gives students "the lessons only experience can teach." Freshman **Raina Oxlaj** had previous Word experience, but LabSim's interactive videos helped improve her skills. "It's really giving us the basic Office skills you will need in college or a job, and life," she said.

EUROPEAN QUARTET

Junior **Kaylee Thompson** had never been outside of Indiana much, let alone the United States. She had never flown on a plane. What she possessed was a newly minted passport and



dreams to see the world. The Social Studies department's eight-day Spring Break trip to Europe was her chance. The "European Quartet" excursion took Kaylee and 16 classmates, along with three teachers and other chaperones, to Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris and London. "This is just the first step" to seeing the world, said Kaylee.

CATHOLIC MATH LEAGUE

The test is timed. You have 30 minutes to complete 25 problems. No calculators are allowed. Nearly 800 math students around the country are competing with you. The top three scores from each school are used as that school's team score. It's the Catholic Math League. This year marked the first time Scecina has participated in this national math contest that encompasses four tests over the school year. Junior **Hugo Liu** scored high enough to place second in the nation in Advanced Math Division 5.

A Special Might

On Dec. 16, 2016, the Scecina community gathered to dedicate the new Gerald L. Matheny Community Library, John P. Hofer Collaboration Room, and the rotunda displays for Father Thomas Scecina and the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg.

"Not since May 23, 1974, have I been this proud to be a graduate of Scecina Memorial High School," said Steve Hodgson '74, vice chair of Scecina's Board of Directors.

Nearly 90 people attended, including many Scecina alumni who are veterans of the military, and several alumni who had not been back in the school building for years. Also attending were some of the generous donors who made the project possible, including members of the Class of 1964, which designated the library for their 50th reunion gift to Scecina.

"The dedication of our new library and the Scecina Story displays in the main hall was an inspirational moment," said Scecina President Joe Therber. "Everyone present felt a deep sense of gratitude and accomplishment arising from the vision and dedication of so many friends of Scecina who contributed to these transformations.

"As a result, we have a modern learning and collaboration center for our community, as well as vivid illustrations of the service and sacrifices that Father Tom and the Sisters of Saint Francis poured forth years ago to benefit future generations," President Therber said.

The intercessions were read by **Jacqueline Kennedy**, a Scecina senior and Student Council representative; Sister Sheila Hackett, Scecina's librarian; Jenny (Bordenet) Matthews and Mary Ann (Kelly) Klein, members of the Class of 1964; and John Schneider and Walt Linne, members of Scecina Veterans Committee.



Father Paul Koetter, Principal John Hegarty, President Joe Therber, and Immediate Past Chair Barry Schneider



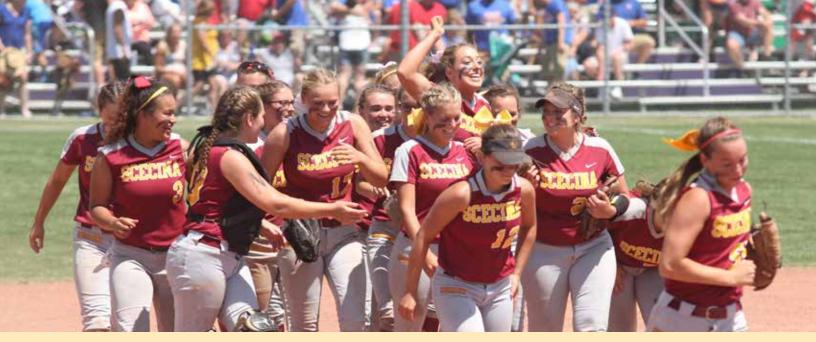
Mary (Robinson) '61 and Dave Allen



Steve Hodgson '74



Class of 1964: front (I to r) Cindy (Morris) Costello, Bernadette (Duf<mark>our) Lathrop, Barb (Atkinson) Ockoman, and Mary Ann</mark> (Arszman) Engstrom; back (I to r) Mike O'Neil, Connie (Eaton) Hag<mark>ist, Mary Ann (Kelly) Klein, Jenny (Bordenet) Matthews,</mark> and Jim Lindeman



SOFTBALL STATE CHAMPS

By Beth Murphy

The Crusaders were up just 3-2 as the seventh and final inning of the 2017 IHSAA State Championship 2A Softball game began. They hadn't scored since the third inning. They needed some insurance.

So what did Coach **Cory Gray** tell them? Was there a big pep talk?

"No," Gray said. "We didn't tell them anything. They already know what to do."

Sure enough, the experienced Crusaders scored three more runs and then held off the top-ranked Elwood Panthers in the bottom of the seventh to win their third state championship on June 10 at Ben Davis High School.

Last summer, Gray suffered a stroke that left him unable to walk, talk or move. The players weren't sure he would survive. When they finally could visit him, they didn't know if they would ever again see their coach on the softball field.



Coach Cory Gray high fives Nicole Troxell '18



IHSAA's Mental Attitude Award winner Rachel Cox '17

Ten months later, he was on his feet, coaching them to a state championship with the help of assistants **Pat Miles**, **Brad Streeval** and **Michael Troutman**. Gray's story was chronicled in The Indianapolis Star.

Gray wants to redirect the attention.

"The girls kept saying they did it for me, but I don't want that to be the story," he said.

One of Gray's best memories of the championship game: "When **Emma Deery** slid into third on that triple, and she looked at me with a whole mouthful of dirt," Gray recalled. "She's asking me, 'Am I out?' I said, 'No! Stay on the base!'"

Cassie Smith led off the final inning with a bloop single and then Cali Burgess delivered a two-out infield single that hit off of third base. With two down and two on, Kaylyn Linder drove in both runners with a double. Trinity Eckerty hit in another run with a double off the center field fence. Scecina was up 6-2.

Elwood then loaded the bases, but pitcher Smith was able to hold the Panthers.

It was over. Gray was relieved. "It's all about the girls," he says. But they know otherwise. ■

"It's not about me. It's all about the girls."

- Coach Cory Gray

GYMNASTS FLIP FOR NEW PROGRAM

Scecina Memorial High School is home to the only gymnastics program within the 17 City Alliance Schools and is one of just two programs among the eight-school Indiana Crossroads Conference.



2016-17 gymnastics team: (back row, from left) manager Carly Ferree, Mary O'Connor, Molly Griffin, Coach Allison Delaney. (front row) Hannah Tyler, Hannah Burck, Addy Turner

Thanks to Coaches Allison Delaney '10 and Elaine O'Brian, and the support of past coach **Anne** O'Connor, the Scecina gymnastics program is flourishing in a time when many other schools are ending their programs.

Gymnastics began at Scecina in the 2014-15 school year with just two gymnasts, Molly Griffin '18 and Mary O'Connor '17. Despite their limited roster the duo posted several individual top-three finishes during their inaugural season. Fast-forward to this past season: For 2016-17, the team included five gymnasts, making the squad eligible for IHSAA team competitions.

THERE'S NO **PLACE LIKE** HOME



A new scoreboard adorns the Crusaders baseball field. We also have new bleachers and additional dugout equipment for our home field. Come cheer on the Crusaders baseball team and Coach Dave Gandolph '68 next spring!

'WE CARE' AWARD: DAVID SMOCK '89

By Cari Gallagher '93

Scecina celebrated Super Booster Night during halftime of the boys basketball game on Feb. 11, honoring several people who have given their time and talent to Crusader athletics.

The 2017 Larry Neidlinger "We Care" Award went to David Smock '89, principal of St. Matthew's Catholic School. David is the son of Pat and Judy Smock, longtime benefactors of Scecina. David is the youngest of nine children, all of whom attended Little Flower Catholic School and graduated from Scecina.



Judy Neidlinger with 'We Care' recipient David Smock '89

After David graduated from Butler University, Larry Neidlinger hired him to teach at Scecina. Over the next 15 years David taught Catholic Theology, English and Social Studies. David has been involved with the Crusader baseball and basketball programs, and he just completed his 26th year as the statistician for the Scecina football team.

"Scecina Memorial High School, and the Scecina Athletic Department, could never properly repay David for all that he has given over the years," said Judy Neidlinger. "However, we can honor him with an award named for my husband, who also cared so deeply about Scecina. So it is with great love that we recognize Mr. David Smock as the winner of the 2016-17 Larry Neidlinger 'We Care Award'."

Scecina also recognized four Super Boosters, people who have worked to support and build the Crusader athletic program: Tim Gallagher '93, Jeff and Amy Marshall, and Kirsten Vantwoud.

SCHOLAR ATHLETES HONORED

Scecina's 21st annual Scholar-Athlete Recognition Ceremony took place April 27 in the gymnasium with special guest **Fred Glass**. This year 199 students were honored. To be recognized as a scholar-athlete, students must have at least a 3.0 grade point average and be involved in a sport.

"I've been to this gym many times as a CYO player and a CYO coach. I wasn't good enough to play in high school against the Crusaders," joked Glass, Indiana University's athletic director.



Scholar-Athlete Recognition Ceremony

Jason Kehrer '88, Scecina's athletic director, congratulated Scecina's scholar athletes and told them

that playing sports at Scecina is a privilege and an opportunity to develop skills, "not a right."

The athletics department also awarded the William E. Bevan Award for Achievement in Academic and Athletics to the Male and Female Scholar Athlete in the sophomore and junior classes and the top two in the senior class. Those awards went to: sophomores Katelyn Hartman and James Hentz; juniors Molly **Griffin** and **Henry Egan**; and seniors Bo Sims, Will Therber, Jacqueline Kennedy and Mary O'Connor.

Top Scholar-Athletes among the incoming freshmen from the East Deanery Catholic schools also were recognized: Aidan Battles and Allison Minton, Little Flower; Daniel Linn and Emily McDonald, Our Lady of Lourdes; Anthony Hentz, St. Michael; and Stuart Donlan and Olivia Smith, Holy Spirit.

* SIGNINGS



Zyahnesha Burnett '17 signed to play basketball at Lakeland Community College.



Four Crusaders softball players signed to play in college: (front row) Rachel Cox (Hanover College), Cali Burgess (Kaskaskia College); (back row) Sara Beers (Mount Olivet College), Kaylyn Linder (DePauw University).

INDIANA CROSSROADS CONFERENCE

ALL-CONFERENCE

Mac Ayres '19 BASEBALL Makylin Brown '18 BASKETBALL Kobe Clancy '18 BASKETBALL Trinity Eckerty '18 SOFTBALL Victor Franco '19 WRESTLING Drew Lowery '18 BASEBALL Cassie Smith '17 SOFTBALL Kristina Streeval '18 SOFTBALL

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE

Andrew Clegg '17 TRACK Rachel Cox '17 SOFTBALL Chris Duncan '17 TRACK Henry Egan '18 TRACK Will Ferree '17 BASEBALL Molly Griffin '18 TENNIS Alex Hilcz '18 WRESTLING Libby Joson '18 TENNIS Jacqueline Kennedy '17 TRACK Isabelle Leffler '18 TENNIS

Shuyao Li '18 swimming Kaylyn Linder '17 SOFTBALL Holden Martin '18 SWIMMING / TRACK Mary O'Connor '17 TRACK Allie Owens '18 SOFTBALL Dominic Petrone '17 TRACK Bo Sims '17 BASEBALL Will Therber '17 BASKETBALL Jack Wright '18 GOLF



Front row: Z'Nya Banks-Donaldson, Lauren Gray, Rachel Cox, Mary O'Connor, Natalie Donlan, Jacqueline Kennedy, Grace Wright Back row: Bo Sims, Will Therber, Will Ferree, Jacob Lenne, Andrew Clegg, Jonathan Card, Christopher Duncan

Awards

PRESIDENT'S **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

By President Joe Therber

Each spring, as Scecina's president, I have the privilege of presenting the President's Academic Excellence Awards. These awards are our highest honors for academic excellence. This year we recognized 60 students in all four grades. These scholars either were among the Top 10 students in their class or they earned a grade point average of 4.0 or higher.

The seniors each select a mentor and share reflections on why they chose their mentor. The mentors are parents, grandparents, siblings, coaches, teachers. This year, six of the 14 seniors chose Scecina alumni as their mentors. To me, this reflects the best aspect of our community: giving back. Scecina alumni continue to influence the next generation and push them to do better and be better.

Congratulations to all of the President's Academic Excellence Award recipients.













NOWLANDnews

SILVER AND GOLD

The Scecina Memorial High School band, directed by music teacher **Donnie Glowinski**, competed for the second straight year in the annual Indiana State School Music Association competition on April 22. The band earned a silver rating for its (rehearsed) performance and a gold rating in sight-reading. They performed "Sparks" by Brian Balmages, "Amazing Grace," arranged by Frank Ticheli, and "Arabian Dances" by Roland Barrett. Junior **Libby Joson** earned a gold rating for her vocal solo in February and moved on to the state level, where she earned another gold rating at the highest level.



A CALCULATED SUCCESS

Scecina's math team came in third at the 31st Indiana Academic Super Bowl State Finals on May 6 at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind. Scecina was among 96 high school teams that qualified across five disciplines (math, science, fine arts, social studies, English) for the State Finals. The team came in third behind winner Park Tudor and Greencastle in Class 3 (four classes). Scecina math teacher Elizabeth Williams was the moderator.



'MARY POPPINS' MUSICAL



Scecina students presented the classic 'Mary Poppins' as the Spring Musical. (Top) Scecina actors on opening night: (from left) Kerrington Shorter, Christopher Higgins, Libby Joson, Monica Higgins, Jacob Lenne and Ben Irvin. (Bottom) Lauren Gray, who portrayed Mary Poppins, with Declan Esslinger during Breakfast With The Characters.



NOWLANDnews

SCECINA WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

As a child in Mexico, Miriam Medina attended Catholic school, which helped shape her philosophy about education.

"When I was going to school in Mexico, I attended a private Catholic school and I grew up in a Catholic environment. I was used to that environment and I remember how well it worked for me," she said. "It was a place where there were high expectations, and teachers and instructors were strict but in a very caring way."

Ms. Medina continues her ministry in Catholic education as the new **Director of Enrollment Management** for Scecina Memorial High School. A graduate of Indiana University, she most recently was Associate Director of Enrollment and Student

Development at Providence Cristo Rey High School in Indianapolis. She replaces Kelsey Abelein Greiner, who resigned when her husband was transferred to Colorado.

"We're very pleased Miriam is joining Scecina," said Scecina President Joe Therber. "She possesses the Catholic faith and range of skills we sought in a Director of Enrollment Management. Her work experience, bilingual ability in English and Spanish, and bicultural background make her the ideal fit for our Scecina community."

Ms. Medina said, "I look forward to serving the young men and women of the East Deanery, and Indianapolis, as they search for the high school that best fits their needs and expectations so they may fulfill their God-given human potential."



Ms. Medina will oversee Scecina's enrollment efforts and assist the President, Vice President of Advancement, Director of Marketing Communications and others with the promotion and marketing of the school. She will work with prospective students and their families to help them through the process of applying and enrolling at Scecina and also with tuition assistance. Her duties will include planning and promoting events such as Open House, Crusader for A Day (shadow days) and New Student Orientation.

WRESTLING ROOM MAKEOVER

Jim Donlan's son Mitchell '15 wrestled for four years with Scecina, and son **Stuart** is an incoming Scecina freshman who plans to wrestle.

The senior Donlan thought the wrestling room in the Scecina Blockhouse could use some spiffing up. So he consulted with Scecina Athletic Director Jason Kehrer '88 and jumped into the work.

Jim is an Indianapolis firefighter and also owns and operates Westside Bait and Tackle. He estimates he spent 60 hours refurbishing the wrestling room.

He painted the walls with the help of another Scecina parent, Fred Melton; installed new mats on the wall: and added a set of bleachers and new lockers. A fellow firefighter, Ken Oskins, father of Satchel Oskins '17 and an electrician, moved electrical outlets to a safer location above the wall mats. Donlan added new decals on the wall to spell out "Scecina" and "Crusader Wrestling."

"I think the kids should have a nice place to practice," said Jim Donlan. "A nice room will draw more wrestlers to our program."

Under Donlan's direction, the Scecina wrestling room has been



transformed. The freshened-up room is welcoming even more wrestlers now: Mitchell Donlan has established the Scecina Wrestling Club. The club is open to wrestlers in grades K-12 and is free. Coaching is available during Wrestling Club, which takes place this summer from 7-8:30 p.m. Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

CRUSADER PROFILE



"You aspire to be like the role models that are around you, and I was surrounded by hardworking, devoted and kind people at Scecina who always gave that little extra."

MADONNA (WARRENBURG) WAGNER '87

Vice President of Finance and IT. Chief Financial Officer of Indianapolis Zoo Bachelor of Science in Accounting | Ball State University

Madonna (Warrenburg) Wagner '87

By Rose Branson, Alumni and Donor Relations Coordinator

Madonna (Warrenburg) Wagner '87 recently was named the 2016 CFO of the Year by the Indianapolis Business Journal. Madonna was honored to receive this high recognition for her role at the Indianapolis

I visited Madonna at the Zoo to talk about her work and her path through Scecina and beyond. Walking through the warm Simon Skjodt International Orangutan Center on a chilly February day, I easily could sense Madonna's passion for the Indianapolis Zoo and its mission of education, research and conservation. She rattled off the names of the orangutans and could recognize them and speak about their individual personalities. Madonna clearly has a job she loves every day and is passionate about.

"I am blessed to work with awesome dedicated employees, visionary leaders and supportive Board members," Madonna said. "Our mission is to empower people and communities, both locally and globally, to advance animal conservation, so we aren't just running a zoo, but we are a global leader in saving animal species. It's a passionate pursuit and one that I feel makes Hoosiers proud. I know I am on a daily basis."

Madonna attended Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School. Her father, Jim Warrenburg '64, sister Katy (Warrenburg) Underwood '84, aunts and uncles, and countless cousins all attended Scecina. Madonna met her husband, **Chris Wagner '87**, by asking him to the Turnabout Dance senior year. He said "yes" and they were voted "cutest couple" by their class. Their son, Kevin, attends Wabash College.

During her senior year at Scecina, Madonna took her first Accounting class. "I loved it," she said. "I went on to Ball State and majored in Accounting and have been in the field for 20-plus years."

Madonna also is a founding member of the Scecina Women's Circle.

"Looking back, I see how the dedication of the Scecina faculty and staff had a positive impact in my life," she said. "You aspire to be like the role models around you, and I was surrounded by hard-working, devoted and kind people at Scecina who always gave that little extra."

Jim Lathrop '63

Retired CPA and Marathon Runner B.S. in Accounting | Indiana Business College **MBA** | Indiana University

By Jim Lathrop

My six brothers and I all attended Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School and Scecina Memorial High School. Our parents instilled in us a work ethic that helped us realize our potential.

Scecina taught me to look within myself, which enabled me to determine the direction I wanted to take in life. Scecina also provided me with the skill set necessary to be successful and helped me focus on how I was to reach my goals.

At Scecina, I was able to retain old friends, including **Sam** Jenkins '63 (my best friend still today) and was introduced to many new friends, one of whom became the first love of my life – Patty Clifford '63. We had three wonderful children, Jennifer, Julie and Christina. I worked at one of the Big 8 accounting firms and later as a controller at several businesses while Patty taught at Catholic grade schools in Indianapolis.

I ran my first marathon in 2004. In April 2007, accompanied by my wife, daughters, and their spouses, I completed the Boston Marathon. A few months later, after a long journey with leukemia and almost 40 years of marriage, Patty passed away.

For two years, I continued to train hard and run marathons, partially to relieve my grief. I also became reacquainted with **Bernadette Dufour '64**. In 2010, we got married.

As of November 2016, I have completed a marathon in all 50 states, having completed my 50th in Charlotte, N.C. Bernadette and I have been blessed, after both losing spouses, to share a life together and enjoy the thrill of seeing the country while feeding our competitive spirits.



Kevin Johnson '77

CEO at Kocolene Development Corporation B.S. in Business/Accounting/CPA | Indiana University

By Rose Branson

Scecina Board of Directors member Kevin Johnson '77 was among four recipients honored by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis with the 2017 Celebrating Catholic School Values Award. Kevin received the Career Achievement Award at the annual dinner on Feb. 9.

"Kevin is an incredible Scecina alumnus and Board member," said Scecina President Joe **Therber**. "Through the many years we have known each



other, his impact on Scecina has been significant. My respect for Kevin has only grown over time, and he has a great sense of humor! I envision Kevin when I think of people who get a lump in their throat when they talk about Scecina."

Kevin attended Little Flower Catholic School, is a Holy Spirit parishioner and serves on the Scecina Board of Directors and Archdiocesan Catholic Schools Commission. His favorite ministry is Holy Spirit's SPRED program, which provides religious education and social activities to developmentally challenged adults and children.

"The joy of being around, and sharing faith with, those with special needs is beyond words," he says. Kevin and Lori (Watts) Johnson '77 have been married for 35 years and have two children, Anne and Tom.

Kevin remembers important role models, like John Henninger, who helped build his faith.

"The examples of living your life the right way were demonstrated to me every day by the awesome people who worked at Scecina and volunteered their time at Scecina," he says.

Kevin is CEO of Kocolene Development Corporation, an investment holding company that was named the 2016 Indiana ESOP (Employee Stock Ownership Plan) Company of the Year.

"I am so proud of the entire Scecina community and the impact it has had and will continue to have on the Eastside of İndianapolis," he says. "I truly believe Scecina changes lives every day!"

Kayla Wagoner '13

Bachelor of Science in Nursing | Marian University

By Beth Murphy

Kayla Wagoner '13 greeted me with a hug as she welcomed me to Marian University's Michael A. Evans Center for Health Science. "This is where I've spent my life for four years," she said with a laugh.

Kayla is taking what she learned at Scecina Memorial High School and turning it up a notch. Teachers at Scecina remember her working hard and putting passion into her classwork, afterschool activities and



Scecina, she said, taught her to lead by example. "We have



San Damiano scholar. "The challenge of the AP classes at Scecina, especially science, really prepared me for college and nursing classes," she said. "I really learned good study habits."

good leaders of faith at Scecina, many people to look up

Marian University's San Damiano Scholars Program for Church Leadership aims to create leaders in the Catholic Church and it's for students interested in becoming leaders in their parishes and in health care, nonprofits or schools. San Damiano scholars minor in pastoral care and must fulfill several requirements, including monthly meetings, annual retreats, eight hours of service each month and a sophomore service project.

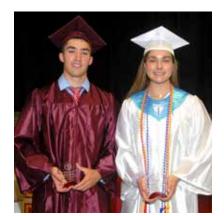
Volunteering and mission work continue to call Kayla. Her experience as a nurse and a San Damiano scholar, she said, is preparing her for a life of service."My passion is mission work. That's why I chose nursing as a career," she said. "I'll be able to really help."

Kayla is the daughter of **Cliff Sr. '79** and **Julie (Barth)** Wagoner '81, and sister of Allysen '09 and Cliff Jr. '11.

SCECINA WOMEN'S CIRCLE FLOURISHES

In the eight months since its founding, the Scecina Women's Circle has grown to 50 members, raised \$23,860 for Scecina students and presented its first scholarships to two graduating seniors.

The SWC, chaired by Nancy (Wagner) **Leming '85**, aims to pool the resources and talents of women in the Scecina community for philanthropic efforts that support Scecina students. The SWC voted this spring to designate \$20,000 toward student spiritual



Satchel Oskins (left) and Jacqueline Hurst, Class of 2017, are the recipients of the first Scecina Women's Circle scholarships.

retreats. The remaining contributions will fund

Scecina clubs and the theater program.

The SWC also hosted Lunch with President Joe Therber in March and An Evening with Indiana University First Lady Laurie Burns McRobbie to hear about her work in women's philanthropy.

Learn more about the Scecina Women's Circle at scecina.org/scecina-womens-circle.



IU First Lady Laurie Burns McRobbie speaks to the Scecina Women's Circle on June 21 at the home of SWC Chairwoman Nancy Leming.

DON'T DELAY - SSTC TAX CREDITS AVAILABLE

Indiana's tax-credit scholarship program was launched in 2010 to help low- and middle-income families access the school of their choice that best fits their children's needs.

A School Scholarship Tax Credit (SSTC) allows Indiana residents and corporations to claim up to a 50 percent tax credit for contributions to approved scholarship-granting organizations (SGOs), nonprofits that provide private scholarships to schools, including Scecina Memorial High School.

The clock is always ticking on the SSTC: Each year, the state limit on the amount of available tax credits for fiscal year is reached earlier. Last year, the \$9.5 million available for 2016-17 ran out on Dec. 19. 2016, and the fiscal year ends June 30th each year.

The tax credits will be available again starting July 1, 2017. There

are no guarantees the credits will be available until June 30, 2018. Because of the tremendous tax deduction advantage, many more individuals are taking advantage of this opportunity much earlier in the year (July through December).

For more information, please contact Jim McGuinness, Scecina's Director of Development and Alumni Relations, or visit scecina.org/sstc.



IRA CHARITABLE **ROLLOVER**

A recent federal change makes the IRA Charitable Rollover permanent. With the rollover, donors can give to nonprofits such as Scecina without owing income taxes on the amount contributed. The rules stipulate:

- The donor must be age 70½ or older.
- The cap on annual IRA rollovers is \$100,000. A husband and wife each can give \$100,000 from their individual IRAs.
- The contribution must be a direct gift to a charity (no planned gifts).

Have questions? Call Jim McGuinness at 317-352-3227 or jmcguinness@scecina.org.



ALUMNI + FRIENDS INDIANS OUTING

Save the date for our next outing on **July 29, 2017**!

Our second annual Indianapolis Indians Alumni and Friends Outing was held on August 6, 2016. More than 160 alumni, families, students, friends, and staff enjoyed an evening of fun at Victory Field.



Front row (left to right): Jim '76 and Jeanne (Atkinson) '75 Norton Back row (I to r): Mary (White) '75 and Scott Curren '75

CHALICE PRESENTED TO SCECINA

The family of a former archdiocesan priest donated the priceless gift of his chalice to Scecina Memorial High School.

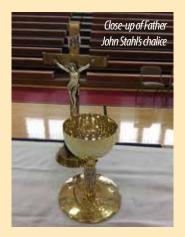
Scecina science teacher Marianne (Stahl) Echelbarger and her brother Tom Stahl '74 presented Scecina President Joe Therber with the chalice of their deceased uncle, Father John Stahl. The presentation was made after Mass

on March 29 to current Scecina chaplain, Father Aaron Jenkins. The chalice is silver with the Gospel writers Matthew, Mark, Luke and John carved around the stem.

Father Stahl and his brother, Father George Stahl, were Archdiocese of Indianapolis priests who both taught religion at Scecina at different times. Mrs. Echelbarger's other brothers, Bob '72 and Jim

'75, and her sister, Jean '79, also graduated from Scecina.

The family also donated Father John's paten, the plate used to hold the bread during the Eucharist and sometimes used to cover the chalice.





President Joe Therber, Tom Stahl '74, Father Aaron Jenkins, Marianne Echelbarger, and John Hegarty

FATHER TOM RECOGNIZED

During the 2017 session of the Indiana General Assembly, the Indiana House of Representatives honored Father Thomas Scecina and the other Hoosier veterans who were inducted last November into the Indiana Military Veterans Hall of Fame.

Father Scecina was nominated for the Hall of Fame by **Tom Blandford** '65, a former U.S. Army Ranger who is active in the Scecina's Veterans Committee.



Class Reunions Quide

The following classes have been planning their reunions! Please visit scecina.org/class-reunions for more information on each reunion.

Class of 1957 60th: September 15 & 16

Class of 1962 55th: September 30

Class of 1967 50th: August 11 & 12

Class of 1972 45th: August 12

Class of 1977 40th: October 7

Class of 1987 30th: October 14

Class of 1992 25th: June 17

Class of 1997 20th: August 12 Class of 2007 10th: August 19

Class of 2012 5th: June 10

* Class of 1965 70th Birthday is July 15 *

If you need information or have questions regarding your reunion, please email Rose Branson at rbranson@scecina.org or (317) 356-6377 ext. 1319.

TEACHING PEACE

Angie Therber '84, former English teacher at Our Lady of Lourdes, made faith come alive by teaching her middleschool students about peace.

Angie was featured in a story in a special Catholic Schools section of The Criterion, the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. The story, written by Criterion reporter Sean Gallagher, appeared during national Catholic Schools Week.

Angie's students were moved by poverty and crime affecting nearby neighborhoods. They put up a peace banner along the school's fence, gave speeches at a peace rally and created artistic "peace posts" to share messages of peace.

The story quotes Angie on the purpose of the project: "It's a witness to our faith," she said. "And I think that's as important as the academics that we're teaching in the building. That was really the impetus for the whole thing, to combine the two."



Former Our Lady of Lourdes middle-school teacher Angie Therber and Lourdes eighth-grade students Grace Swinefurth (left) and Olivia Wilson show the "peace posts". (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

The project, she told The Criterion, is probably "one of the most rewarding things I've done as a teacher. . . . I feel proud that we're doing something that's beneficial to the community and is reinforcing the Catholic Christian ideals that we try to teach."

A SIGN OF THE CROSS

"So moving and so beautiful!" is how one movie reviewer described "A Sign of the Cross" after its Scecina premiere on January 29.

More than 130 alumni, parents and friends attended the showing of "A Sign of the Cross," a documentary by Scecina alumnus **Jeannine "Andy"** (Andersen) Murphy '60, on a snowy afternoon. Her documentary, which has been aired on the Indianapolis PBS affiliate, WFYI, tells the story of the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg. Many current sisters drove up from Oldenburg for the Scecina event.

President Joe Therber also welcomed the Sisters, remarking on their long history with Scecina.



Barb Koers '60 (left), Katy Bridenstine '60, Sister Lavonne Long, George Newhart '60, Andy Murphy '60 and Debby Knox at the Scecina premiere of "A Sign of the Cross."

"The Sisters had a story never really told before," said **Debby Knox**, the narrator. "I was humbled and proud to serve as a producer and narrator on 'A Sign of the Cross.' It is an amazing story and they deserve so much admiration for all they have done in their 165-year old legacy."

Scecina welcomed the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, to the showing: Sister Maureen Irvin, Congregational Minister; Sister Margie Niemer, Council member; Sister Joanita Koors, Council member; Sister Mary Beth Gianoli; Council member and former faculty member; Sister Ellen Michl, Scecina graduate; Sister Barb James, Scecina graduate; Sister Barb Piller, Scecina Board member; Sister Lavonne Long, former faculty member; and Sister Evelyn Forthofer.

ALUMNInews

Class Notes

1960s

Chuck Damler '60 and his wife, Tricia, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on June 23. They have three children, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



George Thomas Newhart Sr., the father of Scecina Board of Directors Chairman George Newhart Jr. '60, died on Dec. 12, 2016, in Collierville, Tenn. George Sr. was married to Ellen for 66 years before she died in 2007. They had four children: George Jr. '60; Jo Elyn Osborn '66; Greg and Gary. Mr. Newhart is also survived by 12 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and three great-greatgrandchildren. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, during which he developed a love of flying. He later became a licensed pilot.

The annual **David C. O'Connor '66** and All Veterans (of all times) Memorial Mass will be at Little Flower on Saturday, August 5, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. The celebration will continue after mass at The Irish Mutt. On April 6, 2016, nearly 47 years after David was KIA in Vietnam, the U.S. Army awarded David O'Connor a fourth Purple Heart with three oak leaf clusters! Replacement of David's headstone reflecting this update has been approved. For future years, the annual remembrance for all vets is on the Saturday closest to August 2nd, the day David was KIA. For questions or remembrances to share: David M. Dinn '66, davidmdinn@gmail.com, 317-966-1422.

Deborah J. Baldwin '67, Ph.D., was appointed as interim Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock for the spring 2017 semester. Baldwin has served the University in many capacities. She was chair of the history department for six years and Dean

of the college of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences for almost 20 years. Currently, she is Associate Provost of Collections and Archives and Director of the Center for Arkansas History and Culture (CAHC). Throughout her years of administrative service, she has continued to teach in the public history program and has overseen graduate student work with community organizations. She obtained her Ph.D. in history from the University of Chicago. Baldwin was not a candidate in the search for a permanent Provost.

1970s

The Class of 1975 gathers on the third Thursday of the month. Watch for Jeanne Norton's posting on Facebook.

Dr. Dean Stratman '84 expanded his business, 24 Hour Dental Care, from the Southside location to a new Northside location and has plans to expand to two more locations by the end of the year.

1990s

Gloria (Quiroz) Pavlik '90 has been appointed the Director of the Office of Retention and Graduation at Ball State University.

Maura Giles '98 has been elected to serve as Chairman of the Martinsville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and spoke at the annual Martinsville State of the City Dinner.

Bridget (Tucker) Esslinger '03, husband Greg, and big brother Declan welcomed Eamonn Patrick Esslinger on January 4, 2017.



2000s

Jason McGuinness '03 was hired as Vice President of Premium Sales for the Houston Rockets NBA franchise. Jason previously worked for the Indiana Pacers, Dallas Cowboys and, most recently, the Phoenix

Christopher '06 and Jessica (Howard)

'06 Black welcomed Olivia Rose Black on December 24, 2016. She joins big brother Elijah Christopher Black.



Alexa Chastain '07 and Joshua Hadley '08 celebrated their son William's first birthday on January 15, 2017.



2010s

McKennah Brown '12 graduated from Ball State University on May 6, 2017, with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree and minor in Entrepreneurial Management. She will be employed with Start to Finish Landscaping in Whitestown. Congratulations, McKennah!

John Kennedy '12 was accepted into the inaugural class of the Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine. This medical school trains young students as licensed physicians. John is the brother of Michael '14, a third year midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy, and Jacqueline, valedictorian of the Class of 2017

Christian Johnson '13 and D'ylan Richardson'13 made history at the University of Saint Francis - Fort Wayne in December 2016. Christian and D'ylan were members of the USF football team, and the team won its first national football title in the NAIA national championship.



INmemoriam

Anne Mikula Kirk (1932 - 2017)

Anne Mikula Kirk, the former director of food services for Scecina, died May 7, 2017. "More than anything, she loved her family and was a devout and faithful servant to God," her family wrote in her obituary.

Anne and her husband, **Tom Kirk**, had seven children, five of whom graduated from Scecina: Pat '74, Mike

'75, Tim'79, Judi'80, and Steve'83. She was preceded in death by her husband and two children, Tom and Susan.

Anne and Tom launched IndyAnna's Catering in 1974. IndyAnna's continues to serve thousands of companies and families and has been voted "Favorite Caterer" by Indianapolis Woman's Magazine and by WRTV/ Indy Star for multiple years. Anne earned her place on Scecina's Wall of Honor in 2011 commemorating her contributions to Scecina and the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Anne's most beloved memories were the relationships she had with Scecina's teachers, coaches, students, staff and especially her cafeteria co-workers ("Kirk's Krew"). She nourished many bodies, hearts and souls.

Patricia "Trish" McMahon ('73) Sergi Endowment



Trish, who died Aug. 14, 2016, spent her teaching career serving children with moderate to severe intellectual and physical disabilities.

"She was very passionate about it and spent an enormous amount of time at night doing something at home on the computer for just one kid," said her husband, Frank, also a teacher. "She was certainly an advocate for kids. She was really good."

Because of her commitment to children, Scecina now has an endowment named after Trish that will help pay the tuition of a student with intellectual or physical disabilities who is admitted into Scecina's **CREST program (Crusaders Reaching Educational and Social Success** Together).

The endowment started with online

fundraising by Trish's sister-in-law, Alicia, who is married to **Kevin** McMahon '76. "I wanted something that would honor her for all she was and what she meant and the impact she had on so many kids," said Alicia.

Kevin said, "A lot of people who knew her loved her. It was her personality. She was always smiling."

"When I think of Trish, I think 'full of life," said Vickie Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent of Perry Township Schools. "She was always advocating for students. She was kind, optimistic and energetic."

As of June 15, 2017, the Trish Sergi Endowment fund had received \$12,260 in donations. If you would like to contribute, send your donation to:

Patricia "Trish" McMahon Sergi Endowment c/o Scecina Memorial High School 5000 Nowland Ave. Indianapolis IN 46201

ALUMNI DEATHS

Patrick Aleman '73

Marcia (Weiler) Barker '67

Maureen Bauer '60

Sarah (Gayheart) Bex '97

Janet (Schultz) Bumgarner '63

Joan P. Burgin '63

Sharon (Hall) Cooper '69

Kathy (Murray) Dupont-Sherriffs '60

Donald Hibbert '67

Geraldine "Jerri" Hummel Kramer '62

Sheila Jenkins '71

Richard Lines '65

Scott McGrath '92

Mary Rose (Mazza) Miller '60

Joseph Moorman '59

David Renn '60

Joseph Scheich '62

Mary Ethel (Liosi) Stahl '58

Steven Switzer '62

Kim Thibo '70

Lawrence Wilhelm '58

PAST FACULTY AND STAFF

Lillian Forestal (Registrar)

Anne Kirk (Cafeteria)

Frank Klinkose Jr. (Library Volunteer)

John Maio (Past Wrestling Coach)

Class Notes and In Memoriam reflect notices received on or before May 31, 2017. To update your information (home or email address), submit a class note, or report an alumni death, please contact Gia Spaulding, Advancement Coordinator,

gspaulding@scecina.org, or submit information via the online form at scecina.org/alumni.







SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017

Scecina Gymnasium





Craft Beer • Silent & Live Auctions • Music

\$5,000 in cash prizes

