

# Sienna

SIENA NEWS • A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS • SPRING 2009

## A Faithfully Executed Plan



**Saints Prove  
They Belong  
in National  
Spotlight**

**INSIDE:**  
**Capturing History**  
Conor Geary '09  
reports from President  
Obama's Inauguration

**Surviving The  
Massacre  
In Mumbai**  
Peter O'Malley '88  
holds on to faith in  
nightmare experience

# from the president



A Siena College education has never been about merely sitting in a chair and listening to a lecture. It's about being engaged with knowledge, finding the value in individual talents and being involved in the learning. What I am trying to say is Siena

students, alumni and faculty don't know how to sit on the sidelines.

Cheering on others to win championships, winning championships, being a part of a major historic moment, producing hit plays or testifying as an expert to Congress is the mark of a Siena education. These are the real-life stories that Siena community members have written for themselves—and they are only a few examples of the achievements occurring daily on our campus.

In your individual successes, Siena finds its success. You are the stories that show the world Siena is a leader in Franciscan, Catholic liberal arts education. You are the engineers of the small college that could.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Kevin Mullen, O.F.M., Ph.D." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. Kevin Mullen '75, O.F.M., Ph.D.



## Message from the Editors

It is our hope to make *Siena News* more valuable to you by providing features, stories and items that you find of interest. We would like the magazine to be a dialogue between the College and Siena's proud alumni. In the last issue we held the first in a series of contests to involve alumni and friends. Please see the results of "Are You the Ultimate Siena Family?" on the inside back cover of this issue. Congratulations to the Papa Family! We received a lot of positive feedback regarding this contest and thank the numerous alumni who contacted us. We want to know what would you like to see more of in future issues of *Siena News*. Please call us at 518-782-8300 or e-mail [communications@siena.edu](mailto:communications@siena.edu) to let us know.

*Jim Eaton and Allison Maloney '06*

*P.S.- Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter to get the latest news on Siena College!*



## 18 A Faithfully Executed Plan



## 4 Capturing History



## 8 Surviving the Massacre in Mumbai

## departments

On Campus News | 12 Faculty News | 22  
 Saints Corner | 18 Alumni Connection | 25  
 Gift Planning | 26 Alumni Class Notes | 27

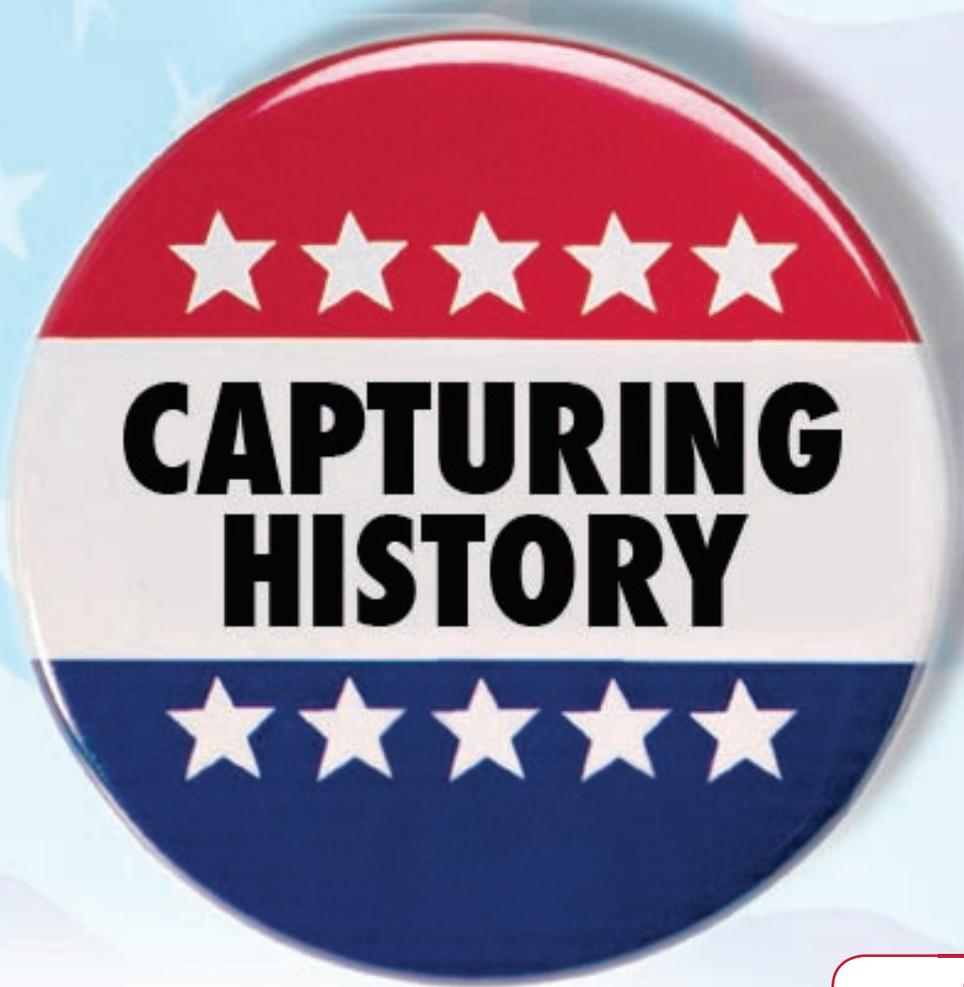
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### Siena News - Spring 2009

Published by Siena College  
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 Loudonville, NY 12211-1462  
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- Photography: Athletics Office, Dave Boswell '12, Conor Geary '09, Lisa Heimerle, and Sergio Sericolo
- Printer: The Lane Press, Burlington, Vt.



An all-star concert, a black-tie gala and speeches by Colin Powell and Al Gore. These are just a few of the events that Conor Geary '09 experienced during the ceremonial events that led up to the inauguration of Barack Obama as the 44th president of the United States. Geary, former Student Senate president, attended the University Presidential Inaugural Conference, hosted by the Congressional Youth Leadership Conference. In the following entries, Geary takes us through some of his memorable moments in his journey to Washington, D.C., to witness the historic inauguration of our nation's first African-American president.



## Conor Geary

- Class of 2009
- Marketing and management major
- Philosophy minor
- Former Student Senate president; studied abroad in Dublin, Ireland
- Loves his family, acting, traveling, laughing, and making others laugh





**January 17: At 9:33 a.m.**, my Amtrak train left New Haven Union Station in Connecticut bound for Richmond, Virginia. This train would bring me to the U.S. Capitol for one of the most historic events in my lifetime. For one of the first times in my life, I have decided to keep a record of my activities and interactions. I fear that an opportunity like this is about as once-in-a-lifetime as it gets.

I am attending the University Presidential Inaugural Conference. From Saturday to Wednesday I will be attending panels, events, keynote addresses, galas, parades, and more. I will listen to Al Gore, Colin Powell, Democratic strategists James Carville and Paul Begala, and political commentator Tucker Carlson. I will be cold, I will be tired, but I will be a part of history.

I am traveling alone and yet there is this remarkable feeling that I have gotten today that quite literally has sent chills down my spine; all of the people that will be a part of my memories in these next five days are all separately converging in Washington, D.C. We are alone, yet together, and I haven't even shaken my first hand yet.

**January 17:** My train is very late. I'm not sure if it is a curse or a blessing, but President-elect Obama's train is in front of us. He is making stops in some communities and closing down every street in his way to do so. This is causing some serious delays. But this is of no concern, according to the conductor, as this provides us the perfect opportunity to make friends with our fellow passengers.

I see police patrolling the cities and towns as the train passes through. They are lined every quarter mile or so along the tracks. Dump trucks are blocking roads; a helicopter hovers overhead. There is a buzz in the air in preparation for something big. I find it exciting, despite my hunger and reluctance to purchase something to eat from the snack car.

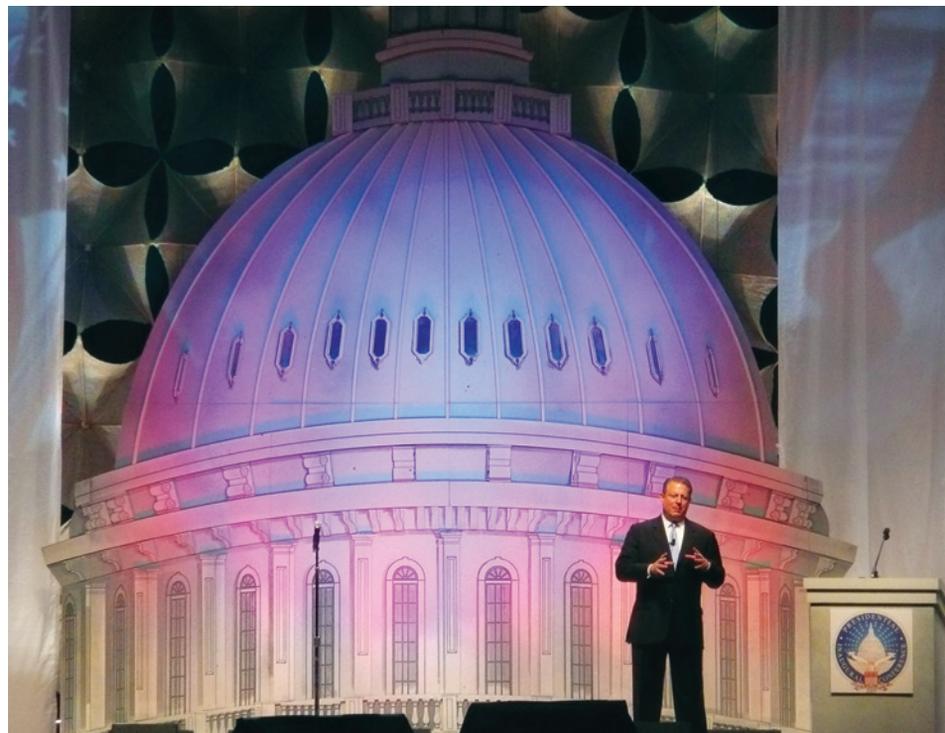


Opposite page: Conor Geary '09 (left) with friends outside of the White House.

Above: Inauguration attendees waited over six hours to enter the National Mall.

Left: Geary was one of many conference students who gathered at the Callanan Field House.

Below left: Geary's view of General Colin Powell and (below right) Vice President Al Gore during the Inauguration ceremony.



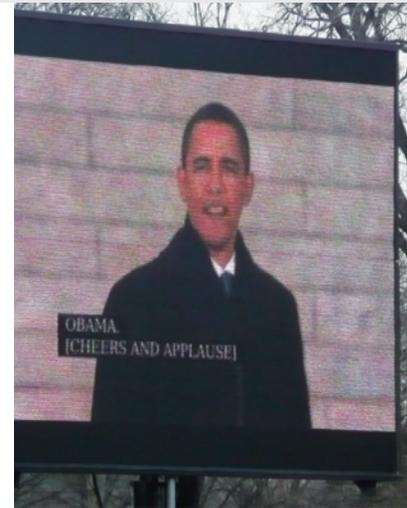


**January 18:** I'm at the University of Maryland. The alarm went off this morning at 5 a.m. The hotel is teeming with future leaders of America. From Conference members, I get all the familiar questions: Where do you live? Where do you go to school? What do you study? Have you been to a conference before? Before long, the answers fade and now we just recognize that the other person is cordial, friendly, and seemingly normal. This means we can hang out later.

Luke Russert, the son of the late NBC News journalist Tim Russert, spoke last night. Despite how far away from the stage I was, I picked up that most of his talk was on the importance of the youth vote in American politics, especially in November 2008. Presently, hundreds of scholars are filtering into the University of Maryland's Callahan Field House, home of the Terrapins. The stage is impressive, the background music a bit ... out of place? ("Hit Me With Your Best Shot" by Pat Benatar just came on.) It is 7:20 a.m. and we are awaiting a speech from Colin Powell. Not a bad start to a Sunday, if you ask me. Our seats are pretty good. ("Here Comes the Sun" by the Beatles begins.)

**January 19:** We just left the Callahan Field House where Al Gore spoke to us. He was not quite as enthusiastic as General Powell was yesterday, but nevertheless it was remarkable to hear a former vice president be so emphatic about the importance of youth action over the next 20 to 30 years.

Yesterday, some new friends and I went downtown after listening to James Carville and Mary Matalin, as well as Tucker Carlson and Paul Begala. I must say that Mr. Carlson was much more entertaining and impressive than I expected. We also went to the Mall and saw the concert that included U2, Beyoncé, Usher, Bruce Springsteen, Outkast, Josh Groban, Garth Brooks, Stevie Wonder, Shakira, Sheryl Crow, and more. I took photos and listened to Barack Obama speak. It was an amazing experience. Tears came to my eyes at one point. People were singing, cheering, smiling — it was the American dream. I also saw football player Emmitt Smith at McCormick's Irish restaurant and seafood bar. Dreams come true,



Above: President-elect Barack Obama addressing the National Mall during the concert.

Left: Onlookers gathering in preparation of the Inauguration.

Below Left: Geary's view of the Inauguration.

Below right: First Lady passing by in the presidential motorcade.





although I didn't realize it in time to shake his hand and thank him for introducing me to football.

Today I heard journalist Anya Kamenetz speak on the economy and debt, as well as Eugene Jarecki (filmmaker of *Why We Fight*) on political philosophy. He was very good and forward in his remarks. He gave me permission to publish his poem in Siena's *Promethean* and addressed my question on the ability to have a unified "we are one" nation, given the intrinsic divisiveness found in the American political structure of Democrat vs. Republican vs. Independent.

We are 12 hours from the inauguration, and I found out that we will be included with the general public where it's every man, woman and child for themselves. It was not what we expected, but the people I have met are making up for it. The students are amazing: fun, entertaining, anxious to learn new things and meet new people; they are hopeful for our role in the coming months and years; they are at times cynical, but what leader isn't? Even if there are just 5,000 of us, we are 5,000 strong people who know what it takes to make a difference. We know what it takes to ask hard questions. We know what it takes to be leaders — even if we lead from the general admission section.

Tonight a few of us are going to try to stay up all night in the city so that we can get the best "seats" possible at the inauguration.

**January 20:** Yes, I was freezing. Yes, I was very, very far away from the stage and our new president. It is still an experience I will never forget. The photos tell the story better than I can at this point. I think it hasn't fully sunk in yet what I just witnessed — an extraordinary moment in our country's history.



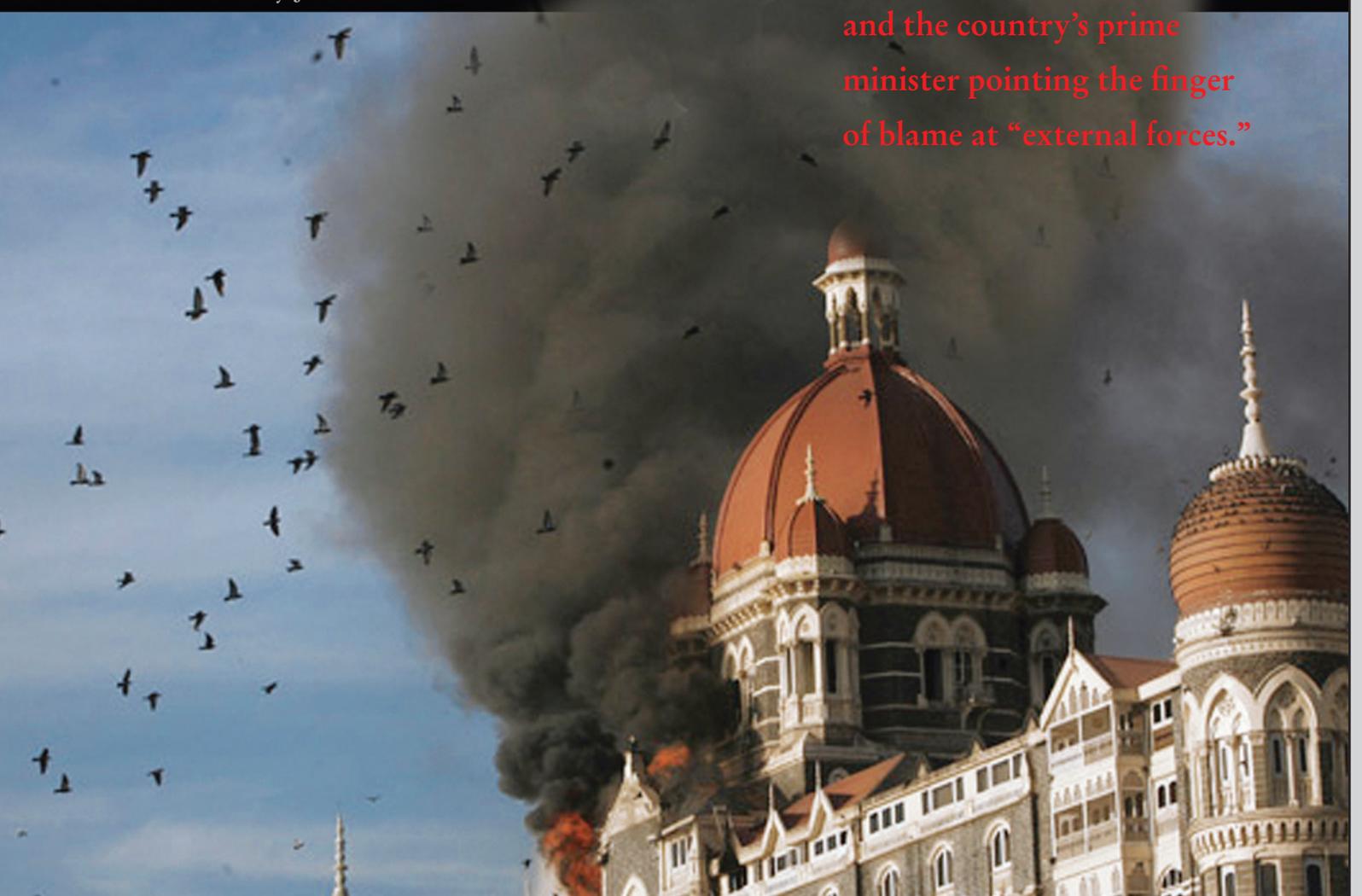
Above and left: Scenes from the Air and Space Museum at the UPIC Inaugural Black Tie Gala.



# Surviving the Massacre in Mumbai

By Peter O'Malley '88  
Edited by Jim Eaton

Indian soldiers stormed the last hideouts of Islamist militants in Mumbai leaving 164 dead, hundreds injured and the country's prime minister pointing the finger of blame at "external forces."



On Wednesday, Nov. 26, my friend Eugene and I arrived at the Taj Hotel in Mumbai, as we have done together hundreds of times in our travels as New York investment bankers living in Hong Kong. As I placed my bag on a table in the hotel lobby I heard a loud gunshot, which I recognized from my years living in South Africa to be the distinctive snap of an AK-47 assault rifle. Hearing another shot a second later, I looked at Eugene and said, “Run!”

We ran from the gunfire toward the nearest exit as the terrorists were entering the hotel lobby from various points. I pushed through the doors toward the pool area outside and ducked into some bushes as the gunfire grew in intensity. I realized Eugene did not make it out of the lobby.

Surveying the scene brought the dispiriting conclusion that I was trapped, surrounded by 12-foot-high walls on all sides. I noticed an air conditioning duct about nine feet above me. I was able to leap and knock the cover away. I jumped again and grabbed onto the unit, but as I tried to pull myself up, I fell, causing the people in the bushes to hush me.

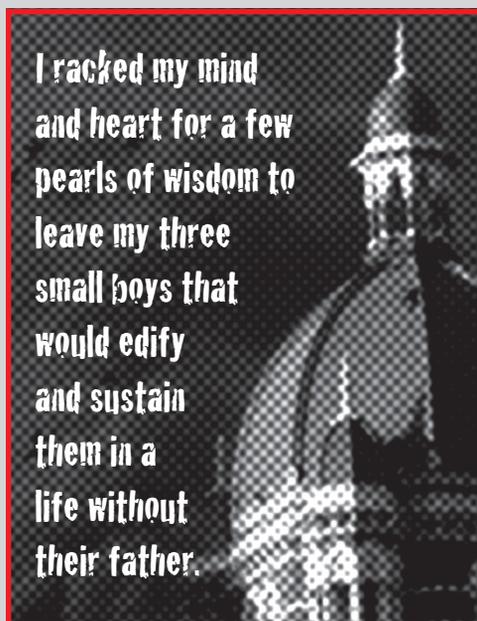
A quick aspiration to the Holy Spirit — “Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the heart of thy faithful!” — and then another leap upward. This time I was able to grab on and pull myself up over the wall where I flipped onto a lean-to roof of the pool shed. I concealed myself with tree branches. Breathless, I e-mailed my colleagues in London from my Blackberry. “Urgent, This is not a joke. At Taj Hotel in Mumbai. Gunmen on loose. People killed. Call police.” Then I turned off my phone, thinking a ring could give away my position and bring on a quick and violent death.

The minutes passed, while screams and sounds of gunfire continued. I began to pray to St. Michael the Archangel: “St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.” I also prayed the first of many rosaries to see my way through what had suddenly become the single most shocking and desperate

experience of my life. I knew that if I was to get through this, it would be the Lord’s doing.

Suddenly, I noticed hotel busboys down below secreting people out of the pool area via a trapdoor on the deck. I decided to join the five or six people being ushered down into the hole, and followed them silently through a labyrinth of stairs and twists and turns that ultimately led out into the second floor business center of the hotel. We entered a room where about 70 other souls were huddled together in common terror.

The scene around me was surreal. Some people were drinking tea, seeming to ignore our plight. Others



were crying and simmering just below the level of panic. My resolve was to keep my senses and continue praying for inner strength. It was possible that this siege could last several days, so keeping my wits about me was imperative.

I hurried off an e-mail to my mom and dad, thanking them for my life and everything else they’d given me. Then I e-mailed my wife and sons: “Thank you, Celeste, for being my best friend and soul mate. I love you!” I racked my mind and heart for a few pearls of wisdom to leave my three small boys that would edify and sustain them in a life without their father. Asking the Holy Spirit for guidance, I explained to them that life was a gift, and that they should do their best to enjoy that gift. I urged

them to take care of their mother, each other, and their community — and not to be afraid to discern their vocations. I counseled them to keep a daily prayer life and live the norms of piety we’d taught them. “Live life to the fullest, boys, and stay in a state of grace.”

My heartache — and heart rate — increased as the gunfire drew closer. I approached the headwaiter and quietly asked him if I might slip out the back stairs, as my corporate security indicated I should leave the building immediately. The man assured me that we were secure, but the look on his face betrayed his fear and uncertainty. He then huddled with his two busboys while I positioned myself by the back stairs.

A moment later, the busboys announced that they would begin allowing some folks to slip out. This instantly created a mad rush toward the stairs. Though I was positioned near the doorway, a lovely Indian-accented chorus arose, saying, “Women and children first!” Ah, but of course! I gulped and stepped aside.

After about a minute, men began cutting the line. After some dozen men had cut in front of me, at a point when most of the women had gotten out, I joined the outflow and was able to escape.

I am obviously lucky — and very blessed. I learned later that the business center was attacked by gunmen some five minutes after I was able to escape. I also learned that my friend Eugene had been shot in the lobby, but thankfully he will make a full recovery. Colleagues and friends have asked how I feel after such a trauma. I tell them I am fine — shaken but fine. At the end of the day, I am convinced that *bona omnia fecit* (all works for the good). I forever will be inspired by the staff of the Taj, who were polite, courteous and courageous throughout the ordeal. They saved hundreds of lives, many sacrificing their own in doing so.

Why has God allowed me to live on? I have no idea. But at this point, the thought that will not leave my mind is, “From him to whom much is given, much is expected.” I pray that I can live up to His expectations.



# The Heart of the Siena Campus

By Jim Eaton

The year 2009 marks the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Franciscan friars. Today the friars continue to have a strong presence at Siena College despite national trends (see “Friars Underground Marketing” story on CNN’s Website). Below is a list of friars associated with Siena College as well as their contact information. Send them an e-mail; they would love to hear from you!

## Friars Currently at Siena

Guardian of the Friary:

- Br. Brian C. Belanger, O.F.M.  
(bbelanger@siena.edu)  
Director of International Programs

Vicar of the Friary:

- Fr. Capistran J. Hanlon, O.F.M.  
(hanlon@siena.edu)  
Sociology

- Fr. William Beaudin, O.F.M.  
(wbeaudin@siena.edu)  
College Chaplain

- Fr. Richard Biasiotto, O.F.M.  
(rbiasiotto@siena.edu)  
St. Francis Chapel

- Br. Romuald Chinetsky, O.F.M.  
Siena College Friary

- Fr. Matthew T. Conlin, O.F.M.  
(conlin@siena.edu)  
President Emeritus

- Fr. Kevin Daly, O.F.M.  
(kdaly@siena.edu)  
Campus Minister

- Fr. Julian A. Davies, O.F.M.  
(davies@siena.edu)  
Philosophy/College Archivist

- Fr. Ambrose A. Donehue, O.F.M.  
(adonehue@siena.edu)  
St. Francis Chapel

- Fr. Mathias F. Doyle, O.F.M.  
(mdoyle@siena.edu)  
Franciscan Center for Service  
and Advocacy

- Fr. Daniel P. Dwyer, O.F.M.  
(ddwyer@siena.edu)  
History

- Fr. Peter A. Fiore, O.F.M.  
(fiore@siena.edu)  
Scholar in Residence

- Br. Linh Hoang, O.F.M.  
(lhoang@siena.edu)  
Religious Studies

- Fr. Gerard Lee, O.F.M.  
(catglee@aol.com)  
Director of St. Francis Chapel

- Br. Walter Liss, O.F.M.  
(wliss@siena.edu)  
Residence Life; Computer Science

- Fr. Gerald Mudd, O.F.M.  
(gmudd@siena.edu)  
St. Francis Chapel

- Fr. Kevin Mullen '75, O.F.M.  
(kmullen@siena.edu)  
President of the College;  
Religious Studies

- Fr. Daniel C. Nelson, O.F.M.  
(dnelson@siena.edu)  
Psychology

- Fr. Kenneth P. Paulli '82, O.F.M.  
(kpaulli@siena.edu)  
Chief of Staff

- Fr. Reginald J. Reddy, O.F.M.  
(reddy@siena.edu)  
St. Francis Chapel

- Fr. Blaise F. Reinhart, O.F.M.  
(breinhart@siena.edu)  
Economics (Emeritus)

- Fr. Dennis E. Tamburello '75, O.F.M.  
(tamburello@siena.edu)  
Religious Studies

- Fr. John E. Van Hook, O.F.M.  
(vanhook@siena.edu)  
Philosophy (Emeritus)

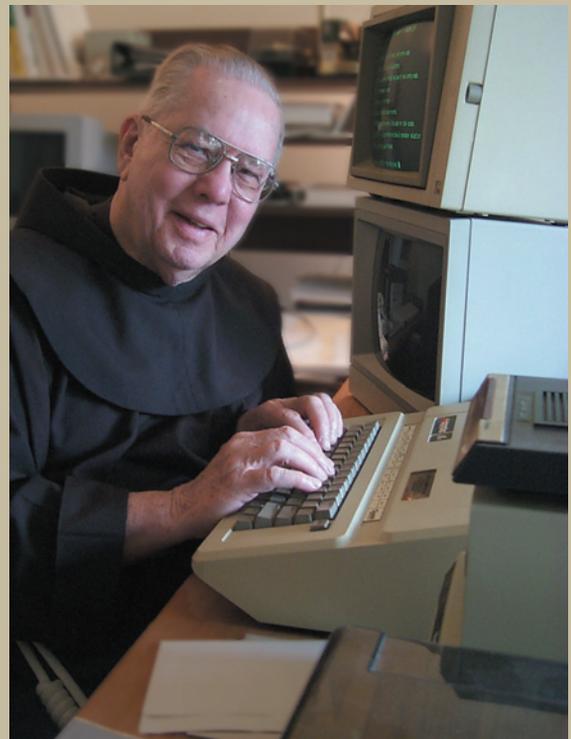
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## Friars Formerly at Siena: Where Are They Now?

- Br. Larry Anderson, O.F.M. (landerson@siena.edu)  
(Franciscan Center for Service and Advocacy; Foundations)  
Holy Name College, 1650 St. Camillus Dr.,  
Silver Spring, MD 20903-2559
- Fr. Lawrence D. Ford, O.F.M. (LarryFord87@netscape.net)  
Holy Name of Jesus Friary, 207 West 96th Street,  
New York, NY 10025-6393
- Br. Michael Harlan, O.F.M. (mharlan@hnp.org)  
(Franciscan Center for Service and Advocacy)  
Holy Name Province, 129 West 31st Street,  
New York, NY 10001-3403
- Br. Gary Maciag, O.F.M. (gary.maciag@alum.mit.edu)  
(Creative Arts) St. Anthony Shrine, 100 Arch St.,  
Boston, MA 02110
- Fr. Kevin E. Mackin, O.F.M. (mackin@msmc.edu)  
(President Emeritus; Religious Studies)  
Mount Saint Mary College,  
Newburgh, NY 12550
- Fr. Sennen San Fratello, O.F.M.  
(English) Fr. Sennen passed away on Oct. 2, 2008.  
May he rest in peace.
- Fr. James F. Toal, O.F.M. (toaljim@gmail.com)  
(Vice President) St. Anthony's Friary,  
357 Second St. N.,  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701-2941



### Fr. Laurence P. Rainville, O.F.M.

Fr. Laurence died on April 12, 2009. He was a professed Franciscan friar for 66 years who helped establish the Siena College computer science program and bring technology to every aspect of the academic experience at Siena. May he rest in peace.

Send an e-mail, [communications@siena.edu](mailto:communications@siena.edu) if you have a story about a friar who impacted your life at Siena College.



## School of Business Announces M.S. in Accounting

Approximately 6,000 Siena College graduates have participated in the undergraduate accounting program, which includes a focus on ethical and professional leadership skills. Today, Siena alumni serve as managing directors or partners in most of the public accounting and consultancy firms in the greater Capital Region and beyond. This fall, Siena College will enhance its tradition of excellence in the accounting profession with the addition of the Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) program.

“Siena College provided me with a strong accountancy and ethics-based foundation that has prepared me for today’s corporate and community challenges. The Siena experience is essential to career development,” said Howard Foote ’74, managing director and chief financial officer of UHY Advisors. “I am enthusiastic about the opportunities the MSA program will afford Siena students. This new program will provide future leaders in our industry with a competitive advantage and collaborative tenor that are required in today’s ever-changing business environment.”

The MSA program, which will allow students the opportunity to take the CPA exam, is a full-time, one-year commitment that comprises eight required three-credit courses and two electives. The classes will allow highly qualified students to take part in internships and gain experiential knowledge of organizations and a broad view of the accounting profession. In addition to meeting the 150 credit-hour requirement of most states, the program is designed to enhance the presentation and communication skills of the candidates while strengthening their technical knowledge of accounting, auditing and taxation.

For more information about the new graduate program in accounting program or to discuss the admission application process, contact Eugene Farley, director of Master of Science in Accounting program at 518-782-6865 or [efarley@siena.edu](mailto:efarley@siena.edu).



## Siena and Albany Medical College Announce Physician Assistant Program

Albany Medical College’s Center for Physician Assistant Studies (CPAS) has partnered with Siena College to offer students an early-acceptance opportunity into the medical college program. Eligible students, who may apply during their junior year, must complete 1,000 hours of healthcare experience prior to enrolling in the CPAS program.

The Siena College/Albany Medical College Program for Science, Humanities and Medicine began 25 years ago under the direction of Ed LaRow, Ph.D. The success of this program led to the idea of instituting CPAS. “This is another healthcare career opportunity for our talented science students to pursue their goals,” LaRow said.



# Siena Hosted 22nd Annual MLK Lecture Series

The Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King Lecture Series on Race and Nonviolent Social Change is one of the longest running and most successful Capital Region lecture series. This year, the featured speaker was teacher and social critic Michael Eric Dyson Ph.D.. Dyson delivered his keynote speech to a packed house in the Alumni Recreation Center on April 7 – three days after the anniversary of Dr. King’s death.

“It could be argued that it was King’s death, not his birth or life, that launched his voice across the ages. It was through death that King’s words on truth, justice and challenge have echoed through these past 41 years,” said Peter Ellard Ph.D., chair of the lecture series.

Dyson, a prolific author, scholar, public intellectual, ordained minister, media commentator and talk radio show host connected with the audience of all ages. He talked about how far society has come from the dreams of Martin Luther King, Jr., but also pointed out that President Barack Obama is not the fulfillment of King’s dream. “He is, instead, a significant signpost along the way. In King’s eyes, it is a promise of the future, not the present,” Dyson said.

Earlier in the spring semester, on Jan. 16, more than 800 people attended two events as part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration at the College. The day kicked off with the fourth annual STOP (Students Together Opposing Prejudice) Conference in which 190 students and 25 teachers from 19 area middle and high schools participated. The conference was filled with workshops in

which students discussed their own experience of prejudice and biases in their schools. Trained facilitators coached the students on how to recognize and defuse difficult situations, as well as how to build communities of tolerance within their schools.

In the afternoon, more than 600 children, parents and grandparents attended the annual presentation of art, essays and poetry created by Capital Region school children describing leadership in the 21st century. Portraits of Dr. King, President Obama, police officers, doctors, teachers and other people representing ordinary citizens also were displayed. These works of art also were displayed during Dyson’s presentation in April. Participants in the series of events connected the larger issue of the civil rights movement with their lives today.



Above: Sculptor Patrick Morelli, NAACP Regional Director Anne Pope and Michael Eric Dyson, Ph.D. with Morelli’s “Behold” sculpture. Left: Featured speaker Michael Eric Dyson, Ph.D. addressed a crowd of more than 750 people in the Alumni Recreation Center in April. Below: Members of the Union Missionary Baptist Church Mass Choir performed at the 22nd Annual Martin Luther King Lecture Series.



## Award-Winning Play Featured at Siena

In March, Stage III Theatre performed *Doubt*, the popular Tony award-winning play by John Patrick Shanley.

The play, set in the St. Nicholas Church School in the Bronx in 1964, is a drama about breaking from ironhanded tradition. Although sexual abuse is a central theme, the play also is about the courage one must find in making the right decision when the risks are high.

"Siena students were the perfect candidates for putting on such a challenging and controversial play," said Ralph Blasting Ph.D., dean of liberal arts who directed the play at the College. "What better place than Siena College to successfully tackle a play that is centered in a Catholic school."

There was no controversy in finding campus support for the play. The friars served as active advisors, assisting in the production.

"The friars acted as consultants for the production, giving help to the young actors, including advising those who played nuns on what to do with the rosaries around their necks," Blasting said.

The production drew rave reviews from those who attended the performance.





## Club Hockey Nets Fifth Championship

### Saints Men's Hockey Team Enjoys Storied Season

The men's hockey team finished the season ranked third in the nation with a 28-6-2 record. This is the second consecutive season that they were Super East Collegiate Hockey League (SECHL) champions, ranked first in the northeast region and made a return trip to the final four of the American Collegiate Hockey Association Division II National tournament.

Their season ended in Grand Rapids, Michigan where they finished one game short of the school's first appearance in the championship game. The Saints began the opening day of pool play with an 8-1 win against DePaul University. The Saints then went on to defeat Kennesaw University by a score of 7-0 and Weber State 5-2. Throughout the three days of pool play Siena was led by the goaltending of Adam Brown '10, defense of Brian Biagioli '09 and Andrew Bullard '10, and offense of Nick Orlando '09, Chris Harjung '11 and Dave DelSonno '09.

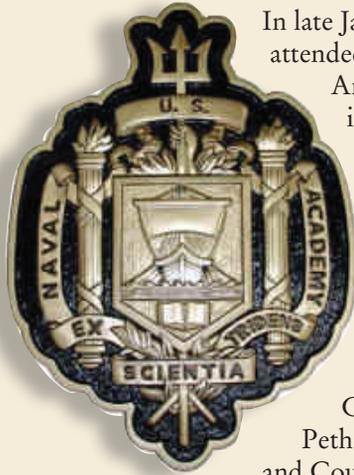
The Saints advanced to the semi-final round to face Florida Gulf Coast University, a team they had defeated earlier in regular season play. Unfortunately they lost this time around and concluded their season ranked third in the nation. This is the best national ranking the program has ever attained.

The season was filled with numerous individual accomplishments including:

- Head coach Lee Bormann won his 100th game in his fourth year with the team.
- Goalie Adam Brown '10 and Forward Chris Harjung '11 were named to the All-national Second Team.
- Adam Brown '10, Andrew Bullard '10, Joe Garnet '12, Rob Duhoski '10, Chris Harjung '11, Dave DelSonno '09, Nick Orlando '09, Andrew Fiore '12 and Erik Reinfried '10 were named to the SECHL All Star team.
- Josh Baillargeon '12, Julian Carney '11, Rob Duhoski '12, Pete Lucchesi '11, John McMahon '11, James Rotan '11, Garrett Blair '10, Nick DeMarte '12, Chris Harjung '11, Pat Markiewicz '10 and John Romeo '09 were named to the SECHL all-academic team (3.3 GPA or higher).
- The collective team GPA was 3.04.

Due to the interest on campus the hockey team now has a B-Team which allowed another 30 student-athletes who did not make the cut for the hockey team an opportunity to participate in a club sport. Siena now has approximately 60 students participating in the men's hockey program.

# Students Attend Prestigious Leadership Conference



In late January, Siena College students attended the U.S. Naval Academy's 25th Annual Leadership Conference in Annapolis, Md. Siena College was one of 33 civilian and seven military colleges represented at this invitation-only event, which gathered students from across the country to discuss leadership and its contemporary challenges.

Four Siena students (Caroline Cleveland '09, Kristen Petherbridge '10, Kelly Patricia '10 and Courtney Lynch '10) and a faculty representative LTC Andy Morgado, professor of military science and leadership) represented the College at the conference to discuss this year's theme, "Generational Leadership."

Keynote speakers included Maryland Governor Martin J. O'Malley; Vice Admiral Jeffrey L. Fowler, superintendent of the Naval Academy; BAE Systems Chief Operating Officer Walter Havenstein; Charlie Wilson, former U.S. representative; and Vice Admiral Ann Rondeau, deputy commander of the U.S. Transportation Command. Throughout the conference, participants grappled with the thematic question of, "How do we lead across the generational gaps, and do core leadership characteristics stand against the test of time?" Though there may not have been a consensus on how generational gaps are to be judged, students came away from the conference with an appreciation for some common characteristics of leadership and techniques to employ in their daily lives as leaders on their respective campuses.



From left to right: Caroline Cleveland '09, Kelly Patricia, Barrett Turner (USNA '09, Sponsor), Kristen Petherbridge, Courtney Lynch ROTC member and senior in the School of Science.



## Preserving the Green

The Office of Facilities Management conducted a comprehensive audit to determine how much material the Siena community is recycling. The numbers and materials are listed below, along with a few facts about the positive environmental impacts the campus has achieved so far. The numbers represent an annual total.

As a result of Siena's recycling efforts on campus we:

- Recycled enough paper to save 27 million sheets of newspaper, the equivalent of saving 2,200 mature trees from being cut down.
- Saved enough energy to power 103 homes.
- Created enough landfill space for the disposal needs of 1,000 people.
- Saved enough gas to drive 86,800 miles in a vehicle that gets 28 miles per gallon of gas.
- Saved 907,000 gallons of water, or enough fresh drinking water to meet the needs of 403 people.

## U.S. Congress Approves \$250,000 for Mentoring Program

U.S. Rep. Paul Tonko's office has announced that \$250,000 has been approved for the Siena College Mentoring Program as part of the House's FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act. The program matches Siena students with underprivileged children in the local area and gives them an opportunity to learn from one another. The children and mentors spend time with each other on Saturdays participating in activities like bowling, skiing, basketball and other activities that bring the group together. They have been doing this since 1965 when the program was originally founded as Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The projects were submitted by Rep. Michael McNulty, who retired last year, and carried through by Tonko. "These projects will continue to lay the ground work for research, innovation and community outreach at local colleges and universities," said Tonko. "We are grateful to Congressman McNulty for initiating these projects." The bill is now in the U.S. Senate for consideration.



## Reilly Honored as Distinguished Member of the Year

The Empire State Society of Association Executives named New York State Broadcasters Association President Joseph A. Reilly as Distinguished Member of the Year. Reilly was honored at a dinner in February at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Albany. In 2007, the two hubs of Siena's broadcasting program were dedicated as the Joseph A. and Carol M. Reilly Broadcast Centers in recognition of Reilly's gift, his work as president of the Association and in memory of his beloved wife, Carol.

## Siena and McCaffery Extend Contract

Head Men's Basketball Coach Fran McCaffery has agreed to terms on a new eight-year contract that is scheduled to keep him in

Loudonville through the 2016-17 season. McCaffery has led the Saints to an 86-43 record in his four years with the program.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my first four years at Siena and am very proud of all that we have accomplished," McCaffery said. "The continued support of the administration and Siena community has made this place a very special home for me and my family. I look forward to building upon our recent success, while continuing to develop young men of character who represent Siena's mission and values in the most positive way possible."

McCaffery guided the Saints to a 27-8 overall record in 2008-09 and a second consecutive MAAC Championship and NCAA Tournament win. The 27 wins equaled a program record and marked the most ever in the Division I era. The Saints were ranked #28 nationally in the final ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll – their highest final national ranking since turning Division I in 1976. The Siena men have posted three straight 20-win seasons for the first time in their Division I history.

"It was important that Siena show it is committed to the basketball program and its head coach," Director of Athletics John D'Argenio said. "We are extremely pleased that the College and Fran have agreed to a new contract that is a win-win for both of us. What has been accomplished the past two seasons is unmatched in Siena's rich basketball tradition. We look to continue moving forward and adding to that tradition."

Siena returns four of five starters and seven of the nine members of its 2008-09 regular rotation to next year's team, which ranks 20th nationally in the rivals.com early Preseason top-25 poll.





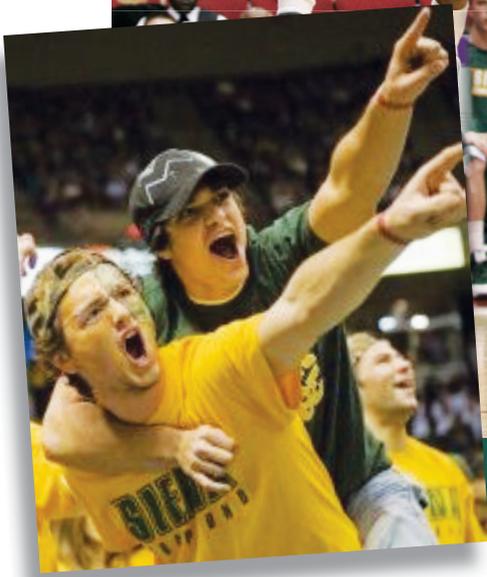
## saints corner

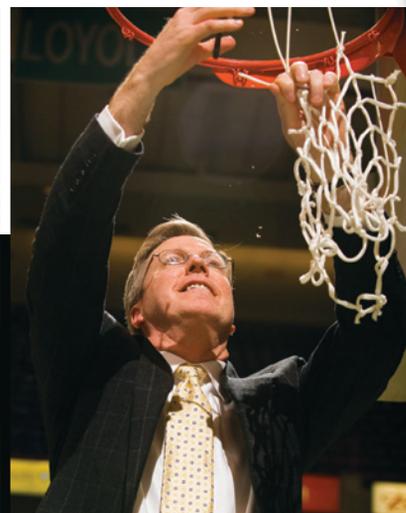


## A Faithfully Executed Plan

By Jason Rich '98

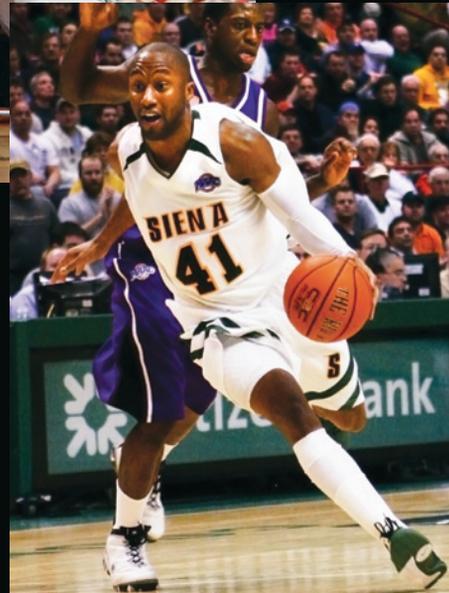
Famed sports columnist Bob Ryan of the *Boston Globe* began his Sunday column March 22 as follows: "Siena may be a nice, little, 3,000-student school run by the Franciscans, but this is no 'Miracle of Loudonville.' This is the culmination of a plan." The plan Ryan was referring to was the well-documented one put in motion when head coach Fran McCaffery arrived





on campus in April 2005. But Ryan easily could have been referring to a less-organized accord reached last summer, when sitting in the courtyard outside their boutique hotel in Venice, the Siena basketball team began to wonder aloud about the upcoming season. “We have the opportunity to do something special,” senior co-captain Kenny Hasbrouck '09 told his teammates. They discussed the possibilities until the early morning hours, reliving the success they had achieved a few months before in the NCAA Tournament, after winning the 2008 MAAC Championship at Times Union Center. As this season unfolded, they would never talk publicly about their high aspirations, buying into McCaffery’s one-game-at-a-time mantra. But the goals for the year would be settled upon on







the banks of the Mediterranean, some 4,000 miles from New York's capital and each would be achieved eight months later. Players learned more about themselves on the court, as well as off, during the

13-day, five-game trip of a lifetime.

Most important, the trip enabled team members to get to know one another and, as the year unfolded, this chemistry was readily apparent to anyone who saw the Saints play. "I think people enjoyed watching this team play so much because they saw how hard these kids worked and they saw how unselfish they were on the basketball court," McCaffery said. The Siena team had another quality that fans readily identified with — character. In a time when student-athletes are often making news for the poor judgment they display, the Saints captured the nation's attention with heartwarming stories and a genuine awareness of their true purpose at the College and their subsequent roles in the community. The Saints embodied Siena's mission, and in so doing, admirably represented the College. The fact they did so while achieving extraordinary heights on the court proves winning the right way is not only possible, but rather the expectation at the smallest school in this year's NCAA field. Once considered an "NCAA Cinderella," Siena showed this year that it could compete with any team in the country throughout the season and defeat it when situation mattered most. Armed with their

highest tournament seed (#9) after the program's first-ever back-to-back MAAC Championships, the Saints topped Ohio State in a double-overtime thriller in Dayton, Ohio, for their school record 27th win of the season and program's fourth win in the NCAA tournament. Two days later they pressed top seed Louisville to the limit before succumbing in the final moments. It wasn't the first time the program has advanced to the second round and beyond, but this run seemed to catch everyone's attention. "They've got terrific talent," Louisville Head Coach Rick Pitino said. "And the good thing for Siena is that most of these guys are coming back again. Siena has now joined the ranks of Xavier and Gonzaga in terms of the types of players they're getting and the types of teams they have. They can go into the Big East right now and be in the middle of the pack and hold their own with any of us." And if not the Big East, Siena has faith that the Saints will be holding their own wherever their lives lead them.





Wendy Pojmann, Ph.D., assistant professor of history, presented her research on migrant women March 31- April 2 at a public international conference in Italy. The conference proceedings, hosted by Loyola University Chicago and the Center for American Studies in Rome, were held at Casa Internazionale delle Donne (International Women's Center) and the Center for American Studies in Rome. One of the highlights was a presentation and discussion by Egyptian writer and women's rights activist Nawal El-Saadawi and Italian Senate Vice President Emma Bonino. Pojmann, who has been a faculty member at Siena since 2005, received her Ph.D. in history from Boston College and a bachelor's degree in history from Loyola University Chicago. She is the editor of the collection *Migration and Activism in Europe since 1945* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008). Lori Marso, professor of political science at Union College, calls the book a "must-read for anyone hoping to understand the issues facing immigrant communities in Europe."



Allan Weatherwax, Ph.D., professor of physics, has been appointed to the Polar Research Board of the National Academies. Established in 1958, the Board exists to promote excellence in polar science and to provide independent scientific guidance to federal agencies and the nation on science issues in the Arctic, the Antarctic, and cold regions in general. Polar science includes the study of sea ice and polar ice sheets, the structure and movement of high-latitude oceans and the interactions between air, sea, ice and the plant and animals that live in the coldest regions of the world.

Weatherwax has conducted geophysical research in Antarctica and the Arctic region since the 1990s, and he has served as principal investigator or co-investigator under numerous National Science Foundation and NASA grants. Currently, he directs optical, radio and magnetic experiments in Antarctica, Canada and Greenland. He also is co-director of the satellite mission Firefly that will explore the mysteries of gamma rays produced by lightning discharges. The Weatherwax Glacier in Antarctica is named in his honor to recognize his research efforts in the Antarctic. Weatherwax holds a Ph.D. in physics from Dartmouth College.



Major Matthew Chambers, ROTC instructor at Siena, has been honored with the Colonel Leo A. Codd Memorial Award for being one of the most outstanding ROTC instructors in the country. The annual award is presented to nine ROTC instructors selected from more than 1,500 instructors serving at 400 Air Force, Army and Navy ROTC training detachments nationwide. The award recognizes excellence in leadership, mentorship and teaching efforts. Each recipient is selected from junior officers (not above the rank of major/lieutenant commander) who are instructors in the ROTC program across the country. Chambers was nominated by cadets in the Mohawk Battalion. "Major Chambers has been an icon, a mentor and a friend who has provided me the guidance, motivation and technical skills to become an

excellent army officer and leader," said Charles Waters '12. The award is in memory of the late Colonel Leo A. Codd, who devoted his life to the principle that the "the best guarantee of peace is a strong United States." Codd, a ROTC graduate, was a strong lifelong supporter of the ROTC program.

Mahmood Karimi-Hakak, professor of creative arts, has been granted a Fulbright fellowship to work in residence at the University of Tel Aviv for the academic year 2009-10. Only two Fulbright positions are available in Israel annually. Karimi-Hakak was one of five finalists recommended by the American Fulbright Commission. The final selection was made by the United States-Israel Education Foundation. Karimi-Hakak will be working at the Center for Iranian Studies at the University of Tel Aviv, where he will be teaching and directing in the theatre department.



# Cutler Tapped as Expert by Congress and the Obama Administration

Since his book was published last September, the expertise of Len Cutler, Ph.D., professor of political science and pre-law advisor, has been sought after by the U.S. Congress and the new administration.

Cutler, whose book is titled *Developments in the National Security Policy of the United States Since 9/11*, was asked to testify to the Subcommittee on the Constitution Senate Judiciary Committee, chaired by Senator Russ Feingold (D-Wisconsin), on “restoring the rule of law” in the presidency. Cutler has now been tapped as an expert by the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Legal Counsel to comment on issues facing the new administration, including torture, rendition and the closure of Guantanamo Bay.

In his testimony to Feingold’s committee, Cutler recommended moving away from the Bush administration’s views on national security and the role of the executive branch. “After the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Bush administration viewed national security law and policy to be the exclusive province of the executive branch of

government,” said Cutler. He went on to say that Congress has failed to demonstrate a leadership role on issues of terrorism.

Cutler also took exception to the Military Commissions Act of 2006, which he said has removed a vital check against the executive branch, allowing people to be detained by the United States indefinitely without charges, and it may have made laws against torture unenforceable.

“It is essential that Congress step up and develop a sound legal framework and process that addresses these concerns. It is essential that, at a minimum, Congress and President Obama revisit the controversial and hastily enacted and flawed FISA Amendments Act of 2008, as well as the 10 principal deficiencies that exist in the Military Commissions Act of 2006,” said Cutler.

Much of Cutler’s discussions with the Department of Justice have

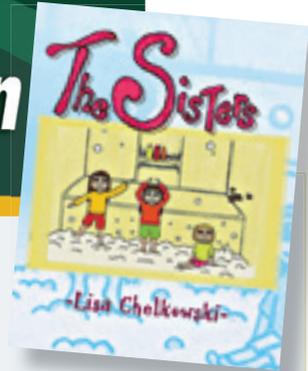
focused on rendition, which he said the Obama administration is leaning toward approving, but he hopes it will not be allowed. Rendition allows the United States to send captured terrorist suspects to other countries for interrogation and allows these countries to use interrogation techniques not allowed under U.S. law. He also said that the Military Commissions Act could work, if it is properly amended. If the law is eliminated entirely, then the terrorist suspects will be placed in the U.S. criminal court system, which is not an attractive alternative, said Cutler.

Decisions on these topics have not been made yet by the Obama administration, likely due to a current focus on the economic crisis. What is known is that Cutler’s expertise has been recognized in the highest levels of U.S. government and his voice has been heard.





## alumni connection



### Alum Takes Show to Broadway and E! Television

By Christine Maccarone '10

Frank D'Agostino '81 is the mastermind behind the popular Broadway musical, "Cold as Ice." D'Agostino, who graduated from Siena with a bachelor's degree in marketing and management, was one of the first students at Siena College to earn a minor in theatre. Today he is living his dream.

"Siena instilled confidence in me to pursue my passions and, as a result, I have been able to combine my business knowledge that I learned at Siena with my artistic endeavors," he said. "It is, after all, called show business."

The musical, written and composed by D'Agostino, centers around the lives, challenges, difficulties, accomplishments and pressures of six national ice skaters, including Oksana Baiul (Maya), the 1994 Olympic gold medalist from the Ukraine.

The play has earned rave reviews. "The music and lyrics by Frank D'Agostino are pleasant and melodious, which is more than can be said about some of the current crop of Broadway productions," said Roy Bradbrook of *Entertainment in the Hamptons*.

D'Agostino is a former competitive figure skater and coach, so the old adage "write what you know about" applied to his musical, performed on a stage of ice.

Due to the popularity of the show, D'Agostino, along with Baiul, will be piloting a new reality show for E! television, which follows the performers as they rehearse and create the show.

"Siena taught me to follow my dreams and my journey of writing and producing for the last 20 years has been magical," D'Agostino added. A song from his show best sums up his life experiences: "All my life I dreamed of this and now the moment is here."

Lisa Chelkowski '02, one of six siblings who are all linked to Siena College as past, current or future students, was inspired by her family to write a book titled *The Sisters*. The book chronicles the adventures of sisters Lena, Tina and Lucy who are best friends. They enjoy playing with dolls, running around outside and pretending to be grownups. Like all sisters and friends, they have their disagreements and get in trouble when their parents disagree with their creative thinking. This is Chelkowski's first book. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in English at Siena.



Above: Frank D'Agostino '81 with 1994 Olympic Gold Medalist Figure Skater Oksana Baiul on the red carpet prior to the opening of their Broadway musical "Cold as Ice."

### Krill-Hondros Hosts President's Reception

Last December, Margaret Krill Hondros '82 and her husband Paul (board chairman, St. Joseph's, Pennsylvania) hosted a "Welcome the President" reception at their home in Villanova, Penn. Following the reception, all attended the Siena vs. St. Joseph's men's basketball game at the Palestra in Philadelphia, where Siena rallied in the second half to win a thrilling game at the buzzer, 75-74. All of the above wore smiles (including Paul ... thanks for being a good sport!) in the arena following Siena's victory.



(left to right) Helen Krill, Stephen Krill '57, Fr. Kevin, Margaret and Paul

# Create Your Legacy with a Gift of Real Estate

Many donors have utilized their real estate to create a legacy at Siena College.

Here are three ways to do this.

Please note that names have been change in order to preserve confidentiality.



## 1. Make a gift ... retain the use of the property.

“Mary,” a friend of the College, owned a residence and wanted to make a gift to Siena in order to endow a scholarship in her late husband’s name. After discussions with her financial advisor and the planned giving staff at Siena, she transferred the residence to the College and retained the right to live in the house for the rest of her life. She directed the College to sell the property upon her death and use the proceeds to endow a scholarship in her late husband’s name. In addition to creating this legacy, Mary received a large income tax deduction in the year of the gift, the real estate was removed from her estate and her children will not have to worry about administering the real estate.

## 2. Make a gift ... create a stream of income.

“John” owned a piece of rental real estate which he had considered selling. He was interested in making a gift to Siena College, but also wanted to supplement his retirement income from the proceeds of the sale. The real estate, which had been purchased for \$50,000, was appraised for \$250,000. If he sold the property, he would have to pay capital gains taxes of \$30,000. After consulting with his financial advisors, he placed the real estate into a charitable remainder trust, which allowed him to sell the property tax-free. As a result, John was able to earn income from the entire asset placed in the trust. John set a trust payout rate of 6% and enjoys a fixed annual income of \$15,000 a year for the rest of his and his wife’s lives. Upon their deaths, the trustee will distribute the balance on hand in the trust to Siena College.

## 3. Outright gift.

“Alfredo” wanted to make a large gift to the College, but wasn’t interested in making a gift of this size during his lifetime. As a result, he made a provision in his will leaving the real estate to Siena College. Shortly after his death, the real estate was transferred to the College, sold by the College and the proceeds were used to create an endowed scholarship in his name for future generations of students attending Siena College. The real estate was not subject to an estate tax and his family did not have to worry about caring for and selling the real estate.

If you would like to explore how you might create a legacy at Siena College by using real estate or some other asset, please contact Jack Sise '75, Esq., director of planned giving at 518-783-2432 or [jsise@siena.edu](mailto:jsise@siena.edu).

## class notes

Janice Goca, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations and Victoria Abdulla '07

Please submit all of your Class Notes information to your Class Coordinator, or if there is no coordinator listed for your class, please send all information to [alumni@siena.edu](mailto:alumni@siena.edu) for posting in the magazine.

## 1959

Frank Martin  
[ftmartin@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ftmartin@nycap.rr.com)

## 1962

Ken Deitcher  
[dukaytravel@att.net](mailto:dukaytravel@att.net)

## 1965

Jack Mulvey, Jr.  
[jkmulvey@netscape.com](mailto:jkmulvey@netscape.com)

## 1967

Rick Spataro  
[rspataro001@twcny.rr.com](mailto:rspataro001@twcny.rr.com)  
61 State Street  
Malone, NY 12953  
518-483-3566

## 1968

Bill McGoldrick  
[bmcgoldrick@wash-mcg.com](mailto:bmcgoldrick@wash-mcg.com)

## 1972

Jack Callahan  
[Jackcallahan33@gmail.com](mailto:Jackcallahan33@gmail.com)

Dear fellow classmates of 1972: I really do not know where the time has gone! I guess we've just been working, raising our families, getting kids through school, paying for college, and maybe even paying for weddings. Did I mention working? I know extra time has not been a commodity that has been in great supply for any of us. Yet, please take a moment to send in an update about yourself and what has been going on for the past 37 years since we were at Siena. I have lived in Florida for the last 22 years, and have not been back to Siena often—but when the men's basketball team came down for last year's NCAA tournament, it was wonderful to see

old friends, and meet new friends from Siena.

Please drop me a line. It would be good to hear from people, and I'll try to coordinate the news.

## 1973

Brian Valentine  
202-586-9741  
[bgvalentine@verizon.net](mailto:bgvalentine@verizon.net)

## 1974

**Bob Bainbridge** was inducted into the "Hall of Fame" at Immaculate Conception High School (ICHS) in Montclair, N.J. Bainbridge has served on the Board of Trustees of ICHS for the past nine years. Inclusion in the "Hall of Fame" shows excellence in athletics; professional life; service as a Christian model of piety, charity and selflessness; dedication to charity and selflessness; or continued commitment to ICHS.

## 1975

Janet Gutowski Hall  
[janet.hall@wku.edu](mailto:janet.hall@wku.edu)

## 1977

Linda Fitzsimmons  
[lfitzsimmons@hvc.rr.com](mailto:lfitzsimmons@hvc.rr.com)

## 1978

**Michael Finnegan** recently graduated from the U.S. Army's Basic Officer Leader Course II at Fort Benning, Ga. After graduating from Siena, Finnegan had attempted to serve in active duty several times, but his attempts never came to fruition. After retiring from his job as an investment banker at J.P. Morgan in April of 2008, Finnegan asked to be recommissioned into the Army. His request

was approved, and a year later, Finnegan already has plans to take the Basic Officer Leader Course III in Fort Jackson, S.C.

## 1979

Sue Reilly/  
Hayes  
[CLIFTON522@aol.com](mailto:CLIFTON522@aol.com)  
522 Chili-Riga Town Line Road  
Churchville, NY 14428  
585-889-2072



The last column triggered an e-mail update from **Michele Williams/Brennan**, volunteering to join the Reunion committee. She currently resides in Gansevoort, N.Y. (just north of Saratoga Springs) with her husband, Dave, and two sons. David III is 22, and attends Adirondack Community College. Stephen is a first year student at Hudson Valley Community College, and just made their 2009 Vikings baseball team. Michelle works for The Martin Law Firm in Troy and is looking forward to reconnecting with other '79ers at the Reunion.

Three cheers for **Kerry and Patty Fitzgibbons/Guthrie's** younger daughter Erin, who is a junior goalkeeper for the Rutgers soccer team and was named second team All-American this year. Rutgers made it to the Sweet 16, losing to Stanford 1-0 in the last five minutes. "She must get her athletic skills from Patty!" quipped Kerry.

**Karen Ciervo/Heidenstrom** wrote to pass along some exciting news that I'll let her report in her own words: "Mary T. may not want the press, but I am excited to report that our own **Mary Thurber** was sworn in as Judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey on February 24th! Over 35 Superior Court judges and at least four state senators attended with over 100 family and friends. Mary has made quite an impression in her field.

We are all so proud of her, and she is still as humble and as sweet as ever. We wish her great wisdom and success!" Karen reports that she, **Dolores Ryan/Babcock**, **Pat Brennan/Jensen**, and **Mary Jane Henesy/Brosnan** shared the big day with Mary, and had a great time visiting with each other and Mary's family. Also there in spirit were **Connie Cahill/Sise**, unable to attend at the last minute, and Mary's college roomie **Lorrie Scardino**, who sent her congratulations from sunny St. Barts, where she spends the month of February. Karen and her friends are also planning their annual spring get-together, with **Beth Esser/Fargnoli '80** getting the ball rolling.

**Dave Smith** sent an e-mail to classmates reporting on Reunion plans and our goal to make 1979 the first class to have 30 President's Circle donors (\$1,000+) in honor of our 30th Reunion. One response he received was from **Colonel Kevin McAleese**, deployed to Stuttgart, Germany for 10 months with the U.S. Army in Civil Affairs. Kevin shares, "In my role as Humanitarian Assistance Officer, I work with third world countries in Europe that have U.S. interest and assist in relief projects. It is very rewarding work that all started 30 years ago in the ROTC hut at Siena—amazing! I will soon travel to Albania and Croatia for these efforts. Interestingly, my boss is a Siena grad, **Michael Anderson '78**, who has lived in Germany for 19 years. His e-mail continues, "So ... add me to the list for the President's Circle. Since the economy is so bad, it makes it even more important to support the mission of Siena. Your first instinct is to 'pull back' ... but, in reflection, you have to evaluate what is important in your life and what values are worth sustaining and supporting. Siena is very high on that list. The greatest years of my life were at Siena and it is a small price to pay to ensure the

## LONG ISLAND BOOK CLUB



next generation reaps the rewards of these traditions.” Dave was inspired by Kevin’s response (President’s Circle donors are now at 21 and counting at press time), but said that Kevin just had to leave him with one parting shot, “I’ll be thinking of all of you on Reunion weekend; but I hate to rub it in—our beer is better than yours!”

Dave reports that a highlight of our 30th reunion celebration will be the Saturday night reception at 33 Fiddlers Lane, an elegant home recently acquired by the College. The property features beautiful interior (yes, air conditioning!) and exterior settings for a perfect June party. I’m looking forward to catching up with as many of you as possible there.

I’d like to send a special shout-out to my 3W wing mates **Anne McKenna/Collins** and **Patty Beam/Smith** (whose son, Michael may be in Siena’s class of ’13)—it was so much fun to see you at the 25th Reunion that I hope you’re planning on coming again this year—and **Lisa Calvelli/Meyer**—please consider a trip up north for the occasion.

### 1980

**Diane DeSilva**  
desidian@shenet.org

Diane has offered to be the class of ’80 News and Notes Coordinator—thank you, Diane! Please send your updates to Diane at the above e-mail address.

**James Hartle** was appointed as Chairman of the Board at the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County. Before becoming Chairman, Hartle served on the Chamber Board for five years. The Chamber is made up of approximately 900 area members.

### 1981

**Ellen Fogarty** was recently inaugurated as the first woman to serve on the Watervliet City Council. Fogarty was first appointed to the Council after Michael Manning vacated his seat to become mayor last year. She was interviewed for the position, and was chosen for her longstanding career in the banking industry and for her impassioned community involvement. In the November 2008 election, Fogarty ran unopposed to regain her position.

### 1982

**Bob Young**  
RYoung60@aol.com

### 1983

**Elvira Altimari-Jaeger**  
60 Wyatt Road  
Garden City, NY 11530  
eaj6@optonline.net

Hello, fellow classmates. I have a few announcements to make. After many years as a partner in a local accounting firm, **Tom Lindgren** has started his own practice in Kingston, N.Y. Thomas F. Lindgren, C.P.A. was founded in January 2009. Congratulations Tom, and good luck in your new endeavor.

We would like to send out a welcome to Siena’s class of 2013—especially Sarah Higgins, daughter of **Jackie Klepper-Higgins** and husband Bob.

In order to have an excuse to get together several times a year, a group of Long Island Siena alumni started a book club. The latest selection was *The Book of Mychal* by Michael Daily, about Fr. Mychal

Judge—a Franciscan who was the NYC Fire Chaplain and died on 9/11/01.

I have been asked to do a few shout-outs. Where are you and what have you been up to: **Dan Falvo, Katy Sturgis, and John Benes?** Your classmates are inquiring about you. Send an e-mail and let us know! If you have someone you would like to send a shout-out to, e-mail me, I will be glad to oblige.

On a sad note, it has come to my attention that **Michael Salinetti**, a member of the Class of 1983, passed away in April 2001. It was never reported in the Alumni News. I know I speak for many of my classmates when I say, “Mike, your infectious smile will be missed.”

### 1984

**Lisa San Fratello/McCutcheon**  
305 The Parkway  
Ithaca, NY 14853  
mcllisa@yahoo.com

Congratulations to **Matt Downey** who was recently appointed the director of audit and quality assurance at the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC).

### 1985

**Catherine & Ron Bjorklund**  
bjork90@comcast.net  
14 Stevens Lane  
Tabernacle, NJ 08088-9744

### 1986

**John J. Bellardini** and his team at JC Jones & Associates, LLC, has recently received national recognition from the Turnaround Man-

agement Association. The Pittsford firm received the Small Company Turnaround Award for their work at Michelman-Cancelliere Iron Works, Inc., a steel fabrication, construction and engineering firm in Bath, Pa. Bellardini and his associates worked with Michelman-Cancelliere to identify and correct damaging problems within the corporation. Bellardini and the rest of JC Jones & Associates will be honored at an October 28th luncheon at Turnaround Management Association’s 20th Annual Convention in New Orleans.

### 1987

**Gerry McAndrew**  
Geraldine.m.candrew@comcast.net

### 1988

**Paula Cacossa**  
Pc888@comcast.net

### 1989

**Mike Carbonaro**  
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3140 10th Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18020  
610-737-1147



By the time you read these words, it will be spring. Congratulations to the Steeler Nation on another Superbowl win. A couple news items from the class, then an update about our Reunion.

**Diane Muratore/Testa** wrote to report that she had her first baby, Thérèse Michele, on Valentine’s Day 2008. Diane works as a tenured professor at Western New England College. Congratulations to Diane and her family.

**Diana Porter/Popiel** was chosen by the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) as Analyst of the Year in 2008. She was recognized for her excellence, dedication and determination in combating insurance fraud for the betterment of the insurance industry and the public. She is currently working as a fraud analyst in the insurance industry.

The big news is the 20th Reunion, scheduled for June 5-6, 2009. Our 20th Reunion Weekend details will be sent to you as we get closer to June to ensure you receive all the updates. Please update your e-mail address with the Alumni Office. Activities include a golf outing on Friday, followed by a Welcome Back party at Dapp’s. Saturday will

include the President's Champagne Brunch with Distinguished Alumni Awards, the Family Picnic featuring a DJ followed by Raisin' Cain and The Throwbacks, the Alumni Memorial Mass, and the Class Party that evening. Our Reunion weekend Website can be found on Siena's Website. Visit it today to review the plans, and if you have time, please join the committee to help plan the festivities. The Reunion committee has set a goal of \$25,000 with 20% participation for our class gift. Your Class of '89 Reunion Committee members are **Emmet Finnerty**, **Greg "Stewy" Stewart**, **Michael Lia**, **Patty Zicari/Doht**, **Chris O'Grady**, **Lee Fraser**, **Peter Iwanowicz**, **Patty Ashe/Nashelsky**, and **Danielle Russell/Casamassina**. See you all in June!

## 1990

**Janet Shotter/Swierbut**  
jswierbut@yahoo.com

Hello Class of '90! It has been quite a while since we've had updates to our Class Notes section, so I've volunteered to coordinate our column. If you have not had a chance to join the 24/7 Facebook Reunion—what are you waiting for? It's a great way to stay in touch with old friends and colleagues. There are many Siena alumni who I've reconnected with recently, so join the fun. The best part is all the old photos people can post from your glory days. Check out my 80's hair and dress with giant green bow that I wore to Siena's senior dance—lovely.

I live in Newtown, Conn. with my husband, Bob, and three children, and we love it here. It's like a town frozen in time, with a \$2 movie theater on Main St., and a dairy farm down the road that sells fresh ice cream. I have an 8 year old daughter, Carly, and two sons. William is almost 7 and Andrew just turned 4. I was a marketing director at McGraw-Hill for many years, and now work part-time out of my home as a freelance marketer. I am always looking for more clients and project work, so let me know if I can ever help.

**Michele Ferris/Hoffmann** lives in Utah with her husband, Paul, and is a busy mom to Ryan, who is 6 1/2. They live the outdoor life—snow mobiling, skiing, and taking trips all over the West and Northeast—but I know they would love to move back to the Lake George area. Michele works part-time as a

project manager for Novell.

**Caroline** and **Greg Miller** live in Rochester, N.Y. with their three children, Ryan, 11, Sean, 9, and Megan, 7. Aside from the usual, they keep busy maintaining "The Miller X-Games" at their house—with an ice rink in the backyard, and snowboarding 'snow mountain' in front! Caroline is also an active volunteer and sub at her children's school. Greg, a CPA, was made partner in his firm a few years ago. Two years ago, he was a recipient of the "40 Under 40" award in Rochester, which honors those under 40 who have made significant contributions in the business sector, as well as in their community. We always knew that this couple would get it right!

I'm sure there are lots of exciting life events that you'd love to share with our class, so please send them to me. You can reach me through e-mail at jswierbut@yahoo.com, or drop me a line through Facebook. May these next few months be happy ones for everyone.

## 1991

**Kevin Clarke**  
Siena91@optonline.net

Hello Class of 1991!

Congratulations to **Melissa Coccozza/Faiola** and her husband, Lou, who are thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Nicholas. He arrived on September 4, 2008 and joins big sister, Isabella. Melissa and Lou are living in Connecticut and having a great time.

Congratulations also go to **Tim Sullivan** and his wife, Karen, who are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Abigail Glen. She arrived in November, and her big sister, Molly, is very excited to have a little sister. Tim and Karen are living in N.H., and enjoying their family, the outdoors and skiing.

This is a big year for most of us—the big 40! We have shared many things together over the years—so let's see what everyone did or has planned for this milestone. A trip, a party, a night out with friends, or dinner home with loved ones—how did you do it?

Send me your notes, or just drop me a line to catch up—nothing is too small to mention!

## 1992

**Mary Pat McLoughlin/Holler**  
jmpholler@optonline.net

## 1992

**Susan Hannon**  
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Riverdale, NY 10471  
917-796-2085

## 1994

**Glenn Hofsess**  
gh@endcap.com  
83 Kellogg Street  
Brookfield, CT 06804

## 1995

**Neil Wilcove**  
nwilcove@fmgllaw.com  
Freeman Mathis & Gary, LLP  
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Atlanta, GA 30339  
770-818-1430

**Julie Bollenbacher/Reilly** and her husband, Patrick, along with big sister Claire, welcomed Paige Caroline Reilly on November 13, 2008.

**Julie Harrington/Anderson** just celebrated her tenth anniversary working as a physician's assistant for Elizabethtown Community Hospital. She and her husband Tom have four beautiful children, Connor Stewart, who was born on September 24, 1999, Sarah Patricia, who was born on September 28, 2001, Erica Rose, who was born on December 29, 2004 and Anna Kathryn, who was born on December 10, 2006.

**Bill O'Keefe** and his wife, Autumn, welcomed their second child, a beautiful girl named Siena Marie O'Keefe, on December 6, 2008. Siena joins big brother, Owen, who is very proud to be a big brother. Awesome name! Well done, Bill!

**Megan McCarthy/Foy** and her husband, Jeff, are thrilled to announce the birth of their first child, Kaelyn Anne. She was born on October 27, 2008.

**Jennifer Ferone/VanDenburgh** and her husband, John '92, announced the birth of their daughter, Riley Elizabeth, on September 9, 2008. She joins big brother, Luke, age three.

## 1996

**Brian Murray**  
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bmurray@betterbackschiropractic.com  
614-270-6003

## NEWSMAKER



**John Bellardini '86**  
Recipient of the Small  
Company Turnaround  
Award

## 1997

**Selena Dutcher**  
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518-265-2127

The birds are chirping, the Yankees are playing, and I'm checking Facebook! Does that update work for everyone? Well for me it's the "busy season." Radio seems to "pick up" as the weather breaks. For those of you who don't know—I plan WGNA's Countryfest—the largest one-day concert event in the Northeast, for 30,000 people! It has become my "baby" of sorts—and I work on it from October to July. That's my update. Here are some that you sent in.

**Brooke Levandowski** finished her Ph.D. in epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in May 2008. She is currently employed at Ipas—a small not-for-profit, working on women's health issues in Africa.

**Jeena Akkara/Madden**, her husband Sean, and big brother Jake welcomed Rosie Maria in August 2008.

**Marybeth Miner/Finerty** and her husband, Keith, welcomed Ella Katherine in September 2008!

**Linda Dirmeir/Magliaro** and her husband, Luigi, welcomed Massimo (Max) Luigi into the world on September 27, 2008. He joins his big sister Sarah who loves him to pieces.

**Tara Wright/Baker** and her husband, Hamilton, celebrated the first birthday of their daughter, Ellen Gail, in October 2008.

**Kimberly Cullen/Cappelleri** and her husband Frank welcomed Jack Elwood Cappelleri into the world on February 9th. All three are doing well ... congratulations!

**Steve Tobin** (Yankee Trails), and his wife, Angela, gave birth to a healthy baby boy, Mark Joseph Tobin, on Tuesday, November 4th at Albany Medical Center. The baby weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz.

Now, with more ways than ever, you can contact me with your updates. I want to hear from you—babies, weddings, job promotions—anything! Stay connected, and keep others connected with your updates.

Remember, to make a submission for the newsletter, please contact me by e-mail at [selena.dutcher@regentcomm.com](mailto:selena.dutcher@regentcomm.com) or [bronx\\_bombers25@yahoo.com](mailto:bronx_bombers25@yahoo.com). You can also look me up on Facebook. If you want to touch base, and chat for a while, give me a call at 518-265-2127. I look forward to hearing from you!

## 1998

**Janine Trapp/Scotti, MBA**  
201-294-0395  
[sienasaints98@yahoo.com](mailto:sienasaints98@yahoo.com)

Greetings, Class of 1998!

I don't know about the rest of you, but I am VERY ready for Spring to arrive and for all of this snow to finally melt. Hopefully by the time this issue reaches you spring will be in the air.

I have a couple of more exciting updates to report this issue: **Laura Cardea/Cowan** was married to Daniel Alexander Cowan II on June 7, 2008, at the Beardsley Zoo in Conn. Laura also sent me a photo from the festivities; I submitted it to be published in this issue, so please look for it in the photo section.

The New Year brought good news from **Julie Brennan**. In January, she accepted the position of vice president of admissions and program marketing for Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth, a state-wide, private, non-profit child welfare agency. Julie was very kind to credit the education and experiences she received at Siena, specifically the social work department, to her career/life accomplishments.

Lastly, I wanted to personally reach out to **Lenore** and **Rachael** ... you know who you are! My voicemail suspiciously cut out before I could get your phone numbers, and it appears the Alumni Office doesn't have your updated info on file, so I have been unable to reach you. Please reach out to me again.

I'd like to urge each of you to keep Siena updated with your most

recent address, phone number, and e-mail address. It's easy—simply send it to [alumni@siena.edu](mailto:alumni@siena.edu) or update it yourself on the alumni Website using your alumni log-in information. For questions or assistance, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 518-783-2430.

Please keep the updates coming, Class of '98. I enjoy hearing from each of you, and would love to share your accomplishments with our fellow classmates.

## 1999

**Brendan Fitzgerald**  
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[fitzgeb@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:fitzgeb@assembly.state.ny.us)  
518-258-9272

**Greg Sack** married Jennifer Salomon on April 19, 2008. They traveled to China for their honeymoon and visited five cities. Greg started his own company called Bongo International [www.BongoUS.com](http://www.BongoUS.com) and is doing very well.

## 2000

**Shaymus R. Schweitzer**  
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Troy, NY 12180  
518-727-3392

I hope by the time you read this, we are finally enjoying some nice "outdoors" weather. Moving on to your news: checking in was **Brian Cunniff**, who sent us a photo of his wedding celebration. Brian married Caroline Ryan on October 28, 2006. The happy couple lives in Long Branch, N.J., and are the proud parents of a seven-month-old daughter named Elena. Brian works for C&A Financial Group and Caroline is a registered nurse at Monmouth Medical Center. She is currently studying for her master's degree to become a nurse practitioner.

**Christopher Freeman** (son of Siena Class of 1976 Alumnus Aloysius Freeman and Mary Cahill/Freeman) married Adi Abramovici '02 in Lake Placid, N.Y. on June 6, 2008. Best wishes to you both!

Anastazia Feodosia was born to Susan Opar-Valachovic (2000) and her husband Edward Valachovic on December 15, 2008. Susan is a family physician in Tacoma, Wash., serving in the U.S. Army. Her husband is a statistician working for the state of Washington.

Keep the stories coming. The rest of your classmates will appreciate reading about you. Even if you just have a funny story, drop me a line—I'll put it in. (If not, I'll have to start using Facebook and MySpace as a source for Class Notes updates! You wouldn't want that, would you?)

## 2001

**Maura Mack**  
[sienanotes01@gmail.com](mailto:sienanotes01@gmail.com)

Congratulations to **Meg Alessio/Duquette**, who recently began a new job as an associate at Cohen Kinne Valicenti & Cook LLP. Meg's practice focuses on corporate law and business transactions.

**Jessica Zaborowski** recently opened Camp Stanley for the Performing Arts, an overnight creative arts summer camp located in beautiful Smithfield, Maine. Camp Stanley's total theatre model encourages 8-17 year old campers to grow into their creative capacity in a gorgeous and green space. Check out CS at [www.mycampstanley.com](http://www.mycampstanley.com) for more information. Best of luck with this exciting endeavor, Jessica!

Happy to report on some recent nuptials: **Stephanie Slivanik** married Mario Payssé in Miami, Fla. on November 15, 2008. The couple reside in Coconut Grove, and Siena alumni in attendance included: **Maureen Terry, Janine Anderalli, Kara Travers, Jennifer Strang, Erin Hallinan, Nicole Walker-Slivanik '97** and **Greg Slivanik '97**, and **Kate Ferguson**. See photo. Also, **Todd Sabatino** and **Carolyn Hickey '00** tied the knot on October 12, 2008, in Virginia. Siena guests in attendance included: **Brian Galvin, Andre Gordon, Bill Hisgen, Brian Chapin '00, Kelly Boyer/Chapin '00, Mora Hazlett-O'Neill '00, Daniella Valente/Redgrave '00**, and **Suzanne Turchetti '00**. See photo.

**Jen (Quinn) and Joe DeMarco** were married on June 28, 2008, at Our Lady of Grace in Hoboken, N.J., and hosted their reception at the Hyatt Regency on the Hudson River in Jersey City, N.J. After a two week honeymoon to the Greek Islands, they reside in Hoboken, N.J. Jen is an executive assistant at Atticus Capital and Joe is an associate at Highbridge Capital Management—both in Manhattan. See photo. Best wishes to you all.

Proud parents **Mara Gallagher/Bouyea** and her husband, Jeff Bouyea, welcomed a little boy,

Thomas Edward Bouyea, on July 15, 2008.

Classmates **Kate Sweeney/Chapman** and **Rob Chapman**, also welcomed a beautiful baby boy, Robert Joseph, "RJ," on January 8, 2009.

## 2002

**Christine Cinnamond**  
[christine.cinnamond@gmail.com](mailto:christine.cinnamond@gmail.com)  
646-942-0970

Congratulations to **Marisa Leary/Hungershafer!** Marisa was a dedicated student at Siena, and is now dedicated to her students. As a special education teacher at Marie Curie Elementary School in Amsterdam, N.Y., Marisa was a recipient of the 2008 Office Max "A Day Made Better" award. Annually, 1,300 elementary educators across the nation are awarded this honor, and over \$1,000 in supplies. Way to go, Marisa!

To learn more about this honor please see [www.adaymadebetter.com](http://www.adaymadebetter.com).

## 2003

**Gina Gizzi**  
[sienasaints\\_2003@hotmail.com](mailto:sienasaints_2003@hotmail.com)  
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Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
518-421-4316

**Rebecca Aney** and **Casey McCanta** were married on September 6, 2008 at St. Mary's Church in Ballston Spa, N.Y., followed by a reception at the Canfield Casino in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Due to Hurricane Hannah, it rained hard all day long. Luckily, they had a gorgeous honeymoon in Maui, Hawaii. A picture is included in this issue. From left to right—front row: **John Carter, Amanda Kelly/Engels, Rebecca Aney/McCanta** (bride), **Casey McCanta** (groom), **Vicki Dunham, Karleigh Twigg, Jon Antista**. Back Row: **Erin Barber/Lupe, Phil Lupe, Andrea Craparo, Greg Graves, Brian Reinke, Britt Davis, Joanne Kerins, Joe Bobacher, Steve Graziano, Mike Mangina, Jennifer Fahr** and **Kristin Shahay/Mootz**. Casey and Rebecca are now in the process of looking for a home in the Saratoga Springs area. On May 2, 2008, **Leigh Naughter** married **Chris Cannucciari '02** at our very own Siena College Chapel. They honeymooned in St. Lucia.

**Kathleen Ruggiero** contacted me with a lot of great updates. She

received her Master of Science in Education in May 2007 from Queens College and is currently completing her fifth year of teaching. She is certified in both childhood education and students with disabilities for grades 1-6 in New York State. She became engaged in November 2008 to a wonderful man named Daniel Lopez, whom she met while vacationing in Puerto Rico during the summer of 2007. Soon after, he followed her to Queens to be closer to her and his family in N.J.

## 2004



Jolleen Wagner  
jolleen\_wagner@yahoo.com

Class of 2004, did you know that it is our Reunion year?! We have been invited back to Siena to celebrate our five year reunion, reconnect with the green and gold, and catch up with one another. Will YOU be there? Whether we see you or not, please be sure to send updates regarding your accomplishments and successes, both personal and professional, so that we can all celebrate with you. You can send them to jolleen\_wagner@yahoo.com, and I will be sure to include them in the next issue of *Siena News*.

In the meantime, we do have a few congratulations in order for this issue. First, great job **Colin May!** May earned and was awarded a master of science degree in forensic studies from Stevenson University in Md. this past December 15. Also, congratulations **Maya Nanda** and **Purvin Peter Lapsiwala** who married in Charlotte, N.C. at the Hilton Charlotte University Place. May your lives together be blessed and joyful.

Congratulations to **Sarah Bardin/Lindsell** who has received CPA designation. Sarah is a senior associate in accounting, assurance and advisory services for the Certified Public Accounting Firm CMJ, LLP. Sarah joined the firm in 2003. A native of Glens Falls, N.Y., she currently resides with her family in Granville, N.Y.

## 2005

Breanne Suhrland  
bsuhrlan@att.net

Hello Class of 2005! I would like to first thank all of my fellow classmates for reaching out and starting off my first column with

a lot of great news to share. Since I spent many of my days at Siena studying in Roger Bacon Hall, many of you may not know me, so let me introduce myself. I am from Massapequa N.Y., and have been teaching high school biology for the last four years in the Oceanside School District in Long Island, N.Y. While teaching approximately 85 ninth graders every day has its moments, I thoroughly enjoy what I do. Recently, I received my master's degree from C.W. Post Long Island University in Earth Science Adolescent Education and am hoping to teach that some day as well.

Many of us have probably spent much of the winter months trying to stay warm. I remember those frigid days at Siena, walking across campus to class in piles and piles of snow, but I never expected to see such a winter down here in Long Island. Kudos to you Capital Region natives who have braved the cold all your lives. I'm ready for spring! With wedding season upon us, it brings an opportunity to share a number of engagements and wedding announcements.

We are extremely excited to announce the engagement of **Courtney McHale** and Captain **David Humphrey II, M.D.** last August 2008. Courtney and Dave met at Albany Medical College. Not only will Courtney graduate this May from Albany Med, but she and Dave will be married this summer, August 29, 2009, in Congers, N.Y. Wedding bells are ringing for another 2005 alum this year.

**Bridget Munn** and **Randall Kimball II '03** were engaged on October 24, 2008. They will be married on October 10, 2009.

**Philip Cafaro** and **Michelle Garipey** were also engaged recently, on January 24th in Albany, N.Y. They anticipate a September 2010 wedding. Four members of their bridal party are Siena graduates. Congratulations, best of luck and endless happiness in your marriage and career.

In other news, **Elizabeth Kirmss** was married to **James Keating** on November 1, 2008. Their wedding was held at the New Hyde Park Inn in Long Island, N.Y. They currently reside in Fishkill, N.Y. where Elizabeth is finishing her master's degree in school counseling.

**Cristina Sabia** married **John Luft** on June 1, 2008, at the Hall of Springs in Saratoga, N.Y. Guests from Siena included Kerry

Andolina '06, Kevin Pattamana '02, and **Kevin Grand-Jean**. A second reception was celebrated with Cristina's family in their native town of Ascea, Italy, on June 7th. Cristina is a Spanish teacher in the Greater Amsterdam School District. The couple resides in Clifton Park.

**Kristen Pero** and **Michael Devino, Jr.**, were married on November 15, 2008 in Burlington, Vt. Many of her guests and bridesmaids were Siena grads. **Kristen Scanlon '06**, **Gina DeMarco '06**, **Kerri Granger '06**, **Jennifer Stenman/Telesky '06**, and **Christa Fasano '06**. The couple now resides in Winsted, Conn., and Kristen works as the senior communications specialist at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

Moving away from weddings and engagements, we would like to feature one of our fellow classmates, who is making quite the impact on the greater Boston area. **Justin Fugo** is currently working on his master's in philosophy at Boston College. He started at BC last fall, and plans to graduate in May 2010. Along with his studies in philosophy, he works at BC through his assistantship in the Office of International Programs as an advising assistant. Justin works with students who are planning to study abroad, helping to provide them with general information, requirements for studying abroad, and direction on the location of where they would like to study. Overall, he is thoroughly enjoying his experience as a Bostonian.

**Jennifer Logigian** plans to spend the summer of 2009 riding her bicycle across central United States in an effort to raise money for affordable housing. Working with an organization called Bike and Build, she is striving to provide awareness, visibility and affordable funding for the housing crisis in America. This two-month trip will take her through 12 different states and include ten different "build sites" in which she and 29 other riders will physically be working on the homes that their fundraising money is subsidizing. You can donate to Bike and Build, and specify the rider in whose name you're donating, directly on their Website: [www.BikeandBuild.org](http://www.BikeandBuild.org).

Congratulations and best wishes to all who were featured in this edition. It is so great to hear from all of you, and share in the excitement of each others' lives. Please feel free to e-mail me with

## NEWSMAKER



Sarah Bardin Lindsell '04  
Received CPA  
designation

all types of news, big or small! It would be great to hear from everyone, so get the word out that the Class of '05 column is alive and well. With warmer days ahead, hopefully I'll be writing the next edition's column with sand between my toes. Thank you all again.

## 2006

Chris Elsesser  
[Christopher.elsesser@gmail.com](mailto:Christopher.elsesser@gmail.com)  
Ashley Boland  
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Happy New Year, fellow 2006ers! We hope this edition of *Siena News* finds you and your families in good health and in decent spirits. This quarter has been surprisingly quiet on the 2006 news and gossip line, which is something that Ashley and I have decided to blame on the American economy and blustery cold Northeast winter we have experienced. Despite having an e-mail inbox full of crickets, we do have a few things to share with you this issue.

We have two weddings that we are excited to announce this quarter. Our classmate, **Jill Comley**, married **Christopher Gandolfo '05** on June 21, 2008, on the Siena College campus. (I've said it once and I'll say it again, nothing beats a true Green and Gold wedding!) In other wedding news, **David Auringer** married his senior year sweetheart, **Noreen Wunderlich** on December 6, 2008. Many 2006ers were on hand to celebrate their special day. Congratulations to both newlywed couples! Please be sure to check out each couple's special Siena wedding photo in this issue.

We also had the chance this quarter to catch up with one of

the Class of 2006's most popular musical talents, **Christian Crescitielli**. Christian is currently working as an account executive for Nestle in Los Angeles, Calif., where he manages Nestle's product line of Buitoni Pasta and Tollhouse Cookie Dough. He is also responsible for a sales team of 13 people. This is his 4th different position with the company since graduation! Although he is a rising MVP in one of Siena's favorite companies, he still finds time to work on his music career, and is proud to report that he recently agreed to a record deal with Atlantic Records in Los Angeles. Christian would like to give a shout-out to the 'fellas' of TH 109 and his alumni soccer buddies. He also wanted to make sure that we said hello to his study abroad buddy, **Mike Coyle**. Good luck Christian! Please let us know when we can get your music on iTunes!

To steal a line from *The Boss*, Bruce Springsteen, we say to you: Class of 2006, "Is anyone alive out there?!" The spring is as good a time as ever to reach out to us, and let us know what you have been up to. If you have already contributed to our space a while ago, either send us a new update or urge a friend to share their news for the first time. Ashley and I would like to wish you the best for a terrific 2009, and look forward to talking with you soon. Go Saints!

## 2007

Sean Robbins  
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Loudonville, NY 12211  
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Michael Utzig  
mutzig@siena.edu

Hello, Class of 2007! With spring in full bloom, it's only a short time until summer approaches. While it might be exciting to plan ahead for the summer, it is good to take a moment to contemplate the special magic and promise of spring's renewal and the possibilities it brings us to realize our hopes and aspirations. It is equally exciting to see how much the Class of 2007 is accomplishing, nearly two years since graduation.

**Laura Darling** reports that she is currently in her second year at Albany Law School. Last summer she had the opportunity to work for Prisoner's Legal Services of Albany, and she has been accepted into Albany Law's

year-long clinical program, the Family Violence Litigation Clinic. This program provides *pro bono* legal help to victims of domestic violence. Laura also says she has been afforded the great opportunity to be sworn in to the limited practice of law and argue real cases. If these accomplishments were not incredible enough, Laura has also been able to restart the Albany Law student newspaper, and was recently named editor-in-chief. When Laura is not busy on campus or in the courtroom, she also spends her time volunteering with the members of her clinic at local high schools and women's shelters.

Another Class of 2007 alumnus, **Eric Jasuta**, reports that after receiving his master's in special education from Dowling College, he has moved back to the Capital Region. Currently, Eric teaches an academic skills class at the middle school in the Lansingburgh School District.

The above represents just a glimpse into the myriad of activities and accomplishments of Siena's Class of 2007. Let us know how you are doing. We look forward to hearing your story.

Until the next issue, Mike and I wish you continued joy and success, and we can hardly wait to talk with you again in the summer.

## 2008

Danielle Grasso  
Patrick Preston  
SienaCollege2008@gmail.com

Hey, everyone. We hope that everyone is doing well, and made it through our wonderful winter weather. It was really great to see everyone and catch up at the Siena game in December. We're hoping that we can get something together and do it again soon. If anyone has any ideas about that, contact us, and hopefully we can set something up. We haven't heard any news from people recently, so we're hoping that when you read this, you will update us with something. Remember—our e-mail address is SienaCollege2008@gmail.com.

As for the two of us, things are still going well at our jobs, and we're enjoying them. Pat has made his triumphant return to the Capital Region, and is enjoying his time living in Watervliet. I'm still enjoying life in the city. Stay warm and keep busy, everyone. Hope to hear from you guys soon!

## In Memory of:

Francis R. DeRossi '43  
Francis J. Harrington '43  
William Graham Bode, D.D.S. '46  
Orfeo Franzoin '49  
Donald Havern '49  
Col. William F. Herbert, USA (Ret.) '49  
Robert King '49  
Joseph M. LoGuidice '49  
Raymond J. Manny '49  
Colin O'Rourke '49  
Vincent F. Pennisi '49  
John Sherlock '49  
Robert H. Witthoft '49  
Richard J. Burda '51  
Nicholas M. Danza '51  
Thomas F. Downey '51  
Francis DuCharme '51  
Francis J. Hynes '51  
Walter F. Klee '51  
James "Harry" Meyer '51  
Ernest Passaretti, D.D.S. '51  
Edward Pigan '51  
John A. Ryan '51  
Anthony Sano '51  
Joseph A. Platania '52  
Charles H. Conley, Jr. '53  
Robert H. Feeney '53  
John Guarnier '53  
Joseph A. Goliber '54  
James F. Cavanaugh '55  
Jacob "Jack" Cohen '55  
Edward A. Marcil '57  
Arnold C. Peer '58  
Linda J. Sheldon '60  
Ann McMenamin '61  
Joseph Biviano '61  
William J. Boff '62  
Robert F. Matt '62  
Aniello Pepe '62  
Michael G. Sullivan '62  
James Clukey '63  
John F. Faraci '63  
Jack Burke '64  
Thomas J. Maguire '65  
Edward J. Coleman '68  
Joseph S. Gaba '67  
William Keon '68  
Jerry G. Smith '68  
Robert E. Finn '72  
William E. Lord '74  
E. Michael McLoughlin '76  
Brian G. Shafer '76  
Thomas F. Bennett III '77  
Patrick C. Poolet '79  
Paul J. Cote '80  
Michael Salinetti '83  
Janet Johnson Lucier '93  
Karen L. Shepard '97

# weddings



Shannon Woods '94 married Sherine Morgan on July 12, 2008.



Jen Quinn '01 married Joe DeMarco on June 28, 2008.



Erin McKnight '05 married Chris Daley '05 on June 14, 2008.



Brian Cunniff '00 married Caroline Ryan on October 28, 2006.



Anne Mastropietro '99 married Jeff Dorrance '93 on November 2, 2007.



Stephanie Slivanik '01 married Mario Paysse on November 15, 2008.



Jill Comley '06 married Christopher Gandolfo '05 on June 21, 2008.



Maya Nanda '04 married Purvin Peter Lapsiwala.



Rebecca Aney '03 married Casey McCanta '03 on September 6, 2008.



Leigh Naughter '03 married Chris Cannucciari '02 on May, 2, 2008.



Todd Sabatino '01 married Carolyn Hickey '00 on October 12, 2008.



Greg Sack '99 married Jennifer Salomon on April 19, 2008.



Noreen Wunderlich '06 married David Auringer '06 on December 6, 2008.



Laura Cardea '98 married Daniel Alexander Cowan II on June 7, 2008.

# Siena's Ultimate Family

By Jim Eaton

Congratulations to the Papa Family on earning the title The Ultimate Siena Family! In the last issue we asked our alumni to send us your Siena family tree. Thank you for the numerous submissions we received. It is obvious that our alumni have a lot of Siena pride! When we informed the alumni who responded to this contest we often heard, "Hey I went to Siena with a Papa."

Below is a list of our top five Siena families.  
Watch for our next contest in an upcoming issue!

1. Papa Family - 31 members attended. Graduates range from 1947 - 2013.
2. Litz Family - 18 members attended. Graduates range from 1950 - 2012.
3. Sgambati Family - 16 members attended. Graduates range from 1943 - 2007.
4. Bills Family - 13 family members attended. Graduates range from 1951- 2009.
5. Catalano Family - 11 members attended. Graduates range from 1944 - 2009.





# SIENACollege

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



**Reunion is June 5 and 6:  
Register online at [www.siena.edu/reunion](http://www.siena.edu/reunion).**