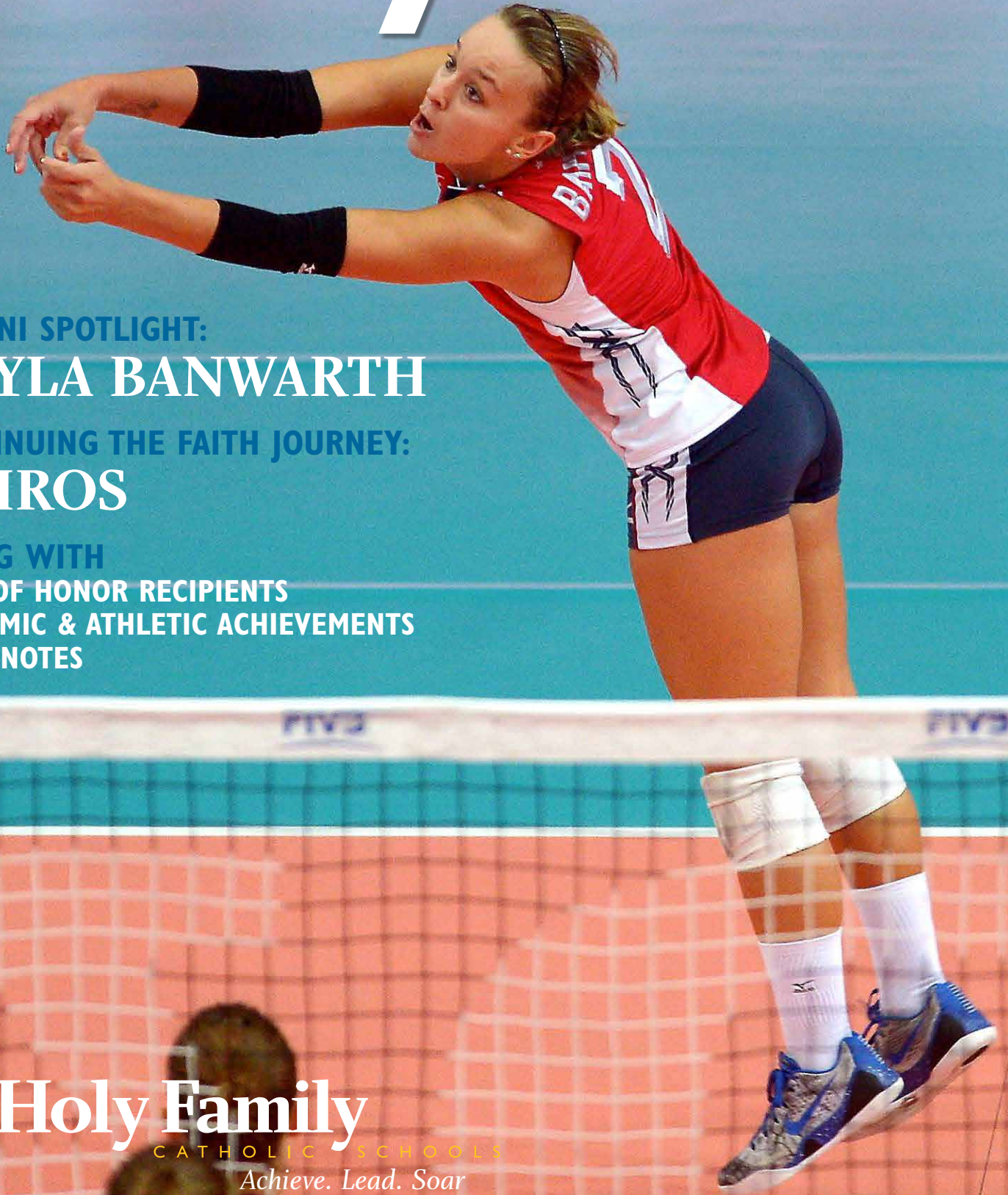




SPRING 2016

familytimes



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

KAYLA BANWARTH

CONTINUING THE FAITH JOURNEY:

KAIROS

ALONG WITH

HALL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS
ACADEMIC & ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS
CLASS NOTES



Holy Family

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Achieve. Lead. Soar

A message from the CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR

Dear friends,

Spring has sprung at Holy Family Catholic Schools, with warm temperatures giving notice that summer is not too far away. Within the walls of Wahlert Catholic High School, however, we are celebrating a much more exciting season: construction season, as the process to complete a much-needed renovation has begun. Wooden barriers blocking access to all three floors

of the north side of the east wing prevent our seeing the progress—yet—but it won't be long until we begin to see the fruits of the tremendous generosity of our community. We could not be more grateful for your support that has allowed us to achieve our \$17 million Transformational Goal.

As we have talked to people about supporting this project, we have often said that we need the Wahlert Catholic building to match the excellence that is going on inside it. One of those areas of excellence, the Kairos retreat for juniors that is led by seniors, is featured in this issue of Family Times. Knowing our students' faith development and

instruction in the Catholic faith is our primary responsibility, we are pleased that this retreat builds on what students learn and experience throughout their entire Holy Family Catholic Schools education.

What I appreciate most about Kairos is how it has spawned other opportunities for faith growth, including "Why Am I Catholic," an apologetics elective for seniors, weekly Eucharistic Adoration during which parents pray for their children, and regular attendance at daily Mass. Add in the liturgies, daily prayer, reconciliation and religion classes that have always been central to our mission, and there's no doubt the Holy Spirit is at work in all Holy Family schools.

As we continue our journey of faith and academics here at Holy Family, be assured of our prayers for you and all of our supporters.

Sincerely,



Carol Schmidt Trueg ('79)
Chief Administrator

IN THIS ISSUE

Year in Review 2015–16.....3
Hall of Honor
Academic & Athletic
Highlights

Religion at Holy Family.....4

Capital Campaign
Update.....Insert



PAGE 4

Alumni Spotlight:
Kayla Banwarth.....6



PAGE 6

Class Notes and
Upcoming Events.....8

ON THE COVER: Wahlert Catholic graduate Kayla Banwarth ('07) in the midst of a play while part of the USA national team.

ABOVE (TOP): Wahlert Catholic senior Andrew Donovan ('16) reads scripture at Mass.

ABOVE (BOTTOM): Alumna Kayla Banwarth playing volleyball at the University of Nebraska.

HALL OF HONOR

In February, Holy Family Catholic Schools recognized alumni and friends who have made outstanding contributions in their personal or professional lives. These individuals continue to inspire our current students and community. A special awards presentation was held at Wahlert Catholic High School during halftime of the Wahlert Catholic vs. Xavier boys' basketball game.



Volunteer Work and
Christian Service:
**The late Deacon
Tim LoBianco ('68)**



Professional Accomplishments
and Contributions Made to
Holy Family Catholic Schools:
Randy Skemp ('74)



Young Alum:
Michael Gantz ('01)



Service Provided to
Holy Family Catholic Schools
as Faculty, Staff or
Administrative Member:
Cynthia Wagner ('69)

HIGHLIGHTS

National Merit

Wahlert Catholic seniors **Samuel Hoelscher** and **Bridget Sullivan** were selected among 16,000 semifinalists in the 61st Annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Students entered the 2016 competition by taking the 2014 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

FIRST Lego League

Resurrection Elementary's First Lego League (FLL) team, coached by Barb Davis, qualified for the state tournament for the third consecutive year. A Mazzuchelli Catholic Middle School team also advanced to state. With a mission to inspire young people to be leaders in science and technology, FLL counts on community partners. Holy Family thanks the John Deere engineers who mentored each of its eight teams.

Dubuque Area Youth Leaders

The Dubuque Area Youth Leadership Council named the following Wahlert

Catholic juniors to their list of top 100 student leaders: **Michael Banwarth, Jacob Berning, Rachel Hefel, Sam Herrig, Carly Heying, Denver Link, Samantha Montag, Carlie Noel, Grant Oberfoell, Ivie Sprenger, Gretchen Swift, Lela Udry, Anna Varley and Jack Wilgenbusch.** These leaders participated in Clarke Leadership Day and will participate this spring at the University of Dubuque Character Development Day. Current seniors **Jack Benda** and **Adria Kunkel** were selected by the DAYLC Board as Top 10 DAYLC Leaders, and each was awarded a scholarship.

Speech Team

Wahlert Catholic's speech team received a perfect Division 1 rating for their performance of "The Butleress," by Nick Stoller at the 2016 State Large Group Speech Contest in Waterloo, Iowa.

Choral Honors

Holy Family music students have earned many awards this year including:

- Wahlert Catholic High School

sophomore **Owen Borelli** was selected to the 2015 Iowa All State Chorus

- Junior **Michael Banwarth** was selected as one of three accompanists for the All State Chorus
- Wahlert's varsity show choir, Impulse, finished with three top-two finishes at large group competitions and earned best vocals
- Mazzuchelli Catholic Middle School students **Keeley Carney** and **Anna Ottavi** were selected to the 2015 OPUS Honor Choir.

STATE ACHIEVEMENTS Fall 2015–Winter 2015

- 2nd place: boys basketball
- 3rd place: girls cross country
- 5th place: dance team, lyrical
- 23rd place: girls swimming, relays
- 25th place: **Andrew Donovan**, boys cross country
- Qualifier: **Ben Schmidt**, boys golf
- Qualifier: **Jack Benda & Nicholas Topping**, boys swimming
- Qualifier: **Anthony Dudek**, wrestling
- Qualifier: **Elena Dominguez**, girls bowling

Continuing the faith journey: **KAIROS**



Wahlert Catholic students at the end of their Kairos 8 experience held in Fall 2015.

Juniors at Wahlert Catholic are taking part in a life-changing, faith-building retreat that is causing staff, priests and visitors to notice the stronger focus on faith in students.

That retreat is called Kairos, and it comes at a time when students are looking for guidance and answers, have confusion about their future and face the hardships of their adolescent years. Kairos' focus on religion provides a community and space for students to grow, allowing them to slow down and detach from the things that pull on them daily.

Kairos is relatively new to Wahlert Catholic, having been introduced in the spring of 2012. The retreat is an experience for 35 junior students to take a moment away in "God's time" and raise awareness of the presence of God in all things. Throughout the four days, adults and peer leaders (seniors who attended the event the previous year) present discussion topics, and participants will have the chance to reflect in small groups.

The retreat provides juniors the opportunity to bond with classmates and know the worth of having deeper

relationships with others and with God regardless of where they are in their faith. During the retreat, students worship through daily Liturgy, Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Former Campus Ministry Director Michele Gelaude, who, along with former Chaplain Father Gary Mayer, started Kairos at Wahlert Catholic, said,

"The Kairos retreat experience is one of the best opportunities offered at Wahlert. Not only does the experience kick-start a person's relationship with God, but it gives them the opportunity to be confidently themselves, reflect on who they are and how they want to live their life. This is a package that cannot be beat."

There is a level of secrecy that is intertwined in the Kairos experience. It is not meant to be exclusive or controversial; however, it serves a purpose. The progression of the Kairos retreat weekend is extremely important. One of the most common sayings at Kairos is "trust the process." In order to trust the process, students cannot have a predetermined disposition about what they're going to

experience. One of the benefits of being on the retreat is having the opportunity to be open and let go of expectations. There are experiences that mean more to a retreatant in the moment when they are unexpected, rather than if they are aware and waiting for them.

Not only does the experience kick-start a person's relationship with God, but it gives them the opportunity to be confidently themselves, reflect on who they are and how they want to live their life.

When the weekend is complete, students often have a desire to continue growth in their faith. This takes place in many different forms such as leading the team their senior year, continued support for one another and their interactions on a daily basis.

Current Director of Campus Ministry Katie Koetz has seen the impact Kairos can have on students.

"I've personally witnessed the effect that Kairos can have on a person both at school and in their personal life. Many times the students come out of

Kairos with a new perspective of the world. They have come to know what it means to be authentically loved and accepted as flawed human beings, and have practiced those truly loving and forgiving relationships while they are on Kairos. It's hard to be content with superficial relationships after that, so the hope is that they extend that love to all they interact with on a daily basis."

The Kairos retreat experience is one of the best opportunities offered at Wahlert.

An apologetics course was one of several ideas that emerged from the first Kairos (K1) retreat. "Why Am I Catholic?" is a defense of Catholic doctrine, as opposed to a debate or discussion of Catholic issues. The course is by nature "apologetic" and students learn the ability to explain and defend the doctrine of the Catholic Church.

Additionally, after K8 in the fall of 2015, students felt compelled to start a bible study that is held once a week after school hours. Students are proactively creating a community to continue their relationship with God and their peers.

Others are taking notice of Wahlert's Catholic identity. Several visiting priests have been impressed by the depth and spiritual growth in Wahlert students. Wahlert Catholic chaplain Father Alan Dietzenbach said, "What I'm seeing more and more is how our students desire what humans have always desired: real, honest, intelligent conversation, mentors and silence. Especially in our over-stimulated and technological world, our students (like us adults) didn't choose to be this "connected" and they are drawn to experiences of resting in the presence of God, even while they still wrestle with their own faith. I was recently blown away by the depth of insight and blossoming of faith in students at both Wahlert and Mazzuchelli."

Holy Family students begin their journey toward a powerful Kairos experience long before their junior years with faith-focused projects, curriculum and opportunities. Beginning in elementary school, students attend and participate in Mass and learn prayers and how to

incorporate their faith into their lives. Students at Mazzuchelli develop further what they were taught in elementary school and attend a semester-long class that focuses on the Catholic faith.

At Wahlert Catholic, in addition to Kairos, students are expected to take their faith to the next level through retreats, prayer groups, increased participation at Mass and more. Through these opportunities, students are able to build confidence in their Catholic faith, which prepares them for life after high school.

This resurgence of faith and Catholic identity at Wahlert Catholic and all Holy Family Catholic Schools has been spawned by religious instruction, opportunities to receive the sacraments and retreat experiences such as Kairos. Please feel free to join us for Mass at any of our schools or during Eucharistic Adoration held in the Wahlert/Mazzuchelli chapel every Monday school is in session.

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

"Going on Kairos has brought me closer to Christ while growing closer to my classmates on a deep and spiritual level. I learned that we are not all that different. Whether we know it or not, everyone is searching for that one thing that satisfies – Jesus Christ.

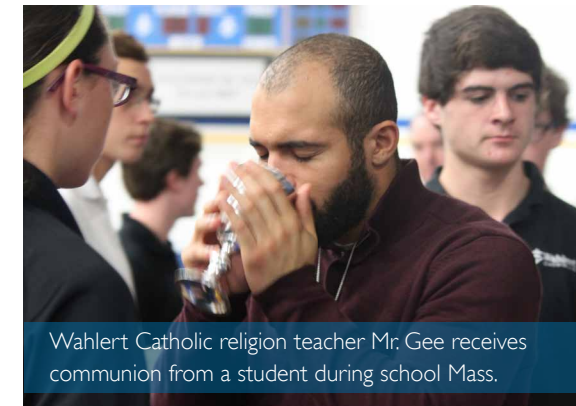
"I would highly recommend Kairos to all juniors. It's a valuable opportunity to get away from their routine lives, to grow spiritually with their classmates, and to experience the reality of God's love, mercy, and friendship."



–Michael J. Olk ('16), Kairos 6 attendee & Kairos 8 Leader



Mazzuchelli Catholic Middle School student Vanessa Blatnik ('20) participates in Mass.



Wahlert Catholic religion teacher Mr. Gee receives communion from a student during school Mass.



Wahlert Catholic chaplain, Fr. Alan Dietzenbach, laughs with a group of freshman students in the Wahlert Catholic hallway.

KAIROS VS. TEC (TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST)

While Kairos is relatively new to Wahlert Catholic, many alumni and current students are aware of Teens Encounter Christ (TEC). TEC is a three-day Catholic weekend retreat experience for high school seniors. TEC provides the unique experience for Wahlert seniors to meet other Catholic youth from throughout the Archdiocese who share similar questions, concerns and hopes about faith and life. While both Kairos and TEC provide the chance to reflect on their relationships with others and God, TEC differs in that it is open to seniors outside of Wahlert Catholic.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: KAYLA BANWARTH



Kayla and the University of Nebraska volleyball team celebrate after a regional final match win in 2008.

At age four, Kayla Banwarth picked up a volleyball for the first time, not knowing it would someday give her a chance to play in the 2016 Olympics in Brazil.

Kayla is currently a member of the United States women's national volleyball team, vying for one of the 12 spots to travel and play at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Brazil. She was part of the USA national team that earned the bronze medal at the 2011 Pan American Games and won the 2014 World Championship gold medal.

Long before her professional career, Kayla's passion for volleyball stemmed



Kayla, age 7

from her parents, Thomas and Anne Banwarth, who were eager to teach her to play the game they loved. Her parents' passion and knowledge for volleyball came from collegiate and recreational play, as well as coaching, and made volleyball their life.

With natural talent and no younger teams to join, Kayla was the lone seven-year-old on a team of 12-year-olds. Kayla attended Wahlert Catholic from 2003-2007, holding a starting spot on the volleyball team three of her four years. As time passed, she realized she had the opportunity to play beyond high school, so Kayla committed to play at the University of Nebraska. Her experience and talent now allow her to play at professional and Olympic levels.

We had the opportunity to speak with Kayla about her time spent at Wahlert Catholic, advice to other athletes and more.

Holy Family Catholic Schools: How did your Wahlert Catholic experience prepare you for where you are now?

Kayla Banwarth: My time at Wahlert

mostly taught me what kind of person I wanted to be. I grew up a lot in high school – both on and off the court. I was blessed to have amazing coaches, teachers and students who were major influences on the person I am today.

HFCS: What is something you would tell a student who is striving for a large goal?

KB: The reason I have gotten to where I am today is because I've worked my butt off. I've set goals. Big goals. But, big goals aren't going to be reached in a day. So, take it one day at a time. And for that one day at a time, do the very best you can and work HARD.

HFCS: Looking more at your goals, how do you set them?

KB: As I said, I like to set large goals first. For example, for a long time now my goal has been to compete in the Olympic Games. Having that goal in mind, I started setting smaller goals that would help me reach that big goal. Getting selected for rosters became a goal of mine. Earning a starting position became a goal of mine.

Winning World Championships and World Cup were goals. All of these little goals combined will ultimately help me reach my large goal.

HFCS: Are the Olympic Games your ultimate goal now?

KB: When this quad first started, my main goal was to make the 2016 Olympic Team. Obviously, I still haven't made the team yet. But, as the quad progressed and I realized that I was capable of making the team, I realized I REALLY want to win a gold medal, not only for myself, but for the USA Volleyball program. The US Women have never won an Olympic gold medal. I want to be able to write history with this special group of people.

HFCS: What is your biggest challenge, and how do you manage it?

KB: I'm very hard on myself, and that's true for a lot of other women on the team. So, we work with a sports psychologist, and one of the things we talk about a lot is positive self-talk. So many times we say negative things to ourselves that we would NEVER say to someone else. Realizing that we have control over our own thoughts is so powerful. But, like anything else, it takes mindful practice! I practice positive self-talk a lot.

HFCS: Who was most influential in shaping where you are today?

KB: My parents, for one, were very influential and gave me tremendous support. They taught me discipline and hard work all while supporting me through the ups and downs of both my career and life. Additionally, all of the people I was fortunate enough to play for as coaches at Wahlert and Nebraska, along with the people I met at college were tremendously influential in who I am today.

HFCS: Should you make the Olympic team, what are you most looking forward to in Brazil?

KB: Listening to our National Anthem play, with my hand over my heart, knowing that I'm representing the people of Wahlert Catholic, the University of Nebraska, Dubuque, Iowa and all of America. Representing all of these people I've carried on this journey with me.

FAST FACTS

- **HIGH SCHOOL**
Wahlert Catholic, 2003-2007
- **COLLEGE**
University of Nebraska, 2007-2012, English
- **POSITION/SPECIALTY**
Libero (defensive specialist)
- **BEST ADVICE EVER GIVEN**
"Former USA libero (and Olympian) Stacy Sykora once told me, 'Go for everything. One day you might surprise yourself.' That's always stuck with me."
- **FAVORITE MOTTO**
"Find your passion. Work hard. Never give up."



Banwarth celebrating with the 2014 World Championship trophy.

COACH'S CORNER

Tom Keating, former Wahlert Catholic Head Volleyball Coach, had the opportunity to coach Kayla her freshman year. We asked Coach Keating for his thoughts on her success and their memories.

Holy Family Catholic Schools: What did you see in Kayla that set her apart?

Tom Keating: Kayla has a unique personality that allows her to be a fierce competitor and a poised leader. In all the years I've known Kayla, I have never seen her get rattled even in the most stressful situations. She is a loyal teammate and her focus is always on finding a way to help her teammates (collectively and individually) succeed.

HFCS: How did Wahlert instill and reinforce values that led to her success?

TK: For all of the success Kayla has enjoyed, in club, high school, college and at the Olympic level, she has remained grounded. She understands that her talents come from God and that it is her responsibility to develop those gifts so they benefit others. She is an incredibly humble woman who understands the importance of faith and family. She is a woman of integrity who has the admiration and trust of coaches, teammates, opponents, officials and anyone else she interacts with. I would like to believe that her time at Wahlert helped her build the foundation for all of this.

HFCS: What would you tell students today who have hopes to achieve at higher levels such as the Olympics?

TK: First, it can happen. Kayla is living proof of that. Wahlert alumni have been all-Americans, won NCAA championships and played professionally. Second, it isn't easy but it's not supposed to be. It takes a level of commitment that few people are capable of. It takes understanding that failure is temporary and it is the best teacher. Third, it takes talent. Perhaps the most difficult thing in a young person's life is to figure out what his/her talent is and what God wants him/her to do with it. So...be open.

HFCS: Are there any special memories of Kayla you'd like to share?

TK: Kayla lit up the gym every day she came to practice or a match. The only time I've ever seen her nervous is when I gave her the #1 jersey when she was a freshman. That was Steph May's number and Kayla always wanted to be the kind of competitor that Steph had been for us. She'll never admit it but she almost cried she was so happy.

One of my favorite memories is traveling to Lincoln, NE to watch her play for the Huskers! So very, very proud of her!

PARENTS: If this issue of FamilyTimes is addressed to your son or daughter who has established a permanent residence, please notify us of that new address.

CLASS NOTES

Dec. 2015–Feb. 2016

IN MEMORIAM

1960s

Sr. Sarah Ann Braig, BVM ('61)
Janet (Herting '62) Neyens
Lawrence H. Pauly ('62)
Mary Frances (Sebben '63) Baumhover
Janice (Hendricks '63) Hilby
John J. Leibfried ('64)
Robert Lewis ('64)
George J. Andresen ('65)
Dennis Dolson ('65)
Janet (Wirzbach '65) Noel
Richard G. Rokusek ('65)
Ardis (Manderscheid '66) Cobar
Robert Rudzianski ('66)

Gerald C. Melssen ('67)
Ann Marie (McGovern '68) Sanchez-Philip
Mark Cole ('69)

1970s

Carol L. (Becker '70) Geronzin
Donald Schute ('70)

1980s

Michael W. Oglesby ('81)

2000s

Matthew Jordan Burks ('03)

Staff/Former Staff

Gene Pierotti
Eugene Robey

MARRIAGES

Matt McQuillen ('00) and Kim Wall
Rachael Rogers ('02) and William Neal

BIRTHS/ADOPTIONS

1990s

Bill ('95) & Amanda Coakley, girl
Molly (Walsh '96) & Chris Ericson, boy
Matt ('96) & Ann (Bittinger '96) Scherr, boy
Jon ('96) and Natalie Schroeder, boy

2000s

James ('00) & Katie Enzler, girl
Nathan & Rachel (Mills '03) Gibson, boy
Irving & Stacy (Rollins '04) Duran, girl
Jacob ('04) & Jessica Heins, boy
Andrew ('07) & Veronica (Stierman '08)
Gregory, girl
Matthew ('08) & Jocelyn Theisen, boy

ALUMNI WEEKEND – Alumni Weekend will be held at the end of Wahlert Catholic's Homecoming Week. Visit our website for detailed information such as date, time and location.

ALUMNI REUNION YEARS – Time to celebrate! If you graduated in one of the years listed below, please visit our website and click on "Alumni" to find out the details of your class, or contact Christine at (563) 582-5456, Ext. 255.
1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011

FAMILY TIMES is published for alumni, parents, faculty and friends of Holy Family Catholic Schools. We welcome your suggestions, story ideas, and alumni news and photos. Photography by Joey Wallace, Sandy Gaul and Kathy Klauer. Design by Justine Rabbett.