

Sons of Calvary

St. Lawrence Seminary Alumni Magazine 2023



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ALUMNI EVENTS

CALENDAR

Stories of Dennis Holm

ENCORE: DANNY
MATTHEW '15 RETURNS

Students and Staff of
1923 and 2023

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Editor: Anthony Van Asten '01

Copy Editors:
Katie Daane
Jeff Krieg '81
Andrew Welhouse '00

Staff:
Kevin Buelow '98
Francisco Saucedo '02
Andrea School
Kristy Mathes

Contact us:
sonsofcalvary@stlawrence.edu



FRONT COVER: Dave Bartel '78 is often remembered as much for his coaching as for his teaching over the years.

BACK COVER: An aerial view of St. Lawrence Seminary looking south.



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Editor's Note

For my American Literature class, I have a timeline above the board. It spans from 1600-2023. When we read a story or a poem, we add a notecard showing where it falls on the timeline. It helps my students understand the style and context in which the work was written. I have one notecard that reads "St. Lawrence Seminary founded, 1860." It sits right on the transition between the Romanticism and Realism. It serves as a helpful reminder of how far back our history goes. I take every opportunity to highlight that card when we read something from around that time. Henry David Thoreau's *Walden* was only six years old when friars began teaching on this Hill. Walt Whitman would have been a contemporary poet to those students!

Several times every day I walk from the Laurentianum, the oldest building on campus (1881) to the attached St. Joseph Hall, the newest (2016). Photographs of bygone eras hang in hallways around campus. They depict what life on the Hill had been like. And though the clothes and hairstyles might look different, not much has changed. Teachers still teach their important curriculum. Students still learn and do homework. They play sports and they play instruments. They get bored and get into trouble. The past and present are tied together here. There's history and Wi-Fi everywhere on this campus.

In putting together this issue, I was struck by how our campus is changing. In this issue we celebrate Dennis Holm's retirement from teaching and Dave Bartel's retirement from coaching. I was also struck by what stays the same. Because of some found letters that had been stashed away in an attic, we get a sneak peak at what life was like for a student in 1919. We also get a fun comparison between 1923 and 2023 in a series of photos. Spoiler alert: things are pretty much the same.

Old and new are woven seamlessly together with tradition and technology. The mission is still the same too: educating young men for a life of ministry in the Church and world.

-Anthony Van Asten '01



From the Rector's Desk

This past summer, I accompanied a group of 18 students and five staff members on a pilgrimage to Lisbon, Portugal, to attend World Youth Day 2023. It was the first time that St. Lawrence Seminary had sent a delegation to that global event. It was a pilgrimage to remember—all thanks to our beloved benefactors who made it possible!

We visited a number of holy sites: the Basilica of Our Lady of Fatima, the Shrine to St. Anthony, and the Church of the Eucharistic Miracle, to name a few. We also attended a handful of events. But the highlight of it all was our brief but close encounter with Pope Francis. By a happy coincidence, our group found a spot next to the path where the Pope would pass on his way to the main stage for the main event that day. After we waited patiently and with joyful hope, Pope Francis passed by us sitting on the pope mobile and waving at the crowd. Then Pope Francis caught sight of me waving at him enthusiastically. He gave a thumbs up and winked. It happened so quickly, but we could not be more thrilled.

My encounter with Pope Francis reminded me of my brief encounter with another Pope—Pope John Paul II. In 1981, then Pope—now Saint—John Paul II made his first Apostolic visit to the Philippines. I was five years old. My father took the whole family to the city. We waited along the road along with thousands of other eager people. When the motorcade finally arrived, I saw Pope John Paul II standing in the back of the pope mobile, smiling, waving at and blessing the crowd. That was the beginning of my religious and priestly vocation.

When I look back at our pilgrimage and think about my own experiences with the two Popes, I am filled with humility and gratitude for the programs that we offer at St. Lawrence Seminary: we are giving our students opportunities to have life-changing, faith-affirming, and vocation-inspiring experiences like the ones I had. Someday, when our students look back at those experiences, they will see the beginnings of their own religious or priestly vocation, be emboldened to say yes to God and follow in the footsteps of Jesus as leaders in the Church.

-Fr. Zoy Garibay, OFM Cap.



Our Holm away from Home

STORIES COMPILED BY
MIKE LAWNICZAK '87

For 47 years, Dennis Holm taught, coached and mentored thousands of Sons of Calvary. He left a lasting impression, and for many he was a father-figure while they were away from home. Mr. Holm retired at the end of the 2021-22 school year. At his retirement dinner, Mike Lawniczak '87 surprised him with a book. It contains over 80 stories Mike collected from alumni remembering how Mr. Holm impacted their lives. Here are only a few of those stories.

The school year of 1975-76 was my sophomore year, I was in Dennis' very first biology class. He was nervous at first, but settled down very quickly, got confident. He was very good at bringing concepts to life. He worked hard to make the lessons interesting. He assigned projects that helped us "see" what we were learning. He made us make a cell out of cardboard, bits of string and anything else we could scrounge from our desks, the refectory or around campus. Having to put it all together ourselves was way better than memorizing part names out of a book. The fact that I can still remember what an endoplasmic reticulum is proves the point.

He was a natural teacher. He didn't quit until everyone "got it." Dave and I were pretty good buddies. We sat together in class and worked on projects together. Some of the freshmen and others took a little longer than we did to grasp concepts. Dave and I got impatient/bored and moaned to Mr. Holm one day after class, asking him to pick up the pace. He responded by splitting us up and making us work with the slower learners ourselves. It was a good way for him to share the load, and it made Dave and I better students.

Like I said, a natural teacher.

-David, Class of 1978

"I am sure others have mentioned that Mr. Holm was like a father-figure. What was so special for me was that at many of our matches or competitions, he was the only non-athlete fan in attendance to cheer. While our competitors enjoyed having their parents at many events, none of us had that. I will never forget him cheering us on alone..."

-Brian, Class of 2017

Two things come to mind when I think of how Mr. Holm has impacted me. He entrusted me with a

key to the biology lab so that I could turn the chicken eggs that the class had placed in an incubator. That act built my confidence as a responsible person. I appreciate the trust he showed in me. It also allowed me to poke around a bit in the lab, which fostered a curiosity in biology. Eventually I earned a doctorate in Animal Learning and Behavior.

Mr. Holm's faithfulness to living a thoroughly Christian life as a non-Catholic opened my eyes to ecumenism. Today, I am an Anglican Priest and appreciate the diversity and contribution of various denominations to the Body of Christ.

-Michael, Class of 1978

I was on a mission trip with Mr. Holm in 2008. We went down to Mexico to build a house for a family in need. At night, after a long day's work in the hot sun, we would come back to the house and play ping pong. Surprisingly, Mr. Holm was pretty skilled at this game and he would be able to beat us. Eventually, we returned to SLS as seniors, and we started a ping pong tournament in the senior dorm. Mr. Holm would play doubles with Mr. Bartel. We created the PPA (Ping Pong Association).

-Paul





I used to think that Mr. Holm had something against me. I used that fact to fuel me to prove to him that I was worthy to pass his Biology 2 class, one of the hardest courses on the Hill. Along the way, I found a strong interest in biology, and I am now pursuing a biology degree at Illinois Wesleyan University. Looking back, Mr. Holm did not have anything against me; he just wanted me to do well. I love his phrase, "Yay, biology!"

-Isidro

"When my brother died, a visibly moved Mr. Holm and some of the other teachers came to his funeral. I will never forget that!"

-John, Class of 1980

About five years ago, I returned to the Hill one day to see the campus. As I was given a tour, we met again for the first time since I graduated in 1982. When I was a student on the Hill, I was not a fan of science, even though you were one of the best science teachers I ever had. But, unknown to myself at that time, and not until my third year of teaching, would the seeds you planted as an educator come to fruition.

The passion you instilled in your love of science, along with the rigor, prepared me for the hardest science class of my life, the first class in my life I thought I would fail. But, with everything you instilled in the classroom and on the ball diamond, everything synchronized, and my world as an educator changed. Sometimes, germination takes longer in some than others, as educators well know.

That day when we met again on The Hill, we reminisced briefly about life, but what was the most humbling was when you changed the conversation to teaching science. It was one of the greatest affirmations in my life—to move from a student and educator relationship to that of peers in a shared profession. Who knew back in the early '80s that this would happen? Maybe you did, after all, great educators and coaches hope to instill seeds that will grow in all they will serve.

Mr. Holm, my coach, facilitator of learning, and friend, you have instilled that in so many. If one chose to harvest what was given by you, they would have a fruitful life. Your dedication, passion, love, timely and sage wisdom, humor, and, at times, needed direction, served many lives so well in your time at St. Lawrence. You have served so many so well for so long. It is hard

I have always admired Coach Holm for his ease around others, for his natural ability to make people feel comfortable and truly welcome in his presence. He is by every consideration, a gentleman. Despite my lack of athletic prowess and my average skills in science, Coach Holm took notice of me and let me be myself around him. I was always quick with a joke or a funny observation and he was usually just as quick with a laugh. When I missed the mark, his laugh still came, but subdued, giving me pause to consider how I might improve. Coach Holm brings out the best in people. I can't tell you why. This is his gift. He raises people up and helps them see that they are capable of greatness in the face of challenge and adversity. Could there be a more genuine example of fatherhood than this?

I always tried harder with Coach Holm by my side because I knew that he wanted me to succeed, to be better, not just in class, but as a person. This unspoken encouragement spoke volumes to me and to many other boys, who would become gentlemen under his tutelage. Whether on the field, court, track or in the classroom, Coach Holm has always shown that character is formed in the struggle of the challenge; in how we respond to the obstacles before us. These are lasting lessons that create the substance of a meaningful life.

-Patrick, Class of 1988

to walk away from such a career and passions so fully lived, but that is why they created emeritus. LOL!

-Joe, Class of 1982

"Throughout my wrestling career there were tough losses and great wins. Through them all, Mr. Holm always knew what to say, how to say it, and when to say it... He taught me that failure has a purpose. You just have to open your eyes to see and accept it."

-Joe, Class of 2013

After spending a lot of time in the gym in September and October (too much, judging from my disappointing first quarter grades), I failed to make the cut for the freshmen basketball team. I was devastated. As I stood in a hallway in St. Fidelis Hall, tears streaming down my face, Mr. Holm came over and encouraged me. He suggested that, at 5 feet tall and less than 100 lbs, my athletic future probably wasn't in basketball.

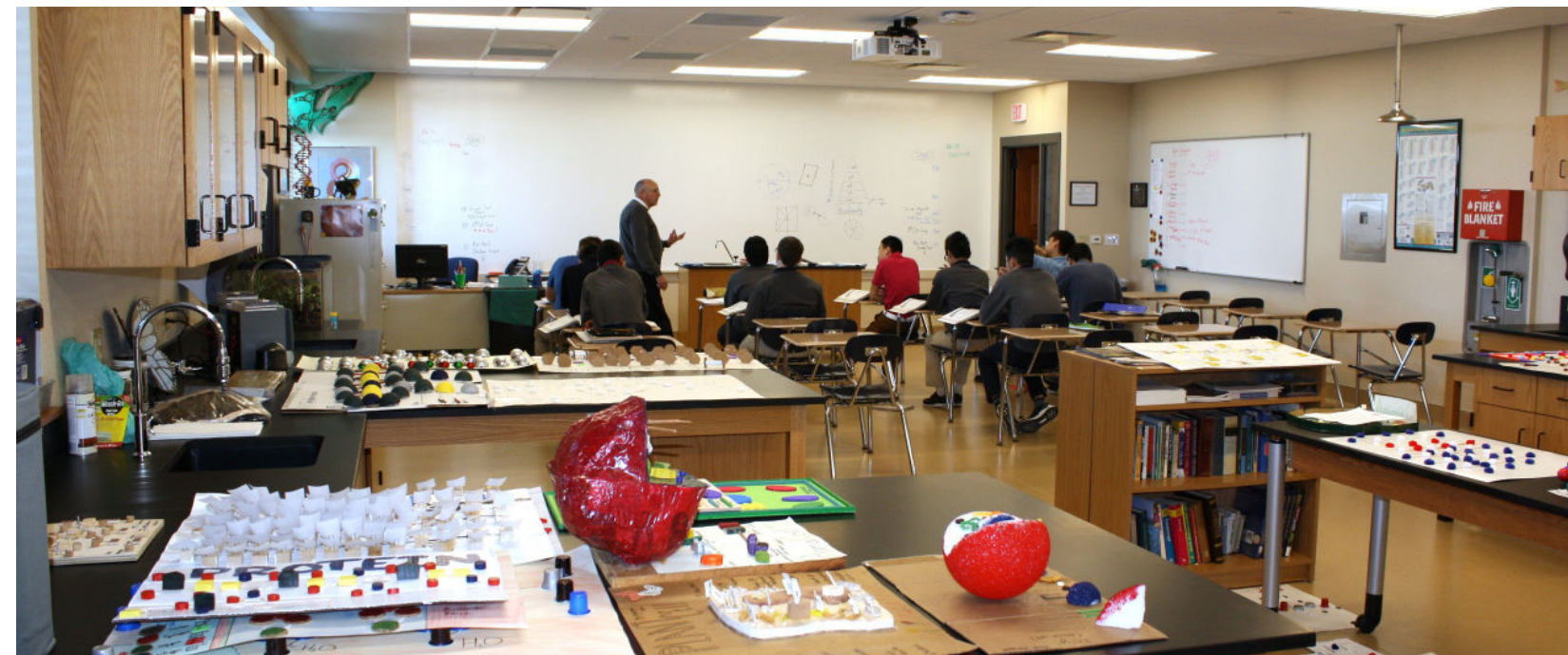
Later that year, I started running, and my sophomore year I earned a letter in cross-country. My senior year I was runner-up in the state cross country and 3200m (2 mile) run in track, setting a school record that still stands 42 years later. Of course, I had a great coach (Br. Dave Schwab) and some wonderful teammates, but it all started with a compassionate intervention and some honest advice from Mr. Holm.

-John, Class of 1982

As you well know, we are a boarding school. Which means that many family members and friends couldn't come to support us during our sporting events. Mr. and Mrs. Holm, along with Fr. Campion, always made it a point to be at both our home and away meets. Although retired from coaching full-time, they took 12 hours out of their Saturdays to come support us. This filled many voids for our students at SLS and I don't think they understood how much that meant to us. Throughout my wrestling career, there were tough losses and great wins. Through them all, Mr. Holm always knew what to say, how to say it, and when to say it. He fully understood how his athletes and student felt at times of failure and always wanted to lighten that up for them. He also allowed them to feel the necessary emotions and didn't sugarcoat things. Why? Because he knew it built character.

Mr. Holm, when you read this, I want you to know you're the reason I am a physical therapist today. Although I never aced your biology classes, you sparked my interest in science. Your life of serving others inspired me to serve others. I find great joy in helping others improve their quality of life. I want to thank you for laying down the stepping-stones for me to find my purpose.

-Joe



April 5th, 1919

My dear Friend Nicholas:-

I do distinctly remember it was on January 6th 1919, 2:00 A. M. when I solemnly promised to please you, some time in the future, with a letter. I suppose you are under the impression that my words are little more than empty dreams which fly through the air and hurt no one. Don't for a minute, old scout, labor under the impression that I had forgotten about this promise. Not at all, it recurred to me again and again, more than once had I made up my mind to write you a good long letter, but since it is not my habit to write a full letter at a single sitting, I would never get a chance to continue my letter till all I had written was old and dry and consequently, I had to start a new letter which probably went through the same process. I am sure I started at least 2 or 3 letters for you already. Let's hope this will get there. Well you may ask why I could not take up the letter sooner again, but you must remember that a diligent student always has just twice as much work to do than his time allows him. Imagine it after Christmas we had our semi-annual examinations, and to go through them is no easy matter, they cost many a drop of sweat, they make one go to bed many a night with a wandering mind. But fortunately I can say they all turned out well. My marks in them ranged from 91 to 99 except Greek (which is on the black list with most of us-) 73. These examinations were not the only thing I had to do besides my regular class work, I had to prepare and render three speeches, and this let me tell you is something that calls for a whole lot of work, especially for apprentices as we are.

This was not the whole of what I had to do, I had to write a great big long essay on Christian Liberty, which called for many weary and toilsome hours. And even now I am not as free as I wish I were, for within a week the quarterly examinations are going to shine around this means as you know another two weeks of most diligent application.

But what's the use of complaining about all the work there is to do. The more busy one is the more he feels like working and the less danger there is falling into mischief, it is true at the rate we are going now there would be no chances for mischief even if one would try. I forgot myself when I entered so far into this subject, well it was not in vain, since I hereby showed that the reason why I failed to write was not because I forgot you but be-

cause circumstances would not allow it.

I suppose it has long ago reached your ears that we had a big fire in our building on February the 21st. It was a big fire indeed and it was dangerous in the highest degree. There is no use of me entering into any particulars since I expect you received all those from the folks at home to whom I explained quite illucidly. But it will not be out of place to let you know that all the damages caused by the fire are repaired and amount to about \$3000. One particular case however cannot be passed over silently, it makes me shiver every time I think of it. As the fire was in full glow another student and myself were standing on top of the roof chopping holes in the roof to emit the smoke from inside. All at once my partner started to slip and the roof being wet from the water of the fire-hoses he could not stop himself any-more and he slipped and slipped till way on the end of the roof (remember the building is four and one half stores high) while he was slipping you can imagine how I was standing up there watching him, and I think you can also imagine what a terrible moment it was. But as fortune had it his heel got caught in the eave-drop and thus could hold himself till I handed him a rope to rescue him. Some moment let me tell you, I'll never forget it that's sure.

We are having fine weather right along now, real spring. I am wondering if you didn't start sowing yet.

Next Sunday I am to participate in a debate, I am afraid it is going to be a rather hot discussion and fight, but I never lost a debate yet and I really don't expect to lose this one either. That's another thing which required a whole lot of time for preparation. Cheer up just a few more months and half of my course of studies is completed. One great blessing after this I wont have to study Greek any more. But something better in stead namely Hebrew or in plain language Jewish or Yiddish. I really felt like saying more but time doesn't allow it and so that I wont find the old thing lying in some corner in about a week from now I am going to close up and that with my BEST WISHES to you.

Your true friend indeed,

Jim Feider

P.S. May the many typing mistakes find mercy with you. I am just an amateur at it. The debate which I spoke about before is over with now, and I am glad to say I won the same.



St. Lawrence College, Mt. Calvary, Wis.
May 16th 1919.

Dear Brother and Sister:-

Received your letter last night, and that it was welcome needs no words, for it is a sure sign of welcome, when one answers the next morning. I enjoyed it very much especially since I learned therein that all are with the best of health, and that you had an enjoyable time last Sunday. It feels good to hear that you are all through with your sowing. When you ask me how I like the change from 'wedding to the classroom' I must say it does not come off as easy as the change from 'classroom to wedding' but thanks we are just about over the change it certainly was on marked change and one which I dont enjoy. But you know we must come back to duty some time or other.

The play of which I told you as I was home was played yesterday and I was over glad that you didn't come to see, not because I would not have enjoyed your presence, but on the contrary I would have enjoyed your presence immensely, at least till the play but after that good-night shirt no more. To say the least this play was the rottenest of the rottenest that St. Lawrence College ever produced at least this is my idea of it. Of course I know the whole

cause of it but the director does not. And so what good does it do us for advise would be the last thing he would take from any of us. Last year I had a considerably big part in the play for this same occasion, but the actors with which I had to act and in fact all of the players were players that could act and with half the work in practicing the play of last year we made it one big hit. But this year and we too could work our heads off to get something out of the other fellows who were only picked because they were pets and did not know beans about acting on the stage. But one thing we did tell the director. And that is that if he ever dared put his pets on the stage again and then make us work our heads off with them and yet accomplish nothing but failure, we would never take part in any play again. Well now it is for us to find out next year



how far these few words sank in his dome. Let's hope it soaked through if it didn't there shall be some trouble around next year, I am sure of that. Well I don't care so much after all because this other fellow and myself took our own parts alright, but the play on the whole was no success. Not that I want to put myself up before you but just to say what happened and with what I can console myself I can tell you that one of the strange priests who came to see the play said that if St. Lawrence College had all actors like the two (referring to my dear classchum and myself) they could well-nigh compete with a Chicago theater. May be we would not care to act in Chicago but this should give you an idea of how the play was. Last night we had a little feed, and some music and moving pictures.

The best thing about the feed was the good cigars and the unions I bet I ate about twenty-five of them unions. T0-day we are having a free day to give the grandactors of yesterday a chance to rest up. But as luck would have it, it is raining all the time again. Well this really gives us a chance rest up I slept this morning till seven o'clock, I didn't wake up till the breakfast bell rang, and of course I couldn't miss breakfast, so you can imagine what a speed I had to work up. I just got my shoes and pants and shirt on and off

to table without a collar or combed hair or wash, off course I wasn't all along my fellow actor was in the same boots I was. I am wondering how everybody else is getting along, are they all there yet, how is Willie & John and have the girls forgot the circle of Tuesday night yet, and all the rest of the day. Oh! HAPPY DAY IT WAS. I suppose tomorrow we will have to go back to stiff Cicero and Herodototus, our beloved Latin and Greek authors.

Well I am very sorry but its dinner time and hence quitting time.

Your loving brother. Best to all.
Jim Feider

HAVE A STORY TO TELL OR A MEMORY YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? WRITE TO US OR SEND AN EMAIL AT: sonsofcalvary@stlawrence.edu





Encore!

HOW DANNY MATTHEW '15 FOUND HIS LOVE FOR MUSIC AT SLS AND RETURNED TO LEAD THE PROGRAM

by: Anthony Van Asten '01

As Mr. John Ahlstrom, the music teacher and band director of 10 years, was approaching retirement, he used to say that hopefully his former student Danny Matthew '15, would come and take his spot on staff. Danny had been one of those students teachers dream about: the one whose interest in their subject takes off like wildfire. As a student, Danny really began finding himself in music. By the time he graduated, he knew he'd be studying music and music instruction in college. It seemed like a real possibility he'd be back at St. Lawrence someday. But, when John announced his retirement over a year ago, Danny almost didn't even apply.

By the time John was ready to change out his conductor's baton for a golf club, Danny had carved out a

real nice place for himself in another music classroom. After graduating from Illinois State University in 2019, Danny took a job directing the middle school band for the Galesburg Public School District in Galesburg, Illinois. He and his wife Stephanie, a high school science teacher, were in their third year in Galesburg. They had bought a house and had a baby, Riley. They were putting down roots, and Danny's career was really taking off.

"We were competitive. We were winning state titles. My 8th graders last year took first in state." But all of that was cutting into his new family life. "I was just never home. I was always busy with rehearsals and concerts at night. Over summer there were band camps."

And something about St. Lawrence kept call-

Danny Matthew '15 teaches Music Theory, Music Appreciation, Art, Band and Choir. Additionally, he leads music at Masses on the Hill (left) and off the Hill (below) at area Catholic schools in an effort to build ties with local Catholic communities.



ing him back. Over Easter Break, the Matthews found themselves on a family hike at Devil's Lake State Park in Wisconsin. That was the moment he decided to apply. "At the top of the trail I kinda had this look. Stephanie said, 'I know.' I was like, 'What do you mean?' And she said, 'You're going to apply.'"

If Danny's journey back to St. Lawrence almost didn't happen, his initial journey to St. Lawrence was just as unlikely.

Danny grew up in Saint Francis, Wisconsin, right by Saint Francis de Sales Seminary. In middle school, he felt like maybe he was being called to the priesthood. At a Catholic summer camp, he came across a flyer for St. Lawrence Seminary. Although his three older siblings

Whether it's in the band (right), choir or classroom (below), Danny hopes to leave his students with a passion for music they carry throughout their lives.



had gone to St. Thomas More High School, he thought that a seminary would help him explore his vocation.

His parents were not totally on board. They wanted him close to home.

Danny begged to go on a weekend visit, after which he was sold. He loved how living at St. Lawrence was going to introduce him to classmates of many cultures, as well as force him to learn how to be independent.

His parents were still not totally on board.

Then, one morning, after Danny had been badgering her again about St. Lawrence, his mother opened up the *Catholic Herald* to an article all about St. Lawrence Seminary. She took it as a sign, and shortly thereafter, signed him up.

High school wasn't easy for Danny. The workload and expectations at St. Lawrence proved to be a challenge. Fortunately, the teachers gave him the kind of support he needed to get through, from Mr. Bartel following up on missing assignments, to teachers spending extra time outside of class to make sure he understood the lesson.

"I 100% have ADHD, and I struggle to sit still in a desk for a while. I remember Mr. Schultz telling me, 'Hey, if you need to sit on the floor to work on this assignment, go ahead.'" That was a first for Danny.

The teachers recognizing his limitations, holding him to high expectations and making accommodations helped him get through. "As a whole, there's a lot more

positivity here."

It was early on when Danny discovered his passion. "I didn't play video games. I wasn't good at academics. I wasn't really sports-minded. But, music. Trevor St. John was my dorm supervisor my freshman year. He showed me this beautiful thing called 'chords.' You take a note, you add another note and another note on top and you get these chords. That's what all music consists of. That's what set me off. Every Friday and Saturday and basically every waking moment I wasn't forced to go study I was in the band room."

Prior to St. Lawrence, Danny had taken several years of drum lessons. Everything else started here. Danny borrowed trumpets, saxophones and trombones from classmates. "I just locked myself in the band room, and that's where I lived."

"I didn't make notecards for English quizzes, but I made notecards for music theory and different kinds of rhythms and I would quiz myself." Danny created a band with his classmates. He wrote music. He had found his calling.

St. Lawrence set Danny up for success in college. He found he wasn't missing assignments or skipping classes like his peers were. He had learned good time management and a set of social skills that helped set him apart from others. "When you go out into the real world, there aren't Mr. Bartels, Mr. Buelows or Fr. Zoys walking around and constantly correcting you. But

you also notice that you stand out from other people without even trying." What he learned certainly set him apart, and not just in the classroom. Danny had a job as a janitor in the campus dining hall. Because of his social skills and work ethic, he quickly worked his way up to manager.

This work ethic also helped him in his early career as a teacher at Galesburg. And it was his passion for music that helped him establish a rapport with his students. He built up a very successful program where students loved music and loved practicing.

A genuine love and fascination with music, that's what he wants to continue at SLS. Now in his second year on staff, he's doing just that. He wants to inspire students to spend time getting into music. He believes music can help ground people and add meaning to their lives. The unique residential situation at St. Lawrence means that students have regular and constant access to instruments and the time it takes to learn them. More than that, Danny understands that the music used to celebrate Mass has the power to elevate a person's spiritual connection to God.

And Danny's back to make that happen. ■

WATCH THE SLS BAND AND CHOIR PERFORM IN THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT LIVE IN PERSON OR ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL: @SaintLawrenceSeminar

We shall never 'ere be parted...

Alumni News:

3-on-3 Tournament

On Saturday, February 18th the Alumni Association held its annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Over 50 alumni participated, representing classes between 1976 and 2022. Congratulations to the Class of 2008 who won for a fourth time!



Alumni Service Project

The Alumni Service Project returned this year. On April 29th, Alumni Board members and Fr. Mike Bertram '71 welcomed alumni to St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Milwaukee. Alumni worked on beautifying the grounds and enjoyed fellowship afterwards.



Spring Play: *Little Shop of Horrors*

On May 5th, 6th and 7th, St. Lawrence Seminary performed *Little Shop of Horrors*. The Alumni Association hosted its annual gathering before the Saturday show. Approximately two dozen alumni met and shared stories of their time on the Hill.



Sons of Calvary Ride

The third annual Sons of Calvary motorcycle ride took place on Saturday, June 10th. Participants met on the Hill for a cookout, followed by Mass and a blessing of the bikes by Rector Fr. Zoy Garibay. This year, the event was open to all, not just those with motorcycles.



Capuchin Jubilees

On July 22nd 13 Capuchins celebrated Jubilees of Religious Professions. Among them, alumni Br. Edward Hagman '57 and Br. Lawrence Abler '56 celebrated their 65th Jubilee. Br. Raymond Meier '61, Br. James Leary '62, Br. Robert Malloy '62, Br. Jerome Schroeder '62, Br. Thomas Zelinski '62 and Br. Paul Schmitz '62 celebrated their 60th Jubilee.



Brindisi Award Recipient

At the Alumni Reunion on September 16th, Fr. Bill Hugo '71 was awarded the Brindisi Award for his lifelong commitment to serving the Church and the Capuchins. He joins alumni Ken Maciejewski '71 and John McGivern '72 who were awarded with the Brindisi Award last year. Congratulations!



The Alumni Association Board welcomes nominations for the Brindisi Award to outstanding alumni of St. Lawrence Seminary. The candidate must be actively engaged in a Christian faith community and demonstrate excellence in service, ministry or leadership. To obtain a current nomination form or inquire about the nomination process, please contact Alumni Board Brindisi Award Coordinator Michael Pickart at pickartm@icloud.com (715-338-8947).



Upcoming Events:

DECEMBER 15

Christmas Concert

Watch the SLS band and choir perform their annual Christmas Concert. Join the choir in the sanctuary for the concert closer "Sleigh Ride."

FEBRUARY 10

3-on-3 Tournament

Get your classmates ready to take the court for the annual basketball tournament. It's a good time even if you don't play. **Band alums—play with the pep band for the varsity game!** For more information, email Danny Matthew: dmatthew@stlawrence.edu

APRIL 27

Alumni Service Project

Join fellow alumni with a service project at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Milwaukee. Watch for announcements.

MAY 3, 4, 5

Spring Play: *Something Rotten!*

Come for this year's musical: *Something Rotten!* Set in Shakespeare's London, this comedy centers around two struggling brother-playwrights.
Alumni Night: May 4

JUNE 8

Sons of Calvary Ride

Ride your motorcycle, drive your classic car or bring your...whatever...to the Hill for an afternoon of food, fellowship and fun. This event is a great time to meet alums from across the years.

Stay informed!

To make sure that you have all the information on upcoming alumni events, including dates and instructions on how to register, update your contact information with the Alumni Association at our website: www.stlawrence.edu.



DAVE BARTEL '78 MAY HAVE HUNG UP THE WHISTLE,
BUT HIS COACHING STYLE LIVES ON
BY: SEBASTIAN VERVAECK '00



Dave Bartel '78 talks with Christopher Galvez '21 at the alumni-student soccer match.

“Ok, bring it in!” “So what do you think you should do?” And one of my all-time personal favorites, “You knucklehead!”

If you played for Coach Bartel, you've heard him say something like this. These are just a few of the phrases that come to mind as I think back on nearly two decades serving alongside David Bartel as assistant soccer coach. Now, as I reflect on our many years coaching together, it isn't his unique way with words that stands out in memory. But rather, it is his commitment to the bigger picture.

Whether you played on the football, soccer, basketball, or baseball team (did I get them all???) under Coach Bartel, you knew he wasn't just developing you into a better student-athlete, but a more thoughtful, considerate human being.

That's because, to Dave, high school athletics is about so much more than just winning and losing. It's about playing with humility and grace.

For him, interscholastic competition is an extension of the classroom where players have the opportunity to learn, do things that aren't easy, work hard, and show character. In a nutshell, it's about a culture of excellence on AND off the field.

I suspect many of you know exactly what I'm referring to as you think back fondly on your own interactions with Coach Bartel. Maybe at the time you didn't appreciate what he was trying to teach you. But I suspect you've figured it out by now.

I'm fortunate to have shared many truly great moments with Dave

in our efforts to build a quality soccer program at SLS. The high point, of course, coming during the pandemic when we made the first-ever appearance in a WIAA Boys Soccer State Final in the school's history. (Sorry team of '98, you guys did it in WISAA.) Although we came up short in the final, I will never forget Dave's consoling words to the players after the game, urging them to hold their heads high and be proud of what they had achieved together. Even in defeat, Coach Bartel sought

to uplift and inspire.

It probably goes without saying, but the SLS soccer program will never be quite the same again without Dave at the helm. What that means for the future, especially in terms of results, only time will tell. But one thing I can guarantee is that Dave's influence, his insistence on high standards of play and behavior, will remain a part of Hilltopper soccer for as long as I am head coach.

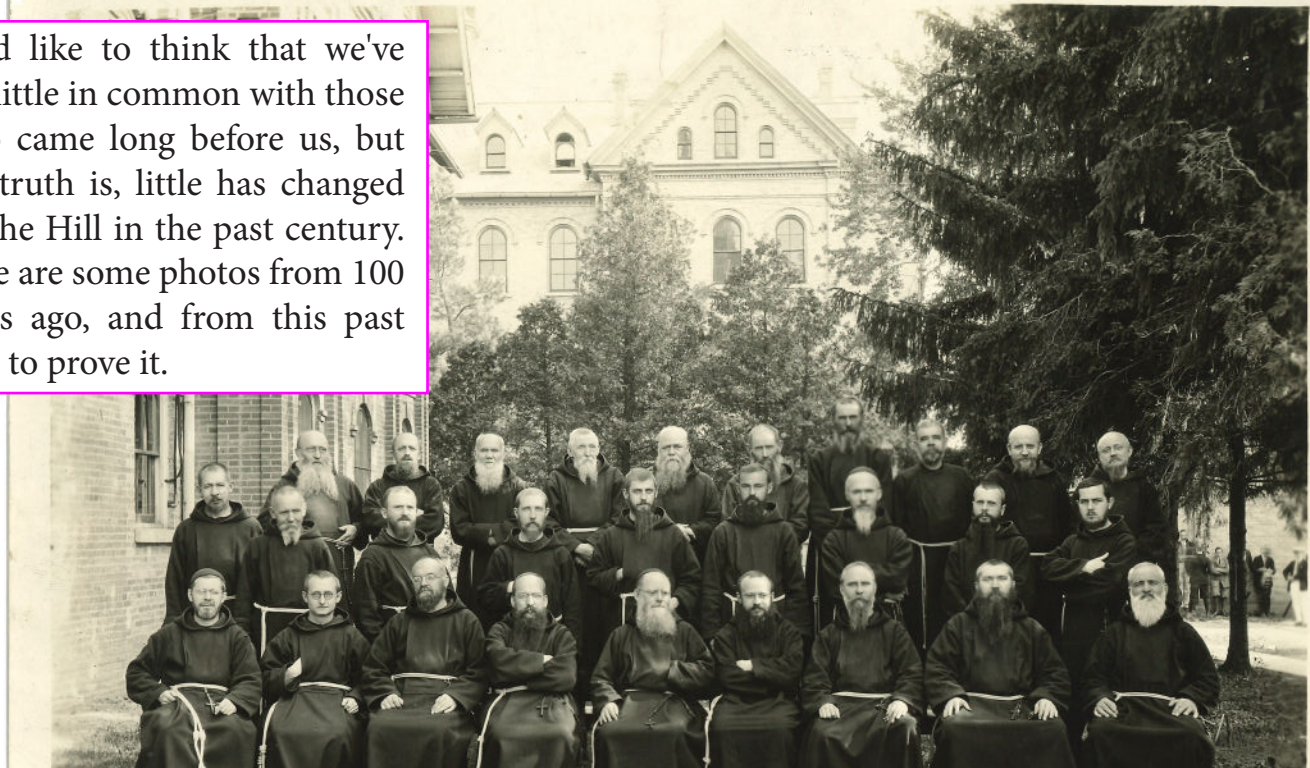
So, bring it in, knuckleheads. It's game time! ■



(Top) Coach Bartel with his last team, the team of 2021. (Bottom) Each year dozens of Dave's former players return to play in the alumni-student soccer match during the annual Alumni Reunion.

A Century Apart, but Not So Different

We'd like to think that we've got little in common with those who came long before us, but the truth is, little has changed on the Hill in the past century. Here are some photos from 100 years ago, and from this past year to prove it.



FACULTY: The faculty of 1923 looks a bit different from the faculty of 2023, though both are posed in approximately the same location on the Hill and share approximately the same mission.



COMPETITIVE SPEECH: The Saint Thomas Literary Society was an intra-scholastic society for students to "prepare themselves for public speaking, an accomplishment of paramount importance." For the past several decades, SLS's Forensics Team has competed interscholastically for the same reasons.



PICKUP GAMES: One mainstay of life on the Hill is pickup games for fun. The "Band vs House," photo from 1923 appears to depict one such friendly game. Today there are regular pickup games of soccer or basketball. On the annual Parent Weekend, there is Mother-vs-Son kickball and Father-vs-Son softball.



PASTIMES: Bowling has been an important part of SLS student life since, well, forever. These "CHAMPS" of 1923 would attest to that! Today, video gaming is the more popular pastime. SLS even has a competitive ESports team. Whether bowling or gaming, the purpose remains the same: it's all about spending time with your friends.



GRADUATES: The Class of 1923 also looks a bit different from the Class of 2023, but both went forth to serve the Church and world!



THEATER: Performing plays is an important part of SLS culture, dating back to the earliest days of the Seminary. The cast of this 1923 play is seated on the same stage the choir rehearses on in St. Thomas Hall today. This past spring, the students performed the musical *Little Shop of Horrors*.



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