

THE GAEEL

A Newsletter for St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic Alumni & PARENTS

Vol. 5/Fall 2006



Spearheaded by Kevin Dwyer '72, the 2006 golf outing was a hole-in-one as more than 100 hackers came out to support the Kennedy Catholic Classic at Centennial Golf Club in Carmel, N.Y., on Oct. 12. See p. 3 for the skinny.

Letter from the President.....	2
A Hole-In-One.....	3
Reunion Weekend 2006.....	4
KCHS Awarded Grant.....	5
Legacy Walkway Project.....	5

SPECIAL

Parents' Newsletter Section Inside — See Gael News, p. 6	
Guidance from Guidance.....	6
School Calendar.....	6
Auction 2006.....	7
Kennedy Goes Wireless.....	7
Tennis Team League Champs.....	8
Volleyball Makes Playoffs.....	9
Alumni News.....	10



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

November 2006

Dear Alumni & Parents,

With the holiday season just getting underway, we are constantly reminded in commercials that "It is better to give than receive." Normally, I would applaud such a statement. But perhaps just this once, it is better to be on the receiving end.

That's because Kennedy Catholic was recently named the recipient of a \$250,000 grant from the Empire State Development Corp. to renovate our biology, chemistry and physics labs. As noted inside this edition of *The Gael*, the grant will finally mean state-of-the-art technology for Kennedy Catholic in the form of SMART Boards (something our parents have been asking about for some time) and new hand-held devices that perform a number of functions to better facilitate the school's science labs.

Speaking of state-of-the-art technology, Kennedy Catholic has recently gone wireless, which means when you visit, you can now bring your laptops and log on to our new wireless Internet service. It greatly enhances classroom learning as teachers and students now have the best educational tools at their disposal.

Kennedy Catholic has much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. As we prepare for the Christmas season ahead, KCHS plans to enhance its Nativity scene, which is prominently displayed at the entrance to the school. Please see page 10 and consider a donation to help beautify these most visible Christian symbols of Our Savior's birth.

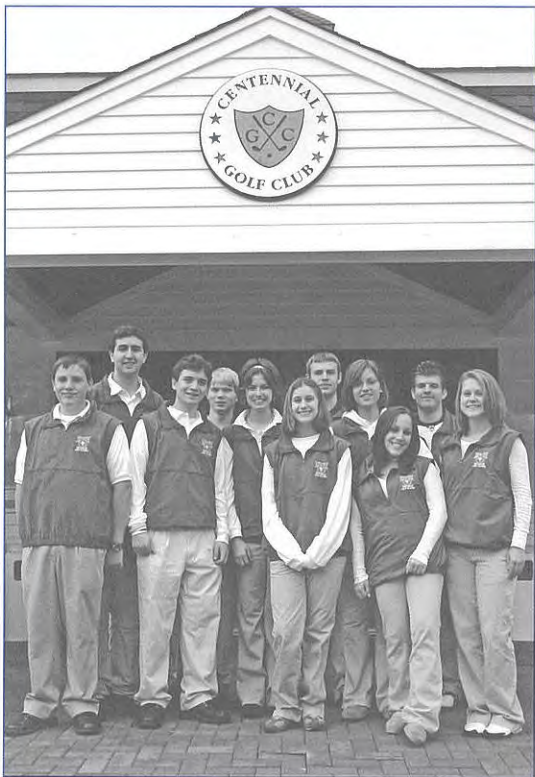
The true meaning of Christmas is that Jesus Christ came into this world for all of us. Let us celebrate this Holy Season by praying together that His loving Presence guides our world into peace everlasting.

Let us remember those rewards this day and always, as I remember you in my prayers each day. Together let us offer a little prayer of thanksgiving for all the blessings in our own lives.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Stephen P. Norton

Fr. Stephen P. Norton
President



Student volunteers Warren Lucas '10, Anthony Santora '07, Stephen Murray '08, Roman Josiger '07, Ellen Ring '08, Kelly Mertens '08, Jimmy Casbarro '07, Rachel Risco '08, Nicole Bauso '08, Matt DiFrisco '08 and Stacey Schwenk '08.

Photos by Alex Malecki



A member of the golf team, sophomore Mike Ritz shows how to address the ball.

A HOLE-IN-ONE

Golf Outing tops 100 hackers

New course, new golfers, new monies raised in an old-fashioned golf outing at the Third Annual Kennedy Golf Classic held this year at the Centennial Golf Club in Carmel, N.Y. More than 100 golfers enjoyed the best-ball scramble and terrific food prepared by Ledley Food Service of Brewster, N.Y., a Kennedy Catholic family-owned enterprise.

The day on the links concluded with an awards ceremony, and many took home fabulous prizes from the Silent Auction and Raffle. Special thanks to Chair Kevin Dwyer '72, who helped make this event the best golf outing ever!

If you'd like to join the fun next year, make sure you contact the Advancement Office at (914) 232-5061 Ext. 134 or advancement@kennedycatholic.org for advance notice.



Annual Fund Chair Susan Lucas and son Warren '10 share a moment at the annual golf outing.



The Wynne and Cartaya families enjoy a day on the links in support of Kennedy Catholic.

Reunion Weekend 2006

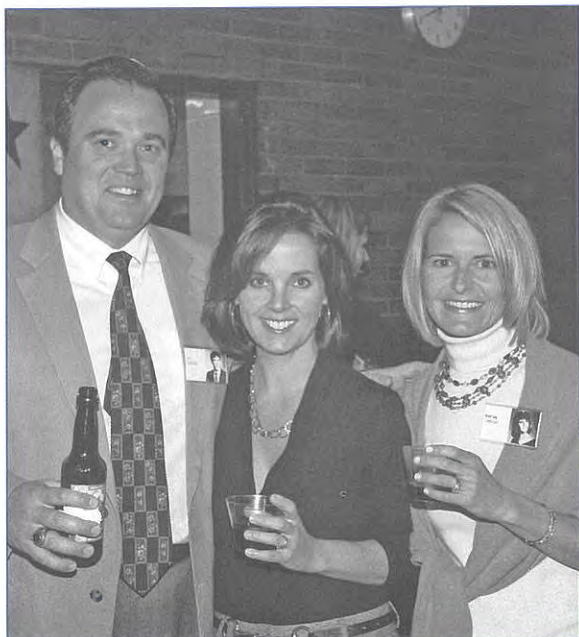
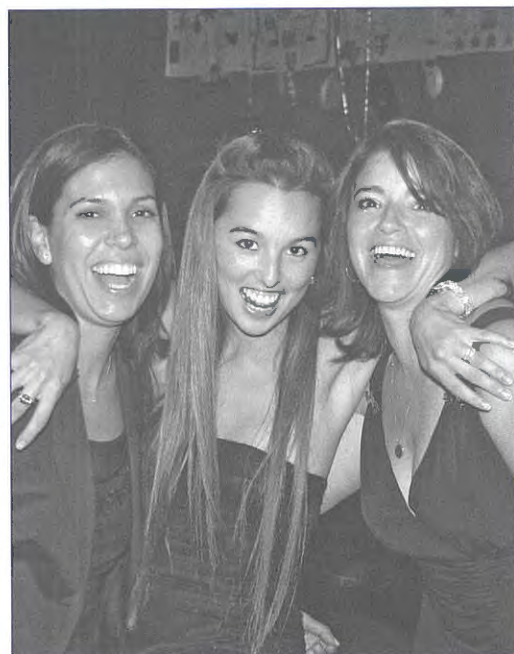
KENNEDY CATHOLIC WELCOMES BACK '01S AND '06S

"Welcome back, to that same old place you laughed about." Indeed, the names have changed since they'd been around (for some, even the school had changed from JFK to KCHS), but that didn't stop Kennedy Catholic alumni from coming back to share some more laughs during Reunion Weekend 2006.

This year the weekend kicked off with an all-new event, the Young Alumni Networking Night at Norm's Old Homestead in Brewster, N.Y., where Kennedy Catholic alums enjoyed some brew and light fare while catching up on old times. It was the perfect pre-game to the Oct. 14 Homecoming showdown versus cross-town rival Somers, and the Reunion later that evening at the school for the Classes of '01s and '06s.

With DJ Anthony Pili '00 spinning the tunes and Sister Christopher bringing the room to silence for prayer as only she can, Reunion 2006 was definitely a great time. After enjoying some good food courtesy of Ledley Food Service, the alums took strolls down their alma mater, reminiscing about the good times had and even shoving each other into lockers and sliding down banisters for old times' sake.

With Reunion 2006 now history, it's time to start planning next year's get-together. So if you would like to join the reunion committee for '02s and '07s, contact the Alumni Office today at (914) 232-5061 Ext. 118 or alumni@kennedycatholic.org and make your reunion a night to remember.

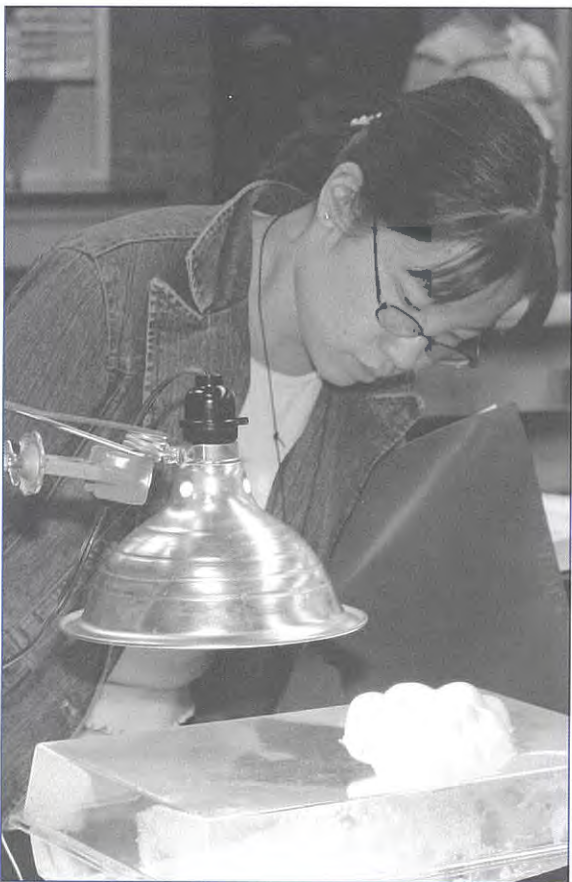


P-A-R-T-Why? Because it was Reunion 2006 at Kennedy Catholic, and there's nothing quite like reconnecting with old friends for a nostalgic evening of fun and revelry. Photos by Alex Malecki





Science teachers Erica Goldberg and Michael Rosich, shown here talking up prospective parents and students at Open House, will soon be conducting state-of-the-art labs thanks to a \$250,000 grant from Empire State Development. At right, a prospective parent scopes out the school's current science equipment. Photos by Jodee Novak



KCHS AWARDED \$250K GRANT

Science labs to get facelift

Behind the strength of a \$250,000 grant from Empire State Development (ESD), with a friendly push from senior parent Jean Moczarski, Kennedy Catholic will be able to renovate its biology, chemistry and physics labs in time for the 2007-08 academic year.

Approved by ESD last week, the grant includes funding for new cabinetry and surfacing, as well as an all-new ven-

tilation system. "This was a step we had to take to meet the needs of our growing enrollment," said Vice President for Advancement Anthony Casella.

Among the state-of-the-art technology being brought in are SMART Boards and mounted projectors for each of the labs, and the Xplorer GLX. The latter, which stands for Graphing Logger Xtreme, functions as a data-log-

ger, interface and hand-held computer that operates as a turn-key laboratory for biology, chemistry, earth science and physics. Using custom-designed software and various probes and sensors (temperature, current, etc.), the Xplorer GLX will enable students in a lab setting to take measurements, analyze data and produce reports all at the touch of a button.



LEAVE YOUR MARK

Thanks to the Class of 2006, Kennedy Catholic has begun reconstructing the walkway that stretches from the parking lot to the cafeteria door, leading students and guests into our school. Each senior purchased a brick engraved with their name and graduation year. Alumni can now join in this Legacy Walkway project. With the purchase of a brick, we will engrave your name, your child's name or any other message of your choice to help us finish renovating the pathway. The cost of each brick is \$150, and the walkway will soon be completed with the addition of a banister and lighting for increased safety.

For more information, please contact the Advancement Office at (914) 232-5061 Ext. 134 or e-mail advancement@kennedycatholic.org.

Guidance from Guidance

ATTENTION SENIORS

All college applications should have been submitted to the Guidance Office by Tuesday, Nov. 21. All applications have to be processed and mailed before Jan. 1. Be sure to include the college application fee, payable to the college, and the KCHS processing fee of \$5 per application. SUNY application fees are \$5 for the first choice and \$2.50 for each subsequent SUNY college.

Students applying under early decision or early action programs must be aware of the early deadlines, and allow Guidance enough time to process these applications. If you applied to a college online, please see your guidance counselor to ensure an official school transcript is sent along with the teacher recommendations.

FINANCIAL AID

You will need to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). It will be available in the Guidance Office by December. You should apply as early as possible, but not before Jan. 1, 2007. All college financial aid is predicated on this form. If you are considering attending a college in New York State, the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) form should also be completed. When you fill out your FAFSA, there will be a section there allowing you the opportunity to request a TAP application. This will be forwarded directly from Albany.

In addition, there are some colleges that require a College Scholarship Service (CSS) financial aid profile. Unlike FAFSA and TAP, this profile is

not free. Check with each of your college choices to ascertain whether or not they require this CSS profile.

Each fall, representatives of various colleges and universities visit Kennedy Catholic to speak with interested seniors and juniors; schedules of these visits are posted and regularly updated. Students are invited to meet with these representatives during their lunch periods, but not during class time.

Seniors and juniors should be visiting schools they are interested in attending. This is best done when the schools are in session and tours are available. It may be helpful to bring your "unofficial" transcripts (without seal or signature), which are available from Mrs. O'Donnell in the Main Office at the cost of \$1 each.

WINTER CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Monday, Nov. 20

Jan. 27 SAT Registration
Deadline

Tuesday, Nov. 21

Theresa Bonopartis Assembly
1st Period, juniors & seniors
only

Wednesday, Nov. 22

Principal's Day
School Closed

Nov. 23-24

Thanksgiving Break
School Closed

Saturday, Nov. 25

Class of '96 Reunion
7 - 11 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 28

Parent-Teacher Conferences
1 - 4:30 p.m. & 6:30 -
8:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 30

Field Hockey Dinner
6 p.m.

DECEMBER

Saturday, Dec. 2

SAT & SAT II

Tuesday, Dec. 5

Department Chair Meeting
3 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 6

Open Parents Meeting
7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 7

National Honor Society
Induction Ceremony
7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 8

Immaculate Conception
Community Mass
8:30 a.m.

Broadway Trip to
"Hairspray"

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Faculty Meeting
3 p.m.

Junior Ring Night
7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

Progress Reports Due
8 a.m.

Thursday, Dec. 14

Football Dinner
7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 15

Winter Ball
7 - 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 20

Christmas Concert
7 p.m.

Dec. 25-29

Christmas Break
School Closed

Good Vibrations: Auction 2006 a Hit

Featuring new prizes, new auctioneers and an all-new setup, the Nov. 4 Kennedy Catholic Goods & Services Auction was anything but the same old song and dance. And while we certainly didn't forget the old favorites—the money tree, naming the roadway, Ron Gantz—the steering committee headed by parent Co-Chairs Anne Ring and Jenny Race definitely kicked this year's fundraiser up a notch.

"You just can't put a dollar figure on the good vibrations that were emanating from the school that night," Ring said. "You could practically feel the excitement."

The food was great (thank you Granite Springs Inn) and the desserts delectable (thanks to Carmela's Bakery of Yorktown). And you can't argue with the numbers.

The more than 350 in attendance generously supported the school by helping to raise in excess of \$50,000 to continue to build upon Kennedy Catholic's 82 years of educational excellence.

"Thank you all for a great event and evening; it was wonderful," said the Rev. Stephen Norton, president of the school. "May God bless you all for the work and service you have blessed KCHS with."



Auctioneer Ron "The Pro" Gantz gets ready to close the bidding on one of the many Live Auction items. Photo by Jodee Novak

KENNEDY CATHOLIC GOES *Wireless!*

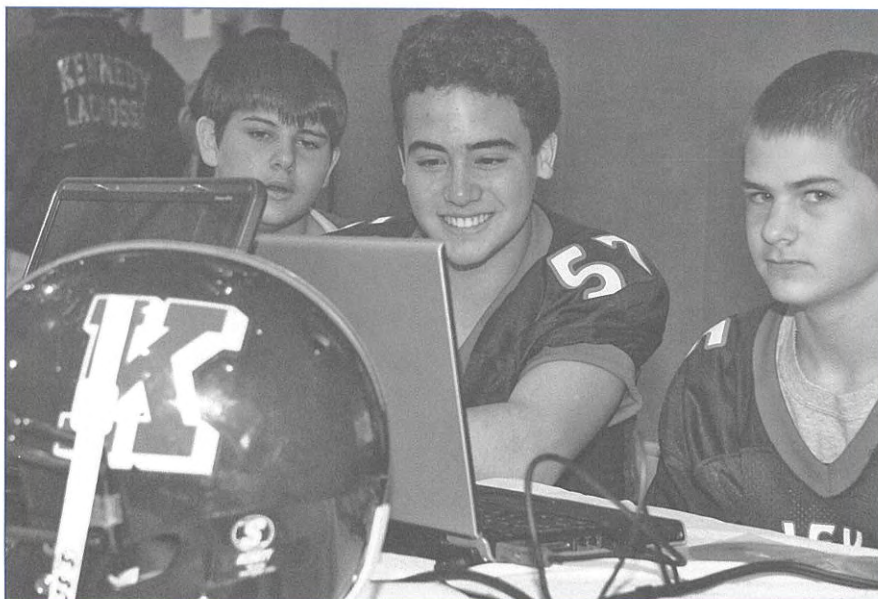
A Kennedy Catholic education now comes with no cables attached after the recent debut of wireless Internet access to all students and faculty. From the classroom to the cafeteria, Kennedy Catholic's new wireless capability will broaden the learning experience for students while enabling teachers to utilize a whole new realm of instructional possibilities.

"Upgrading the school's technology has been a priority of mine since arriving at KCHS three years ago," said the Rev. Stephen Norton, president of the school. "To have come this far in such a short period of time is a testament to our

Advancement Office and our continuing commitment to providing a quality, Catholic education that meets the standards of today's technological classroom."

The new service was first introduced to the public at Open House on Oct. 22. New Rochelle-based Advanced Technologies Group (ATG), with in-house support from Vice President for Advancement Anthony Casella, put the finishing touches on the school's wireless accessibility with the installation of ProCurve access points donated in part by Hewlett-Packard Vice President Chris Mertens '77. Working with ATG, the school has brought in and networked more than 160 new PCs in less than two years.

"In going wireless, Kennedy Catholic joins a growing list of educational institutions that have chosen to enhance their instruction by incorporating the latest technology," said Spyros Halaris of ATG. "Imagine not just current events, but real-time news; virtual dissections that eliminate common lab mishaps. The possibilities are endless."



Freshman Dylan Tragni and friends pass the time at the Oct. 12 Open House by checking out his school's new wireless Internet.

Photo by Jodee Novak

Kennedy captures crown

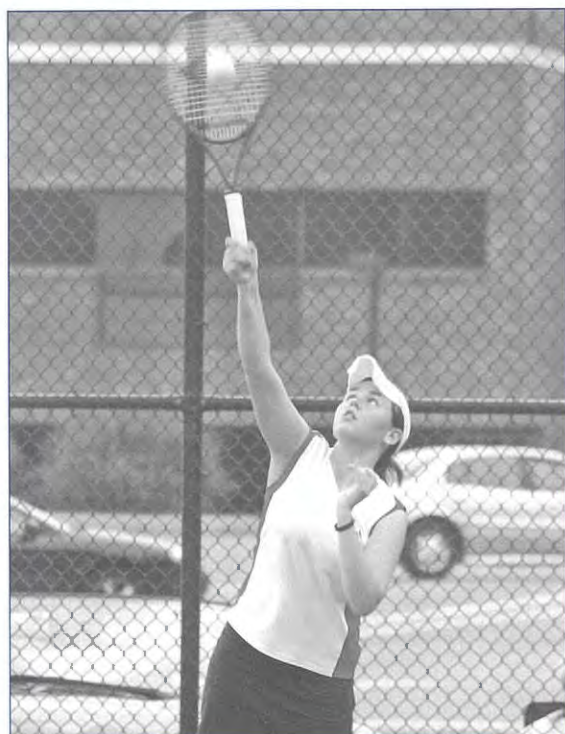
UNDEFEATED TENNIS TEAM TAKES LEAGUE TITLE

For the fourth time in five years, the Kennedy Catholic girls' varsity tennis team is the league champion, a feat made even more impressive considering the girls went undefeated while playing all their matches on the road.

With seven seniors to provide veteran leadership, the Gaels toppled much-ballyhooed Hendrick Hudson not once, but twice on its way to a perfect season. Senior singles player Jennifer Messing joined the doubles tandems of senior Laura Manfro and sophomore Sarah Viebrock and juniors Lindsay Burke and Lauren Race at the league championships on Oct. 18.

Both doubles teams made it to Sectionals on Oct. 25, and both advanced to the round of four. Manfro and Viebrock would ultimately make it to the championship game.

"The girls have worked very hard this season," coach Nancy Dellamonte said. "It's evident in their level of play and commitment to their game."



Senior Jen Messing used a strong serve and veteran gamesmanship to make the league championships as a singles player.



Senior Laura Manfro humbled many an opponent with her crushing forehand en route to the doubles championship match. Photos by Anthony Casella



Senior Ciara Ennis returns serve.



SAVE THE DATE

March 2-4, 9-10
Kennedy Catholic
Auditorium

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL FINISHES 9-6

Makes first playoff appearance in more than a decade

For the 2006 varsity volleyball team, it was a whole different ballgame. Coming off a season in which the Gaels won only three games while losing every match, the expectations for this year weren't all that high. "To win one game," senior captain Tracey Honohan said, "that's all I was looking for."

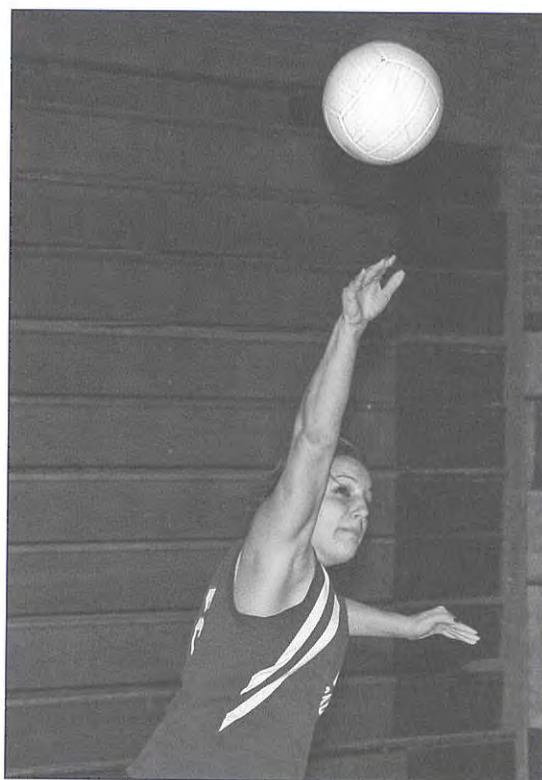
Instead, the Gaels gave the rest of the league more than it bargained for, reeling off five-straight match victories to start the season. Kennedy Catholic would finish 9-6 for the year, going a respectable .500 in league play before losing to Walter Panas in the opening round of the playoffs. But even that was a success in itself.

"Once they had a little bit of success and actually believed in themselves, it was contagious," first-year coach Colin Hanahoe said.

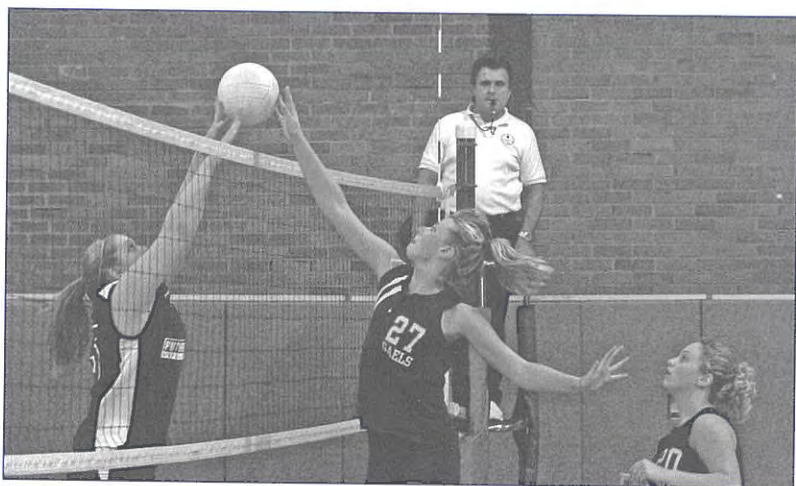
Behind the leadership of Hanahoe and his brother, Evan, the Gaels put together a season unlike any other in recent memory. An outside hitter, Honohan did her part, finishing among the league's top 10 in kills and aces.

Even the junior varsity squad got into the act, beginning the year with six consecutive wins en route to a 10-2 season. A testament to the Gaels' strength, the junior varsity lost only five games all season.

Along with the Hanahoes, JV coach Richard Desiderio has helped build a program that should remain strong for quite some time.



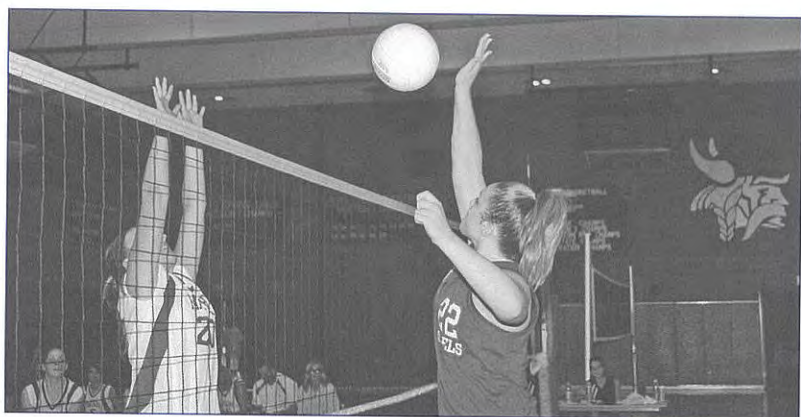
Junior captain Nicole Bauso serves for the junior varsity squad.



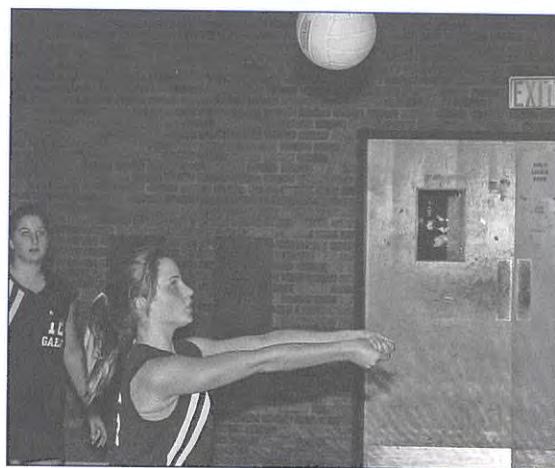
Senior captain Tracey Honohan (No. 27) scores off the fingertips of a leaping opponent. Photos by Anthony Casella and Alex Malecki



Sophomore Megan Hickey returns serve for the Lady Gaels.



Senior Laura Coccozza elevates for the spike.



Freshman Brynn Healy feeds the junior varsity setter.

AlumniNEWS

We want to hear from you! Please fax (914-509-1401), email (alumni@kennedycatholic.org) or phone (914-232-5061 Ext.118) in news about you to share with your classmates. Here is a list of notes that fellow alumni shared with us via our Web site since our last newsletter:

CLASS OF 1976

John J. Smith has just relocated from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to the Phoenix area to start a new career as a risk management specialist for TSYS Acquiring Solutions, a credit card processing company. John is happy to be leaving Florida, and the five hurricanes he endured since 2001, behind. He is one of many in his family to have attended Kennedy Catholic.

CLASS OF 1986

Dominick Arrigo resides in Mahopac, N.Y., with his wife of 14 years, Lisa, and their children; Jenna, 9, and Matthew, 7. Dom is currently the northeast operations manager for ComNet Communications out of Bethel, Conn.

Tom Melahn currently works with special education students in the Montville, N.J., school district. He also has a private practice working with the local Family Court and seeing patients for therapy. Tom holds a bach-

elor's from Concordia College in Bronxville, N.Y., and a master's from Fordham University. He's been married for 13 years and has three children.

CLASS OF 1990

Jeanine Classey and her husband, Jim, are expecting another child in the coming year. The couple already has three in Heather, 14, Samantha, 3, and 16-month-old Ryan. Jeanine and Jim live with their children in Gaylordsville, Conn., and own a restaurant—All Aboard—in neighboring New Milford.

Julienne Ivory-Saccone recently returned to the workforce as a fifth-grade teacher. She considers herself lucky to teach in the same school that her two boys—Nicholas, 9, and Dylan, 6—attend, having returned to the world of elementary education after Dylan entered kindergarten. Julienne lives with her robbery detective husband of 10 years, Chris, in Deltona, Fla.

CLASS OF 1991

Jenifer Maloney and her husband of three years, Robert, recently celebrated their baby daughter's first birthday; Sara Dorothy turned 1 in October. The Maloney family resides in Brewster, N.Y., and Jenifer is a reading teacher in the Mahopac school district.

CLASS OF 2001

Stefanie DeNise is presently a student at St. Thomas University School of Law in Miami Gardens, Fla., though it was her journalism and political science courses at the University of Miami—she graduated cum laude with a 3.7 GPA—that led her to pursue a career in law. Though she has been in Miami for six years now, Stefanie returns every summer to work in New York. One of 2001's top graduates, Stefanie might be making a cameo at Kennedy Catholic to share her experiences real soon, so stay tuned.

NEW NATIVITY PIECES SOUGHT

Kennedy Catholic is looking to update its Nativity scene for the upcoming holiday season. Please help us by making a monetary contribution toward the purchase of figurines to supplement the Holy Family. We are also hoping to add a manger this Christmas, should you wish to earmark your donation for that. The school will make these purchases based on the number of donations received. For more information on how you can make this year's Kennedy Catholic Christmas all the more special, please call Mrs. Lange in the Main Office at (914) 232-5061 Ext. 102.

INFORMATION UPDATE

Do you have any news? Have you moved? Let us know!

email: alumni@kennedycatholic.org • call: 914-232-5061 • fax: 914-509-1401

Name _____ Class _____

Married Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Alumni E-Mail Address _____

BUSINESS INFORMATION

Business _____ Position _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ E-Mail Address _____

Alumni Class Notes _____

Alumnus: if you have news about your family or your job, please let us know. If you are moving, please let us know your new address. **Parents:** If your son/daughter no longer maintains a permanent residence at your home, please send us his/her new address. We would like to keep both parents and sons/daughters in touch with Kennedy Catholic. Please check below to continue receiving *The Gael*.

☐ Please keep me on the mailing list. My son's/daughter's new address is listed below

Name _____ Class _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

COME BACK TO KENNEDY

Get your date books out alumni, because you're going to want to jot these dates down. Please consider this a standing invitation to each.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

December 20, 7 p.m.

KENNEDY CATHOLIC PLAYERS PRESENT "SEUSSICAL"

March 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 7 p.m

ART SHOW

March 2-10

SPRING CONCERT

May 23, 7 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S DINNER

Spring 2007

COMMENCEMENT

June 3, 1 p.m.

ALUMNI CONCERT

June 6, 7 p.m.

2006-07 ANNUAL FUND ENDS

June 30, 2007

For more information regarding any of the aforementioned events, please contact the Alumni Office at (914) 232-5061 or e-mail alumni@kennedycatholic.org.

Kennedy Catholic HIGH SCHOOL
ADVANCEMENT OFFICE
54 Route 138 • Somers, NY 10589

The Gael is produced by the Advancement Office. If you have any questions, comments or news you would like to share with us, please call (914) 232-5061 ext. 134, or email alumni@kennedycatholic.org.

Publisher: Rev. Stephen P. Norton,

Editor in Chief: Anthony J. Casella

Associate Editor: Jacob Bergmeier

Associate Editor: Alex Malecki

Copy Editor: Janet Keyes

Copy Editor: Anne Goswami

Contributing Writers: Jacob Bergmeier,
Alex Malecki

Design and Printing: TSJ Graphics

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 8951
White Plains, NY