



***"When you fully pursue a dream,
the sky is the limit."***

-Coach Jack Ferraro '86

Hello St. Rita Alumni and Friends,

It is my privilege to be back at St. Rita High School as Director of Institutional Advancement. There is a lot of positive energy around the school this November. We have 19 Illinois State Scholars in the senior class. The football team will play in the IHSA Class 7A Semifinals against Mt. Carmel this Saturday and the Basketball Program is ranked in the Top 20 in the National Rankings. We are also looking forward to the December 3, 2022 Entrance Exam. That same positive spirit is alive and well in the Advancement Department.

- The Advancement Department held a homecoming "Party on the Patio" outside the McCarthy Center, complete with the Calabria Food Truck on October 7, prior to the 52-19 football victory over Marian Central Catholic.
- On October 12 and November 9, we hosted over 50 attendees on campus for our Ritamen Luncheons. The speaker at these luncheons was Head Football Coach Todd Kuska '90. These luncheons are for alumni from the class of 1983 and older.
- Planning continues for our major fundraising event, our gala, Caritas--Valentine Dinner Dance at The Ritz in downtown Chicago on Saturday, February 11, 2023.
- The date is set for the All-Alumni Banquet/Hall of Fame Dinner! Mark your calendars for Friday, April 14, 2023. The location is Ridge Country Club in the Beverly neighborhood of Chicago.

There is positive momentum building at St. Rita as we move into Winter. We thank everyone who continues to support our school, through prayers, attending our events, and donating. We keep you in our prayers daily, on campus.

St. Rita Pray for Us,



Michael Swanson
Director of Institutional Advancement
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DONATE

Where Are They Now?

Alumni Updates

Rocky Gray '06 *From the St. Rita Campus to Silicon Valley*

Since graduating from St. Rita High School, Rocky majored in computer engineering, with a minor in engineering management, from Vanderbilt University.

Rocky worked more recently, for social media giant **Twitter** as an engineering software manager. Before Twitter, he also worked at **Capital One** and **Storyblocks**.



"My time at St. Rita helped prepare me for manhood. I left St. Rita with a solid educational foundation, which prepared me for the rigorous engineering coursework in college," said Gray.

Gray also said volunteering with the Knights of Augustine instilled in him "a desire to give back to the community and contribute philanthropically.

Coach Standring's "epicness" had a lasting impact on Rocky.

"Even though my children never met him, they know of the guy that was struck by lightning twice," said Gray.

Rocky says being a Ritamen means embodying the motto of Veritas, Unitas, and Caritas.

The Rita Report

School & Student Highlights



WGN Teacher of the Month

This month St. Rita High School congratulates Mr. William "Buddy" Dolan on being selected as the WGN Teacher of the Month!

Mr. Dolan was nominated by his Honors Latin 3 student, Kevin Kehoe '24.

"My crazy little world isn't for everybody, but for some I hope they feel seen, they feel heard, they feel loved and they know if they need me I'm here for them," said Dolan.

Read more on Dolan's recognition [here](#).



Career Week Brings Alumni Back

Career Week took place October 24-28th at St. Rita High School.

Alumni from various industries and organizations like Deloitte, Lockheed Martin, Caterpillar, McDonalds, and the Chicago Engineers Foundation, presented to students.

"It was a great week and opportunity for our students to hear from several alumni. They all did a great job sharing their experiences and making connections with our students to help them with their future career plans." said Jill Nagel, Director of Guidance.



Coach Russell Podcast Feature

Head basketball Coach Roshawn Russell '08, was a guest on Hoop Heads podcast this month.

On the podcast, Coach Russell talks about his basketball career from adolescence to adulthood.

"It was an honor to be invited to do this series. It was great to reflect and discuss on my journey from student athlete to coach," said Russell.

Listen to the full podcast [here](#).

Q & A with Lawless Award Winner Matthew Kingsbury '23

Q: What does winning this award mean to you?

A: It was truly an honor and I was privileged to be named the winner. Having past teammates win this award and following them was great.



Q: Do you plan on continuing with football in college?

A: I plan on playing in college at the Division 1 level. Right now I hold 27 Division 1 scholarships.

Q: How long have you been playing football at Rita?

A: This is my second season playing football at St. Rita. I transferred to St. Rita going into my junior year/season. Playing football for St. Rita has been especially significant for me. My father Matt Kingsbury Sr. '90 played and graduated from St. Rita. It has been really great to follow in his footsteps. I have met so many people through the game and love being a part of such a great brotherhood. I will never forget the endless memories I have made with my Rita brothers.

A Special Thanks to Our Career Week Presenters

James Brasher '71
Eric Chibe '16
Michael Coren '71
Nick Dachota '12
Jim Daly '12
Geoffrey DeTolve '67

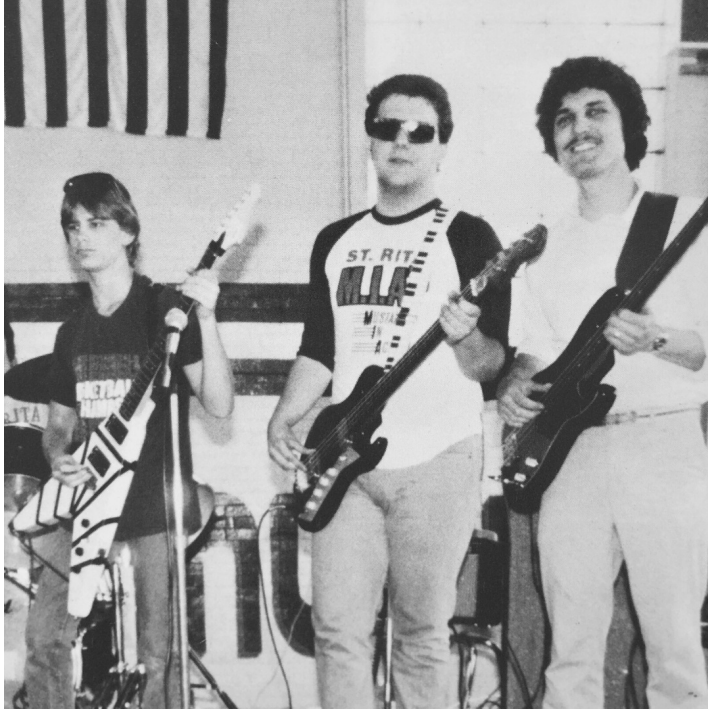
Martin Hopkins '09
Patrick Hughes '06
Brendan Jenkins '13
Joey Henze '17
Joe Lauer '98
Matt Quinn '08

James Schwarz '75
Trevor Scianna '17
Ron Simon '90
Jim Smith '06
Kevin Yerkes '10

Spot the Alum

Long Live Rock and Roll

Do you know any of
these musicians are?
*Hint: This photo was
taken in the '80s.*



Email
alumni@stritahs.com
with your answers.

Then vs. Now

"Unofficial" Ritman
Music Player

1986
Sony
Walkman



2022
Spotify
App



Which campus did you call "Home of the Mustangs"?

63rd & Claremont

77th & Western

Advancement Announcements

Feb.
11th
2023

Save the Date!
**The 34th
Annual
Caritas Gala**

Cascia Collection Corner Brick Walkway Campaign

Pave the Way for Students

Support St. Rita by becoming a part of our commemorative brick walkway located between the McCarthy Center and Mrozek Family Fitness Center.

More Info





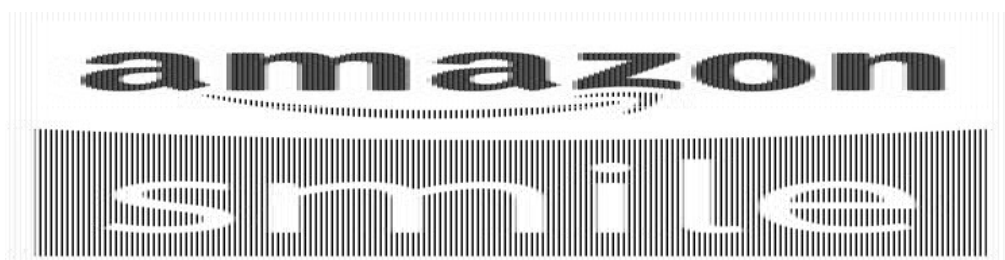
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