

THE GENEVA SCHOOL Magazine | SPRING EDITION 2023

THE COURIER



Inspiring students to love beauty, think deeply, and pursue Christ's calling.



MISSION

The Geneva School seeks to provide students in grades K4–12 an extraordinary education, by means of an integrated curriculum, pedagogy, and culture, both distinctly classical and distinctively Christian, that pursues goodness, truth, and beauty in all spheres of life, while viewing these spheres as elements of a divinely ordered whole. Further, Geneva seeks to instill in students a desire to love beauty, think deeply, and pursue Christ's calling.

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Cat Hackenberg
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All scripture references are from the ESV unless otherwise noted.



Photographs in this issue taken by Anna Classe, Teresa Medina, and PSP Images

COVER PHOTO: Anna Classe

TABLE OF CONTENTS



4



14



20



21

4 *THIRTY AND THANKFUL
ANNUAL AUCTION REVIEW*

20 *MANNERS MATTER*

11 *NEW BOARD MEMBERS*

21 *GENEVA SWEETHEARTS*

12 *WHY DO WE HOPE IN THE
MIDST OF SUFFERING?*

24 *COLLEGE RECRUITING*

14 *TGS WINTER SPORTS
WRAP-UP*

26 *THANK YOU, JIM BRUCE
AND JOHN CLASSE*

18 *EMERGING ENTREPRENEURS*

27 *GREETINGS FROM THE
WORLD OF COLLEGE
COUNSELING*

STAY CONNECTED @GENEVA





HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Geneva Community,

Those of us who are of a certain age may remember Pink Floyd's 1979 hit "Another Brick in the Wall." Composer Roger Waters wrote the song in protest to the severe schooling of his childhood:

We don't need no education
We don't need no thought control
No dark sarcasm in the classroom
Teachers, leave them kids alone
Hey! Teachers! Leave them kids alone!
All in all you're just another brick in the wall.

The Geneva School
will always seek to be a
place where scholarship
and Christian character
thrive: a community
that brings glory to God
and good to neighbor.

The desires for individuality and freedom from oppression are understandable, especially when the model for conformity seems so vacuous. The wall about which Waters wrote and in which his teachers were embedded represented a dreary future, one that he sought to escape, even break. It is worth considering what Waters' opinion would be if the model for conformity was toward love, joy, and meaningful (eternal) purpose. Would Waters still wish to shatter the wall if those within it were conformed to the image of Jesus Christ?

Just outside my office window, workers have been laying bricks in the walkway at the fountain. The skilled workers lay the bricks efficiently and quickly. Every so often, a brick needs to be cut in order to fit within an odd-sized space. If the space is left void, then the walkway is incomplete.

Shaping bricks for placement in a walkway is a fitting metaphor for what takes place each day across our campus—our children are being shaped for the exact spot God has for them in his perfect plan. God is preparing them, just as he is preparing all of his children, to become "bricks in a wall" or, in our case, walkway. Our children are being conformed, at times through trials and difficulties, to the image of Jesus Christ.

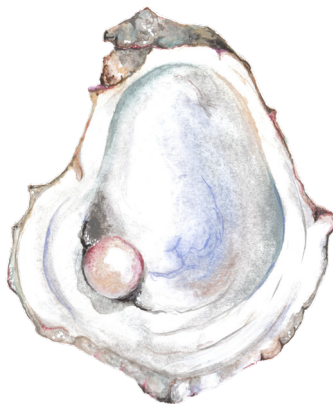
Because of the salvation we have in Jesus Christ and because of the heavenly Father's perfect plan for his children, we can be at peace with the future. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we seek and submit to be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ. In doing so, we know that God is preparing us for a glorious future. This is the Christian's hope. Consider Ephesians 2:19–22:

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

As we witness the completion of the fountain and walkway as well as the completion of a Geneva education with the class of 2023, we do well to recognize the work that God is doing in our children, a work that brings them into "a holy temple in the Lord." May our facilities, curriculum, teachers, students, and graduates be of service to the body of Christ and the kingdom of God. *Non Nobis.*

Sincerely,
Brad Ryden

1993



2023

MARCH 25, 2023

Thirty & Thankful

FORMATION OF A PEARL

This year, as we celebrated the thirtieth year of The Geneva School, we reflected a bit deeper on the essence of the symbolic thirtieth anniversary pearl.

While a gemstone is mined from the earth, a pearl is produced by a living organism, so its very existence is a miraculous event.

A pearl emerges from a situation of discomfort and irritation. It is created when an irritant, such as a piece of shell, becomes lodged inside the soft lining of an oyster. As a defense mechanism, the oyster secretes a hard, crystalline substance called nacre around the piece of shell. As long as the irritant remains, the oyster continues to secrete layer after layer of nacre until, over time, a lustrous pearl is formed.

A pearl would therefore never exist without a measure of friction or viscosity or hardship that God then uses to create something beautiful. It takes time to develop quality and a thick luster.

Like our students, pearls come in a multitude of varieties and from diverse backgrounds. No two saltwater pearls are exactly alike. Like our Geneva community, pearls are cultivated over years—adding layers to those that had come before, and with each new Geneva family, our luster gets that much deeper and more luminous.

A pearl's luster refers to both its brilliance and its inner glow—the way it reflects light and the way it refracts light.

In the same way, we cultivate our students through years of Christ-centered formation, layer upon layer of rich nacre saturated in knowledge, truth, and beauty, so that their luster can reflect God's light out into the world as God's word illuminates them from within.

A pearl is largely appreciated after it leaves the oyster. The Geneva School continues to cultivate high-quality pearls that go boldly into this world equipped with a luster able to sustain the demanding winds of life so that they can reflect God's glory for decades to come as they pursue Christ's calling for their lives.

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NOTABLE NUMBERS

5,800 BIDS

483
ATTENDEES

1,095 SILENT
AUCTION PACKAGES

660 CURRENT
STUDENTS
THOSE WHOM THE AUCTION BENEFITS

1,552
SUPPORTERS

25 LIVE AUCTION
PACKAGES

60 VOLUNTEERS

45
TABLES



BUSINESS DONORS

4Rivers Smokehouse
A Balanced Body
A+ Leak Locator
ABC Fine Wine & Spirits
Airboat Rides at Midway
AirBoss Coffee
Alaqua Country Club
Alchemy Hair Salon
All Fired Up
Aloft Waco Baylor
Aloma Bowl
Aloma Cinema Grill
Altamonte Implant and Cosmetic Dentistry
American Eagle Outfitters
Anna Cakes
Annie Russell Theatre
Antonella's Pizzeria
Apple Blossom Florist
Arribas Brothers
Art Systems of Florida

Arthur Murray Dance Studio
Ashley Martin Home
Asheville Luxury Cottages
Astro Skate of Orlando
Athena Roasted Chicken
Audubon Center for Birds of Prey
Bamboo & Foo
Barre3 Winter Park
Bella's Little Farm
Benihana
BigDaddy's Farm
Blakemore School of Music
Blaze Pizza
Boardwalk Pizza
Bok Tower Gardens
Bolay
Bowigens Beer Company
Breaking Barre
Brianna Forster Photography
Brighton Tutors
Broadway Gymnastics
BurgerFi
Butterfly World
Camp Ridgecrest & Crestridge

Camp Sweet Dreams
Cannizzaro Integrative Pediatric Center
Carolyn's Orchids
Carrabba's Italian Grill
Cason Photography
Catty Shack Ranch
Celebrate States
Central Florida Community Arts
Central Florida's Professional Commercial
Cleaning Company
Championship Martial Arts
Chick-fil-A (Forsyth/Tuskawilla)
Chick-fil-A (Oviedo/North UCF)
Chipotle Mexican Grill
Christner's Prime Steak & Lobster
Chuy's Fine Tex-Mex
City of Winter Park
Clearwater Marin Aquarium
Coastal Wake
College Park Yoga
Color My Palette Designs
Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant
Corkcicle
Corners Custom Picture Framing

\$188,337
RAISED IN SILENT

\$185,150
RAISED IN LIVE

\$202,000 MONEY RAISED
FOR LAND



Costco Winter Park
Cove Mountain Ranch, LLC
Cozi
Crayola Experience
Crealde School of Art
Creative Jane
Crosby Wellness Center
Crumbl Cookies
Culver's
Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens
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Cyclebar Winter Park
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Darwin Fitness
Dave & Buster's Orlando
David L. McIntosh DMD
Dean's Oyster Bar
Derma Deluxe Medical
District Eat & Play
Doe River Gorge
Donut Central
Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
Dubsdread Golf Course
Dyna Nails & Spa

Eagle Creek Golf Club
Edley's Bar-B-Que
Elev8 Fun
Engage the Brain
Enzian Theater
Escapology Orlando
Ethos Vegan Kitchen
Exclusive Lens Photography
FamilyLife
Farm to Skin
Firehouse Subs
FitLiving
First Watch (Aloma)
Fleet Feet
Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar
Float8 Wellness Lounge
Florida Citrus Sports Foundation
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Florida Theatre
Form Function Form
Forward Volleyball
Foxtail Coffee Co.
Fun Spot

Gabb Wireless
Garden Theatre
Garden Veterinary Clinic
Gators Dockside
Ginny's Orchids
Global Schoolwear
GraceLaced
Grand Cypress Golf Resort
Grit & Grain
Grounding Roots
Hard Rock Cafe
Heavens to Betsy
Hello Poolside
Hillstone
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Interlachen Country Club
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MetroLagoons
Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation
Mister Car Wash
Molly Wright Art
MOR Creative
Morse Museum
Museum of Discovery and Science
Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum
My Gym Maitland
MyRaceHorse
New General Cafe

Nona Adventure Park
Nonno's Italian Restaurant
Nothing Bundt Cakes
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Opera Orlando
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Pizza Bruno
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Prato
Pristine Nail & DaySpa
PRP Wine International
Publix Super Markets
Puff 'n Stuff Catering
Rafiki Foundation
Rascal's Rockin' Beignets Company
Rebecca Davis Interiors
Red Sun Yoga
Redeemer Counseling
Reedy Creek Improvement District
Reformed Theological Seminary
Renewal by Andersen of FLA
Reptile Discovery Center
Ridge Haven Camp Conference and Retreat Center
Ritz Theater at the Wayne Densch Performing Arts Center
Riverdale Inn
Rock 'Em Socks
Rollins College
Rosen Centre Hotel
Rosen Plaza Hotel
Rosen Shingle Creek
Roving Golf Academy
Ryman Auditorium
R|M Boutique
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Santiago's
Sara Elizabeth Studios
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Swine & Sons
Tampa Museum of Art
Teeming River Cruises
Teleties
The Alford Inn
The Axe Trap
The Bar Method
The Boathouse
The Breakers Palm Beach
The Cheesecake Factory
The College Map
The Dinner Party Project
The Fresh Market
The Geneva School
The Glass Knife
The Grove
The Guitar Center
The Hangry Bison
The Haven Tabletop Games
The Heavy
The House on Lang
The Hunt
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The Orlando Repertory Theatre
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The Ravenous Pig
The Salt Room N. Mills. Ave.
The Salt Room Oviedo
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The Tiny Orchid
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 photos, scan the QR code

Password: PearlAnniversary

Thank you!

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Sarah Andreasen '23, Erik Barnhart,
 Michelle Barnhart, Liam Cassedy '23,
 Shannon Chambley, Anjolie Francois '23,
 Debbie Halloran, Anna Manuel,
 Meredith McMurtrie, Teresa Medina,
 Tony Medina, Timothy Miller,
 David Petrak, Erin Petrak,
 Gabriel Philippe-Fisher '23, Mickey Poole,
 Joey Rowe '23, Kelly Sevor '23,
 Sandy Shepherd, Matt Smith, Sara Smith,
 Josiah Swain '23, Regan Taylor '23,
 Ryan Taylor '23, Charley Turnbull '23,
 Charles White '23, Catherine Wilhite '23,
 Elizabeth Yawn, Tim Yawn,
 Eric Zhang '23

DECORATION & SILENT AUCTION SETUP

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 Bridgette Cahill, Rebecca Davis,
 Jennifer Frakes, Ellie Frost,
 Lindsay Harne, Rebecca Hueber,
 Rhonda Hunter Vredenburg,
 Andrea Infantino, Erin Kinnett,
 Elise Maynard, Malvie Maynard,
 Liz Moore, Laura Ragsdale, Carlos
 Rosello, Melissa Rosello, Hannah Seneff,
 Rachel Smith, Layne Spears,
 Brooke Smalling, Naomi Wilcox

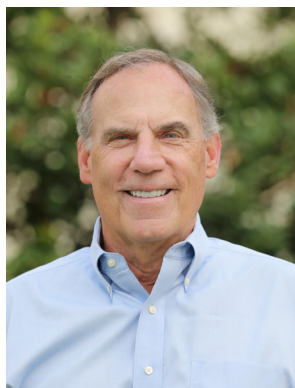
MEN BEHIND THE CURTAIN

Darren Allgaier, John Kennedy,
 David Petrak, Matt Smith, Josue Vazquez,
 Scott Zellner

A SPECIAL THANKS TO

Brian Smith (Corners Custom Picture
 Framing), Tim's Wine, ABC Fine Wine &
 Spirits, Alan Frenkel (Auctioneer)

NEW BOARD MEMBERS



ROBERT INGRAM

Rev. Robert “Bob” Ingram returned to the Geneva board in 2023. He graduated from The College of Wooster (Ohio) and has two master’s degrees from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and an additional master’s degree in Christian higher educational leadership from Geneva College (Pittsburgh).

Bob is an honorably retired teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church in America, having served for about seventeen years in two pastorates. He was the senior vice president of Ligonier Ministries from 1986–1995. In 1991, he led the formation of St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church in Winter Park, Florida, and in 1993 he and his wife and Dr. and Mrs. Sproul were part of the founding members of The Geneva School. He was chairman of the Geneva board for most of the first ten years, and then he was headmaster of Geneva from 2003–2020. He was chairman of the

board for the Society for Classical Learning and now, in retirement, consults with new and existing Christian classical schools across the country and in Canada. He is also the program advisor for the Reformed classical education minor at Reformation Bible College where he serves as an adjunct faculty member and mentors students in their calling as teachers.

Bob and his wife, Marjean, are delighted that both of their daughters have worked at Geneva. Sara (Cain) was the admission coordinator from 2002–2008, and Katie (Deatherage) has served as the director of advancement since 2011. Katie’s two daughters have attended Geneva as well. Marjean has volunteered in numerous ways as a discipleship group leader, counselor, mentor to younger mothers, board member in the earlier years, and as a participant in the community life of the school for thirty years. Bob and Marjean are actively involved members of St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church, Orlando.



BRIAN SMITH

Brian Smith joined The Geneva School Board of Governors in 2023. He is a lawyer and shareholder at Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, PA in Orlando and currently serves as an elder at Orangewood Church (PCA) in Maitland.

Brian graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor’s degree in finance before obtaining his JD from Stetson University College of Law. Between undergrad and law school, he completed a year of study at Reformed Theological Seminary in Oviedo. Brian’s law practice is devoted to eminent domain, representing property owners affected by governmental takings as well as select condemning authorities.

He met his wife, Rachel, while in the finance program at the University of Florida. Rachel went on to earn her MBA from the Crummer Graduate School of Business at Rollins College, and she currently serves as the director of investor relations for Conversus, a StepStone Company. Rachel and Brian have three children at The Geneva School: Spencer (TGS Class of 2027), Oliver (TGS Class of 2029), and Eleanor (TGS Class of 2032).

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

John Riley (Chairman), Michael Aitcheson, Jim Bruce, John Classe, Gordon Cloke, Robert Ingram, Sona Jho, Christine Johnson, Stan Kinnett, Elise Maynard, David Robbins, Dayle Seneff, Brian Smith, and Larry Zirbel

Why Do We Hope in the

How odd our faith is after all! How absolutely strange and unexpected that a faith arose, turning the world upside down, based on an instrument of crucifixion. The cross was the most shameful, pitiable, repulsive method of death in the Roman Empire. Yet Paul admits, “The word of the cross is folly” (1 Cor. 1:18), but then, “The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Cor. 2:14). And in between these two statements he says: “For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men” (1 Cor. 1:22–25).

And then, just as scandalous and unexplainable, a woman (Mary Magdalene) was the first “messenger” of the Good News, the first witness to the equally crazy concept that Jesus was alive, that he had risen from the dead. In first century Palestine and the Roman Empire, a woman was, in general, not considered an acceptable witness in court. Sorry, but it is true. And Mary being the first witness was one of many ways that the Christian faith became a liberating, empowering faith for women in the West.

How strange and odd that the Christian faith rests on such unlikely but crucial elements as death on a cross, resurrection from the dead, and the witness of women. How literally incredible (not believable) that our faith rests on scandalous words like Jesus saying, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you” (John 6:53). Remember that when he says these things, “many of his disciples [yes, his very own followers and students!] turned back and no longer walked with him” (John 6:66)!

And finally, how strange that a world-changing faith is built upon the idea that just as Jesus of Nazareth suffered so also must his followers. Jesus says, “If the world hates you, know that it hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you” (John 15:18–19). Further Jesus tells the crowds, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me” (Matt. 16:24, Mark 8:34, and Luke 9:23).

Seventh graders have recently been learning (in the context of the book of Job) a classic philosophical construct that says, “Since suffering and evil exist, either God is good but not all powerful, or he is all powerful and not good.” Because if he were both, he would stop the suffering and evil. But I explain to them that this is a false dilemma; there is a *tertium quid*, a third way. This third way affirms that in fact the Scriptures and history and nature affirm that God is both good and sovereign. Therefore, suffering (for those who are his people) must have meaning and significance.

None of us welcomes or enjoys suffering. But as God’s people, we can be sure that suffering has its purpose: refining us, burning off the dross, transforming us into a more pure element like gold, reflecting the master’s image more and more accurately. I recently read this by Jared Wilson:

It is the sustaining vision of eternal life in Christ that fixes even a lifetime of suffering to a fine point—a fine point that in the last day will be eclipsed by the glory of the radiant Christ, perhaps even distilled down to a jewel placed amidst your treasures, or placed in the crown of Christ himself as we offer our suffering up to him.

The apostle Peter says in his first letter, “After you have suffered a little while” (verse 10). It is the context of eternity, which is the length of our union with Christ and therefore the un-expiring duration of our security, that colors our suffering. So even Paul could refer to the many aspects of his suffering as a missionary as merely “a light momentary affliction” (2 Cor. 4:17). It’s not even worth comparing to the eternal weight of glory. But the apostle here is not simply promising the escape of suffering—he is promising the sustenance through it. In the above article, Wilson goes on to say:

He will be your strength in the midst of your suffering, with sustaining grace to persevere. He is there, with you and around you and beneath you and over you and in you and beside you, and you are in him, and there is no furnace so hot that Christ will not walk into it with you.

That is a good word. Our community at Geneva has seen its share of suffering and loss among so many of our dear and beloved families. Suffering is ugly and painful, and it shakes us to our roots. But remember that no matter what circumstances befall us, the Light (Jesus!) shines in the darkness, and the darkness has

Midst of Suffering?

not overcome it. And in the light of eternity with Christ in the presence of the Father, even our deepest sadness and suffering will become something we see as “light” and “momentary.” Keep in mind the words of William Cowper’s hymn “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”:

God moves in a mysterious way
his wonders to perform;
he plants his footsteps in the sea,
and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never-failing skill
he treasures up his bright designs,
and works his sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
the clouds ye so much dread
are big with mercy, and shall break
in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
but trust him for his grace;
behind a frowning providence
he hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
unfolding every hour;
the bud may have a bitter taste,
but sweet will be the flow’r.

Blind unbelief is sure to err,
and scan his work in vain;
God is his own interpreter,
and he will make it plain.

Thank God for the resurrection of Jesus Christ!



"There Is Something Better than Never Suffering"
by Jared C. Wilson at <https://ftc.co/resource-library/blog-entries/there-is-something-better-than-never-suffering/>



**Michael
S. Beates**

Chaplain,
Bible Teacher, and
Alumni Parent

TGS WINTER SPORTS WRAP-UP



VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER

BY TRACY TALESNICK

This was another good year for the Geneva girls soccer team. The team competed for and won the district title for the third year in a row, which makes five district wins in the past six years! Winning the district title was a nice finish to a challenging season. The team had a very competitive schedule, and the ladies pushed through while balancing injuries and positional changes to compensate. The Coaches were extremely proud of the girls' resilience as they juggled new roles and fought hard during every match.

The team loses four seniors this year who have brought key soccer skills and delightful personalities to the group: Sophie Orndorff, Elle Black, Ellie Austin (who played for all of their high school years), and Taylor Kish (who is a homeschool

student who joined the Knights her junior year and provided a great lift to the team). These seniors and captains will be missed greatly for what they added to the team in leadership and skill!

The team was also honored by having five girls on the all-district team this year: Emma Keyes, Hayden Kish, Taylor Kish, Sophie Orndorff, and Ella Petersen. Additionally, Taylor Kish was named District Player of the Year. Congrats to these well-deserving young ladies!

Over the years, this team has experienced tremendous growth and development; they have been blessed by new, skilled players and long-time players who continue to impress with



PALMER HENDRIX, MATEO MEDINA, SOPHIE ORNDORFF

their dedication and progress. Both are integral to the success of Geneva's girls soccer team. Supporting student athletes, who balance school loads, leadership roles, and their sports, is key to the Geneva athletics program.

The team seeks to exercise growth, both as athletes and as individuals who honor Christ on and off the field. It is an honor to work with these young ladies year after year.



VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

VARSITY BOYS SOCCER

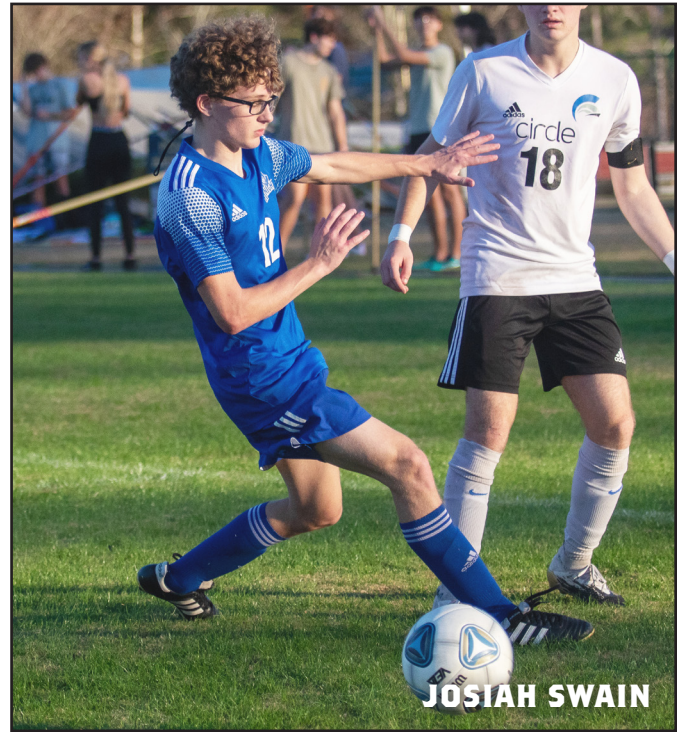
BY EDDIE JIMENEZ

The varsity boys soccer team faced numerous unexpected obstacles during the season yet were still able to improve consistently on a weekly basis. Although they did not end up with a winning record this season, they faced these challenges head-on and worked hard to make progress in spite of the difficulties.

Early in the season, the boys picked up a couple of wins and saw attacking players Palmer Hendrix and Dylan Poweska open their scoring accounts for the year. This was a sign of things to come as Palmer and Dylan ended the season with a combined twenty goals! Midfielder Jonathan Ford was instrumental in providing assists for the attacking players, with a total of five assists on the year.

Seniors DJ Muto, Joey Rowe, and Josiah Swain were a massive part of the Knights defense for the entire season; they recorded a total of three clean sheets this year. Freshman Peter Houf played most of the games in goal, recording eighteen saves and two clean sheets on the year.

This young Geneva team looks to build on this year's experiences as they prepare for the 23–24 season. These players look forward to being stronger next year and competing for a spot in the district final.



BASKETBALL

BY TONY MEDINA



MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

The goal for Geneva's middle school basketball team this season consisted of three key components: to learn, to grow, and to always execute the game plan. The boys were challenged in practice: they learned responsibility and leaned on each other to make the team better. They truly cared for one another and wanted to see each player succeed. Coaching these young men was exciting, and it was an honor to work with such coachable student-athletes. They encouraged each other without caring who got the credit, and the growth that took place was evident by the end of the season.

The team finished the season undefeated at 17–0. A strong group of eighth grade boys led the Knights: Kale Blanchette, Colton Cascante, Baker Costar, Luke Gilmartin, Josh Hernandez, Bennett Johnston, Mateo Medina, and Matthew Sharp. The seventh grade team members included Jackson Allen, Gavin Feeny, Tate King, Bishop Mariniello, Roe Robbins, and William Thigpen. Winning the Central Florida Metro League Championship was a credit to their focus, friendship, and perseverance. Each player contributed to the success of this season.

Congratulations go to Joshua Hernandez, Bishop Mariniello, and Mateo Medina for being nominated to play in the middle school all-star game, and congrats to Mateo Medina for being named MVP of the game, having scored seventeen points. This was an amazing way to end a solid season!



MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Geneva's middle school girls basketball team was led by Coach Justine Cascante. The Lady Knights earned an overall record of 7–4. Three of the four losses were to Kingsway Christian and the other loss was to a very solid St. Luke's team. The Lady Knights roster consisted of ten players in fifth grade through eighth grade. Each young lady played a positive role during the season.

The Lady Knights finished the season in second place in the Central Florida Metro League, and they improved tremendously from the start of the season to the end. These young women reached many team and individual goals. Leah Aitcheson, Penelope Brehm, and Aly Gallo were nominated to represent The Geneva School in the Central Florida Metro League All-Star Game at the end of the season. It is exciting to think about the future, and we look forward to building and developing the Lady Knights basketball program.



JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL

Because many of Geneva's underclassmen were enthusiastic about playing basketball, Geneva had the opportunity to add a junior varsity boys basketball team to the lineup this year. The JV team finished 7–1 and made great strides during the season. They dedicated themselves to learning every day during practice, and most of the boys were able to play up on the varsity team as well.

A sensational sophomore group led the team: Jack Demo, Josiah Dullmeyer, Michael Sharp, Griffin Smith, and Micah Swain. Garrett Fredericks, Thomas Milajecki, and Caleb Reid comprised a solid freshman contingency. Eighth graders Baker Costar, Luke Gilmartin, Joshua Hernandez, and Mateo Medina added excitement to the games, and talented seventh graders Jackson Allen and Bishop Mariniello completed the roster.

Each player showed up to learn and committed themselves to understanding new sets of defense and offense. These young men were dedicated to the process and made coaching a joyful experience. They should be proud of how they competed during the season as they look forward to next year.



VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL

Coaches Jermaine Reynolds, Tony Medina, and Rodney Daniels led a young varsity boys basketball team this year. The Knights finished the season with a 5–11 record. This young team strived to improve every day, developing their skills and learning to work together.

Seventh-grade sharp-shooter Bishop Mariniello was the youngest team member. The talented eighth grade contingent consisted of Baker Costar, Joshua Hernandez, and Mateo Medina. The lone freshman on the team, Thomas Milajecki, played well throughout the season. The Knights' solid sophomore group included Jack Demo, Josiah Dullmeyer, Michael Sharp, Griffin Smith, and Micah Swain. The Knights' two juniors were Joey Brady and Luke Kime. Finally, the team captain and only senior this season was Mitchell Moyer.

The boys basketball team was dedicated throughout the season and worked hard. They continued to fight through adversity and challenged each other to get better. Although the season didn't go as planned from a win/loss point of view, the players enjoyed one another and truly cared for each other on and off the court. With a roster full of underclassmen, the team looks to build on this year's experiences. They will continue to work in the off-season to prepare for next year, and each member looks to grow and develop individually for the betterment of the team as a whole.

EMERGING ENTREPRENEURS

At Geneva, we delight in the many ways our students use their gifts to serve others and to bring goodness to the community, both the immediate school community and the larger community of Central Florida. We would like to introduce you to a few of our students who have taken the initiative to start small businesses. As Paul tells Timothy, "Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12). We enjoy highlighting these students, and we also pray that they strive to serve the Lord in all their endeavors.



LILY FRAZER,
TGS Senior

How long have you had your business?

I have been taking photos for eight years, but in eleventh grade I started an Instagram account and a website and gave the business an official name. I have been actively working on my business for almost a year now. I started with only senior portraits, but now I offer family and pet portraits and many other options!

What inspired you to start a business?

I was inspired by many of the photographers whose work I admire. Seeing how these successful photographers went from just starting out to making a living with their art has been really motivating for me. I also look up to many older Geneva students who are artists. I am blessed to have so many talented friends who inspire me to create my best work every day.

Who helped you get started?

My parents have supported me from the beginning, always encouraging me to step out of my comfort zone and take new opportunities. I am also so thankful to my friends who first asked me to take their photos. Without them, I would not have been able to get the business off the ground!

What do you love most about your job?

I just love taking photos! I also love seeing the finished images being sent out and hearing the feedback from the customers. I love knowing that my images have made someone else happy.

What advice do you have for someone starting a business?

My advice for anyone starting a business is that customers will not come to you at the beginning—you have to go find them. Always be active in your business and search for people who are interested in what you sell. Take every opportunity you get, even if it is not directly related to your business. Use everything as an opportunity to grow your skills and your confidence in your business.



JACOB ZEDIKER,
TGS 9th Grader

How old were you when you started your business, and what inspired you to run a food truck?

I was twelve years old when I started my business in my neighborhood much like a lemonade stand under a tent canopy. Approximately two years later and after my first public kids market event, I wanted to take the next step with my business and desired to purchase a food truck. I presented a business plan to my dad and acquired my truck in fall 2022.

Why did you choose beignets?

The original idea when I started was that I would sell doughnuts because my dad and I love doughnuts, but it was my grandfather that presented the idea of doing beignets. Beignets are something we enjoyed making and eating together as a family since I was little. We decided to take that idea and run with it because there are not a lot of options for beignets in Central Florida. It was the perfect choice!

What is your favorite part about having a small business?

Having and owning a small business is great! I get to have flexible hours, and I don't have to consult with anyone beforehand if I want to improve the business because I'm the owner.

What advice do you have for someone who wants to start a business?

Anyone who wants to start a business should know that it is a very high-risk operation. You should be ready to invest some time and money at the start, but don't give up because it will pay off in the long run. The most important advice I can give to someone who wants to start a small business is the following:

Pray about it consistently.

Have a plan.

Ultimately put your trust in the Lord.

I cannot stress enough that if you don't have a plan there is a very high chance the business will fail. But if you have a Christ-centered mindset and the right preparation, you can start any business you want!



WEBSITE: lilyfrazerphotography.mypixieset.com



FACEBOOK: Rascal's Rockin' Beignets



MONTSERRAT POBLETE-MARURI, TGS 8th Grader

How long have you been sewing/embroidering? What got you interested in that?

I started at the end of last November. I got interested in embroidering when I saw a video about it once and thought it was really cool. I looked on the page and I saw that the vendor was super successful with her embroidering, and that really inspired me! I later asked my mom to take me to an embroidery class, and I immediately fell in love with it. I was so excited that my mom and I talked about it, and we decided to buy the embroidery machine that same day!

What inspired you to start a business at such a young age?

Since I turned fourteen, I always told my parents that I wanted to get a job and earn my own money, but that was hard since I don't know how to drive and I have a super-tight schedule. When I fell in love with embroidery, I wanted to do it for fun, but when I saw that a lot of people are very successful with it, I realized this could be my job and I could have fun and earn my own money!

What has been the biggest surprise?

The biggest surprise that I have faced is the time it takes for one design. I thought it would be super fast and easy. I was wrong (hahaha); the least amount of time it's ever taken me is probably about thirty minutes, which is way more than I thought it would take! I was also surprised by how many people like embroidered things. So many of my friends and family love it!

What has been an obstacle or challenge? How did you overcome it?

My biggest obstacle is probably finding a time to do it. Finding time to use my embroidery machine is really hard especially with homework and sports! Thankfully, I have a wonderful mom who has been willing to help me make designs when I'm in school or when I'm busy. Whenever I think, "Aw man, I don't have time to make anything today!" I know my mom always has me covered! I also realized how hard it is to make a website and start selling. There is a lot of legal stuff to start a company as well! My mom has been my biggest helper through all of this.

What advice did you get before you started a business? What advice do you have for someone else?

My advice to someone else is check all the legal stuff before starting your business and take care of what you can before starting a business. That is very important in order to avoid problems. Be patient and never give up during the learning process (for example, learning embroidery for me) because you will make a lot of mistakes before you nail it.

The advice I gave myself was to never give up. It can be stressful and complicated sometimes, but I told myself, "Never give up and always remember, this will make people happy and they will have personalized designs that will brighten their day." And I make money and have fun! Do something that you like with all your heart and put love into it, and always ask God to guide you.



SPENCER SMITH, TGS 8th Grader

What is the name of your business?

My most recent business is called Live Oak Rabbitry. While raising bunnies has been fun the last couple years, I'm slowly wrapping this business up so I can start a pressure washing business over the summer.

What inspired you to start a business?

The inspiration for starting this business was going to a 4-H fair in fifth grade and wanting to join a 4-H club. I bought a bunny and intended to join a 4-H club the fall of sixth grade, but I didn't because of COVID. Instead, I bought two more bunnies and bred them to sell the babies.

What is your favorite thing about what you do?

My favorite thing about this business is getting to care for baby bunnies and raise them until they're ready to be sold. It's fun to see people excited when they pick up their bunny.

Do you have advice for someone who wants to start a business, especially a young person?

Everyone has interests, so find out what interests you and think of ways to make money doing what you like.

Do you get to apply things you learn at school to your business? Do you find there is fun or interesting overlap?

Math is helpful to make sure I'm profiting but most important would be the communication skills that I learned at Geneva and have been able to use to get the word out about my business and communicate with customers.



POLLY CASSEDY, TGS 7th Grader

How long have you had your business?

It's been almost a year since I started my business in jewelry making.

What inspired you to start a business?

Creating jewelry is a hobby that I enjoy, and it was my mom who suggested that I try selling it.

What is your favorite part of your job?

Making pearl earrings is what I enjoy the most.

What has surprised you about having a business?

It was unexpected for me to see such a positive response, especially since I had no prior experience selling anything except lemonade in my neighborhood.



WEBSITE: <https://www.venusembroideryco.com/>
INSTAGRAM: [venusembroideryco](#)
FACEBOOK: [Venus Embroidery Co](#)

LIVE OAK RABBITRY



EMAIL: polly.cassedy@genevaschool.org

Manners Matter

Throughout a student's time at Geneva, he or she will receive many lessons on being courteous and demonstrating good manners. Teachers weave these lessons into the fabric of everyday life in classrooms and around campus: holding doors open for others, saying please and thank you, and offering assistance to someone in need are just a few examples of this learning process.

We have also added formal instruction for Geneva seventh graders. This year is the inaugural cotillion: a series of etiquette lessons culminating in dinner and a dance. Leading up to the evening of the dance, students learn how to behave at a more formal meal, how to treat one another respectfully, and how to dance such dances as the waltz, the fox trot, and the tango.

Children face many challenges and temptations in this age of social media with a near-constant barrage of influences and images that all promote an extreme look-at-me mentality. Hopefully, these etiquette lessons will help counter some of the issues students face with the mindset of what it means to regard others more highly than oneself.

In Matthew 22, Jesus answers the question, "Which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" with these words: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (vs. 36–39). Paul encourages the Christians in Rome to "love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor" (Romans 12:10); and he writes to the Philippians, reminding them, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others" (Philippians 2:3–4). Manners matter because our friends and neighbors matter.

We are grateful for this annual opportunity to teach Geneva students these lessons in a more formal setting; having a foundation in etiquette will help as they enter the world and the workplace as young adults. Seventh graders were able to meet with Elijah Noel, TGS Class of 2015, who shared with them the importance of proper etiquette, poise, and presentation in college and beyond; this experience as they began these classes offered a great start and a real-world taste of how living humbly and respecting others affect everyday life, especially as they leave Geneva to pursue Christ's calling in their lives.



Colton Cahill



Collins Davis



Liv Agurto and Gavin Feeny



Madison Goranson and
Elijah Noel '15



Geneva Sweethearts

Bethany and Matthew Gerber

“And they called it puppy love” . . . Our love story began back in 1994 in an old church building on 17/92 in Fern Park, Florida. It just so happened that this was also the beginning of another story of love, a labor of love if you will. The story of The Geneva School itself, but that is a story for another time.

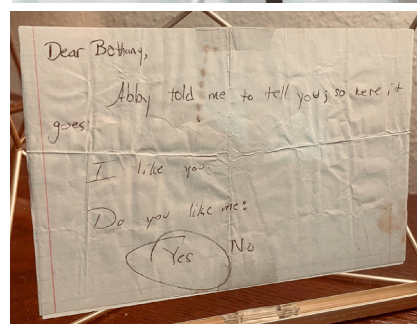
Our story’s first scene took place in a classroom full of nervous sixth grade students. For these young souls, which included Matt and me, this was not only the first day of school but their first day in a new school—a school like no other ever attempted in the Orlando area. This was a Christian classical school. These students were tiny pioneers, trailblazers, and industry disruptors! And maybe it was their parents’ idea, but they actually put on the scratchy uniforms, read classic works of literature, and attempted to wrap their twelve-year-old minds around subjects such as Latin and study critical thinking skills, so the students should get some of the credit!

One young student, Matt, was already seated at his desk (his mother was never late to school drop-off). However, another student (that would be me, Bethany) was late and hardly ever arrived on time (her mother was more of a “free spirit” when it came to all things scheduled). As I was late, I was the last student to arrive. Matt saw me walk through the door with my freshly crimped 90s hairstyle, wearing my brand-new red TGS polo, and he knew. He knew that I was the girl he was going to marry. He claims this to be true to this day.

I don’t admit this often, but I guess he was right.

Our blossoming romance grew throughout that year. First, we became great friends, and then it developed into something deeper. In the fall of our seventh grade year, my middle school best friend, Abby, presented me with a handwritten note. The note was from Matt, but he was too nervous to give it to me himself. Apparently, he had already made an attempt to declare his love the day before (my birthday), but he chickened out. The note contained one simple question written on standard lined notebook paper that would forever merge our lives into one path to journey on together:

“Do you like me? Circle yes or no.”



I circled yes and we were officially a couple.

Geneva is still a very special place, but back in its infancy, it was almost magical. Every grade had less than twenty students, and in our class, we had only twelve. The fully immersive educational experiences both inside and outside of the walls of the school bonded our class like nothing else I have experienced to this day. In fact, we are all still somewhat connected. We have been in each other's weddings and attended baby showers and, tragically, even experienced one funeral together. This was not your average middle school experience, and for that I will always be grateful.

This deep relational bond formed at such a tender age was not the norm and proved strong enough to withstand the growing pains of adolescence, attending different churches, different high schools, and even being together long-distance while attending different colleges. Through it all, we have always been a team and one another's biggest fan and most encouraging cheerleader. But we have been a team of three. Love is wonderful, but it is still love between two flawed humans who need more when storms come—and they will come. Our faith has been an anchor and centralized focus in our relationship, even in our youth. My favorite takeaway from our premarital counseling was the concept of the relationship triangle. The closer we each grew in our own personal relationship with God, the closer we would grow towards each other. That has proven to be true, and through the last seventeen years of marriage and twenty-seven years together, that has made all the difference.



Lindsey and Steve Candeto

Steve and I started dating towards the beginning of our senior year at Geneva (class of 2010). While we had been in the same class since our sophomore year, we didn't actually become friends until the summer leading into twelfth grade. Due to our class size and our interests, we spent most of the summer hanging out together.

Everyone knows Geneva is a small, tightly knit community. Within a week of us starting to date, not only did our class of twenty-five know, but so did all of our teachers, the entire class below us, many of our friends' parents, and some of the administration. I fondly remember sitting in study hall one day when suddenly Mrs. Candeto (Steve's mom), popped around the corner to say "hi" and check in on how my classes were going. Shortly after our conversation, I remember sitting there and thinking about how different our relationship was because of the setting we were in. I don't think you come to appreciate those types of moments until you're older.

As the year progressed, Steve and I spent most afternoons working on homework together, reading over each other's papers, helping each other study for upcoming tests, and cheering each other on in whichever sports were in season (I played golf and tennis, and Steve played basketball and baseball). We built our relationship on a strong foundation in the early years thanks to family, friends, and positive role models in our community. We have been blessed, through both good and tough moments, to look back on where we started.

Our relationship continued into our college years. We both graduated from the University of Central Florida (Lindsey, 2014, and Steve, 2015), and then we married shortly after. This past year, we celebrated seven years of marriage and thirteen years together!

Steve has since earned his doctorate in physical therapy and is currently serving in the United States Army as the chief of rehabilitation at Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital at Fort Polk, Louisiana. After spending the past few years teaching and working in corporate safety, I have switched career paths to spend time at home with our daughter, Ella Robin (age two), who has been a blessing in our lives and keeps us on our toes!

We look back fondly on our time at Geneva and the impact this community has made and continues to make in our life. We hope to one day move back to Orlando and to send our children to Geneva so they too can experience how wonderful this community is!



Brooke and Troy Jackson

Troy and I met in August of 2002 when we both came to The Geneva School as kindergartners. Our families ended up at Geneva in different ways, but our thirteen years in school together were very similar. Academically we loved Latin and wanted to be engineers. These passions landed us in many of the same classes throughout high school. Our senior year, we were two of three students in AP Physics, two of six in AP Calculus, and two of four in AP Latin. In these small classroom environments, we learned how to think for ourselves but also how to work with and respect each other. Athletically, Troy and I were involved in sports from the very beginning. He played basketball and did the high jump in track, and I played volleyball and tennis. Our experiences on these teams developed our servant leadership skills and shaped us into well-rounded students, and we had the honor of being named male and female athletes of the year our senior year.

On paper, Troy and I were perfect for each other, but God's timing is even more perfect. He developed our relationship just as friends throughout our time at Geneva and then through college. I attended Davidson College in North Carolina, Troy went to the University of Florida, and we would see each other a few times a year during school breaks. It wasn't until the pandemic brought me home a year after college that God opened our eyes to the possibility of more than a friendship between us. It was our shared desire to love beauty, think deeply, and pursue Christ's calling that allowed us to begin our relationship without hesitation. Geneva provided not only an academic and athletic foundation for our lives but also one of faith and godly character. God's faithfulness has been evident from the very beginning of our relationship over twenty years ago, and we praise him for his goodness to us throughout our lives, both individually and as a couple.

Troy and I got married in October of 2022 and live in Winter Park. Ironically, our wedding venue was Interlachen Country Club, the place where we had spent many Geneva spring formals and had given our fall senior speeches. Troy works as a mechanical design engineer at Lockheed Martin, and I am an actuarial associate at Hannover Re. Troy also recently began pursuing his MBA through Rollins College. When we aren't working or studying, we love to play sports and work on complicated puzzles. We are members at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Orlando, the church Troy grew up in, and we get to see many of our Geneva teachers and friends there every week. My favorite part about being married to my kindergarten classmate is sharing memories from every stage in our life, whether it's a first-grade field trip or a game-winning shot on the basketball or volleyball court. Now as adults, we realize there is something so special about being part of the community that helped raise you, and we are extremely thankful for our unique story.





COLLEGE RECRUITING

With state-of-the-art facilities, coaches who strive to develop excellence through competition, and a significant number of student-athletes in seventh through twelfth grade, The Geneva School athletics program offers students valuable opportunities for growth: practicing discipline and developing a strong work ethic in and out of the classroom. Athletics has been important to Geneva since her beginning. Although teams were small and the offerings limited in the early years, the program has grown and continues to grow and mature. Exceeding the national statistics, over 10 percent of Geneva alumni continue to play their sport in college. National statistics show that entering the world of collegiate athletics is a daunting process; however, pursuing excellence in a sport—as in any endeavor—requires hard work, determination, time management, team-building, and character development, all of which benefit student athletes beyond their competitive days.

For those who are interested in pursuing college athletics, it might be helpful to understand the national statistics. There are nearly 8 million students who currently participate in high school athletics in the United States. Of those 8 million, 7 percent (approximately 560,000) continue to play their sport at the college level and 2 percent (approximately 190,000) are awarded athletic scholarships, totaling more than \$3.7 billion annually. Very few high school/college athletes compete at a professional or Olympic level.

The above statistics from the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) help keep the educational component of “student athlete” in perspective. TGS believes in the importance of athletics in cultivating the whole person, desiring for students to strive for excellence in athletic competition and fully supporting students in that endeavor with increased coaching stipends and state-of-the-art facilities. Keeping in mind the statistics regarding college athletes entering professional sports, it is important to remember that a very small number of college athletes go on to earn a living as an athlete, but a very large percentage of them (greater than the general college population) go on to earn college degrees.

This is important to consider if a student has the desire to continue a sport beyond high school and as he or she goes through the athletic recruiting process. After my own experience as an NCAA Division I scholarship athlete and fifteen years as an athletic administrator at the collegiate level, I have seen the importance of focusing on what a school has to offer outside of an athletic program during the application process. It might be helpful for students to ask themselves questions like, Would I still choose this college if the coach left? Would I still choose this college if I were injured and couldn't play my sport anymore? Would I still choose this college if I decided to stop competing? Another helpful question for

students to ask is whether the college they want to compete at is also the best option to prepare them for life after their four years of undergraduate studies.

I encourage parents and students to be proactive in the athletic recruiting process instead of waiting to see what colleges may or may not be interested in their athlete and weighing their options from those schools that show interest. It is a good idea for students and parents to develop a realistic list of colleges that check the nonathletic desired boxes. More schools may come into play during the recruiting process, but formulating a baseline criteria beyond athletics will help to streamline the student's options. This process should start during a student's sophomore year of high school as they prepare for the recruiting process to begin in earnest as a junior and continue through their senior season. Different sports have different recruiting calendars, but most collegiate coaches can start to make contact the summer before the junior year of high school.

NCAA Division I and II schools provide more than \$3.7 billion in athletic scholarships annually to nearly 190,000 student athletes. Division III schools do not offer athletic scholarships. Division III coaches can help navigate the process for nonathletic or need-based scholarships or financial aid.

NCAA Division I schools can offer multiyear scholarships that may cover the cost of attendance, but only 58 percent of NCAA Division I athletes receive athletic scholarships. NCAA Division II schools offer one-year athletic scholarships that need to be renewed each year, with 67 percent of NCAA Division II athletes receiving athletics aid. While there are no athletic scholarships at NCAA Division III schools, 80 percent of these athletes do, in fact, receive some form of nonathletic aid.

In addition to broad scholarship regulations across the NCAA divisions, there are also scholarship limitations within each sport. Some sports are considered “headcount” sports, where they can only have a certain number of scholarship athletes on their roster, and each of those athletes must be on full scholarship. Other sports, mostly Olympic, nonrevenue sports, are considered “equivalency” sports, where the number of designated scholarships per sport can be broken up amongst students and allotted as full or partial scholarships. The accompanying tables show the number of scholarships per sports team at one time, broken up across four years of recruiting.

I encourage any students interested in continuing their athletic pursuits to download the NCAA's “Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete” before their junior year to become familiar with the NCAA eligibility requirements. There are rules and requirements

with the NCAA that need to be followed in order for a student to be eligible to compete at the college level. Most importantly, these rules require a student to be registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center to go on an official visit, receive a written offer of athletic aid, or sign a National Letter of Intent.

This NCAA guide is also a good resource for understanding recruiting calendars and recruiting terms. Each sport has specific rules and calendars that coaches and students must follow, with certain times of the year that they can be in contact with each other. Here are some important terms to consider in the process.

National Letter of Intent (NCAA Division I and II)— This form is a standard NCAA-provided, binding agreement between the student and the school. By signing an NLI, the college-bound student agrees to attend the NCAA Division I or II college or university for one academic year. In exchange, that college or university must provide that athlete financial aid for at least one academic year. The agreement can be multiyear or renewable each year.

Signing an NLI ends the recruiting process because coaches are prohibited from recruiting students who have signed NLIs with other NLI-member schools. If a student signs an NLI but then decides to attend another college, they may request a release, but it is at the school's discretion to grant their NLI release. If a student signs an NLI with one school but attends a different school, he or she loses one full year of eligibility to compete and must complete a full academic year at the new school before being eligible to compete.

Celebratory Standardized Signing Form (NCAA Division III)— This form is a standard NCAA-provided, *nonbinding* athletics celebratory signing form after a college-bound student has been accepted for enrollment at a Division III school.

Official Visit—The college or university pays for the student's travel to and from the school, along with meals and lodging for the visit. The NCAA allows a recruit to make only **five visits to Division I schools**, limited to one per school. Official visits to DII and DIII schools are also limited to one per school, but there is no limit on the total number of visits.

Unofficial Visit—Any visit by a student and his or her family members to a college campus is paid for by the student's family. Students may make an unlimited amount of unofficial visits.

To be recruited to play college sports is an achievement of its own. This is an exciting time and can be a fun experience, but it can also be stressful and challenging. Unfortunately, people have found ways to monetize these challenges and emotions through recruiting services. These organizations advertise themselves as being able to help your student in the recruiting process. As a personal anecdote, I spent fifteen years working in Division I college athletics and have relationships with dozens of coaches, and I do not know of a single program that utilizes these services to find athletes.

It is far better for you to become educated and guide the process. Step one is to take time and read the NCAA guide. Become familiar with terms and calendars: know the timeline. You will find the process is

WOMEN'S SPORTS	NCAA I	NCAA II
CHEERLEADING	14	9
BASKETBALL	15	10
BEACH VOLLEYBALL	6	5
BOWLING	5	5
CROSS COUNTRY / TRACK & FIELD	18	12.6
EQUESTRIAN	15	15
FENCING	5	4.5
FIELD HOCKEY	12	6.3
GOLF	6	5.4
GYMNASTICS	12	6
ICE HOCKEY	18	18
LACROSSE	12	9.9
RIFLE (COED)	3.6	3.6
ROWING	20	20
RUGBY	12	12
SKIING	7	6.3
SOCCER	14	9.9
SOFTBALL	12	7.2
SWIMMING & DIVING	14	8.1
TENNIS	8	6
TRIATHLON	6.5	5
VOLLEYBALL	12	8
WATER POLO	8	8
WRESTLING	10	10

The numbers in red represent headcount scholarships that cannot be divided.

MEN'S SPORTS	NCAA I	NCAA II
BASKETBALL	13	10
BASEBALL	11.7	9
CROSS COUNTRY / TRACK & FIELD	12.6	12.6
FENCING	4.5	4.5
FOOTBALL	85	36
GOLF	4.5	3.6
GYMNASTICS	6.3	5.4
ICE HOCKEY	18	13.5
LACROSSE	12.6	10.8
RIFLE (COED)	3.6	3.6
SKIING	6.3	6.3
SOCCER	9.9	9
SWIMMING & DIVING	9.9	8.1
TENNIS	4.5	4.5
VOLLEYBALL	4.5	4.5
WATER POLO	4.5	4.5
WRESTLING	9.9	9

The numbers in red represent headcount scholarships that cannot be divided.

not that complicated. If a college is interested in a student, it will find that student. And the best way to communicate with a college coach is directly and not through a paid service.

College athletics is changing. With the introduction of the NIL (Name, Image, and Likeness) the concept of amateurism and the rules surrounding eligibility are bound to change. The transfer portal is another moving part that has introduced new dynamics to the journey of a college athlete. However, parents and students can educate themselves about the process and meet the challenges head on.

Participating in athletics at Geneva, where teachers and coaches alike encourage excellence, can help prepare students for college-level play. Faculty, staff, and students enjoy cheering on TGS athletes, so if your child is on this journey, we hope you enjoy the ride during your years at Geneva. And as you move forward, knowing your child, the process, and what schools expect and provide will help you make the best decisions for your child's future as he or she pursues Christ's calling.

If you have questions, I would be glad to help. You can reach me at kfmilajecki@genevaschool.org.



Kedi Milajecki
TGS Parent,
Marketing/
Graphic Design

THANK YOU, JIM BRUCE AND JOHN CLASSE

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven (Matthew 5:16).



As we see some projects on Geneva's campus completed and others get closer and closer to completion, we would like to express gratitude to John Classe and Jim Bruce for the roles that they have played. For well over a decade, John and Jim have offered their strengths and skills to benefit Geneva. They have worked selflessly behind the scenes, and it is not a stretch to say that we are where we are today because of their commitment to building relationships and to seeing The Geneva School flourish as the school has grown over the years. They were there when Geneva was a small but determined school, and now they get to see the fruit of their labor as the community is finally all together on one campus and Riley Arena and Grace Commons (our beautiful fountain) are nearly complete. We are grateful for all that they have done, and we thank the Lord and give God the glory for the way he provides for The Geneva School in all things.

JIM BRUCE joined The Geneva School Board of Governors in 2014. With over twenty years of financial and leadership experience, his expertise on the board has been invaluable. He has held positions as president, chief financial officer, and chief operating officer in various industries and companies. Jim has also managed and overseen several high-net-worth family offices whose investments have included airline, automotive, marine, restaurant, manufacturing, environmental, and real estate development. In these positions, he has planned and worked through many complex operational, financial, and tax strategies.

Jim is a graduate of the University of Michigan Ross School of Business. He is chairman of the board of Young Life Heart of Orlando. He and his wife, Amy, have two children who are graduates of The Geneva School: Katlynn (TGS Class of 2015; University of Florida and Duke University School of Law) and James (TGS Class of 2020; Palm Beach Atlantic University). The Bruce family lives in Sanford, Florida, and attends Northland Church.

JOHN CLASSE has served on Geneva's building committee since 2017 and on the board since 2019. He was the CEO/District Administrator of the Reedy Creek Improvement District (now known as the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District) from January 2016 to May 2023. He is now a Special Advisory to the Board of Supervisors. The District is a special taxing authority that provides all governmental services for the landowners and taxpayers within the district, which includes Walt Disney World. John's thirty-plus-year career consists of significant experience in real estate development both as an owner/developer and as a consultant. His notable experience includes projects at Disney and Universal Studios as well as Baldwin Park and Celebration.

Originally from the Philadelphia area, his family moved to Florida and he grew up in Orlando. John earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Auburn University and returned to Orlando to begin his professional career. He is both a licensed professional engineer and licensed real estate broker.

John and his wife, Anne, have three daughters: Anna (TGS Class of 2017; Palm Beach Atlantic University), Charlotte ("Charlie," TGS Class of 2018; Anderson University) and Katherine ("Katie," TGS Class of 2024). The family lives in Winter Springs, and they are members of Summit Church in Orlando.

GREETINGS FROM THE WORLD OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

As we all look forward to the close of another year at Geneva, I pause to reflect on and write about my last eleven years in this role as director of college counseling. What a joy it has been to watch 303 graduates walk across the stage, and soon to add another 35 to that number!

From day one, I have found Geneva parents to be grounded, humble, and faithful to God. This has certainly been reflected in my time facilitating the college process with them. Students and parents alike seem to emanate a peace that frequently sends a grounded message: *“As I work hard, plan well, and trust, he will lead.”* However, there are many things we cannot control when it comes to this process! Anxiety and fear—what an enemy these twin siblings are to confidence, peace, and joy. And I have always preached “fit” when it comes to building the college list. Financial, geographical, spiritual, academic, and social aspects, as well as multiple other criteria, are all factors that work together toward landing a student on a campus where they will feel at home and thrive. It’s an interesting process and journey. Not too many straight lines, for sure, but as is written in the Book of Proverbs, “The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps” (Proverbs 16:9).

While we certainly have some common colleges and universities that our students tend to matriculate to from year to year, it is always nice to spread the Geneva community even wider and impact new places. For this year’s class, that impact is coming to Northwestern University (Charles White), University of Virginia (Josiah Swain), Penn State University (Eric Zhang), Oklahoma State University (Kelly Sevor), Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston (Ellie Austin), and The Culinary Institute of America in San Antonio (Eliot Ryden), among many others. I could not be more excited for this class of thirty-five seniors and what lies ahead for each of them. A Geneva education certainly prepares students to thrive at the post-secondary level; we trust this foundation also prepares them for the years beyond college as well. The discipline required to finish the race well gives me supreme confidence that once they cross the stage at the end of May they will be ready.

Most, if not all of you, are aware that my wife, Alyssa, and I have three children at the school. After facilitating this process as a counselor for all of these years, next year I will have the privilege to experience it as a parent. My, how time flies!

I appreciate you staying strong to the end of both *The Courier* and this article. That makes you a winner! Have yourself a fantastic and restful summer, and we’ll chat again next academic year.

Blessings,
Scott Thigpen



Scott Thigpen

TGS Parent,
College
Counselor



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CASSELBERRY, FL 32707



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30

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