Daisha Simmons ’10
2,000 Points and Counting

Special Feature:
Campaign Success
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I have always been interested in the subject of history. When I was a child, the stories of the Trojan War fascinated me, and I would regularly lose myself in the *Golden Book Encyclopedia* learning about the history of various nations and cultures.

As an undergraduate at Trinity College in Hartford I was captivated by the history professors (an erudite and entertaining group) and decided to major in the subject. Upon graduation, I took a job at a small New England boarding school where, among other things, I taught several history courses.

This issue of the *GSB Magazine* features several stories that are positively “historic” in nature. The recent capital campaign, “Building an Enduring Legacy,” raised 12.5 million dollars, making it the most successful fundraising effort in the school’s history. Daisha Simmons, class of 2010, is the most accomplished girls basketball player in the history of our school. Scoring over 2000 points, leading the team to two county championships, one State Prep B Championship, and three North Sectional New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) finals, she is heading to Rutgers University in the fall to play for Hall of Famer Vivian Stringer. History — that is what Tony Bednarsky and the Knights boys soccer team made in November. After three years of coming up just short of the title, they won the first ever NJSIAA State Championship by any boys team at GSB.

When you think of Princeton University, it calls to mind many things, including a long history that reaches to the white house and beyond. Currently GSB has five recent graduates attending this outstanding institution, the largest number in the history of our school. Our alumni, whether in college or beyond, are out in the world, making a difference through their efforts. That too, is history.

Finally, after several years of consideration and research, we moved ahead with the design and creation of school crests for St. Bernard’s and The Gill School. They now hang proudly in the Chapel, flanking the crest for Gill St. Bernard’s, which was donated by the Parents’ Association. Rich in history and spirit, each serves as a proud reminder of our past. For over 100 years — first as St. Bernard’s School, then with The Gill School, and finally together as Gill St. Bernard’s School — our school has been a wonderful place with a long record of success and achievement. That history continues to unfold today and I encourage everyone to be a part of it.

Regards,

S.A. Rowell
Headmaster
Alumni Make a Difference
From GSB to Careers in Community Service

What do double-bagging groceries, hammering nails and tutoring have in common?

If you ask alumni Adam Tenner '85, Kristen Simonelli '94 and Court Clayton '95, they’ll tell you these were GSB community service experiences that eventually led them to their careers.

They told Upper School students just that during a special program sponsored by GSB's Character Education Task Force called “The Power of Being Involved in Community.” The assembly, held on February 5, 2010, was part of an ongoing effort to promote service-learning opportunities for students and faculty.

Tenner, executive director of Metro TeenAIDS in Washington D.C., spoke of how the moment that awoke him to the impact he could make in the lives of others had been packaging groceries at a food bank while at GSB.

“One day I went with other GSB students to volunteer at a food bank,” he said. “We were asked to double-bag groceries. I didn’t feel this was a good use of my time – until the director explained that without the protection of the extra bag, the package might break when the client was taking it home, especially if it was raining. If that happened, the much-needed food would be lost. This was a huge lesson for me in how even small things can make a big difference, and it started me looking at serving others in a different light.”

From that time on, Tenner focused on careers that help others. He started by conducting after-school youth programs while a college undergraduate, went on to run a GED program for homeless youth and then worked in HIV prevention and youth outreach in Seattle. Eventually he joined Metro TeenAIDS, a group which distributes information about AIDS to middle and high school students in the D.C. area, does advocacy work with the schools and runs a youth leadership program.

Clayton, director of leadership giving for Habitat International in Boston, was profoundly affected by a Habitat for Humanity Unit trip he took in the spring of 1994. Unlike Tenner, however, it took a while for the lesson to sink in with him.

“I didn’t know what I wanted to do with my life,” he said. “I got an MBA, but then found I didn’t really like the business world. Someone suggested that I try non-profits and that’s when I remembered the Habitat trip at GSB. I realized the issue of proper housing for people was something I could be passionate...
about.” He needs that passion to be able to communicate to potential donors the importance of housing in establishing human dignity.

Simonelli, coordinator of service learning for Northeastern University in Boston, was on the same Habitat for Humanity Unit trip as Clayton and said of it, “That Unit helped me understand how all people are affected by the conditions in which they live. It made me want to be of service.” However, she took a slightly different route because she wanted to combine her love for education (nurtured by the GSB Future Teachers Club) with her desire to help others.

She took courses in Public and Community Service Studies at Providence College as an undergraduate and discovered she really liked counseling work. After college she worked for Americore until she joined Northeastern University in 2000. Today Simonelli pairs the needs of students to get practical work experience with the needs of the local Boston community for assistance with projects. She loves her role in helping students find what they’re passionate about by involving them in various projects. “It’s a great way to engage with your community and also help students learn,” she said. She also trains students for leadership positions working with the community. “I love bringing people together and helping them find connections they didn’t know they had,” she added.

Do these alumni have any advice for current GSB students?

Clayton advised the group to “find something you are passionate about and do everything possible to address it. There are non-profits that deal with issues from the environment to health care to education.” He also stressed, “You have to have real empathy for the people you are helping.” Simonelli suggested working on a small project first and learning all the ins and outs of it from the ground up. And Tenner told the students, “Your generation will be involved with more solid change in the way things are done. I, for one, am tired of the same old approaches. It is time to change the face of things. And you’re the ones to do it!”
Chinekwu Anunwa ’07
and James Behot ’07:
Princeton Tigers

They got there by different routes, but Chinekwu Anunwa and James Behot from the class of 2007 are both happily enrolled in Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy.

Anunwa went to Princeton planning to major in a science, but soon realized that lab work wasn’t for her. She took a few politics courses and really enjoyed them. Behot planned to be an economics major at the school – until he became more interested in the real world issues that public policy addresses.

Both applied to and were accepted into the highly competitive Woodrow Wilson School in the spring of their sophomore years. Since then they have both participated in the same task force which last semester studied “The U.S. Economic Crisis and Child Well-being.”

According to Behot and Anunwa, the school gives them a good deal of freedom in sculpting their policy concentration so they can pick disciplines that tie in to their interests. Behot is focusing on domestic economic policy and Anunwa on housing and health policies and women’s issues.

There is more to college life than just coursework, however. Behot runs varsity track and, through the team, is involved with a few community service projects. One helps disadvantaged young people apply for college, the other pairs seriously ill children with collegiate sports team members who serve as mentors and friends.

Anunwa is involved with the Nassau Literary Review and a campus group called Sustained Dialogue that promotes discussion on issues related to race, gender and religion. Just for fun, she takes tap dancing lessons with a campus dance troupe and appeared in two student theater productions last year.

“Did GSB help them make the adjustment to college? “Of course it did,” said Behot.

“In particular, having had so many classes that stressed participation in discussions was important.” Anunwa felt particularly well-prepared to tackle the research papers required in college, but also said, “I realize that many of the most important lessons I learned at GSB came from unexpected places. I’m thinking of the way my English classes taught me a lot of analytical skills that are applicable to almost any academic field.”

Plans for post-graduation are not definite, but range from law school, finance, public policy (Behot) to working in the non-profit sector, grad school or working abroad (Anunwa). She is getting some experience in the latter area while at school. Last summer she studied in Brazil with help from a scholarship from Princeton’s Latin American Studies department and this semester she is studying at the University of Havana, Cuba.
Alumni News

Young Alumni Night at GSB

More than 50 alumni came back to GSB for the annual double-header basketball game and Young Alumni Night on December 18, 2009. This year the Knights won against rival Bernards with scores of 57-38 (boys), 74-38 (girls).

Up in the Brueckner Hall “Skybox,” recent alumni reconnected, mixed and mingled with friends and former faculty, while enjoying refreshments and watching the games.

Above: More than 50 alumni enjoyed visiting each other in Brueckner Hall.
(L to r) Nazar Zhdan, Will Stone, Michael Jablonskyj, Mike D’Arcangelo and Roman Jablonskyj from the class of 2009 take time out for a photo.

A Tradition Returns: Alumni Soccer Game

Twenty-five alumni and several current students came together on the day after Thanksgiving (November 27) for a game of soccer at GSB. Both men and women took part in the friendly competition, while past and current parents cheered them on.
GSB On the Road

Director of Alumni Relations Ethan Dubow took some time this fall to travel to Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut and upstate New York, visiting with alumni and bringing them up-to-date on what’s happening on campus.

New York City and New Jersey alumni had a similar opportunity when they gathered at the Trinity Restaurant in Hoboken for an Alumni Happy Hour on Thursday, December 3, 2009. The group of approximately 25 spent time catching up with Director of Student Studies Peter Schmidt, Randi Schmidt, librarian, Headmaster Sid Rowell, Jim Diverio, director of external affairs, and Dubow.

Shown here are some photos of the latter event.

Miniature Horses Visit GSB

Ellen Mitchell ’03 and other representatives of Sharing Village, a program based in Gladstone that does carriage riding for pediatric oncology patients, came to campus on November 18 as part of GSB’s efforts to encourage students to get involved in local community service opportunities. Sharon Wood Chesson, a 1966 graduate of The Gill School, is the founder of the group, and several other GSB alumni volunteer at the facility.

Ellen Mitchell ’03 (center) introduces one of the therapy horses to GSB’s Lower School students as one of the cancer patients looks on.
FRIDAY APRIL 30

Fifteenth Annual Alumni Classic:
Fox Hollow Golf Club, Branchburg, N.J.
10:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Enjoy a barbecue lunch, 18 holes of golf, 19th hole reception and awards ceremony.

Varsity Boys Tennis Match
GSB Campus
3:45 p.m.

GSB Upper School Choir Concert
GSB Chapel
6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.
Come see current GSB choir singers put on a show for alumni, students, and parents.

“Welcome Alumni” Reception
Hockenbury Academic Center
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Join classmates and friends in the student center of Hockenbury Academic Center for a wine and cheese reception following the GSB Choir Concert. (Attendance at the concert is not required to attend the “Welcome Alumni” Reception.)

SATURDAY, MAY 1

“The History of Our School” Archives Display
GSB Chapel
1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
View artifacts and pictures from St. Bernard’s School, The Gill School, and Gill St. Bernard’s School.

Athletic Games
GSB fields
Beginning at 3:00 p.m.
Varsity Baseball
Varsity Softball
Varsity Track & Field

GSB Alumni Clam Bake
Lawn outside the Chapel
4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Bring the entire family to this outdoor feast that features clams, king crab, shrimp and more! (Hamburgers, hotdogs, and a vegetarian option will be available as well.) Entertainment will be provided for kids, and there will be live music for all to enjoy.

IMPORTANT REUNION NOTES:

CLASSES OF THE 1980’S:
Please contact Ethan Dubow,* director of alumni relations, or Amy Melick ’85** for information about an on-campus event following the GSB Alumni Clam Bake.

CLASS OF 1995:
Please contact Ethan Dubow,* director of alumni relations, or Andrea Freeman ’95*** for information about a “Class of ’95 vs. Faculty” softball game taking place on Saturday, May 1.

To organize a special class reunion event, please contact Ethan Dubow.*

* Ethan Dubow: edubow@gsbschool.org
(908)234-1611 ext. 292

** Amy Melick ’85: amymelick@optimum.net

*** Andrea Freeman ’95: aafpetvet@gmail.com
Haiti Relief Efforts at GSB Spearheaded by Students

Within hours of learning about the devastation in Haiti, GSB students and faculty responded with a coordinated effort of divisions, organizations and individuals that will maximize the school's ability to assist the earthquake victims.

The lead is being taken by organizations such as H.O.P.E. (Helping Oppressed People and the Environment), the divisional student governments and the French classes with the assistance of faculty and staff. So far, over $800 has been raised through bake sales, and more than $5000 from sales of t-shirts and a 30-hour fast run by Kathryn Grabowski ’12 and H.O.P.E. The Middle School student government ran a coin competition, raising more than $2300, which will be added to the Upper School amount. The Comparative World Cultures classes are incorporating Haiti into the curriculum and learning about its history and culture.

More than 150 students wore t-shirts in support of the school's relief efforts in Haiti. Part of the purchase price of the shirts went to the relief fund.

GSB Scholars to Red Bull Stadium

The GSB Scholars were given a personalized tour of how a large construction project is managed when they visited the new Red Bulls professional soccer stadium, which is under construction in Harrison, N.J. John Amorosa, father of Meghan ’10, the project manager of the site, acted as guide for the day.

The students learned about all aspects of such a project, from zoning and environmental issues to be considered, to how the sod is installed.

The GSB Scholars at Red Bulls stadium. John Amorosa, father of Meghan ’10, is at far left; Michael Chimes, director of academic technology, is at far right.
Turkey Time at GSB

As GSB’s annual Take A Turkey to School Day came to a close on November 20, a total of 646 birds rode the truck to the Community Food Bank of New Jersey in Hillside, setting a new school record for donations. This meant that more than 9000 pounds of turkey were part of Thanksgiving dinner for hundreds of needy New Jerseyans. GSB remains one of the largest single contributors to the Food Bank in the state.

New Primary Program Announced

In September 2010, Gill St. Bernard’s will introduce a new program for children aged 3 to 4 years to add to the existing Pre-kindergarten of 4 and 5 year olds. The two sections, Primary 3 and Primary 4, will form the newly established GSB Primary Program. Children need to be 3 years old by February in order to be considered for admission the following September.

The new program will stress a child-directed, interdisciplinary introduction to learning led by creative and dynamic teachers. The daily schedule will include academic instruction, music, physical education, and supervised indoor and outdoor playtime. Children will be encouraged to express their thoughts and feelings, to resolve conflicts, and to treat others respectfully.

For more information about the new program and various scheduling options, contact the Admission Office at 908-234-1611, ext. 245.

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WALKWAY TO TRADITION

BUY A BRICK ON THE ALUMNI WALKWAY

As a member of the Gill St. Bernard’s School community, you have the opportunity to help preserve our past, and secure our future. During GSB's centennial year (1999-2000), the Alumni Walkway was established to honor members of the GSB community. The walkway approaches the Chapel and marks the present route of the senior graduation processional.

Reserve your place in GSB history by personalizing a piece of this walkway. Bricks may be purchased by or for alumni, students, faculty, or friends of the school for either $100 (4" x 8") or $250 (8" x 8").

ORDER FORM

Please complete and return to: GSB, PO Box 604, Gladstone, NJ 07934.

Name: _______________________________ Class of: ______

Address: __________________________________________________________

City: ___________________ State: _______ Zip: _________

Phone: ___________________ E-mail: ________________________________

I would like to order:

 _____ 4" x 8" Brick(s) @ $100   _____ 8" x 8" Brick(s) @ $250

Please print clearly leaving a blank space between titles, names, initials, etc. Maximum number of characters is 20 per line; a space counts as a character.

Ex: Jane A. Doe
Class of 1982

______________________________

Enclosed is my check: $ _______ (Payable to GSB School)

Please charge $ _______ to my  □ Visa □ MasterCard □ Amex

Account number: ________________________ Exp. Date: _________

Name as it appears on card: ________________________________

Signature: _______________________________________

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*Tom Turkey* posed with a group of Lower School children on Take a Turkey to School Day.
Fall Play A Hit

_The Importance of Being Earnest_, GSB’s fall play production, had audiences laughing from the opening scene to the final bows. The play was performed on November 5, 6 and 7. This quick-paced farce by playwright Oscar Wilde provided the audience with an evening of entertainment, and the actors and actresses with plenty of opportunity to shine. The play was directed by Performing Arts Department Chair Paul Canada.

Upper School Library Program Recognized

The recognitions just keep coming for “Lesson for a Scientific Literature Review - Guiding the Inquiry,” the book written by GSB librarians Randi Schmidt and Ginny Kowalski. In November, it was featured at the American Association of School Librarians Exploratorium in Charlotte, N.C. as one of the 25 best high school library and research practices in the country. In February, the book was given the award for best research publication in New Jersey for 2010 by the New Jersey Library Association College and University Section and the New Jersey Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries. Congratulations.

All That Jazz

GSB has added a jazz band to its roster of performing arts groups. _The Wild Knights_, have performed at various assemblies and concerts this fall and winter. The eight member group, which is accompanied by two professional musicians, focuses on several different styles of jazz.
Building an Enduring Legacy: A Big Success

The most recent campaign, Building an Enduring Legacy has concluded and exceeded its goal!

This comprehensive campaign, whose primary purposes were to build an Upper School Academic Center and to increase the endowment, has raised $12.5 million — $2.5 million more than its original goal! This is the largest fundraising endeavor ever conducted by GSB. With the support of so many, the effort not only achieved but surpassed the $10 million goal within the allotted three-and-a-half years.

“The generosity and support (for the campaign) of our families has been incredible,” said Headmaster Sid Rowell. “Doug Matthews and the Board of Trustees deserve tremendous credit for leading by example in this effort. Without their commitment of time, energy, and resources this would not have happened”.

“Building an Enduring Legacy” campaign banner.
GSB Trustees, mayors of surrounding towns, representatives from the business community, students, alumni and parents were on hand to mark the groundbreaking for Hockenbury Academic Center which took place on November 5, 2007.

It started on November 5, 2007 and was finished on April 16, 2009. Along the way there was mud, dust and noise, but the finished building has become the centerpiece of the Upper School. Shown here are highlights of the long journey from groundbreaking to dedication.
Two of the first significant gifts came from the Matthews family — one from Doug and Ann Matthews P ’16, ’18 and one from Doug’s parents, Ed and Marie Matthews. Many gifts followed quickly, which allowed the school to not only raise the funds but also to complete the building within the same time frame as the campaign.

In the spring of 2008, Lois and Russell Hockenbury, Jr. gave a leadership gift to the campaign and in recognition of this, plus the long association of the Hockenbury name with GSB (Russell Hockenbury, Sr. was a member of the first graduating class of St. Bernard’s), the new building was named Hockenbury Academic Center on April 16, 2009 at its dedication.

During the three and a half years of the comprehensive campaign, gifts were also given to increase the endowment for student financial assistance, and for numerous other projects and programs on campus.
Students work on research papers in the Stefanick Research & Reference Hall.

May '08  Jun '08  Aug '08
Many hours of hard work were logged by the campaign committee over the past several years. Heartfelt thanks to: Maureen Stefanick P ’13,’13,’18, Marianne Saladino P ’14,’16, Rob Sameth ’89, Rob O’Leary P ’11, Ellen Nardoni, Brandon Clark P ’02,’06 and Mark Paris P ’11.

These pages show photos from the Building an Enduring Legacy campaign. (A complete list of donors will appear in the next GSB Magazine.)
“It was tremendously rewarding to see the GSB community rally during a time of economic turmoil and support the Building an Enduring Legacy campaign,” said Doug Matthews P’16,’18, chairman of the campaign committee. “The Hockenbury Academic Center will not only serve our children today but will help generations of GSB students in the years to come.”
Taking a break between classes in the Ferreira Family Student Center. The DeLuca Family Courtyard is located just outside and provides additional space for student gatherings during the warmer weather.

Apr ’09
Above: Headmaster Sid Rowell (far left) applauds Lois and Junie Hockenbury who made a leadership gift to the campaign, and whose family has been associated with the school since it’s founding. Hockenbury Academic Center is named for them. Left: The crowd listens to former Governor Thomas Kean who was the keynote speaker at the dedication ceremony for Hockenbury Academic Center, held on April 16, 2009. Below: The comprehensive Building an Enduring Legacy campaign also raised money for the endowment and other projects, such as this new main entrance onto campus.
Daisha Simmons ’10: Girls Basketball Star

When Daisha Simmons ’10 takes to the court, the GSB fans come alive. The 5’9” senior point guard has fired up the girls basketball team – and the fans - since playing in her first game as a freshman. She has also taken the Knights to back-to-back Somerset County Championships, a Prep Conference Championship and, potentially, a State Championship. Since her first appearance in 2007, Simmons has grown into a consummate team player who has made those around her better athletes. It was during her four years that the Knights basketball program rose to state prominence. Along the way, she set several school and personal records, including posting two “quadruple-doubles” (double digits in points, rebounds, assists and steals) while leading her team to a school record-setting 25-2 season as of press time. A personal highlight for her was scoring her 2,000th career point by calmly sinking a free throw on January 8, 2010.

Simmons can take over a game at a moment’s notice if necessary and her defense has been called “suffocating” by the Star Ledger. That paper also wrote that she “has left her mark on New Jersey high school basketball with the amazing things she can do with the ball.” At other times during the season, the Ledger also called her the “player to watch” and named her the player in the state most “worth the price of admission.”

It hasn’t been easy, however for the senior. For four years Simmons has boarded the a bus from her home in Jersey City, then a train to Newark, and finally a school bus to GSB. This routine of discipline and sacrifice is a difficult one as she and other GSB basketball players have learned as they juggle academics and athletics. According to coach Mergin Sina: “These are long days and short nights for kids who know that the balance of a great education and being part of a great athletic program will pay off in the end.”

So far it has for Simmons who will switch from the blue of the GSB Knights to the red of the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers University next year. “I’m really excited and honored to be playing for coach Vivian Stringer,” she said. “Not every kid gets the opportunity to play for a Hall of Fame Coach. I know that she is tough and this is only going to make me a better player.”

When all is said and done, Simmons is projected to score over 2,500 points, 800 assists, 800 rebounds and 600 steals during her GSB career, an astounding set of statistics for a point guard!

Although Simmons looks forward to continuing her career at Rutgers next season, she stills feels there is unfinished business at GSB this year as the team seeks a New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Non-Public B title and a possible berth in the Tournament of Champions. At press time, the Knights are in the finals.
Fall Wrap-Up

**VARSITY BOYS SOCCER  NJSIAA STATE CHAMPS**

On November 17, 2009 at the College of New Jersey in Ewing, the GSB Knights boys varsity soccer team defeated St. Rose of Belmar to win the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Non-Public B State Championship. This was the first NJSIAA state title for a boys team sport since joining the association in the fall of 2003. (The girls tennis team won a state title in 2007.) The historic win was the culmination of a fine season in which the Knights also captured the Valley Division crown in their inaugural year in the Skyland Conference.

Coach of the Year

Tony Bednarsky, GSB’s varsity soccer coach, was named “Coach of the Year” by both the *Star-Ledger* and *Courier News*. He brought the Knights to a New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Non-Public B State Championship at the culmination of a 17-7 season.

In what was to be a rebuilding year, Bednarsky guided a young and inexperienced squad to a divisional crown in its inaugural year in the tough Skyland Conference, as well as the school’s first NJSIAA state championship in a boys team sport. In 21 seasons as GSB’s varsity soccer coach, Bednarsky has compiled an impressive 295-119-16 record. His teams have won six Prep B and 14 conference championships, as well as the NJSIAA title.

GSB’s Latest Track Star

Following an incredible fall cross country season during which she medaled by placing 19th in the Meet of Champions, Sarah Quinn ’12 kept that momentum going into her indoor track season. Two of the highlights came in February when she first won the combined Prep A and B title in the 1600 meters and then, two days later went on to win the NJSIAA Non-Public B title in the same event. She is now qualified for her second Meet of Champions.
**Winter Sports**

**Girls Basketball**

With championships in both the Prep B and the Somerset County tournaments, the GSB girls basketball team had a record-breaking season and, at press time, was seeking an unprecedented triple. The Knights advanced to the north final of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Non-Public B State Tournament.

GSB won its last Prep B championship in 1993 when it defeated Princeton Day School fueled by Latoya Adams ’93 and Sharon Feggans ’93. History repeated itself on February 24 as once again GSB defeated PDS for the Prep B title. Daisha Simmons ’10 and Niiya Ruth ’10 fueled the one-two punch this time.

On February 25, the team successfully defended its Somerset County title with a resounding 64-44 victory over Bridgewater High School, avenging an earlier season loss. Simmons was named Somerset County tournament MVP for the second year in a row.

Finally, to put the icing on this record-breaking year, coach Mergin Sina, in his sixth season, won his 100th game and led the Knights to an outstanding 20-2 record at press time.

**Boys Basketball**

The GSB boys basketball team finished its season with an impressive 18-7 record. This youthful squad provided eye-opening play, reaching the finals of both the Somerset County and Prep B Tournaments.

During regular season play, the Knights dominated the Skyland Conference and gave nationally-ranked St. Patrick’s of Jersey City all it could handle in a close loss. The squad made impressive runs in both the county and state tournaments before finally bowing to eventual champions Ridge High School of Basking Ridge and national powerhouse St. Anthony’s of Jersey City.

**Indoor Track**

For the first time in GSB indoor track history, a group state champion was crowned. Sarah Quinn ’12 was the NJSIAA Non-Public B Champion in the 1600 meters. Two Prep B titles were won by Quinn in the 1600 meters and Shannon Murphy ’11 in the 55 meters. These outstanding performances qualified Quinn and Murphy for the prestigious Meet of Champions held February 27 at Bennett Center in Toms River, N.J.

Three GSB runners have qualified for national post-season events. Kathryn Galli ’11 (triple jump) and Quinn (1600 meters) are going to the National Scholastic Indoor Championship in New York City; Murphy (55 meters) will go to the Nike Indoor Nationals in Boston.

Overall, there were 21 new school records (17 girls, 4 boys) set during this monumental season.

FENCING

The GSB fencing program has made great strides while competing in the toughest conference state wide. Several outstanding post-season performances were logged, including Jana Bernard ‘13’s runner-up performance in the Skyland Conference Novice Sabre Tournament. At the Prep B Championship, Charles Efthimion ‘12 won the individual boys sabre crown and took third at the District One Championship.

SWIMMING

For the fourth consecutive season, GSB swimmers competed at the Somerset County Championships and posted their fastest times ever. Many boys and girls recorded personal bests at this prestigious event. At both the Skyland Conference and Prep B Championships the swimmers made their presence felt with stellar times in freestyle and medley relay events.

JV ICE HOCKEY

For the second time in the last three seasons, the Ice Knights made it to their league final. The team advanced to the championship game with a thrilling shootout victory over Park Regional of Hanover, N.J. After a slow start to the season, the skaters rallied, winning their last seven games to peak just in time for the playoffs. They finished the season with a respectable 10-6-1.
PaTrons

Fashion Event, Featuring Lloyd Boston, a Big Hit

The Parents’ Association raised more than $40,000 for GSB at this year’s fashion event called “Fashion Fix: Real Women, Real Style,” held on November 4 at Meadow Wood Manor in Randolph, N.J. The highlights of the day were the fashion makeovers by TV personality and fashion guru Lloyd Boston. Margy Coscia P ’11, ’15, ’20, ’22, Lauri Herman P ’20, ’22, Dee Wisler P ’09, ’15 and Lower School Director Sue Hone were dressed in styles recommended by Boston. Barbara Davis P ’11 and Jackie Smart P ’17 chaired the day.

GSB’s Art Collection Grows

Artwork by local artists continues to augment GSB’s Art Collection begun last year. The most recent installation was hung on January 14 in the Upper School Library. It is a pastel by Alexandra Timchula called New Jersey Meadow Flowers. It was donated by Richard and Laurie Brueckner P ’99, ’05. Timchula is a Far Hills artist who has lived and studied in New York City and Italy.

Other works donated recently include: Far Hills Market, a pastel by Frank Zuccarelli, two botanical water-colors by Sylvia Glesmann, Winter Scene, a watercolor by Ruth Wilson, and a pastel study by Peter London.

TOGETHER, WE ARE GSB!

Make your gift before June 30th to the 2009-2010 Annual Fund! Your help is needed to reach our goal. Every gift counts! Please choose one of the following ways to make your contribution:

1. The quickest way is via a secure website at this address: www.gsbschool.org/static/gsbschool/inc/giving.php
2. You can also send a check to the Development Office at Gill St. Bernard’s School, P.O. Box 604, Gladstone, NJ 07934.
3. Finally, you can call Jim Diverio, Director of External Affairs directly at (908) 234-1611 ext. 210 to give a credit card number or securities instructions.

Together, We Can Make a Difference!
Honoring GSB’s History

As Gill St. Bernard’s School moves forward, it becomes more important than ever to recognize and honor its past. Headmaster Sid Rowell believes strongly that tradition, history, artifacts and symbols that reflect where the school has come from help current students see themselves as part of a long line of learners.

As part of this recognition of the school’s past, handcrafted representations of the crests or shields of St. Bernard’s School, The Gill School and Gill St. Bernard’s School have recently been installed in the Chapel where they can be seen by all students, faculty, alumni and parents. Below is a brief explanation of what each crest means.

ST. BERNARD’S SCHOOL
(excerpted from The Spirit of Clairvaux, November 1934)
“The Bee Hive at the top symbolizes industry…; The Dove hovering over the Chalice represents the spiritual side of our life (St. Bernard’s was then an Episcopal school); the Lamp of Learning upon the Book of Knowledge (upper right) needs no further comment; the Winged Foot (lower left) depicts the athletic side of our school existence, while the three plows symbolize labor and represent our farm. It is entirely fitting that the three plows be included in our shield as they are also a part of the coat of arms of the State of New Jersey. The inscription reads: “Aude Pro Christo et Patria,” which is translated “Dare for Christ and Your Country.”

THE GILL SCHOOL
(excerpted from The Gill Student Handbook, circa 1945)
“Deeply rooted in the traditions of The Gill School is the motto, “Faith, Honor and Consideration,” which appears upon the student-designed school shield… Faith means faith in ourselves, in each other and in a Divine Being. Honor means being strictly honest at all times. Consideration is being thoughtful of others and being polite to everyone. The hands of friendship and trust are clasped (at the top of the shield) in a pledge of loyalty. The torch is a lamp of learning.

GILL ST. BERNARD’S SCHOOL
(excerpted from a letter from The Reverend William Woolsey Yardley of Middletown, R.I., a friend of then-Headmaster John H. Wright, Jr., and the designer of the crest, circa 1973.)
“The stag symbolizes freedom, idealism, courage and nobility of purpose. The escutcheon is in three fields – the open book is inscribed VITA — because we assume today that where there is life there is also growth, development and interpersonal relationships in depth. The torch came from the original Gill School seal and represents the “torch of learning” The plowshare came from the original St. Bernard’s School seal and also from the seal of New Jersey (representing the school’s geological location). It means “plow deeply for a good harvest.” “Schola Mundus Est” stands for “The World is Our Classroom.” The school’s seal is printed in blue and white. Blue is the color of freedom and the independence of mind the school encourages. White is the color associated with innocence and may also be taken to symbolize the “tabula rasa” of the minds of the younger students.”

See the Inside Back Cover for more information on the crests.
Recognizing GSB History

Handcrafted crests of St. Bernard’s School, The Gill School and Gill St. Bernard’s School were recently installed in the Chapel. These are part of a larger project to recognize the history of the school. In the future, plaques will be mounted on the wall under the crests which will honor long-time faculty members at St. Bernard’s School, The Gill School and Gill St. Bernard’s School, as well as those alumni who were killed in action serving their country. If you would like to contribute to this worthy project which will ensure that future generations will recognize the long history of Gill St. Bernard’s, please contact Director of External Affairs Jim Diverio at 908-234-1611, ext. 210 or jdiverio@gsbschool.org.

For an explanation of the symbolism on the crests, see story on pg. 24
SAVE THE DATE!
GSB ALUMNI WEEKEND
April 30 – May 1, 2010
ALL ALUMNI WELCOME!
SPECIAL REUNIONS FOR CLASSES ENDING IN “0” and “5”
Featured events will include:
• Annual Alumni Golf Classic
• Class Reunions • Picnic
• Athletic Games • Entertainment
• Activities for kids!
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