

# GTACS Athletic Department Newsletter

Summer 2008  
Vol. 2 Issue 3



Tom Hardy, Director of Athletics, Facilities, and Transportation

## Website/ Schedules:

For up to date athletic information and schedules, go to [www.gtacs.org](http://www.gtacs.org), click on "Parents" at the top, and then choose "Athletics" on the drop down menu. Click on High School Sports.net for schedules.

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## From the Athletic Director...

I hope this newsletter finds everyone enjoying their summer. It is hard to believe that we are only 6 weeks away from the beginning of the fall sports season!

What a year it has been! Our accomplishments both on and off the playing fields continue to be a result of the dedication and commitment to excellence that so many of you offer for the benefit of our students at St. Francis.

We were awarded the "School of the Year" by the Traverse City Record-Eagle this past week. As I stated in the paper, the work and dedication of our athletes, parents and coaches is the true reason why our programs continue to be successful. We are truly blessed to have such dedicated groups of people that have committed to the same goal of striving to use athletics as just another classroom. I think it is fitting that we were awarded this honor in the same year that our four schools were

recognized as a "Schools of Distinction" by the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools. It just verifies that athletics is another facet of the school as we strive to make it the best that it can be.

As we close this year, there are many people that I have thanked for their efforts in making our athletic department a better place this year. I would like to personally recognize and thank Pat Heintz, Kathi Sheldon, Gina Ray, Karen Alpers, and Jen Johnson. They have all been instrumental in getting our Gladiator Athletic Booster Club up and running. They took on many projects, worked countless hours, and helped raise close to \$40,000 in their first year in our booster program. The efforts that they have given have all been for our students. I cannot thank them enough for spearheading an effort that has been lacking in our athletic department: an organized effort in our fundraising and vol-

unteering. These components are so essential to our athletic department. Please take time to thank them for their work and make sure to sign up to be an athletic booster again this year on August 5th at the Fall Sports Sign-up.

Thank you for your continued support of Gladiator Athletics.

In Him,

Tom Hardy

### **SUMMER DEAD PERIOD**

July 4th-13th will be considered our "dead period" as required by the MHSAA. During this time period, no school athletic events will take place.

This includes weight training, open gyms, or any other type of conditioning programs that are sponsored by schools.

## New SF Coaches Announced!

A typical spring in the athletic office is verifying schedules and finalizing many details that come up for the next school year while managing the current sports that are taking place.

This spring also brought many new faces to our athletic programs. We first hired David Ginsberg to re-

place Pat Cleland as our Boys Varsity Basketball coach. Dave brings over 30 years of experience as a basketball coach, including a 16 year stop at Central Michigan University where he was the assistant coach. He has also been a teacher and principal in Flint for many years. We are looking forward to

having Dave in our building this fall as a substitute teacher and in any other facet that he can get involved. The boys have already gotten to know Dave as they have attended team camp in Gaylord and are gearing up for other games throughout the summer.

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## Thank You to our Spring Coaches

As we have finished our spring sports season, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our spring coaches for their efforts with our student athletes.

**Boys Varsity Baseball:** Buz Zamarron, Tom Hitchens and Jason Smith

**Girls Varsity Softball:** Mike Doriot, Tom Barnes and George Roush

**Girls JV Softball:** Mike Kowalski and Katie Amon

**Girls and Boys Varsity Track:** Rick Woods, Ben LaBelle and Tony Moreno

**Girls Tennis:** Jeff Hughes and special thanks to Annie Murphy

**Boys Varsity Golf:** Jim Hornyak and Ken Hornyak

**Rugby:** Chuck Benson

**Boys 7/8 Baseball:** Jerry Pierce, Chris Middleton and Kevin Byrne

**Girls and Boys 7/8 Track:** Kari Lopinski and many volunteer parents

When you see any of these people, please thank them for giving of their time and talent to coach the students of our school system.

## Senior Athletes of the Year Announced!

To earn a Senior Plaque, you must have earned a minimum of five varsity letters in your high school career at St. Francis High School.

Here are our award winners:

Jared Belovich, Daniel Brick, Parker Prusick, Jacob

Schell, Brad Martin, KayInn Britten, Kari Kurtz, Dana Larsen, Shayna Zerbe, Cody Lindhorst, Cari Kendziorski, Erin Cecchi, Isaac Richardson, Zack Lizenby, Andrew Buday, Joe Beckwith, Mike Dendri- nos, Spencer Ambrosius, Chelsea Merrifield, Lauren Currie, Ben Schippers and

Lindsay Belanger.

Our coaches vote for Male and Female Athlete of the Year. This year's winners are:

**Male Athlete of the Year:** Dana Larsen and Jacob Schell

**Female Athlete of the Year:** Shayna Zerbe and Erin Cecchi

### Mark Your Calendars!

**AUGUST 5th**  
**Fall Registration meeting and Sports Physicals for High School / Middle Parents and Athletes**  
**Registration will be held in the Kohler @ 5:30 p.m.**  
**Physicals will be held in gym @ 6:30 p.m.**

### WLJN on the RADIO

This past year WLJN 89.9 FM broadcasted Gladiator Football on the air. We are pleased to announce they are back again and need your help!

Please back page for details!

## New Coaches Announced! (continued from page 1)

After Dave was hired, we had lost our varsity volleyball coach as Kim Clear and her family are moving back to Wisconsin. They will all be missed. As fate would have it, a few phone calls landed us with Shannon Huetter who will be taking over as our volleyball coach this fall. Shannon brings many years of playing, as well as coaching, to a volleyball program that is on the cusp of great success. Shannon and his wife have four children and are truly a volleyball family as they both played in college. Better than there expertise in volleyball, they have a

strong belief in being in a Christian environment where they will be able to lead our young ladies in prayer while they are teaching them about life through the game of volleyball. They are currently entertaining the coaches from Grand Valley as they are coaching our girls in a camp at St. Francis this week.

We also conducted a search for a new football coach as Josh Sellers resigned to be with his family as they are moving to the great state of Tennessee.

Greg Vaughan, a 1995 graduate of St. Francis High School, was announced as our new football coach just before the kids left for summer break. Greg played for four years at Hope College after graduating from St. Francis. He stayed on as a coach for one year before moving to East Grand Rapids where he coached and taught for 3 years. Greg then moved on to get his master's degree in education while being a Graduate Assistant for the football team at Grand Valley State University. After graduating, he then took an assistant coaching role at Randolph Macon College in Virginia where he has been for the past three years. Greg and his wife, Kari, and son, Brady, will be moving to Traverse City this summer. Kari is also a SF grad!

Please welcome Dave, Shannon, and Greg to the Gladiator family!

## TRAVERSE CITY BEACH BUMS SUITE AVAILABLE!

The Athletic Boosters and the Athletic Department have teamed up with the Traverse City Beach Bums to offer a 10 person suite for all of our St. Francis families. It is a great way to watch a game with 9 of your closest friends. If you are interested in ob-

taining a suite for a game or two please contact Tom Hardy this summer to make arrangements to pick up your game tickets.

Please call 633-1614 or email [thardy@gtacs.org](mailto:thardy@gtacs.org) to reserve your date. You must be 21 to enter a suite.

Cost for the suite is \$150 per night. Please take an opportunity to watch a game from one of the best seats in the house!

All benefits will help the 2008-09 Booster Club.



Please visit the Traverse Beach Bums website at [www.tcbeachbums.com](http://www.tcbeachbums.com) to view the upcoming schedule and then call or email Tom to reserve your seats. This is a great gift or night out for the adults!

## Bus Contest Winners Announced!



The winners of the bus decorating contest are Ben Alpers and Molly Hitchens.

When students return to school in the fall, our gold Gladiator bus will be decked out with a combination of their ideas of what the new bus should look like!

The winners get to choose any item from our Gladiator Spirit Store !

GO GLADS!

## Upcoming Dates

**August 5th—5:30 p.m. FALL SPORT SIGN UP FOR All High School Athletes and Middle School Football**

**August 5th—6:30 p.m. PHYSICALS in the High School Gym (for any student who is in need of a sports physical)**

**August 5th—Athletic Booster Club Sign-Up at Fall Sports Registration**

**August 11th—Fall Sports Practices Begin—Details given at Sports Sign-Up  
(Volleyball Tryouts 8/11-8/13: 9 a.m.-11 a.m. High School Gym)**

## GTACS Summer Sport Camp Dates

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>TIMES</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>COST</u>	
Girls Basketball	August 5, 6, 7				
		9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> Grades	8:30am-10:30am	SEAS	\$45
		3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grades	11am-1pm	SEAS	\$45
		6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grades	2pm-4pm	SEAS	\$45

**Wrestling Camp** - July 26-28 (registration form is available on the GTACS website)

Go to [www.gtacs.org](http://www.gtacs.org) and click on Athletics for the registration form.

*Go Glads!!!!*

## FALL SPORTS PROGRAM

On behalf of the Traverse City St. Francis High School Athletic Department, we would like to thank you for your past support of athletics at St. Francis High School. We are very fortunate that our community has been so supportive of athletics. Over the past three years we have been producing our own sports programs which has raised close to \$10,000 for Gladiator athletics.

This sports program features freshmen, junior varsity, and varsity team pictures along with their schedules and rosters. We will be including our marching band in the program.

We would like to invite you to advertise with us in our 2008-2009 Fall Sports Program. The advertisement sizes are as follows: Full Page - \$350; ½ Page \$225; ¼ Page \$160; 1/8 Page \$90; 1/12 page - \$50.

If you would like to advertise in the Fall Sports Program, please call MaryLou Middleton this summer at 929-3598 or 631-5047 to make arrangements for this fall's advertisements. If you have advertised in the past, we will be contacting you this summer to make arrangements for this fall's program. The cut off date will be 8/7/08 for this year's program.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Francis Athletics.

MaryLou Middleton  
Athletic Secretary

## WLJN 89.9 FM Set to Broadcast Second Year of Gladiator Football

After the completion of the State Championship Football game Brian Harcey, General Manager of WLJN, announced that they were committed to broadcasting another year of Gladiator Football. Many upgrades have been made from last year's broadcast, and we are looking forward to many new features that Brian and his staff are preparing for the 2008 season. Last year, we had over 40 advertisers on the radio and it was a great success. ***This year we are looking to fill only 32 Spots.*** If you haven't reserved your spot on the radio, please call Tom Hardy at 633-1614 or email at [thardy@gtacs.org](mailto:thardy@gtacs.org) to make sure that your advertisement gets its reserved spot. These spots will go fast and will be on a first come first serve basis. If you have any questions, please don't wait to call. You can also contact Brian Harcey at the radio station at 946-1400. GO GLADS!!!!!!!!!!!!