

## Canisius Acquires Mt. St. Joe's Property

Canisius College assumed ownership of the property at 2064 Main Street, the site of Mount St. Joseph Academy (MSJA), in July. The college agreed to purchase the property from the Institute of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of Buffalo last summer, after the Sisters announced their intention to close the school due to financial concerns.

Parents, alumni and friends of MSJA formed the Mount St. Joseph Academy School Corporation to assume operation of the school for the 2005-2006 school

year. MSJA will remain in the building for two years until a new site is identified.

"For the short-term, the college is pleased to provide a lease to Mount St. Joseph Academy," said **John J. Hurley '78**, Canisius vice president for college relations. "Our long-term plan for the property, however, is to

demolish the existing building and develop new residential and classroom space."

In 1988, Canisius acquired the adjacent property that is now Lyons Hall and also held a right of first refusal to purchase the elementary school property, which it exercised. The school property consists of two classroom buildings on five and one-half acres.



## New York State Budget Brings Capital Funds to Canisius

Responding to a request from Canisius College, the WNY members of the New York State Assembly and Senate added \$3 million to the budget for the college's interdisciplinary science center. The funds will be used for the college's costs related to the purchase, renovation and equipping of the BlueCross BlueShield building and the adjoining parking pavilion, both of which the college will acquire at the end of 2007.



The appropriation represents a historic achievement for Canisius – the first time the college has received a direct capital appropriation from the state. Canisius was one of only nine private colleges and universities designated to receive capital funding in the budget.

The process of securing the funds began in January with a series of meetings between the College Relations Division and key members of the state legislature and state administration. In March, Canisius President **Rev. Vincent M. Cooke, S.J.**, presented the college's case for funding at a meeting with the Western New York legislative delegation. Later that month, the legislature completed action on a budget bill that contained the appropriation.

Special thanks to the 'deans' of the state Assembly and state Senate's local delegation who are both Canisius alumni: Assemblyman **Robin Schimminger '69** and Senator **Dale Volker '64**. They organized support through the entire delegation. Additionally, a number of college trustees and friends made phone calls and sent letters to the governor's office in support of the request.

## Parrotta Makes Coaching Staff Changes for Men's Basketball

Three new faces joined the Canisius College men's basketball coaching staff this summer. **Rob Norris, Tim Paul** and **Lazare Adingono** have all been named assistant coaches.

Norris recently finished his second season as assistant coach at Towson University and his fifth as assistant coach under Tiger Head Coach Pat Kennedy. Paul spent the last two seasons at Hofstra University as a graduate student manager for Parrotta on Tom Pecora's coaching staff. Adingono comes to Canisius from Rhode Island, where he was director of basketball operations.

"My goal in putting a staff together was to find qualified coaches with varying backgrounds and differing strengths," said Head Coach Tom

Parrotta. "I think we've accomplished that by hiring Rob, Tim and Lazare. Each brings something different to the table and that's a necessity in order to be successful."

Women's Basketball Coach **Terry Zeh** also announced this summer that **Tara Fleming** will join his coaching staff for the 2006-2007 season. The Owen Sound, Ontario native will assist in the day-to-day operations of the program, including on-court coaching, practice planning, recruiting, team travel and basketball camp. Fleming is a graduate of Youngstown State, where she ended her basketball career ranked second all-time in school history with 125 blocked shots.



*Pictured (l-r) are: Tim Paul, Lazare Adingono, Tom Parrotta and Rob Norris.*

# in memoriam

REV. THOMAS A. O'CONNOR, S.J.

Canisius College Campus Minister **Rev. Thomas A. O'Connor, S.J.**, died on July 9 at the age of 75.

A Jesuit priest for nearly 60 years, Father O'Connor spent 40 of those years, educating and ministering at Canisius. He joined the college as a management instructor in 1966 and later became an assistant professor in the Management/Marketing Department. During that tenure, Father O'Connor also served briefly as vice president for business and finance. He retired from teaching in 1986 to concentrate on campus ministry. Father O'Connor performed liturgical and sacristy services, organized marriage preparation programs and was active in service work throughout the Buffalo community.

"Father O'Connor was always ready to share a meal with alumni, faculty or students; to listen; to impart his dry wit; to serve with students and staff in the community; and to share the spirit of God

with everyone in his special and gentle way," said Rev. John P. Bucki, S.J., director of Campus Ministry at Canisius College.

"Canisius has been wonderfully blessed by Father O'Connor."

In May 2006, the Masters of Business Alumni Association bestowed on Father O'Connor the Rev. Thomas E. Fleming, S.J., Distinguished Service Award for outstanding service to the college's graduate business program and its alumni association. Father O'Connor served as an *ex-officio* member of the MBA Alumni Board of Directors.

A 1948 graduate of Canisius High School, Father O'Connor earned his BA and PhL degrees in philosophy from St. Louis University; an STB degree in theology from Woodstock College in Baltimore, MD; and an MBA from Harvard University.



Rev. Thomas A. O'Connor, S.J.  
1931 – 2006

## Richey Named New VP for Business & Finance

**Patrick E. Richey** is the new vice president for business and finance at Canisius. Richey comes to the college from Genesee Community College in Batavia, NY, where he served as vice president of finance and operations since 2002. At Canisius, Richey will oversee all financial and administrative functions of the college including finance, facilities, human resources and business services, and work with Canisius President Rev. Vincent M. Cooke, S.J., to formulate the college's fiscal strategies.



"Patrick Richey brings a wealth of experience and energy to Canisius College," said Father Cooke. "His vision, collaborative leadership style and strategic planning skills, coupled with his academic experience, will serve the college well in this competitive educational environment."

Richey holds a BA from LeMoyne College in Syracuse and a master's degree in public administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. His appointment follows a national search to replace **Laurence W. Franz, PhD**, who stepped down this spring after nearly three decades in the position.

## Canisius College to Present *The Disputation*



World-renowned actor Theodore Bikel will star in a staged reading of *The Disputation* on **Saturday, September 16** at 7:30 p.m. in the **Montante Cultural Center**.

Arranged between Christian and Jewish theologians in the Middle Ages, disputations – or debates – were held to convince

Jews to convert to Christianity. *The Disputation* reenacts one of the most famous debates held before King James of Aragon in 1263 between the monk Pablo Christiani and Rabbi Moses ben Nachman.

*The Disputation* is being presented by the Canisius College Center for the Global Studies of Religion, in association with Temple Beth Zion, the Joan and Peter Andrews Family Foundation and Theatre J. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), charge by phone at 716.852.5000 and Ticketmaster outlets including Kaufmann's.