

GRIFF NOTES & UPDATES

SUMMER OF 2026



CANISIUS
UNIVERSITY

GRIFF NOTES

1970s

'79 Tom Barnett received the J. Michael Duffett Memorial Award from the Buffalo Sabres. The award is presented annually to a coach whose contributions to amateur hockey in Western New York "best exemplify knowledge, teaching, love of the game and gentle humanity." Barnett is coach of the Buffalo Shamrocks Hockey Club.

1980s

'80 BA Paul F. Diehl, PhD, received the Scientific Study of International Processes (SSIP) Distinguished Scholar Award from the International Studies Association. The award celebrates sustained excellence, research and scholarly impact within the field. Diehl is the Henning Larsen Professor of Political Science and Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the author or editor of 26 books and more than 200 articles and chapters on international conflict, peacekeeping and international law.

'86 BA Anna Briatico retired as deputy chief financial officer of the U.S. Forest Service.

'86 BA Mike Buczkowski was inducted into the 35th annual Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame. The former captain of the Canisius hockey team has built a distinguished career in professional baseball, spending more than three decades with the Buffalo Bisons and becoming the organization's longest-tenured general manager.

'86 BS Rev. Robert Reiser, SJ, was appointed provincial of the USA East Province of the Society of Jesus, the largest Jesuit province in the U.S., effective July 31, 2026. Currently, Father Reiser serves as secretary for pre-secondary and secondary education for the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States, as well as executive director of the Jesuit Schools Network in North America.

1990s

'92 BA David Siwiec, managing director of wealth management for Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, was named to Forbes' 2026 list of "America's Top Wealth Advisors."

'94 BA Kevin C. Gillen, PhD, a leading urban economist and housing market analyst, was named the inaugural Principal Research Fellow at the Wilbur C. Henderson Real Estate Institute within Drexel University's Benet S. LeBow College of Business. In this role, Gillen continues producing his widely followed quarterly housing reports, which help to illuminate economic conditions and trends across the Philadelphia region.

'94 BA Kathleen Sellers is the new president of Sellers Insurance. Her appointment makes her the fourth generation leader of Sellers Insurance and the first woman to lead the agency. Sellers has worked at the agency since 2009, serving as vice president for the last nine years.

'96 BS Thomas Paone, MD, an obstetrician-gynecologist at New York Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, was elected president of the hospital's medical staff.

'99 BA Kevin F. Yost was named warden of Our Lady of the Genesee Council of the Knights of Columbus after serving as outside guard for the council. He is also adjutant of Sons of the American Legion Ely-Fagan-Stevens-Connors Squadron and historian for the Legion Post in Henrietta, NY.

2000s

'00 BS Sarah (Smolinski) Bell is a newly-appointed Nassau County Court judge. Appointed by Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, Bell previously served as state assistant attorney general in Jacksonville, FL.

'00 BA Mikal Krueger was named partner with the law firm of McConville Considine Cooman & Morin PC in Rochester, NY, where he focuses his practice on real estate, zoning, land use and bankruptcy. Krueger is also the 2026 recipient of the Raymond J. Pauley Award. Presented by the Monroe County Bar Association (MCBA), the award recognizes an attorney's dedication and service to the MCBA Academy of Law.

'00 BA Matt Low, chief creative officer at Crowley Webb and Associates, received Canisius University's Marilyn G.S. Watt Alumni Award. Conferred by the Communication Studies Department, the award recognizes professional achievements and contributions to the field of communications.

'01 BS Kari Brossard Stoops, PhD, associate professor and associate chair of the Department of Health Sciences and Public Health at Ithaca College, is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship. Brossard Stoops is using her fellowship to collaborate with researchers at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada to study the presence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the microbiomes of domestic animals, wildlife and humans.

'03 BS Aimamia Amadasu-McCray, senior vice president at Citi, was named a Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of Western New York. The honor recognizes outstanding leadership, service and commitment to uplifting others in the community. Amadasu-McCray volunteers as a troop leader for the Girl Scouts and is an educational sponsor and volunteer for International Child Advancement.

'03 BS Jennifer Kartychak is the new chief financial officer for Worksport Ltd., a U.S.-based innovator and manufacturer of hybrid and clean energy solutions for the light truck, overlanding and global consumer goods markets. She will also serve as principal financial officer and principal accounting officer for the company.

'04 BA Adam Zyglis, Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist for The Buffalo News, was honored with a solo exhibition of his work in Saint-Jean-de-Sixt, a village in the French Alps. The exhibition featured a mix of editorial cartoons and illustrations of global figures and was part of a festival showcasing cartoonists and caricaturists from across Europe.

'06 BA, MS '09 Kathleen (Brucato) Farley earned her PhD in higher education administration from the Warner School of Education at the University of Rochester. Farley is currently the executive director of Signature Experience Initiatives at Salve Regina University.

'07 BA Matt Iwanski-Jackson was promoted from associate vice president of human resources to vice president of human resources at Evergreen Health.

'08 BA Jessica Pence graduated with her masters in applied behavior analysis in May 2026. Jessica is currently certified as an assistant level behavior analyst and will pursue a full certification in summer 2026. Jessica is also married with two wonderful boys.

'09 BS Shelby (Grigg) Hosmer, a health education and physical education teacher in the Colton-Pierrepont Central School District, was named New York State Association for Health Physical Education Recreation and Dance (AHPERD) Health Teacher of the Year. The statewide honor recognizes educators who demonstrate outstanding teaching practices, a deep commitment to student well-being, and leadership within the field of health education.

2010s

'10 BA Sarah Zamer was promoted to associate director of community relations within the University at Buffalo's Information Technology Department. She previously was an instructional support technician with the department. Prior to joining UB in 2023, Zamer spent more than a decade working as a director and producer at WGRZ-TV Channel 2.

'11 BA Zeneta B. Everhart, Masten District councilwoman, was recently appointed president *pro tempore* of the Buffalo Common Council. In this role, Everhart presides over the Common Council in the absence of the presiding council person.

'11 BA Elizabeth Hosier is the new director of programs at the Robert H. Jackson Center, which works to advance public awareness and appreciation of the principles of justice and the rule of law. She was director of visitor experience at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum.

'11 MEd Wade Nassar, a business studies teacher at St. Matthew High School in Ottawa, Ontario, received the CPA Ontario Accounting Teacher of the Year Award. Presented by the Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) of Ontario, the award recognizes educators who inspire curiosity, fuel confidence and help students see how their learning connects to the world around them.

'13 MEd Brianne Blaszak, a physical education teacher at Global Concepts Charter School, received the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) America Easter District Middle School Teacher of the Year Award. The award recognizes outstanding educators for excellence in adapted physical education, health education and physical education.

GRIFF NOTES

'15 MS Meagan Allers is head of community and partnerships at Marco Polo, a software company focused on private, face-to-face video communication. Allers has been with the company since 2016.

'15 BS Kevin Monheim is the new senior wealth advisor at Dopkins Wealth Management. He joined the firm after more than four years as a banker with J.P. Morgan Private Bank.

'16 BS, MBA '17 Patrick Byrne, a principal specialist in technology and cybersecurity at M&T Bank, received the Young Alumni Accounting Award from the Wehle Business School at Canisius University. The recognition celebrates emerging leaders in the field.

'16 BA Taylor Rightmyer Cirocco was promoted from business transformation manager to senior manager of enterprise change and digital transformation communications at Rich Products.

'17 BS Joseph Lesh is finishing his Emergency Medicine Residency at Wake Forest University School of Medicine in North Carolina in June 2026. Joseph will be moving back to Buffalo to work in ERs and pediatric urgent cares.

MS '17 Latrese (Burruss) Myers was promoted from assistant vice president of marketing and communications to vice president of marketing and communications at Evergreen Health.

'18 BS Connor Rosenecker launched his own wealth management firm, Covenant Wealth, which assists individuals and families navigating complex, multi-generational decisions. He previously worked as a certified financial planner for Jensen, Marks, Langer & Vance and as a wealth advisor for Fairport Wealth.

'18 MS Sarah (Guenther) Warner is the new vice president of campus engagement for the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. She previously spent three years with The Martin Group as a new business advisor and then senior account manager.

2020s

'23 BS Julia Schurr began a five-year doctor of medicine and master of public health (MD-MPH) dual degree program at Creighton University School of Medicine in Phoenix, AZ. She is attending as an Arrupe Global Scholar, a prestigious program honoring social justice advocate Pedro Arrupe, SJ.

'25 BS Alexa Gioia is a Songbird Banding intern at Manomet Conservation Sciences in Massachusetts. She was an independent study within the Bird Banding and Ornithological Research area of Braddock Bay Bird Observatory.

'25 BS Maggie Johnson is a materials management analyst for Honeywell Aerospace in Phoenix, AZ. The finance and economics major interned with the organization during her senior year at Canisius University.

'25 MS Ameen Nsouli is a physician assistant specializing in adult hip and knee arthroplasty at The Steadman Clinic and Steadman Philippon Research Institute in Vail, CO, where he also serves as a core member of the clinical team at the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic National Medical Center.

'25 BS Sofia Russo is the new agriculture program coordinator for the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County.

Submit your Griff Note at canisius.edu/alumni/connect

IN MEMORIAM

Fran S. Lucca '50
Jack Cavagnaro '52
Thad J. Wojcinski '53
Mason J. Michael Jr. '53
Jim D. Burke '53
Ed D. Hebeler '54
Joe G. Scully '54
Bob A. Maraio '55
Jack D. Naples Jr. '55, MD
Bob T. Habdo '55
Sr. M Eugenia Vastola '56
Jim J. Bruckman '56
Bob J. Mueller '57
Tom E. Reidy '57
Ed R. Szemraj MS '59
Dan E. Barry Jr. '60
Dave W. Skelly '60, PhD
Jim N. McCormick '61
Frank J. Seymour Jr. '61
Phil A. Fraterrigo '62, MD
Ed H. Skerrett '62

Charlie H. Wolffer MS '62
Doug J. Bolton MS '63
Walt M. Winiewicz '63
Rev. James C. Enright '65
Phyllis A. Horton MS '65
J.P. Dygert MS '65
John M. Busch '66
Bob E. Gallagher '66
Pat Curley MS '66
Jim J. Holland Sr. MS '66
Fred J. Stievater '66
John Roach MS '67, PhD
Paul J. Bayer '68
Gene L. Bracci MS '68
Dave M. Wiechec '69, MD
Allen M. Selling '69
Gretchen A. Porcher MS '70
Bill H. McCabe '70
Mike J. Zobel Jr. '70
Anne Michael MS '71
Ed J. Kikta Jr. MS '72, PhD

Don F. Pilarski '72
Cheryl Forell-Tomasulo '73, MD
Irene M. Killion MS '73
Margaret M. Fischer MS '73
Jim F. Mietlicki '73
Mark J. Weisansal '74
Mike G. Kirsch '74
Larry J. Welk '75
Jim M. Gale '75
Dave L. Isbrandt MS '75
Lynn W. Klein MS '75
Paul J. Slomowicz '76
Jim R. Totaro MA '78
Margaret P. McDonnell '78, MD
Kevin C. Drzewiecki MBA '78
John G. LaFalce '79
Moirah Mahoney '79
Leslie A. Knodt MS '81
Phyllis A. Byron MS '81
Jim J. Jarosz '81, MBA '88
Joe W. Huber '81

Bonnie E. Zimmerman '82, MS '05
Pat T. Harrigan '82
Rev. Conrad P. Stachowiak MEd '86
Nora G. Fischer MEd '89
Barb W. Reny '89
Cheryl Goldstone MS '93
Angelique M. Schweikowsky '93
Jason T. Cummings '95
Tony J. Gervase MS '97
Clayton G. Ehrenreich III MPA '98
Owen G. Bossman MBA '98, MD
Matt C. Saxe '99
Craig S. Banas '01
Joe M. Szafranski '01, MEd '06
Nicholas J. Contino '06, MBAACC '07
Andrew M. Czwojdak '07, MBAACC '08
JohnLuc G. Jubert '18

Honoring Griffs whose passing was reported between December 2025 and May 2026.

WEDDINGS



Benjamin L. Fabian '08, MS '10 and Christopher J. Tyrpak '08 | September 20, 2025

Ashleigh E. Pagano '20 and William P. Kellner '21
October 11, 2025

Matthew A. Skok '13 and Grace E. Gorham
May 30, 2025

Sean P. Stonish '15, MBAACC '16 and Bethany D. Wolf '15
July 19, 2025

Nick P. Veronica '13 and Kelsey Anderson
July 19, 2025

Branwyn Wilkinson '19 and F. Griffen Fox
October 10, 2025

BABY GRIFFS



THIS ISSUE'S FEATURED BABY GRIFF

Wyatt Roam Sarikey

born November 16, 2025 to
Emily (Parsons) Sarikey '14 and Caleb Sarikey

Sara Cichon '19, a daughter, Suzanne Olivia
Murphy, born March 2026

Maggie (Zimmer) Cusimano '12, MBA '17
and Joe Cusimano, a son, Connor James,
born March 8, 2026

Kaitlyn (Hatch) Deutschman '13 and
Aaron Deutschman '14, a son, Jacob Edward,
born August 2025

Leah (DeSabio) Kruger '10 and Dalton Kruger,
a son, Tate, born November 2025

Autumn L. (Cloyd) Makin '15 and Thomas A.
Makin '14, a daughter, Emily Elizabeth, born
February 2026

Morgan (Clark) McVicker '16 and Kevin McVicker,
a son, Miles, born January 2025

Megan (Stoll) Warfle '17, a son, William Glenn
Warfle, born October 2025