

Cotter High School

Ramblin's



Cotter Mission Statement

Cotter is a Catholic school community promoting excellence through prayer, learning and service.

Office of the President

Preparing for the future of Cotter

There have been numerous articles published recently in various newspapers, from the Wall Street Journal to the Winona Daily News regarding the decline in secondary students' math and science scores in the United States. Many of these articles have outlined the challenges needed to meet the demand for educated workers. Cotter High School has been striving to translate these challenges into opportunities.

Across the nation, states are analyzing projections of high school graduates, which suggest that in the near future Minnesota will not be producing enough college graduates to meet the total workforce demands of replacing retirees and filling new positions. According to a report by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, between 2008 and 2030, "Roughly 76 million baby boomers will leave the workforce, some of them retiring well before they reach 65. But only 48 million workers in Generation X will be available to replace them." Although there is a growing demand for highly-educated workers in order to sustain and grow the economy, Minnesota will face the prospect of growing education gaps, workforce deficits, and the loss of jobs to other states and nations.

Research cited by the Minnesota Private College Council point out that the number of jobs in Minnesota, requiring some college education, will grow by 21 percent from 2002-2012. Jobs in engineering and science related areas are increasing three times faster than other professions, yet a declining number of high school students are prepared for—or encouraged to pursue—related college degrees. This is where Cotter High School excels!

A vibrant Minnesota will only prosper when it makes full use of a well-prepared talent pool that is equipped and able to compete in the world. We at Cotter are aware of the implications of and challenges posed by this data, and we are making every effort to provide educational opportunities that set Cotter students apart from other students. The breadth and depth of some of the advanced curricular offerings at Cotter High School are truly impressive. Our math department offers Calculus I, II, and III, Linear Algebra, Number Theory I, and Discrete Math I. Our science and technology department offers Academy Physics and Anatomy, Programming Java, Programming C++, Computer Science, and Electronics & Robotics. These courses are rarely offered elsewhere.

We strive to challenge our students to hone their mathematical and scientific skills, better preparing them for post-secondary education and lifelong discovery. Our classes prepare students for potential jobs in computer-related services, health and science professions, managerial and professional areas, etc. We are extremely fortunate to be able to provide such advanced courses at the high school level at no additional cost to families. There is no doubt that our students are well primed for their scholarly and job related goals after high school.

We realize how truly blessed we are to serve a diverse student body, to provide educational offerings designed to meet the needs of all our students, and to offer strong financial assistance to those families with economic need (73% of our local students received financial assistance to attend Cotter this year.) Just as important, the integration of faith and learning seems to make all the difference in helping students to see the good things that they can accomplish and become in this world. We will continue to make strategic decisions to develop well-educated young people prepared to meet the demands of a competitive economy.

Thank you for your continued support of Cotter.

Dr. Craig W. Junker
President of Cotter Schools



President of Cotter Schools
Dr. Craig W. Junker

Developing Cotter



Development Director
Katrina Klink

Greetings Cotter Friends and Family,

Cotter students excel intellectually and artistically because of strong academic programs your gifts allow us to offer. A strong academic foundation, coupled with our commitment to faith education, has built Cotter into a pillar of excellence. We live out our mis-

sion of promoting excellence through prayer, learning and service everyday at Cotter, but this could not be accomplished without your support.

Father Paul Nelson's heart-felt sermon at the Catholic Schools Foundation (CSF) Mass of Appreciation stressed the importance of our schools and our responsibility to support them. Tuition covers only a portion of the costs to educate students at Cotter, yet no other school offers the amazing programs Cotter does for such a reasonable cost. Families and teachers' dedication to The Mission requires sacrifice. If you agree that Cotter is an integral part of Winona, Minnesota, and our world, then please take a stake in the future and in area students by giving back to Cotter and to Catholic Schools Foundation. We offer our gifts to this generation just as so many have sacrificed for us. Our community's combined efforts will ensure success for each and every Cotter student who graduates as a Rambler.

The Alumni/Development Office is here to assist you at any time. I enjoy meeting such good people at our various events like the Annual Cotter Auction, Cotter Classic Golf and Devine Golf Tournaments, Reunions and various other events and celebrations throughout the year. Your visits and involvement are encouraged. Thank you for your devotion to Cotter's great traditions.

Go Ramblers!

Katrina N. Klink
Development Director
Cotter Schools and Catholic Schools Foundation

P.S. See you at the 26th Annual Auction on Saturday, April 23!

Spring 2005

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Cotter Schools Administration

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Principal of Cotter High School

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Dean of Students

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Dave Forney

Chief Financial Officer

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Development Director

Katrina Klink

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Dan Schneider '74

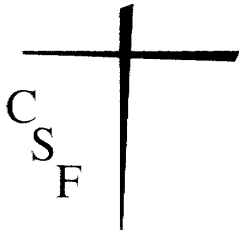
Greg Sobolewski

Marsha Stenzel

P.J. Thompson

Angel Weisbrod

Catholic School Foundation

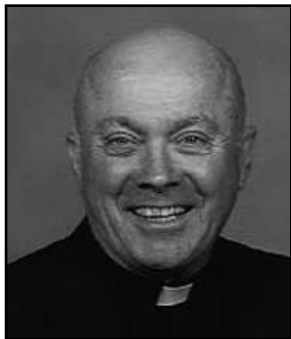


Catholic Schools Foundation (CSF) of Winona, Inc. is a public 501(c)(3) charitable organization that accepts donations, manages funds as an endowment and distributes earnings annually to schools. CSF mission is to promote the continued success, viability and availability of Catholic schools K-12 education in the Winona area.

Catholic Schools Foundation has enjoyed an extremely successful year. Generous donations from our friends, like you, and great investing has allowed CSF to distribute nearly \$2,000,000 to Cotter and WACS. The endowment has reached the \$4,000,000 mark and with the introduction of the Father Nelson Legacy Society, the potential is essentially limitless. As the foundation grows, Catholic schools in Winona can rely less on tuition increases and parish subsidies to effectively manage their budgets while maintaining excellent programs and small class sizes. A faith-based education is an important option for our community for so many reasons. CSF exists to ensure a healthy future for our schools.

CSF was very pleased to be part of the Catholic Schools Week 2005 celebration. The week commenced with the annual CSF "Mass of Appreciation". This year, the Mass was celebrated by Rev. Paul Nelson. Father Nelson's sermon was the highlight of the celebration with his whole-hearted endorsement of our schools and of CSF's Legacy Society, our new planned giving program. There was an amazing turn-out at Mass and reception following Mass, where Phil Feiten presented Fr. Nelson with a gift to the Legacy Society in memory of his late wife, Therese. We also had great participation with the CSF Special Collection that coincided with this important week.

On behalf of the students you support, thank you for your dedication to our schools.



“ “

The freedom, which Catholic schools enjoy, enable the Church to offer formation of minds, souls, persons in the spirit and way of Jesus Christ. The Christian emphasis is essential to continued health, renewal, reformation of education in general. We, as citizen, as Catholics, as participants in the mystery of life, are obligated to have interest in, to financially support and to sincerely monitor our schools, educators and systems which so importantly touch the hearts and minds of our children and young people. Schools give birth to new dimensions of living as surely as parents give birth in conceiving, bearing and developing their respective offspring. ” ”

Father Nelson
CSF Mass of Appreciation during Catholic Schools Week

Tradition and Success at Cotter High School

Phonathon Update

Phonathon Goal	\$ 50,000.00
Pledges Collected	\$ 46,435.00
Outstanding Pledges	\$ 4,716.20
Cotter Challenge Met+	\$ 5,000.00

We made our Cotter Challenge, but we still need your help in reaching our goals. If you have pledged and have not returned your pledge card with a donation, please send your donation in the return envelope enclosed in this newsletter. If you were not contacted during our Phonathon and want to offer a gift to Cotter High School, please use the enclosed envelope. As always...Thank you for your support!

Cotter Classic

The 18th Annual Cotter Golf Classic will be held on June 20, 2005. Come out for a great day of golf. If you are interested in being a golfer or a sponsor please contact the Development Office at 507-453-5100 for details.



Tradition and Success at Cotter

Cotter Auction

You are invited to the 26th Annual Cotter Auction which will be held on April 23 at the Barb Bischel Memorial Gym (360 Vila St). The doors will open at 5:00 pm with the Live Auction beginning at 7:30 pm.

Remember to: Donate to the Auction, Go to the Auction and Buy at the Auction.

Just a few of our Live and Silent Auction Items:

- 2003 Dodge Ram 1500 ST
 - Six-Seater Great Lakes Hot Tub
 - Kestrel 120 Kayak
 - Digital Camera Package
 - Bronze Angel Sculpture
 - Roland RS-70 Synthesizer and other musical items
 - ATV
 - 2005 Vino Classic Scooter
 - Autographed Vikings Jersey
 - Plasma TV
 - Trek Bike
 - Sponsor the Barb Bischel Gym
- Buy the "Best Seats in the House" at Graduation this Year!
 - Buy a "Cotter Parking Space for One Year"!

Dinners, Vacations, Patio and Living Room Furniture, Sporting Events, Gourmet Baskets, Original and Print Art, Handcrafted Items, Jewelry, and so much more!

•To see pictures and descriptions of Live Auction items, visit:

www.winonacotter.org click on "Auction 2005" and "2005 Auction Gallery".

Contact Cotter's Development Office at 453-5102 or klink@winonacotter.org for event or donation information.

Thank you for supporting Cotter students and carrying on this great Winona community tradition.

Barb Bischel Memorial Gym

On September 1, 2004 Cotter High School dedicated the gymnasium in memory of Barb Bischel. Barb Bischel was instrumental in establishing women's sports at Cotter High School and was one of our schools biggest supporters. She was constantly volunteering at Cotter and worked tirelessly to promote Cotter to others. At the 25th annual Cotter Auction, Angel and Al Weisbrod bought the one-year naming rights to the Cotter Gym. After the death of Barb, on June 16, the Weisbrods decided to honor Bischel by naming the Gym after her.

Grandparents Day

Our 4th annual Grandparents Day was held on November 1, 2004. We began the day at 1:00 pm with a Prayer service followed by social time,



photographs and tours. Over 40 students had their grandparents join them in this event.

James Devine Memorial Golf Tournament

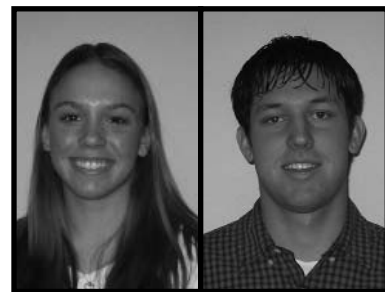
Over \$ 9,000.00 was raised at the 9th annual James Devine Golf Tournament. Many people came out on a beautiful day to show their support for the Cross Cultural Ministry Program. The monies raised help to pay the expenses of students as they travel for Ministry projects. This years winners were Dan Trainor III, Greg Evans, Dan Trainor Jr., and Dennis Cleveland



School News Today at Cotter

Triple A Award

Bethany Wolvington '05 and Philip Butenhoff '05 were honored as this year's Triple A Award Recipients. The award recognizes accomplishments in academics, arts and athletics. Bethany and Phil will compete at a regional competition with the chance of going on to the state level and winning a scholarship.



Wolvington

Butenhoff

Fall Sports Wrap-up

Cheerleading:

The Cotter Cheerleaders provided the perfect support for our football team. They helped cheer the team on to their victories and supported them in their defeats. They also helped get the crowds into the games with their cheers. Thank you to the girls for a great season.



Co-op Sports:

Nearly 25 Cotter students participated in the Co-op sports programs between Cotter and Winona High School. Three Cotter Nordic Skiers qualified for the state meet: Bethany Wolvington '05, Maureen Keane '06, and Jens Brabbit '07. The girls gymnastics team finished second in the state to Lakeville, losing by a fraction of a point. Brianna Wunderlich '06, from Cotter, was a strong contributor to the team.

Cross Country:

After replacing four seniors from the 2003 season, the 2004 Cotter **Girls Cross Country** team had a successful rebuilding year. This year was highlighted by a solid 2nd place finish in the HVL. Individual runners who made All-Conference were Bethany Wolvington '05, Maureen Keane '06, Stephanie Smith '08 and Sara Wasinger '09. Maureen was the Conference Champion, winning the 4K race. At the Section IA meet, the Cotter girls finished 5th. Individually, Keane finished 2nd and Wolvington finished 10th qualifying them as individuals for the Minnesota State CC Meet. Maureen finished 5th at the State Meet at Northfield where she received the honor of All-State and All-State Academic. At the end of the season, Maureen Keane and Bethany Wolvington were named the Most Valuable Runners. Bethany finished her cross-country running career by making her 6th straight appearance in the State Meet by either qualifying as an individual or as a team member. Graduating seniors are Bethany Wolvington, Katey Shea, Abby Delaney and manager Erica Grandy.

The **Boys Cross Country** team enjoyed another successful season highlighted by their third consecutive HVL championship. The boys team had first place finishes at the Zumbrota Invitational and the Elgin-Millville meet. The team narrowly missed a return trip to the state meet, finishing 3rd of 19 teams in the section. Kyle Brandon '05 and Andy Kuklinski '06, the team's co-captains, qualified for the state meet as individuals. Kyle, Andy, Alex Nsengimana '07, Kyle Link '07, and Donny Wasinger '08 all earned All-Conference awards. Aaron Gemes '07 and Michael Brickl '06 filled out the top seven varsity spots and the JV team had a strong showing throughout the season. The team graduates Kyle Brandon and Nate Diekmann, but returns a strong nucleus of enthusiastic runners for next season.



Football:

Despite relying on several young players, the varsity football team finished the year with a 5-5 overall record. After an 0-2 start, the Ramblers won five of their next seven games. In the game to decide the division championship, the Ramblers lost 26-20 to Triton, in overtime. The Ramblers advanced to the section semifinals by defeating defending state champion Kingsland in the first round of the playoffs. The Ramblers had five players receive All-Conference honors: Dan Trainor '05, Phil Butenhoff '05, Andy Gilbertson '05, Jeff Gilbertson '07, and Jake

School News Today at Cotter

Wanek '07. Andy Gilbertson was chosen the teams MVP, Dan Trainor was chosen Top Defensive Player, and Quarterback Chris Wolfe '06 received the Top Offensive Player Award.

Soccer:

The Winona Cotter **Boys Soccer Team** wrapped up the 2004 season with an overall record of 9-8-2. Our 4-3 record in the HVL was good for second place in the conference. The Ramblers defeated Plainview/Elgin-Millville 5-2 in the opening round of the playoffs, before falling 2-0 at Caledonia in the second round. All-Conference selections for CHS were Trip Biesanz '05 (team MVP), Matt Pecarina '05, Andy Bennick '05 and Zach Fricke '06.

The Rambler **Girls Soccer Team** progressed in the right direction last fall, posting an improved 7-11-2 team record. Although still young, the team is poised to take another significant step forward next season. As voted by the players, Guilia Salvadori '06 won the Most Valuable Player Award, Maureen Pelissero '06 won the Most Improved Player Award, and Kate Deering '05 won the Team Spirit Award. Guilia Salvadori and Jessi Larson '06 were recognized as All-Conference players.

Girls Tennis:

Congratulations to Laura Thomas '05 for receiving the Most Valuable Player award and the Most Dedicated Award. Alyssa Hengel '07 received the Most Improved Award.

Volleyball

The volleyball team has continued to show improvement this season, ending the season with a record of 5-11-1. The Best Defensive Player Award went to Devin Bowlin '07. Leah Mahoney '05 received the Most Dedicated Award, Emma Napieralski '07 was the Most Improved Player and Jenny Gilbertson '08 received the Most Valuable Player Award.



Winter Sports Wrap-up

Basketball:

The **Boys Varsity** finished the season with an overall record of 19-7 and 13-3 in the HVL. The team started slowly and had a 5-5 record after the Christmas tournament. They then went on a 14 game win streak, which included an overtime win at Zumbrota-Mazeppa and wins over non-conference opponents Rushford-Peterson, La Crosse Aquinas, Minnehaha Academy, Plainview, and Lewiston-Altura. Unfortunately the team dropped its final two games of the season, losing at home to Lourdes to finish second in the Gold division of the HVL, and to Plainview in the first round of the sub-sectional tournament. The team was led by Chad Gatzlaff '05 who was a unanimous All-Conference selection. He was joined in the starting lineup by Kyle Brandon '05, Joe Kohner '06, Jeff Gilbertson '07, and Patrick Bowlin '08. The team will graduate Chad, Kyle, Alex Modjeski and Matt Pecarina, but returns nine underclassmen. The B-squad or sophomore team, coached by Mat O'Brien and Bob Biebel, finished with a record of 22-3 and the freshman, coached by Mike O'Brien, were 28-2. We congratulate all the teams on their fine seasons and are hopeful for what looks to be a bright future.

The **Girls Varsity** team finished as the sub-section champions for the second consecutive year. The Ramblers were defeated by Rochester Lourdes in the section final. The Ramblers finished the season with a 19-11 record. Season highlights included 3 wins over Caledonia, winning the Warrior Classic Christmas toumey, a win over the states top ranked Class A team Elgin-Millville, and a 12-2 home record. The team was led by point guard Devin Bowlin '07 who was chosen All-Conference and team MVP. Jenny Gilbertson '08 was the team's leading scorer, rebounder, and shot blocker. The team had solid contributions from Katey Shea '05, Melissa Kirkvold '05, and Chrissy Rybarczyk '05. With the majority of the teams statistical leaders returning, the future of the Ramblers is extremely bright.

School News Today at Cotter

Dance:

Congratulations to the 2003-2004 Dance Team on going to state last year. The Dance Team has continued their success this year with an award winning performance, earning two first place finishes. With the help of the Cotter Athletic Boosters, the Dance Team held their first dance invitational. The dance invitational, "Puttin on the Ritz" was a huge success. Keep your eye on our website for information on next year's invitational.

2003-2004 Dance Team

Back Row (L to R): Kassy Kujak, Kelly Kukowksi, Annika Gunderson, Emma Napieralski, Laura Sebo, Rachel Conrad
Front Row (L to R): Allysa Trainor, Jeanne Olstad, Anna Rodgers, Laura Cooper, Meredith Kelly, Sarah Johnson and Liz Flynn



2004-2005 Dance Team

Back Row: Coach Crystal Sell
Middle Row (L to R): Augusta Rodgers, Barb Bruner, Kelly Kukowski, Annika Gunderson, Lindsay Roemer, Katy Appelwick, Jeanne Olstad, Kassy Kujak, Maurita Flo
Front Row (L to R): Liz Flynn, Rachel Conrad, Kelsey Schauer, Emma Napieralski

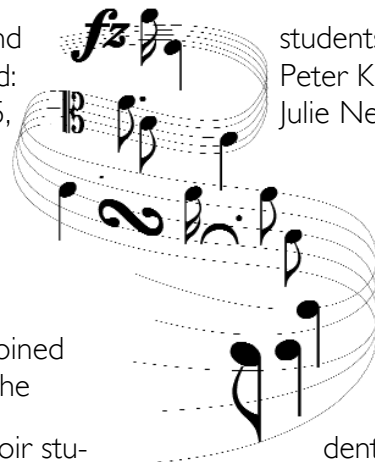


Band

Gillian Rendahl '08 and Karlan Polling '08 have been selected for membership in the Minnesota Band Directors Association (MBDA) 9th and 10th Grade Honor Band for the 2004/2005 school year. Gillian and Karlan were two of 77 students selected from over 266 who auditioned this fall for a position in the group.

The students participating will have the opportunity to work with some of the finest music educators in the state as their section coaches, and will be conducted by Professor Scott Hagen, band director and music educator at Concordia College.

Congratulations to the following band League All-Conference Honors Band: '05, Michael Brickl '06, Joe Foster '05,



students who were selected to the Hiawatha Valley Peter Knopick '05, Jonathan Walz '05, Sarah Werle Julie Nelson '05, Erica Grandy '05, and Rick Hsieh '05.

Choir

Ryanna Glentz '05 and Amy (Shin- in the Minnesota Music Educators

On February 27, the Cotter Choir joined benefit concert to raise money for the

Young) Kim '05 were selected to participate Association All-State Mixed Choir.

forces with other Winona choirs and held a Tsunami Relief cause.

Congratulations to the following Choir stu- League All-Conference Honors Choir: Dustin Will Kujak '05, Phil Butenhoff '05, Ryanna Glentz '05, Amy Sobolewski '05 and Rosemary Bedke '05.

dents who were selected to the Hiawatha Valley Bolduan '05, Rachel Conrad '05, Seth Forney '06,

Cotter High School was also represented by Amy Sobolewski '05, Ryanna Glentz '05, Jon Walz '05, and Will Kujak '05 at the Dorian Choir Festival on January 9-10, 2005 at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

School News Today at Cotter

Musical

The popular musical, *The Sound of Music*, delighted audiences this fall with its unforgettable songs and delightful story. Cast members included: Amy Sobolewski '05 as Maria, Jon Walz '05 as Captain Von Trapp, Ryanna Glentz '05 as Mother Abbess, Rachel Conrad '05, as Sisters Berthe, Sophia and Elsa and Jess Hoffert '07 was included Kelsey Schauer '07 Frederick, Kassy Kujak '06 Kurt, Barbara Bruner Meurer as Marta and and Dustin Boldau



C.C.M.P.

Our Cross Cultural are gearing up for a summer. Students will be traveling to Washington D.C. and the North Dakota. To help raise funds students sell Butter Braids, and they also make

Ministry Project students mer full of service trips. Chicago, St. Louis, NYC, Standing Rock Reservation in to cover the cost of these trips the students and sell Apple pies and Soy Candles. The mission of CCMP is to instill in its participants a greater understanding and awareness of diverse ways of living and being in the world. CCMP seeks to enrich the lives of its participants by affirming the call to Christian service through ministry to others.

Math Team

The Cotter Math Team has just completed a very successful season earning an invitation to the state tournament for the fourth time in the last five years. This year's team won the division and finished fifteenth in the state and fourth among small schools for the season. Yoon Ji (Lauren) Shin '07 finished the season tied for third in the state and will compete for individual honors at the state tournament.



Target Club

Target Club has members in grades ten through twelve who have taken a pledge to remain chemically-free throughout the year. In addition to this, they have made a commitment to be involved in Target activities that involve being a role model to younger students and develop their leadership skills.

This year's events have included a Back to School BBQ for the entire school at the Cotter Residence Center, a Halloween dance for the junior high students, an overnight outing at Eagle Bluff Environmental Center, a bowling party and an Exam Survival Party at Holzinger Lodge.

Next month they will hold their annual Pin Dodge-ball Tournament for all students to enjoy. Before the end of the school year they hope to hold another dance for the junior high students, lead presentations about making good decisions as a high school student, host a softball game, and hold a bonfire at Prairie Island for Target members and the Cotter community.

School News Today at Cotter

High School Challenge Team

Steps were taken this year to solidify the program at Cotter by selecting a team T-shirt and mascot! A pizza party/practice session, before the opening rounds this year, brought the team together and fostered good will among the participants. Rounds of competition are held at the Hendrickson Center at the campus of SMU. Two \$1000.00 scholarships for SMU have been won by advancing from early rounds. Congratulations to the 2004-2005 Cotter High School Challenge team and we are already looking forward to next year!!!

Model Legislature 2004-2005

There ought to be a law; or at least an amended law! Thirty-three Winona Cotter students once again participated in the Winona Model legislature program. The two day event, held at Winona State University on December 2 & 3, 2004 was the culmination of a great deal of research and bill-writing as the students prepared to debate current issues pertaining to Minnesota state law.

Cotter High School students have been participating in this annual event for 19 years, under the direction of Social Studies chairperson, Michael G. Meurer. Students in a hands on experience learn about bill-writing, debate, parliamentary procedure, chairing committees and the democratic process as a whole.

Leadership is an acquired skill and students were given the opportunity to enhance their abilities and speak their minds in a diverse climate, but working towards common goals as a legislative body.



Students in the News at Cotter

Congratulations to **Travis Loeffler '05**, on earning his Eagles Scout Rank. As a scout member for 11 years, he decided that his project was to reclaim the Prairie Island Hiking Trail. The trail had become overgrown and markers needed replacing. With hard work and determination Travis has made the it a popular hiking trail once again.

The "Quilts for Kids" Program was started by Cotter Junior High School student, **Augusta Rodgers '09**. As Miss National Preteen Princess Augusta undertook a community service project to help the children whose mothers were murdered in domestic violence. With the help of area quilters and a few from around the country she sends hand-made quilts to help comfort those children. The letters of gratitude flow in, each one touching Augusta. More quilts are needed. If you would like more information on "Quilts for

Kids" please contact Augusta at quiltsforkids@hotmail.com or through the Winona Women's Resource Center.

Jonathan Waltz '05 is among 322 Minnesota semifinalists who qualified to compete for the 50th annual Merit Scholarship award to be given in 2005. There are about 8,200 awards worth \$33.9 million dollars. To move to the finalist level, students must have an outstanding academic record, endorsement from their school principal and a SAT score that confirms their performance on an earlier qualifying test.

Katie Quirk '07 traveled, with her mother, this past summer to Costa Rica as part of the Global Volunteers program. For approximately two weeks Katie helped build a kitchen and worked on a septic system in Cebedilla, a small village near Santa Elena.

Serving Others at Cotter

There are many ways that Cotter students help others around the United States and the world. Listed below are just a few ways they show their concern for others.

- Inspired from their Rwandan classmates, Cotter students packed over **150** shoe boxes for "Operation Christmas Child".

"Operation Christmas Child" brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. This program provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on missions project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift.

- During Christmas, the student council sponsored the Rwanda Christmas tree. A student could buy an ornament for \$1.00 to place on the tree. Each class was represented by a different color. Over **\$100.00** was collected for the Rwandan Orphanage.

- A concern was realized recently by a Cotter student that our friends living at the Rwandan orphanage were having to use rolled up banana leaves for a soccer ball. We all began to think of the excesses in our lives and decided this problem could be solved in short order. A meeting with our Activities Director/Dean of Students, Pat Bowlin, helped considerably. Many older soccer balls just waiting to be deflated were made available on behalf of Cotter. One student purchased an air pump, a couple others purchased new soccer balls, another student recorded an amusing Valentine CD and sold them with all the proceeds going to help fund this. Donations were also collected to take care of postage costs. Sometimes we need to be reminded that reaching out to others



in big and small ways truly can make a difference in the hearts of the giver as well as the receiver.

- Cotter Junior High sponsored a collection to benefit Oxfam and its work. Oxfam is a nonprofit organization that works to help save lives. The Cotter Junior High School students collected approximately **\$150.00**.

- A few years ago a Cotter homeroom took on a personal challenge to make sure no child should go through a Minnesota winter without a pair of mittens. Since its inception, **hundreds and hundreds** of mittens, gloves, scarfs

and hats have found their way onto the "Mitten Tree" at Cotter High School and with the help of the Winona Volunteer Services, were then distributed to those in need. Every Christmas season for the past six years, Cotter students have donated all kinds of winter attire. One recent graduate, Zachary Theis returned this past year and surprised us with a gift of a dozen more hand-crafted hats to continue a tradition he took to heart. Each year as we break for Christmas, our students have looked towards the

overflowing Christmas tree and smiled knowing many Winona children will be having a warmer, hope-filled Christmas because they took time to reach out and offer a hand, or a mitten.



Alphonse and Alex by the Rwanda Christmas tree.

- Cotter Junior High School student, Kirsten Czaplewski '09, was "Principal of the Day" on Monday, Dec 6, 2004. Kirsten officially declared Friday, Dec. 10 Pajama and Slipper Day. Students who wanted to participate donated \$1.00 to the Giving Tree at Cotter Jr. High. Because of Kirstens idea around **\$100.00** was brought in. Kirsten's aunt, Stacy Czaplewski '87, purchased the opportunity to be Cotter Jr. High School

"Principal of the Day" at the Cotter Auction last April. The opportunity will be available again at the Cotter Auction on April 23, 2005.

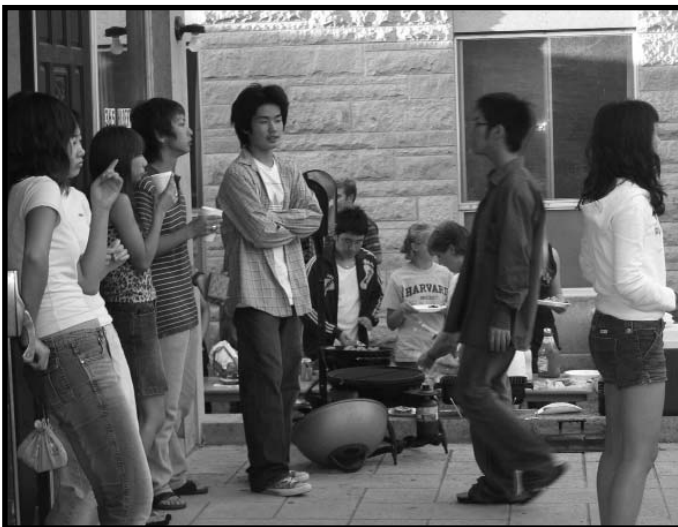
School Profile

Cotter Residence Center

Cotter High School is blessed to have students from many cultures attend our school. Sixty-five boarding students from around the world, including the United States, call our school home and we welcome new students to visit us. You may choose to come for the day and visit classes with a Cotter student and/or include an overnight stay in the Cotter Residence Center. Please contact the Director of Admissions, Karen Sullivan, at 507-453-5403 to experience a day in the life of a Cotter student. This could be the right choice for you! We also invite you to visit "Cotter Happenings" and "Academics" on our website, www.winonacotter.org, for additional information about Cotter High School.

“Ramblers ramble across the globe, putting their solid educations to use across Europe, Mexico, Korea, Taiwan, Japan and China. Languages and currencies differ, but a common commitment to improving the world through education binds together all members of the Cotter community.”

Will Gibson '96
Director of the Cotter Residence Center



"Bridges" is a new club at Cotter designed to do exactly what it's named after, to build bridges to promote respect in our unique Cotter High School community! We have students and parents of students from around the globe: South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, Japan, Mexico, Nicaragua, Germany, Rwanda, Portugal, and various places around the United States. The mission of Bridges is to offer a nurturing environment with the purpose of celebrating and exploring the different facets of our diversity.

Bridges believes that people of all ethnicities in the Cotter Community should have opportunities to honor their heritages by sharing the unique characteristics of their cultures with one another. Bridges

encourages students from different cultures to collaborate with one another to form meaningful friendships that are built on trust and respect. Our relationships serve multiple purposes; international students have chances to practice English skills in a relaxed social setting while we all have opportunities to learn about the cultures of our international populations.

Our club, where approximately half of the students are from countries other than the United States and half are from local communities, meets every Wednesday after school. Each meeting begins with healthy snacks and casual social conversation and is followed by community building activities that include springboards for authentic discussions revolving around ethnicity and culture. Social outings are also a part of the Bridges agenda; forty students attended our bowling trip and many other activities are underway.

If you are interested in Bridges, please contact Mrs. Keenan at "jkeenan@winonacotter.org" or Ms. Thompson at "kthomps@winonacotter.org" for more details!

Alumni Update

Mary Kay (Gallagher) Plein '57 retired from teaching 2nd grade after 30 years. She now assists her husband Kenneth '56 in his real estate business.

Doug Smith '67 is a co-founder of McNally Smith College of Music in St. Paul (mcnallysmith.edu).

Sue Sikkink '80 is currently serving her 5th year on the Fillmore Central School Board as Director/Treasurer.

Thomas Gibson '91 is pursuing a Master of Social Work degree at Augsburg College in Minneapolis.

Trina (Bambenek) '90 and Matt Myers announce the birth of their daughter Madeleine Wenonah on August 26, 2003.

Holly Wildenborg '95 and Thomas Carto will be married May 21, 2005.

Jill Beyer '96 and Paul Kieser were married on August 21, 2004. They reside in Champlin, MN.

Katy Wieczorek '97 is studying to be a physician assistant at Des Moines University. She will graduate in August of 2005 after one year of clinical operations.

Brad Beyer '98 and Kim Olson will be married April 16, 2005.

Class Reunions:

- Cotter & Cathedral's class of **1950** will celebrate their 55th class reunion on July 8-10, 2005. On July 8, there will be an evening social at Wellingtons. Saturday, there will be a Mass celebration and dinner at the Winona Country Club. Rounding out the weekend is a Brunch Cruise on the Mississippi River. The reunion committee is Ron Dreas, 507-452-7017, rdreas@hbc.com, June Gasper, 507-895-2466, Carole Gardner, 507-452-7025, and Mike Kertzman, 507-452-2116, mkjk6@juno.com.

- The class of **1970** is planning their class reunion. The dates are July 29-31, 2005. There will be an "Ice Breaker" at Bub's Brewing Company on Friday evening. Saturday morning come out to the airport and fly "low and slow" in a 2-seat powered parachute. We are still working on plans for Sunday. If you have any ideas give Leslie Wagner-Gordon a call at 608-687-4702 or e-mail her at leslieg@hbc.com.

- The Cotter class of **1975** will celebrate their 30th reunion the weekend of August 12-14, 2005. Friday afternoon there will be a river party. Friday night's informal get-together will be at "Rabo's" renovated Firehouse "Station 2". Saturday morning there will be an optional golf outing. Saturday evening, dinner, drinks and dancing will be at the Eagle's Club. Invitations to be sent out in March. For more information contact: Sherry Boynton 507-452-3207 sboynton@smumn.edu or Donny Biesanz 507-313-3912.



Cotter Class of 1964

- Mark your calendar for your reunion on July 22-24, 2005 if you are in the Cotter class of **1980**.

- The Cotter class of **1985** is planning on having their reunion on July 22-24, 2005.

Keep your eyes on our website, winonacotter.org, for updated information on class reunions. If you would like to have your class reunion information posted on our website and in our next Ramblins please contact Margaret Gernes at mgernes@winonacotter.org or Katrina Klink at kklink@winonacotter.org.

Alumni Update

1979 Football Team

Last fall marked the 25th Anniversary of the State Championship football season. In order to recognize those involved with this successful season, all players and coaches from the 1979 season were invited to be honorary guests at a Cotter football game on Friday, October 15, 2004. The Ramblers hosted the Hayfield Vikings at Winona State's Maxwell Field and put on a great show for their alumni. During halftime, the 1979 Ramblers were introduced and recognized on the field and season highlights were announced. A celebration was hosted at Bub's Brewing Co. following the game where Cotter classmates, family and friends reunited and reminisced. We are striving at Cotter to recognize our tremendous athletic history. The efforts of this team 25 years ago are an important part of that legacy.



Minnehaha Academy

Thanks to all alumni, parents, students and friends who joined Cotter basketball teams in a night of basketball and fun at Minnehaha Academy on Saturday, February 5! There was a Cotter Alumni and Friends Reception in the Minnehaha Academy Campus Room from between the varsity games for Cotter family and friends. This was an excellent opportunity to reunite with classmates and friends while getting a glimpse at the latest happenings at Cotter. An informal gathering was hosted at O'Gara's Bar and Grill following the games for those over 21. We hope to see you all there next year!

Hall of Fame

Cotter High School established an Athletic Hall of Fame to honor the school's rich athletic history. The seven athletes forming the first class includes Ray Ramczyk '32, John Nett Sr. '38, Ed Kohner '48, Ron Dreas '50, Joe Shrake '52, Ben Czaplewski '58, and Tim Browne '68. These seven athletes were recognized at a Hall of Fame

Induction banquet in their honor on Saturday, October 9, 2004, at the John Nett Recreation Center. Please visit our website at winonacotter.org and download a copy of the Hall of Fame Program. Also on the website is a nomination form and criteria list. If there is anyone who you think meets the criteria please fill out the form and send it in.

Please join us for this year's Athletic Hall of Fame on October 1, 2005 during the Cotter High School Homecoming weekend. Call us to reserve your space.



Back Row (L to R): Joe Shrake, Ron Dreas, Tim Browne, Ed Kohner
Front Row (L to R): John Nett Jr. representing John Nett Sr., Ted Czaplewski representing Ben Czaplewski and Rosetta Brown and Don Trestor representing Ray Ramczyk

Alumni Update

Alumni Career Day

Cotter High School welcomed back alumni on February 3, 2005 for our annual Alumni Career Day. Speakers included: Father Paul Breza '55 who was ordained in 1963 and is currently serving for three parishes around the Hokah area: St. Pete's, St. Pat's and St. Nicolas'. Sally Blank '89, an International Channel Manager at VADDIO in the cities, Tim Browne '68, founder of Browne & Browne Marketing in Minneapolis and an adjunct marketing professor at the University of St. Thomas, and Hugh Joswick '72. Hugh Joswick '72, a Rhodes Scholar, works at a Law office in Oakland, CA and has continued working on videos. He also teaches as an adjunct instructor at the Nyingma Institute, an educational arm of the Tibetan Nyingma Meditation Center. Thank you to our honored guests.



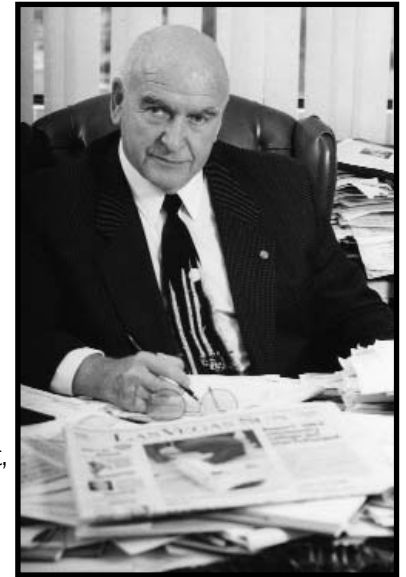
L to R: Fr. Breza, Tim Browne, Sally Blank, Michael and Brian O'Callaghan

Alumni Achievement Award

It is with a great deal of enthusiasm that we announce that Cotter High School has presented its first Alumni Achievement Award. During Alumni Career Day, the award was presented posthumously to Donal "Mike" O'Callaghan '46. Mayor Jerry Miller declared February 3, 2005 "Donal Mike O'Callaghan day" in the city of Winona.

We have been making strong efforts to recognize and connect with our alumni. The Alumni Achievement Award serves as a way for Cotter to annually recognize our alumni—this time for those who have been successful in the areas of science, education, humanities, business, church, and/or community. The Cotter Administration and Board of Directors seek to recognize graduates from all walks of life - Ramblers who are doing great things in remarkable ways.

Mike O'Callaghan has been selected to be the first recipient of the Cotter Alumni Achievement Award for his distinguished career in the military, government, business, various board of directors, and public service initiatives. Perhaps one of the most distinguished positions Mike achieved was as a two-term governor of Nevada. Indeed, Mike spent his entire life making a difference in the lives of other people. Mike received numerous awards including a Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and Silver Star.



Donal "Mike" O'Callaghan



President, Dr. Junker presenting the award to Donal "Mike" O'Callaghan's sons, Michael and Brian.

When remembered after death, the following was written: Israeli Gen. Aharon Davidi, president of Sar-el (Volunteers for Israel), remembered O'Callaghan as a man "imbued with a deep sense of justice and an uncompromising support of those who do not succumb to terror."

He credited O'Callaghan with following the example of late Sun Publisher Hank Greenspun in his efforts to preserve Israel. "Those in Israel, friends, acquaintances in any walk of life appreciated his (O'Callaghan's) concern for our country," Davidi said from his home in Israel. "He met with high-ranking officials, including the president and prime minister, as well as with people on buses or in bombed Kiryat Shmona."

What's Ramblin'

Cotter's Calendar of Events

Mar. 24	Spring Break begins
April 4	School resumes—4th quarter begins
April 5	Sub-section Solo-ensemble Contest at Wabasha-Kellogg
April 8	HVL Jazz Clinic at Cotter
April 17	NHS Induction Mass at 3:00 pm in Chapel
April 20	UW-EC and CHS Choir Concert in the Chapel at 7:30 pm
April 23	Cotter Auction 5:00 pm at 360 Vila St
April 27	CHS Jazz-fest Concert in St. Cecilia Theatre at 7:30 pm
April 15-17	CJHS Musical
May 4	CHS Show Choir Concert in St. Cecilia Theatre at 7:30 pm
May 7	CHS Prom
May 12	CHS Pops Concert—St. Joseph's Award presentation at 7:00 pm in Barb Bischel Memorial Gym
May 19	CJHS Pops Concert in the John Nett Rec Center
May 31- June 2	Semester Exams
June 2	Last day of school
June 5	Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation Ceremony at St. Mary's University at 1:00 pm
June 20	Cotter Golf Classic Tournament
July	CCMP Mission trips
Aug 10-12	CHS Band Camp
Aug 29	First day of school
Sept 12	CCMP/Devine Golf Tournament

Development Office

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Requested In House 4-15-05

If you have Cotter ideas that you would like to see in future Ramblin's, please contact Margaret Gernes at 453-5100 in the Development Office, Room 104.

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