Back to Back to Back
Mock Trial State Champs

State Champs
Skutt Catholic Mock Trial Team
Seated left to right
Brenna Rossi, Danielle Desa,
Amanda Olson, Brianna Deas,
Taylor Gibson
Standing left to right
Coach Mary Meyer, Coach Patrick Borchers,
Matthew Rago, Nathan Jensen,
Judge Lyle Strom, Federal District Court
Judge for the District of Nebraska
FEBRUARY 4
BASEBALL BASH
This event will honor the 2005 State Championship Baseball Team and four Skutt Catholic graduates who were college Rawlings Golden Glove recipients.
- 7 p.m.
- $25 per couple
- Hildebrandt-Nebe Wrestling Facility on the Skutt Catholic campus

MARCH 5 – 9
SPRING BREAK

MARCH 24
ALUMNI BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
Gather your team and be watching for online sign-ups.
- $15 per person
- 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Skutt Catholic gymnasiums

MARCH 31
PROM
- 9 p.m. to midnight
- The Ridge (20033 Elmhorn Ridge Drive, Omaha, Neb.)

APRIL 5-9
EASTER BREAK

APRIL 25
HAWK WALK 2012
Skutt Catholic students raise funds for the school’s Financial Assistance Program, take a 5 mile trek around Lake Zorinsky, then cap off the event with an all-school picnic.

MAY 2
LIGHT OF LEADERSHIP MASS
Skutt Catholic seniors pass leadership candles on to the junior class

MAY 11
BACCALAUREATE MASS
- 7 p.m.
- St. Patrick’s Catholic Church (508 Angus St., Gretna, Neb.)

MAY 12
GRADUATION
- 2:30 p.m.
- Orpheum Theatre (409 S 16th St, Omaha, Neb.)

JUNE 29
FLIGHT FOR EXCELLENCE
GOLF TOURNAMENT
- 11 a.m. Registration begins, with a noon shotgun start
- Pacific Springs Golf Club (16810 Harney St, Omaha, Neb.)
- Dinner and award ceremony to follow play
- All-alumni social with DJ Dan Hilario playing tunes on the Pacific Springs club deck in the evening

JUNE 30
CLASS OF 2002 10-YEAR REUNION
- 6 p.m. Social hour and tour of school (Skutt Catholic Media Center)
- 7:30 p.m. Picnic dinner under the big top (Skutt Catholic campus)
President’s Letter

Patrick Slattery
President/Principal

Every January in my household, my children stand tall against a particular wall and eagerly allow my wife and me to measure and record their height. All of us love to marvel at how much they have grown as we compare prior year marks to the most recent measurement. Seeing how fast they have grown in such a short time never ceases to amaze me. This little family tradition is certainly not unique to the Slattery household as what parent does not love to revel in both their children’s past and current growth.

Skutt Catholic High School is nearing its twenty year anniversary, and marking our growth over these twenty years is much like marking the height of our children as they grow. Each year we see notable strides, we recall fond memories of those prior younger years, and continue to amaze ourselves as how far things are coming along. Skutt Catholic has grown from a school with 120 students in its first year to a school with 700 students today! Our alumni base has grown to 2151, and our total constituent list to nearly 10,000 people strong. Our curriculum, Catholic identity, and extracurricular programs have all grown leaps and bounds from where we were 19 years ago.

Unlike the markings on the wall that eventually stop as our children no longer grow taller, our success at Skutt Catholic must continue to grow. We must position ourselves for the future. We must strive to reach new heights and not be content with our success today.

Data trends of Archdiocesan high schools in Omaha over the past fifty years would show that many schools experienced peaks in enrollment and financial stability around twenty years of age but struggled to maintain those patterns in the following decades. As the enclosed Annual Report will highlight, we are blessed to be in solid financial standing at this time. We are debt free and enrollment patterns for our school over the past decade are noticeably better than the national and Midwest average. Our curriculum, Catholic identity, and extracurricular programs have all grown leaps and bounds from where we were 19 years ago.

As we look to our next twenty years, we will continue to rely on the strength, skills and expertise of all constituents to ensure that Skutt Catholic has not yet seen its peak. As our constituent base grows, so too should the strength of our school. You all have been instrumental in our first two decades of success, and all of us at Skutt Catholic feel blessed to have your support as we make plans for our future!

May God Bless you and your family in this new year!

Sincerely,
Patrick Slattery
President/Principal

That’s what building a body of work is all about. It’s about the daily labor, the many individual acts, the choices large and small that add up over time, over a lifetime to a lasting legacy. It’s about not being satisfied with the latest achievement, the latest gold star, because the one thing I know about a body of work is that it’s never finished. It’s cumulative. It deepens and expands with each day you give your best. You may have setbacks and you may have failures, but you’re not done. You haven’t even started... Barack Obama, Arizona State Commencement Speech, 2009

President Obama was right. His commencement speech also pertains to teams, programs and schools, and their “body of work.” The off-season, the daily practices, the commitment to team rules and the acceptance of individual roles encompass any particular year. The teams during the fall season at Skutt Catholic realized they were not satisfied and wanted to leave their own individual mark - and they did.

It started off with girls golf. New coach, Mike Stolarski, guided 12 girls, seven of whom were freshmen (some with little golf experience.) However, excitement was high and with one senior and two juniors leading the way, progress was made. The girls finished 3rd at the RCC meet, 4th at Districts, and qualified two girls, Stephanie Kaiser and Katherine Slump, for the State meet. That season added to their confidence and set the table for the future.

The boys tennis team, coached by Sheryl Vaughn, won their sixth straight RCC team championship. With experience and tradition behind them, state competition began with high hopes. There were setbacks, but each match was extremely hard fought. Nolan Healy & Andrew Johnson (#1 Doubles) finished 4th, Zach Legband (#2 Singles) also finished 4th while freshman Skylar Lowe (#1 Singles) won his first match and then ran into a tough player from Lincoln Christian. In the end, the #2 Doubles team of Mitch Plance & Brian Carmody were crowned State Champions! Setbacks sure, but boys tennis was never defeated.

Our legacy...
Alumni Board President’s Letter

Happy New Year from the Skutt Catholic Alumni Board!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season with your friends and family. I am excited to share a variety of recent happenings with your Skutt Catholic Alumni Association!

The SC Alumni Association hosted its annual Flight for Excellence Golf Tournament in June at Pacific Spring Golf Course. Alumni, alumni parents, and SC staff enjoyed a warm summer day of golf, food, prizes and even a putting competition to finish the day. Thank you to everyone who helped plan the event and those who participated in the tournament. I encourage all of you to consider playing in the tournament this year. Whether golf is your game or not, it’s a fun day!

In October the SC Alumni Association hosted its second annual Homecoming event. Alumni and their families returned to Moylan Stadium for a fun filled evening under the lights. The night included free admission into the game, free food, raffle prizes, and even a bounce house and face painting for the little ones. The night was a huge success; Thank you to all those who helped and attended the event! If you missed it, be sure to watch your mailbox, email and Facebook for information on next year’s Homecoming festivities.

Be sure to mark your calendar with the exciting events happening in the coming months. I hope you consider joining us!

• Alumni Basketball Tournament: Saturday, March 24, 2012. Spend an afternoon playing a few games of basketball against your fellow classmates. Start forming your teams today!

• Flight for Excellence Golf Tournament: Friday, June 29, 2012. Take a day off and enjoy fun in the sun! Registration will be available soon.

• Class of 2002 Ten-Year Reunion: June 29-30, 2012. If you are interested in assisting with the planning of the Ten-Year Reunion, please contact us at skuttcatholicalumni@gmail.com

Before I wrap up, I wish to encourage you to follow us on our Facebook page for information about upcoming events and other alumni information. If you would like to become more involved with the SC Alumni Association please contact us at skuttcatholicalumni@gmail.com

Thank you for your continued support of Skutt Catholic and our alumni. I hope you have a great start to the new year!

Kelsey Sievers ’09
Alumni Board President
Ashley Rasmussen Hinze '02 and her husband Eric welcomed Kinley Sophia Hinze on Oct. 11, 2011. Kinley weighed 8 lbs, 10 oz. and was 20.5 inches long!

Jill Graham Seberger '04 and Tim Seberger welcomed their first child, Graham Stephen Seberger on Sept. 17, 2011. Jill is a staff RN in the NICU at The Nebraska Medical Center. Tim is a mechanical engineer at Cleaver Brooks in Lincoln. They live in Gretna.

Christopher Wolfe '99 and Jaime Ammons Wolfe '00 welcomed daughter Camryn Faith Wolfe on May 9, 2011. Camryn joins three older siblings, Ryan, Lincoln and Pahyn.


Katie Lauritsen Molick '98 and her husband Michael welcomed their first child, Evan Michael Molick, on Oct. 28, 2011. He weighed 8 lbs. 10 oz. and was 21 inches long. The Molick's live in St. Louis and are huge Cardinal fans, so it was fitting that Evan was born on the day the Cardinals won the World Series.


Jill Graham Seberger '04 and Tim Seberger welcomed their first child, Graham Stephen Seberger on July 8, 2011. Jill is a staff RN in the NICU at The Nebraska Medical Center. Tim is a mechanical engineer at Cleaver Brooks in Lincoln. They live in Gretna.

Christopher Wolfe '99 and Jaime Ammons Wolfe '00 welcomed daughter Camryn Faith Wolfe on May 9, 2011. Camryn joins three older siblings, Ryan, Lincoln and Pahyn.

Nicki Bishoff '99 and Eric Cutler were married in Brookfield, Wis. Nicki, and Andrew Bishoff '05 are expecting a baby girl in April 2012.

In June 4, 2011 at St. Stephen the Martyr Church. The reception was held at Tiburon Golf Club. Stephanie is an accountant at Union Pacific. She is currently working on her CPA. Eric is a doctoral student in biomechanics at UNO/UNMC.

Grant Farrell '04 and Morgan Fitzgerald will be married on April 20, 2012 at Mary Our Queen in Omaha. Neb. Grant’s brother Connor Farrell '07 will be his best man. Grant works at First National Bank as a Loan Service Specialist and Morgan is employed by the State of Nebraska as a Probation Officer serving Douglas County.

Rachel Fuchs '06 married Bryson Twist '04 on July 9, 2011 at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church. Rachel is the first SC alum to join the faculty of Skutt Catholic! SC alumni in the wedding party included: Eric Benzel '04 and Anita Fuchs Downing '04. After the wedding the couple stopped by Skutt Catholic to take a few pictures!

Joe Patrin '04 received his MBA from UNO on Dec. 2, 2011.

Katie Smith '05 married Marcus Shanahan on July 15, 2011 at St Patrick’s Catholic Church in Gretna, Neb. Skutt Catholic alumni in the wedding party included: Jessica Smith Charlsen '00, Mike Smith '03, Maggie Smith '10, and Meghan Phelps Sullivan '04. Kate is currently in PA school at UNMC here in Omaha. Marcus is a grain trader with Interstate Commodities.

Sara Warren '06 was hired last January (2011) as a CP Marketing Analyst with BNSF Railway Company in Fort Worth, Texas.

Brett Render '02 and Erin McMahon '02 are engaged to be married June 1, 2012.

Joe Koneck-Wilcox '05 is currently interning in the theology department at Skutt Catholic.

Capt. Daniel Hatz '02 is currently in pilot training in Wright Patterson, Ohio and flying F16s with the 55th squadron out of Shaw Air Force Base. Dan received his MD from the University of Nebraska and is currently the flight surgeon for his squadron. Dan deployed to Italy last December and will deploy to Afghanistan in September of this year.

Matt Muschall '08 is a senior at Morristown College was named as a semifinalist for the 2011 William V. Campbell Trophy endowed by HealthSouth and also one of the candidates for the 2011 National Football Foundation (NFF) National Scholarship Awards.

Tobias Letak '08 was chosen to serve Christmas Eve Midnight Mass with Pope Benedict at St. Peter’s in Rome. Tobias is a seminarian at St. John Vianney Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. and spent a semester studying in Rome.

Operation Support Our Graduates Serving Overseas. If you know of a Skutt Catholic graduate who is serving in the military please let Mrs. Wilson know at jawilson@schoolorchardma.org. The Soaring Skyhawk chapter of the National Honor Society is committed to supporting our graduates through prayer, thank you cards, and care packages.

Britta Beckman Durow '00 was inducted into Bryant University's Athletic Hall of Fame on Nov. 11, 2011 for her stellar contributions to the school's volleyball program. Britta’s entire family traveled to Smithfield, R.I. for the ceremony.

T.J. Welniak '03 graduated from the University of Nebraska Medical Center's College of Medicine on May 7, 2011. He is specializing in Emergency Medicine and will complete a three year residency at the University of Nebraska Affiliated Hospitals in Omaha, Neb. Pictured with T.J. are his sisters Kari Welniak '12, Amy Welniak '10 and Sara Welniak '05.

Skutt Catholic remembers alum Michael Willrett '10 who died this past August. May his soul rest in peace.

Maggie Smith '10, and Meghan Phelps Sullivan '04. Kate is currently in PA school at UNMC here in Omaha. Marcus is a grain trader with Interstate Commodities.

Anthony Pasternak '99 married Jeana Pecha on Aug. 13, 2011. Anthony, a CPA with BKD CPA’s and Advisors, also serves as the treasurer for the Skutt Catholic Alumni Association.
June 29, 2012
Skutt Catholic’s Flight for Excellence
an alumni sponsored golf tournament
Pacific Springs Golf Club
Noon shotgun start

June 30, 2012
Skutt Catholic High School
Class of 2002 10-Year Reunion
6 p.m. Cocktail Reception/School Tour
7 p.m. Dinner and Social
Located at
Skutt Catholic High School

March 24, 2012
Alumni Basketball Tournament
Start forming your teams and watch for online sign-ups.
www.skuttcatholic.com

Summer 2012
Skutt Catholic IXIM Mission Trip
(Late June/Early July…exact dates TBD)
Join faculty members Rachel Fuchs Twist ’06 and Paula Lenz and others from Omaha for an IXIM mission trip to San Miguel Acatan in Guatemala. Volunteers will be working in Skutt Catholic’s sister school, in an area that was entangled in a bloody civil war in 1989. Help Mayan families as they rebuild their lives and educate their children.
For additional information on IXIM Spirit of Solidarity visit:
http://web.mac.com/stephanie.spiegel/IXIM_Education_Committee/Welcome.html
To learn more about the mission or to make a contribution to the effort contact:
Lucy Smith at lcsmith@schools.archomaha.org.

“Borders are for countries, not for Christians.”
—Sergio Sosa
I had the privilege of attending a Partners in Mission Advancement and Leadership Services for a Catholic Education Conference last summer in Boston. The keynote speaker, an 80 year old nun with more spit and vinegar than a person half her age, began her talk with the following question: “Why do parents send their children to Catholic Educational Institutions?” As the sleepy participants sat up in their chairs and started to take note, she emphatically told the group in her thick Boston brogue, “Academics….Academics…Academics.” After a pause she added, “And if you’re not offering the finest product possible, you’re not goin’ be in business very long!”

As we approach our 20th year, our goal is to stay in business a very long time. We’ll reach that goal primarily because an outstanding academic environment remains the cornerstone of the Skutt Catholic brand promise. Yet we ask ourselves, “What else is contained in the Skutt Catholic brand promise?” To answer that question requires ASKING MORE QUESTIONS!

How do we differentiate ourselves from other high schools? What motivates Skutt Catholic teachers to show up and perform each day? What inspires our coaches and activity sponsors to take care of business? What convinces our parents to pay to send their children here? What prompts a student to want to be a SkyHawk? What is the first response when someone asks, “Why did you choose Skutt Catholic?”

If you ask Skutt Catholic constituents what makes us distinctive the answers will allow you to piece together DNA threads of common characteristics. Ask wrestling coach Brad Hildebrandt and he’ll note 13 consecutive state wrestling championships. Faculty member Mary Meyer will mention back-to-back-to-back mock trial state titles. President/Principal Patrick Slattery will boast of 36 National Merit Scholars in the past six years. Director of Guidance/Registrar Kathy Beekman will proclaim 90% college admittance rates, noting 100% admittance rates for the past two years. Service coordinator Julie Schmitz will communicate over 13,000 student volunteer hours. The commonalities reveal threads of excellence on several different levels.

Dig a little deeper and you’ll find some more commonalities:

- A faculty that cares deeply about the success of each individual student, assessing special needs and special gifts in order to deliver customized direction
- An administrative staff that sets high expectations and then works diligently to give teachers and students the support needed to achieve lofty goals
- A student body challenged to become Christian leaders who empower others, promote justice, and initiate change
- A family of students and parents who are fully invested and who carry our school forward with pride

Eight months ago Skutt Catholic began the process of identifying the Skutt Catholic brand in order to better communicate our brand identity to the public. We did so with the following objectives in mind:

1. Create a differentiated, cohesive and recognizable identity
2. Eliminate the variety of Skutt Catholic logos used on team apparel
3. Invent the next generation of Skutt Catholic logos
4. Influence the perception of Skutt Catholic as the newest, most vibrant private high school of choice
5. Provide a solid and unified foundation to build upon
6. Build awareness among junior high students and their parents
7. Instill pride

The first step was hiring a branding agency to help lead the branding process. The second step was gathering a group of Skutt Catholic faculty and staff members to complete a rather unusual school survey. The survey asked questions like: If Skutt Catholic was a famous person, who would that person be and why? (The answers to that question ranged from Jesus Christ, to the athletically talented yet understated baseball great Stan Musial, to the articulate, smart and funny actress Tina Fey.) The survey questions prompted the group to consider and describe the inherent qualities that have shaped Skutt Catholic. The answers were tallied and presented to the group, with the results allowing us to collectively determine our institutional DNA. Daake-Strategic Brand Expression took that information and used it as the foundation for developing a new logo for the school.

The new logo is sturdy, dynamic, clean, balanced, flexible, spiritual and guided by faith. (Please see Greg Daake’s development notes for the new Primary Skutt Catholic logo on page 11.)

The process of redesigning new business cards, stationary, envelopes, postcards, t-shirts and school/athletic/club uniforms has begun. In a few weeks our website will sport a rebranded look. The site will incorporate the new Skutt Catholic logo with brand colors and several new features, designed to make the web experience more seamless and engaging.

The rebranding process will continue as we examine areas of the building in need of a more functional, yet dynamic face to greet the next 20 years. Like any good brand, our new mark is intended to help keep our numbers strong and growing while reminding us of the daily promise made to the students entrusted to our care.
Exploring My Roots
by Jim Mangimeli

It was not something I would ever have considered. Taking two weeks off during the school year was not an option for me, but when I saw the ad in The Catholic Voice last summer, I was immediately interested. The paper was sponsoring a trip to Sicily and Italy in November, and it was going to include Carlentini, the town in Sicily where my paternal grandparents had been born. When would there ever be a chance like that again? I thought about it carefully and talked with my wife and then asked Mr. Slattery if I could go, even though it meant I would miss two weeks of school. He was kind enough to say yes and I was fortunate enough to line up Mr. Paul Marek as my sub, so the planning began.

Early in the morning of Nov. 6 we arrived at the airport, flew to Chicago, waited six hours, and then took a 10-hour Alitalia flight to Rome. From there we flew to Palermo, Sicily, the first stop in our tour of the island. We visited, and had Mass in, the cathedrals of Palermo and Monreale, saw the Valley of the Temples, an archeological site of ancient Greek ruins in Agrigento, and explored an ancient Roman villa complex at Piazza Armerina. Then, on Nov. 10 we traveled to Carlentini, certainly one of the high points of the trip for many of us whose ancestors had emigrated from there.

It was a very emotional day for me. We had a wonderful lunch at a local restaurant and then proceeded to the church on the main square of the town for mass with our priest/leader, father Al Salanitro from St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran, and St. Paul Outside the Walls.

The second high point of the trip was Rome, where we arrived on Nov. 14. We had Mass in one of the gothic chapels in St. Peter’s, and I was privileged to read the scriptures that day. We toured the Vatican Museum, including the Sistine Chapel and Vatican Gardens. The day was completed with a delicious Italian dinner at a fine Roman restaurant. The following day we had the privilege of being present at an outdoor audience with Pope Benedict XVI. We arrived early and got good seats and then waited for hours with thousands of other people from countries all over the world. At 10:30, the Pope came out in his Popemobile and rode through the crowd. Then he went to the top of the stairs at St. Peter’s and addressed the crowd in seven different languages. It was a very moving and impressive event, ending with the Pope giving his Papal blessing to all of us. It made us all proud to be Catholic and showed how truly “catholic” our church is. It was a time none of us will ever forget.

We completed our tour of Rome with visits to the other three basilicas, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran, and St. Paul Outside the Walls, each of which was more magnificent than the last. We also saw the Colosseum, and toured a portion of the Catacombs, where over 100,000 early Christians were buried. Another delicious Italian dinner completed our memorable day.

We flew out of Leonardo Da Vinci Airport the next morning, glad to be heading home, with unforgettable memories that would last a lifetime. I felt that I had gotten in touch with my heritage and had honored my grandparents and parents by returning to the country of our origin. It was something I had always wanted to do before the end of my life, and I feel very good about being Sicilian and Catholic. It was a great privilege to go and I am very grateful to those who made it possible.

Catholic and showed how truly “catholic” our church is. It was a time none of us will ever forget.

That was the past and present. As we near the end of our first 20 years, we should begin to look toward the future. What will the next 20 years bring to us? What can we bring to those that we serve over the next 20 years? Will we stand still, or will we strive to always move forward? We have choices that we can make. We can choose to reach new levels of excellence. We can choose to lead within the larger community. Together, we can develop a vision of the future, a future with a new generation of leaders filled with unlimited potential. Time not only flies, it can soar like the Skyhawk!

Respectfully,
Daniel J. Thiele, P.E.
Chairman of the Board
### 2010-2011 Annual Report

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- Michael Thiele (Chairman)
- Richard Wt (Vice Chairman)

#### Honorary Members
- Monsignor James Gilg

#### Revenue, Gains and Other Support: Amounts Percentage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$4,904,367</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish Assessments</td>
<td>$271,289</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$5,175,656</td>
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#### Student Activities
- 109,025 hours
- 115,549 hours
- 1,081,230 hours

#### Auxiliary Activities
- 265,504 hours

#### Total Revenue, Gains and Other Support: $6,626,968 (100%)

#### Expenses: Amounts Percentage

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Supporting Services:
- General Administration: $3,085,957 (50%)

#### Depreciation:
- $77,618 (11%)

#### Advancement:
- 402,321 hours (7%)

#### Recruitmen:
- 133,202 hours (2%)

#### Total Supporting Services:
- $2,434,258 (39%)

#### Total Expenses:
- $6,184,961 (100%)

#### Donors

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Ken and Brian Pollock</td>
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<td>John and Kathryn Poulton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clay and Terry Sanchez</td>
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<td>Buechler Inc.</td>
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<td>The Egg &amp; I Restaurant</td>
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<td>Jon and Lisa Farley</td>
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<td>Bill and Jeanne Lipton</td>
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<td>The Lodge at Heron Point</td>
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### Revenue, Gains and Other Support:

#### Change in Net Assets

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<td>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</td>
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<td>Net Assets, End of Year</td>
<td>$10,713,448</td>
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#### Investment income from the Endowment funds was reinvested ($54,000). New targeted campaign contributors of $25,000 were permanently restricted to Endowment. Advance revenue of $59,000 was temporarily restricted to future periods and/or specific programs. The Board of Directors also alloted $55,000 for roof repairs to be completed in the near future.
Donors

in this annual report, V.J. & Angela Skutt Catholic High School gratefully acknowledges the many ways in which donors supported our school from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.
Around Skutt Catholic

Skutt Catholic’s annual auction and dinner event set an all-time fundraising record, bringing in over $410,000. On September 24, 2011, the school was transformed into the streets of New York City complete with an outdoor replica of the Brooklyn Bridge, a 20’ x 10’ nighttime canvas of NYC painted by Skutt Catholic honor art students, and a brightly lit New York Nights marquee.

Event chairs, Jerry and Ann Crouse, Mike and Renee Masching & Charlie and Lynn Wurtz worked diligently throughout the year to meet their financial goals. The late Tim Moylan, Ken and Janet Sorensen & Kurt and Kathy Strawhecker served as honorary chairs and were recognized for their early efforts in building Skutt Catholic.

Kathryn Dempsey ’03 received the outstanding Alumni Award for her pursuit of excellence in the field of Bioinformatics.

Mr. SkyHawk Pageant
A tradition started over 12 years ago continued to thrill students as Skutt Catholic junior and senior boys competed for the coveted Mr. SkyHawk 2011 title. The crown went to senior Josh Pudlowski. He made a video about how he helps others achieve their greatest potential. Josh performed in the pageant on Wednesday during Homecoming Week and then went on to quarterback the football team to a win over Gross Catholic at the Friday night Homecoming game.

GrandHawks Day
Skutt Catholic welcomed over 450 grandparents of current students for Mass and a reception. Guests were greeted upon their arrival at school by the rousing sounds of the SC Marching Band, treated to the melodic sounds of the Skutt Catholic Choir during Mass, and after Mass delighted by the gripping sounds of the cast of Aida performing the signature song from the fall musical.

Aida
Skutt Catholic’s fall musical wowed audiences as the cast performed Elton John and Tim Rice’s rousing music and dramatically told the sorrowful love story based on Giuseppe Verdi’s Italian-language opera by the same name.

Skutt Catholic Robotics Team
The robotics team under the direction of faculty member Kerry Black and volunteer Tom Jensen continue to impress the judges at robotics tournaments. Black recently reported that several team members are in the running for qualification for the VEX Robotics World Tournament. At publication of this issue of Our Legacy, team members have put up the 11th best score in the world so far! The cutoff for world qualification is March 1, so the boys still have time to improve their score to help insure their spot in the tournament.

Our Town
In early January, Skutt Catholic’s talented group of thespians presented the Thornton Wilder three-act play about life passages in small town USA during the early 20th century. The play, directed by faculty member Mark Schnitzler, with the assistance of faculty member Bill Howard, reminded audiences of a simpler time with universal themes of love, family, birth, and death.
Poetry Out Loud | Faculty member Shari Hoye sponsored the second year of competition for Poetry Out Loud. The competition took place in late January. 14 Skutt Catholic finalists recited their chosen poems and competed for the school title. Out of 367 original contestants the winning trophy went to Grace Ellasion.

Operation HomeRun | Skyhawk baseball player Matt Warren challenged all SC baseball players (freshmen-seniors) to make tie fleece blankets for patients at Children’s Hospital during the Christmas season. Matt’s goal was to make 100 blankets. The project was a huge success! SC baseball players made a total of 141 blankets and senior baseball players delivered the supply to the hospital on behalf of the entire Skyhawk Baseball Program.

Viva La SkyHawk | During P.A.R.T. week (Project for Acceptance, Respect and Tolerance) Skyhawks for Life hosted, for the first time, an all-school talent show called Viva La Skyhawk! Eleven acts were represented with first place being awarded to the Mouth Piece and the Funk Brigade, a popular jazz band which performed Chameleon by Herbie Hancock. Members include James Pieper, Zach Beran, Nick Bundy, Daniella Desa, Libby Kane, and Haley Eck. Second place was awarded to Aubrey Fleming who performed a vocal solo of There’s a Fine Fine Line from Avenue Q. The People’s Choice award was given to Kiana Meredith and Guitarist Joe Bloomingdale who performed If I Die Young by The Band Perry. The Skyhawks for Life believe that hosting an event that features each other’s gifts and talents is part and parcel of what it means to not only Accept, Respect, and Tolerate Life in all its forms, gifts, and talents but to Celebrate it!

The SkyHawks for Life is a group of students at Skutt Catholic High School who were so inspired by the March for Life and Jason Evert to dedicate themselves to spreading the messages of Life and Love to the Skutt Catholic Community primarily through being a voice for the voiceless particularly the unborn. SFL provides opportunities for our students to participate in the March for Life, the Living Rosary, prayer vigils at the Planned Parenthood, the 40 days for life campaign, lunch-time talks for life, service to Mary Weslin House, along with spreading the Pure Love messages of “true love waits” and “modest is hottest.”

Thanksgiving Day Mass | Fr. Damian Zuerlein celebrated our Thanksgiving Day Mass with SC Chaplain Fr. Jeff Mollner. The Mass was said in English and in Spanish. Members of the student body wore Guatemalan dresses to promote Skutt Catholic’s mission trip next summer (2012) to Guatemala.

SkyHawks Gone M.A.D | A new award for SkyHawks who Make a Difference was initiated in October. Students who exemplify by their words and deeds what it means to be a true SkyHawk are nominated for the award by faculty, other students, and the community. To date the following student’s have been honored with the SkyHawks’ Gone M.A.D. award:

- Ceara Kirkpatrick – For her Christian leadership in both word an action and for being an excellent student.
- Phillip Rasmussen – For his leadership in the classroom, on the football field, and in his robotics club.
- Kate O’Brien – For her fantastic leadership of her peers in the classroom and on the stage crew.

Grandparent’s Day they seemed to have a hundred grandchildren as many of the students would stop to say hello to “Nana and Papa Lackovic.”

SkyHawk High School is fortunate to enjoy the support of a robust fan club. Fans bring a level of enthusiasm and excitement to our school activities that contribute to our success. We not only have parents and students that support our teams but also a following of faithful grandparents. When you pair the role of fan with the role of grandparent you get a result that multiplies exponentially and is truly extraordinary.

George and Mary Lackovic are grandparent’s who experienced firsthand eight of their grandchildren’s time at Skutt Catholic High School. Whatever sport or activity their grandchildren participated in they were there as positive supporters. They could often be heard at games chanting good job to both their grandchildren and their teammates. During Grandparent’s Day they seemed to have a hundred grandchildren as many of the students would stop to say hello to “Nana and Papa Lackovic.”

George and Mary were known to make the occasional baseball road trip where Mary’s famous cheese ball and crackers were a hit with players and parents alike. They would get to the games early and set up in the chairs in a prime location. Prior to the addition of the baseball press box, they brought a boom box with them to provide music for the baseball games. Their musical selections ranged from country to rap.

Coach Keith Engelkamp recalls how they played polka music between innings. Now with the addition of the baseball press box, they found longer music for the baseball games. Their musical selections ranged from country to rap.

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