

# THE RAM-PAGES

3633 N. CALIFORNIA AVE. CHICAGO, IL 60618 773-539-3600 WWW.GORDONTECH.ORG

## Alum Doing Well at USNA



This fall, Gordon Tech alum, Jake Schlenbecker '10 started his Plebe year at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

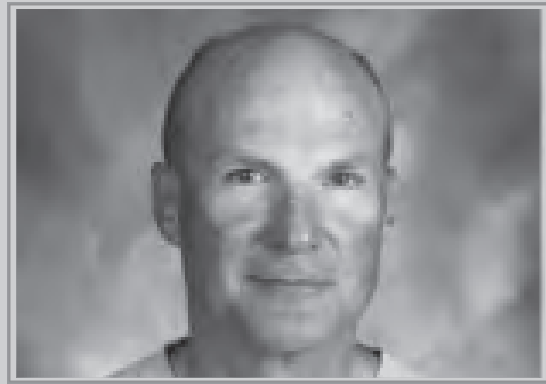
Credited as one of the top universities in the country by U.S. News and World Report, USNA was named one of the top public universities in 2008 and 2009, ranking higher than well-known schools such as

West Point, Harvard, Princeton, and the University of Chicago. The United States Naval Academy has an acceptance rate of less than 1%, with over 15,000 applicants last year alone.

Not only is Schlenbecker an intellectual, but he is also the only freshmen starter on the Navy Midshipmen varsity volleyball team.

While at GT, Schlenbecker played quarterback for the Rams, was a three-year varsity volleyball player and captain of the boys' varsity volleyball team. He was voted all-conference three years in a row and was a nominee for the CCL conference player of the year his senior year. He was a member of the National Honor Society and served as senior class vice-president.

Way to go Jake! Your GT family is behind you all the way!



## Coach Q - A True Ram

This past September, the Gordon Tech community lost one of its finest, Rich Quanstrum. Coach Q, as he was commonly called, spent his entire teaching and coaching career at Gordon Tech and during his time he was arguably one of the proudest and most spirit-filled employees at GT. One would be hard pressed to remember a time when Coach Q wasn't walking the hallways with a big grin on his face. He would frequently stop people in the hall and tell them how great it was to be a Ram in Big

Orange Country. His enthusiasm for Gordon Tech and its students was evident on a day-to-day basis.

Coach Q was involved with the Track & Field program at Gordon Tech for over twenty years and for many of those years he was the head coach. Coach Q was a rare person in that he had a passion for track & field like others have a passion for baseball, football, or basketball. He loved the sport and had a knack for improving his athletes throughout the season so

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GT Pride



GT Pride



GT Pride



GT Pride



GT Pride



**Gordon Tech 2010 Homecoming** - This year's homecoming was a great success, filled with fun & tradition. From celebrity lookalike day, to a pie eating contest, to a 2 on 2 volleyball competition, a good time was had by all.



**2010 Community Day** - This year, Community Day, which was dedicated to our beloved Coach Q, was a very special day, giving students & faculty the opportunity to gather together for a little fun. A day of unity, students worked together in the



class olympics, learned the school fight song, signed up for new clubs & shared a little GT pride. Ending with a picnic in the park, it was truly a day to remember.

## A Note from GT's New President & Principal



Dear Alumni and Friends:

It is with great pride and humility that we address you as the newest president and principal of Gordon Tech High School. We couldn't be more pleased to be a part of the Ram Legacy and its growing future. We look forward to meeting you and working with you in the coming years to advance Gordon Tech's mission.

Over the past months, we've been wowed by the faculty, staff and students—all of whom are outstanding! The 2010-2011 budget is balanced with a decreased reliance on fundraising, thanks to the hard work of the GT financial advisors, the administrative team and school community. The school has many distinctive programs including the Young Women's Leadership Academy, WKGT TV and the Encore Drama program. And the alumni, donors and friends we've met so far have extremely positive, deep ties to the school and its programs (especially our athletics!)

This doesn't mean that we don't have challenges ahead of us. We still have a fundraising need of \$400,000. However, we are positioned well to respond to these challenges.

As you might imagine, fundraising is one of the top priorities on our list of challenges. Next it's growing our enrollment. Once we raise the money needed for this year and lay a foundation for freshmen enrollment gains for next year we will be able to make more specific plans for enhancing our programs and facilities. That's not to say we aren't doing a bit of sprucing up here and there! Check out the \$200,000 donation of weight

equipment and the new Ram fitness center on page 4!

Another major project is completing a long-range plan, allowing us to secure GT's future. The 2009-2010 school year required most of our attention on fundamental academic and business issues that needed to be done to get "our house" in order. We are looking forward to sharing our strategic vision with you in the months ahead.

And of course, at the top of our list of priorities is re-engaging our thousands of alumni. We meet you at events, we run into you on the street and you call us daily with your stories and memories. You are the link between the past and the present and the foundation upon which today's students are building new memories. We need your active participation and prayers as ambassadors of the school as we continue the mission of Fr. Francis Gordon.

Again, we look forward to seeing you very soon. In the meantime, thank you for all you do for the current students of Gordon Tech High School. God Bless.

### ABOUT US:

#### Kelly M. Jones - President

Kelly comes to GT from Notre Dame High School for Girls, where she served as President. She has also worked for various organizations as a non-profit, management consultant. During her short time at GT, she has worked tirelessly to bring about much needed improvements.

#### Carl E. Hagman - Principal

Carl joins GT from Niles North High School, where he served as the Assistant Principal since 2003. He has over 22 years of experience in both Catholic and public education and is very excited to join the GT family.

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### Athletic Ram Wrap-Up

The 2010 fall athletic season is just wrapping up and what a great season it was. The GT cross-country team had a very good year; placing seventh in the regional. Our girls' Volleyball team had a great year, and is getting ready to compete for the IHSA regional championship with a 17-14 record. Varsity volleyball took fourth place in the conference tournament, while the JV team took second.

This year Junior Quarterback, Julian Russell, set the record for most rushing yards by a quarterback in GT history, carrying the ball 147 times and amassing 971 rushing yards while scoring 10 touchdowns. He threw the ball for three scores and compiled 275 passing yards. His totals rank him in fourteenth place for scoring in a season and he had the seventh highest rushing total in a season.

Junior Defensive Back, Habeeb Durojaiye, intercepted six balls this past year, which ties him for the third highest total in school history. Habeeb routinely lined up against our opponents best receiver and limited that person well below his averages. He also played a big part in our offense, by rushing for 220 yards and two touchdowns, catching 3 balls for 79 yards and two touchdowns.

#### 2010 - 2011 Parents' Club Officers

Ms. Paula Ryan, President  
Mr. Juan Figueroa, Vice President  
Ms. Dolores Azpeitia, Secretary  
Mr. Dan Ryan, Treasurer

#### GT's Online Community

Follow us on Twitter at:  
[www.twitter.com/GordonTechHS](http://www.twitter.com/GordonTechHS)  
Official GT Alumni Facebook Page:  
<http://tiny.cc/wvd22>  
Gordon Tech Alumni Homepage:  
[www.gordon-tech.org/alumni.html](http://www.gordon-tech.org/alumni.html)

#### Share Your Alumni News

New baby? Received a promotion?  
Let us know what you have been up to. Send your updates & photos to Natalie Oberfell at [nobberfell@gordontech.org](mailto:nobberfell@gordontech.org) or visit the Alumni Update Form on our website at [www.gordon-tech.org/alumni-form.html](http://www.gordon-tech.org/alumni-form.html)

## Performing Arts Program Reaching for the Stars!

The Gordon Tech High School Performing Arts Program has grown steadily over the past 3 years under the direction of Ms. Ashley Molyneaux and now includes nearly one-quarter of the student body.

Five shows are produced annually, including a Fall Play, Holiday Variety Show, Improv Night, Spring Musical, and Fine Arts Showcase. The mainstage productions are performed at the historic Portage Theater, a venue owned and operated by GT alum, Dennis Wolkowicz, '69.

GT's Improvisational Comedy Troupe was recognized by the National Improv Association and was chosen to perform at an exclusive Teen Comedy Fest last year. Don't miss this year's performing arts events!

### Fall Play-

*"Inherit the Wind"*

November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

November 20<sup>th</sup> at 2pm

At the Portage Theater

Pre-order tickets available now on our website.

### Holiday Variety Show

December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

In the GT Gymnasium

### Improv Night

February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

In the GT Cafeteria

### Spring Musical

March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

March 6<sup>th</sup> at 2pm

At the Portage Theater

### Fine Arts Showcase

May 12<sup>th</sup> at 5pm

In the GT Theater

Room

## GT COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE

Attention Alumni - Gordon Tech is in search of ornaments to be placed on the GT Community Christmas Tree. Send us an ornament that you feel represents you or your time at GT. Please be sure to include your name and class year so that we can label your ornament. Be as creative as you like; the ornaments will be used each holiday season for years to come.

Show your GT pride by donating an ornament today! For more information please contact Ms. Ashley Molyneaux at 773-539-3600 ext. 5049. Ornaments can be mailed to:

GT Community Tree  
Gordon Tech High School  
3633 N. California Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60618

## In Memory of Father Wally

July 2, 1927 - Sept. 1, 2010

"I know the Angels have welcomed Fr. Wally. I'll miss my many dinners and conversations. He was a beautiful person and I'll miss him greatly. My prayers are with his family and friends at this time of grief."

"His infectious smile, compassion and humor will be with us always."

Fr. Wally was an Angel sent to us from above. He touched the lives of many with his caring smile, compassion and sense of humor. He took great interest in everyone around him and their personal stories, inspiring generations to care for and love one another. Fr. Wally loved to have dinner with people, not only because he loved good food, but it was an opportunity for him to connect to a person's soul with his own...to celebrate life. He was a profoundly caring and generous man. Fr. Wally was a "Renaissance Man" before "Renaissance Men" existed. He deeply loved the arts

and guided many school productions and performers, helping them to reach the heights of their potentials. Fr. Wally was a strong supporter of, *The Chicago International Film Festival*, he loved to travel, and spend time with his family and tell jokes.

Fr. Wally devoted a life of service to the Catholic Church and education (with great passion for athletics and the arts). It has been said that, "Good teachers shape our choices and arm us with knowledge. Great teachers raise the ante: they engage with us at our core, they love us in spite of ourselves and they translate and pass along a certain magic that allows us to move through life with a sense of joy: opportunity, curiosity and responsibility." Fr. Wally was a "Great Teacher."

His service touched many lives in many locations over the years, including Weber High School, Teacher (1954 to 1960), **Gordon Tech High School, Teacher and Principal** (1960 to 1973), St Joseph Parish, Fontana, CA, Associate Pastor (1973 to 1975), Archdiocese of Chicago, Director of



Secondary Schools (1975 to 1982), Notre Dame High School, Riverside, CA, Principal (1982 to 1986),

Fr. Wally was a beloved member of the Congregation of the Resurrection. As a member of the Congregation, he devoted his life to the spiritual growth of others he served with great caring, compassion and empathy. Fr. Wally was an Invested Knight Commander of the Knights of the Holy Sepulcher, Pastor (1987 to 1993) of St. Stanislaus B & M Parish, Chicago, and most recently he had been a retired resident at St. Hedwig Parish.

Fr. Wally is a man who impacted and changed the lives of everyone he taught, worked with, and spiritually guided, especially his family and friends. Fr. Dennis Sanders said, "He was my teacher. My friend." And Fr. Gene Szarek closed his eulogy with, "Goodbye. Good friend."

## Lost Your Yearbook?

or worse yet, never purchased a copy? The Gordon Tech Development Office has past yearbooks available for purchase! For a donation of \$20.00 (including shipping & handling) you can take a trip down memory lane! Call the Development Office at 773-423-5011 to request a copy of your *wonder years* today! All proceeds will benefit the Gordon Tech Fund for Excellence.

## A TRUE RAM (CONTINUED FROM PG. 1)

that they were peaking right as the State Finals were approaching. He did a great job utilizing the facilities. If you visited Gordon Tech during the spring, after school, there was a good chance that you were trying to avoid our track athletes as they sprinted through the hallways. We may not have the best track facilities in our conference, but that never stopped Coach Q from helping his athletes reach their full potential.

Coach Q fell ill during the summer and through his last few weeks his positive attitude and "Finish Strong" motto never subsided. His strong faith, his wonderful family, and his never quit attitude should show us all how to face the challenges God gives us. Coach Q will be missed at Gordon Tech, but his positive influence will always be with us. Thanks Coach Q for being such a wonderful role model to all of us Gordon alums past and present.

**PROUD MEMBERS  
OF:**



**GIRLS CATHOLIC  
ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**



**CHICAGO CATHOLIC  
LEAGUE**

**Gordon Tech  
Athletic  
Accomplishments**

STATE CHAMPIONS:  
1

STATE RUNNER-UP:  
1

SUPER SECTIONAL  
CHAMPIONS:  
3

STATE QUALIFIERS:  
10

SECTIONAL CHAMPIONS:  
11

REGIONAL CHAMPIONS:  
32

DISTRICT CHAMPIONS:  
4

STATE MEDALISTS\*:  
17

CONFERENCE  
CHAMPIONSHIPS:  
51

FOOTBALL STATE  
QUALIFIERS:  
11

PREP BOWL  
CHAMPIONSHIPS:  
2

PREP BOWL RUNNER-UP:  
1

PREP BOWL PLAYOFF  
QUALIFIERS:  
20

# GORDON TECH ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

## HOME OF THE RAMS

Est. 1952

### Gordon Receives \$200k in Weight Equipment - New Fitness Room & Wrestling Room to Boot!

The Gordon Tech High School Athletic Department, led by GT Athletic Director, Coach Paul Chabura '97, received a donation of weight room equipment worth \$200,000. Thanks in large part to the donation, the school administration has agreed to a complete renovation of the fitness facilities, including the Ram Wrestling Room.



A Work in Progress

The weight room and wrestling room will be top notch facilities open to all current students, future students, staff, faculty, and alumni. GT coaching staff, students, parents, and even a few of our alums have volunteered their time and efforts in cleaning the equipment, putting it together, and tearing down the walls of the old weight room and wrestling room. The project is due to be completed by November 20, 2010-- just in time for the 2nd Open House for prospective families.

Gordon Tech is asking for additional help to ensure that the rooms are state of the art. In addition to this large donation, the school is still in need of the following items:

#### GT WISH LIST

- A set of dumbbells (5lbs - 100lbs) - \$3,500
- Plyo-metric boxes - \$1,300
- Glute hams machines (3) They range from \$500 to \$1,200
- Kettle Bells (8.8lbs - 110lbs) - \$1,100
- Half-racks (4) \$1,100 each
- Adjustable utility bench (4) - \$600
- Additional flooring - \$3,000
- Treadmills (4) \$800 each
- Reupholstered mats - \$3,500
- Sound System- \$600

Any contribution would be greatly appreciated! If you are interested in contributing to the new facilities please contact Natalie Oberfell in the Development Office at 773-423-5022 or Coach Paul Chabura at 773-423-5115. Go Rams!!

### ◆ ALUMNI GATHERING ◆

#### GORDON TECH WRESTLING / FOOTBALL ALUMS GATHER



Coach Hoerr, Mike Tuccori '76,  
Henry Fuentes '75

On October 10, 2010, while some were running the Chicago Marathon, a group of GT alumni and former wrestlers/football players gathered to eat and catch up at The Piggery, 1625 W. Irving Park Rd, Chicago, which is owned by GT's own Terry Lyons '73.



Willie O'Halloran '75, Tom Tentler '73,  
Mike Timothy '74

"The group gets together when they can to talk about the old days," said Steve Otis '76. This year the guys invited Grant Hoerr, GT's current head wrestling coach. "I was happy they thought to call me. Hearing what the GT wrestling program meant to these guys was a reminder of the type of experience we're trying to provide for our current wrestlers. It was a blast to hear their stories. I'm hoping they'll come out for a few of our matches and talk to the other coaches and athletes," said Hoerr.

**\* Send us your alumni gathering news & pictures!**



## HOW TO GIVE TO GT

There are many ways to give back to Gordon:

- Outright unrestricted gifts that we can direct to where the need is greatest.
- Through matching gifts programs.
- Through memorials, tributes, special occasions and designated gifts.
- Through the two annual appeals.
- To the Fund for Excellence scholarship program.
- Through in-kind gifts
- Through volunteering your time.
- Through bequests and remembrance in your will.
- Through gifts of stock, insurance, and other assets.
- Through gifts of real estate and personal property.

The GT Development Office works for you. If you need information, please contact Natalie Oberfell at 773-423-5022 or visit us on-line at [www.gordontech.org](http://www.gordontech.org)

# Gordon Tech High School All Alumni Reunion Dinner

Please join us on January 22, 2011 from 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. for the Gordon Tech "All Alumni Reunion Dinner"

Reunite with your classmates over cocktails, walk the halls of your alma mater, share your favorite GT memories, and finish the evening with a delicious dinner at the 2011 GT "All Alumni Reunion Dinner"

Special congratulations to the classes of 1985 & 1960 who are celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> year reunions!

Tickets are \$60 each and include dinner, music and open bar.

Tickets are available for purchase online at [www.gordontech.org](http://www.gordontech.org), by calling 773-423-5022, or by mailing back the below form.

For more information please call:

*Natalie Oberfell at 773-423-5022*



**GORDON TECH HIGH SCHOOL**

**CATHOLIC COLLEGE PREP CO-ED**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- Number of dinner tickets needed: \_\_\_\_\_
- Unfortunately, I can not attend, but would like to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: **Gordon Tech High School**

Credit Card Information:  Visa  MasterCard  Discover  American Express

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return completed form to:**

Alumni Reunion Dinner  
Gordon Tech High School  
3633 N. California Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60618



GT Donkey Archives Circa 1970's

## GT Brings Back Donkey Basketball!

### Attention!! Alumni Team Needed

On Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, alumni, faculty, and current students will compete in a donkey basketball tournament, the first to take place in the Gordon Tech gymnasium since the 1980's. This fundraiser is sure to be an entertaining showcase of GT pride. We are currently looking to fill a six-person alumni team. Please contact Ms. Angela Ybarra in the Development Office at 773-539-3600 ext. 5011, if you are interested in joining the Jackass Brigade!

## GT has Little Problem with St. Joes



By Patrick Kelly - For the Pioneer Press

Gordon Tech used two second quarter scoring runs, both longer than 62 yards, to build a 22-point half-time lead against St. Joseph. The Rams continued to dominate in the second-half while cruising to a 35-0 Catholic League White victory Saturday afternoon in Westchester.

Quarterback Julian Russell led the way for Gordon Tech (2-7, 2-5), gaining 242 yards on 19 carries and rushing for seventy-yard and nine-yard scores. He also tossed a 28-yard touch down to junior Kyle Boedeker on the Rams' first series of the game.

The Rams churned out 418 rushing yards, including 118 yards by Habeeb Durojaiye, who carried nine times and broke-off TD runs of 62 and 27 yards.

The Chargers (0-9, 0-7) were able to force two turnovers in the second-half on fumble recoveries by sophomore Sam Corsino and Johnny Wilson, but St Joseph was unable to punch in either for a score.

## Varsity Basketball Schedule

Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Loyola Academy @ Gordon	7:30
Dec 7 <sup>th</sup>	Providence St. Mel @ Gordon	7:30
Dec 10 <sup>th</sup>	St. Ignatius @ St. Ignatius	7:30
Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	Fenwick @ Gordon	7:30
Dec 18 <sup>th</sup>	Montini Catholic @ Benedictine	1pm
Dec 27 <sup>th</sup>	Luther North Christmas Tourney	
Dec 28 <sup>th</sup>	Luther North Christmas Tourney	
Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	Luther North Christmas Tourney	
Dec 30 <sup>th</sup>	Luther North Christmas Tourney	
Jan 7 <sup>th</sup>	Hales Franciscan @ Gordon	7:30
Jan 11 <sup>th</sup>	De LaSalle @ De LaSalle	7:30
Jan 21 <sup>st</sup>	St. Joseph @ Gordon	7:30
Jan 25 <sup>th</sup>	Ida Crown @ Gordon	7:30
Jan 28 <sup>th</sup>	St. Rita @ St. Rita	7:30
Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>	Seton Academy @ Seton	7:30
Feb 4 <sup>th</sup>	Loyola Academy @ Loyola	7:30
Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>	St. Benedict @ Gordon	7:30
Feb 11 <sup>th</sup>	St. Ignatius @ St. Ignatius	7:30
Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	Fenwick @ Fenwick	7:30
Feb 19 <sup>th</sup>	Schurz @ Gordon	7:00
Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup>	C.I.C.S. Norhtown @ Gordon	7:30

### ALUMNI NEWS

Gordon Tech High School  
3633 N. California Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60618

