

The Leprechaun

A Publication of the Harper Woods Notre Dame Alumni Association

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Keeping the Spirit of the Fightin' Irish Alive Since 2005!

FALL 2014 EDITION

Dave Coulier '77 Ties the Knot Page 3

Plus...

Joe Konal '80

Tony Cervone '81

Don Brosky '79

Mike Flannery '72

Jeff Urbas '90

Don Brosky '79

Eric Stanczak '89

Carl Marlinga '64

Wall of Fame



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The Leprechaun is a newsletter devoted solely to the alumni and friends of Notre Dame High School of Harper Woods, Michigan. It is produced and distributed free of charge. For more information, please see the Notre Dame Alumni Association's official website: www.friendsofnotredame.com.

WHAT'S INSIDE...

- 2 TONY CERVONE '81
- 2 MIKE FLANNERY '72
- 2 2014 JIM MANDL '66 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
- 3 DAVE COULIER '77
- 4 WALL OF FAME!
- 5 CONGRATULATIONS
- 5 ALUMNI STORE
- 6 UPCOMING REUNIONS
- 7 JOE KONAL '80
- 7 CARL MARLINGA '64
- 7 LOOKING BACK
- 8 JEFF URBAS '90
- 9 DON BROSKY '79
- 9 NDAA SPONSORS



ON THE COVER:
Dave Coulier '77
Gets Hitched... Page 3

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 Friends of Notre Dame
 34322 Brookshire
 Sterling Heights, MI 48312
 810-338-1009
jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com

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Keeping the Spirit of the Fightin' Irish Alive Since 2005!

Cervone '81 Rehired by GM as Global PR Chief

General Motors is bringing back a former top public relations executive to report directly to CEO Mary Barra as the company negotiates with victims and manages multiple investigations arising from its ignition switch recall. **Tony Cervone '81**, who left GM in February 2009 as the automaker prepared for a taxpayer-backed bankruptcy, will return as senior vice president of GM global communications.

Cervone was most recently executive vice president for Volkswagen Group of America. Between GM and Volkswagen, he worked as senior vice president of global communications strategy and operations at United Airlines, where he helped the company navigate its merger with Continental Airlines.

Prior to the United and Volkswagen jobs, Cervone worked at GM for 10 years and rose to the position of vice president of global communications strategy. He also spent 14 years at what is now Chrysler Group.

"Tony brings an ideal mix of outside perspective and experience that complements a deep background in GM and today's global auto industry," Barra said in a statement. "I've worked with Tony in the past and he has my trust and respect. I know he'll be another catalyst for change on our leadership team."

This is the latest of several executive changes Barra orchestrated since the ignition switch recall. She named John Quattrone to replace Melissa Howell as head of human resources, reorganized the engineering department and placed Bob Ferguson, head of Cadillac, in charge of public policy.

Cervone arrives at the automaker amid its biggest crisis since it got out of bankruptcy in 2009. The company reported 17 consecutive profitable quarters, yet finds itself mired in controversy over the delayed recall of 2.6 million small cars equipped with defective ignition switches that are linked to at least 13 deaths.

Cervone is close to GM communications adviser Steve Harris, who recently rejoined the automaker as a consultant. He replaces Selim Bingol, who was communications chief for former CEOs Ed Whitacre and Dan Akerson before leaving in April. "It's a great time to rejoin GM," Cervone said in a statement. "A re-energized leadership team, the best products in its history, a renewed commitment to individual customer experiences, and a compelling drive for cultural change make this a key moment in this great company's history." 🐾



Tony Cervone '81

Alumni Spotlight: Mike Flannery '72 Licensed Funeral Director



Mike Flannery '72

Mike has been with A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Directors since 2001 and in funeral service since 1977. He graduated from the University of Detroit with a Bachelor of Science in 1976 and the Wayne State University School of Mortuary Science in 1977.

As part of his on-going education, Mike has completed all the requirements to be recognized as a Certified Funeral Service Practitioner (CFSP) and The Michigan Institute of Funeral Professionals has designated him as a Certified Michigan Funeral Practitioner. Mike is a member of the Michigan Funeral Directors Association, the Michigan Embalmers Association, and serves on the Michigan Funeral Directors Association Disaster Committee. He is the a past president of MFDA District #6. Mike is the Past-president of the Bloomfield Hills Rotary Club where he recently received a Paul Harris Fellowship in recognition of his work for the Rotary Foundation. He was born and raised in the Detroit area and has lived many years in Royal Oak with his family. Mike is a member and a Eucharistic Minister of the National Shrine of the Little Flower Catholic Church. 🐾

2014 Jim Mandl '66 Memorial Scholarship Awarded

\$1,500 dollars was donated to the **Jim Mandl '66** Memorial Scholarship fund this year. After careful consideration of the nine applications received, and much debate, the committee selected the Jasek family as this year's recipient. "With five children in Catholic schools, we felt the Jaseks were exactly who Jim would have wanted to support," said Marge Mandl, Jim's wife. "Although, we did debate a bit about bending the rules to award the scholarship to the family, rather than one individual student." The Jaseks are the children of Denise and Chris Jasek of Miamisburg, Ohio. They are the grandchildren of **James Berch - class of 1959**. The recipients are currently attending the following catholic schools:

- Elizabeth - Bishop Liebold School
- Monica - Bishop Liebold School
- Maria - Archbishop Alter High School
- Paul - Archbishop Alter High School
- Daniel - University of Notre Dame



Dave Coulier '77 is a Married Man!

Not surprisingly, *Dave Coulier '77* and Melissa Bring's nuptials were full of laughter.

From a pig roast the night before their July 2 ceremony to Bob Saget's wedding toast (make that three toasts), the couple and their closest friends and family enjoyed a love and laughter-filled wedding week. "That's what they do here in Montana!" said Coulier of the pig roast.

"Melissa did everything for the wedding," said the groom, 54, whose best man was his son Luc, 23, from his previous marriage. "She had gift bags that she handmade and put in everybody's room, she did all the activity pamphlets ... our house was set up like a command post for several months."

The low-key couple exchanged rings – his a non-traditional black titanium band and hers from XIV Karats – at O'Hair Ranch Lodge in Paradise Valley, keeping their ceremony very short.

"It was probably six minutes long" said Coulier, who wore grey khaki pants, a white button-down shirt and white Converse sneakers. "Everybody was like, 'That was the best wedding ceremony ever!' We wanted to make it really brief so we could spend more time with our family and friends."

They also stayed away from traditional wedding vows. "We say our vows daily to each other," says Bring, who stunned in a custom backless Katie May wedding gown.

"She looked stunning ... I saw her beforehand and I asked her, 'Am I allowed to be seeing you right now? And she said 'Yeah, let's have a beer!' " said the groom with a laugh.

After the ceremony, the newlyweds and their guests (just over 100) loaded up on local eats catered by Melissa O'Hair – but not before the Full House men snuck a few moments for themselves.

"Bob Saget and John Stamos pulled me aside after the ceremony,"

said Coulier. "We laughed and we hugged and we kissed each other like three brothers do. There were genuine tears of joy welling up in our eyes."

Loading up on bison sliders, cowboy caviar and local Montana cheeses, the

couple's friends and family sipped on local Montana-brewed beers, whiskeys and bourbons and helped themselves at Bring's homemade candy bar.

Bring's maid of honor was her childhood best friend Jessi Konley, whose

mother made the wedding cake. "She did a chocolate with caramel and salt filling and also did a white cake with raspberry reduction," says Bring. "It was a six-tiered cake and there wasn't much left!"

And of course, a Full House wedding wouldn't be complete without speeches from Coulier's second family.

"Saget was like a bull behind the gates at the rodeo," Coulier said. "He couldn't wait to get to that microphone. He actually went up three different times," said Bring: "It was like the scene out of *Bridesmaids*. No one could say enough good things."

Eventually, Saget was joined at the mic by Stamos. "He actually teared up at one point," said Coulier. "He said that me and Melissa were an inspiration and he hopes everyone can be as lucky as us, then Candace [Cameron Bure] and Andrea Barber both joined them."

Dancing until 2:30 in the morning, Coulier and Bring soaked up every last minute of their big day.

"When I first met her, I said, 'Look, I don't think I'm marriage material,' " said the comedian. "She never

[pressured me] and I guess it made me want to [propose] even more. When you get somebody who's so understanding, you think, 'Boy, why am I not marrying this

person?' It's great when you can marry your best friend - there's an amazing trust there." 🐾



Dave Coulier '77 with new bride, Melissa Bring.



John Stamos, Candace Cameron Bure, Dave Coulier '77, Melissa Bring, Bob Saget and Andrea Barber.

Coulier '77 Would Love to Get the Band Back Together

St. Clair Shores native and ND grad, *Dave Coulier '77*, says he has not yet been approached by anyone concerning a possible *Full House* revival, but adds: "I would love to get the band back together."

The comedian-actor-impressionist, who portrayed Uncle Joey on the ABC-TV comedy, was surprised to learn of a TV Guide report earlier this week that indicated Warner Bros. TV is mulling an updated version of the popular family sitcom.

"Until we hear from the powers-to-be at Warner Brothers, all of this talk is speculative," he said in a telephone interview in advance of his Sept. 13 performance at Andiamo Celebrity Showroom in Warren.

"The story was trending last night on every media out there — EW, BuzzFeed, Variety, Huffington Post — so people are now asking me about it, and I haven't heard anything," he said.

According to the TV Guide article, John Stamos, who played Uncle Jesse, is leading the charge as he has an ownership stake in the show, along with series creator Jeff Franklin, who is reportedly writing the new version, and original executive producer Bob Boyett.

Other actors and actresses who would be involved include Stamos, Coulier, Bob Saget (who played Danny Tanner), Candace Cameron Bure (D. J. Tanner), Jodie Sweetin (Stephanie Tanner) and Andrea Barber (Kimmy Gibbler).

Full House aired on ABC from 1987 to 1995. Its 192 episodes are in worldwide syndication and the show remains a ratings juggernaut in repeats on Nick at Nite, according to TV Guide.

Coulier, who turns 55 in September, remained close with many of the cast members over the years.

He teamed up with Saget and Stamos for a commercial for Dannon Oikos for the Super Bowl earlier this year and the trio appeared on *The View* and other talk shows. Some cast members also attended his wedding in June.

"The cast and crew are cautious and protective about the *Full House* legacy," he said. "I think everybody feels it would be really hard to recreate an iconic image from 25 years ago. "Maybe this is a groundswell of wishful thinking."

"I've always been the cheerleader to maybe go out and do something with John and Bob because collectively we're bigger than we are individually. I would love to get the band back together. I think collectively, we're bigger out there than we are individually," he said.

Asked what could finally nail down a reunion, Coulier had a quick response. "I am sure if they offered us all barrels of money, it would happen." 🍷



Comedian and St. Clair Shores native Dave Coulier '77, pictured with his new wife, Melissa Bring.

36 Wall of Fame Photos Still in Our Storage Facility

We have been storing the wall of fame photos in our storage facility for the past nine years. We have distributed over 100 of them, but still have 36 left. We would like to get them to you. If you see your name listed below, please contact us to make arrangements to get your wall of fame photo. We can deliver them if you are close to Sterling Heights, MI or we can ship them. Shipping cost is \$9. Email jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com

ND GRAD	YOG	CONDITION	ND GRAD	YOG	CONDITION
Joe Przybycki	1964	Good	Chris Gust	1982	Fair
Mike Boccia	1965	Fair	Andy Nanasi	1983	Good
Brett Nowak	1965	Good	Greg Placidi	1983	Good
Chris Hacias	1965	Fair	Jim Zazula	1984	Good
John Kraft	1965	Good	Paul Seibert	1986	Good
Marty Hacias	1969	Good	Joe Trombley	1987	Good
Tim Flannery	1973	No Frame	Eric Taylor	1989	Good
Kevin Flannery	1975	No Frame	DezJuan Reynolds	1990	Good
Brian Monfils	1975	No Frame	Matt Ziolkowski	1990	Good
Tom Bentley	1975	Good	Steve Jansen	1992	Good
Jim Romeo	1975	Good	Pat Brandimore, Jr.	1993	Good
Tom Gadawski	1976	Good	Anthony Vitale	1994	Good
Marco Caporuccio	1978	Good	Preston Brandimore	1995	Poor
Garry Bass	1980	Fair	Phil Ruggerio	1995	Good
Kevin Patterson	1980	Good	Jason Stuecher	1996	Good
Craig Mitchell	1981	Good	Jason Selleke	1996	Good
Jim Forsgren	1981	Good	Jason Stoicevich	1997	Good
Walt Dixon	1981	Good	James Fields II	2001	Good

Congratulations are in Order..

Congratulations to Brian Jones '96!
He is the new Chief Operating Officer for Select Specialty Hospital in Kansas City.

Congratulations to David Rock '74!
He was recently appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, New York.

Congratulations to Gary Coakley '69!
He celebrated 32 years with Holy Cross Children Services on February 1, 2014.

Congratulations to Dave Coulier '77!
He and Melissa Bring were married on July, 2, 2014 in Montana.



Congratulations to Eric Stanczak '89!
He and his teammate, Mike Dimuzio, were the winners of the 31st annual Boyne Blast golf event.



Congratulations to David Muczinski '90, also known as David Shelby! He released a new EP this month titled "Oh Yeah!"



Congratulations to Jim Mandl '90! He got engaged to Dawn Hurayt on July 18, 2014 in Ireland. The wedding is planned for September 19, 2015.



Congratulations to Jake Hargrove '99! He and his wife, Sarah, welcomed Samantha Deborah Ann Hargrove into the world at 12:58pm on Friday, June 20, 2014.



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ND HATS and NDHS Limited Edition bricks are now available in the NDAA store!

*It's ok to blow your own horn! We'd love to hear from you! Send us a note to let us know what you're up to:
Jim Mandl '90 jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com*

Upcoming Reunions

Class of 1959 - 55 Years

A 55-Year reunion planning committee is forming. The event will take place in 2014. Volunteers are needed to work with the committee.

Please contact **Ron Kolito '59** at kolito@sbcglobal.net.

Class of 1984 - 30 Years

Reunion for 2014 is in the early planning stages.

Reunion committee contacts:

Todd Grzelewski: tsg663@aol.com

Paul Gaynor: prgaynor05@yahoo.com

Andy Guest: aguest@ndpma.org

Class of 1964 - 50 Years

A 50-year reunion planning committee is forming. Volunteers are needed.

Please contact **Paul Perse '64** at pperse@yahoo.com if you are interested in helping.

Class of 1986

Will be planning a 30-year reunion for 2016.

Reunion Committee:

John Kaminski '86 jkaminski1700@yahoo.com

H: (612) 822-4759 C: (952) 261-5546

Dan O'Brien '86 (248) 840-8391

dobrien734@comcast.net

Paul Arnone '86 paul.c.arnone@gm.com

Stephen Schultz '86 stephen2000_fl@yahoo.com

Jonathan Zaidan '86 jkmzc@sbcglobal.net

Class of 1965 - 50 Years

The committee is looking for up-to-date e-mail addresses and contact information.

Reunion Committee:

Dennis Berger '65

dennisaberger@aol.com

(909) 223-4483

Class of 1974 - 40 Years

Reunion planning committee is forming for a 2014 reunion event. Volunteers needed to join the committee. Please contact Carlo Vitale at carlo.vitale@comcast.net.

Class of 1990 - 25 Years

A gathering for 2015 is being planned. If interested in assisting with the planning, please contact

Jim Mandl '90 at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com.

Class of 1978 - 35 Years

Reunion is in the early planning stages.

Contact: **Ron Yanik '78** at ronald0812@aol.com

Class of 1999 - 15 Years

A reunion is currently being planned. If interested in assisting with the planning, please contact

John Glaeser '99 at glaeserjohn@yahoo.com.

Volunteers are needed for reunion planning for the following classes:

Class of 1958, 55-year

Class of 1968, 45-year

Class of 1969, 45-year

Class of 1979, 35-year

Class of 1988, 25-year

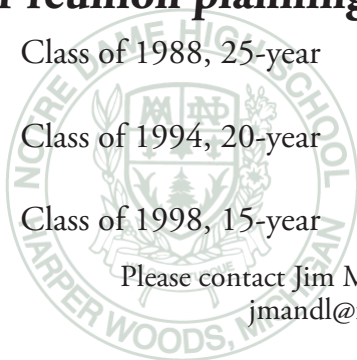
Class of 1994, 20-year

Class of 1998, 15-year

Class of 2004, 10-year

Class of 2005, 10-year

Please contact Jim Mandl '90 to get the process started.
jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com



Konal '80 Appointed Chief Academic Officer for Warren Con



Joe Konal '80

Joseph Konal '80, a 15-year veteran of Warren Consolidated Schools, was appointed this week as chief academic officer for the 15,200-student district.

Konal, currently principal at Grissom Middle School, will replace Brian Walmsley, who recently accepted the superintendent's post at Richmond Community Schools.

"Mr. Konal is one of the most outstanding administrators we have in the district," said Robert Livernois, Warren Consolidated superintendent. "He exemplifies what we expect in an administrator. With his commitment to fostering strong relationships and a consistent focus on student achievement, I am pleased to have him assume the role of chief academic officer."

In his new role, Konal will oversee all aspects of the district's K-12 schools as well as instructional programs and other projects. He'll earn a salary of \$137,086.

"I am excited to take on this new responsibility," he said. "I am looking forward to creating relationships with staff, students and parents that will facilitate a broader impact on teaching and learning in Warren Consolidated Schools."

Konal holds a bachelor's degree in education from Central Michigan University; a master's degree in educational leadership from Wayne State University; and an education specialist degree in administrative leadership from Oakland University. 🐾

Marlinga '64 Considers Chance for Bid at Supreme Court

Macomb County Probate Judge, *Carl Marlinga '64*, for a few days recently mulled whether to run for the Michigan Supreme Court.

But the former county prosecutor decided to remain in his current post and let other candidates try to win a seat on the state's highest court in November.

Marlinga said he was contacted around Aug. 10 by Democratic Party activists to see if he would like to make a bid for the post at the party's convention Aug. 23 in Lansing. He considered it for "two or three days" but ultimately didn't think he had a realistic chance to win either of two, eight-year terms, he said. He expects challenger and fellow Democrat Richard Bernstein to be the favorite for the seat that is vacant due to the retirement of Justice Michael Cavanagh.

"I knew we were all getting behind him (Bernstein)," he said. "Current Justice Brian Zahra, who was nominated by Republicans, will be heavily favored to win reelection to the second eight year term up for renewal."

Marlinga would have been a late-rising nominee in place of state Court of Appeals Judge William Murphy, who won the nomination despite opposition from abortion rights activists who didn't like his position on the issue and that he was endorsed in 1996 by Right to Life.

Marlinga said he wouldn't consider running for the final two years of the term currently held by Justice David Viviano, a former Macomb County circuit judge and Marlinga's friend. Viviano, who was appointed in 2013 to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of Diane Hathway, is seeking to complete the final two years of the term. He is opposed by Judge Deborah Thomas of Wayne County Circuit Court in Detroit, nominated by the Dems.

Interest from state Democratic officials took him off-guard. "It came pretty late in the process," he said. "I wasn't thinking about it at all. "It would have been a great honor. (But) running for the Supreme Court takes a lot of work."

"I am extremely satisfied in my current post," he said. Marlinga is currently serving a six-year term that he won in fall 2012. Marlinga served as Macomb County prosecutor from 1984 to 2004. 🐾



Carl Marling '63

CITY OF HARPER WOODS: LOOKING BACK

Notre Dame broke ground for a new school on Kelly, near Vernier, in 1953. Notre Dame High School was an integral part of Harper Woods history for more than 50 years. Due to budget cuts, the Archdiocese of Detroit announced that it was closing, along with about a dozen other schools, in 2005. Pictured, students watch the construction of the new gym in the mid-1960s. The site is now the home of Chandler Park Academy.



Urbas '90 Donates Equipment to Local Fire Departments

As a firefighter for 23 years at one of the nation's busiest departments in a bankrupt city, *Sgt. Jeff Urbas '90* knows where some of the equipment belongs: In a museum.

Administrators retired some of that Detroit Fire Department equipment Wednesday after the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation donated 52 oxygen tanks worth more than \$30,000 to the department.

Urbas, who works at Engine 59 on Detroit's west side, operates a Firehouse Subs franchise in Rochester Hills at Rochester and Tienken roads. Donations made for first responders at the chain's 14 Michigan restaurants total about \$145,000. The restaurant chain's nonprofit arm donated equipment valued at more than \$100,000 this week to four local public safety departments.

"The vast majority of our customers donate to the restaurant chain's charitable work," Urbas said. "Not only are we looking to save citizens, we can save each other's lives with reliable oxygen," Urbas said. Each rig carries about eight of the tanks.

Battered yellow oxygen tanks sat side-by-side with new, shiny equipment at Wednesday's announcement at Engine 50, on Houston Whittier near Gratiot on Detroit's northeast side. "We need equipment on every level, of every value, at every station," Urbas said.

The Waterford Regional Fire Department received three SCBA's, or self-contained breathing apparatuses, plus spare masks and cylinders from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation this week, valued at more than \$22,900.

Capt. John Lyman said the donation helps the department with its goal of having one oxygen system in use among all firefighters. The department began providing fire protection in Pontiac in 2012, and Lyman said the former Pontiac Fire Department's oxygen equipment is newer and different than what's used in Waterford. "It saves taxpayers lots of money," Lyman said of grants awarded to the fire department.

About 45 more air packs are needed, and Lyman said Waterford is applying for grant funding to help achieve the goal.

Sevag Karadolian, who operates a Firehouse Subs franchise on Highland Road near Airport Road in Waterford Township, is a former Detroit police officer. He asked Waterford fire officials before his restaurant opened what he could do to help. "It's important to be part of a company that gives back to the community," Karadolian said.

Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters said the Jacksonville, Fla.-based company makes donations to firefighters, EMS services and police part of its mission. "It's always humbling to meet all of you because you dedicate your lives to all of ours. This is the least we can do," Peters said.

Firehouse Subs customers donate by rounding up their bills to the nearest dollar and contributing the difference, purchasing medallions, giving spare change and more.

The foundation also donated 15 automated external defibrillators worth more than \$21,400 to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement division this week, as well as 11 defibrillators and fast response CPR kits worth more than \$25,700 to the Ann Arbor Fire Department.

Urbas said new equipment helps boost morale among firefighters, after years of pay cuts, lost retiree health care benefits, supply shortages, and understaffing.

As a firefighter and a Firehouse Subs franchise operator, Urbas said he was on both sides of this week's equipment donation. "It's one of my proudest days." 🍀



Detroit Fire Sgt. Jeffrey Urbas '90 with an obsolete oxygen tank that is being replaced after the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation donated 52 self-contained breathing apparatuses worth more than \$30,000 to the department.

FROM THE MACOMB DAILY

Bid By Brosky '79 Treats Students to Day of Kickball

Cheyenne Elementary School students were able to enjoy an unusual auction prize won by their principal. On June 3 when two Macomb County elected officials visited the school for a good old fashioned game of kickball. Cheyenne Elementary School in Macomb Township hosted a first- through fifth grade kickball game. Thirty five Cheyenne Elementary School students were divided into two teams, one coached by Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel and one by Macomb County Sheriff Anthony Wickersham. The game took place on the school's baseball diamond.

Wickersham said the kickball game served as a way to connect with local children, and Hackel said that it also raised awareness for students about the importance of physical fitness.

"The kickball game was part of the Chippewa Valley Educational Foundation's Taste Fest in March," Cheyenne Elementary School Principal *Dr. Don Brosky '79* said. "I was the winning bidder on the auction." *The Chippewa Valley Educational Foundation Taste Fest and Auction: A Taste for Education* took place March 27 at Zuccaro Banquets and Catering in Chesterfield Township. The event was a fund raiser designed to fund teacher classroom grants in the district. The event featured both a silent and live auction.

Students were selected as "incredible kids" by Cheyenne teachers, which gave them the privilege of participating in the kickball game. 🍀



Don Brosky '79

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