

January 2023

# Cardinal Football Alumni Alliance

Latest news and bulletin updates

## Legendary Football Alums and Program Founders Honored

The latest updates

This past fall Dan O'Connor, Bill Brown, and Joe Hazard were honored by the college for their key role in starting the Football Program. O'Connor, Brown, and Hazard were three classmates that had a dream to start a football program at their college. The three young men came together to layout the plan to take on the task of starting a football team. Over a two years span, they worked to plan, organize, and fundraise for what would be the start of the football club team and the foundation to the program we all played and for and support today. This undertaking was not easy, as they had to overcome many obstacles some were a by product of starting a new organization and others were issues raised by the college administration. The three young men, along Coach Frank Petrus (SJF First Head Coach) never gave up and worked their way through the many barriers they faced. On October 2, 1971, Fisher football played its first game.

Over the last fifty (50) years the football program has worked its way to 300 wins, as a club team they won three club football national championships. As a Division III Program it has won six Empire 8 Championships, participated in the NCAA Division III Championship five times including three trips to the Elite 8 and one trip to the Final Four. The Fisher Football program has also earned the Lambert Meadowlands trophy two times as the top team in the region.

Without Brown, O'Connor and Hazard's tireless efforts and dedication to their mission we would not be able call ourselves Fisher Football Alums. Our deep gratitude will forever remain in place for these three trailblazers!



### Special News!!! Save the Date

2023 Football Alumni Golf Tournament  
June 25<sup>th</sup> - Ravenwood Golf Course



Pictured above are the three founders of the SJF Football Program (from left to right) Joe Hazard, Dan O'Connor and Bill Brown attending a SJF Football Game.

*Fred Cassin Contributor to the following Article:*

### A Familiar Figure was Missing from the Sidelines

Fred is a former Coach at SJF and Current Member of the CFAA

A familiar figure was missing from the sidelines during this 2022 Football Campaign. Kevin Farmer a former player during the club years and Coach for Fisher Football from 2003 to 2021. He played in 1975 as a starting Guard on legendary Coach Bob Bayer's first Fisher Club Football Team. He was always encouraging and never believed Fisher would lose.

A Businessman with corporate careers at Kodak and Bausch & Lomb for many years, gave up that Corporate Security to start a company of his own in 2003. As a true blue Fisher man he named it: Cardinal Sports Imaging of course. Kevin has always bled Cardinal Red. Kevin was not only a coach but behind the scenes with tangible support, such as financial and emotional support. Kevin was always there for his Cardinal Football Program. His dedication was not always measurable or showed up in a state sheet. When Fisher made the Division 3 playoffs, he drove to Wilkes Barre PA to exchange films with John Hopkins. He did the little jobs that needed to be done such as laminating all the play call sheets for game day.

He interacted with faculty, staff, Board of Directors' members and is always a great representative of the football program. A constant fixture at our yearly Alumni Golf Tournament going back to its earliest conceptions when it was run by the coaching staff. He was one of the earliest members of the CFAA and a major contributor to our group since its conception.

Kevin has been a fixture around the football team for almost two decades. His love for the St. John Fisher Football Cardinals runs deep and though the program has and will miss his involvement, he will always be a key member of the CFAA and our Alumni Brotherhood.



Pictured above retired Coach & CFAA Member Kevin Farmer



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## 2022 CFAA Alumni Weekend Gathering at the Under Pass

On September 24<sup>th</sup> the CFAA hosted an event at the Under Pass Bar and Grill in Fairport. The Under Pass was a wonderful host to our group, and we enjoy our partnership with them. We had over Twenty Alumni and their Family Members show up to enjoy some food and beverages prior to attending the game vs. RPI. It was a great opportunity for Alums from different eras to network and then enjoy our Cardinal Football Team. We hope to continually increase our participation for these events. Hope to see you next season.



Picture Caption: Pictures from our gathering at the Under Pass (Top Right) and pictures from the game (Top Left and bottom Left).



Picture Caption: To make your document look professionally produced, Word provides header, footer, cover page, and text box designs that complement each other.

## 2022 CFAA Annual Golf Tournament was Another Success!



This year we had another great turnout for our annual Golf Tournament. We had 25 foursomes took part at lovely Raven Wood Golf Course. We are planning next years and want to remind you to save the date of June 25, 2023. This upcoming event will be held on a Sunday, different from our normal Friday Tournament. This is due to the course's availability for tournaments on Friday and Saturdays.

We know that this might be a change, but our hope is that it is a positive change and that having this on a Sunday will increase our participation. If you have any questions, please reach out to a Board Member, or email us at [sjcfballalumni@gmail.com](mailto:sjcfballalumni@gmail.com).

### Note from the CFAA Executive Board

The latest updates

We want to begin by thanking our Fisher Football Alumni Brothers for their support during 2022. We hosted tailgate event at a local restaurant and had excellent attendance at the Annual Golf Tournament.

We are determined to continue to put events together that support Football Alumni Networking. We look forward to the 2023 Season and we will see you all at the Annual Golf Tournament.

Sincerely,  
CFAA Executive Board



#### Save The Date:

What: Annual Football Alumni Golf Tournament!

When: Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Where: Ravenwood Golf Course, Victor NY