

Garrett Bastardi – Class of 2015

Garrett & his sister, Jessie

Talk a little about your college experience.

I attend Penn State University and am working on two Undergrad Degrees: Political Science(BA) and Meteorology. I'm grateful to have been able to connect with the people I've met at PSU and also be involved with Christian Athletic groups that have helped expand my faith.

What are you currently doing from a career or education standpoint?

I play golf professionally. I coach 3 different teams in two sports: 2 Basketball teams, one Jr. High and I assist with the SJCA boys basketball team. I also assist in coaching the golf team. I am working toward my degrees at school and desire to go into a business that forecasts the weather over a long range for golf course superintendents.

What are some of your favorite things you like to do in your personal time?

I love sports and I love watching them, studying them, following recruiting stories or certain athletes. I enjoy watching golf and I golf a lot with some friends. I love the weather, so I follow that a lot, I'll storm chase in my free time if there are some storms around. I just like finding things to keep me busy.

How did Saint Joe's impact you and how are you using the things you learned at Saint Joe's today?

It was a great experience in an important stage of my life. I had a lot of great influences as teachers that helped guide me down the path I was trying to create for myself and I think that's one of the more fundamentally important aspects of the school. The great teachers the school had in my 3 years at SJCA genuinely cared about my well-being...and those same people who are either still teaching at the school or have left, still reach out and still have a big impact on my life. The 4 pillars of the school also provided an important foundation for me going forward in life. Building my Faith, always learning and being a Scholar, being a great Leader for those around me, and Serving those around me in any fashion I can, is a great recipe for living a solid life as a Christian.

Any family updates or other updates you want to include.

My sister, Jessie, also a SJCA attendee, currently competes for Penn State gymnastics and has had a great first couple years of competing, including being an NCAA Finalist as a freshman.

What are you passionate about?

I'm passionate about giving my all on anything I'm competing at. Making the most of my God-given talents and making sure that any glory I can bring with those talents are given to the one who gave me them and that's my Lord Jesus. I'm also passionate about others and especially athletes understanding why they compete. In coaching, it's important to me that the kids are grateful for the opportunities given to them. If you play and compete with gratitude, then you're freed up as a competitor and you can reach your potential. The same goes for school or work. If you love what you're doing, be grateful for it, and do it with joy.

One of your favorite quotes or Bible verses:

Ephesians 1:11-12- "In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of Him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of His glory."

