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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To Be the Best Campaign: CBA Breaks Ground on Athletic Fields

Dewitt, NY – More than 800 students, faculty and staff filled the bleachers at Christian Brothers Academy's John F. Lynch Gymnasium on April 23, 2009, as school officials and supporters officially broke ground on athletic field renovations. The project is Phase I of CBA's *To Be The Best* Capital Campaign, which has raised nearly \$10 million to date to increase the school's endowment, renovate academic facilities, improve the athletic fields and sustain CBA's Annual Fund.

"This is an exciting occasion, as we put shovels into the ground to signify not only the much-needed physical upgrades to our athletic fields but the remarkable level of commitment we have received from members of the CBA community," said Br. Thomas Zoppo, FSC, principal. "Despite an unprecedented downturn in the economy, we have been blessed by alumni, parents and friends of CBA who have banded together to raise funds at a record level and help us continue to provide the unique benefits of a Lasallian education to our students – both today and in the future."

Zoppo, along with Edward Barno, chair of the CBA board of trustees; John D. Murphy Jr. '77, acting campaign co-chair; Jim Breuer '68, construction consultant; John Marshall '67, campaign committee co-chair, alumni and parent campaign; John Sindoni '63, development committee chair and major gifts co-chair; Athletic Director Buddy Wleklinski '75; and students Timothy Corapi '14 and Lauren DiLorenzo '14 participated in the ceremony. Upgrades to the athletic fields include turf, a refurbished track and a renovated press box. Phase I also includes a turfed practice field and an upgraded softball field. The renovations are expected to be completed by mid-August.

Once the campaign's \$11 million goal has been reached, the school hopes to proceed with remaining campaign objectives, including renovation to the school cafeteria, technology upgrades and other facility refurbishments. CBA's endowment fund also will benefit, and school officials hope to be able to provide \$1 million annually in financial aid for low and middle income families within five years. A percentage of the campaign receipts also will support CBA's Annual Fund, a vital source of revenue used to help the school manage tuition cost.

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In September 2008, CBA kicked off the campaign with an announcement of the receipt of a \$1 million pledge from an anonymous donor, which was earmarked to support the school's endowment fund.

For more information on *To Be The Best*, contact CBA's Development Office at 315-446-5960 x1139.

Christian Brothers Academy (CBA) is Central New York's premier Catholic, college-preparatory school for young men and women in grades 7 through 12. We welcome qualified students without regard to race, gender, national or ethnic origin or religion. For more information, contact CBA at 315-446-5960 x1293 or visit the website at www.CBASyracuse.org.

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Photo Caption: Standing with members of the CBA Class of 2014 are (front row, l to r): Lauren DiLorenzo '14; Timothy Corapi '14; Athletic Director Buddy Wleklinski '75; John Sindoni '63, development committee chair and major gifts co-chair; Br. Thomas Zoppo, FSC, principal; John D. Murphy Jr. '77, acting campaign co-chair; John Marshall '67, campaign committee co-chair, alumni and parent campaign; Jim Breuer '68, construction consultant; and Edward Barno, chair of the CBA board of trustees.