



**Saint Xavier**  
UNIVERSITY

**Press Release**

**For Immediate Release**

## **Blackhawk Alumni & Friends announce 2014 Charity Softball Classic**

**Chicago (Aug. 22, 2014)** The Chicago Blackhawks Alumni Association is pleased to announce the *7th Annual Blackhawk Alumni & Friends Charity Softball Classic* presented by BMO Harris Bank, which will take place on **Sun., Sept. 14** at Saint Xavier University (SXU). Join Blackhawks greats like Jack O'Callahan, Brian Noonan, Reid Simpson, Cliff Koroll, Murray Bannerman, Troy Murray, Reggie Kerr, Grant Mulvey, Mark Lavarre, and many others as they come together to support Chicago police and firefighter charities.

This event is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Richard R. Ferrell Memorial Field at SXU's Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St. Admission is free and gates open at 11 a.m.

The event benefits the Chicago Firefighters' EMWQ Retirees', Widows' and Children's Assistance Fund, the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, and other related police and fire charities. During the past six years, the Blackhawk Alumni and Friends have raised more than \$300,000 for the families of the Chicago

Police and Fire Department. The event has also brought attention to the challenges faced by many of these families in their time of need.

Chicago Blackhawks current players and alumni will "face-off" in a 16" softball game with members of the Chicago Police Departments (CPD) and Chicago Fire Departments (CFD). The event also features the annual CFD vs. CPD City-Wide 16" Softball Championship. The event marks the fifth year BMO Harris has served as a presenting sponsor. Other major sponsors include CME Group, WGN TV and Radio, Saint Xavier University, Jewel/Osco and Chicago Firefighters Union Local 2. Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

Families can enjoy food and non-alcoholic beverages, as well as an inflatable play-area and games for children, raffles, and autographs from players. Special units from the Chicago Police and Fire Departments are scheduled to participate and a variety of antique fire and police equipment will be on display.

Mark your calendars and plan to join in this premier event on Sept. 14. For more information, please visit: [www.widowsandchildren.org](http://www.widowsandchildren.org).

***About the Blackhawk Alumni:***

In 1987, a group of retired Blackhawk players got together to discuss their future in the Chicago community. Their main objective was to "give something back" to

Chicago and to the sport of hockey. In that meeting they developed a three-fold mission statement for their non-profit Alumni Association. To provide a scholarship fund for the “most deserving” high school hockey players in Illinois. To become involved in community affairs and charitable causes. To protect and take care of their fellow alumni: “Players helping Players.”

***About The Ende, Menzer, Walsh & Quinn (EMWQ) Retirees Widows and Children’s Assistance Fund:***

EMWQ Retirees’, Widows’ and Children’s Assistance Fund works each year to identify the families and children most in need of monetary donations. An annual gift is presented to the neediest widows – those who receive a pension of \$1,000 to \$1,500 a month and many without social security – as well as an annual gift to the orphaned children of members of the Chicago Fire Department. The organization also provides immediate assistance to the children of an active member who passed away in the line of duty or off duty. A 22-year-old organization, the EMWQ Assistance Fund has provided more than \$10 million dollars in assistance over the years through the generous support of active and retired firefighters and paramedics, the community, an annual charity softball event and more. To learn how you can get involved as well as learn more about the organization, visit: <http://www.widowsandchildren.org>.

***About the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation:***

The Chicago Police Memorial Foundation is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to honoring the lives of our fallen heroes. The Foundation provides support and assistance to the families of Chicago Police Officers who were killed or catastrophically injured in the line of duty. For more information visit <http://www.cpdmemorial.org>.

***About BMO Harris Bank:***

BMO Harris Bank provides a broad range of personal banking products and solutions through over 600 branches and approximately 1,300 ATMs in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Nevada, Arizona and Florida. BMO Harris Bank's commercial banking team provides a combination of sector expertise, local knowledge and mid-market focus throughout the U.S. For more information about BMO Harris Bank, go to the company fact sheet. Banking products and services are provided by BMO Harris Bank N.A. and are subject to bank or credit approval. BMO Harris Bank® is a trade name used by BMO Harris Bank N.A. Member FDIC. BMO Harris Bank is part of BMO Financial Group, a North American financial organization with approximately 1,600 branches, and \$555 billion in assets (as of April 30, 2013).

***About Saint Xavier University:***

Founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1846, Saint Xavier University was the first Mercy college in the United States and is Chicago's oldest Catholic university.

Serving more than 4,300 students at its campuses in Chicago, Orland Park and its Loop location, the University offers 43 undergraduate programs; more than 40 graduate program options in arts and sciences, business, education and nursing; and a variety of program options in continuing and professional studies.

Recognizing Saint Xavier's excellence in education, U.S. News and World Report has ranked SXU consistently among the Best Colleges in the Midwest.

-SXU-

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