Benedictine Voices
The News From Benedictine University
St. Benedict’s Rule for Monks begins with a powerful imperative: *Listen.* And at Benedictine University, we believe in the importance of listening to one another. We therefore have named our magazine *Benedictine Voices.* We pledge that within these pages, members of the Benedictine community will speak with candor about issues facing our University and our world. We cordially invite you to enter into dialogue with us.

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“To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.”

— RALPH WALDO EMERSON

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“Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love.”

— LAO-TZU

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“The mode in which inevitable comes to pass is through effort.”

— OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

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In recent meetings of the Association of Benedictine Colleges and Universities, abbots and presidents have discussed whether there is a Benedictine pedagogy. Recently, a paper was developed on the Benedictine “Wisdom Tradition” that focuses specifically on a Benedictine pedagogy in light of 10 Benedictine Hallmarks. My purpose is to take up this discussion, not in light of the 10 Hallmarks discussed in the paper just mentioned, but in light of the seven Benedictine values we so purposely profess in all our materials.

As our Web page clearly states, “Benedictine University is grounded in the spirit of the founders who based their lives and work on St. Benedict’s Rule for Monks, written in the early 6th century. This University builds its educational life and efforts on the same values which Benedictine men and women espouse.”

Is there such a thing as a Benedictine pedagogy at Benedictine University? There certainly can be, but it depends on each professor as to how he/she approaches the classroom. Let us look at our seven values from a pedagogical perspective or from a more contemporary perspective — as a framework on how to approach a Benedictine University classroom.

A search for God by oneself and with others
An interesting thing about creation is that it is never completed. God created us, truly, as incomplete. Completion ultimately rests in Him as the Final Cause, as Truth Itself (metaphysically, the Really Real). This incompleteness is characterized in our constant search for meaning in our lives. This begins as a child and continues throughout our lives. The Benedictine classroom, from the perspective of the incompleteness of creation, becomes extremely important. Our quest for knowledge (God) is happening in the lives of our students sitting before us; it is also happening in our own lives as faculty and staff. In our classrooms, we work with our students to provide them the tools necessary for acquisition and application of knowledge. We provide them the necessary tools to continue their work of creation (self-completion) throughout their lives.

However, the search for Truth does not happen in a vacuum. God gave us each other. Each of us is incomplete and in need of the other. Our role in life is to put together the incompleteness of ourselves, and to be successful we need others to help us with our own incompleteness.

I often speak of God’s sense of humor as evident in our own incompleteness. We have been charged with putting life’s puzzle together for each of our lives, with a twist (God’s sense of humor). God has given others pieces of our puzzle. To complete our quest, we must acquire our puzzle pieces from others; I need them for my own completeness. Ultimately, I need them for my search for God.

Finally, in the Creation account in Genesis, we are told that humankind has been made in God’s image and likeness. The first hint we have of God in scripture is that of Creator. If in fact we are made in God’s image and likeness, we are destined to be creators. Even to the point of completing the creation, God Himself began and oversees. So our classrooms now have a divine purpose: to outfit our students with the necessary tools to continue the creation process.

A tradition of hospitality
In Genesis 18, when Abraham welcomes the three strangers in his midst, he was welcoming his God. This scripture teaches us that God comes to us in the stranger. Accordingly, Hospitality is the premiere Benedictine University value. It recognizes that in welcoming the stranger, we welcome God into our midst. Hospitality enables us to engage the stranger as “God among us.” Who is the stranger? Simply, anyone who I know not and who does not look like me — culturally, ethnically, religiously — is a stranger. At Benedictine, we are blessed with a wonderful mix of “strangers.” I often tell guests that if you visit the campus and do not leave feeling welcomed, we have failed in hospitality. Because of our “hospitality,” the University is one of ➤
the most diverse in the country. We must take advantage of this diversity. As the monks in the 11th century designed the classroom that is still ours today, we have an opportunity to design the classroom far into the future.

In welcoming the student qua stranger to our campus, we have filled our classrooms with God’s diversity. In the classroom we have the opportunity to equip our students with knowledge, understanding and the spirit of welcoming the stranger as God among us. What a difference this University can make in the world by sending students who know how to live and to deal with each other in their diversity.

Finally, this value of hospitality instills in the faculty a sense of divine wonder — the belief that somehow God is present in each one of our students and that the classroom is the confluence of this divine presence.

An appreciation for living and working in community

If Creation itself is incomplete, if we are incomplete and need each other for our own completeness, what better value can there be for a Benedictine university than an appreciation for living and working in community. Social scientists tell us we are social creatures by nature. Might I suggest that the divine plan is for us (humanity) to live, work, play and achieve our destiny together. Whether in the classroom, the clubs or the teams, the University as a whole is present for our completion. We are works in progress and need the community as our raw material to move forward in our quest for fulfillment. With this understanding, assignments should be made as a way of learning to work together for mutual benefit. The classroom and University experiences should demonstrate that we need each other. As students leave us to pursue their future, this learning to work as a member of the Benedictine University community will be transferred to other local, regional and world communities.

A concern for the development of each person and a commitment to academic excellence

If the members of our community were without potential, the need for a university would cease. At Benedictine, we embrace our incompleteness and work with one another to make each of us the best we can be. In scholastic philosophy, we speak of act and potentiality. What we are is our actuality; what we can become is our potentiality. At Benedictine, faculty and staff should be dedicated to helping every individual realize their potential. The classrooms at Benedictine should take every student from point “A,” where they currently are, and move them to point “D,” what they can become. Clearly, points “A” and “D” are different for each student. In this scenario, academic excellence has little to do with grades and everything to do with enabling individuals to realize their point “D.” If we can make students the best they can be on a consistent basis, we have created an environment swimming in academic excellence.

A dedication to responsible stewardship of the earth

Our analysis of the University values has been replete with words such as the incompleteness of Creation, the need for community, the ability of individuals to realize their potential, etc. Stewardship calls us to a larger view of community. As the oldest religious order in the West, the Benedictines have a wonderful sense of history. A movement is not seen in a day, a year or even a lifetime. Things are viewed in the context of centuries, if not more. The view of stewardship which I am suggesting views time as practically endless with community pervasive throughout.

In our analysis of earlier values, we have seen the need for community in the realization of each person’s potential. Under stewardship’s mantle, we now view community as all those who have come before us and will follow us. As those who have come before them, future generations will be born incomplete and become co-creators. They (as we) will be charged with completing God’s creation while realizing their potential. As part of this human chain, we have a monumental obligation to pass to them a world in good order — a world complete with God’s creatures and resources.

The Benedictine University value of community is not locked into a particular epoch, but spans the spectrum of community itself. Those yet unborn are part of our community. We must pass on to them the tools (nature, creatures, etc.) necessary for them to realize their potential. In fact, our motto, “Informing Today, Transforming Tomorrow” takes on a completely new meaning in the context of stewardship.

An emphasis on a life lived in balance

The final Benedictine University value actually ties the others together. The human being is not a bunch of neurons that need to be developed in the classroom. The human being is a unique juxtaposition of body, mind and soul. As a Benedictine institution, we subscribe to the belief that health in one aspect of the human being requires health in all aspects. While the mind is exercised in the classroom, the soul and body require a similar regimen. A vibrant Benedictine community is active and encourages participation in all three areas. Our goal should be to produce students who emerge from the University as people in touch with themselves and the various aspects of their being. From rigorous academics to robust athletic programs, to meaningful liturgy and religious dialogue, these must all be part of the “learning experience” at Benedictine University.

Conclusion

Given the seven values and the framework I have laid out for each, I submit that at Benedictine University there is a distinct Benedictine pedagogy. While other institutions may have similar values, the seven values listed by this University provide a unique framework on how we are to approach our students and ourselves.

Our faculty is challenged to enter the classroom with a profound sense of welcoming of our students qua strangers. We believe we are welcoming
Central to the Benedictine tradition is the celebration of community as a gathering of people who share a commitment to a common mission. The University strives to develop an academic community that supports each person in the pursuit of knowledge and personal development. This undertaking will be achieved through a life enriched by the collegiate community in which the individual’s interest is tempered by concern for the common good.

Finally, there is one Benedictine Hallmark not a part per se of our published values, but intimately involved with the very purpose of those values. That hallmark is *conversatio*. This Latin term, though difficult to translate adequately, means a transformation, an on-going process in every aspect of our lives. As Benedictines, we engage in education for *conversatio*, for transformation. This process of transformation is life-long and culminates in our completion in God.†

### Carrying Institutional Values into the Working World

In a 1988 issue of *The Catholic World*, Jesuit Father William J. Byron explained that a Catholic college or university by its very nature, life and conviction would develop within its students a specific set of values and principles, and these coming forth as a result of an interactive campus life.

Fr. Byron described the situation in this way: In some cases a religious community will provide an identifiable tradition and a core of religious faculty and administrators to give the [college or university] a distinct character. The particular religious spirit is present in the university only to the extent that it is embodied in the members of the religious community who work there and who share their spirit willingly with lay colleagues. The Monastic Perspective in *Voice* is one of the ways in which we hope to continue to share the Benedictine spirit and charism with our campus community, our alumni and our friends.

Most fascinating in our contemporary age are the number of people who are finding the “wisdom literature” of St. Benedict’s Rule for Monasteries to be a valuable resource for our world. What is probably most surprising is that a good deal of the written and spoken presentations are coming from people who are neither Roman Catholic nor Benedictine monastics.

During his visit to Rome, which included a discussion meeting with Pope Benedict XVI, Archbishop Rowan Williams, the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, presented a very pointed speech at San Anselmo University, our own Benedictine institute for ecclesiastical degrees in the Eternal City.

Archbishop Williams focused on “strengths” in St. Benedict’s writing, elements upon which our contemporary world might draw and find support in achieving balance in our contemporary world. “The Benedictine structuring of time stands as a potent reminder of the balances we risk losing in a culture obsessed with production and reluctant to locate that production in a broader picture of human activity and growth,” Williams said.

The Archbishop also focused on three elements — time, obedience and participation — in the Rule that he believed were most important and “suggest the areas where we should be most active in challenging our present cultural consensus for the sake of the future of some kind of spiritually credible civilization.”

For “time,” he stressed what we always try to emphasize with our students — a life lived in balance: giving carefully planned sections of the division of our waking hours to work, prayer, study, recreation and our other human needs.

For “obedience,” he stressed when teaching our first-year students, we must first listen to the others, the needs of the campus and to what our environment is asking of us. Benedictine obedience is not simply “following commands,” but joining our wills in completing tasks that are needed for all to be served well.

His final point, “participation,” sees each person recognizing his or her gifts and giving as generously and as willingly as one can for the full life and development of the community.

Let us all try to incorporate these principals into our lives and teach new generations as well.†
Alumni Remember their time on Campus

Time spent at a University can be many things — stressful, fun, challenging, enlightening and filled with anticipation for what life will bring. It is a time to learn, to meet new friends and to grow as a person. Each student’s experience is so different and unique, and it affects them in many different ways. Please enjoy reading these accounts from your fellow alumni who share serious moments, things they enjoyed, events that helped them in some way and a few rather funny memories as well.

My fondest memories will always be the countless hours that we spent in the math office working on solving problems, learning proofs and memorizing theorems with the assistance of wonderful professors. Due to their dedication and helpfulness, my friends and I have reached new heights and continue to achieve outcomes that we never thought were possible.

Heather Luzadder, Mathematics, C05

Pub parties; skating on the slough; noon mass with Fr. Palmer; traying at Four Lakes; the dork walk; WKRP at 5:30; Dr. Gahala; The Outfield; Saturday night shrimp or chicken kiev; the Christmas food tree; Hoosier Mama’s; Angered Fire and great and enduring friendships (Nick, Pat, Phil, Larry, Wild Bill, Mugs, Big Ed and Joe (RIP)).

Mark Miklosz, Business and Economics, C86

Playing the game of Life with the bulletin boards.

John Porter, C65

I worked in Fr. Patrick’s garden in 1963-64. He was a kind man with a great sense of humor.

Jim Morley, Economics, C64

My best memory of the graduate school was the small class size and the benefits of it. I went into one class of nine students and knew every student and the professor by name. This individuality gave us great empathy when discussing various topics. I had a wonderful time at BU.

Leroy Stahr, M.S.M.I.S. ’95
I would have to say that my number one memory would be winning the hockey championship in 1971. Our hockey team was actually a student-funded club. The college paid our league fee and we paid for everything else. We were in a league with Wheaton, Trinity, Lewis, Moraine Valley and Northern Illinois. Now looking at the list of teams, which one sticks out? Northern had more students than the rest of the league combined. So as you would expect, they had a very good team, perennial first-place finishers. That year they were undefeated and untied in league play. We finished third or fourth, but we drew Northern in the playoffs. The dads were so proud, they had athletic letters made for us and they threw us a huge party right in the cafeteria. The letter was a big red slanted letter “P” with a hockey logo. There are only 15 or 16 hockey letters ever awarded at this college and I have one. They are beautiful. You can see a team picture over at the Rice Center. It’s one of the old black-and-whites and it is way in the back of the rack.

Dominica Preston, Education, C05

Although the photo is fading, the memories of cherished moments are not — the fondest are those of friendships created while working and playing together. As sophomore class representative of the Student Affairs Board (SAB), I was blessed to work with a great group of people on a Dance-A-Thon for World Hunger in 1981. The 24-hour event attracted more than 100 dancers and the guest performer Harry Chapin, president of the World Hunger Association.

Why did I (and still do) love this school? In one word — people. The yearbook got a late start in 1984 — an editor appointment mid-year. It is 23 years later and I can still picture the yearbook staff working in May and early June in the basement of my parent’s house — doing cropping, labeling and layout. They were an amazing group of people — dedicated, patient and fun-loving — and we produced a great yearbook!

Catherine Stein Arnold, Nutrition, C84

My fondest memories are of the faculty members. They were always available — whether it was for help with homework or to just say hello and ask how your day was going. Their commitment to their students made a lasting impression on me. Thanks for the wonderful memories!

Diane Frieders-White, Computer Science, C88; M.B.A. ’91

Fr. Ted and Br. Columban — two great guys that we had a lot of fun with and were great role models. Being there the first year the school went co-ed. Being on R.A. for three years and how it helped me with coping with responsibility before a business career.

Mike Gallagher, Political Science, C72

The close community feel of the campus and the caring, hard-working professors are what I remember most about Benedictine!

Joni Marzalik Marin, Biology, C97

My fondest memory at Benedictine would be the day I met my wonderful future husband, Tim Marin. We were both seniors in high school auditioning for music scholarships up on the fourth floor of good old Benedictine Hall, a building that will always hold a special place in my heart. I was a bundle of nerves and Tim, radiating serenity, helped calm me down. We became friends through the years as we played in the concert band and roamed the halls of Scholl Science Center, Tim as a Chemistry major and I as a Biology major. We have been married for four years now. Tim still calms me down, and now roams the halls of Kindlon Hall as a Chemistry professor at our alma mater.

Lynn (Carberry) Bergan, Literature and Communication, C82

One of my fondest memories was during our freshmen year (’79) when we Ondrak girls would come back from dinner and sit in Terry’s room listening to Journey before heading off to the library. You girls know who you are. Another fond memory of the same year was the blizzard that shut down IBC. We had snowball fights all afternoon then went into dinner. Of course Friday Afternoon Club at the Pub was always fun. We Board members were always in attendance to man the keg.

Mark Bonemer, History, C74

Residence hall version of a ‘portable’ phone.
One of my favorite memories at BU happened during my freshmen year. Due to limited class space for freshmen, my roommates and I decided to “camp out” the night before freshmen registration at The Pub in the basement of Ben Hall. We thought for sure we’d get to the front of the line. We brought our blankets, pillows and favorite snack foods. We weren’t, however, the only ones who had this idea. There was close to 50 other students down there staying the night. We didn’t get much sleep, but we did get into all the classes we needed!

Lynn Burke, Special Education, C05

One night on the way back to “Proco,” we came across a pony that a farmer had staked to the ground between his fence and the roadway (Maple Avenue). It was about midnight, the farmer apparently had forgotten the horse being staked outside his fence, and therefore someone suggested “borrowing the horse.” We unstaked him, put the lead through the car window, and driving very slowly, managed to lead the animal onto the campus. We woke several others at the school and had a big discussion about what to do with our prize. It was decided that we would bring the pony inside the hall about 4:30 a.m. The first floor prefect was a Fr. P. Brenden, who, thank goodness, had an immense sense of humor. He normally would attend daily Mass over in the main building at 5:00 a.m. The washroom entrance in our dorm was literally across the hall from his doorway. We managed to get the pony up the front stairs, into the lobby and tie him to Fr. P. Brenden’s door knob. When he emerged he had the most surprised look on his face when confronted by the pony. We conspirators were in the washroom watching the whole thing play out. He started to laugh, then we did, disclosing our observation point. Without malice or penalty, we returned the pony, and went back to being students and not horse thieves.

Michael F. Young, C60

Fr. Willie playing hockey; Br. Cyprian baking bread; Fr. Hilary trying to get the lit cigarette out of the orangutan’s mouth; Fr. Justin showing movies (as opposed to educational films) three days a week while the raccoons scratched themselves; Fr. Hilary’s monkey and boa constrictor. The monkey bit, the snake did not; Fr. Ed firing Time magazines at his students and refereeing basketball games; Fr. Mathias leaving the room in tears during my humorous speech, titled “Pigs are like people;” Fr. Pascal’s and Fr. Dismas’s singing; Abbot Hugh (trying) to sing, “How are things in Glockamorra;” The seminarians shouting, “Shoot! Shoot!” right before I scored my only intercollegiate basket and many more.

Donn Anderson, SPA ’57, Philosophy, C61

As of my junior year, there wasn’t enough room in Ondrak to house all the co-eds, so some of the upper classmen were given suites in Neuzil. What a pleasure — our own private bathroom, a walk-in closet big enough to hold a full-size refrigerator in addition to all our clothes, male friends in the same building and living together with my dear friends — my roommates DeeDee Lester, Betty Kozlowski and Colleen Doherty. We are friends forever because of the time we spent together those two years.

Kathy Fallon Crampton, Accounting, C77

Freshman year (Fall 1974) we were standing in the cafeteria line about to eat lunch and Fr. Michael was ahead of us and someone yelled out, “Father, how do you feel?” He yelled back, “with your fingers, man!” Every one in line had a good laugh. I also remember my introduction to pizza by Fr. Alban Hebraic, head of the music department, at Nona Grace Pizza in Naperville. Thick, cheesy, delicious deep-dish sausage and cheese pizza. Prior to that evening, pizza never looked appealing to me. Needless to say, I’ve been hooked ever since.

Dale L. Cudjoe, Music Education, C78

The slip-and-slide at Neuzil Hall during Senior Weekend of ’93.

Tim Brown, C93

Food ... for thought.

St. Procopius

‘Proco’

Left to right: Lynn Burke, C05; Kristin Racine, C05; Adam Hansen, C05 and Natalie McLain, C05.

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One of my favorite memories, or perhaps group of memories, would be taking a study-break and walking along the trail through the woods that lead from the old gymnasium, behind the administration building to the slough. The birdsong and cool shade of those woods were very comforting, especially during the hot days leading up to final exams. Some days I would take that long route back from the cafeteria before getting back to my dorm and studies.

Another fond memory was singing at morning Mass and with the traveling choir, Epiphany. One Sunday we were singing at a church in Joliet and we needed something for meditation during a gap in the service. The church didn’t ask for one, and we didn’t plan on one, but Michelle Dixon turned to Carl Molyneaux and hissed, “Play something! Anything! Quick!” So Carl gave it a moment’s thought and then sent a beautiful finger-picked melody spilling from the strings of his guitar. It took us all a moment to realize that he was playing “Hotel California” by the Eagles.

Frank Garland, Clinical Laboratory Science, C86

My time at Proco was one of the best times of my life. I was taught about life’s future from our mentors, Fr. Fidelis and Fr. Valentine.

John F. Kmetz, SPA ’55

Dr. Carney’s Differential Equation Final. When you entered the classroom the three neatly arranged stacks on her desk caught your attention. Dr. Carney gave the following directions: If you want an “A” you must take from the “A” stack, you could get less than an “A”, but if “A” was your goal then you must select from this stack. She then directed your attention to the middle stack and advised if “B” was your target then select from here, knowing that you are limiting yourself to a “B,” with the prospect of receiving less than a “B.” Finally directing the class to the third stack and commenting if you are satisfied with a “C” then this stack should be your choice.

The next day when she returned with the results we were advised that we had two lessons the day before. The one in Differential Equations was obvious, but the one on life may have been a little more subtle. She went on to say “If you aim low enough in life there is an excellent chance you will finish there.” You see the “A” was the easiest of the three exams, the “B” was the most difficult. That lesson is still with me 53 years later. She gave meaningful substance to the word “excellence.”

Dennis Coyne, SPA ’59

So many extracurricular activities made available were memorable — the football games, spirit week, the dances, cruising in/cruising out, but in particular the one-day ski trip up to Wisconsin — it was the first and last time I went skiing! After a day of skiing we ended with some food and warm beverages!

JoAnna Siciliano, Nutrition, C95

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Good friends, great times and an excellent education both academically and spiritually. There isn’t any one memory that can sum up what Benedictine means to me, but here are a few: freshman orientation; playing Frisbee in the gym with new friends; going to Mass at the Chapel in Ben Hall on Sunday nights; cheering at football and basketball games; going to baseball games in the spring; Pub parties outside featuring Pat Keiner’s band; working on my senior thesis with Dr. Jelen; painting with my roommates during the Deep Freeze of ’94; planning Springfest and Senior Ball with my best friend; slip and slide in the dorm during senior weekend; having my sister and my best friend’s sister come up to visit and choosing to attend Benedictine.

Griselda DeLaRosa, Political Science, C94; M.A.Ed. ’96; M.Ed. ’04

The thought of always being able to stop by the dorm prefect rooms of Frs. Ron, Dismas and Pascal, and being able to chat with them, along with the inspiration they gave us.

George Ryniak, Political Science, C65

One of my favorite memories, or perhaps group of memories, would be taking a study-break and walking along the trail through the woods that lead from the old gymnasium, behind the administration building to the slough. The birdsong and cool shade of those woods were very comforting, especially during the hot days leading up to final exams. Some days I would take that long route back from the cafeteria before getting back to my dorm and studies.

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George Ryniak, Political Science, C65
Although I may be somewhat biased, my favorite memories revolve around my involvement with the Communication Arts department’s activities. Whether I was staying up late into the wee hours of the night/morning to complete the latest edition of *The Candor* with many of my fellow “inmates,” including the likes of Sonia Khanvilkar and Tracy Hough, or attempting to edit-in a montage into the “Eye of the Eagle Special Summer Edition” with a panic-stricken Danielle Delisio, I have never had more fun. We all, that is the breed known as “comm majors,” owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Peter Seely, department chair. Because of his ability to adapt classes, programs and projects in ways that allowed us to personalize our educations, and his knack for always knowing the best way to present information to us, we have been granted well-rounded, unique and highly valuable educations.

**Sam Madan,**
Communication Arts, C00

My dearest memories are of my teammates in volleyball, basketball and softball. The sisterhood I experienced in the arena of sports helped me learn the strength of heart it takes to achieve what one most wants in life. I’ll never forget how supportive my teammates were after my knee surgeries my junior year (1993) in basketball. Even though I couldn’t play, they always made me feel a part of every basket they scored.

On a lighter note, I don’t know if I would have had as much fun if it weren’t for Coach Swanson. Freshman year I was given my nickname “Q” because I was wearing a huge white scrunchy in my hair during sprints and apparently to Coach I looked like a “Q-tip head.” Since my maiden name was Kuzel (pronounced Q-zul), “Q” stuck. He always made me laugh, even when I wanted to cry. Right after my knee surgeries, I was doing physical therapy in the gym and my knee looked so gross, all black and blue and swollen. Coach came up to me and looked at my knee and said: “You know, guys dig chicks with purple knees.” I busted a gut!

I still keep in touch with my sisters from then: MB, Mary Payne, Kelly Doyle, Colleen Gallagher and Amy Trench. They will always be in my heart.

**Colleen (“Q” Kuzel) Millen,**
Literature and Communication, C94

One of my fondest memories of my years at Benedictine is the Jurica Nature Museum when it was in the old Scholl Science Center. I remember when I first walked into that museum and could not believe something this fascinating was right here in Lisle. I remember meeting Fr. Theodore Suchy, the curator of the museum and one of the best teachers/mentors I ever had. I worked at the museum in the summers and on Sundays. It was Sundays where I gave tours of the museum to all who came. That museum will always evoke good memories of my undergraduate years at Benedictine.

**Anudeep D. Dharkar,**
Health Science, C00; M.P.H. ’02; M.B.A. ’02

One of our fondest memories was the Spring Dance 1970, especially since I became engaged that day in May. It was a tradition to get engaged at the dance and ours was no exception. I remember it was at a hotel in Chicago and they had a wonderful orchestra.

The picture below is of Ron (Paryl), Music Education, C73, M.B.A. ’83, and me in front of Jaeger Hall, which was the girl’s dorm at the time, before we left for the dance.

**Christine (Markiewicz) Paryl,**
Music Education, C73; M.A. ’03
Wading through the slough. The pub in the old science building hoisting a few with Drs. Hazdra, Rausch and Mr. Meehan. Playing poker with Coach O. Coach Lascala giving me guidance.

Fr. Phil Timko, not a hair out of place. I could go on.

Ron Horvath, Political Science, C74

I enjoyed the religious atmosphere, friendliness and caring people — whether it was in the classrooms, hallways, masses or at events. Even today, 29 years later, if I go to the campus I usually run into at least a couple people each time, either they know me and/or I know them! Where else can you say that about a place? That's terrific! It makes you feel good about the college and religion, teachers, students, alumni, families and the town.

Nancy M. Rudzinski, Business and Economics, C78

The rock concerts in the tent behind the Ad building in the spring, 1974-78. The canoe races on the slough. The music department on the fourth floor of the Ad building. Finding old trunks in the Ad building attic by the music department.

The bats in the Ad building halls at night! The surf and turf dinners on Saturday nights for college residents. Ice skating on the slough in winter. The peacefulness of the graveyard and the little wooded area next to it. Spending the summer of 1975 as a maintenance employee for the college and seeing the fountain in front of the Ad building filled with bubble bath! Writing the IBC college fight song and having it sung and played at the opening of the Dan and Ada Rice Center. Thanks for the memories!

Carmela (Kocian) Wepsic, Music, C78

Being waist deep in the center of the slough pulling out the old hockey goal lost several years before when the ice broke when Prof. Hazdra was playing ice hockey with students. The “Slough Crew II” in 1993 was able to remove a car door, several oil drums, park benches, the infamous hockey goal and nearly 30 bags of trash during a clean-up in the Spring.

Rich Gurney, Ph.D., Chemistry, C94

This is a picture of me taken within a day or two of my 19th birthday in 1974 in the parking lot facing northeast toward the Abbey. The pretty girl is Rita Konop, C77, who had just found out it was my birthday. The picture was taken by my friend, Albert Clawson, C74.

Dave Fischer, Psychology, C76

My fondest memories: Hell Week 1966; Fr. Kevin as my Proctor; Fr. Hilary’s Botany and Zoology class; the farm on campus with the weird strain of cows; swimming in the slough; the anti-war protest speech delivered by valedictorian Russell Palmieri at commencement 1970.

Florian Barbi, Political Science, C70

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Carmela (Kocian) Wepsic, Music, C78

Someone who really helped me in my freshman year was Stanley (Stan) Los, C63. Stan was an upper classman. We discovered that we shared a passion for scuba diving. That’s not the best passion to have when you’re at a Midwest school, with the only nearby body of water being Lake St. Benedict. Oh! I just can’t use that name. It’s the slough and always will be. Stan had a springtime job. He attached scores of sailboat floats to concrete anchors at the bottom of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. He took me with him in the spring of 1962. Boy, that water was cold. Stan rowed the boat and dragged me around like a dead minnow on a hook. It took me a week to warm up. Come to think of it that might have been a delayed prank from “Hell Week” at the beginning of the school year. That clever little devil. Stan was very bright (i.e., he was in the boat) and just one of those really neat, really COOL people you meet along the way.

Michael O’Connell, Philosophy, C65

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Carmela (Kocian) Wepsic, Music, C78
I remember the rural quality that was so peaceful. Jaeger Hall faced north to open farmland all the way to Naperville Road. I remember my first room — 324 — and Fr. Pascal, my first prefect. He was such a kind man, understanding and patient with us freshmen, and some of us were wise guys. I’m sorry he’s gone, he had saintly qualities I respected. Fr. William Shonka always emphasized how we would get the full professional attention of the best in our beginning years. Fr. Daniel Kucera, the Dean of Studies, and how he set me straight when I got too much ahead of myself, which I did often enough. He had a first-class brain and knew how to keep his life together, along with the rest of us students. Frs. Alban and Matthias, two very close friends. Fr. Leo Vancura, the urbane English teacher who knew how to challenge the mind without intimidating it. Another prefect I got to know and respect was Fr. Brendan McGrath. I only took one course from him, but found out a lot more about the Bible than I expected to. I remember graduation and the college productions that went on after I got my degree. There was a closeness I never saw at other colleges. I remember working with Fr. Luke when I was yearbook editor in 1960, and Fr. Terrence, who was my moderator. Thanks to them, I saw other horizons that helped me in my writing career.

John Stoessel, Chemistry, C60

One of my great memories was playing table tennis in the basement of Krasa amongst many classmates of different nationalities... it was extremely fun, along with the atmosphere that smelled of equality and peace at a Catholic University.

Salman Choudhry, Communication Arts, C02

I have many great memories from Benedictine. I was involved in many practical jokes between Kelly Goad (Saracco), Bridget Meyers (Sims) and Amy Pfeifer my senior year. My favorite one was when I put a stink bomb in their room! For weeks they wondered who did it! Then, one night during dinner in Krasa, I was ratted out by a 10-year-old! Thanks for the great pranks girls! Miss you all!

Krista Oleksiak, Elementary Education, C99

Many late nights in the Krasa Student Center with my friends cramming for finals and exams or just hanging out. Laughing, sometimes crying, often stressing, but largely sharing in what was a unique Benedictine University experience.

Maroof Haque, C98

Fr. Stanley Vesely has been my best memory for many years. And so is Fr. Leo, who taught art history. I enjoyed his classes. He made a lasting impression on my visual preferences. I remember historical timelines, largely because of what and how he taught. I do not think my appreciation of architecture, art or even my travels would be what they are if not for him.

Bill Lisowski, Literature and Communication, C78; M.B.A. ’83

Special memories include playing Pinochle, Hearts or Risk every night; the close friends I still stay in contact with today; the great social activities and learning how to learn!

Chris Lucas, Psychology, C71

Mom never saw my room looking like this.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

Savi Chadha, M.P.H. ‘05

My fondest memory of Benedictine was always being able to talk to the faculty on a personal level. Getting my master’s in Public Health gave my career a huge boost. Dr. Gorr and Dr. Swanson both gave me a tremendous amount of knowledge and insight into the world of health care.

Savi Chadha, M.P.H. ‘05
I recall walking from Kindlon after Statistics class with the most wonderful and beautiful girl, Sarah Schulfer. We began dating after meeting at Benedictine. I proposed to her on Christmas Eve of last year at the doors to Kindlon Hall, and we are to be married this upcoming January!

Christopher Weithers, Psychology, C04

I have many great memories of my days at IBC. From meeting my wife, Suzanne, on campus and sharing hot chocolate at an ice skating party at the slough, to meeting Harry Chapin at the all-night dance marathon where we were moving our feet so people could eat.

The picture (above) is from the soccer club days before we had intercollegiate soccer and I talked my friends like Olga to come out and root for us. We were pretty bad but we all had a good time. I was fortunate to later work at IBC when the soccer team came to be and became an assistant coach.

I remember taking Art Fundamentals with Fr. Mike and finding out how much work there was for that class. I remember the first day of class, with Fr. Mike stressing that this was not a “blow-off” class and he was not an easy grader since he didn’t get paid to teach the class, or couldn’t be bribed since he didn’t wear expensive clothes and he didn’t have a mistress in Four Lakes. In the end I learned so much in that class. Oh, the stories of living in paradise.

Al Nunez, International Business and Economics, C84; M.B.A. ’87

Placing a lit cigarette in the mouth of the monkey in the Biology lab when the Jurica brothers were teaching pre-med courses. All the money I made from the Ali (Cassius Clay) fights. The funniest of all was the breaking of the window in Jaeger Hall when there was a small fire in one of the rooms simply by passing the extinguisher. It was a very rich era of discovery, education and relationships of which a few still continue to this very day. Fr. Dave Turner and many others back in the day were all favorites because we had camaraderie. We were all able to communicate openly. I speak of my days in college with a tremendous amount of pride and love. A time filled with very rich memories that will remain very vivid to this very day.

Haskell Vaughn Anderson III, C66

If I had to choose just one, my fondest memory would be of Dr. Nordin. I picture him at his desk and the warm smile that always greeted me at the door. Regardless of the demands on his time, he was never too busy to sit and talk or just lend an ear. Whether it be a discussion of academics, issues concerning The Candor, or just a need to vent, he valued each and every student he took under his wing.

Jane (Schlintz) Hall, Literature and Communication, C97

Junior year in Kolbeck having a cat for a couple of months until the residence director finally realized that it was a real cat sitting in the window — not a stuffed animal. Which I guess was better than us having a stray huskie for a few days freshman year until we got caught with that one, too.

Joe Stocchero, Business and Economics, C86

Some people were really excited about attending Benedictine.
The day started with bright sunshine for the 13th Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing at Cress Creek Country Club in Naperville on July 16. However, with clouds slowly rolling in, the afternoon golfers ended up slightly wet at the end of a fun day of golf.

Winners of course contests were Trevor Kindlon, Men’s Longest Drive and Deb Smilsky of Sodexho, Women’s Longest Drive. Women’s Longest Putt went to Laurel Davis of National City Bank and Men’s Longest Putt went to Bob Gibson of Dommermuth, Brestal, Cobine, and West, Ltd.

There were a total of 184 golfers, of which 32 were alumni. The coveted Alumni Cup went to the team of John Parker, C01, Cory Ferrell, Stephen Mares, C00 and Anthony Dolan, C04. This award is permanently on display in the alumni affairs office with the names of each year’s winners. All you need is one alumnus/na on your team to qualify. We would love to see more alumni get into the action next year for this fun, worthwhile event.

The first place winning mixed team was Marcy DeFalco, Kurt Hall, Jeff Krey and Lou Varchetto of Mulherin, Rehfeldt & Varchetto.
The Office of Alumni Affairs would like to thank this year’s event sponsors Joe and Bess Kindlon, along with the other donors and sponsors including Cress Creek Country Club, the golfers, and of course, all the volunteers who helped make the event a success. Approximately $29,000 was raised for student scholarships. This was a very successful day in helping students reach their dreams of a college education.

Look for your “save the date” card coming in February 2008 and sign up early. We look forward to seeing you Monday, July 21, 2008 for the 14th Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing.

The Class of 1969 celebrated the success of reaching its goal of $30,000 for the room naming opportunity at Birck Hall. The event took place during the Alumni Picnic on June 24 at Birck Hall Room 228, named in honor of the Class of 1969. Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B., attended the event and blessed the classroom, recalling when the alumni were his students.

Plaques honoring both the class and the project’s major donors were permanently affixed next to the classroom’s entrance. The project, chaired by Jim Brusek, began as a part of the capital campaign to support the construction of Birck Hall and Kindlon Hall.

Alumni from the class of 1969 chose this room because it looks over most of the Benedictine University campus, with Lownik Hall, Jaeger Hall, the Krasa Center, the Sports Complex and Kindlon Hall in plain view. They were the first to have a celebratory event for their notable achievement. The classes of 1965 and 1979 also reached their goals for their classrooms. Congratulations to all of these alumni for setting such a great example for the campus community.

Kalish was first acquainted with Benedictine University through the monks at St. Procopius Abbey. She was a good friend to both the school and the Abbey.

Hnath was Benedictine’s oldest living alumnus. At the time of his death, he was 102. When first arriving at St. Procopius College, Hnath was in his 30s and had already tried several different careers. He learned he had a knack for engineering and earned his B.S. degree in 1937. He became a mechanical engineer and spent the majority of his career working for Chrysler Corporation. He married in the late 1940s and lived in suburban Detroit.

The total of the assets in the Kalish and Hnath trusts designated for Benedictine University are currently valued at approximately $300,000. Because the gifts were made on an unrestricted basis, the University will be able to use the funds where the need is great. In this case, the resources will be used to help fund the creation of new laboratory classrooms in Birck Hall. Classrooms will be named in memory of each of these generous donors with permanent plaques placed at the entrances of each.

If you would like to learn more about leaving Benedictine in your will, please contact Brad Carlson at (630) 829-6362.
Margaret and Harold Moser were community pioneers who recognized the importance of education. Benedictine University’s new Margaret and Harold Moser Center for Adult and Professional Studies in Naperville celebrates their commitment to education.

Now friends of the University as well as community members can express their support of education by having their names displayed on the “Benedictine Donor Wall” at the Moser Center.

The “Benedictine Donor Wall” is a unique memorial that celebrates the spirit of individual accomplishment within the framework of the Benedictine value of living and working in community. The four-by-five-foot plaque, created as the Benedictine Cross, is displayed prominently in the lobby of the Moser Center.

This stunning display recognizes donors, commemorates loved ones and celebrates events. You can display your name, that of your organization or both. The flexible design allows organizations and individuals to expand or modify a plate.

The plate will be displayed for 10 years and includes a free one-time replacement.

Your generous gift will help Benedictine University continue its mission of providing education to a diverse student population. In addition, your name or that of a loved one or company will be seen by thousands of adult learners who will utilize the Center into the next decade.

The Moser Center is one of the most technologically advanced learning facilities in the Chicago area. The 15,000-square foot facility features six classrooms equipped with “Smart Boards,” personal computers and Internet access. In addition to classrooms, the Center also has a conference room and “Cyber Café.”

Your plate will not only serve as a testimony to your professional achievements, it will also demonstrate your support for other professionals determined to make a better life for themselves, their loved ones and their community.

A limited number of spaces are available. Individual plates are $5,000. For more information, contact Denise West at (630) 829-6027 or Marie Francois at (630) 829-6618.

Heritage Society Members Attend “Wicked”

The Heritage Society is a group of generous donors who have expressed their care and commitment to Benedictine University by making a planned gift. Most often planned gifts consist of inclusion in will/estate plans. Donors also make planned gifts by creating gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts or by making gifts of life insurance policies or real estate.

This year Benedictine thanked these generous people with a special event day on July 15. The event included brunch on campus followed by the Broadway show “Wicked” at the Ford Center Oriental Theatre in Chicago.

Brad Carlson, chief development officer, said, “People who provide planned gifts do not do this on a whim. It is a very thoughtful and generous gesture. We just wanted to let them know how much we appreciate what they have done.”

Members of the Heritage Society and their guests took a bus to the Oriental Theatre in Chicago to see the smash Broadway musical “Wicked” on July 15. Pictured are William and Norma Stroner, Joan Carberry-Rizzi, Brand and Mary Ann Bobosky, Leonard and Ruth Hertko, Mardelle Fortier, Joseph and Carolyn Dalpiaz, Bishop Daniel Ryan, Rose Mary Giova and their guests.
You Can Increase Your Income and Be a Valued Donor at the Same Time

You may have wanted to provide a gift for Benedictine University, but the timing was not right. It is possible that you could make a gift now and receive more income after making the gift than what you were receiving before. Sound impossible? It isn’t. Gift annuities can be used to make this happen and they are becoming more popular every day.

Certificates of deposit (CDs) are the most common form of investment for seniors, yet they don’t yield much income. A gift annuity is a great way to help the University while providing you with a fixed annual income for the remainder of your life at rates higher than today’s CDs.

Another common asset for seniors is ownership of U.S. savings bonds. However, many savings bonds are no longer generating interest income. You can cash them in and use the proceeds to create a gift annuity.

How do gift annuities work? A gift annuity is a binding agreement whereby Benedictine University guarantees that it will provide the donor with a fixed amount of income each year for the remainder of the donor’s lifetime. The amount of fixed annual income depends upon the age of the individual when the gift annuity is created and the amount of the donation made to create the gift annuity.

For example, if someone at age 65 provides the University with a gift of $10,000 today to create a gift annuity, he will receive $600 per year paid on a quarterly basis for the remainder of his lifetime.

On the other hand, if someone at age 70 provides a gift of $10,000 today to create a gift annuity, he will receive $650 per year paid on a quarterly basis for the remainder of his lifetime.

The news just gets better. Gift annuity donors get tax deductions for the current year for their gifts. Also, the income received is taxed at a lower rate than what they would have paid on the income received from CDs.

Gift annuities can be created to suit a variety of needs, too. If you want the income to be provided during both your and your spouse’s lifetimes, that can be done. Or if you want to provide income for your newborn grandchild during his/her college years, you can do that as well.

Gift annuities can also be practical for people in their 50s who want to have supplemental income during their retirement years. For example, a donor decides at age 52 to make a gift of $10,000 today, but does not want to start receiving income from his gift annuity until age 65. Beginning at age 65, his annual income will be $1,280 and he will continue to receive this amount for the remainder of his lifetime.

There are even more options to customize your gift annuity to meet your needs. If this easy and beneficial giving option sounds of interest to you, contact Brad Carlson at (630) 829-6362 or bcarlson@ben.edu.

Civic Leadership Scholarships Awarded

Three Benedictine students received scholarships through the Center for their scholarly efforts and interest in pursuing careers in public service.

Pictured are from left to right, Evan Thomas, along with students Amina Waheed, Jennifer Erickson and Kyle Bruett (recipients of the Peter and Carole Doris Public Service Fellows Scholarship Award, the Fioretti and Lower Public Service Fellows Scholarship Award and the Lester McKeever Public Service Fellows Scholarship Award) and Center founder and Distinguished Fellow Jim Ryan, C68.

New IRA Law Provides Benefits for Making Gifts

There is good news for individuals aged 70 ½ or older who have individual retirement accounts (IRAs). Thanks to the Pension Protection Act of 2006, a simple, tax-friendly option has joined your charitable giving possibilities. This may be the time to act, because the option has not been renewed for 2008.

Under the new law, you can now make a donation using IRA funds without paying tax on your IRA distribution for the gift. The distribution counts toward your minimum distribution requirement as well. Moreover, it may have favorable tax benefits for you if you also receive social security income. It is important to note, however, that since you are not paying tax on the IRA distribution, the gift can not be claimed as a charitable donation on your taxes.

The gift must be made directly to Benedictine University (or other qualified not-for-profit) from your IRA account. You may provide gifts up to $100,000 by December 31, 2007. The law does not apply to charitable remainder trusts, donor-advised funds or supporting organizations.

Using your IRA as the source for making gifts may also make sense for your estate planning. Remember that if the beneficiaries of your IRA are individuals, then the distribution tax must be paid before the IRA’s assets are disbursed to your loved ones.

This may be the right time to make a memorial gift or leave your legacy. Contact Brad Carlson with any questions at (630) 829-6362 or bcarlson@ben.edu. You may also want to contact your tax professional and/or your IRA custodian if you are considering a gift under the this year’s law.
What brought you to Benedictine University as an undergraduate?
I had just finished chemotherapy for testicular cancer and I needed to stay in the Chicago area for medical reasons. I wanted to continue my education and pursue a career in medicine. Numerous friends had suggested Benedictine to me because of its excellent track record for pre-medicine students and high acceptance into medical school. As a hidden benefit, I soon realized how great it was to attend a college close to home and the great city of Chicago. Ironically, most kids that age think the farther away the better.

What is your best memory about your time here?
Of the ones that I can mention, there are too many to claim a favorite. The best thing about this school for me was the genuine people that comprise the student body and faculty.

Was there a professor who impacted your life?
It would be unfair to claim a favorite, but two of my favorites were John Mickus, Ph.D., and Bernie Touissaint, Ph.D. Dr. Mickus taught Biology and Physiology, while Dr. Touissaint taught Logic and Philosophy courses. These were very opposite disciplines, but I think this was a benefit for me rather than having all my efforts spent on one curriculum. Dr. Mickus possessed the gift of making difficult subjects fascinating and for enthusing his students. He made basic science very applicable to everyday living. Dr. Touissaint, on the other hand, constantly reminded me how important philosophy is to everyone, and he was always quick to remind me that the great early physicians were also philosophers, such as Aristotle, Socrates and Plato.

Tell us about your medical career.
After attending Benedictine, I was fortunate enough to be accepted to medical school. Some of my pre-med classmates attended Loyola Stritch School of Medicine with me. It was great because we had each other to lean on when times were difficult. I chose a residency in Radiation Oncology. It was a field that offered significant, constantly evolving technology (this was one of the fields in which the digital age first appeared, i.e., MRI, 3-dimensional computers) that always interested me. In addition, because of my cancer experience as a patient, it offered me an opportunity to give back to cancer patients.

My practice specializes specifically in the placement of radioactive material into the prostate gland. The cure rates are equal to that of surgery, while the side effects are dramatically less. In 1997, we developed Chicago Prostate Cancer Center, a center specializing in prostate cancer treatment. To date, we have treated more than 10,000 patients, more than any institution in the world. It has been gratifying because our patients do very well and we have learned a great deal, which, in turn, has further helped our patients. With few exceptions, it has been a very positive experience.

You have been a generous donor to Benedictine University. Why do you choose to give?
Benedictine was very good to me at a most difficult time in my life. I was recovering from cancer treatments and trying to pursue an education and a social life. The student body offered many great friends who encouraged me to be positive and push on. I was always waiting for the call that my cancer would return as it did the year before. Fortunately, that call never came and the longer I stayed healthy, the more confidence I had.

Because of all the dedicated people at Benedictine who I was fortunate to have in my life, I always wanted to repay them in some fashion when I was able to. In the future, I hope to be in a position to continue supporting Benedictine.

Moran and his wife, Betsy, have been married for 21 years and have four children ranging in age from 8-19.
In recognition of outstanding achievement in a career field or personal endeavor, the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award goes to Richard M. Montalbano, Jr.

Montalbano became involved with the Order of Alhambra as a child. His father chartered the first local chapter and his first official function began at age nine. Alhambra is a Catholic men’s organization founded in 1904 dedicated mainly to providing assistance, education and residences for developmentally disabled children and adults. It also provides scholarships and assistance to private schools and institutions through fundraising activities, social and vocational programs.

Montalbano has overseen many of these fundraising events including sponsoring trips for kids to Brookfield Zoo, Disney on Ice, river cruises and holiday parties. He was the Grand Commander of the Santiago Caravan (local chapter of Alhambra) from 1998 to 2003 and was Regional Director of Region V Council of Caravan for another two years. He continues to seek grants and donations to further the organization in his spare time from organizations that are not Alhambra members. The Boy Scouts of America now has a modified program to include disabled children thanks to his efforts. Montalbano believes in helping anyone with a disability to mainstream into society. He wants them to experience life outside the institution in the best way they can. Married to his high school sweetheart, Wendy, the Montalbanos live in Naperville with their three children, Vince-10, Lucy-7 and Rosie-4.

For exemplifying the Benedictine values of service, hospitality and dedication, personally and professionally, the 2007 Alumni Spirit Award goes to Karen Maloney, M.D. A respected dermatologist by day, Maloney in her “off hours” feeds and cares for homeless families in Chicago. She also works with “A Light to the Nation,” a host program for orphans living in the United States. Maloney cooks the food herself, collects an assortment of gently used clothing and then drives her donated, medically-converted van into Chicago on a weekly basis to feed and care for these individuals. Recently, she acquired a school bus that has been converted into a mobile hotel for the needy — a place where they can find temporary shelter, heat and food when needed. Not surprisingly, Maloney has also been known to house some homeless families in St. Charles. This is all in addition to her busy day job as a Tri-Cities physician.

Maloney was recognized as the 2005 Medical Hero for her work at “A Light to the Nation.”

Maloney lives in St. Charles with her husband, David, and children Michael-19, Caitlyn-17, Daniel-15 and Maria-14.

For exemplifying the University with time and talent, the 2007 Alumni Service Award goes to Eugene Lopez, M.D.

Given for serving the University with time and talent, the 2007 Alumni Service Award goes to Eugene Lopez, M.D.

For many seasons, Lopez and his staff have volunteered their time and service to the Benedictine University football team. The NCAA requires that a physician be present at all games, and as a result, Lopez has attended and coordinated his services ensuring the safety of our student-athletes. Along with this service, he continues to assist the Athletic Department staff in all athletic training needs and assessments.

Lopez is an orthopedic surgeon specializing in sports medicine and his practice is located in Elk Grove Village. He resides in South Barrington with his wife, Sue, and children Danny-13, Sara-11 and Jack-9. 

The Alumni Association is pleased to announce the following alumni awards for 2007. Award winners were honored at the 114th Commencement Convocation, which took place on Sunday, May 20, in the Village of Lisle-Benedictine University Sports Complex.

The Alumni Association is accepting nominations for the 2008 recognition awards. Submit your nominations to the Office of Alumni Affairs or go to ben.edu/alumni/awards.
First Annual Volleyball Reunion

March 31 was a great day for alumni volleyball players. The 18 alumni who came out for the challenge of playing a mini-tournament against the current women’s volleyball team finished proud. The two alumni teams ended the day each with 1-2 records while the current teams finished with 2-1 records.

The alumni gave the students a run for their money. The final games of the day put the two alumni teams against each other. Alumni Team No. 1 consisted of: Lia Bartolotta, C01; Jessica Baker, C05; Patty Decker, C86; Kristy Furto, C03; Jackie Gonzalez, C06; Andrea Kane, C01; Nicole Sacco, C07 and Vicki Weber, C86. Alumni Team No. 2 consisted of: Jaymie Atkinson, C06; Assistant Coach Brette Bower, Stephanie Bonic, C07; Jill Burton, C07; Katie Dotson, C06; Liz Fredlund, C07; Jaymie Schnack, C01 and Jessica Tuchowski, C07.

In an exciting match, Alumni Team No. 1 was victorious.

During the reception, 50 volleyball players, parents and alumni enjoyed lunch. There was a lot of “catching-up” with former teammates at the event and everyone left with promises to come back next year. Look for another Alumni vs. Lady Eagles volleyball match in the spring of 2008.†

Department of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies Inaugural Banquet and Toussaint Scholarship

On April 11, the Department of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies held its first honors banquet in the Krasa Center. More than 100 alumni, faculty, staff and students were in attendance. The program consisted of honoring graduating seniors and recognized Frank, Ph.D., C85, and Marianne Agnoli, C86, with the department’s alumni service award. In addition, Laura Johnson was given the department’s first annual Student Excellence Award for 2007.

A special recognition was given to faculty member Bernard Toussaint, Ph.D., C56, for his years of service to the University by honoring him with a scholarship started in his name. The presentation was delivered by his son, Bernard Toussaint, Jr., C80. His entire family was there for the presentation.

To donate to the Toussaint Scholarship, please contact Joan Henehan at (630) 829-6074 or jhenehan@ben.edu.†

College of Business Reunion and Dibblee Scholarship

The College of Business held its annual reunion on April 12 in the Krasa Center. Twenty-five alumni and friends were in attendance to enjoy an evening with old acquaintances. The highlight of the evening was honoring retiring professor David Dibblee with a scholarship in his name. Both faculty and alumni had great stories to share about Dibblee. Once this scholarship is fully funded, it will be awarded to an accounting student in either the day or evening program per his wishes.

To donate, please contact Chrystal Maxwell at (630) 829-6361 or cmaxwell@ben.edu.†

College of Science Alumni Reunion

On April 27, alumni, friends, faculty and staff gathered to celebrate the work and years of dedicated service of Biology professor John Mickus, Ph.D. The reception took place at the Jurica Nature Museum where everyone was able to enjoy the newest displays. The group then went to the Krasa Center for a wonderful dinner. The 60 attendees enjoyed fun stories from Don Taylor, Ph.D., dean, College of Science; Ralph Meeker, Ph.D., C67, Computer Science professor and Larry Kamin, Ph.D., Biology professor.

While Mickus is not retiring, he has stepped down from his position as dean of the College of Science. He stated, “I have returned to my second love, which is teaching biology. My first love will always be my wife Mary and my family.” It was a wonderful evening of networking with old friends and celebration.†

Fifth Annual Alumni “Loop” After-Hours

The Union League Club was the site for the annual Chicago Loop Alumni After-Hours. Approximately 25 alumni attended the event and enjoyed food, beverages and good company. Alumnus David Fischer, C76 said, “If a person can’t have a good
Those in attendance shared old stories and updated each other on what was new in their lives. But the day didn’t end with the reception, the baseball alumni were treated to their first time playing under the lights on the new baseball field. The event was successful as everyone got in some playing time and no one was added to the injured reserve list.

**Baseball Alumni Reunion**

April 21 was a beautiful spring afternoon and perfect for the baseball alumni reunion. More than 70 alumni and families spent the afternoon watching the Eagles take on Edgewood College from the deck of the skybox at the Sports Complex. Unfortunately the Eagles were defeated in both games, but the mood at the reunion was upbeat.

Those in attendance shared old stories and updated each other on what was new in their lives. But the day didn’t end with the reception, the baseball alumni were treated to their first time playing under the lights on the new baseball field. The event was successful as everyone got in some playing time and no one was added to the injured reserve list.

**Department of Music Awards Dinner**

The Department of Music held its Annual Music Awards Dinner — A Celebration of the Art of Music — on May 18. In attendance were alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff, trustees and friends of the University’s music program. Entertainment was provided by the Benedictine Student Jazz Ensemble. Recipients of this year’s awards were: Hema Sathia, C02, Distinguished Alumnus Award; Rosemary Wisnosky, Trustee, Friend of the Arts Award; Marc Stingley and Stephen Million, Teacher Excellence Award; Thomas Sedlacek, Jr., C07, Senior Performance Award and David Striker, Registrar, Distinguished Honor Award. Special thanks go to the sponsors of this evening: Lt. Comm. Richard, C76, and Therese, C76, Becker and Darryl Boggs, C81.

**Class Notes Winners from Spring 2007**

Maggie Augustyn, C99; Kevin Krause C92; Mary, C87, and Glenn, C87, Jendra

If your name is listed here, then you have won a prize from the Office of Alumni Affairs. Congratulations:

In upcoming issues of *Voices*, three people who appear in the class notes section will be randomly chosen to win an alumni prize (one win per person during duration of promotion).

If you are one of these lucky winners, please contact Julie Nelligan before October 15, 2007, to collect your prize. Good luck and keep sending in those class notes!

**“Phantom of the Opera” Tickets**

Benedictine University has tickets to “Phantom of the Opera” in Chicago. Check the alumni Web site for dates, times and ticket sale information.

**Attention New Alumni—We Have a Benefit for You!**

If you have recently graduated, you may have found yourself without health insurance coverage. Whether your student health insurance has ended, you no longer are eligible for coverage under your parents’ policy or you have started a new job but the health care plan hasn’t kicked in yet, we have a great offer for you.

The Benedictine University Alumni Association has teamed up with American Insurance Administrators (AIA) to offer you a short-term medical insurance plan especially for new graduates. With GradMed® both accidents and illnesses are covered (excluding pre-existing conditions). Rates are reasonable and next day coverage is available.

Apply online at gradmed.com/Ben or call toll-free at (800) 922-1245. More details are available at www.ben.edu/alumni.
Golden Eagles Reunion

After being honored at the 114th Commencement Convocation on Sunday, May 20, the Golden Eagles gathered for a reunion and lunch in the Krasa Center. Ten alumni attended the event and enjoyed stories from the “old days” of St. Procopius College.

This group consisted of men who either began or graduated 50 years ago. Don Lapa, C57, flew in the furthest from California and brought with him a lot of memorabilia from his days in college for all to enjoy. After lunch, everyone took a tour of the campus and were very impressed with the changes that have taken place. Thank you, Golden Eagles, for all you have done to support Benedictine University and the great memories you share.

2007 Alumni Picnic

On June 24, 66 alumni and family members gathered on campus for the return of the annual Alumni Picnic. While hot dogs and hamburgers were cooking on the grill, games for all ages were underway. An exciting bean bag tournament ensued with the winning team receiving Benedictine Heritage Wine.

The kids’ area was active with Cloe the Clown painting faces, a duck pond, coloring contests and a moon jump. Everyone gathered for a water balloon toss, which was welcomed on such a warm summer day. Attendees had a great time and were looking forward to next year’s picnic, which is scheduled for Sunday, June 29, 2008.

Come back to campus next summer and join in the fun. For more information, contact Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.

Stay Connected . . . Upcoming University Events

For updates on alumni events, go to our Web site at www.ben.edu/alumni or call (630) 829-6077.
GREENING BENEDICTINE

In chapter 64 of the Rule of St. Benedict, abbots are warned to steward resources, human and material, carefully: “...remember to whom [you] will have ‘to give an account of [your] stewardship’” (Luke 16:2). Just recently, Pope Benedict described new sins, including ecological abuse and excessive consumption, and now the Vatican has been equipped with solar panels. Tending to environmental issues is the natural nexus between faith and reason, between science and humanities, and between humans and creation — the place we prize so highly at Benedictine University.

Scientists warn with increasing urgency that we may be reaching a tipping point in climate change. Babies are born contaminated with a toxic array of pesticides, phthalates and other environmental chemicals; cancer, Parkinson’s Disease, autism, asthma and other environmentally linked diseases are on the rise. According to the World Health Organization, more than one billion people use unsafe water sources. The time is right for Benedictine University to go green and step-up its environmental efforts.

As part of a three-year, campus-wide effort to green Benedictine, the University is planning an array of courses, events, speakers and activities. Elizabeth Kolbert’s book

As part of these environmental efforts, the University has begun examining its own carbon footprint and environmental practices. Last spring, Jay L. Stuart (Sodexo) director of campus services, accepted a Clean Air Counts award on behalf of Benedictine for helping to reduce ozone problems in the Chicago region.

Benedictine was also recognized for a reduction in energy consumption made possible by a grant from The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation to increase lighting efficiency. The Jurica Tallgrass Prairie supervised by Larry Kamin, Ph.D., was also recognized. In addition, 75 percent of the demolition rubble from Kohlbeck Hall was diverted from landfills and will be recycled in various ways, which will support LEED certification of the new building (story on page 21). Sodexo, also the campus dining services provider, buys Fair Trade coffee and uses potato- and corn-starch disposable items.

At the heart of the University’s institutional mission is a commitment to prepare people “for a lifetime as active, informed and responsible citizens and leaders in the world community.” There is a growing need for enlightened business leaders who are able to find creative ways to benefit not only their organizations, but also society as a whole. In the upcoming academic year, the University’s M.B.A. program in the College of Business will offer two new concentrations to help prepare the next generation of business leaders:

- Sustainable Business and Sustainable Leadership (see story page 23).

Because environmental concerns like clean air, water and food are basic to the health of the public, Benedictine’s Master of Public Health program requires students to take the Environment and Public Health and Biology and Public Health courses to assess the soundness of local environments. The College of Liberal Arts and the College of Science are exploring an Environmental Studies major that emphasizes economic, social and policy issues of environmental science.

Each year, the University will present a full slate of educational opportunities, identify additional ways to reduce its institutional footprint and start conversations that will lead to best practices in sustainability. All parts of the University will be engaged in this effort — academic and business — as this exciting process begins.

St. Benedict admonished abbots, as well as the rest of the community, to listen not just to the most senior of the monks, but also to the youngest, the least in rank. The University hopes to model for its students a better way of co-existing with the world and also to provide them opportunities to take the lead in caring for this precious gift — Earth.

“A kind heart is a fountain of gladness, making everything in its vicinity freshen into smiles.” WASHINGTON IRVING
More than 1,050 students were awarded associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees this graduating year. The 115th Commencement Convocation was held on campus at the Village of Lisle-Benedictine University Sports Complex on May 18.

The featured speaker at this year’s event was Judith A. Whinfrey, a member of the Board of Directors of Hewitt Associates and a trustee of Benedictine University. When Whinfrey began her career at Hewitt Associates it was a small actuarial consulting firm. It now has grown to become a $3 billion global firm specializing in human resources consulting and outsourcing. She is also the chair of the Academic Affairs Committee at Benedictine, the chair of the Board of Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield and a board member of S&C Electric Company of Chicago.

**Procopian Award**

**Amina Tahira Waheed** (Lisle)

The Procopian Award is the highest honor the University can bestow upon a graduating senior. This award is given for consistently outstanding curricular and extracurricular activities while at the University.

**Thomas J. Dyba Leadership Award**

**Kiera O’Brien Vizza** (Evergreen Park)

The Thomas J. Dyba Leadership Award is awarded to a student for outstanding ability to initiate and organize worthwhile activities, to encourage and direct the cooperative efforts of others and to command respect as a campus leader.

**Service Award**

**Ericka Estelle Sanders** (Chicago)

The Service Award is awarded for outstanding service to the University in general and to fellow students in particular.

**Community Service Award**

**Leia Marie Roeges** (Oak Park)

The Community Service Award is awarded for outstanding service in religious, educational, social or political activities.

The recipients of the Awards in Academic Honors included:

- **Anne Elisabeth Perkins** (Alpena, Mich.), College of Business
- **Bradley Thomas Callard** (Rolling Meadows), College of Education and Health Services
- **Kristyn Danielle Bales** (Downers Grove) and **Debra Ann Witczak** (Darien), College of Science
- **Gail Catherine Bush** (Elmhurst), College of Liberal Arts
Demolition of Kohlbeck Hall concluded this summer. The second oldest building on campus, Kohlbeck Hall, was named after Abbot Valentine Kohlbeck, O.S.B. (1864-1937), the fourth president of St. Procopius College (now Benedictine University), and was dedicated on March 28, 1960. In its heyday, it housed almost 150 students. After the building was deemed uninhabitable and sat empty for many years, the building was offered to the Lisle-Woodridge Fire District in 2001 to use for training purposes.

As part of the campus rejuvenation and expansion, Kohlbeck was torn down to provide necessary space for the future growth of the University.

In an effort to be stewards of the environment, 75 percent of all demolition material was diverted from landfills and directed to a recycling program. This effort earned the University two green credits toward Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for new construction.

If you have memories of Kohlbeck Hall you would like to share, please e-mail lhale@ben.edu.
Trustee Profile: Michael J. Birck — Pioneer, Risk-taker and Entrepreneur

by Rita A. Dougherty

It was a 1974 conversation with a friend and business colleague at a Fourth of July barbecue at the Birck home that would eventually lead to the large Tellabs building on Diehl Road, and to Mike Birck’s contributions to the master plan of this company.

After earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University, and a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from New York University, Birck went to work as an engineer at Bell Laboratories but left there after a few years to work for a company with the potential for equity ownership. The ownership concept remained only in the talking stage but led to that very important Fourth of July conversation.

Birck and his six partners collected all of the money they could from mortgaging homes and selling stock to accrue $110,000 which allowed them to get a loan from Citizen’s Bank of Downers Grove. They took no salary for the first year, relying on their wives (who were working) to support their families. The Birck sons, Kevin and Christopher, began working at Tellabs after college. They still recall early days of sitting around the kitchen table stuffing envelopes of information to send to prospective customers.

When an AT&T supervisor inspected the production of a proposed product in 1978, Birck and his partners had only a handful of employees, so they drafted family members and friends so it looked as though about 25 people were working the assembly line. They got the job and they were on their way. Even though Birck thrives on competition, whether it is building a company, playing golf or watching a football game, his competitors and friends describe him as a down-to-earth CEO with no pretensions or arrogance.

Birck is currently Chairman of the Board and Executive Chairman of Tellabs. He is the historian of the company and preserves the culture of the corporation.

In the 1980s Birck began putting research and development dollars into “digital cross-connects” – software-controlled switching devices that handle large volumes of high-speed voice and data traffic on telephone networks. The product was called the TITAN and it became key to the growth of the company.

Initially, Tellabs’ best-known products were “echo cancellers” that improve voice quality over phones, including cellular phones. Today, the company is best-known for its optically-based access and transport products which advance telecommunications networks to meet the evolving needs of users. Solutions from Tellabs enable service providers to deliver high-quality voice, video and data services over wire-line and wireless networks around the world.

When Birck’s youngest son, Christopher, enrolled at Illinois Benedictine College (now Benedictine University), Birck became a member of the President’s Advisory Council (PAC), which later became the first Board of Trustees.

Christopher graduated from Benedictine and pursued a master’s degree. He worked at Tellabs for a short time and is now in finance. Kevin, the elder son, graduated from Purdue University and initially worked at Tellabs in sales. He is now a part of an operations group. Joni, the middle child, has an engineering degree from Purdue and is currently raising four children.

Birck followed Joe Kindlon as Chairman of the Board at Benedictine and headed the search committee that hired William J. Carroll, current president of Benedictine. The contributions to the University by Birck and his wife, Kay, have been memorialized by naming the Michael and Kay Birck Hall of Science after them.

The role of Trustee is taken seriously by Birck and he is faithful in attending three annual meetings as well as serving on the Executive Committee. Trustees oversee the mission and vision of the University, appoint its president and CEO and confirm appointments of other administrative officers and faculty. Trustees also approve the University’s business planning and budget as well as granting both earned and honorary degrees. The Board reports to certain groups and agencies, such as the State of Illinois, the monks who founded the University and education accrediting agencies.

Birck also serves on the Board of Trustees at Purdue University and the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Molex Incorporated in Lisle.

With all of the time and effort spent building the company, he still found time to spend with his family including coaching his sons’ baseball teams. He enjoys tennis and golf and currently spends part of the year in Naples, Fla. with his wife. Prior to her retirement, Kay worked as a head nurse at Women’s Health Care of Hinsdale.

Birck demonstrates the best qualities of a trustee, pioneer, risk-taker and entrepreneur. He gives of his time, talent and treasure to help “Carry the Light” of the University.
The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) program at Benedictine has received initial accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

The CCNE Board of Commissioners awarded the maximum five-year term to the B.S.N. program for registered nurses (R.N.). CCNE is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education to accredit professional nursing education programs.

“The commission, through this accreditation, is demonstrating its belief in our program and the efforts by our faculty and staff to continually improve,” said Ethel Ragland, Ed.D., chair of the Nursing and Health Department at Benedictine. “They are also expressing their confidence that the program will continue to grow and be successful.”

Benedictine’s R.N. to B.S.N. completion program has partnered with community colleges to provide registered nurses with the skills and knowledge necessary to undertake leadership positions where they work and further their education at the graduate level.

The accelerated one-year program builds on previous knowledge, emphasizes critical thinking and grants credit for prior learning. Classes are offered in an evening and weekend format, and are held at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn and at Triton College in River Grove. The program offers a private education at tuition competitive with state schools.

NEW THEOLOGY MAJOR AND CERTIFICATE

The study of theology plays an important role in the dialogue between faith and reason and helps students relate faith-based beliefs to issues of day-to-day life at work and in society.

Beginning with the 2008-2009 academic year, the University will offer a Bachelor of Arts in Theology. The program will prepare students with the communication skills and general knowledge to succeed in a wide variety of careers.

The program is designed for those who seek a critical, academic engagement with Roman Catholicism. Theology was once known as the Queen of Sciences at medieval universities, and its revival at Benedictine will allow the University to revitalize the subject matter and bring theological education into dialogue with the other disciplines at the University, such as the Transformation Seminars.

Although theology is usually taught as preparation for ministry, Benedictine’s theology program is designed for students who want to pursue careers in law, business, education, science or communications. Students should be as intellectually sophisticated about their faith as their secular career.

Students who choose a theology major can combine it with other programs to allow them to graduate with a dual major, or they can major in theology and minor in education, science or business. They would also be qualified to pursue advanced degrees in theology or pastoral ministry.

Benedictine is also offering a certificate program for adults in theology. The Theology in Life Certificate Program aims to present Catholic theology in a course structure designed for a lay person who desires a deeper understanding of the application of Catholic theology to the great questions of human life.

The certificate program requires students to take four courses: “Theology of Love” which examines the concept of “God is Love” as the basis for all theological work; “Theology of Freedom,” which examines the concept of freedom as it relates to the problems of evil, human action and creativity; “Theology of Justice,” which examines the idea of justice in relation to the redeeming death of Christ and issues of individual and social justice; and “Theology and Science,” which examines the relationship of faith and reason.

For more information about these programs, contact the College of Liberal Arts at (630) 829-6247 or visit www.ben.edu/programs/liberal arts.

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS AND SUSTAINABLE LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATIONS

At the heart of Benedictine’s institutional mission is a commitment to prepare people “for a lifetime as active, informed and responsible citizens and leaders in the world community.”

Few managers emerge from business schools prepared to be values-driven leaders and to integrate broader societal change into business opportunities. In response to this challenge of preparing the next generation of business leaders to effectively shape the future of corporations to benefit society as well as the bottom line, two new graduate business concentrations will be offered during the 2008-09 academic year: Sustainable Business and Sustainable Leadership.

Sustainable Business will prepare students to excel at the leading edge of the new sustainability revolution. This concentration offers courses that focus on understanding the broad impact of sustainability issues, identifying the strategic opportunities that are emerging, and successfully integrating sustainability principles throughout the organization.

The Sustainable Leadership concentration will explore various models of leadership and help students analyze their own leadership qualities, current case best practices of corporate responsibility and sustainability integrating corporate responsibility/sustainability within their own industries, and the changing global demands placed on contemporary leaders.

For more information, contact Susan Stackley, at (630) 829-6210 or sstackley@ben.edu.
University launches Center for Values-Driven Leadership

Business leaders like David Packard of Hewlett-Packard and James Burke of Johnson & Johnson are admired not only for their capacity to build great enterprises but for their commitment to integrity and service to society. They were innovators and entrepreneurs who harnessed opportunities to win in the marketplace but also led from a deep sense of purpose and a profound commitment to their core values — values like honesty, integrity, discipline, stewardship, dedication to customers, care for people and social responsibility.

Today, there are hundreds of leaders and corporations — such as John Deere, McDonald’s, Motorola, Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Advanced Micro Devices, NIKE, Intel, Interface, Dell, Herman Miller and many others — who share these values-based commitments. They are fiercely competitive and focused on excelling in the marketplace, but they also believe that corporations exist for a higher purpose, and that purpose includes responsibility for all stakeholders — shareholders, customers, employees, communities and the natural environment.

This year, with the active support of Benedictine President William Carroll, and under the direction of Sandra Gill, Ph.D., dean of the College of Business and Jim Ludema, Ph.D., professor of Organization Development, the University has launched the Center for Values-Driven Leadership.

The Center is designed as a dynamic learning alliance in which Benedictine faculty, staff and students will collaborate with top universities, corporations, executives, thought leaders and other partners to study the dynamics, tell the stories and develop the capacities of values-driven leaders worldwide.

“Consistent with Benedictine’s growing international stature and reputation, our vision is to make the Center one of the world’s leading providers of practitioner-oriented research and education on values-driven leadership, sustainable business and corporate social responsibility. It will shape the College of Business for years, if not decades, to come,” said Gill.

The following educational programs, research initiatives and outreach opportunities are planned for the Center.

**Executive Roundtables** — one-day events, held two times a year, for 20-30 senior leaders from select corporations for informal benchmarking and idea sharing around “hot topics” of common interest, such as how to build a values-driven organization, how to build organizational bench strength for the future and how to make sustainability profitable.

**Ph.D. Program in Values-Driven Leadership** — a state-of-the-art three-year program for senior executives modeled after our award-winning Ph.D. program in Organization Development, is planned to begin in fall 2011. The program will focus on executive leadership development, leading high-performing organizations, sustainable business and leading in today’s global political economy.

**Research Initiatives**

To expand and strengthen the impact of research initiatives, the Center will create:

**Values-Driven Leadership Web Portal** — a simple yet sophisticated interactive Web presence that gives people around the world direct and immediate access to the Center’s programs and research output. It will include “Leadership Learning Power Packs” — teaching cases and multimedia materials on values-driven leadership and sustainable business that can be used by leaders in corporations or for undergraduate, graduate and executive education curricula.

**World Fellows Program** — leveraging the University’s existing networks and building new connections with leading scholars and executives from around the world to collaborate on significant research questions, enrich the learning environment and extend the Center’s impact.

**Values-Driven Leadership Research Fund** — an endowed fund to provide seed money for ground-breaking research by Benedictine faculty and doctoral students and by select World Fellows and partner institutions.

**Outreach Opportunities**

In the area of outreach, the Center will offer:

**Values-Driven Leadership Summit** — an annual conference (planned to begin in fall 2009) designed to attract top scholars and executives to explore new frontiers in leadership and sustainable business.

**Executive Field Corps** — opportunities for executives and retired executives to serve as advisors and fellows of the Center to conduct field visits with the aim of leveraging business knowledge and methods to build capacity and success in field sites.

“I am very excited about the Center and its potential for making a significant and enduring impact on a global scale in the areas of sustainability, social responsibility and values-driven leadership. The world is calling for this kind of business leadership, and there’s no better place to study it and develop it than at Benedictine University. The Center and its mission are fully congruent with our Catholic heritage and offer a bold, new and timely expression of our core Benedictine values,” said Carroll.†
The Benedictine community is continuing its outreach to the two villages of Sisters Beatrice Kayombo and Afra Mgwama in Tanzania.

The faculty and staff of Benedictine, thanks to efforts championed by Isobel Lobo (Economics), contributed money that helped to purchase sewing machines, cloth and material for roof repairs in Tanzania in 2006. This past year, Warren and Margaret Roth (professor emeritus) were able to gather funds from their church community to provide a much-needed washing machine. In addition, the Benedictine University Unity Foundation contributed “Benedictine Cares” T-shirts for the children of the village orphanage.

As part of their RHET 103 service-learning project, Benedictine students made and sold crepes to raise funds for a fact-finding trip to Njombe, Tanzania this year. This trip enabled volunteers to see how the University community can continue to work with the Sisters and their villages to help improve conditions there.

The latest efforts involve partnering with Global Family Rescue to see if the Sister’s dreams of a new orphanage and medical clinic can come true. In addition, through the added efforts of Benedictine alumna Karen Maloney, M.D., C79, and her heart for mission work, efforts are being made to organize ongoing mission trips to the area so Benedictine health science majors and all other interested students can gain clinical hours doing service learning.

Because of the generous contributions of many people, the volunteer group that recently set off to Tanzania had suitcases filled with clothing, shoes and school and medical supplies, including a microscope donated to the Sisters as their first piece of medical equipment for the hospital.

Donald B. Taylor, Ph.D., former dean of the College of Science at the University, has been named Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

“I am excited by the opportunity to lead our faculty who are strongly committed to excellence in liberal arts and science, graduate and professional education,” Taylor said. “I care deeply about Benedictine University, our students, faculty, staff and alumni. I look forward to working with the community to help Benedictine maximize its incredible potential.”

“He has exhibited the utmost desire to help the University. There is no better individual to guide the University’s academic programs. Dr. Taylor’s integrity, leadership and passion will serve Benedictine well now and into the future.”

Taylor earned a bachelor of science in secondary education and a doctorate in cell and molecular biology from Memphis State University. He began his tenure at the University in 1992 as an assistant professor and coordinator of the molecular biology program.

In 1995, Taylor was promoted to associate professor and two years later was named the William M. Scholl Endowed Professor in Health Sciences. Taylor was named a full professor in 2000, served as chair of the Department of Biology from 2002-2005 and was named dean of the College of Science in 2005.

“I strongly ascribe to the notion that a key role of the Provost is to secure the necessary resources to hire, mentor, evaluate and promote the highest quality faculty possible. Our students deserve nothing less. I also believe strongly in securing the necessary resources to move our academic programs to a higher level,” Taylor said.

“I believe in being innovative and taking measured risks for the achievement of academic success,” Taylor added. “We must empower faculty, staff and students to strive to continue to enhance the quality of education and not rest on our laurels.”

He and his wife, Lechia, have a son and live in Sycamore, Ill.
The Center for Mission and Identity 2007-08 Update:
Promoting and Enhancing our Catholic and Benedictine Traditions

Guests at the Convocation for Faculty and Administrators of Catholic Universities included Cardinal George and Bishop Sartain.

The University’s Center for Mission and Identity (CMI) has focused its efforts on promoting the characteristics and values that enhance the institution’s Catholic and Benedictine identity. This was a phenomenal year for bringing the University into the spotlight as both a powerful force in promoting Catholic teaching as well as becoming a leader in Benedictine pedagogical discussions.

“Catholic colleges and universities have been attempting to gain a stronger sense of their unique mission and identity as Catholic institutions of higher learning since 1990 when “Ex Corde Ecclesiae” was issued by Pope John Paul II,” said Alicia Cordoba Tait, director of the Center for Mission and Identity at the University.

“The association of Benedictine colleges and universities has been studying the uniqueness of a Benedictine education by focusing on a common set of hallmarks,” she added. “As Catholic schools rich in the Benedictine tradition, we provide our students with an education that is current and relevant yet reflective of the Benedictine emphasis on service and prayer.”

CMI addresses faculty, student and staff needs relevant to the integration of Christian beliefs and practices into the curriculum and in all facets of campus life. Through programs and activities, CMI discusses and encourages adherence to and maintenance of elements of Catholic identity throughout the University, as presented in Ex Corde Ecclesiae while also developing common terms and understandings of the values set forth by the Association of Benedictine Colleges and Universities (ABCU). The University supports and provides resources for scholarship in the Catholic Intellectual and Benedictine Wisdom Traditions.

This past academic year saw CMI host the 2008 Convocation for Faculty and Administrators from Chicagoland Catholic Universities and Colleges. One-hundred-eighteen people attended the event from local Catholic schools including DePaul, Dominican, Lewis, Loyola, St. Francis, St. Xavier and Benedictine. Engaging Islam in Chicagoland Catholic Universities and Colleges in 2008 was the theme. A thought provoking panel presentation along with a question-and-answer session was led by His Eminence Francis Cardinal George and Bishop Peter J. Sartain. The panel also included faculty members from Dominican and DePaul, a chaplain from Loyola and Amina Waheed, Political Science, C08.

In May, Benedictine hosted the Second Annual Benedictine Pedagogy Conference. In the inaugural year of the event, only four schools attended and most of the participants were from our own institution. This year, 11 academic institutions were represented from all over the country. Sixty-four participants listened to and/or presented on issues focused on how Benedictines express themselves as particularly Benedictine. Representatives attending the conference discussed the significance of the set of values or “hallmarks” common to Benedictine academic institutions, and how those hallmarks — love, prayer, stability, conversation, obedience, discipline, humility, stewardship, hospitality and community — affect teaching, research and personal and institutional spirituality.

Another successful component of CMI again this year was the Visiting Scholar in Catholic Thought Series. The University welcomed two speakers, Melanie Morey and Sr. Eva Hooker. Morey focused on women’s issues in the church while Sr. Eva discussed the Catholic imagination through poetry.

The theme of Globalization and the Catholic Church permeated most of the rest of the year’s events. The monthly Conversatio Round Table Discussions were so well-attended that a larger venue will be needed for the next one.

The Faith and Reason Symposium held in March brought a distinguished group of faculty together to present on issues from global warming to overpopulation. The same weekend, CMI and the Department of Music co-hosted a Concert for World Peace. All of the musicians donated their time for the performance of works representing the faiths of Islam, Judaism and Christianity to support the work of Beit Benedikt Peace Academy. The end of the year Summer Faculty Workshop brought faculty from various disciplines and faith backgrounds together to discuss the roots of the Catholic tradition and their application to teaching and scholarship.

CMI also was involved in promotion and discussion of ideas that “Carry the Light” of the University’s Catholic and Benedictine traditions. The Benedictine community is encouraged to participate in upcoming events. For more information and event dates please visit the CMI Web page at www.ben.edu/cmi.
Paul Rusesabagina drew huge crowds to the Rice Center on campus as he recalled his life story during a presentation titled “Hotel Rwanda: A Lesson Yet to be Learned,” during the Third Annual Civic Leadership Conference sponsored by the Center for Civic Leadership this past April.

In 1994 in Rwanda, large-scale genocide was executed by the Hutu tribes against the Tutsi tribes. One million people were killed, but many were saved by the efforts of ordinary people like Rusesabagina. His willingness to help those in need was the inspiration behind the 2004 film “Hotel Rwanda.” He did not go along with many of his fellow Hutu tribesmen who believed that all Tutsis were “cockroaches” that deserved to die. At the war’s outbreak, Rusesabagina was only a hotel manager with some modest connections. Nevertheless, he managed to save more than 1,200 lives from certain death and worked hard to do the right thing.

As the hotel manager, Rusesabagina dealt with all the different problems that arose. For instance, no fresh water meant boiling the swimming pool water and consuming it for survival. Also, due to a limited and dwindling food supply, everyone was given a ration of two small meals per day. Because the hotel was attacked many times, Rusesabagina’s main concern was to provide security and protection for all the occupants. Genocide is considered a crime against humanity and is still happening around the world in places like the Darfur region of Sudan.

“To solve such problems, the solution will not be by the gun or by force, but by the power of words. Only 30 people have been caught in the 14 years since the genocide in Rwanda occurred. Many of those responsible have escaped justice. We will never be satisfied until justice has been served. We believe in truth, the power of words and in finding an everlasting solution to the problem of genocide,” said Rusesabagina.

In addition to the movie, Rusesabagina has brought attention to the problem of genocide in other ways as well, including founding the Hotel Rwanda Rusesabagina Foundation which provides support to the women and children affected by genocide.

“The most important things a person can do to help are raise awareness, donate funds, sign petitions and attend rallies. Do anything, but do something,” said Rusesabagina.

(Reprinted, in part, with permission from The Candor.)

Center for Civic Leadership Hosts Inspiration Behind “Hotel Rwanda”

University hosts National Day of Prayer

Renowned theologian Rev. Dr. Erwin Lutzer was the guest speaker at the National Day of Prayer Breakfast held in May at the University. More than 200 people attended the breakfast, which marked the celebration of an event created in 1952 and designated as a day when people of all faiths pray to the God of their understanding.

Lutzer spoke to those who sought to “commercialize” God following 9/11.

“God is being banished in America,” he said, alluding to movements to eliminate references to God from daily life. “Although after 9/11 God is back, but he is not the God of the Bible. He is more a civil God, as in, ‘God bless our economy.’

“The question is not, ‘Is God on our side.’ The question is, are we on His?” Lutzer said. “I do not believe that we as a country have a claim on God, but I do believe that God has a claim on us. He has a claim on us because He has blessed us.”

The National Day of Prayer Breakfast at Benedictine also featured the music of the DuPage African Methodist Episcopal Church Praise Team under the direction of Sam English and a benediction by Rev. Cindy Karas of the Knox Presbyterian Church of Naperville.

Model UN team named “Distinguished Delegation” and “Honorable Mention” at NY conference

The United Nations delegations from Benedictine University continue to out-perform real-world counterparts.

Members of the 2008 Model United Nations Delegation included:

head delegate Jennifer Amy Erickson, head delegate Ayesha Farooq and project leader Amina Waheed.

The members of the Angola delegation winning “Distinguished Delegation” were: Payam Abbassian, Laura Elizabeth Baier, Suzanne Bonnevey, Mona Desai, Sadaf Fatani, Vincent Francois Harmonic, Shahr Hassan, Angel Morata, Alfan Mujagic, Bill O’Brien, Sarah Sharara, Mehreen Sherwani, Nabiha Siddiqui, Ewelina Stachulak, James Thompson and Amy Zayed.

The members of the Palestine delegation winning “Honorable Mention” were: Basil Ali, Zachary Augustine, Marine Comte-Trotet, Tauseef Ehteramuddin, Remy Genet, Matt Kunz, Tetyana Napora, Tim O’Connell, Adil Saeed, Kamran Sherwani, Fadi Shihadeh and Rama Wahood.
St. Procopius Academy/College

Class of 1940
Stephen S. Pribil, Academy, celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary with his wife Agnes. He is a retired farmer residing in Bison, OK.

Class of 1966
John T. Doody, Jr., Political Science, is a circuit court judge in Cook County, IL. He presides over criminal cases at the 26th and California Criminal Courthouse. He is also former mayor of Homewood and a former State Representative. He has been married to his wife, Janet, for more than 32 years and has two children and two grandchildren. He was recently inducted into the Village of Homewood Hall of Fame and is seeking the position of village presidency in Lansing, IL.

Illinois Benedictine College

Class of 1976
Mike Rahn, Mathematics, is retiring after 32 years as an actuarial consultant. He will enjoy his time playing golf, fishing and visiting his new grandson.

Class of 1975
William J. Corley, Business and Economics, is vice president of labor relations for Indexex in Lincolnshire, IL. He and his wife, Denise, reside in Oak Lawn, IL.

Class of 1977
Frank V. Aguille, M.D., Biology, is the recipient of the Southern Illinois University’s School of Medicine’s distinguished alumni award for 2008. Currently, he is the clinical associate professor of internal medicine and chair of the cardiology division at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield, IL. He also has a full-time practice with Prairie Cardiovascular Consultants in Springfield.

Class of 1978
Bill Lisowski, Literature and Communications, M.B.A. ’83, has accepted the position of senior vice president of vendor management with IPT of Hartford, CT. He will be managing a staff of 30 people and assisting in their efforts at procuring service providers.

Class of 1982
John Foley, Political Science, is the author of the successful novel “Hoops of Steel.” In addition to this book, he wrote a sequel called “Running With the Wind,” and his most recent novel, due for release in the summer of 2009, is tentatively titled “A Mighty Wall.” He has also written an Alaska memoir called “Tundra Teacher.” His current day job is teaching English at Ridgefield High School in Washington. He lives with his wife, Julie, in nearby Vancouver.

Class of 1986
Donald Sciackitano, Literature and Communication, has officially announced his bid to seek the village presidency in Lansing, IL. Sciackitano is a former village trustee and life-long resident of Lansing and is seeking the position on a newly-formed independent ticket.

Maurice Bell, Political Science, has accepted the position of senior manager — sales strategy for the Gatorade/Propel Business Unit at PepsiCo. Bell has held various positions in finance and sales for the company’s food service and vendor business, acted as senior key account manager — small format, and most recently as manager — division field sales for Gatorade in its central division.

Class of 1988
Stephen Rittenhouse, M.B.A., was selected for the Woodland Hall of Fame. He earned his undergraduate degree form Illinois State University. Rittenhouse served as chief financial officer/chief operation officer for a national architectural firm, as director of finance for another national architectural firm and as director of finance for an international law firm prior to forming Consolidated Operation Group, Inc. (COG), of which he is president and CEO. COG provides consulting services to businesses in the areas of human resources. Rittenhouse currently serves on the board of directors to several groups including COG, 4240 Architecture Inc., Heilman & Associates Inc. and Chicago Users Group. He also belongs to many professional organizations including American Institute of Architects Association of Legal Administrators, QuickBooks Pro Advisor, Society of Human Resource Management, Toastmasters International, Deltek Affiliated Partners and Chicago Vision Users Group. He is a member of Bethany Lutheran Church and holds his private pilot’s license. Currently, he resides in Naperville with his wife, LeeAnn.

Class of 1990
Stephanie M. Jones, M.D., Nuclear Medicine Technology, is an internal medicine physician practicing in Topeka, KS. She tries to help people “live simple” and is currently learning how to farm.

Class of 1991
Diane Ogiela, Ph.D., Psychology, earned her doctoral degree in Speech-language Pathology at Michigan State University in May 2007. In fall 2007, she began a research fellowship at the University of Texas-Dallas. She and her husband, John Ader, M.D., C89, Spanish, are currently living in Carrollton, TX with their son, Logan (7), and daughter, Marlena (3).

David C. Tantillo, M.P.H., M.B.A. ’94, has been appointed senior director, marketing and sales for Synvista Therapeutics in Montvale, NJ. He is responsible for planning and implementing commercialization of the company’s haptoglobin diagnostic test. Commercial launch of this product is scheduled for mid-2009. Prior to this, Tantillo was the director of strategic marketing at Alpharma Pharmaceuticals.

Class of 1993
Andreas Papakostas, Health Science, has three beautiful children, Mateo (9), Marcos (6) and Malina (4). Her international home business is doing extremely well. She also owns an upscale spa in Evanston, IL, as well as a holistic center in Plainfield, IL.

Kim Michael-Lee, M.B.A., has been hired as the director of the business division for the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). She will function as the chief financial officer and is responsible for providing the vision, strategic planning, leadership, development, implementation and ongoing management of the financial functions of the AVMA. She previously worked as vice president of finance for the national Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Class of 1994
Jeffrey A. Bockman, M.B.A., created Alenjes Publishing and has authored and published the book, “Give Your Family A Gift That Money Can’t Buy/Record & Preserve Your Family’s History.” The book encourages people to save documents and photos as well as telling the stories that make their family “their family.” He is also a lecturer and a contributing editor for the Everett’s Genealogical Helper magazine.

Jill Beda Daniels, Spanish, has left her law practice to stay home with her three children, Harper, Ellie and Tate. She has also started a Web-based business, Stitches So Sweet, which specializes in custom embroidery and gifts.

Voluntary Subscriptions to Voices
You can help supplement the cost of publishing and mailing Benedictine Voices, the alumni magazine. Your tax-deductible gift of $20 helps defray the mounting costs of production. This is strictly voluntary. You can enclose your donation in the attached contribution envelope.
Benedictine University

Class of 1998
Vikas Arora, D.O.,
Molecular Biology,
graduated from medical school at the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine earning her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree. She completed a three-year residency in adult psychiatry at the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science in North Chicago, IL. She also did a post-doctoral fellowship year in child and adolescent psychiatry at the Yale Child Study Center of the Yale University School of Medicine in 2007. Arora completed an addiction psychiatry post-doctoral fellowship at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in June 2008. She received a partial tuition scholarship at the Harvard School of Public Health where she will work to obtain a Master of Public Health degree.

Christopher B. Mays,
Special Education, recently resigned from the Detroit mayor’s office after serving as an assistant to the mayor for three years. He now works as an impact training specialist. Mays has two-year-old twins.

Class of 1999
Tammy Johndro-Pressley,
M.S.M.O.B., Health Administration, has been named director of external communications at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, IL. Her responsibilities include government relations and public affairs, community education, ThinkFirst injury prevention and media relations. Prior to this, she was manager of business development at Provena Mercy Medical Center in Aurora, IL.

Class of 2000
Kimberly Skarr,
History, has been promoted to director of student life and leadership at Kendall College in Chicago. She has had several roles at Kendall including adjunct instructor in Multicultural Dimensions in Society and most recently as a member of the Academic Advising Team.

Class of 2001
Charles Paul T. Anonuevo,
D.D.S.,
Molecular Biology, has been deployed to Iraq to support the mission of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is a dentist with the 31st Medical Company and has served in the military for two years.

Class of 2003
Jeffrey Benedek,
Finance, is currently taking online courses at the University of Maryland, University College to work on a Master of Science in Accounting and Financial Management.

Amy McPherson,
Biology, graduated with a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree from the Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science in June 2008. Her residency will take place at Loretto Hospital in Chicago.

Class of 2004
Kimyada Wellington,
M.B.A., was promoted in February 2008 to Sergeant First Class in the Illinois Army National Guard and celebrated 19 years of service in May 2008.

Jessica Thompson,
Special Education, earned her master’s degree in Literacy (M.A.E.D.) along with a certification as a reading specialist from Dominican University. She is a special education/reading specialist at an alternative school, grades 9-12 in Palatine, IL.

Class of 2006
Jessica Rojas,
M.C.P., is currently working at the Linden Oaks Hospital as a Lead Resource and Referral Counselor.

Class of 2007
Eileen Monsurate,
M.B.A., earned the Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) designation from the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) in March 2008. The ACFE’s Board of Regents awards this designation only to select professionals who meet a stringent set of criteria including character, experience and education.

Class of 2008
Todd Anderson,
M.B.A., has been named chief financial officer of Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital. Anderson, a Wheaton resident, has a bachelor’s degree in business administration, accounting and finance from Union College in Lincoln, NE and is a certified public accountant.

Births
Illinois Benedictine College
Liza Kane Strain,
Psychology C95, and husband, Jaime, announce the birth of their daughter, Clara Grace, on June 24, 2007. She joins their son, Peter (4).

Benedictine University
Sheri (Metzger) Narvaez,
Molecular Biology C97, along with her husband, Alfredo, welcomed a baby girl, Ava Rene, on June 30, 2007.

Tracy (Dixon) Richards,
Elementary Education C97, and husband, Erik Richards, Engineering Science C00, along with big sister, Natalie (2), welcomed baby brother, Dylan Patrick, on January 7, 2008. The Richards family resides in Naperville where Tracy teaches 7th grade Language Arts at Washington Jr. High and Erik is a Naperville Police Officer.

Beth Anne (Hamilton) Martin,
Spanish C98, and her husband, Thomas, had their second child, Ryan Joseph, on December 15, 2007. He joins sister, Maura (3). The family resides in the San Francisco Bay area.

Lynn (Guinta) Housing,
Writing and Publishing C99, and her husband, Mike, welcomed their first child, Cade Michael, on November 7, 2007.

Stephen Mares,
B.B.A. C00, and his wife, Christine, welcomed their son, Jackson Stephen, on Thursday, July 3, 2008.

Leigh (Nagy) Delhotal,
English Language and Literature C04, and her husband, Mark, welcomed their son, John “Jack” Dennis, on April 17, 2008.

Dan Wolff,
Sociology C05, and his wife, Katie (Graham) Wolff, Sociology C03, welcomed their baby daughter, Flynn Theresa, on September 27, 2007. Dan is the director of youth ministry for St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Crystal Lake, IL.

2009
Distinguished Alumni Recognition Awards

Nominees Needed:
The Alumni Association is accepting nominations for the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Recognition Awards:

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD
ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD
BENEDICTINE SPIRIT AWARD

Submit nominations to the Office of Alumni Relations, Benedictine University, 5700 College Rd. Lisle, IL 60532 or at www.ben.edu/alumni/awards.
Dear Dr. Carroll,

Throughout my time at Benedictine, I believe I ensconced myself within the fabric fairly well by serving as editor-in-chief of The Candid, reporting to the community as an anchor for Eye of The Eagle, performing with the chorus and participating in various community-wide events including Educare Ball. A few weeks ago, I attended a Candid event in Krasa and could not believe the incredible progress that has been made not only with regards to the student paper, but to the school in general. It makes me wish I could do it all over again!

I can honestly say now that I work in academia, how amazing Benedictine truly is and how grateful I am for the experiences I had there. I whole-heartedly believe that I am who I am today, and that I am a better person, all because of Benedictine. In addition, I owe a tremendous amount of gratitude to Mr. Peter Seely who served as my guide when I was a student, and who is still today a personal mentor and tremendous friend.

Sincerely yours,

Sam Madan, C00

Class Notes Winners from Spring 2008

Diane Barrera, C96 • Monica Thoms, C06 • Aamir Kamal, C99

If your name is listed here, then you have won a prize from the Office of Alumni Relations. Congratulations!

If you are one of these lucky winners, please contact Julie Nelligan at jnelligan@ben.edu before October 20, 2008 to collect your prize. Good luck and keep sending in those class notes!

Letters to the President:

Dear Dr. Carroll,

What a difference 50 years makes!

That was my reaction upon receiving the 2006-07 annual report issue of Voices magazine. I couldn’t help but dig out my copy of the 1968-69 annual report from St. Procopius College and compare fiscal data, gift income and recalling relationships with many whose names appeared in the honor roll.

My first remembrance with those years was your opening article eulogizing the passing of Joe Kindlon, a man whom I had the privilege of knowing as a newly named trustee and member of the President’s Advisory Council.

The most striking reference was when I skimmed over the financial information: [Figures from 1968-69 verses 2006-07 below.]

- Educational and General Revenue: $2.2 million vs. $54.2
- Gifts and Grants: $152,601 vs. $4 million
- Endowment/Investment Income: $15,146 vs. $3.4 million
- Tuition and Fees: $926,084 vs. $53.6 million

It is obvious from just these few comparisons of the mind-boggling events that have occurred over the past 50 years that have contributed to these striking numbers.

In looking over the honor roll, many names popped out that brought back many fond memories for me of my time in the development office on campus.

Ah yes, memories from 50 years ago that could not help but be replayed.

Sincerely yours,

Fred Hodoval, Honorary Alumnus, ’70

(Please note: Letters may have been edited for space and/or content.)
Reminder: Order yours today!

Commemorative Silver Medallions

St. Procopius, Illinois Benedictine College and Benedictine University

Each medallion is 1.5 inches in diameter, contains one ounce of .999 pure silver and is struck in brilliant uncirculated condition. The medallion will be encapsulated in acrylic for protection and presented in a gift box. The obverse side presents a portrait of St. Benedict writing the Benedictine Rule and the reverse shows the shield of the College/University with the appropriate dates. These treasured medallions commemorate the history of Benedictine education in Lisle and should prove to be a store of value.

If you have not already done so, reserve your medallion today. Only $1,000 of each medallion will be made (a minimum order of 300 medals per school name must be placed before medals are made). Each medal is $100 plus shipping. Proceeds will be used for student scholarships. Consult your tax expert on what portion of this contribution is tax deductible.

For more information, call (630) 829-6072 or order directly from the Web site at www.ben.edu/medallions.

These medals will make great gifts for alumni, students or yourself!

Your class notes can win you a prize

Everyone loves reading class notes, so let us know where you are, where you have been and where you are going. Are you busy in your career? Busy at home with your children? Earning another degree? Getting a great new job? Starting a new business venture? Met that person of your dreams? Finally retired? What are you doing with your time?

We want your class notes

Send in your class notes today and keep your fellow classmates informed of all the happenings in your life.

Tell my classmates that . . .

Please clip and mail to:
Benedictine University
Julie Nelligan/Alumni Relations Director
5700 College Road, Lisle, Illinois 60532

or send an e-mail to jnelligan@ben.edu

Please contact: Julie Nelligan/ Alumni Relations Director by fax (630) 829-6313, or e-mail alumni@ben.edu or return the form below.

In upcoming issues of Voices, three people who appear in the class notes section will be randomly chosen to win an alumni prize (one win per person during duration of promotion).
Benedictine Voices

New Horizons Band Celebrates 10-Year Anniversary

The philosophy is that there is musical potential in every person at any age that can be developed and expressed to a personally rewarding level. This philosophy is in full swing at Benedictine as the local chapter of the New Horizons Band celebrates its 10th year under the direction of Maryann Flock. New Horizons at Benedictine takes the form of a concert band with smaller ensembles for jazz, brass and woodwinds. Although participants are usually older than age 50, membership is open to any adult. †

Bonnie Jean Adams (Language and Literature) has become a member of the editorial group for The South Loop Review, a literary journal of creative nonfiction and art published through Columbia University Chicago.

Zubair S. Amir (Language and Literature) published an article titled “So Delightful a Plot: Lies, Gossip and the Narration of Social Advancement in “The Eustace Diamonds”” in the Cambridge University Press-published journal Victorian Literature and Culture (vol. 36, issue 1; March 2008). The article discusses how the Victorian novel envisions the relationship between social mobility and gossip, deceit and other forms of dubious narrative focusing in particular on Anthony Trollope's 1873 novel “The Eustace Diamonds.”

Catherine Arnold (Nutrition) will present three poster sessions at the national American Dietetic Association Food Nutrition Conference Exhibition in October 2008. Arnold will present “Nutrition Education Increases Self-efficacy for Low-fat Eating” with Beth Panther (M.S.N.W.’06) and Lauren Brett (M.S.N.W.’07), “Nutrition Education in Illinois Public Schools” with Monica Thombs (M.S.N.W.’07) and “Attributes and Barriers of Health and Nutrition Instruction in Pre-service Training of Elementary Teachers” with Kelly Long (M.P.H.’07).

Sharon Borowiez (M.B.A.) hosted George Nassos, director of the Center for Sustainable Enterprise at Illinois Institute of Technology’s Steward School of Business, in May to speak on the topic of sustainability and embracing environmental issues into today’s Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) programs. Faculty and students from the M.B.A., Master of Science in Management Information Systems and Master of Science in Management and Organizational Behavior programs attended this provocative discussion. Borowiez also presented her research on communication attributes of effective virtual teams at the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education International Conference 2008 and the 2008 Western Academy of Management Annual Conference in March.

Jane Crabtree (Business) presented the paper titled “Call Centers Are Becoming Customer-Centric: The Panamanian Difference” in a Management session at the Midwest Business Administration Association (MBAA) International Conference at the Drake Hotel in Chicago in April. The MBAA International conference is a multi-disciplinary conference made up of 11 formal academic and research organizations. Some of the associations represented at the conference are Accounting, Marketing, Finance, Case Research and International Business. It is an opportunity for professors to meet faculty from other universities and share their research interests. Publishers have booths at the MBAA International conference which allows faculty to review new textbooks and order desk copies.

Tim Comar (Mathematics), Isobel Lobo (International Business and Economics), Cheryl Mascarenhas (Chemistry) and Ralph Meeker (Computer Science and Information Systems) were selected to receive Benedictine University Faculty Awards. These awards recognize significant achievements in the areas of teaching, research and service which serve as models for all faculty members. Faculty members were nominated by members of the Benedictine University community (faculty, staff, administration and students) in February. The academic deans and the associate provost recommended the award winners and these recommendations were accepted by the acting provost. Each nomination included three letters attesting to the exemplary teaching, research or service of the nominees. The Faculty Award for Teaching was awarded to Lobo and Mascarenhas, the Faculty Award for Research was awarded to Comar, and the Faculty Award for Service was awarded to Meeker. These faculty members were recognized at the Employee Appreciation event in May and by an appropriate addition to a University plaque.

Kevin Doyle (M.B.A.) has been certified as a Project Management Professional (PMP), culminating more than a year of study, review, testing and experience. The PMP is awarded by the Project Management Institute (PMI) in Newton Square, Pa. and is considered the standard of all project management certifications. Individuals who have passed the PMP certification test successfully and have met the PMI requirements for documenting their professional experience are entitled to use the abbreviation PMP with their names.

Doyle, Christine Fletcher (Theology) and Sandra Gill (College of Business) participated in the seventh international conference on Catholic Social Thought and Management Education at the University of Notre Dame in
“Benedictine allowed me to grow as a person, as a teammate and as a leader.”

Attend a Benedictine University fundraiser and you are likely to bump into Maurice Bell. Go to a homecoming football game, an Alumni Association-sponsored function or just about any event that benefits students or scholarships and you will find Maurice Bell.

The soft-spoken Bell has been an active supporter of Benedictine University for more than 20 years. He works actively with the Alumni Association and the African American Student Union, and is currently seeking to create a scholarship for African American students that would be funded by African American alumni.

Bell was equally active as a student. He was a member of the Benedictine University track and field team, the student government, the African American Student Association and, when not officially representing his school on the athletic field, he was participating in intramural sports. “Benedictine University provides a great environment to learn and spread your wings,” Bell says.

Benedictine University also prepared Bell for a career in sales management where he deals with people who are as different as lemon-lime and fruit punch-flavored Gatorade. “Benedictine University taught me how to deal with people from various backgrounds and experiences,” says Bell, who also serves on various committees at Benedictine and often speaks at University functions.

“Benedictine University allowed me to grow as a person, as a teammate and as a leader,” Bell says. Maurice Bell — carrying the light that was passed on to him, and sharing it with others so that they may pass it on to future generations.

Maurice Bell
Senior Manager, Sales Strategy
Gatorade®/Propel Business Unit at PepsiCo
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (Pre-Law), 1987
Illinois Benedictine College
(now Benedictine University)

“Benedictine’s strongest asset is its people. The faculty and staff genuinely care for the students and want to see each and every one of them succeed.”

Growing up in the small northern Illinois town of Lanark, Holly Wehmeyer appreciated the warm, welcoming feel at Benedictine University. “Benedictine had an Ivy League look to the campus, but the friendly atmosphere was very important, too,” she says. “I didn’t want to be a number.”

The friendly atmosphere and the campus’ rustic appearance are just a small part of what Wehmeyer believes are Benedictine’s best features, however. “Although there have been many, many changes to the campus and the curriculum in the years since I matriculated, I believe Benedictine’s strongest asset is still its people,” she says. “The faculty and staff genuinely care for the students and want to see each and every one of them succeed.”

Wehmeyer participated in concert band and other student organizations, and parlayed her education and the experience she gained working on the Candor staff into a fulfilling professional career.

Yet she says the most valuable lessons she learned at Benedictine were not in the classroom. “The values of living in community and living a life in balance have become more and more important to me over the past decade,” she says. “An undergraduate liberal arts education should teach one how to keep learning and growing intellectually, but Benedictine emphasizes the emotional and spiritual, too.

“To be a well-rounded person, to be curious about the world, to care about more than a job or a paycheck…those are the most valuable lessons of all,” she says.

Holly Wehmeyer — carrying the light that was passed on to her, and sharing it with others so that they may pass it on to future generations.

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10. Recognized by Clean Air Counts for reducing pollution levels.
8. Instituted a campus-wide recycling program.
7. Received “Green” credit for recycling Kohlbeck Hall rubble.
6. Replaced styrofoam containers with compostable materials.
5. Improved lighting efficiency in campus buildings.
4. Reduced throw-away plastic materials in the bookstore.
2. Conducted major tree planting effort on campus.
1. “Greened” curriculum by revising Core and Cultural Heritage classes.

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