Benedictine Voices
The News From Benedictine University

Spring 2008

Carry the Light
IT LIVES IN YOU
**Contents**

**Vision**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | William J. Carroll, President  
|      | Passing the Light |
| 2    | Special Section  
|      | Carry the Light — It Lives in You |

**Values**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 3    | “We make a living by what we get. We make a life  
|      | by what we give.” |
| 4    | Sir Winston Churchill |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 5    | “Try not to become a man of success, but rather try  
|      | to become a man of value.” |
| 6    | Albert Einstein |

**philanthropy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 7    | University Services Staff Raises Funds for Book Scholarship  
|      | Commemorative Silver Medallions  
|      | The Memorial Bench and Tree Program: Honoring Family and Friends  
|      | Donations Matter: Outdoor Stations of the Cross  
|      | Art Patrons Donate Paintings Valued at $165,000  
|      | Alumni Idea Center |

**alumni news**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 12   | Alumni Briefs  
|      | Upcoming Events  
|      | Alma Matters: Ray Konopka  
|      | Where Are They Now?  
|      | The Office of Career Development: Help Available for Job Seekers  
|      | New Employment Finder Group: GC HERC |

**university news**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 19   | The Dream Lives On: 13th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast  
|      | Benedictine Recognized for Innovative Program Aimed at Faculty Retention  
|      | Highly Acclaimed Poet, Slam Founder is Artist-in-Residence  
|      | The Moser College of Adult and Professional Studies: Breaking New Ground in the Adult Education Market  
|      | Mystery Photos  
|      | First Responder Update  
|      | Jurica Nature Museum Receives Two Grants  
|      | AlertWave™ System Will Help Keep Students, Staff Safe During Crises  
|      | Fast Facts  
|      | In Its 100th Year, The Candor Earns More Recognition from the Illinois College Press Association  
|      | Oxford Lecturer, Dominican Scholar Headlines ‘Theology in Life’ Lecture  
|      | Reflections by Fr. James Flint, O.S.B.  
|      | Symposium Seeks to Answer Whether Faith and Reason Can Solve World’s Woes  
|      | Benedictine Joins Regional Invitation to Reduce Ozone-Causing Emissions  
|      | Now Families Can Stay in Touch With Loved Ones in Iraq  
|      | 2008 Greater Chicago Women’s Leadership Summit  
|      | Faculty Highlight: Ralph Meeker, Ph.D.  
|      | Visiting Scholar in Catholic Thought Series  
|      | Class/faculty notes  
|      | Class Notes  
|      | Faculty Notes  
|      | Alumni Memory: Rob Burke, C95 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 29   | Ostrow Earns 800 Career Coaching Victories  
|      | Time Out: Athletics Winter Wrap-Up |

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.

*We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.*

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

*Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value.*

ALBERT EINSTEIN

*The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character — that is the goal of true education.*

REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
“Passing the Light”

by William J. Carroll, President

Educational institutions the world over develop traditions that endure for years. Benedictine University is no exception. As with many institutions, every fall a convocation ceremony takes place in which the community is “called together” (Latin meaning for “convocation”) to renew their dedication to one another, greet new members, and to continue the mission and vision for which the institution was founded. As a Catholic institution, the convocation is marked by a liturgy in which our new members are welcomed into the community, and alumni who died the previous year are remembered in a special way.

This ceremony has often provided me the opportunity to think about Benedictine and the various ways we as an institution have traversed. In the early days, it was the monks who were the lifeblood of the College. These dedicated men gave their all doing what they needed to do to make the place successful. From the day of their initial vows to their death, each monk knew that his life would be spent on this campus.

What a wonderful gift the monks were to Benedictine — individuals who gave their entire being to this institution. It was their ministry, their life. Through their blood, sweat and tears, countless numbers of young men (and later women) would reap the benefits of their dedication.

As the years progressed, the number of monks dwindled and it became necessary to add more lay people in positions formerly held by the monks. The diminishing number of monks and the increasing number of lay people in professional positions brought about a paradigm shift for the institution.

Where once the monks were the sole resource for the institution, lay people and a growing army of alumni assumed the responsibility for the well-being of the institution so that the passing on of a Catholic and Benedictine education might continue. Where once continuity was assured by the total dedication of the monks, that assurance has disappeared.

The light that was first ignited by St. Benedict and passed to the monks from Germany to Latrobe (Pa.), to Chicago and finally to Lisle was a powerful flame that burned for centuries. However, as with many things in the Catholic Church, the Spirit is giving new direction to the people to assume roles once held by the clergy.

Where once monks presided at Benedictine, lay people now preside. What about the intense flame through which the monks ignited their ministries? Has it been diminished by their decline?

I started this piece with the convocation ceremony that marks the beginning of a new academic year. I noted that at the heart of the ceremony is a mass at the end of which I read the names of alumni who died the previous year. I do this for two reasons — to remember those who came before and who gave so much so that the institution might be, and to challenge anew the Benedictines sitting before me to shoulder the burden so wonderfully carried by their predecessors.

While I am reading the names of the deceased alumni, the Abbot lights the Pascal Candle and shares the light with the new members of the Benedictine University community. This simple ceremony symbolizes that the flame once carried by the deceased alumni is being passed to the newest members of the community. It is important to note that their fire has not been extinguished; it has passed on to the next generation. This “Passing of the Light” has come to symbolize the new role that members of the community now accept as their own. It symbolizes the life of the community.

The monks taught us how to be Catholic and Benedictine. They were, in a very real sense, so that we could also be. While their flame burned brightly and intensely, they taught us and secured for us an institution with global arms. While they continue to work with us, the flame has been passed to new generations of lay people who are challenged to keep the flame burning brightly.

When the monks were many, the flame burned with intensity. Has the flame diminished since it has been passed? I think not. While individual flames may not burn with the same fervor they did when carried by our founding fathers, they compensate in numbers. The flame no longer has a single source, but has a source in every person who walks this campus.

If there are to be future generations of Benedictine University students, today’s students (and future alumni) must accept and carry the light. Just as monks made so many of us successful, we make current students successful by living a life characterized by the Benedictine values. The generations that came before make the current generation possible. Through the passing of the light, the work of those who came before continues.

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In 1887, St. Procopius Academy and College (SPA/SPC) was established in the Pilsen area of Chicago by the Benedictine monks of St. Procopius Abbey. In 1900, the monks bought land in Lisle and one year later opened the door to a building that would eventually be expanded several times to accommodate a growing student body. That building was eventually called Benedictine Hall.

The 1960s and 70s brought the Lownik Library, Kolbeck, Neuzil, Scholl and Ondrak Halls, as well as the Board of Trustees and the first women on campus. St. Procopius College was growing and was ready for a new name that spoke to a larger audience: Illinois Benedictine College (IBC) was born. The 1980s brought the Krasa Center and the first lay president to the College, Richard C. Becker, Ph.D. He would help grow the College until 1995.

In 1996, the torch was passed to William J. Carroll, Ph.D. The school had grown to include master’s and doctoral programs and required an identity for a national audience. Thus the school would come to be known as Benedictine University (BU). The campus grew over the next 10 years with on-campus apartments at Founders’ Woods, the academic buildings of Birck and Kindlon Halls and a new Sports Complex. The campus grew regionally as well through a partnership with Springfield College in Illinois. Recently, the University took an even larger step and went international with programs in China and other parts of the world.

If it were possible for those first students to fast-forward to the campus we know today, they would not recognize it, just as the students of today would not find much familiar on the 1901 campus. Changes happen, improvements are made, but many things remain the same. The emphasis on Benedictine and Catholic values permeated that 1901 campus just as they do on the campus of today. Students are still encouraged to look out for one another and to show goodwill on and off campus. The hope is always that students will carry these values, that “light” within them, long after they leave this University and share it with everyone they touch.

Benedictine students go on to attend graduate school at record numbers, can be found at leading corporations and top research facilities, and are among the most respected educators and physicians in their fields. The success of alumni in their professional and personal lives is a proud achievement for the University. Alumni carry the Benedictine values (the light) by caring about others and by wanting to make the world a better place now and for ©

How do you, or will you, live the Benedictine values in your own life?

These are some examples of the values in action at the University.

Development of each person
Small class size and individual attention to personal needs and growth.

Hospitality
Encouraging, respecting and welcoming diversity of all natures.

Academic excellence
Providing top education programs and instructors. Offering enriched learning opportunities such as internships, professional insight and alumni mentoring in various fields of interest. ©
Benedictine Values

**Stewardship**
Giving back to those in need through volunteering, awareness and financial contributions. Fostering care of the environment, the community and human life.

**Life lived in balance**
Encouraging growth in spirit, body and mind. Giving students access to activities, events and clubs that build each segment of person.

**Search for God**
Catholic Mass, teachings and lecture series. Interreligious dialogues, theology studies and religious instruction. Campus ministry offering students guidance and support.

**Living and working in community**
Offering opportunities to give back through outreach trips and services. Groups and clubs that emphasize community leadership and involvement.

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future generations and by giving back to the University. Just as generations of Benedictine monks passed their light onto their students and the lay people of the school, just as the lay people now carry that light to their students and co-workers, so the light is carried within all Benedictine alumni.

The University symbolizes this tradition of “carrying the light” through the Convocation Ceremony held at the beginning of each school year. This ceremony includes the “Ceremony of Light.” The names of deceased alumni are read out loud to honor and remember them. The abbot lights a candle from the Pascal Candle and shares this light with the new members of the Benedictine community. Another generation of students can carry it, nurture it and share it.

The questions the University struggles with are, “How can we continue to meet the needs of a rapidly growing student body? Can we decrease our reliance on tuition to meet the rising costs of education? Will we be able to provide our students with the physical and spiritual tools they need to make a positive impact on society? Will we be able to continue to educate the sons and daughters of our own graduates?”

Carrying the light is not always easy. It can become heavy and weighed down with problems, struggles and bad choices. But it remains lit inside of you always. It is ready to burn brightly again through kind words and gestures, helping others, showing love and respect for others and the planet, and making decisions with both your head and your heart. You carry it with you always. You pass it on to others through actions, thoughts and words. When you bring it back to the University through your time and/or treasure, it comes full circle. Another generation of students can carry it, nurture it and share it.

It is hoped that your education at SPA/SPC, IBC or BU — in whatever era you attended — has led you to a life of fulfillment and grace and filled with God’s blessings. We trust that you will help make those same blessings abundant to others. Will you pass on the light so that today’s students can carry it and keep it burning for other students in the years and decades ahead? Will you inspire others in your life to live the values you hold dear? We ask you to carry the light and change the world.
Make your “voice” heard.

Your University,
Your Alumni Magazine,
Your Voice.

Take a minute to answer a quick online survey at www.ben.edu/survey. Through surveys and feedback we have structured Voices magazine around your needs and wants.

As we continue to move forward in honoring our alumni from SPA/SPC, IBC and BU, we want to know what matters to you…not just in the magazine, but at the University.

Make your “voice” heard. Take the online survey today. Thank you for your time!

Whether you are an alumnus from SPA/SPC, IBC or BU, you are always connected here.

One School, One Spirit,
One Tradition —
Carry the Light.

www.ben.edu/survey
University Services Staff Raises Funds for Book Scholarships

Staff from University Services participated in a Book Scholarship that awarded seven Benedictine University students with a $350 University Services Student Book Award.

Students who applied for the scholarship were asked to write about how they “carry the light” of Benedictine University for future generations and how they plan to give back to other students at the University after they graduate.

The following students were selected for this award:

- Suhaylah Mohiuddin, freshman
- Patrick Meadors, sophomore
- Ryan Schwartz, sophomore
- Alexis Nwankwo, junior
- Sarah Salim, senior
- Christine Ahn, junior
- Quentella Enty, graduate student, M.B.A. program

For more information on how you can positively influence a student’s life, contact Denise West at (630) 829-6027 or dwest@ben.edu.

“With this gift you have given me, my chances at being able to fulfill my career dreams of helping people to build a healthier and better future have been greatly increased.”

“The books are very expensive this semester and your generosity will help me out tremendously.”

“Your generosity will greatly help in paying for my books and thus my college education next semester. You have lifted quite a weight off of my shoulders. You have given me a light, lifted a heavy burden, and helped me make the pursuit of my education possible.”

St. Procopius College, Illinois Benedictine College and Benedictine University

Commemorative Silver Medallions

Each medallion is 1.5 inches in diameter, contains one ounce of .999 pure silver and is struck in brilliant uncirculated (BU) condition. The medallion will be encapsulated in acrylic for protection and presented in a gift box (comparable to the American Eagle Proof Silver Dollar).

The obverse side presents a portrait of St. Benedict writing the Benedictine Rule, and the reverse shows the seal 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. Silver has appreciated by more than 400 percent during the past five years and many experts now anticipate silver to be valued at more than $100 per ounce within the next few years.

Reserve your medallion today. Only one thousand of each medallion will be 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.

*Please note: A minimum of 300 medals must be ordered per school name before the medals are made. For more information or to have an order form sent to you, call (630) 829-6072 or order directly from our Web site at www.ben.edu/medallions.

Look for the “Carry the Light” logo throughout this issue for examples of giving back in time, talent and treasure.

Online Giving Now Available www.ben.edu/giving

Easy. Quick. Appreciated.
The Memorial Bench and Tree Program: Honoring Family and Friends

Donating funds toward a bench or a tree is a simple gesture that serves many purposes. This program not only raises money for the University, but it helps to beautify campus and serves as a lasting memorial for families, friends, professors and anyone for whom a donor wants to receive a lasting remembrance on campus.

The memorial bench and tree dedication ceremony is a collaborative initiative between the families and the Office of University Relations. The ceremony is designed around the donor’s wishes. Some people like to include songs, blessings or spoken memories and dedications. Some donors choose to invite friends, faculty and/or staff to participate, while others choose not to have any type of formal ceremony.

We would like to remember all those who have given to this fundraising effort and honor all the dedications that have been made.

Memorial Benches and Trees (Donor names with plaque inscriptions below)

Jaeger Hall
David Striker: Given in Loving Memory of Edward and Mary Jane Striker By Family and Friends 2005

Kindlon Hall
Linda Golan: Given in Loving Memory of Robert “Bob” Golan (5/2/47-1/5/00) By Linda M. Golan M.B.A.’02, B.A.’99

SGA in memory of Anne Marie Bell: In Loving Memory of Anne Marie Bell, By the Student Government Association 2004

Ralph Fogarty: Donated by the Fogarty Family in Memory of Lucille Fogarty

Krasa Center
John “Jack” Curley: Given in Loving Memory of Geri Curley, School Nurse By the John M. Curley Family

Joseph K. Fedinec: In recognition of the Joseph K. Fedinec ’88 2005 Spirit Award

Lownik Hall
Joan Henchman: Given in Loving Memory of Martin J. Henchman By Joan Henchman, B.A. ’91

Richard Lanser: In Honor of Rick, Loretta, Christopher — children of Bernardine and Dick Lanser

Donna Hrozencik: Given in Loving Memory of Rudolph “Rudy” Hrozencik By the Hrozencik Family

Ondrak Hall
Michael Bruens: In Memory of our Friend and Colleague Michael J. Bruens — Ph.D. Cohort 5

Scholl Hall
John Atkinson: Given in Loving Memory of Kathryn “Aileen” Atkinson (Financial Aid Dept.) By John, C84, and Bonnie Atkinson

Gift from Senior Class of 2004: Donated by the Senior Class — In Honor of the Class of 2004

Brian Ebalo: Given in Loving Memory of Kevin Ebalo By Brian Ebalo ’83

Lake St. Benedict
Robert and Pam Cebrynski: In Memory of Cindy Cebrynski “Your smile lives on”

Friends of William Moore: In Honor of William “Bill” Moore, given in Memory By his Friends and Co-workers — Rest Peacefully, July 2, 2006

Lownik Hall
Mary J. Coutre: In Loving Memory of Michael “Mick” O’ Malley, Class of 1980

Bradley F. Carlson: In Loving Memory of Elizabeth S. Carlson, from Bradley F. Carlson

Barbara Griesser: Given in Loving Memory of Robert J. Griesser, Trustee By his wife Barbara

Scholl Hall
Given by the Family of David, ’79, Thomas, ’72, and Jacqueline Laz
In Loving Memory of the Laz Family
Memorial Benches

Birck Hall
Mark Hogan: In loving memory of Michael V. Hogan, Ph.D., dedicated Researcher, Patient Teacher From Mom & Dad, Mark, Kevin, Matt, Neil

Grotto
Jason Morell: In Loving Memory of John Francis Darroch
James Baker: Given in Loving Memory of Mary Elizabeth “Bebe” Cesafsky, R.N., B.S.N.’85 By Her Brother James F. Baker, Ph.D.

Kindlon Hall
Marie Meyer friends and family: In recognition of Marie Meyer, Alumni Relations, For her many years of service By her family 2005

Lake St. Benedict
Robert and Pam Cebrzynski: Given in Loving Memory of Cindy M. Cebrzynski By Mom, Dad, Chris and Kate
Peter Sorensen, Jr.: Ellen and Peter Sorensen — Long Live the Danish Liberals and Rebels

John Zigmond: Given in Loving Memory of John and Rose Zigmond By the Zigmond Family
Kenneth Nordin’s Children: In Loving celebration of the life of Dr. Kenneth D. Nordin By the Nordin Family

Bill Moore friends: In Memory of William “Bill” Moore — You will be missed by many, given in Memory By his Friends and Co-workers

Lownik Hall
Family and friends of Michael O’Malley: Michael O’Malley, Class of 1980 — Forever loved and remembered By family and friends

Scholl Hall
David Laz: In Thanksgiving to our parents and to God, The Laz Family 2006
Marvin Camburn: In honor of Dr. Martin E. Camburn Professor Emeritus — Dedicated May 3

If you would like to participate in this worthwhile program, please contact Denise West at (630) 829-6027 or dwest@ben.edu.

Donations Matter

Through the generosity of the Knights of Columbus (Procopian Council) at Benedictine University, the Stations of the Cross once again grace the campus in a beautiful outdoor setting along Lake St. Benedict. The original stations donated in the 1950s by the Rooney family had deteriorated and had been taken down. Now, new stainless steel Stations are housed in individual covered stands along a lovely pathway. Through the donation of Council members’ time and labor, as well as generous sponsorships by individual members and chapters of the Knights of Columbus, this project was completed for all to enjoy. These Stations are in keeping with the University’s Catholic identity and provide a place for prayer and reflection.

Double Your Donation Through A Matching Gift

Many corporations have established gift programs that will match gifts made by their employees or spouses of employees to non-profit organizations and educational institutions. These programs provide the University with additional funds at no cost to the original donor. You will be recognized at the giving level equal to your gift plus the company match. Contact your employer’s Human Resource department to verify their matching gift policies.
Art Patrons Donate Paintings Valued at $165,000

Thirteen paintings valued at more than $165,000 from the collection of two prominent Chicago art patrons are among 17 artworks recently donated to the Benedictine University Art Collection.

The personal art collection of Jeffrey M. Stokols and Daryl E. Gerber is among the finest in Chicago. The donors have also generously supported Gallery 400, which is located in the contemporary art exhibition space of the College of Architecture and the Arts at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Among the 13 paintings donated by Stokols and Gerber is “Green Boy,” a 1994 work by Jim Lutes which is the centerpiece of the collection. Lutes is widely considered one of America’s best contemporary artists.


Two years ago, Stokols and Gerber donated two mixed media artworks by Chicago artist Margaret Wharton and Florida artist Purvis Young. Those works are displayed in Scholl Hall on campus.

The Benedictine art collection has also been enhanced by a recent donation from Chicago art dealer Karen Lennox of a mixed media piece by Margaret Wharton and a drawing by the late Chicago artist Miyoto Ito. The works are valued at nearly $30,000.

In addition, Lennox recently donated her commission of $30,000 from the sale of a religious painting to the University.

Other recent gifts to the Benedictine collection include a donation from Robert and Ruth Vogle of a serigraph by the late John Phillips and a relief print by Jan Tyniec; and from Kay Torshen of Chicago of a mid-20th century ceremonial effigy from the Sepik River region of Papua New Guinea.

The Benedictine Art Collection contains more than 3,500 original works of art plus 500 fine arts posters. The collection is managed by the University’s Art Curator Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B. †
These are some suggestions for alumni class giving ideas. We will work with you to pull it all together and aid you in fundraising efforts through promoting your idea to fellow classmates.

Fundraising Projects
Consider An Alumni Class Gift — College is one of the most memorable times of a young person’s life...the friends you make, the times you share, the lessons that prepare you for life after graduation. Now you can have your alumni class represented on campus. Each year, the current graduating class presents a gift to the University as a way to honor the memory of their class and their time here. It would be great if your alumni class participated in such a project now. These funds enhance the University, its facilities and its prestige. Your gift may be “restricted” to be used for a specific purpose or project, or “unrestricted” to be used as needed by the University.

Show Your Support By Starting a Scholarship or Contributing To One — The cost of a college education is increasing. Your generosity can make a difference. You can make it possible for a student to earn a college education and achieve his or her dream. Perhaps the student who benefits from your generosity will develop a cure for Alzheimer’s, conquer cancer or some other debilitating disease, or become the next president of Benedictine University. Your generosity can make that possible. You can endow a scholarship in honor of your class year or support an existing scholarship that has been established to honor a fellow classmate or former mentor. A list of current scholarships can be found at www.ben.edu/scholarships.com. By supporting scholarships you’re not only investing in students, you’re investing in the future.

Remember a Classmate or Honor your Entire Class While Beautifying Campus — The Memorial Walkway is a select area on campus where trees and benches can be placed in memory of a friend, loved one or for any group that wants to be represented. These benches and trees provide a place for you and others to relax and reflect while serving as an everlasting tribute. Your gift to the Memorial Walkway celebrates the human family and the Benedictine heritage of spirituality.

If you have an idea for a fundraiser, would like suggestions for a gift or have already gathered together an interested group of classmates, please contact Denise West at (630) 829-6027 or dwest@ben.edu. Let us help you pull it all together by aiding with announcements and fundraising efforts.

There are also many great opportunities to get your alumni class involved with events on campus.

Campus Activities
- Get your class to attend an alumni event, such as the Annual Summer Picnic, the Golf Outing or Homecoming, as a group. Let us know so we can honor you during the event.
- Organize a get-together to tour campus and have lunch.
- Organize a competitive game of volleyball, basketball or any sport using the University facilities, and then unwind and catch up afterward with a meal or snacks on campus.
- Organize a get-together at the new Coal Ben on campus.
- Spearhead a fundraising project for the University, and then attend a special event on campus once it’s completed.
- Organize a group of classmates to mentor or speak to current students about job opportunities and advice in your field.

Get your alumni class involved with campus events.
- Have your class participate in something special at Homecoming.
- Host a speaker or informative event on campus.

These are some suggestions for you to think about. Please let us know what ideas you have in mind. We will help you organize the event and/or fundraising project and contact class members to increase your turnout.

If you would like to spearhead a gathering or project for your alumni class, please contact Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.

Remember: Even after you graduate, you are still connected here!
Swim and Dive Reunion

It was a cold and snowy January day when the swim and dive alumni held their reunion. But the Rice Center pool area provided a lot of warmth and laughter as alumni visited with one another and participated in an unofficial swim meet with the current Eagles team. The alumni managed to prevail, but the current team did a great job as well and had a lot of fun meeting alumni and learning about past swim teams.

After the meet ended, the alumni, their families and some staff members gathered in the Krasa Center for a pasta dinner. Later they attended a fellowship event in the new Coal Ben.

The results of the alumni meet were:

**200 Medley Relay – 1.59.37**
- Dan Gradows, C99
- Pat Keeley, C98
- Tim Keeley, C99
- Tim Smith, C06

**200 Free Relay – 1.51.54**
- Tim Keeley, C99
- Dan Gradows, C99
- Mike Kuziel, C98
- Pat Keeley, C98

**200 Free – 2.09.79**
- Tim Smith, C06

**100 IM – 1.07.50**
- Tim Smith, C06

**100 Free – 53.63**
- Tim Keeley, C99

**50 Fly – 27.00**
- Tim Keeley, C99

**50 Free – 27.03**
- Mike Kuziel, C98

**50 Back – 34.31**
- Steve Kadolph, C00

**50 Breast – 34.90**
- Pat Keeley, C98

Sweetheart Club Dinner/Dance

Benedictine University’s “sweethearts” gathered for the fourth Annual Sweetheart Club Dinner/Dance this past February. The theme of this year’s event was “black and white” and was represented throughout the event room in the Krasa Center.

Twenty-four couples attended and enjoyed great food, a blessing of their marriages by Fr. David Turner, O.S.B., C58, a fellowship presentation, and plenty of dancing provided by DJ Jim Kubinski of Music Mania.

During the festivities the following prizes were awarded: Married the longest — 36 years, Noreen, C71, and Alan, C70, Oleksiak; Married the shortest — 10 years, Steve, C04, and Catherine, C84, Arnold; Couple with the most children — five, Bernie, C77, and Arlene, C77, Reusz. (One of the Reusz’s children, Dan, is currently a freshman at Benedictine University.)

By the end of the evening, next year’s event had been scheduled for Saturday, February 7, 2009. The Sweetheart Club is for any alumni who are married or dating alumni of Benedictine.

For more information, contact Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.

See more photos of this event at www.ben.edu/sweethearts.
Alumni Men’s and Women’s Basketball Reunion

On February 16, event participants gathered in the Rice Center to watch the women’s basketball team play Edgewood College in what turned out to be a “thrashing of sorts!” The score, 72-45, gave the Lady Eagles a lot to celebrate because it earned them a Northern Athletics Conference postseason berth. The team honored alumna Jen Wildes, C02, for her outstanding athletic achievements while attending Benedictine. Up until this year, she held the record as leading scorer for the Lady Eagles and now is Benedictine University’s volleyball coach.

After that exciting win, more was to come when the men’s team met Edgewood. At the start of the game, the team honored Jeremy Schoenecker, C00, for his outstanding athletic accomplishments while at Benedictine. For most of the game, the Eagles trailed by as many as 11 points. They came back strong during the second half in what turned out to be a thriller. Just before the final buzzer, the Eagles won 73-71.

A post-game reception was held in the Trophy Room where alumni, the team and their parents gathered for food and fun. Coach Keith Bunkenberg stated, “I was proud of the way the teams played and encouraged everyone to continue supporting them.” It was a fun night for all in the Rice Center.

M.P.H. Alumni Share Success Stories with Students

Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) alumni eagerly returned to campus on a cold January evening to give encouragement and practical pointers to current M.P.H. students. They also thanked faculty for their teaching and personal support. Suzet McKinney, M.P.H.’01, and Darnell Thomas, M.S., C.H.E.S., M.P.H.’06, both in emergency preparedness for the Chicago Department of Public Health; Kathy Vermoch, M.T., S.M., M.P.H.’01, project manager for University Health Systems Consortium; and Alisa Ostebo, C.H.E.S., M.P.H.’96, health initiatives manager with the American Cancer Society, agreed their education at Benedictine prepared them well for their professional positions.

They encouraged students to be “yes people.” They stated that if you are asked to take on a project, say yes. It might not be your ultimate career goal, but it can lead there. The panel also stressed the importance of maintaining relationships with other alumni and faculty. They explained to students that because the M.P.H. program attracts so many instructors and students already working in the public health field, they have a ready-made network available to them.

Class Notes Winners from Spring 2007

Bill Lisowski, C78; Linda Ohringer, C96, M.B.A., M.S.M.O.B., M.P.H.’98; Julie, C98, and Steve, C88, Hecker

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 at jnelligan@ben.edu before June 20, 2008 to collect your prize. Good luck and keep sending in those class notes!

Stay Connected

Upcoming University Events

We are making alumni events bigger and better than ever before. Contact your fellow classmates and represent your class year at these upcoming events.

MAY 18
Commencement and Golden Eagles Reunion

MAY 20
Alumni Board Meeting
(ask us about becoming a member)

JUNE 19
African-American Alumni Reception

JUNE 29
Annual All-Alumni Picnic

JUNE 30
14th Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing
(Scholarship fundraiser)

JULY 27
Athletic Alumni Boat Cruise

SEPTEMBER 16
Alumni Board Meeting

OCTOBER 18
New This Year!
Homecoming Festival

For updates on alumni events, go to our Web site at www.ben.edu/alumni or call (630) 829-6077.
Mark your calendars for two back-to-back days of fun.

From the green grass of the Benedictine University campus to the plush fairways of the Cress Creek Country Club, there’s something for every member of the family.

All-Alumni Summer Picnic — Sunday, June 29
- Visit the University
- Enjoy fun-filled family activities
- Gather your classmates for a reunion on campus

The festivities will begin on Sunday, June 29 with the Annual All-Alumni Picnic. The entire campus will be open for all to enjoy, including the Rice Center for basketball and more. Food will be served from noon to 1:30 p.m., or you can bring your own lunch and enjoy a shady spot on campus. Bean bags, water balloon toss, kids’ games and contests will continue throughout the afternoon.

If you haven’t experienced the growth that’s been taking place at Benedictine, this would be a great time to check out the campus while enjoying a summer afternoon with your family. This is also a great event to gather a group of classmates together and share the day!

14th Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing — Monday, June 30
Meet world-renowned golf instructor Hank Haney

If you love to golf — or even if you just like good food and great company — join us on Monday, June 30 for the 14th Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing at Cress Creek Country Club in Naperville. Tee times are available at 7:30 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. Get a foursome together and share the fun with friends!

New to the golf outing this year will be world-renowned golf instructor Hank Haney. Haney will be out on the course meeting players, posing for team photos and assisting you with your swing. Haney is also scheduled to speak at the dinner. This is a day you won’t want to miss!

www.ben.edu/golf

From bean bags to golf tees, it’s sure to be two great days of entertainment for all.

Gather your fellow classmates, family, friends, former roommates and teammates and join in this alumni fun!

For more information on these or other events, visit www.ben.edu/alumni.
Ray Konopka believes his “alma matters” and has started a scholarship to help others receive the education he found so important. After graduating from Benedictine, Konopka attended Northwestern University on a fellowship and completed his master’s degree in computer science. He is now the owner of Raize Software, Inc., an international computer software company.

What are you currently doing in your career?

I am the president of Raize Software, Inc. (www.raize.com), which I founded in 1995. My company specializes in producing high-quality, innovative tools that help computer software developers create better software. Our tools are used by developers all over the world including many Fortune 500 companies.

My duties at Raize Software are quite diverse. Most of my time is spent working on our products — I am the chief architect and lead developer for three of them including our two flagship products. However, I also spend a significant amount of time providing consulting services to companies that require a more customized solution. For example, for the past several years I’ve been working with The Walt Disney Company on their FASTPASS® system, which is used in all of the Disney parks worldwide.

In between all this, I try to find time to pass on my knowledge. For example, I am a frequent speaker at software developer conferences in North America, Europe and Australia. And during my career I’ve authored two books, co-authored two more and have written many magazine articles on software development.

When I’m not working, I’m spending time with my family and sometimes the two can intermix. For example, when my first son was a baby he loved to sit on my lap while I worked. Unfortunately, he also loved to press the keys on the keyboard while I was typing. Well, after one too many messed up e-mails, I created a program that allowed him to press any key on the keyboard and produce a unique sound and visual effect. The program eventually became our popular BabyType product.

How have you “stayed connected” to Benedictine since graduation?

In the early ‘90s I began teaching at IBC [Illinois Benedictine College] in the evening. I taught Computer Programming I and II for a few semesters. Unfortunately, I was not able to keep up with the time commitment and had to stop. However, I did come back and present a seminar for the M.I.S. [Master of Science in Management Information Systems] program a few years later.

Of course, the most prominent way that I have stayed connected to Benedictine is with the establishment of the Raize Software Scholarship in Computer Science.

Why did you decide to start a scholarship at Benedictine? Who do you hope benefits from it?

I started the Raize Software Scholarship in Computer Science because I wanted to give something back to the University. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience at IBC — from my advisors and faculty, to campus life and meeting my future wife. Not to mention an outstanding education.

I was also fortunate to receive merit-based scholarships which were not tied to financial need while I attended school. This was most helpful indeed, because without the scholarships I would not have been able to attend IBC. It is my hope that this scholarship can help those students who may be in a similar situation.

The scholarship is awarded to a full-time undergraduate degree-seeking student who has declared a major in computer science and who has presented evidence of outstanding academic performance.

What experiences/memories do you have of Benedictine?

Well, aside from meeting Elizabeth Marquardt who became my wife a year after we graduated, the education that I received has had the biggest impact. Over the years, it has become apparent that the curriculum was a nice balance of theoretical and applied concepts. All too often I meet people who do not have this balance. At IBC, I learned to be a computer scientist and not just a computer programmer.

Why do you think it’s important for alumni to stay connected and give back to the University?

For me, I cannot imagine how my life would be without my experiences at IBC. For example, I started out as an engineering major. It was the IBC faculty that discovered the talent I had for computer science and encouraged me to consider it as a career. I find it only fitting to give a little back to the place where it all started.

Konopka has been married to alumna Elizabeth (Marquardt) Konopka, Business and Economics, C89, for more than 17 years. They have two sons, Christopher (11) and Jack (5). Elizabeth is a Creative Memories consultant.
Michelle Ruvola
Business and Economics, C84

Michelle Ruvola is the vice president of The Standard Companies, a full-line janitorial supply company located on the South Side of Chicago. She started at Standard in sales after graduating from Benedictine and has continued her career in various positions within the company. Ruvola feels very fortunate that she can be a part of her family-owned business.

Ruvola is also a competitor in harness racing. She began racing horses in 1998 at a number of county fairs in Illinois. Her involvement in the sport of racing stemmed from her love of horses, a drive to win and the opportunity provided by having family-owned race horses.

“I still recall being in my first race. I couldn’t eat all day — I was so nervous! I drove everybody crazy at the barn while waiting to race, because I paced up and down the aisles. I could hardly breathe until I got behind the gate. When the gate opened and the race began, the butterflies in my stomach all went away and all I thought about was getting around the racetrack. Now, I actually think about using some type of strategy to win a race,” said Ruvola.

She participated in the Midwest Amateur Racing Series, which consisted of “pacing” races held at county fairs. Points were totaled at the end of the season and the top “point” people raced at Balmoral Park in Illinois for the championship. Ruvola had some stiff competition…from her own family. Her mother won the 1998 championship, Ruvola was the 1999 Midwest Amateur Champion and her father was the 2000 champion.

In 2001, she began competing in the Billings Series, which consists of all “trot” (not pace) races and has a Midwest and Eastern division. Most of these races are held in Ohio. In 2006, she qualified to race in the Gold Cup, the championship race including both the Midwest and Eastern drivers, at the Meadowlands in New Jersey. She came in second place and said it was the most fun she ever had racing.

“Benedictine helped give me the confidence to go forward and pursue my dreams. Going there was a wonderful experience. I still remember taking boat rides in the slough, and I am still in touch with friends from my college days. I also like to think that some of the Childhood and Adolescent Psychology classes I took at IBC [Illinois Benedictine College] have helped me through some parenting decisions!” said Ruvola.

She has been married to her husband, Len, for 18 years and they have two children, Lauren (16) and Zack (13).
Craig Wooten
History, C01

Wooten was unable to respond to our request for an interview before he was deployed overseas. Therefore his father-in-law, Chris Henning, kindly updated us on Wooten’s activities.

Craig Wooten enlisted in the United States Army prior to graduation and commenced duty directly afterward. He serves the United States as an Army Ranger. He is stationed as a member of the 1st Ranger Battalion in Savannah, Georgia and is currently on his seventh tour of duty overseas.

He completed three tours in Iraq and three tours in Afghanistan. Wooten is a specialist in the Army. He was recently honored with the Purple Heart for rescuing his fellow comrades from a burning Humvee®, as well as a Bronze Star for heroism. He is holding the chance.

After he returns home, Wooten is considering a career in business or government service and hopes to relocate to the Chicago area. He has enjoyed the loyalty and duty to his fellow Rangers, just as he enjoyed his relationships at Benedictine. He continues to follow sports at Benedictine and keeps in contact with his classmates.

His wife, Maureen (Henning) Wooten, Education, C01, is extremely proud of Craig’s service. Maureen taught high school special education and now stays active caring for their son, Ryan (3).†

Mario D. Parker
Communication Arts, C05

“My time at Benedictine taught me the value of friends and a positive perspective. It also gave me the strength to take setbacks in stride and to continue forward. My group of friends and I were very involved in activities, and that sense of “mini-community” showed me the importance of developing strong relationships. It also helped me realize that people are your most important asset in any endeavor. One of the neatest memories was the Leadership Forum Dr. [Richard] Becker held periodically for student leaders where we learned first-hand the value of peer networking and collaboration over issue resolution. The best memory was the overwhelming support from faculty and staff and the personal growth I experienced from that unique community perspective. I see several IBC [Illinois Benedictine College] friends throughout the year, and occasionally we get together with many of the group that hung together while at IBC,” said Lisowski.

On a personal level, Lisowski said, “Being a stepfather is a much more rewarding experience than I could have anticipated. I made an early commitment to spend as much time as I could with my stepson, John, becoming an assistant coach for all of his sports as a young boy. While John still stays connected with his father, he is always quick to acknowledge that I was the man who helped raise him. He graduated from college last year as an Academic All-American, and is putting his psychology degree to use at Linden Oaks in Naperville while he works on admittance to a doctoral program in school psychology. My wife, Sue, and I are very proud of him.”

Lisowski spent many years on the Alumni Board and participated as a caller during Phonathons. He also tries to make it to Homecoming when he gets the chance.†

Maureen (Henning) Wooten, C01, and Craig Wooten, C01.

“2000s

“I still love seeing my byline in the mornings after working on particularly difficult or important stories. As a journalist, I’m learning about a new subject everyday, and I relish that experience,” added Parker.

His articles have appeared in newspapers across the globe, including the Washington Post, New York Times, International Herald Tribune and the Christian Science Monitor.

“My time at Benedictine is invaluable to where I am now in my young career. I was pretty involved with all of the activities within the Communication Arts department from “Eye of the Eagle” to The Candor, which will always hold a special place in my heart. The Candor prepared me for a career in journalism, by instilling commitment, teamwork, responsibility and hard-work. The friendships that I forged there from working closely together to put out a newspaper each week will last a lifetime. And the advisor at the time, the late Dr. Ken Nordin, was absolutely the best advisor and mentor that a student could hope for,” concluded Parker.

He believes the Communication Arts department gave him the skills to seamlessly move from one medium to the next and this has helped him tremendously in his career. He also believes it will be an asset as he moves forward. Parker continues to keep in touch with fellow classmates, particularly those who worked with him on The Candor.†
The Office of Career Development: Help for Job Seekers

Are you happy in your current job? Are you thinking of switching careers? Have you been laid off and are starting another job search? Maybe you stayed at home to raise children and now you want to get back in the workforce. Where do you start?

Start by contacting the Office of Career Development. We are located in the Krasa Center, lower level, Room 010. We have qualified staff to assist you in your career search. We also will work with you over the phone or online. Here are some highlights of what we offer in our office.

Individual Counseling
These services include career counseling appointments in which you can discuss switching careers, getting back into the job force and other ideas relating to your search. You can also have one of our career counselors go over your resume or cover letter with you, assist with developing and honing job search techniques, as well as to practice interviewing skills through mock job interviews. In addition, we offer information about upcoming workshops and job fairs, as well as provide information on graduate school.

Assessments
We offer three tests/assessments that help you determine what direction you should be pursuing in your job search. Focus II is free, Myers-Briggs and the Strong Interest Inventory are $10 each and all can be taken online. Call (630) 829-6040 to find out more details, or to set up a follow-up appointment after you have taken the assessments.

Career Resource Library
Our office has a library of books and other resources that can aid you with your job search such as career books explaining different occupations, types of jobs and salaries; job search books containing company information, contact names and phone numbers, and national job listings; and various job search handouts. In addition, we have Web sites such as Vault and QuietAgent that assist you in your search.

Alumnet
Maybe you have a great job, but want to help others in their quest to find the right job. Our Alumnet service gives you the opportunity to do just that. You can help a fellow alumni make career changes, learn more about your company or relocate to your city and expand their network of contacts.

Resume Referral
By completing the resume referral registration form you grant permission for our office to distribute your resume upon employer request. Often an employer is seeking a candidate in a specific area, and if your resume is on file with us we will be able to quickly send your resume to the potential employer.

ISCPA
We post all of our full-time positions online at www.iscpa.org. If you register as an alumnus/a on that site, you can have access to search through hundreds of employers as well as to post your resume and apply directly to positions online. We work with 23 private universities in the area to provide this great service for you.

If you have questions about these or any other services we offer, please contact us at (630) 829-6040, career@ben.edu or stop into our office. We look forward to working with you in the future. And remember, our services (outside of the two assessments) are FREE for you to use.

New Employment Finder Group: GC HERC

Benedictine University is now a member of the Greater Chicago Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (GC HERC) program and Web site.

GC HERC is an advertising consortium for higher education positions. It supports the recruitment efforts of colleges, universities, medical and research centers and cultural institutions in the Greater Chicago area. It is the most comprehensive database dedicated to positions in the above industries as well as addressing the particular needs of dual career couples. Of particular interest is finding effective ways to assist the spouses and partners of faculty and staff to secure area employment and ways to address issues of faculty and staff diversity.

A vital aspect of the program is the Web-based search engine that includes faculty and staff job listings at all member institutions. This search engine is free and available to anyone seeking employment in higher education, research, health care (medical centers), and arts and culture. The central location of job postings and regional resources as well as the Web site’s ability to accommodate dual-career searches distinguishes GC HERC from other employment Web sites.

Member representatives include faculty, staff, human resources professionals, institutional leaders and faculty relations experts. You can find information at www.gcherc.com.
Many Americans only associate Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with the civil rights struggle of Black Americans. But Dr. King espoused equality not just for Black Americans, but for all victims of oppression regardless of race, creed or color.

Roy Saigo knows about being an American who was the victim of injustice, hatred and ostracism. He and his family were among 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast in the early 1940s who were deemed threats to national security and forcibly relocated to internment camps following the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Saigo, former president of St. Cloud (Minn.) State University, was the keynote speaker January 21 at the 13th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast co-sponsored by the College of DuPage and Benedictine University and attended by more than 500 people at the Krasa Center.

“What do you feel?” Saigo said. “Confusion, fear, indignation, outrage, urgency, panic, hopelessness, despair. We went without protest or uprising with a philosophy of showing we were good, cooperative and patriotic participants in American society.”

The relocated lived in barracks surrounded by barbed wire. They were forced to share bathing and latrine facilities. Each person was provided an Army cot and straw-filled mattress. They were issued food rations and clothing.

Although hostilities eventually ceased between the United States and Japan, the resentment did not. “Eventually, we were released to return home,” Saigo said. “But we were treated like the enemy. We were hated.” That experience helped shape the way Saigo has lived his life both as a University president and as a human being.

One week before he took over as president of St. Cloud State, 50 students were arrested by police in riot gear for staging a sit-in against injustice on campus.

Black, Hispanic, American Indian, Jewish and female students all felt victimized to some degree, he said, resulting in a number of lawsuits brought against the school. Saigo changed the atmosphere at St. Cloud State. He also made headlines when he petitioned the National Collegiate Athletics Association to eliminate American Indian imagery in collegiate sports.

“Dr. King put his life on the line to fight against racism and discrimination,” Saigo said. “We must do our part and speak up, be engaged and be watchful of the future. The great American experience will fail if we continue to judge people because of their race. Each of us has a responsibility to speak for those who are voiceless,” he said.

During the breakfast, three Benedictine University students were honored as recipients of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Scholarships. The King scholarships are awarded based on a number of criteria including scholarship and community service.

Awarded King scholarships were: Stephanie Jean Brasie of Elmhurst, a junior majoring in Special Education; Rosa Elena Sanchez of Plainfield, a junior majoring in Sociology; and Ericka Estelle Sanders of Chicago, a senior majoring in Biology.
Benedictine Recognized for Innovative Program Aimed at Faculty Retention

Striking a balance between work and family is a problem for many working Americans, and college faculty are no exception.

Flexible career policies and programs are becoming ever more necessary as a means of helping meet the needs of an increasingly diverse faculty. These practices also help colleges and universities improve recruitment and retention of quality faculty and maintain academic competitiveness in a global market.

The Alfred P. Sloan Awards for Faculty Career Flexibility recognize master’s colleges and universities for implementing groundbreaking policies and practices supporting career flexibility for tenured and tenure-track faculty. Only eight universities nationwide were recipients of these Sloan awards in 2008, including Benedictine University which will receive a $25,000 award in recognition of innovative practices in career flexibility.

“These awards recognize excellence in expanding and advancing career flexibility,” said Kathleen Christensen, program director for Workplace, Workforce and Working Families at The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. “The winners clearly recognize, as institutions of higher education, the importance of attracting and retaining the strongest faculty they can.”

The Sloan Foundation recognized Benedictine for its plan to utilize the expertise of faculty, alumni and students from its Ph.D. in Organization Development program employing a process called Appreciative Inquiry. Alumni and student focus groups will identify corporate best practices for career flexibility that can be adapted to the University. A faculty summit will then develop strategies that best advance faculty work-life balance and career flexibility.

“This prestigious award recognizes Benedictine’s unique approach to this critical issue,” said Sandra Gill, dean of the College of Business at Benedictine University. “By cultivating the nationally recognized expertise of our own faculty and students, we can create new opportunities and concepts for a more energized, flexible academic culture.”

Seven faculty and administrators participated in developing Benedictine’s award-winning plan: Gill; Maria de la Cámara, dean of the College of Liberal Arts; Sandra Chmelir, associate professor of Psychology/Sociology; McShelda Jackson, associate professor of Education; Kevin Doyle, associate professor, M.B.A. program; Daniel Nohl, professor of Computer Science and Information Systems; and David Sonnenberger, associate provost.

The awards program, conducted by the American Council on Education (ACE), was open to the 325 master’s institutions as defined in the 2005 Carnegie Classifications. Fifty-six institutions participated in the first-round survey and 26 institutions advanced to the second round of competition.

Among the issues considered were faculty recruitment and retention; strengthening faculty commitment, engagement and morale; achieving institutional excellence; and maintaining academic competitiveness in a global market.

ACE is the major coordinating body for all the nation’s higher education institutions, representing more than 1,600 college and university presidents and more than 200 related associations nationwide.

Highly Acclaimed Poet, Slam Founder is Artist-in-Residence

Marc Kelly Smith, founder of the international poetry slam movement, is Benedictine University’s Spring 2008 Artist-in-Residence. He performed his acclaimed musical adaptation of Carl Sandburg’s poetry and stories, “Sandburg to Smith,” on campus this April.

Born on the southeast side of Chicago, Smith’s innate sense of rhythm and unflinching realism has made him one of the country’s most compelling performers. Full of grit, his performances break poetic boundaries, giving audiences an acute vision of what poetry is and what it can be.

Slam poetry is the competitive form of poetry performance. It was established in the mid-1980s to heighten public interest in poetry readings, and has since evolved into an international art form emphasizing audience involvement and poetic excellence.

Smith has performed at The Kennedy Center, The Smithsonian Institute, The Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, The Art Institute of Chicago and The Chicago Museum of Contemporary Art. He has been featured on CNN, “60 Minutes,” “Oprah,” National Public Radio’s “Whadda Ya Know,” “ARTbeat Chicago” and “Wild Chicago.”

The Artist-in-Residence program brings students face-to-face with leading contributors in the arts.
College Update: The Moser College of Adult and Professional Studies

Breaking New Ground in the Adult Education Market

by Eileen M. Kolich, Ph.D., Dean

Historical Background
In the late 1990s, Benedictine University expanded its marketing and recruitment efforts to include adult students seeking accelerated degree programs with evening or weekend scheduling options. In response to the needs of adult learners, the University began offering a limited number of accelerated programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels in the areas of business and education. Over the last 10 years, the University’s foray into adult education has grown considerably, and the tenacity and ongoing commitment to providing quality education experiences for adult students has positioned the University to address one of the fastest growing markets in the field of higher education today.

Given this history and the President’s vision for promoting the University’s dedication to adult learners, William Carroll announced in January 2006 the formation of the Margaret and Harold Moser College of Adult and Professional Studies, which is the fifth and newest college within the University.

The Moser College
With the creation of the Moser College, adult students can experience multiple degree opportunities with different methods of delivery. Now students seeking a Master of Business Administration have a choice between two separate programs, one within the College of Business through a traditional model on the main campus and the second within the Moser College, through an accelerated learning team or online venue.

In addition to the Moser Center, the College offers accelerated degree programs at 25 other locations including the University Center of Lake County, the Bellwood Learning Center and Springfield College. These degree programs include: Master’s degree programs in Business Administration, Public Health and Education (Reading and Literacy and Leadership and Administration); Bachelor of Arts Degree in Management; and an Associate of Arts Degree in Business Administration.

The College also offers a program leading to an Alternative Certification in Mathematics and Science in Grades 6-12, professional development workshops and seminars, and an undergraduate certificate in Sales and Sales Management.

Major Achievement and Future Goals
During the first year, the academic quality of the College was enhanced by establishing procedures for ensuring the effectiveness of our curricula, faculty and student services. In May 2007, the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association validated the excellence of these programs, which was further evidenced upon the receipt of unrestricted approval for online degree programs in June 2007.

Each year the College continues to experience phenomenal enrollment growth, from approximately 700 students in Fall 2006 to a little more than 1,300 students in Spring 2008. Future planning includes additional learning teams and online program offerings, certificates and professional development initiatives. From all indications, the future of the Moser College looks bright, further adding to the academic reputation of Benedictine University.

For more information about the College, contact Debbie Kaszuba at dkaszuba@ben.edu. †

Mystery Photos
Can you guess where these images can be found on campus? Give it a try.

1
2
3
4

(Answers on page 33)
First Responder Program Update:

Six years later, the program is providing a college education for more than 400 police, fire personnel.

Richard Atwood of Steger, a member of the Sauk Village Fire Department, is aware of the benefits of a college degree. “A bachelor’s degree in business will help further my career in fire administration,” he said. He is working toward a Bachelor of Arts in Management (B.A.M.) degree through Benedictine University’s unique program designed for men and women who serve the community as police and fire personnel and support staff.

Since 2002, the First Responder Program has been providing affordable and quality higher education to eligible police and fire personnel in the Chicago metropolitan area. There are no tuition costs. Police and fire personnel pay only for their textbooks. Classes are held in fire stations throughout the Chicago area. Students run the gamut from support personnel to fire chiefs to watch commanders.

Jack Bright of Bourbonnais, who works in the Lemont Fire Protection District, is also working toward a Bachelor of Arts in Management degree. He believes a degree will give him some flexibility in a post-public safety career. “I was attracted to this program by the cost, the schedule and the opportunity to complete my degree,” he said.

The life of a First Responder is difficult. In addition to strenuous and dangerous work, the hours are long for the salary they earn. To maintain a high level of professionalism throughout their lives including after they leave the station, they must acquire the same educational opportunities as the people they protect. A liberal arts college education gives them the skills to deal with the life- and property-threatening situations they encounter every day.

Currently, more than 80 public service organizations are represented by the more than 400 first responders enrolled in the program. Among the organizations participating in the program are: Cook County Sheriff, DuPage County Sheriff, Illinois State Police, and police and fire departments from Aurora to Wood Dale.

Students may pursue Associate of Arts in Business Administration (A.A.B.A.) and Bachelor of Arts in Management (B.A.M.) degrees that are offered in their own communities. A Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) and Master of Science in Management and Organizational Behavior (M.S.M.O.B.) are offered on Benedictine University’s Lisle campus.

For more information about the First Responder Program, contact Tanesha Pittman, associate dean of the First Responder and Professional Development programs, at (630) 829-6125.

Jurica Nature Museum Receives Two Grants

DuPage Community Foundation Grant Will Help Turn a Classroom into Desert Exhibit

More than 140 middle-school students participating in Benedictine University’s Summer Sleuths program last July were asked how to create an exhibit for six full-size desert mules that were donated to the Jurica Nature Museum by Oak Brook residents Sam and Rosemary Pancotto.

The students suggested a number of themes including dusk in the desert, predator-prey relationships and nocturnal animals of the desert. They suggested hands-on activities and specimens to include in the exhibit. They even drew plans and made dioramas to present to the museum staff.

These ideas were incorporated in a grant proposal to the DuPage Community Foundation, which recently announced that it has awarded Benedictine University $7,500 for the “Sonoran Desert Exhibit.”

“This is a wonderful beginning for what should be an exciting exhibit,” said Rev. Theodore Suchy, O.S.B., curator of the Jurica Nature Museum and assistant chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at the University. “We hope to incorporate a black bear, a mountain lion, some small coyotes and even an armadillo in the exhibit along with some scorpions and snakes.”

The centerpiece of the exhibit will be five mule deer, which in their natural habitat can reach more than six feet in length and run at speeds up to

AlertWave™ System Will Help Keep Students, Staff Safe During Crises

In an effort to make the Benedictine University community as safe as it can be, the University’s Emergency Response and Recovery Team consistently reviews and revises emergency plans and efforts.

Earlier this year, Benedictine implemented a swipe card and security camera system that has been in use in its three residence halls – Ondrak, Jaeger and Neuzil – since August. The newest addition to the University’s emergency communication vehicles is the AlertWave™ Emergency Notification System.

AlertWave™ is a wireless public address/emergency warning/mass notification system that allows University officials to send immediate messages from a command center to any part of campus concerning impending, ongoing or diffused emergency situations.

The system utilizes wireless technology to broadcast a
Grant from Federal Group Will Help Preserve Valuable Jurica Specimens

Valuable specimens and rare artifacts displayed at the Jurica Nature Museum will be preserved for future generations to enjoy thanks to a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

The IMLS and its partner, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), have awarded the Jurica Nature Museum a set of the “IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf.” The set includes books, DVDs and online resources which address such topics as the philosophy and ethics of collecting, collections management and planning, emergency preparedness and culturally-specific conservation issues.

“The Jurica Nature Museum is looking forward to utilizing this new set of resources for our collection management,” said Fr. Theodore Suchy, O.S.B. “We know that we have a number of specimens that are valuable from a cultural as well as a biological perspective. Some of our birds are from well-known early ornithologists such as C.B. Cory and Louis Agassiz.”

The Jurica Nature Museum is among the first institutions to receive the “IMLS Bookshelf.” The system focuses on collections typically found in art or history museums and in libraries’ special collections, with an added selection of texts for zoos, aquaria, public gardens and nature centers.

“We will be able to share this information with the Benedictine Library, which also has a collection of rare and valuable books and other items that have been donated over the years,” said Mary Mickus, coordinator of education services at the Jurica Nature Museum.

The IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute’s mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas.

For more information about the Jurica Nature Museum, please contact Fr. Theodore at (630) 829-6545 or at tsuchy@ben.edu.

message through speakers, sirens and strobe lights located throughout campus, allowing students, faculty, staff and visitors to receive important information involving any type of emergency.

The system initiates a campus-wide alert within seconds, telling students what happened and how to react, using simple voice instructions that can be customized for each building and zone. The emergency alert targets everyone on campus and is controlled 24 hours a day at the University Police Emergency Dispatch Center, located in the lower level of the Krasa Center.

This state-of-the-art communications system can be utilized for severe weather notifications, active threat alerts or any circumstance which may arise that requires communication with our campus community. The system has been installed in all building common areas, as well as numerous exterior locations including the Sports Complex. The speakers cover the common areas only, not individual classrooms or offices. The system may also be expanded in the future to include classrooms and offices, mass e-mail and phone messaging capabilities.

The AlertWave™ system has been demonstrated campus-wide to familiarize the University community with what it sounds and looks like so students, faculty and staff are prepared in an emergency situation.

By implementing the AlertWave™ system, the University continues its leadership in campus safety and security.
Heart disease is the No. 1 killer in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, almost 700,000 people die of heart disease in the United States each year. Heart disease kills more women than breast cancer and ovarian cancer combined. Prevention techniques and early detection can be life-savers.

A $43,000 grant from Manatec Biomedical, Inc. of Paris, France is helping researchers at the University learn whether heart-related diseases like hypertension, congestive heart failure and peripheral vascular disease can be detected more reliably and less expensively.

Benedictine researchers are testing the PhysioFlow™ cardiac impedance device. PhysioFlow™ is a new generation of impedance cardiograph that performs continuous non-invasive measurements of cardiac output and a number of other factors that can signal potential heart disease.

Previously, these measurements could only be made on large hospital-based systems, which were most often invasive.

PhysioFlow™ also allows for the non-invasive evaluation of cardiac output during exercise or effort. Evaluating cardiac output during exercise is critical for patients suffering from coronary artery disease or heart failure.

“This is a state-of-the-art device,” said Craig Broeder, Ph.D., director of the Master of Science in Clinical Exercise Physiology (M.S.C.E.P.) program at Benedictine University. “This is a new system that could someday be used in advanced cardiac facilities everywhere. We want to validate the reliability of the system in a variety of exercise modalities, and we want to create a mini-webcast or podcast to educate physicians on how to use the system.”

The PhysioFlow™ system has several advantages over other cardiac impedance devices. The system avoids health damage to the patient that can occur during catheterization. It is easy to implement because only six electrodes are needed and user-friendly software makes it easy to operate.

For more information about the PhysioFlow™ system or the M.S.C.E.P. program, call (630) 829-6227.

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**M.S.C.E.P. PROGRAM AWARDED GRANT TO RESEARCH DEVICE USED TO DETECT HEART DISEASE**

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**THE NEED FOR INVESTIGATIVE ACCOUNTANTS DRIVES NEW PROGRAM**

The U.S. Department of Labor predicts that an increase in the number of businesses, changes in financial laws and regulations, and greater scrutiny of company finances will drive a growing demand for accountants and auditors over the next seven years.

This increasingly broad and complex business environment will also drive a demand for forensic accountants who can conduct investigations into fraudulent bookkeeping practices and communicate that information clearly and concisely in a courtroom setting.

Benedictine University has begun offering a concentration in Forensic Accounting for graduate students pursuing a Master of Science in Accountancy (M.S.A.), and a certificate in Forensic Accounting for undergraduate adult students seeking to enhance their employment potential or career options.

The Forensic Accounting concentration will feature a series of four accounting courses — Forensic Accounting, Fraud Examination, Computer Fraud, and Fraud and the Legal Environment.

“This program, in conjunction with our undergraduate adult and graduate programs in Accounting, will provide students with the professional skills, knowledge and competencies necessary to be successful, professional forensic accountants,” said Rick Cali, assistant dean in the College of Business.

Undergraduate adult accounting majors acquire the broad base of knowledge, represented by the University’s core courses taken by all students, that are invaluable in their future career development and daily lives as citizens of their community. They develop knowledge in the social sciences, computer science and finite mathematics.

The M.S.A. program focuses on broad-based accounting knowledge. Courses in other business disciplines (economics, leadership, management and ethics) are integrated into the program to complement a professional accounting career. Students are taught by acknowledged experts in the field of accounting.

For more information about the Forensic Accounting program, contact the College of Business at (630) 829-6226.
A VALUE-BASED PARTNERSHIP — UNIVERSITY TEAMS UP WITH CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The School of Education in the College of Education and Health Services has a unique partnership with St. Ethelreda Catholic School in Chicago. The purpose of this partnership has been to provide a research-based framework that will accomplish the following objectives: improve student achievement at the elementary school; enhance the efficacy of the faculty at the elementary school and the University; provide preservice teachers an opportunity to put theory into action; and use research as a tool for ongoing assessment within the professional learning community.

This partnership is based on a shared philosophy of values and theory-based pedagogy centered around four common values (scholarship, leadership, lifelong inquiry and social responsibility) that both the University and elementary school hold true in their belief systems.

The first phase of this partnership begins with an assessment of teacher content knowledge and pedagogy that flow from these values. The next phase will be to align the identified needs to research proven practices. Preservice teachers will be involved in the research projects through their clinical experiences. During the course of this partnership, preservice teachers and classroom teachers will learn best practices in teaching that ultimately lead to better academic achievement and enhancement of instruction among the students in the classroom.

During this school year members of the education faculty including James Pelech, Ph.D., Ovid Wong, Ph.D. and MeShelda Jackson, Ph.D., have been actively involved with identifying the needs of teachers and students at the school. Pelech has been a part of this project since its inception. He has worked diligently in the summer programs where St. Ethelreda students were involved in campus math and science activities. This semester, Pelech has been providing inservice for all teachers in math education. Another faculty member, Daniel Nohl, Ph.D., Department of Computer Science and Information Services, also offered his assistance in computer programming for an academic competition.

St. Ethelreda students won the competition at the local level and went on to compete at the state level. Benedictine faculty members are very excited about providing more inservice in the areas of math and science and modeling best practice working side by side with teachers at the school.

Pelech, Wong, Jackson and the schools’ principal presented information about the partnership at the 2008 Professional Development Schools National Conference in Orlando, Florida this April. They submitted two grant applications to support teacher training and for the purchase of additional materials and resources for the school.

The value-based partnership shared by St. Ethelreda School and the University will provide a strong foundation for implementation of best educational practices that will lead to improved student achievement.

M.S.C.P. OFFERS SEMINAR TO GRADUATE STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY PROFESSIONALS

The Master of Science in Clinical Psychology (M.S.C.P.) program offered a unique learning opportunity through a Clinical Supervision Seminar held this spring. The seminar was offered to students and community professionals providing supervision at internship sites throughout DuPage, Cook, Will, Kane and Kendall counties.

Each student in the M.S.C.P. program must complete 10 hours of internship to graduate. In order to accomplish this, the program has cultivated relationships with more than 100 agencies, hospitals and service providers in the surrounding counties. Professional counselors must earn 18 Continuing Education Units in order to renew their professional license through the State of Illinois. The invitation to participate in the Clinical Supervision Seminar was a way for the M.S.C.P program to extend appreciation to the many professionals working to assist students in the field. The seminar allowed them to expand their knowledge of an important skill used with M.S.C.P. students while completing their internship.

Barbara A. Leiber, M.S., L.C.P.C., an instructor in the program, taught the Clinical Supervision Seminar. As the retired director of the Department of Social and Health Services for the Village of Downers Grove, Leiber has more than 20 years of experience supervising staff and interns.

The student feedback after completing the seminar was very positive: they noted that the opportunity to interact with working professionals in the field was very helpful; they expressed the sense of being better prepared before engaging in their internship; and they were reassured that asking questions is not only accepted practice but expected practice.
In its 100th year, *The Candor* Earns More Recognition from the Illinois College Press Association

The Benedictine University student newspaper, *The Candor*, celebrates its 100th anniversary this year. The paper has won many accolades over the last century and its alumni have gone on to many successful careers and endeavors. This year is no exception as the *The Candor* announces the latest awards from the Illinois College Press Association convention held this past February in Chicago.

Katie A. Buell, a senior in communication arts, received first place for her news photo of the grand opening of the Coal Ben, a trendy student gathering spot on campus.

Andrew James Schultz, a senior in communication arts, and Erin Renee O’Kane, a sophomore in communication arts, won first place in sports page design.

*The Candor* editor-in-chief Heather Ashley Nelson, a senior in communication arts, and Robert James Kasper, a freshman in health science and O’Kane, received third place for feature page design.

Nelson and her sister, Holly Christine Nelson, a sophomore in nutrition, shared an honorable mention for the classified section in three Fall 2007 issues; and O’Kane also won third place for her in-house promotional ad titled “You Can’t Put Beer Pong On Your Resume.”

Photographer Chi Lan Nguyen took fifth place in the “Shoot Chicago” contest sponsored by the Chicago Tribune.

*The Candor* took home three awards for work done by former editor-in-chief Noorjabeen Naseer, communication arts, C07. Naseer received third place for an in-house promotional ad, third place for a feature story, and an honorable mention for a spot news photo.

*The Candor* also received second place in General Excellence for its overall content and coverage.

Past issues of *The Candor* are available online at www.ben.edu/candor.

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Oxford Lecturer, Dominican Scholar Headlines ‘Theology in Life’ Lecture

George Keith “G.K.” Chesterton was a prolific English critic and author of verse, essays, novels and short stories. He ranked with George Bernard Shaw and H.G. Wells among the most celebrated writers of his time. He is probably best known for his series about the priest-detective Fr. Brown who appeared in 50 stories.

But after converting from Anglican in 1922, Chesterton’s energy turned toward defending Catholicism. Chesterton argued against all the trends that eventually took over the 20th century: materialism, scientific determinism, moral relativism and agnosticism.

He also argued that socialism and capitalism are enemies of freedom and justice in modern society.

“G.K. Chesterton’s Discovery of Metaphysical Realism” was the topic of a lecture that was presented by Fr. Aidan Nichols, O.P., a renowned theologian, author and John Paul II Memorial Visiting Lecturer at the University of Oxford, on campus this April.

In his lecture on Chesterton and metaphysical realism, Nichols highlighted the interdisciplinary nature of Catholic intellectual life which recognizes the importance of faith and reason. Metaphysical realism is a philosophical cornerstone of Catholic thinking. The lecture also touched on Chesterton himself, a man known as a writer and journalist, who took his faith to the marketplace and defended it with wit, reason and humor. Nichols discussed how divine revelation emerges in human experience and thought, manifesting truth, goodness and beauty.

Nichols earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Oxford University. He entered the Dominican order in 1970 and was ordained a Catholic priest in 1976. He has lectured at Cambridge University and was the Robert Randall Distinguished Professor in Christian Culture at Providence College (Rhode Island). In 2003, the Master of the Order of Preacher (Dominicans) conferred the degree “Sacrae Theologiae Magister” (Master of Sacred Theology) on Nichols.

To learn more about this lecture series sponsored by the Department of Religious Studies and St. Procopius Abbey, contact Christine M. Fletcher, Ph.D, at (630) 829-6263 or cfletcher@ben.edu.
Reflections by Fr. James Flint, O.S.B.

St. Procopius and the Presidential Election of 1952

This past winter the University Archives produced a fine display on the 100th anniversary of the student newspaper, The Candor. Musing over the paper’s history brought to mind an incident that might be of particular interest in this election year.

The presidential contest of 2008 shall be the first since 1952 in which no incumbent president or vice-president shall be on either party’s ticket in November. President Harry Truman announced early in 1952 his intention not to run again, and Vice President Alben Barkley’s effort to gain the Democratic nomination quickly floundered, largely because he was already 74 years old at the time.

So the “open” character of the forthcoming election, plus the controversies that raged over the conduct of the Korean War and the activities of Sen. Joseph McCarthy, attracted a great deal of public interest. From July 21-26, the Democratic National Convention was held in the International Amphitheatre in Chicago, nominating on the third ballot Illinois’ governor, Adlai Stevenson, who chose as his running mate Sen. John Sparkman of Alabama.

So momentous of an event, only 25 miles from Lisle, could not fail to attract the attention of three men who had just completed their freshman year at St. Procopius College: David Randall, C55, Raymond Rigovsky, C55, and Ronald Supena, C55. Supena suggested that the convention be graced with representation from the only Benedictine college in the area.

And so it happened that the three students went to Chicago and obtained entrance to the convention hall, not through mere political influence, but with improvised (i.e., homemade) press passes issued by the world-famous Procopian News! Supena and Randall were in fact staff members for the student paper, while Rigovsky had inherited a lifelong interest in Democratic politics from his family.

Security being far less intense than it would become in later decades, the intrepid journalists were even able to get onto the convention floor, meet some politicians and join the fun of the demonstrations.

That autumn, the entire campus turned its attention to the election. The Procopian News of October 23 featured competing opinion pieces, the first titled, “We’re For Eisenhower,” the second, authored by Supena and Rigovsky, “We Like Adlai.”

At least one similarity to that summer’s convention declared, “We, with the governor, believe that it is always time for a change — a change to something better.”

On October 28, the campus began a week of enthusiastic campaigning with a student assembly. Each party had headquarters, and each did its best to distribute and display buttons, posters and literature.

On Election Night Eve (November 3), another rally was held in the gymnasium. After a talk by the rector, Fr. Thomas Havelik, O.S.B., urging the students to pray for guidance in making the right choice, keynote speakers were heard for both the Eisenhower-Nixon and the Stevenson-Sparkman tickets.

The honors for the latter were done by Supena, introduced by Rigovsky. Noisy demonstrations followed each address, and refreshments were then provided by Student Government.

The following day saw the triumph of the Democrats, at least at St. Procopius. Stevenson won 202 votes to Eisenhower’s 169, with 13 ballots being cast for Eric Hass (the Socialist Labor candidate) and one for Gen. Douglas MacArthur. The Electoral College, of course, decided differently, and Dwight Eisenhower began eight years as President, defeating Adlai Stevenson again in 1956.

The three Procopian journalists who attended the convention remained involved in the school long after their graduation. Supena, who became an attorney, served a number of years as chair of the Board of Directors of Benet Academy, where Rigovsky, by then Fr. Ronald, O.S.B., was principal for more than 20 years and then became the school’s first President. Fr. Ron was succeeded as president of Benet in 1992 by Randall, now Fr. Jude, O.S.B., who continues in that role to the present day. 

Symposium Seeks to Answer Whether Faith and Reason Can Solve World’s Woes

Many view faith and reason as opposites. From the Scopes Monkey Trial to today’s debate on intelligent design vs. evolution, people often perceive science and religion as separate and incompatible. However, perhaps faith and reason can find some common ground to solve two of the world’s most pressing issues — climate change and population growth.

This past April, Benedictine University brought together a distinguished panel of scholars from the sciences, business, theology and philosophy to raise questions and engage in an urgent dialogue, “Transformation from the Individual to the Global: How Faith and Reason Can Save the World.”

The first panel discussions addressed “Climate Change and the Theology and Science of Transformation.” The panelists included: Tim Marin, Ph.D., assistant professor, Chemistry; Kevin Doyle, Ph.D., associate professor, Master of Business Administration program; Sr. Karen Nykiel, O.S.B., instructor, Religious Studies; and John Mickus, Ph.D., professor, Biology.

The afternoon session included a panel discussion, “Transformation or Destruction: The Population Explosion” and featured: Christine Fletcher, Ph.D., assistant professor, Religious Studies; Al Martin, Ph.D., professor, Biology; Patrick Flynn, Ph.D., associate professor, Philosophy; and Ted Hogan, Ph.D., instructor, Master of Public Health program.

For more information about events sponsored by the Department of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies, call (630) 829-6250.

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Spring 2008 27

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BENEDICTINE JOINS REGIONAL INITIATIVE TO REDUCE OZONE-CAUSING EMISSIONS

Benedictine University has joined Clean Air Counts, a northeastern Illinois regional initiative to reduce ozone-causing emissions.

Clean Air Counts is a collaborative effort between the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, the City of Chicago, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. This multi-year initiative seeks to achieve specific and significant reductions in targeted smog-forming pollutants and major reductions in energy consumption.

More than 500 businesses and organizations throughout the region participate in the Clean Air Counts campaign. Thus far, their efforts have reduced pollution by 6.12 tons or 2,570,652 pounds per day.

“The University is more than 120 years old, and as part of our Benedictine heritage we have always strived to be good neighbors and responsible stewards of the earth. By joining this initiative, we hope to demonstrate our commitment to creating a better environment for our neighbors, our community and the entire metropolitan area,” said Benedictine University Executive Vice President Charles Gregory.

Two projects recently undertaken at the University have been recognized by Clean Air Counts for their contributions to a cleaner, healthier environment.

The Jurica Tallgrass Prairie, a 2,967-square foot native landscaping project undertaken by biology professor Lawrence Kamin, Ph.D., near Lake St. Benedict on the southern edge of campus, was cited for reducing harmful air emissions by eliminating the need to use gasoline-powered maintenance equipment. The native landscaping has reduced emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds by 10 pounds.

The University also used a $40,500 grant from The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation for energy efficient upgrades to indoor lighting systems in three buildings. The project yielded an approximate 67.5 kilowatt reduction in energy usage with an estimated annual energy cost savings of almost $13,000. The project has reduced emissions of nitrogen oxide by 3,187 pounds and sulfur dioxide by 6,375 pounds.

One estimate equated the above project with planting 35 acres of trees or taking approximately 25 cars off the road.

Now Families Can Stay In Touch

Initially, it was intended to provide an opportunity for families to teleconference with relatives serving in the military in Iraq prior to the holidays. But the collaboration between Benedictine University and the Freedom Calls Foundation to put the families of servicemen stationed in Iraq in touch with their loved ones in the Chicago area was so successful, it has been extended indefinitely.

The University will continue to offer free, half-hour video conferences to families whose loved ones are stationed at any of five camps in Iraq — Camp Taji, Al Asad Air Base, Camp Fallujah, Camp Victory (Baghdad) and Camp Taqaddum. Several families took advantage of the program to speak with their loved ones stationed in Iraq prior to Christmas.

The Freedom Calls Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that seeks to transform the experience of soldiers on extended deployments in wartime by allowing them to participate in milestone family events such as births, school graduations and anniversaries from the front lines via video conferencing.

The immediate family members in Illinois whose loved ones are deployed at any of the five camps may contact Rudy Dardy, audio-visual coordinator at Benedictine, at (630) 829-6692 to arrange their video conference.

For more information about the Freedom Calls Foundation or to make a donation, visit their Web site at www.freedomcalls.org.

CLEAN AIR COUNTS seeks to reduce air pollution throughout the greater Chicago six-county region. Among the strategies members employ to help meet this goal are: the use of energy-efficient lighting, appliances and office equipment; use of non-polluting paints, cleaning products and building materials; natural landscaping; and transportation alternatives.
Faculty Highlight: Ralph Meeker, Ph.D.

by Rita A. Dougherty

Since 1970, Ralph Meeker has walked and taught in many different areas of Benedictine University. A 1967 graduate of St. Procopius College, Meeker earned a doctorate in 1970 at Iowa State University and returned to his alma mater that year as an assistant professor of Physics.

As the years passed, Meeker became Chair of the Division of Natural Science (1981-86 and 1991-96); Coordinator of Long Range Planning (1978-81); Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science (1988-94); Associate Academic Dean (1995-98) and Professor of Computer Science (1984-present). He was also recently named the Acting Dean of the College of Science.

Meeker has played an important part in the history of the University and has influenced many students’ lives.

When asked how he went from Physics to Computer Science, Meeker responded that there was a need. The school had offered a major in Computer Science which became one of the largest departments on campus. So many students enrolled that classes were offered both day and night. Soon, businesses, banks and other industries and corporations began requesting graduates from this program.

He has also spent time off-campus honing his skills and furthering his knowledge and expertise. During the 1987-88 academic year, Meeker spent a sabbatical at Bell Labs working on the development of a multi-processor packet switching system that used Motorola 68010 processors along with custom circuitry.

He was responsible for development of an operating system to manage the inter-processor communications processor. He wrote a complete real-time operating system to manage the inter-processor communications.

Meeker also spent four summers at Argonne National Laboratory researching Mossbauer Effect — the study of various actinides, particularly uranium and neptunium.

Personally, he enjoys many hobbies including reading, bicycling and cooking…he admitted with a smile. It seems he is an excellent cook and has a raft of cookbooks.

He has experimented with spices in recipes for years, and cooks dinner for his wife, Pam, several nights a week. They both share the kitchen when cooking on holidays for their son, Mark, and daughter, Michelle, C93, who is married to Tony, the son of former Science department professor, Wayne Wesolowski, C67.

Meeker also serves as the faculty contact person to the athletic department, and attends many of the games as well as alumni events that bring former students to campus. He plays an integral part at the University and is respected by faculty, staff and students. Meeker truly helps carry the light as a student mentor and University donor.

If you would like to share a memory from when you were a student here that involves Ralph Meeker, please let us know at lhale@ben.edu.

A Man of Many Talents

by Joe Crookham, C09

A blanked of snow makes the familiar utterly strange.
For the meanwhile, for the after
of you, dense tangle and thicket of you: yellow eye-ring of moon.
St. Procopius Alumni

Class of 1940
Stephen S. Pribil, Academy, celebrated his 85th birthday at his home with family this February.

Class of 1957
Steve Gleason, Philosophy, has retired and is currently working on writing a simple autobiography.

Class of 1965
Ed Molitor, Arts and Sciences, is retired after 39 years of coaching; 32 of which were spent as a head coach. He collected 502 wins with the Palatine Pirates.

Class of 1970
William Kraus, Language, retired in June 2006 after teaching English and French for 36 years at Wilkins Junior High School in Justice, IL. He was also an adjunct instructor at Joliet Junior College for 25 years. His daughter, Karen (Kraus) Herbeck, Sociology C96, and his son-in-law, Dan Herbeck, Biology C97, are both alumni.

Illinois Benedictine College

Class of 1971
Steven M. Kowal, History, has been inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. Fellowship in the College is extended by invitation only to those lawyers recognized to have mastered the art of trial advocacy and who are considered to be the best of the trial bar in the United States and Canada. He is the head of the White Collar Criminal Defense and Corporate Investigations practice group in the law firm of Bell, Boyd & Lloyd in Chicago. He and his wife, Mary (Young), C74, reside in Oak Park.

Class of 1974
Tom Allen, Social Science, made a run for State’s Attorney in Cook County, but unfortunately lost the race.

Class of 1976
Timothy Wingert, D.O., Biology, is currently an associate professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, as part of the state’s Children’s Vision Commission. He is one of five members appointed to the commission responsible for developing a standardized eye examination and vision screening program for Missouri school children from kindergarten through third grade. Wingert is an associate director of clinical care for the American Optometric Association. He holds a doctorate of optometry from Illinois College of Optometry.

Class of 1978
Dale L. Cudjoe, D.M., Music, is serving his third term as president of the Illinois, Indiana and Iowa District Church of Christ Holiness U.S.A. (COCHUSA). He is one of three directors of the Church Health Initiative appointed in July 2007. He serves as program director of the Northern Diocese and was appointed co-director of the denominations Manual Revision Committee 2008.

Maryellen (Lissak) Giger, Ph.D., Physics, and Mary Kaye Martel, Ph.D., Chemistry, were elected officers of the executive committee of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM). The AAPM is the largest organization of medical physicists in the world and celebrates its 50th birthday this year. Giger is president-elect and Martel is chair of the board. The women were classmates in a number of math and physics classes during their time at IBC, and Martel credits Giger for introducing her to the world of medical physics.

Class of 1979
John M. Conness, D.D.S., Biology, received fellowship and master implant certificates from Misch International Implant Institute in Detroit. He has passed a written examination covering the diagnostic, surgical and prosthetic aspects of implant dentistry. Also, Conness has presented more than 15 lectures on implant and cosmetic dentistry. In November, he was named a junior faculty member at the Misch Institute and will help teach other dentists from around the world surgical implant procedures in Detroit and at Temple University.

Karen Maloney, M.D., Biology, was featured in the article, “That Special Woman,” published in the Suburban Woman of DuPage County, January 15-March 15, 2008, highlighting all the volunteer work and help she provides those in need. She founded and runs Carin’ Connections Unlimited (CCU) and is triple board certified with backgrounds in pediatrics, internal medicine and dermatology. Her life experience and genuine hope and love for others have lead her to care for the homeless and the sick. She has now opened a facility near Galena, IL to provide alternative therapy for individuals with special needs. CCU developed a domestic street outreach program, Care on Wheels, for homeless individuals within a 50-mile radius of Chicago, delivering medical care, hot meals and dry clothing. Her practice is in St. Charles.

Class of 1981
Stephen (Steve) A. Grobl, Business and Economics, received the National Catholic Elementary Schools Distinguished Graduate Award, from the Department of Elementary Schools of the National Catholic Education Association. This award recognized Grobl as a graduate of St. Raphael School who exemplifies the highest qualities of Catholic Education with distinguished service to the Catholic Church and the United States of America.

Mary Ellen Sheehan, Religious Studies, is currently helping newly arrived refugees with their studies and coordinating volunteers to aid in this effort.

Class of 1983
Lt. Col. Richard J. Hazdra, Political Science, was promoted to Colonel in the United States Air Force this past November. He resides with his wife, Sue, in Burke, VA and is serving the country on assignment at the Pentagon in Washington D.C. Their daughter, Jackie, is a junior at Illinois Wesleyan College in Bloomington, IL.

Class of 1986
Peter Stefani, Business and Economics, has been named president of Naperville-based King’s Court Builders.

Class of 1989
Keith Bunkenburg, Physical Education, reached his 200th career coaching victory. He is currently in his 13th season as a basketball coach at his alma mater.

Class of 1991
Ronald L. Otten, M.B.A., has joined E-Z-Go, which is a Textron Inc. company and the world’s leading manufacture of golf carts and utility vehicles, as vice president of engineering.

Class of 1994
Jeffrey Bockman, M.B.A., has been working for the last two decades putting together a puzzle that is his family tree. Finding the pieces that fit have required numerous hours of research that, so far, has uncovered ancestors dating back to the arrival of the Mayflower in 1620. Currently, he is the president of the DuPage County Genealogical Society where he has taught classes. He also has served as chairman of the Chicagoland Genealogical Consortium and as vice president of the Illinois State Genealogical Society.
Class of 1995
Robert Burke, History, is a records manager at the pension and benefits consulting firm of Towers Perrin in Philadelphia, PA. He is responsible for managing client case files and contracts. Burke recently received a Star Performance Award from his peers for outstanding achievements and positive contributions to the workforce.

Benedictine University

Class of 1996
Diane (Moore) Barrera, M.P.H., R.D., L.D.N., Nutrition, is one of five “young professionals” featured on the cover of Associations Now, the monthly publication of the American Society of Association Executives. The article, “5 to Watch,” states these professionals have “talent, passion and insight and that is why the future association leadership is in good hands.” Barrera is the only person from Chicago to be featured in the story. She works as director of professional development at the American Dietetic Association in Chicago.

Class of 1999
Robert Head, Ph.D., Organization Development, has been named president of Rockford College. He begins his new job this July. School officials say they chose Head after a nationwide search. Head is currently completing his seventh year as president at Urbana University in Ohio. The chairman of Rockford College’s board of trustees says “Head has a great combination of business and academic experience.” Head was a former vice president at Chicago-based Northern Trust Company and an administrator at Benedictine University.

Aamir Kamal, Molecular Biology, is currently working for American Family Insurance and living with his wife, Saba, in Woodridge, IL.

Jamie Pacis, Psychology, has begun her residency in psychiatry at Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville, NC.

Class of 2004
Amanda Feinberg, Accounting, is currently the senior planner, Cargo Marketing and Sales, for United Airlines.

Todd Lambeth, M.S.M.I.S., is happily married and works as a customer services representative for Verizon Wireless.

Megan M. Saba, Education, is currently a 4th grade teacher at Burnham School in Cicero, IL. She earned a master’s degree in Education from Concordia University.

Class of 2005
Brian A. Bartoz, Political Science, made his first run for public office during the race for Illinois State Senate, 41st District.

Jacob Engler, M.E.D., Partnership Learning/Administration, is the assistant principal at Long Beach Elementary School in Montgomery, IL. Engler was named Waubonsee Community College’s Featured Alumnus in November, where he earned his associate’s degree before transferring to Illinois State University and graduating with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education and in the top 15 percent of his class. He earned tenure as a 5th grade teacher in the Lisle Community School District 202. He then landed a math curriculum coordinator position at Community Consolidated School District 92 in Carol Stream. In August 2007, he began his assistant principalship at Long Beach Elementary School District. Engler supervises a team of 10 teachers’ assistants; focuses on parental communications; coordinates the school improvement program; plans and monitors the staff’s professional development; assists with math and reading intervention programs; and coordinates a career exploration program for students from Oswego East High Schools who are interested in elementary education.

Elizabeth (Davis) Breese, M.B.A., is currently the Senior Demand Planning Analyst for USG, Inc.

Class of 2006
Monica Thoms, M.S., Nutrition, and Joe Pavasarat, are engaged to be married. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, earning a bachelor’s degree in dietetics. She is a clinical dietician with Sodexo Food Services. Her fiancé is a mechanical engineer at Sargent & Lundy. The wedding is scheduled for November 8, 2008.

Class of 2007
Sharla Frances Bratanch, M.S.C.P., is currently working as a clinical therapist at Linden Oaks at Edward Hospital in Naperville. She is pursuing her doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology at Midwestern University in Downers Grove.

Marriages
Illinois Benedictine College

Lawrence Verfurth, Biology C88, married Virginia Sierra on May 18, 2007. He is the medical director of adult hospital services at Rockford Memorial Hospital.

Vicki (Meier) Keane, Communication Arts C95, married Tim Keane on October 14, 2006, and they were expecting their first child in February.

Bridge (Tuohy) Stockdale, Nutrition C96, is married to fellow alumnus, Richard Stockdale, Accounting C95.

Benedictine University


Births
Illinois Benedictine College

Vickie (Pietryga) Lo, Mass Communications C87, her husband, Sal, and daughter, Emily, announce the birth of Madeleine Lorraine, on December 19, 2007. The family currently resides in Naperville.

Kristi (Pinillo) Rodriguez, Literature and Communications C95, and her husband, Antonio Rodriguez, welcomed their first child, a girl, born in November 2007.

Daniel Swanson, Literature and Communications C95, welcomed his son, Daniel Robert Swanson Jr., on May 15, 2007. He was 9 lbs, 6 oz, and 22 ½ inches.

Kelli (Cassidy) Steele, Psychology C95, and her husband, Jeff Steele, announce the birth of their second son, Connor William, in June 2007. He was welcomed to the family’s Alisp, IL home by big brother CJ.

Barbara (Kopeck) Cislo, Biology C96, and her husband, Robert Cislo, announce the birth of a baby girl, Gianna Grace, on January 15, 2008. Cislo is working as a physical assistant at the University of Chicago Medical Center.


Benedictine University

Jennifer Powers Clark, Physics C00, and her husband, John, announce the arrival of Benjamin Ethan, born on January 26, 2008. Clark is an environmental scientist working for the Kansas State Division of Emergency Management.

Voluntary Subscriptions to Voices
You can help supplement the cost of publishing and mailing Benedictine Voices, the alumni magazine. Your tax-deductible gift of $15 helps defray the mounting costs of production. This is strictly voluntary. You can enclose your donation in the attached contribution envelope.

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 Affairs, Benedictine University, 5700 College Rd., Lisle, IL 60532 or at www.ben.edu/alumni/awards.
Benedictine Voices

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

First Name  Middle/Maiden  Last Name  Major  Class Year

Address  City  State  Zip

Home Phone  E-mail Address

Your Title/Company Name  Work Phone

Job Description

Spouse’s Name  Major  Class Year

alumni memory

Rob Burke, C95

“Although I have many memories of my time at IBC [Illinois Benedictine College], I think there are two that stand out the most. The first was my first drive up the main driveway toward old Ben Hall in April of 1990. I was from Philadelphia, Pa., and needed to come and take an entrance exam to attend IBC. I flew out to take the test and wouldn’t you know, it was snowing and it was April Fool’s Day. I remember driving up the main driveway and thinking, ‘These will be the first steps I take toward my college career.’ I was scared and didn’t know what was ahead of me. I was glad I made IBC my college choice. It was the best decision I have ever made.

My second favorite moment was in the fall of my sophomore year in 1991. The Intramural Football Program was pretty big at IBC. They played their games in the quad between Neuzil, Kohlbeck and Jaeger Halls. I was on a team with a bunch of guys from my floor in Jaeger Hall. We just wanted to get out and play. One of our opponents that year was the 3-time undefeated champions — “Damage Inc.” Their team and their fans poured out of the back door of Neuzil Hall onto the field. They had about 150-200 students as their fan-base. They surrounded the back end-zone by Neuzil. Some more of their fans even sat on their windowsills to watch the game. They wore black jerseys, shorts and spikes. They were an intimidating bunch. They were led by their captain, John Madden, who was famous for his Neuzil parties every fall and spring. Our rag-tag bunch of players managed to beat “Damage Inc.” that day, with a last second touchdown from our quarterback, Joe Clayton to Rich Galka. Although our opponents would later go on to win their fourth straight Intramural Championship, their one loss came from our team.

To play in front of 150-200 people in an Intramural Football game was one of my fondest memories from my time at IBC.”

Do you have a memory of your time on campus that you would like to share? E-mail Linda Hale at lhale@ben.edu.

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 new job? Starting a new business venture? Met that person of your dreams? Finally retired? What are you doing with your time?

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

Tell my classmates that . . .

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).

Mystery Photos


2. Statue of St. Benedict located in Lownik Hall.

3. Time capsule box from 1900 now located in Kindlon Hall.

4. Plaque above doorway at Kolbeck Hall.

Death Correction Notice:
The Office of Alumni Affairs would like to apologize for incorrectly identifying an alumnus as ‘deceased’ in the Winter 2008 issue of Voices. It was in fact Patrick J. Mulcahy who passed away, the father of alumnus Rev. Patrick M. Mulcahy, C86.

St. Procopius
Rita Jean Hayes passed away on January 17, 2008. She worked in the president’s office at St. Procopius College from 1961 until retirement in 1984. She became secretary for Abbot Daniel Kucera and was then given charge of supervising the record keeping for the College.

Gerald E. Boucher, C63, passed away on October 25, 2007

Illinois Benedictine College

Jane Crabtree (Business) presented the paper “E-Mail: Boon or Bane?” and the Case Study “Iceland Adventuring: An International Marketing Case Study” at the Association of Global Business in Washington, D.C. held in November 2007.

Kevin Doyle (M.B.A.) and Ralph Meeker (Computer Science and Information Systems) presented their paper, “Team Projects and Peer Evaluations,” at the 2008 Teaching and Learning Conference in January in Orlando, Fla. The paper was named “Best Paper” in their session.

Chris Fletcher (Religious Studies) was the keynote speaker at the Diocese of Scranton (Pa.) Convocation for Catechists in October 2007. Her talk was titled, “Evangelize! Me? How?”

Mardelle Fortier (English) published a fictional mystery story titled, “I Am Not A Lone Gunman,” in Austin Layman’s Crimestalker Casebook, a mystery fiction journal in Massachusetts (Volume IX, No. 1, 2007). She also attended the annual mystery writers’ conference held in February at the Wyndham-O’Hare in Rosemont. Fortier moderated two of the panels, including one on the short story, and was a panelist on a third. The conference drew notable mystery writers such as Tess Gerritsen, Lee Child, Barbara D’Amato, Kathy Reichs and Michael Black, and was attended by literary publishers and agents as well as writers, librarians and readers.

Chuck Gahala (Undergraduate Business) authored an article that appeared in the November-December 2007 issue of Business Credit. The article was titled “Practical Best Practices to Integrate Benchmarking into the Credit Department.” The article included suggestions to business credit practitioners made by corporate credit managers who are employed at major companies in the Chicago area. Gahala and the College of Business hosted the Association of Credit Executives (ACE) in March. The ACE group consists of the highest level corporate credit manager each of whom is from a different industry. The highest ranking credit manager from companies such as Abbott Labs, RR Donnelley, Mitsubishi, Robert Bosch, Alberto Culver, Ryerson Steel, Medline Industries and USG Corporation were on campus. The group of seasoned credit managers held a class session with students from advanced managerial finance. The focus during the class session was credentials, business practices and interviewing skills essential for the first job in finance. The ACE group also holds a quarterly business meeting at Benedictine.

Don Henschel (Undergraduate Business) and Jason Racine, C07, were quoted by the Illinois Certified Public Accountants Society (I.C.P.A.S.) in the November/December 2007 issue of Insight, the society’s journal which is distributed to all members. Henschel’s research on the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (V.I.T.A.) program showed very positive student feedback on this service learning experience which is making a difference in the community. The Benedictine University V.I.T.A. program (in conjunction with the Notre Dame Club of DuPage) is conducted annually by Henschel and Chuck Gahala with assistance from Linda Kanter. In the past five years, Benedictine students have helped low-income families receive more than $250,000 in tax refunds. Henschel is a member of the I.C.P.A.S., a statewide, professional membership organization dedicated to enhancing the success of all Certified Public Accountants. The article may be viewed at the society’s Web site at www.icpas.org under the “Insight” tab.

Joan Hopkins (Library) authored an article that was published in Public Services Quarterly (Volume 3, Numbers 1/2, 2007, pages 258-259). The article, “The Information Literacy Contest,” described how the Benedictine Library uses technology to promote information literacy on campus.

Joyce Jeewek (Education) presented “Using Cyberspace Newspapers as Teaching/Learning Tools in the Classroom: Connecting the World” at the 2007 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Annual Convention held in November 2007 in New York, N.Y. The NTCE annual convention draws thousands of K-12 teachers, college faculty, administrators and other educational professionals from around the world to hear award-winning...
Attention Alumni: Refer a Student

If you know someone who would make a good addition to the Benedictine student community, help them complete the alumni-referred prospect student form online at www.ben.edu/referral and their application fee will be waived.

For more information, contact the Enrollment Center at (630) 829-6300 or admissions@ben.edu.

Manmohan Kaur (Mathematics) presented “Cryptography: An Attractor Set for Undergraduate Research” at the Special Session on Mathematics Education at the Joint Mathematics Meeting of the American Mathematics Society and the Mathematical Association of America held January 6-9 in San Diego. Kaur also gave a talk during the session on cryptography for undergraduates titled “Cryptography as a Pedagogical Tool.” Kaur attended a minicourse on using the software “Maple” in modern cryptography.

Manmohan Kaur also received external funding to support travel to the covered Fields Institute of Mathematical Sciences in Canada in December to attend a workshop on the latest trends in Operator Spaces.

Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B. (curator, Benedictine art collection) presented a series of three religious art presentations at St. John the Apostle Church in Villa Park. The first dealt with various artworks featuring Mary Magdalene, including five well-known paintings by 17th century French artist Georges de La Tour. Fr. Michael also reviewed legends about Mary Magdalene and described art the identity of the saint as a faithful follower of Christ and witness to His resurrection. “The Adoration of the Lamb” by Jan van Eyck, a 12- by-18-foot altarpiece completed in 1432 for the Cathedral of St. Bavo in Ghent, Belgium, was the subject of his second presentation. Fr. Michael described the altarpiece as one of the most significant religious paintings in Christendom and pays homage to Christ in the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist. Fr. Michael’s final presentation featured images from the Book of Revelation displayed at the Cloisters Museum of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Isabel Lobo (Economics) presented a peer-reviewed paper, “Assessing NAFTA: A Selective Review of Recent Studies” by Frank J. Bonello and Lobo, at the Association for Global Business Conference in November in Washington D.C. The paper was published in the conference’s Proceedings.

Luis Loubriel (Music) published an article titled “Manny Laureano — Quarter Century with the Minnesota Orchestra” in the January 2008 issue of the International Trumpet Guild Journal ISSN 0363-2845. He also presented a multimedia clinic on the Teaching of Vincent Cichowicz at the Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference in December at Hilton Towers in Chicago. The presentation was followed by a panel discussion group including William Fielder (Trumpet Professor at Rutgers University), Charles Geyer (Trumpet Professor at Northwestern University), Tom Rolfs (Principal Trombone of the Boston Symphony and Boston Pops Orchestras) and Leonard Candelaria (Former President of the International Trumpet Guild). Loubriel was also invited to join the Editorial Advisory Board of the Forum on Public Policy Journal (headquartered at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana) during Fall 2007, and published a peer-reviewed paper titled “The Marriage of Two Opposing Cultures” in the Summer 2007 edition of the Forum on Public Policy Journal. He presented this paper at the Oxford Round Table Conference that discussed C.P. Snow’s “The Two Cultures” (Oxford, England-Summer 2007). The paper can be found at www.forumonpublicpolicy.com/papersum07.html#artandscience.


Benedictine University’s Marketing and Communications staff earned five awards in the 23rd Annual Admissions Advertising Awards by the Admissions Marketing Report. Demetra LeBoy’s design and Phil Brozynski’s writing of the Leadership Coaching Direct Mailer earned a Gold Award. Krystal Barrett’s design of the Super Fan T-shirt earned a Bronze Award and her design of the WIFI Hot Spot Logo and Strong Roots Magazine Advertisement both earned Merit Awards. Nadia Darwish’s technical direction and Brozynski’s writing of the College of Science Video Viewbook earned a Merit Award. The Admissions Advertising Awards is the largest educational advertising awards competition in the country. This year, 2,000 entries were received from more than 1,000 schools. Judges consisted of a national panel of admissions’ marketers, advertising creative directors, and marketing and advertising professionals.

Alfred Martin (Biology) was an invited panelist in February at the University of St. Francis for a discussion of evolution and religion, “Randomness, Purpose, God and Evolution: Can They Exist Together?” to celebrate Darwin Day.


John Ostrowski (Athletics) and the Benedictine University baseball team performed a service project in November 2007 during the “Harvest Sunday” activities at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Naperville. Team members loaded trucks with boxes of food at the church and then unloaded and stored the food items at the Woodridge Food Pantry.


Sue Peterson (Library) participated in a panel discussion at the CARLI Best Practices in Library Instruction Forum held at Heartland Community College in November 2007. The panel topic was “Instituting Change: You Have All These Great Ideas, Now What?” Peterson spoke about her experiences at the Illinois Immersion Institute and the applications from that experience at Benedictine.


Ethel C. Ragland (Nursing and Health) was featured in a story that ran on the cover of the January 2008 edition of Chicago Hospital News titled “A Focus on Nursing 2008 and Beyond.” Ragland described how the future of nursing will be impacted by a number of factors including technology, alternative career paths, improved outcomes, complexity of care, costs, demographics and research. Ragland also described how Benedictine’s accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing combines virtual and classroom experiences.

Margie Salyer (Clinical Psychology) was invited to present at the annual Parent University hosted by the Township of Downers Grove in November 2007 at Hinsdale Middle School. Salyer presented two programs, “Keeping Parent-Child Relationships Healthy” and “Managing Anger, Yours and Your Child’s!” Parents from all the Downers Grove elementary and high schools attended. The human services department at Downers Grove Township provides a variety of services which focus on helping people develop the skills and resources they need to live responsibly and independently and avoid more serious problems which require intensive intervention. This education program is one of two hosted annually. Salyer is a regular presenter at this and other area Parent University programs.
Ostrowski Earns 800 Career Coaching Victories

In the 2008 season opener for Benedictine University’s baseball team March 8, veteran head coach John Ostrowski (36th season) wasted no time in reaching a place few NCAA Division III coaches have gone before: 800 career coaching victories. Entering the year with a mark of 799-630-15 (55.9 percent) during 36 seasons, Ostrowski joined the elite 800-win club when his team defeated Eastern Nazarene College 12-11 in 12 innings on its annual spring trip to Ft. Myers, Florida. Ostrowski — or “O” as he is known to most of his players — is just the ninth person in NCAA Division III history to amass 800 victories at the same school, and is 11th overall on the circuit’s all-time wins list. His 800 wins also ranks sixth in terms of most victories by an active NCAA III coach.

Peter Sorensen (Organization Development [O.D.]) and Theresa Yaeger (Management and Organizational Behavior) were selected as judges for the O.D. Network-Chicago 2008 Impact Award competition. The competition identifies best O.D. projects in the Chicago area on criteria such as stakeholder engagement, use of data and feedback, and organizational impact of O.D. effort. Benedictine University also hosted the judge’s decision event in January. Judges from both academia and O.D. practice participated. Benedictine O.D. and Master of Science in Management and Organizational Behavior (M.S.M.O.B.) faculty and students played a major role at the 2007 Midwest Academy of Management Annual Conference in October. Presenters, discussants and symposia chairs from Benedictine University included Sorensen, Yaeger, Philip Anderson (M.S.M.O.B.), O.D. alumni and students, Benedictine University First Responder and M.S.M.O.B. students. Also included were alumni and students from the Springfield College/Benedictine University M.S.M.O.B. program. At the conference, Yaeger was elected as upcoming Program Chair and 2010 President of the Midwest Academy of Management. Yaeger was also among the Benedictine University Ph.D., M.S.M.O.B. faculty and alumni who played a major role in the recent national meeting of the O.D. Network. Yaeger chaired and presented a session on “Corporate Strategies for Global O.D.: Advancing Current Practice.” Other participants on the panel included Sorensen, Anderson and Jason Wolf (Director of O.D. for HCA and a Ph.D. student). As members of the Editorial Board, Yaeger and Sorensen met with the Editorial Board of the O.D. Practitioner, the journal publication for the O.D. Network. Sorensen and Yaeger were among those who edited the recently published 14th edition of Organization Behavior and Change (2007). The book was co-edited with Thomas Head, Ph.D., Amoco Professor of International Business at Roosevelt University; Bernard Baum, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, University of Illinois-Chicago; and David Cooperrider, Ph.D., Chairman of the SIGMA Program for Human Cooperation and Global Action and Professor at Case Western University. The book has become a tradition involving the review and selection of the most significant contributions and influential thought-pieces in the field.

Ram Tenkasi (Organization Development) served on the national selection committee to select Fulbright-CII fellows from Southeast Asia along with David Mulford, U.S. Ambassador to India; Eric Anthony Jones, Ph.D., First Secretary Economics, and Dominic Keating, First Secretary for Intellectual Property, both of the U.S. Embassy in India; and Anjan Das, Ph.D., Senior Director and Head of the Confederation of Indian Industry.

Lisa Townsley (Mathematics) presented the talk “A Joint Computer Lab Can Serve Both Biocalculus and Traditional Calculus Students” at the Joint Mathematics Meeting of the American Mathematics Society (A.M.S.) and the Mathematical Association of America January 6-9 in San Diego. Townsley also served on the A.M.S. short course committee and attended a minicourse on using Maple in Abstract Algebra. Townsley was also a supported attendee of the workshop “Homological Methods in Representation Theory” at the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in Berkeley, Calif. in April.


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The Benedictine women’s basketball squad earned a berth in the Northern Athletics Conference (NAC) post-season tournament for the second-consecutive season. The Eagles, under fourth-year head coach Paul Nelson, finished 13-13 overall with three new starting players in the lineup.

Senior Tamika Curtis capped off a brilliant career in the Eagles’ colors by earning first-team all-conference accolades as well as being named honorable mention All-American by both the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) and D3Hoops.com. It was Curtis’ fourth first-team all-conference award in as many seasons and her second-consecutive All-America honorable mention honor from the WBCA.

Curtis was a three-time D3Hoops.com national “Team of the Week” and a three-time NAC “Student-Athlete of the Week” honoree in 2007-08. She had “double-doubles” (double digit points and rebounds in the same game) in 14 of 26 contests and double-digit scoring in 25 of 26 games.

In her illustrious 106-game career at Benedictine, Curtis posted some incredible numbers not likely soon to be challenged: 54 “double-double” games; 99 games in double-figure scoring; 39 games with 20-plus points; and eight games with 30-plus points. She finished her career with 1,887 points (school record), 1,124 career rebounds (2nd in school history), 208 career blocks (school record) and a career field goal percentage of 54.7 (school record).

Women’s Basketball

Men’s Basketball

The Eagles finished the season 11-15 overall and qualified for the Northern Athletics Conference (NAC) tournament for the second time in as many seasons. Benedictine graduates just one senior from this year’s roster.

Junior guard Jared Bailey was named to the All-Northern Athletics Conference first team. In the final NAC statistics, Bailey was eighth in scoring, fifth in free-throw percentage, third in assists, fourth in steals, sixth in 3-point field goal percentage, eighth in 3-point field goals made per game, third in minutes played and 15th in field goal percentage.

Bailey was a three-time D3Hoops.com National “Team of the Week” selection and also earned recognition three times as the NAC “Student-Athlete of the Week.” He had a career-high 39 points versus NAC champion and NCAA III playoff entry Aurora University.

Freshmen A.J. Brown and Brian Genslinger were both selected to the NAC’s All-Rookie Team.

Head coach Keith Bunkenburg also won the 200th game of his coaching career on February 7 at Rockford College. Bunkenburg, in his 13th year at the Eagles’ helm, ranks second in coaching victories at Benedictine (trailing only legendary coach Tony LaScala).

Indoor Track and Field

As the indoor track and field season drew to a close, senior Kimyenna Abron became the first female sprinter in Benedictine history to represent the school at the NCAA Division III indoor championships.

Abron entered the 55 meters as the 10th-fastest qualifier and with a school-record time of 7.21 seconds. She also set school indoor records in both the 200- and 400-meter races. Abron won the Northern Athletics Conference indoor championships in both the 55 meters and 200 meters, as well as anchoring the Eagles’ second place team in the 4x400 meter relay.

Under normal circumstances, those are impressive credentials. It’s even more so for Abron when you consider that she had never competed in track and field at the collegiate level prior to the indoor season’s first competition in January. Abron was an all-conference soccer player, spending three seasons with the Eagles program.

Teammate Hannah Miller also established a new school record in the mile during the indoor season.

Tamiara Curtis

Jared Bailey

by Dave Beyer

Indoor Track and Field

Athletics Conference indoor championships in both the 55 meters and 200 meters, as well as anchoring the Eagles’ second place team in the 4x400 meter relay

Two of head coach Sue Brumm’s Eagle swimmers — Erik Morales and Devin Kummer — turned in outstanding performances at the Liberal Arts Invitational, the team’s traditional season-ending meet.

Morales capped his collegiate career as a member of the Eagles’ men’s program with a fourth-place finish in the 200 butterfly, along with a seventh-place finish in the 500 freestyle. He was also the 10th-place finisher in the 100 butterfly.

Kummer, in her first season on the women’s team, earned sixth-place finishes in both the 100 and 200 breaststroke events. She was also eighth in the 200 individual medley.

Swimming

Jared Bailey

by Dave Beyer

Women’s Basketball

Jared Bailey

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Swimming
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- Hank Haney

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A former PGA Teacher of the Year and a member of the NIKE Golf Advisory Staff, he writes for Golf Digest Magazine, does a weekly segment on ESPN Radio, and has written two successful golf books and produced six instructional DVD’s.

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Using his insights, inspirations and proven principles he has applied to his coaching of such legendary players as Tiger Woods and Mark O’Meara, Hank Haney reveals clear, passionate guidelines on reaching for and achieving success.

While focusing on such points as creating and executing a plan, commitment and uncovering mistakes, he has recently spoken to such companies as Prudential Securities, Merrill Lynch, Golf Digest, American Express, Wachovia, Eli Lilly, IBM, EDS, Lexus, LG Electronics, CIBC World Markets, Nike, Buick, General Motors, ESPN, Nortel, FBR, Breakfast Club of America, Chevron, Morgan Stanley, Golfsmith, PGA of America, Italian PGA, European PGA, German PGA, Australian PGA and the Canadian PGA.

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Schedule of events

Registration and Breakfast 6:30 a.m.
Shotgun Start 7:30 p.m.
Registration and Lunch 11:00 a.m.
Shotgun Start 1:15 p.m.
Cocktails 6:30 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Register online at www.ben.edu/golf.
Upcoming Events – 2008

Join us at these upcoming alumni events.

May 18
Commencement and Golden Eagles Reunion

May 20
Alumni Board Meeting

June 19
African-American Alumni Reception

June 29
2008 All-Alumni Picnic

June 30
14th Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing
Featuring Golf Instructor Hank Haney

July 27
Athletic Alumni Boat Cruise

September 16
Alumni Board Meeting

October 18
Homecoming Festival

For more information about these and other University events, visit our award-winning Web site — www.ben.edu.

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