A community comes together

The events of September 11, 2001, have forever changed this nation. As the events were unfolding and in the days since, we have been involved in an on-going dialogue with students, faculty, staff and the larger Chicago area community. Our goal was (and is) to: when possible, listen and respond — when appropriate, and be there for our students — whenever needed.

On September 11, meetings were not canceled but urged to meet up to the frightening things going on in our land. We felt that in the middle of the uncertainty that was unfolding it was important for us to come together as a community: Faculty held open forums to discuss and to try and get an informational, emotional and spiritual grip on what was happening.

Mass was offered for the victims and for our country.

Campus Ministry established help stations throughout the community. Abbot Hugh Anderson, O.S.B., St. Procopius Abbey, and Chancellor of the University, sent additional monks to campus for students and staff who might be in need.

On September 13, an open forum for the entire community was called. A panel of faculty, ministers and social workers assembled to engage a standing room only crowd — to help gain understanding and hope.

On September 14, at President Bush’s call for a national day of prayer and unity, all offices were closed and classes “suspended” for 20 minutes. The Benedictine University community was invited to meet in front of the Kindlon Hall of Learning to join hands in silent prayer while the cairn played “The Lord’s Prayer,” “Amazing Grace,” and “Good Bless America.”

Since those dark and desperate days of September, the conversation and prayers continue. This diverse community of many nationalities, cultures and religions has supported itself in a wonderful and loving embrace.

As we face an uncertain future, we know that we are working hard to make the campus as safe as it can be and to try to bring understanding to confusion, serenity to desperation and love to a world seemingly bereft of it. I encourage your input, your ideas, and your concerns.
Former Benedictine president sends ‘kudos’

Dr. Richard C. Becker, president emeritus, sent a letter of congratulations and appreciation to the entire Benedictine community after he attended the blessing and dedication ceremony of the new University buildings this past August. He called the event a “monumental achievement.”

Benedictine University sponsors first International Conference on Appreciative Inquiry

September 30 through October 4, faculty, staff and students from Benedictine University were rubbing shoulders with almost 600 international executives gathered for the first International Conference on Appreciative Inquiry in Baltimore, Maryland.

The diverse group included executives from Boeing, John Deere, McDonald’s, Microsoft, the U.S. Postal Service, Quaker Oats, Harley Davidson, the Army, Navy, various hospital systems, 13 universities, several high schools and non-profits ranging from individual churches to World Vision, Outward Bound and the Young Business Men’s Association of Cairo, Egypt.

At least 20 countries from Great Britain to Nepal were represented. They had come to learn about Appreciative Inquiry, a highly effective organization change methodology that is revolutionizing the field of organization development.

Appreciative Inquiry is a change management philosophy that searches for the root cause of success instead of the root cause of failure. It’s based on a deceptively simple premise: that organizations grow in the direction of what they repeatedly ask questions about and focus their attention on.

Benedictine University’s Ph.D. Program in Organization Development, with support from the Abbey Endowment, was one of four major sponsors of the conference and a strong contributor to its content.

Benedictine professor, James D. Ludema, Ph.D., was a lead conference organizer and also participated in five presentations, including a keynote address.

Benedictine University president sends ‘kudos’

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Benedictine Voices

Dr. Richard C. and Lynn Becker

Bringing understanding to the nation’s tragedy

Benedictine University invited the community to an evening of understanding entitled, “A Community Comes Together: Bringing an Understanding to Our Nation’s Tragedy” on September 20, 2001, in the Krasa Center.

The evening allowed for an open forum of discussion from the community and featured various academic experts, who tried to bring some understanding to such a shocking event.

The Chicago Tribune helped sponsor the event that featured the following panelists: historical, Vince Gaddis, Ph.D. (from Jordan); social work, Jane Boumgarten, M.S.W.; religious studies, Inamal Haq, M.A.

More than 200 attendees had an open and informative discussion, which allowed people to talk through their feelings and concerns. The town hall meeting was an example of Benedictine’s efforts to be a resource of strength and knowledge to students, faculty and the community at large.

The flag that hung outside Krasa for this event was lent to the University by John Reeves, Outdoor Solutions Team, with the help of Julie Cosimino, director of career services.

Research has shown that when people study problems and conflicts, the number and severity of the problems they identify actually increase. But when they study human ideals and achievements, peak experiences and best practices, these things — and not the conflicts — tend to flourish. Appreciative Inquiry builds organizational excellence by leveraging strengths instead of focusing on weaknesses.

These presentations were complemented with dozens of others from organizations as diverse as Avon Mexico, Nutritional Foods (Brazil), USWEST, the Abbey Endowment, Lend Lease Corporation, Omni Hotels, British Airways, Catholic Social Services, the Red Cross and Save the Children.

Events such as this are helping Benedictine University’s Ph.D. Program in Organization Development to be recognized as an international leader in the field of organization development.

The dedication was a wonderful experience for (my wife) Lynn and me to return to campus with three of our sons and their families, and to see all of the progress, growth, and accomplishments you have achieved since our departure six years ago. We were thrilled to be there with you on that special occasion – the dedication of not one but two new and vitally important buildings – the Krasa and Bork buildings — but a few short years ago — obviously Bill Carroll and the trustees did, and Bill Carroll did say about the generosity and commitment of doing to launch Benedictine University into the new millennium with their financial support.

But what does one say about the generosity and commitment of our worldwide educational facilities? Just, simply, may God bless and reward the divine plan...of our universe. May you all be richly blessed in your educational needs in fulfilling the Christian-valued and Benedictine-inspired vision of Benedictine University.

Benedictine is a very special place, doing some very special work in the divine plan of our universe. May you all be very blessed in your commitment and generosity toward the University.

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Have you ever pulled out an old yearbook to gauge how your alma mater has changed? Recently, I paged through my 1961 yearbook from St. Procopius College, my freshman year at what is now Benedictine University. What a difference. In 1960-61 there were only 322 undergraduate students (there were no graduate programs back then). Today there are more than 2,000 undergraduates.

More striking than the difference in size was the makeup of the student body. We were all male and 99.9 percent caucasian. Most of us were second or third-generation descendants of European immigrants (Slav, Italian, Irish), and most of us were the first in our families to attend college. For diversity, there was one student each from Greece, Hungary and China. The Chinese student provided the 0.1 percent variation in our otherwise monochrome community.

Except for its foundation as a boys’ boarding school, the sameness of the 1960’s was due less to choice than to the ethnic origins of the college and to the demographics of the area. Many of the students were children, relatives or friends of alumni who came from Chicago or out of state. There were very few people of college age living near the campus. In fact there wasn’t much of anything near the campus. Back then, students jokingly referred to St. Procopius College as a cornfield with a 6:00 a.m. Mass.

The move to the suburbs that began in the late 60’s transformed both the size and the composition of the student body. In 1968 the school became coeducational. That change happened quite naturally, almost as if things had never been otherwise. Today, as in all of higher education, there are more women enrolled than men.

In the 1970’s the college began to focus as well on the recruitment of African-American students. The initial efforts were sincere but proved to be naively optimistic. Good will simply underestimated the damaging effects of prolonged segregation.

Neither the all-caucasian campus nor the students recruited out of the inner city were prepared for the encounter. Today, I find it very satisfying to note how far we have come from those rocky beginnings. The 1980’s and 1990’s brought increased diversity to both the suburbs and the campus, as people of Middle Eastern and South Asian origins moved into the area. Already in the 70’s there were a number of Protestants enrolled. Now there are comparable numbers of Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist students. The number of Hispanic students has also increased, compared to what it was just 10 years ago.

Among the world’s religions, Catholicism is certainly not alone in advocating respect, hospitality and dialogue, but the Christian faith offers some particular reasons for doing so. Among the world’s religions, Catholicism is certainly not alone in advocating respect, hospitality and dialogue, but the Christian faith offers some particular reasons for doing so. Respect for persons is a necessary consequence of the belief that the one and only God is the creator of all that exists and that each and every human being, regardless of sex, race, color or ethnic background, is made in the image of God. Hospitality follows from respect for persons. St. Benedict says that all guests are to be welcomed as Christ, because he has identified his presence in a particular way with the “stranger” (RB 53,1), especially when the “stranger” belongs to a class or a group that society tends to reject as “other.” The welcoming atmosphere of hospitality allows genuine dialogue to take place in which shared insights lead the participants to enlarge and even to transcend their partial views.

The Latin word bonus, from which the English word hospitality is derived, means both host and guest, nicely underscoring the dialogical nature of hospitality. Both parties will be enriched, if they alternately play host and guest to each other. Pope John Paul II has insisted repeatedly on the need for dialogue as a new priority for the third millennium, if an ethnically diverse and religiously pluralistic world is to live in peace. In Redemptoris Missio (1990) he wrote:

A vast field lies open to dialogue, which can assume many forms and expressions: from exchanges between experts in religious traditions . . . to cooperating for integral development and the safeguarding of religious values; and from a sharing of their respective spiritual experiences . . . through which believers of different religious bear witness before each other in daily life to their own human and spiritual values, and help each other to live according to those values in order to build a more just and fraternal society. Each member of the faithful and all Christian communities are called to practice dialogue . . . (no. 57).

Years ago arguments were made for coeducational schools as better and more natural learning environments in which to prepare students for life. Later, arguments were made for integrating schools to prepare students to interact harmoniously in a racially mixed society. Benedictine University, equipped with a diverse campus community and guided by its Catholic and Benedictine heritage, is in a position to make a distinctive contribution toward that end. Whatever else it teaches, it must more consciously and consistently become a school of respect for persons, of hospitality and of dialogue.
On October 16, Harvard psychologist and best-selling author, Dan Kindlon, Ph.D., was to give a lecture on his new book, *Too Much of a Good Thing – Raising Children of Character in an Indulgent Age*, in the building named after his parents, Joseph and Bess Kindlon. Kindlon did give the lecture, not in the Kindlon Hall of Learning, but in the Birck Hall of Science’s Tellabs lecture room, because of the overwhelming response by those who wished to attend. Word spread fast about this informative lecture and book and many parents wanted to hear Kindlon’s remarks. Many students benefited as well, by hearing a renowned psychologist discuss his groundbreaking study.

More than 80 people enjoyed an entertaining, informative lecture on how child-parent relationships have changed over the last 20 years. Kindlon discussed the ramifications of parents being too permissive and indulgent, both emotionally and monetarily, and leaving their children without the skills and character needed to rise to challenges, cope with stress and make the necessary sacrifices in life.

Benedictine President Bill Carroll was in attendance and stated, “We try to bring as many representative positions on various topics as we can to campus with an eye toward being an educational resource for the community.”

In addition to Kindlon, the University welcomed former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Dr. Jerome Salmone, an Italian-American expert, to campus this past October.

MCEA conference has familiar panelist

Benedictine President Bill Carroll was asked to serve as a panelist for the 2001 Midwest Cooperative Education Association (MCEA) annual conference, held in Lisle this past October.

The MCEA conference enables education leaders to share knowledge and ideas in the field. Carroll was asked to be a part of the college and university president’s panel to discuss the topic of “How Can Universities and Colleges Implement Work Based Learning Without Compromising Educational Integrity?”

According to Carroll, the panel discussed the importance of cooperative education for the 21st century. In cooperative education, a student gets real college credit for significant work experience in industry (what industry depends on the student and his or her major). The most famous institution for co-op is Northeastern University in Boston. This institution has been in the forefront for years. There, students get full semesters of college credit for work in industry, off campus.

Carroll suggested that institutions migrate to a competency-based curriculum so that universities know the exact “competencies” students gain in each major. What is to be learned from this, is many of these competencies can be learned in a work environment and “work” should be seen as a real learning experience worthy of academic credit.

Albright delivers

Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright spent a pleasant fall day delivering insight and wisdom to packed audiences at Benedictine University this past October, as part of the University’s Great Issues-Great Ideas lecture series.

Albright participated in an interactive class with high school and college students, a press conference and a lecture with a question and answer session. In her speech to about 2,500 people in the Dan and Ada Rice Center, Albright informed the audience that this was not the time to give the speech she intended to give. Instead she spoke of the current terrorist and military concerns our nation is encountering.

She offered her insight on these topics based on her long-standing political and diplomatic career, including four years as U.S. Secretary of State during the Clinton administration. She encouraged the American people to stay strong and not to succumb to panic.

Albright stated, “We have to be vigilant…but we cannot be panicked.”

Albright, the highest ranking woman in U.S. history, received applause when she advocated economic and political opportunity for women and spoke in favor of helping the poor in the emerging global marketplace, in order to reach and maintain peace in those lands. “As the Taliban in Afghanistan reflects, no society can prosper if half its people are treated like second-class citizens,” Albright said.

Her speech included support of the current Bush administration, but warned them to be mindful of other diplomatic responsibilities. Albright added, “We can not forget about other aspects of foreign policy.”

Albright is currently the chairperson of the National Democratic Institute. She is also writing a book and is pursuing a range of public policy activities.

The Great Issues-Great Ideas lecture series continues to bring issues-oriented, thought-provoking topics to the Benedictine community. The next event is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2002.

Madeleine Albright talks with Adam Nelligan, alumni director Julie Nelligan’s son, while Brand Bobosky, C61, and his wife Maryann look on.
A look inside the new additions to campus

Growing strong:
Aerial view of the Benedictine campus circa 1969.

Nostalgia: Aerial view of the Benedictine campus circa 2001. (Hint: Use the baseball diamond and College Road for orientation.)

Students work in one of the new computer labs in the Kindlon Hall of Learning.

The Birck Hall of Science boasts state-of-the-art research laboratories, quite popular with pre-med students.

The five-story library in the Kindlon Hall of Learning. The library also features movable bookshelves.

A look inside the new additions to campus

One of several study areas found in the five-story library in the Kindlon Hall of Learning. The library also features movable bookshelves.

A view from the top of the Kindlon atrium. This area has several study carrels with computers available for student research and homework. (The banner hanging from floor to ceiling promotes the 2001 Homecoming event “Fiesta Forever.”)

Students work on a project on the fifth floor of the Kindlon library while Benedictine Hall sits in the background.
Values

Give a gift that feels good to give

It sounds simple enough, give back, help others, make a difference. But sometimes that doesn’t seem possible in our current situations. Our hearts are in the right place, but our pocketbooks beg to differ. How can someone offer to help financially in a significant way without creating excessive risk? The answer is to include Benedictine University in your will.

Your generosity will make a tremendous difference in the lives and education of many students. By including Benedictine University in your will, you can make a major impact in the way of your choice. You will know that you have done something that will have a lasting impact on the world we live in.

Perhaps you received a scholarship and would like to see other students receive the same benefits you did. The University can create a scholarship that will target your special interests, such as if you are interested in a particular major or in providing funds for students who are from families without many financial resources.

Maybe you are particularly interested in helping to improve the teaching facilities or campus. Gifts of this nature provide benefits to students over many years. This is also an ideal way to memorialize a loved one, or to make your own mark on our school.

On the other hand, you may be interested in supporting an endowment fund that benefits the teaching programs of a particular major. Academic programs can always use more financial support to broaden our curriculum. These are all examples of how you can make a difference and know you have given something back to improve the University for students who will bring our world into the future.

There are ways of including Benedictine in your will that will be most advantageous for your estate. For example, naming the school as the beneficiary of the funds from your IRA, 401(k) or other retirement plan may be especially sensible for tax reasons.

No matter which way you choose to support Benedictine, it will be significant and greatly appreciated. For answers to your questions, please contact Bradley Carlson, development director, at (630) 829-6362 or bcarlson@ben.edu.

Morning Call honors patriotic American hero

Benedictine University’s Morning Call Executive Breakfast Series started off this season with an American hero, in honor of Veteran’s Day.

Major General John L. Borling (USAF-ret.) received the first Benedictine Eagle American Hero Award for Patriotism and spoke about his life experiences.

Borling is the founder, CEO and president of SOS America (Service Over Self), a not-for-profit, patriotic, membership organization that advocates a program of military service for America’s young men.

A native Chicagoan, he is a highly decorated officer and his military career spanned 37 years, including graduation from the Air Force Academy.

Borling gave interesting insight and personal challenges to the breakfast attendees.

An alumni’s promise

David Borosak, C81, Business and Economics, finished his college requirements in three years. He says, “After I got my initial registration submitted and paid for, I did what most students don’t do… I went back to my dorm room and read the catalog! I decided that I could do this, get it done and get a great job.” He did just that.

Borosak graduated from Benedictine University (then IBC) and went on to become a commodities broker in Chicago. But, he did not forget his school, specifically campus ministry. He promised himself that when he could afford it, he would send $5,000 back to the University to help purchase a new vehicle.

Borosak recalls, “The vehicle they had was so bad when I was in school, that I didn’t even like riding in it.” He fulfilled his promise and his donation helped campus ministry purchase a much nicer vehicle.

Today, he works for a company in Oak Brook as a risk manager and is married with three children. He is a very proud alumnus and has volunteered to mentor incoming freshmen and has recruited his boss to do the same.

It is alumni like Borosak that make Benedictine University what it was, what it can be and what it will be tomorrow.

Morning Call honors patriotic American hero

Morning Call is a long-standing program of executive dialogue and professional programming.

By presidential invitation, members of the business community gather to exchange ideas and listen to selected speakers on a variety of contemporary issues.

Growing the alumni spirit

When President Bill Clinton started digging a hole in the dirt next to Birck Hall, it may have raised some eyebrows of passer-bys. He had a goal in mind, however, and that was to plant a tree donated by an alumnus.

Benedictine alumnus Dr. Paul F. Springer of Arcata, California, donated at the $1,000 level to have a tree planted in his name, as part of the beautification campaign underway at the University. Springer is a retired wildlife research biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services.

The beautification campaign was created to add various elements to the campus landscape to enhance the whole look and feel of the University. In addition to adding trees to the campus, the program will promote donations toward benches, picnic tables and brick pavers. The bricks will be engraved and used in an eye-catching walkway throughout the campus.

Each element added to the campus will have a plaque inscribed with the donor’s name, or if they wish, the name of someone they want to honor.

Those interested in donating to the University’s beautification campaign should contact Mike Wall, vice president of advancement, at (630) 829-6078 or mwall@ben.edu.

Benedictine University's brick pavers. The bricks will be engraved and used in an eye-catching walkway throughout the campus.
Educare is a real ball

The 36th annual Educare Scholarship Ball, “Celebrating the World of Education,” was held this November on the Benedictine University campus.

Party goers where treated to a speech by host Speaker of the House of Representatives J. Dennis Hastert, a silent auction, dinner, dancing and a live auction. The event raised $226,000. All proceeds from the event go toward student scholarships. The scholarships are exclusively for Benedictine students and are given on a need and a scholarship basis.

The 254 guests included faculty, trustee members, students, alumni, staff and friends of the University. Many individuals and companies made generous donations of products and funds to help make this event a success. If you would like more information about the annual Educare event, please contact Barb Dwyer, director of community development, at (630) 829-6003 or bdwyer@ben.edu.

To learn more about gift annuities, contact Bradley Carlson, development director, at (630) 829-6362 or bcarlson@ben.edu.

Professor discovers benefits of gift annuities

Rosemary Coleman added much to the students’ experience at Benedictine University (then St. Procopius and IBC). She was an English professor at Benedictine from 1966-88. She made a very generous donation of $55,000 through a gift annuity. She designated her gift for the capital campaign to support the University’s new buildings. Because of her generosity and commitment to bettering the University, it was decided to name a new computer laboratory, used in part for teaching English, in her honor.

“Having dedicated a major part of my life to teaching at this University, I wanted to continue to contribute to Benedictine’s future. I have faith in the institution and it’s commitment to Benedictine values,” said Coleman.

She chose a gift annuity because it not only provides Benedictine University with a substantial gift, but also provides Coleman with a source of income that she can count on each year. “The gift annuity seemed to be the perfect way to help both of us…it provides, in part, for my future, while helping the school,” she adds.

The amount of lifetime annual income received is based on the donor’s age at the time the gift is made, the more senior the donor, the greater the benefits. Gift annuities represent an excellent alternative to income received from CDs. For an individual age 65 providing a gift in December 2001, a gift annuity from Benedictine University provided a guaranteed lifetime return of 6.7 percent annually compared to a return of only 2.3 percent on a CD from a well-known local bank. (For a couple aged 77 and 78 the lifetime return on a gift annuity was 7.3 percent guaranteed over both of their lives.)

“The procedures to establish the gift were simple. It was all explained very clearly. The printouts that illustrated my own circumstances were detailed and clear. They stated the annual income I would realize from the annuity as well as the many tax benefits for me and the financial benefits for the school,” stated Coleman.

Barb Dwyer, director of community development at (630) 829-6003 or bdwyer@ben.edu.

Help put together the history of science at Benedictine

Which faculty member held a patent on the “dripless” catsup bottle? Do we have radiation detection equipment on the moon? Which department has produced more Ph.D.’s, M.D.’s?

Wayne Wesolowski, Ph.D., chemistry professor, C76, and Father David Turner, O.S.B., have been working on a history of science at St. Procopius, Illinois Benedictine College and Benedictine University to answer just those types of questions.

During the Spring 2002 semester, Wesolowski will be assembling a time-line book for alumni, new members of the community, students and parents to showcase our long-standing tradition of science education.

They are in need of photos, stories and even legends from all eras about your experiences in science. What made Benedictine special to you?

Please send your memories (written, taped or by e-mail) and especially photos, to Wayne Wesolowski, Birck Hall of Science, Benedictine University, 5700 College Rd., Lisle, IL 60532 or wwesolowski@ben.edu.

Gilberto Barrantes makes a name for himself

In 1965 Gilberto Barrantes graduated from Benedictine University (then known as St. Procopious College) with a degree in economics and an eye toward making a difference in his homeland of Costa Rica.

He was an unlikely student at that time. He was following his brother’s lead and had decided to leave his country and go to a little known college in Illinois that was run by the Benedictine monks, who had visited his father in Costa Rica many years before.

He may not have known it then, but he was going to help shape the economy of his country. Barrantes is currently the minister of economy, industry and commerce of the Republic of Costa Rica. He has promoted small and medium enterprise development, as well as consumer’s rights, looking for a low Consumer Price Index and bureaucratic procedures simplification. With these elements in place, he hopes to create a very attractive environment for foreign investments and a better way of life for Costa Ricans.

Before joining the Costa Rican government, Barrantes was a very successful businessman prior to his prestigious appointment. He has held marketing positions with Dos Piños and Philip Morris and has worked at their corporate affairs director for Central America and Panama. He was also the personal consultant to former Costa Rica President Rafael Angel Calderon.

He currently works closely with free trade agreements between his country and others, such as Mexico, Chile, Canada and the Dominican Republic.

Despite his very busy career that takes him all over the world, Barrantes has kept in touch with his class of 1965 classmates. He continues close relationships with them and has been known to show up for a Homecoming event once in awhile.

Barrantes is a special alumnus with a unique voice and, literally, a world of experience. The University hopes he can return to campus soon and share his life experience with everyone here.
Benedictine University announced the 2001 athletic hall of fame inductees during Homecoming week. The Eagle alumni included: Dr. Warrington Parker of Rolling Hills, California, football and baseball, C62; Rich Zak of Newport Beach, California, football, C68; Dr. Tom Danaher of Rockford, Illinois, football, C71; Mary Sheehan Davison of Yorkville, Illinois, women’s basketball, C70; Mike O’Laughlin of Wilmington, Delaware, tennis, C78; Patti Mines Locke of Naperville, volleyball, C90; Jason Forrestal of Aurora, basketball, C91; and Deb DiMatteo of Lisle, volleyball and volleyball coaching, 1979-94.

Another alumni, Mary Sheehan Davison, helped to start women’s athletics here at Benedictine. She is pictured here with Fr. David Turner, O.S.B.

There were many great life stories that came from these hall of fame inductees. Rich Zak gave up football scholarships at UCLA and the University of Wisconsin to come to, what was then, St. Procopius College (a non-athletic scholarship school), because a successful doctor who he admired had graduated from here. That person happened to be his father.

“[We know that this year’s hall of fame class had outstanding credentials while they were student athletes here at Benedictine. What is truly amazing is the mark they have made in their chosen professions. The list includes successful business women and men, an orthopedic surgeon, a Ph.D. in psychology, a professional basketball player and some outstanding coaches in the area. This group makes the University very proud of the impact they have had on our society,” stated John Ostrowski, acting director of athletics.

Dr. Warrington Parker starred in both football and baseball. He is considered to be one of the finest catchers in school history. He is pictured here with Fr. David Turner, O.S.B.

It was a chilly fall day on the University’s campus, October 6, but for the classes of 1961, ‘65, ‘71, ‘81 and ‘91, it was a sunny, fun-filled day seeing old friends and enjoying stories from year’s gone by.

The class of 1961 had 22 classmates return for the day. Thanks to the special efforts of Gene Murphy, the class of ’61 proportionately had the best attendance of any of Benedictine University’s graduating classes – two thirds of the entire class attended. They enjoyed lunch, football and a reception in recognition of their 40th anniversary.

As seems to be the case every year, the class of ’69, had a large number of its members attend the Homecoming game, even though it wasn’t their reunion year. They exhibit true school spirit.

If you or your class is interested in dedicating a room or area in one of these new buildings, please contact Bradley Carlson, development director, at (630) 829-6362 or bcarlson@ben.edu. We need your help to make this a memorable event.

The class of 1965 got together as a part of their “Reconnection Program.” Jim Kenney, Dan Tira and John Zagmond created the program and are working diligently to re-establish their valued friendships and relationships to their alma mater. Their celebration included a commemoration of September 16, 2001, when the class first attended the University. Part of the “Reconnection Program” also includes supporting Benedictine’s capital campaign. They are committed to raising $50,000 toward the dedication of the prominent south entrance lobby/lounge area of Kindlon Hall. With just over half the funds pledged, they thanked their fellow classmates who have already made commitments and encourage others to contribute.

The classes of ’71, ‘81 and ’91, all had a good time renewing old friendships in the Kindlon atrium. Many of these classes are looking to honor their memory with a classroom, study area, lecture hall or other idea in the new Kindlon Hall of Learning and the Birk Hall of Science.

Class reunions spark stories of the past and contributions for the future

As seems to be the case every year, the class of ’69, had a large number of its members attend the Homecoming game, even though it wasn’t their reunion year. They exhibit true school spirit.

If you or your class is interested in dedicating a room or area in one of these new buildings, please contact Bradley Carlson, development director, at (630) 829-6362 or bcarlson@ben.edu. We need your help to make this a memorable event.

The class of 1965 got together as a part of their “Reconnection Program.” Jim Kenney, Dan Tira and John Zagmond created the program and are working diligently to re-establish their valued friendships and relationships to their alma mater. Their celebration included a commemoration of September 16, 2001, when the class first attended the University. Part of the “Reconnection Program” also includes supporting Benedictine’s capital campaign. They are committed to raising $50,000 toward the dedication of the prominent south entrance lobby/lounge area of Kindlon Hall. With just over half the funds pledged, they thanked their fellow classmates who have already made commitments and encourage others to contribute.

The classes of ’71, ‘81 and ’91, all had a good time renewing old friendships in the Kindlon atrium. Many of these classes are looking to honor their memory with a classroom, study area, lecture hall or other idea in the new Kindlon Hall of Learning and the Birk Hall of Science.

A new award was given this year to honor an alumnus who has achieved distinction in the coaching profession. Joe Fedinec of Lisle, C58, received the Tony LaScala Alumni Coaching Award, to honor his 44th year of teaching and coaching at Benet Academy.

It was a chilly fall day on the University’s campus, October 6, but for the classes of 1961, ‘65, ‘71, ‘81 and ’91, it was a sunny, fun-filled day seeing old friends and enjoying stories from year’s gone by.

The class of 1961 had 22 classmates return for the day. Thanks to the special efforts of Gene Murphy, the class of ’61 proportionately had the best attendance of any of Benedictine University’s graduating classes – two thirds of the entire class attended. They enjoyed lunch, football and a reception in recognition of their 40th anniversary.

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If you or your class is interested in dedicating a room or area in one of these new buildings, please contact Bradley Carlson, development director, at (630) 829-6362 or bcarlson@ben.edu. Planning for the 2002 class reunions underway

Planning for the 2002 class reunion activities are underway: Homecoming weekend is scheduled for October 11 and 12, 2002. We need your help to make this a memorable event.

The alumni relations office is looking to form class committees to help organize each particular class reunion. If you graduated in the years ending in either a two or a seven, i.e. 1972 or 1987, and would like to volunteer some time, please contact Julie Nelligan, alumni relations director, at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.

Help us plan your special reunion and enjoy getting reacquainted with friends and renewing special friendships.

Alumnet

Mentor a new generation

The alumni relations office, in conjunction with career services, is looking for alumni to mentor current students at Benedictine University. This is a great opportunity for alumni to help students with their chosen career path and give back to the University community. You can offer students insight on your experiences at the University as well as in your career, while helping them understand working in today’s marketplace.

Please contact Julie Cosimo, director of career services, at (630) 829-6037 or jcosimo@ben.edu.
“Browsing through the Fall 2001 Benedictine Voices, I was quite surprised to see a familiar face staring out at me...mine! Although many years younger, it was a part of the picture entitled ‘Can you name this 1969 homecoming court?’ I took the challenge and pulled the names from these graying memory cells,” says 1969 homecoming court member Bob Enderle.

The people in the picture are as follows:

Front row, left to right: Cathy Sylvester, Jan Tilker, Barb Williams (now Enderle), Penny Cotter and Cathy Johnson.

Back row, left to right: Rick Aiossa, Ron Hume, Bob Enderle, Paul Glazer and Kevin Hanlon.

“Needless to say, Barb’s crowning during the Homecoming Dance at the Merchandise Mart that year was one of those memorable personal moments. Quite coincidentally, we announced our engagement at the same time, so the engagement announcement was prominently carried in The Naperville Sun the next week. It was quite a ‘celebrity’ week for Barb,” adds Enderle.

The Enderle’s now live in the Phoenix area.

Benedictine alumni are encouraged to stop by Villa St. Benedict’s information center. Villa St. Benedict is in the development stage and guarantees to be a wonderful retirement community. Deposits are now being accepted.

Come for an individual presentation to learn more about this unique retirement community and receive your complimentary copy of The Greatest Generation by Tom Brokaw. Alumni will also be given a $500 gift certificate toward the entrance fee when moving to Villa St. Benedict.

More information is available at the information center located at the Sacred Heart Monastery at 1920 Maple Ave., Lisle or by calling 888-844-StBen.
Class of ’68
Robert L. Loritz and Nancy Church were married on November 4, 2000. They currently live in Hinsdale.

Class of ’70
Jerome R. Wilkin, Mathematics, is a CPA with a nonprofit organization. His wife, Amy, and their children, Russell and Christine, live in Westminster, MD.

Class of ’71
Tom Gourley, Biology and MSMOB ’99, is a section manager, food service operations, with Abbott Laboratories in North Chicago. He is also an adjunct faculty member in the business division at College of Lake County.

Gregory Miller, Biology, is president of ATSI in Valparaiso. He and his wife, Marilyn, also live in Valparaiso, IN.

Class of ’78
Nancy Rudzinski, Business and Economics, is a customer service representative with Illinois American Water Works in Woodridge, where she lives.

Class of ’80
Kathleen Klein, Business and Economics, is a senior quality assurance engineer with Geac in Atlanta, GA.

Thomas McMahon, Sociology, and his wife, Jeanne (Happel) McMahon, Psychology ’80, announce the birth of their daughter, Susanna Marie Bernadette, born March 25, 2000. When Susanna was four weeks old, she and her parents traveled to Vladimir, Russia to bring home six-month old Martin Joseph Nicholas, born October 10, 1999. Welcoming them home were sisters and brothers Jr. John n LC, Katie, Mary Sarah, Anna, Michael, Teresa, Joseph and Patrick. They live in Franklin Grove, IL.

Class of ’83
Eric Camburn, Sociology, and his wife, Jami (Graham) Camburn, Sociology, have recently moved to Chelsea, MI.

Leslie (Golab) Osburn, Business and Economics, is a senior logistics supervisor at Nalco in Naperville. She lives in Lombard.

Class of ’84
John Atkinson, Political Science, is managing partner with Thilman and Filippini, LLC – Insurance and Risk Management. He and his wife, Bonnie, and their four children live in Lockport.

Raymond Nadolny, Philosophy, is vice president for institutional advancement at Lake Washington Technical College. He and his wife, Madeleine, live in Bothell, WA.

Marie (Soltis) Novak, Sociology, and her husband Kevin, announce the birth of their daughter Katherine Renee, born July 30, 2001. Welcoming her to their Park Ridge home is

Class of ’61 going strong
Front row: Tom Murray, Gene Murphy, Tom O’Brochta, Bill Ranieri and Joe Dalpiapia; Second row: Larry Schab, Dick Vancura, Brian Bidusky, Gerry Hanley, Jim Lawton and John Shingler; Third row: Jack Hebbinger, Denny Orwin, Erv Van Deventer, Rev. John Van Weil, Dan Jacklink and Tom Hettinger; Back row: Jack Adams, Ralph Loritz, Jim Hanley, Don Heidmann and Karl Schmidt.
Wesolowski, Chemistry, ’67.

Class of ’97
Angela Agnoli, Sociology, and her fiance, Joe Fedinec, Literature and Communications ’92, announced their engagement and upcoming marriage in July of 2002. Agnoli received her MSW in social work from UIC in 1999 and Fedinec is teaching sixth, seventh and eighth graders at St. Joan of Arc School in Lisle.

Sherry Hlusa, M.B.A., is a regional vice president, with Cigna Insurance. She lives in Plainfield.

Daniel Ingram, Psychology, has moved to Atlanta, GA.

Jennifer Larson, Mathematics, is a correlations coordinator with McDougall Littlell in Evanston. She is engaged to Michael Beresewicz, ’00, Business Administration. Their wedding date is scheduled for October 26, 2002.

Joy Ranay has recently moved to Bolingbrook.

Kimberly (Bardachowski) Seper, Biochemistry and her husband, Stephen, are the proud parents of triplets Matthew, Madelyn and Margaret, born September 18, 2000. They live in Romeoville.

Class of ’98
Maroof Haque, Finance, is doing post-doctoral work at the Stirling Chemistry Lab at Yale University. He has recently moved to Houston, TX. He is the son of Benedictine University’s professor of chemistry, Dr. Wayne Wesolowski, Chemistry, ’67.

Class of ’99
Elizabeth (Spakowski) Gomorczak, International Business, is an account executive with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois. She and her husband, James, announce the birth of their daughter, Georgiana Elizabeth, born August 7, 2001. Welcoming her to their North Riverside home was big brother Casey James.

Wendy (Berger) Jasinski, Nutrition, and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their son, Grant Michael, born on April 19, 2001. Welcoming him to their Munster, IN home was big sister Sydnie.

Valerie (Fleming) Louthan, International Business, and her husband, Jason Louthan, Sociology, just recently moved to Plainfield.

Colleen (Kennedy) Studzinski, Sociology, and her husband, Edward, just recently moved to Camas, WA. She is a program director for The Inn Home for Boys in Portland, OR.

Steven Wesolowski, Chemistry, is doing post-doctoral work at the Stirling Chemistry Lab at Yale University. He has recently moved to Hanen, CT. He is the son of Benedictine University’s professor of chemistry, Dr. Wayne Wesolowski, Chemistry, ’67.

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in April of 2001. She currently holds a position in human resources with Abbott Laboratories, promoting health and wellness. He is pursuing a new career in hair styling. They plan to be married May 26, 2002.

Sandra Fox, Health Science, is an occupational therapist with Provena St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet. She also announces her engagement to James Dalton. They will be married on June 15, 2002. She lives in Lockport.

Mark Jacobi, Business Administration, is employed with USCO Logistics as an inventory manager. He has recently moved to Aurora, CO.

Arlene Lopez, Health Science, M.B.A. ‘01, is an office manager for the office of Dr. Marcus A. Lopez, M.D. She lives in Oakbrook.

Erica (Feick) Saajar, Psychology, and her husband, Josh, announce the birth of their son, Evan Alexander, born September 20, 2001. Welcoming him to their South Elgin home was big sister Claudia.

Leanne (Sumner) Rivers, Health Science, lives in Joliet with her husband, Daniel, and their three children, Kristen, Kerrelle and Danny.

Class of ‘91 friends: Mary (Hughes) Findlay, Cynthia (Sydtha) Widhalm, Michelle (Wroblewski) Halt, Steven Jaksa and Patricia Kucia.

Christy (Hamill) Watychowicz, Political Science, and her husband, Mark Watychowicz, Philosophy ‘97, have recently moved to Schaumburg.

Class of ‘99 Maggie Bruzik, Molecular Biology, is a second year dental student at University of Illinois. This summer she became engaged to Scott Augustyn. They currently live in Forest Park.

Caroline Scudder, Esposito, Nutrition, MPH ‘00, has moved to North Las Vegas, NV where she lives with her husband, John, and children, Jesse and Anthony.

James Kegl, Accounting, is a consultant with Crowe Chizek and Co., LLP in Oakbrook. He and his children, Michael, James and Kristen, live in Plainfield.

Kwai Chan, Accounting, will be attending graduate school to study system information and finance. She lives in Naperville with her husband, M.L. Kiang, and son, Ho Kiang.

Jason Ferguson, Health Science, is employed at Loyola Medical Center as a research assistant. He lives in Chicago.

Najia (Rahman) Gilani, MSMIS, lives in Tinley Park.

Mary Ghilardi, English, lives in Romeoville with her husband, Richard, and their son, Ricky.

Annemarie Luperini, Business and Economics, lives in Naperville.

Jill Messina, Communications, lives in Naperville.

Radnovich, M.B.A., is a supervisor with LTD Commodities in Naperville. He lives in Chicago.

Carolyn Rogowski, Accounting, lives in Palos Hills.

William Spies, Business Administration, lives in Elgin.

Veronica Szavay, Health Sciences, is currently attending graduate school studying physical therapy and expects to be completed in 2005. She lives in Naperville.

Sam Russo, M.B.A/ MMIS, is a project manager with Lucent Technologies in Naperville. He and his wife, Jill, and their two children, Katie and Sam, live in Lisle.

Catherine Arnold, Julie Davis, Gloria Kensingter and Christine Palumbo (all from nutrition) — along with seven students, interns majoring in nutrition — attended the annual American Dietetic Association Food and Nutrition Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, October 20-23. Arnold and Rebecca Karchmar (MPH/dietetic interns) presented “Depression and Nutritional Status” at this conference. This conference was sponsored by the NSF and the Exxon Mobil Foundation. Frohne also attended the fall conference for the Illinois section of the American Association of Physics Teachers at Jolter Junior College, October 26-27. John Spokas, who recently retired from the physics department, also attended.

Jane Crabtree (business) presented the paper “Entrepreneurship in Russia: Myth or Reality” at the Association for Global Business Conference in Cancun, Mexico, November 14-18. The paper was a result of personal visits to Russia and research on entrepreneurship. ©

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what's new?

What's new in your life that you would like to share with your fellow Alumni? Take some time, fill out the form below and mail it to the Alumni Office — we'll see that your news gets into the next issue of Benedictine Voices.

General Information

- [ ] Check here if address is new.

Name

- Maiden Name

Major/Program

- Class Year(s)

Spouse's Full Name

[ ] Yes [ ] No

Home Address

- Spouse's Major/Program & Graduation Year

City State Zip

E-mail

- Phone (area code)

Business Name

- Business Phone (area code)

Campus Activities (as a student)

News/Suggestions

Birth Announcement

- Mother's Name (include first/maiden/current last name)

- Father's Name (include first/last name)

- Child’s Name

- Date of Birth

- Name of Other Children in Family

Marriage Announcement

- Spouse’s Name (include first/maiden/current last name)

- Date of Marriage

Please clip and mail to:

Julie Nelligan

Benedictine University Alumni Association

5700 College Road

Lisle, Illinois 60532

Vitality

vitality/ staff notes

Winter 2002

Benedictine Voices

f a c u l t y / s t a f f n o t e s

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Dr. Linda Crafton (education) was a featured speaker at a National Whole Language Conference in Chicago on July 27. Her presentation addressed “Sociocultural Theories and Culturally Relevant Teaching: How Progressive Education has Changed in the Last 10 Years.” She also presented and chaired sessions at the National Council of Teachers of English annual convention in Baltimore, Maryland, November 15-18. The presentation was entitled: “What Excellent Reading Teachers Know and Do.” She will chair the session “Organizing Witten Curriculum for Inquiry-Based Professional Development.”

Dr. Patrick Flynn (philosophy) presented “Can Science Provide Evidence of the Divine?” on November 9 in the Krass Presentation Room. He and Fr. Becket Franks, O.S.B., from St. Procopius Abbey, spoke on ethics and spirituality in nursing to the registered nurses taking NRHL 300 Holistic Nursing class on November 10.

Dr. Vince Gaddis (history) holds an informal, thought provoking, faith releasing bible study every Friday for an hour in the Campus Ministry conference room. He also participated in a three-part series entitled “Waging Peace” at Faith Church of the Brethren in Batavia. Gaddis was the second speaker in the series and presented “U.S. Foreign Policy: Past, Present, Hope for the Future,” on November 19.

Charles Galah (business) recently appeared on CLTV to discuss the rise and fall of the steel industry.

Sandra L. Gill, Ph. D. (MBA programs) presented at the Michigan Hospital and Health System Leadership Forum on October 11, in Traverse City, Michigan. Her presentation reviewed major governing board models for organizational performance assessment, including mission-driven, performance tracking and Balanced Scorecard® models, with examples of their use in health care organizations. Approximately 120 executives and health care board members also shared their best practices for contemporary governance.

Alan Gorr (public health) attended the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association in Atlanta the first week of November.

Inamul Haq (religious studies) inaugurated the DuPage County board meeting with a prayer for peace on November 13.

Beth House (fine arts) had calligraphic art pieces on exhibit at the Conrad Sulzer Regional Library, 44S5 N. Lincoln Avenue, Chicago through November 2. She was also in charge of the Silent Auction on October 27 at the same location.

Dr. A Heretic in American Journalism Education and Research: Malcolm S. MacLean, Jr., Revisited, and published by Gail W. Pieper (communication arts).

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Jimmie Iaccino (psychology), pictured above, met with the editors of McFarland Press in Jefferson, North Carolina this summer to pitch his new book proposal, Heroes and Heroines of Sci-Fi and Fantasy Television Series, 1960-2000. McFarland has given him the go-ahead to develop the first chapters of his text this upcoming year, with the assurance of a book contract to follow. He also presented “Using a Multi-Media Style of Instruction to Teach a Course” on October 10 and November 12 in the Krass Presentation Room.

Jonathan Lewis (sociology) presented a paper about the impact of computer technology on the instruction of sociology courses at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association in Anaheim, California.

Linda Owens (University of Chicago) was a featured speaker at a National Whole Language Conference in Chicago on July 27. Her presentation addressed “Sociocultural Theories and Culturally Relevant Teaching: How Progressive Education has Changed in the Last 10 Years.” She also presented and chaired sessions at the National Council of Teachers of English annual convention in Baltimore, Maryland, November 15-18. The presentation was entitled: “What Excellent Reading Teachers Know and Do.” She will chair the session “Organizing Witten Curriculum for Inquiry-Based Professional Development.”

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Fr. Philip Timko, O.S.B. (religious studies) presented “Gimme a Break! They Canonized Charlemagne? The Political Use of Religion in the 12th Century Struggle Between the Papacy and the Empire,” on October 31 in the Krasa Center as part of the professional development series.

Benedictine University hosted the fall conference of the Association for the Development of Philosophy Teaching (ADOPT) on October 5 and 6. The theme was “Teaching Philosophy of Religion.”

Patrick Flynn (philosophy) was re-elected as president and Reverend Julian von Duerbeck (world religions) was re-elected as vice president of the organization. The group also presented the first series of regular concerts outside of the city limits of Chicago, the Chicago Chamber Orchestra, which has been a Chicago icon for 50 years. It was established by Joe Kolb in 1951 to provide concerts in a chamber orchestra with the caliber of players found in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and other opera orchestras. The group has toured Europe many times and offers concerts in cities across the United States.

Benedictine partners with the Chicago Chamber Orchestra
by Alicia Cordoba Tait, chair, department of fine and performing arts

Benedictine University now has a professional orchestra in residence. The Chicago Chamber Orchestra has partnered with Benedictine University to provide the community with a professional orchestra. The organization presents the first series of regular concerts outside of the city limits of Chicago, the Chicago Chamber Orchestra. The group has been a Chicago icon for 50 years. It was established by Joe Kolb in 1951 to provide concerts in a chamber orchestra with the caliber of players found in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and other opera orchestras. The group has toured Europe many times and offers concerts in cities across the United States.

Relief Fund by making two buttons — one that read “God Bless America” and the other with an American flag in the shape of a heart. The McCormick Tribune Foundation matched 50 cents for every dollar raised.

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Transfer students make Benedictine home

by Kari Cranmer, director of undergraduate admissions

Freshman counselors work all year to bring in one class. They are expected to bring in approximately 300 students each fall. In the past, freshman were considered the ‘ideal’ student to recruit as they were expected to stay on campus for an average of four years and be more involved on campus. However, at Benedictine University, counselors have been seeing some changes.

Transfer counselors recruit for three different terms and their combined efforts bring in a class size that is matching and may soon exceed, new starts of freshman.

Nationally, 10.5 million students attend 1,480 accredited two-year colleges in the United States. Benedictine welcomes the majority of its transfer students from College of DuPage, the largest community college in the country with more than 40,000 students.

The transfer population makes up all ages, races, ethnicities, religions and experiences. Statistically, 52 percent of all first time freshmen in the country attend two-year colleges first. Jean Marie Krohse, admissions transfer counselor, believes students transfer for a good reason. “Students are able to afford a private education that otherwise may not have been possible. It’s less expensive and they’ve done their homework and know they can get merit scholarships,” said Krohse.

Trends predict an 11 percent increase in two-year college enrollment by 2007. Benedictine has seen steady and continuous increases in transfer enrollment. This recent record-breaking term brought a 97 percent increase in enrollment and includes an eight-year high.

Transfer counselors have seen graduating seniors come into the office in order to get a schedule mapped out for the next two years at community college. The student walks away with the degree requirements in hand and knows that all of their classes will transfer. These new students are aware of the fact that they can get very involved in their community college campus learning more about themselves and their potential career.

The transfer population brings a real sense of community that is contagious. Students are here to learn and they really like it. I enjoy the small class sizes and the diversity on campus,” said Yaniak.

Marcos Lushpynsky is a pre-med transfer student from Harper Community College. He transferred to Benedictine because of the University’s excellent reputation of high acceptance rates to medical school applicants. “School is challenging and I feel well prepared for medical school. People here are friendly and teachers are available and will sacrifice their time to help you,” said Lushpynsky.

Adult transfer students are also in the mix. Andrea Ebert-McNeill came to the University for it’s great science programs and feels all her needs have been met – academic support, social involvement and flexibility: “The personal atmosphere is wonderful here and as a foreign student, I feel very comfortable with the diversity on the campus,” stated Ebert-McNeill. All of her credits transferred from the College of DuPage and most of her foreign credits transferred, which added to Benedictine’s appeal.

The transfer process is essentially a partnership and Benedictine is proud to be home to so many of these students. Benedictine University has been a learning resource for our students and the community at large. We have been committed to liberal arts and professional education, distinguished and guided by our Roman Catholic and Benedictine heritage.

Benedictine Conference 2002: Heritage in Action

For more than 100 years, Benedictine University has been a learning resource for our students and the community at large. We have been committed to liberal arts and professional education, distinguished and guided by our Roman Catholic and Benedictine heritage.

Benedictine Conference 2002: Heritage in Action

Through a grant received from the Abbey Endowment, the conference committee members visited 16 of the 22 Benedictine high schools around the country to invite them to Benedictine Conference 2002: Heritage in Action.

The focus of the conference is to discuss and share the common values that distinguish the Benedictine schools from other educational institutions.

Benedictine University is one way in which Benedictine University is reaching out to the community at large. Benedictine is reaching out to the more global Benedictine community to affirm and further investigate our common values and assess our efforts to communicate this heritage with our students and staff.

Benedictine Conference 2002: Heritage in Action

More than 275 student and faculty representatives from the Benedictine high schools are invited to attend the conference to be held on December 6-8, 2002. At this point, with six more schools to visit they have received a 100 percent commitment for the project from the participating schools.

The conference agenda is divided into five specific themes: academics, arts, athletics, mission and spirituality. The program will provide opportunities for the participants to share their values, experiences and talents while cultivating a greater understanding of their role in a global educational community. Concurrent discussion sessions with the high school and University students and faculty will provide opportunities for affirming and enhancing our mission in peer-focused groups.

Highlights activities during the conference for the students include an academic bowl, a combined Benedictine high school choir and an athletic competition. Faculty and students will participate in lecture-discussion groups regarding Benedictine education and spirituality. The faculty, administration and staff will have the opportunity to discuss issues of implementation regarding values and traditions related to our common Benedictine heritage. The conference will also establish the basis for a cooperative national effort in the areas of community service and Benedictine identity.
Charity basketball game helps 911 fund

The Lisle-Woodridge Fire District challenged Benedictine University to a charitable game of hoops to raise money for New York fallen fire fighters through the 911 Fund. The cause was a good one, and after much hype and trash-talk, the ball was tipped off on October 24. The fire fighters, known for their discipline and strength, came to win. Fire Bureau Chief Terry Vavara said, "Our strategy is simple, it is to win." Though Fire Prevention Bureau Director Jim French said he just wanted "everyone to walk out" on their own.

The first courses at Benedictine University to use the design and methodology of PBL were Contemporary Biology (NTSC 111) and Contemporary Physical Science (NTSC 112) in the fall and spring of 2001-2002. This year those two courses have been refined to be primarily focused on two or three possible problems in each area of inquiry and the team-teaching aspect of delivery. Another area of refinement is to identify strategies that will help students feel more comfortable with the "messiness" of the problems.

Students from every walk of life, ethnic group and religion. And in the wake of America’s tragedy, we've had all those students coming together. We support and take care of each other, and that is what ranks us on top," concludes Carroll. "I think it’s more of a reaffirmation of what we’re doing right. We always seek to provide the best faculty and try to get the best mix of students, faculty and staff." Carroll is very proud of the diversity on campus. More than a quarter of Benedictine’s undergraduate students belong to ethnic, religious or racial minorities. "We have determined by those wishing to have a presentation made to their group.

The Healthy Table is located in the Birck Hall of Science, room 230. Call (630) 829-6518 for more information.

According to Gore, there were a few sessions on the challenges that have arisen since September 11. The public health community is just beginning to meet the challenge of coordination and future planning, which recent events have required. While there have been nearly daily calls for building up the public health infrastructure, funding now appropriated or contemplated is not great when compared with other responses to terrorism. The area concentration in Disaster Management will be available to those who seek the MPH degree as well as a certificate program for non-degree candidates. It is forecasted that the courses in the concentration would be professionally useful not only to health professionals but also to law enforcement, fire departments, municipal and county officials. It will be a multi-disciplinary program that combines elements of the psychology and sociology of disaster management as well as the management, epidemiological and planning facets of meeting new challenges.
Men’s soccer earns four spots on All-Conference team

Benedictine University’s men’s soccer team concluded their 2001 season and the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) by being named the 2001 All-Conference team. A pair of seniors, Matt McCreary and Mike Donoghue, along with a pair of sophomores, Tobias Hernandez and Efe Sahinoglu, received first team All-Conference recognition.

McCreary, the Eagles’ goalkeeper, and Donoghue anchored the Eagles’ defense that allowed just 17 goals in NIIC play. Donoghue, who has started for the Eagles since his freshman year, has received All-Conference recognition each year. Hernandez and Sahinoglu provided the Eagles’ offensive fire power totaling 22 of the Eagles’ 36 points in conference play. Sahinoglu led the Eagles with five goals and two assists, for 12 points, while Hernandez chipped in four goals and two assists for 10 points.

The Eagles concluded the season with a 2-4-1 NIIC record and a fourth place finish in the conference standings.

Benedictine football has standouts

The Benedictine University football team finished its first season under Head Coach Mike Murray with a 4-6 overall record, but more importantly, went 4-3 in the Illini Badger Football Conference (IBFC).

“Out players did an awesome job of battling throughout the season. Our defense led the league with dominating performances down the stretch, and kept us in situations to win some close games. We had some great individual performances on offense with people who are coming back, and are excited about the very near future,” said Murray.

On an individual level, many of the Eagles’ players had standout years. Most noticeably was senior captain Mike Nielsen and Adam McCarthy.

McCreary recorded 66 saves on the season, allowing just 16 goals in seven games. Donoghue, who has started for the Eagles since his freshman year, has received All-Conference recognition each year. Nielson is a social science major at Benedictine with a minor in secondary education. He currently carries a 3.89 grade point average in his fourth year at the University. He is a member of the Mathematics Honor Society and has made the Dean’s List all six semesters.

Benedictine and Shanahan recognized for academic success

Two Eagle football players, Tom Shanahan and Mike Nielsen, have been named to the Verizon District Five All-American Academic Team. Nielsen, a senior offensive lineman, was a first team selection, while Shanahan, a senior linebacker, was a second team selection.

Nielsen is a social science major at Benedictine with a minor in secondary education. He currently carries a 3.89 grade point average in his fourth year at the University. He is a member of the Mathematics Honor Society and has made the Dean’s List all six semesters.

A team captain and four-year starter as the team’s center, Nielsen started all 10 games for the Eagles during the 2001 season. He has been an Illini-Badger Football All Conference (IBFC) selection four consecutive years. Shanahan started all 10 games for the Eagles and racked up 92 total tackles, five sacks, eight tackles for losses and two forced fumbles. He was an IBFC Second Team All-Conference selection.

Shanahan, Nielsen, and the Eagles went 4-6 during the 2001 season, finishing third in the IBFC with a 4-3 conference record. The Benedictine football team finished its first season under Head Coach Mike Murray with a 4-6 overall record, but more importantly, went 4-3 in the Illini Badger Football Conference (IBFC).

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Four lady Eagles receive All-Conference recognition

Four Benedictine University women’s soccer players were named to the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) All-Conference Team. Seniors Kerry Bowler and Lisa Wehby, sophomore Patti Biernat and freshmen Kortney Pope all received First Team All-Conference recognition.

Bieraat had seven goals in just five games in the NIIC, while Pope and Wehby started all seven NIIC games. Pope netted six goals and recorded three assists while Wehby had three goals.

Bowler played the stopper position for the defense and was one of the team’s captains along with Wehby.

Jessica Thompson and Natalie Santucci each received All-Conference honorable mention.

The Lady Eagles went 6-12 overall and 4-3 in the NIIC for a fourth place conference finish. They entered the NIIC tournament as the number one seed with undefeated records.

Sophomore Ashley Gray and a pair of freshmen, Mandy Semenik and Sonya Eltangar, were NIIC All-Conference selections at number two, number three and number six singles respectively. All three Lady Eagles entered the tournament as the number one seed, with undefeated records.

The Lady Eagles concluded their season with a 6-3 overall record. Their 5-1 NIIC record was an improvement over last season’s 2-4 NIIC record.

The Lady Eagles moved to the fourth place conference finish. They entered the NIIC tournament as the number one seed with undefeated records.

“Yet we had a terrific season. Our success was due to great team chemistry and each individual accepting their role on the team. This team was very special,” said head coach Jerry Angle.

On an individual level, Benedictine athletes concluded the season with a number of awards. Jen Olson was named the NIIC Player of the Year along with Angle getting the conference’s Coach of the Year award.

Olson led the team with an impressive .361 hitting percentage and 224 total blocks. She also ranked second on the team in digs and kills.

Kathy Clifford and Carin Cieslowski each appeared in national rankings throughout the year. Clifford ranked as high as fourth in the country with 1,967 apts. Cieslowski, the Lady Eagles’ best outside hitter, appeared all season long in the national rankings for apts per game, posting an impressive 4.43.

“We have our work cut out for us next season. Losing two quality players like Carin and Jen will force the returning players to take on more offensive responsibility. Our returnees, with the experience they gained from the national tournament, give us a strong nucleus that can lead to another successful season,” said Angle.

The final version of the Benedictine University identity video, The Benedictine Difference, is now available. This captivating video tells the story of what makes Benedictine University unique — the core values of the Benedictine tradition.

Get your copy now. Savor it, and use it to tell the compelling story of Benedictine University to as many people as you know — prospective students, parents, alumni, family, friends and others.

Our Benedictine values do make a difference. Share the excitement!

The Benedictine identity task force presents the acclaimed video

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The Benedictine Difference video is available through the office of alumni relations, 630-829-6080. 

This beautiful colored lithograph entitled “Centennial,” depicts Benedictine University back in the late 1980’s, then known as Illinois Benedictine College, and is available for purchase in limited quantities.

Campus Memories

Chicago area artist Franklin McMahon was commissioned to create this rendering for the University’s centennial celebration. Only 300 were made, and therefore, quantities are limited. All copies are numbered and signed by the artist. Pictured in the print are the Krasa Center, Benedictine Hall and Neff Farmhouse, which served as the original abbey in 1899. The artist emphasizes the park-like setting associated with Benedictine and if you look closely, you can see Abbot Hugh Anderson going to his calligraphy class.

This unframed lithograph may be purchased for $300 through the Alumni Relations Office by calling (630) 829-6080 or e-mail at alumni@ben.edu.

All proceeds will go toward the general endowment fund for the University.
2002 Upcoming events

May 11
Undergraduate commencement

June 1
Graduate commencement

July 22
President's Invitational Golf Outing at Cress Creek Country Club

October 12 & 13
Reunion and homecoming weekend

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• Alumni news
• Admissions update
• Eaglescenter
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