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

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*Benedictine University*
Informing today—Transforming tomorrow
I did not personally know Dr. John Matthew Krasa, but after going through a box of photos, biographical information and letters he wrote to past presidents, I have an impression of a man who made education a high priority. He is a very important part of this campus, for the Student Center is named after his family.

He was born in 1891, four years after St. Procopius College was founded at St. Procopius Parish, 18th and Allport Streets in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago. He grew up in the shadow of that church and kept close ties with Benedictines all of his life.

The son of Czech immigrants, he graduated from the medical college of the University of Illinois in 1913 and established his practice in the old Pilsen neighborhood, becoming prominent in the city’s medical profession. He had a life-long interest in education, teaching chemistry in the university’s college of dentistry, teaching in the college of medicine from 1913-1917 and again from 1919 to 1929 after returning from two years of military service in France during World War I.

Dr. Krasa was one of the first members of the St. Procopius College Advisory Board established in Lisle in 1956, and that group evolved into our first Board of Trustees. He was a Trustee for 24 years.

Over that time, he gave generous monetary and stock donations to the University. After retirement in 1967, he donated his microscope to then Illinois Benedictine College. In a letter to Fr. Roman Galiardi, O.S.B., president at that time, he said, “It gave me great pleasure to know that the microscope was being put to such good use.” The microscope is under a bell jar in Dr. John Mickus’s office, with copies of two letters indicating its provenance.

Dr. Krasa believed strongly in education and did not consider it unusual that he donated so much money to Benedictine. In a letter to Fr. Daniel Kucera, O.S.B., he stated, “It was a great pleasure to be able to make my gift to the college, but it is nothing compared to the gift of the great efforts of the staff at Benedictine where I can buy more for the money. I have asked in several places if there is a place where I can get more for a dollar than at IBC, and so far, nobody has come up with any suggestions. I consider this not so much a gift, but more a purchase of education. I pray for the continued success and advancement of the institution and its staff.” His letters to Fr. Roman Galiardi, O.S.B., Fr. Daniel Kucera, O.S.B., and Dr. Richard C. Becker, my predecessors, reflect a close association with the men and the college. In 1969 the college honored Dr. Krasa with an honorary doctorate degree in science.

John Krasa, who never married, amassed a minor fortune by investing income from his medical practice on 26th Street in Chicago. He left his estate in a unitrust that cared for his surviving sister, Rose Marie Krasa, until her death in July 1985. At that time, in accordance with his will, the remainder of the estate transferred to our University to erect a building that would bear the family name. All told, he donated more than $4.1 million to this institution. At the time, the gift was the largest ever received in the history of the University.

After his discharge from the Army Medical Corp in 1919, he served on the faculty of the College of Medicine at

The son of Czech immigrants, John Krasa graduated from the medical college of the University of Illinois in 1913 (left), and established his practice in Chicago’s Pilsen neighborhood, becoming prominent in the city’s medical profession.
A Distinctive University Vision

Today there are about 1,600 private liberal arts colleges in the United States. Most of them are encountering intense competition as they attempt to develop new programs for new populations of students. As these colleges carve out their niche in the region, one factor remains evident: there is nothing uniquely different about them. Their viewbooks and admissions materials portray the same things — small classes, individualized attention, a menu of highly attractive academic majors, sports programs and highly experienced faculty — most with terminal degrees. All of them promise that their graduates will be better prepared to make career choices and meet life’s challenges. In their quest to be successful, private liberal arts colleges have become “clones” of each other — communicating the same message to their constituents.

The new dilemma facing institutions of higher learning is how to stand out from the herd so that students will come to their doors instead of the multiple others surrounding them. If the mark of distinction is not reached by these private colleges soon, the prediction is that many will not survive past the year 2010. Given this current educational climate, Benedictine University decided to develop its own Vision Statement that would make it a highly effective competitor in the Midwest corridor.

The first step in this process was to garner Board of Trustee support for the visioning process. To this end, the president developed a statement that “branded” the institution as one dedicated to the teaching of the sciences in the Catholic Benedictine liberal arts tradition. After lively meetings and discussions, the Board approved the statement and instructed that it be delivered to faculty for verification and substance. Faculty were asked to report to the Board on their progress.

The second step was to form a Vision Task Force comprised of volunteer faculty and administrators whose major assignment was to come up with a set of highly distinctive (and agreed to) factors. For the past two years this group solicited input from the entire Benedictine community (e.g., program chairs, deans, staff, and students) as well as explored the history of the institution. A Chicago marketing firm was hired to verify that “excellence in the sciences” was, in fact, the predominant reputation (currently and historically) of the University.

As a result, the following revised Vision Statement was developed:

Benedictine University —
A Catholic University in
the Benedictine Tradition
that Provides a Values-
Centered Liberal Arts
Education Enriched by
Our Excellence in the
Sciences.

The next step was to develop a set of Action Initiatives that would integrate these Vision elements in such a way that students would become more aware of the interconnectedness of all knowledge, be alert to the ethical issues across all disciplines and view science problems from a more global perspective. The initiatives formulated were intended to cover a wide range of areas within the University: from academic program modifications (e.g., science across the curriculum, problem-based learning) to grant funding opportunities to community-wide events (e.g., Catholic Identity Days, Benedictine Heritage Workshops).

We are now at a point of implementing those Action Initiatives of the Vision Statement at the University. A new group, the Benedictine Center Implementation Team, will be phasing in these initiatives over a three-year period. We have already begun work on the grant funding initiative. We are one of eight institutions in the entire country to receive monies from the National Endowment of Humanities; these will allow us to restructure two of the Cultural Heritage courses so that a greater emphasis will be placed on the history of the sciences within the context of the humanities.

As the Vision work continues, it is expected that Benedictine University will be one of the few surviving liberal arts colleges by 2010, chiefly because it dared to meet the path of extinction by choosing a different route: the path to distinction. We shall become the premier Benedictine Center of Science and Values.
Some 10 years ago, when Dr. Robert Preston was the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, a committee made up of faculty members, administrators and staff personnel gathered for almost a year working to develop a Mission Statement for our University. In addition to focusing on the Benedictine, Catholic and liberal arts characteristics of the institution, they also listed a set of commitments, an attempt to articulate what the Benedictine University graduate would be able to do and what knowledge and skills would be found in its alumni.

The opening statement explained: “The Benedictine University community provides instruction, counsel and life experiences that facilitate the acquisition of knowledge and the cultivation of skills to:” and then followed the 12 specific statements describing what these skills would be.

The fourth statement in the list is, as are all 12, a challenging one: “develop a sense of intellectual curiosity and a desire for life-long learning.” In other words, the Benedictine University community did not see walking across the stage and being granted a diploma as the “end of the educational process.” We probably need to remember that graduation is referred to as a commencement ceremony, a beginning in the life of the graduate.

At this point in its history, Benedictine University is heavily involved in programs that well fit the idea of life-long learning. There is also a lot more going on than graduate study and degrees. The campus continues to draw people to workshops that help in this process of learning more and being able to adjust to a rapidly changing world. There are always new problems to solve and new approaches to help people learn.

When we speak of a 1,500 year tradition of education, we need to recognize that St. Benedict himself, when he put together his “Rule for Monasteries,” specified that the monk would keep reading and learning. Benedict, in speaking of the time of Lent, specifies that each monk should get a book from the library and read it straight through. In other words, he saw the need to penetrate beyond the surface in such a way that life-long learning would be a reality, that the monk would keep reading and learning.

In late February and early March of 1981, some 65 Benedictine educators (including representatives from our own institution) gathered at the Abbey of Maredsous in Belgium to examine the contemporary Benedictine contributions to education and life-long learning. One of the speakers at this conference, Fr. Dominic Milroy of Ampleforth Abbey in England, suggested that Benedictine institutions “Have access to a wisdom that is not rigid. And with our human style, developed over many centuries, in particular ways and in different places, we have established points of reference for human society which have run right through the very cultural, social, industrial, academic and intellectual changes to which the Benedictines have contributed in the past.”

Fr. Dominic saw that this contribution was made “with a freedom which has brought serenity without rigidity, openness without flabbiness or being loose at the edges, so we can draw from our faith at a time when this great flux robs society, even when it has faith, of its serenity.”

We truly hope that our alumni will make significant contributions because Benedictine University has prepared them, and continues to offer opportunities, as our mission statement proclaims “for a lifetime as active, informed and responsible citizens and leaders in the world community.”
How Bright Is Your Future?

Continuing Studies at Benedictine University

Mentoring
Networking
Promoting

With contributions by Mercy Robb and Linda Hale
The Value of a Graduate Education

by Julie Cosimo, Director of Career Services

“In the last 20 years, graduate degrees have followed three trends to emerge as the courses we know today. They have become shorter in duration, more diverse in their program options and more global in their curriculum” (Grad Source, the Magazine for Graduate Studies, Spring 2002).

The implication of the emerging trends has made attending graduate school possible for those who might have not been able to attend in the past. Although there are many reasons why people decide to further their education, the three most prevalent reasons are: increased salaries, enhancement of education, skills and qualifications for entering a particular field, and keeping a competitive edge for finding a better position or advancing in their current position.

Increased salaries
According to the 2002-03 Recruiting Trend Survey Report and the 2001 Benedictine University employment trend survey, graduates reported an average of $10,000 more at the starting salary level across all majors for holding an advanced degree. The financial commitment that one makes in deciding to invest in a graduate program should be viewed as a long-term investment. Some key factors in determining the value of a graduate degree should be the loss of income that is involved in putting a degree on hold for several years, the opportunity for advancement within a company and marketability for employment, according to gradsource.com.

Enhancement of education, skills and qualifications
In the 2002-03 Recruiting Trends Report, employers reported that when they evaluate candidates of employment they want them to have “The Total Package.” This is what candidates need to be academically prepared in their field. “The Total Package” is core skills and competencies that one needs to become successful. These include communication skills, computer technical aptitudes, leadership, teamwork, interpersonal abilities and personal traits (i.e. motivation, flexibility/adaptability, hardworking, etc.). The wrapping, which includes the skills that bind the package and holds it together, includes:

1. Critical thinking/problem solving
2. Intelligence and common sense
3. Willingness to learn quickly and continuously
4. Work-related experience that provides an understanding of the workplace.

Students adopt a basic level of core competencies and skills in undergraduate work, and entering a graduate program allows them to advance their skill level in these areas.

Keeping a competitive edge
Many people who return to Benedictine University for a graduate degree view the unstable economy and workforce as an opportunity to return to college and advance their skill level in their industry so that they can better market themselves in the future and be on the cutting edge in the industry. Once a person attains a graduate degree, they can expect to be qualified for a higher-level position, advance more quickly in their field and see an increase in salary. Often times, experience alone does not allow people to advance in their field. The added value of a graduate degree along with previous work experience increases the opportunity for success in one’s career path.†
The Programs at Benedictine University

Master of Science in Management and Organizational Behavior

In this competitive and complex era, companies are demanding managers who can achieve financial results and effectively manage human resources. Competence in the “human side of enterprise,” including global interdependence, workforce diversity and the management of change, has become the hallmark of excellent managers and leading-edge companies. The award-winning Master of Science in Management and Organizational Behavior (M.S.M.O.B.) program at Benedictine University is recognized both locally and nationally as a leader in providing education toward managing the human side of organizations. It is the oldest and most comprehensive M.S.M.O.B. program geared toward the working professional.

This acclaimed program has students meeting directly with experts from the field through an outstanding lecture series.

Master of Public Health

The Benedictine University Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) program prepares highly competent professionals for the rapidly changing world of health and health care. Students become broadly educated in the core disciplines of public health and may concentrate in one of several areas that reflect the current needs of the profession as well as emerging trends. Learning at Benedictine combines instructional expertise with individual initiative, creativity, research and field experience so that the adult learner will find the M.P.H. experience a stepping-stone to professional success.

The comprehensive course approach to this program goes hand in hand with Benedictine’s reputation as a leader in the sciences. M.P.H. degrees are growing in popularity as our world changes, and Benedictine offers one of the only accredited programs in the country.
Master of Education
Master of Arts in Education
To be an excellent educator is to be caring, competent and passionate about learning. Guiding all students, asking relevant questions and encouraging life-long learning are just some of the goals constantly pursued in the Master of Education (M.Ed.) and Master of Arts in Education (M.A.Ed.) programs at Benedictine University. Benedictine’s School of Education is a community of dedicated scholars committed to offering one of the most advanced and comprehensive programs in the Chicago area in the diverse areas of education and leadership.

The reputation of this program at area schools is high and makes a M.Ed. degree from Benedictine prestigious for its bearer. This program is tailored for those who have a love for teaching and need class hours scheduled around their lives and current careers.

Master of Science in
Clinical Psychology
Benedictine University’s Master of Science in Clinical Psychology (M.C.P.) program provides extensive coursework, clinical experience and a variety of theoretical orientations for the student pursuing a career in clinical psychology. The program provides all the courses the state of Illinois requires to take the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) examination or the Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) examination.

All M.C.P. faculty members are members of the North American Association of Master’s in Psychology (NAAMP) — an international association which represents the interests of master level counselors in psychology and promotes advocacy, affiliation, identity and networking for psychology students in training. The group is also a member of the Council for Applied Masters Programs in Psychology (CAMPP).

Master of Business Administration
Leaders in the 21st century must make their way through the maze of market uncertainty, global competition and constant change. Benedictine University’s Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) prepares students to chart their course. With the tools of quantitative analysis, students will assess business risks and strategic alternatives. Qualitative analyses align action with opportunity, transforming ideas into implementation. The Benedictine M.B.A. develops both quantitative and qualitative competence for professionals.

The M.B.A. program at Benedictine is a “transformation from where you are to where you want to be.” The executive coach model of learning is followed in this respected program and student success is key. Internship opportunities are also available.
96 percent stated that their present job had definite or possible career potential.

• 95 percent of all respondents indicated that they were employed either full- or part-time six months following graduation.

(All facts are based on a six-month follow-up employment trend survey for 2002 that was completed by Benedictine baccalaureate and graduate level alumni.)

In addition to these statistical facts and all the individual program benefits and accolades, Benedictine’s graduate programs offer what you need to succeed in making that degree a reality.

Benedictine’s graduate programs are focused on the professionals — people who want to sit at the highest level in their chosen field. The programs offer all the benefits of degrees from big schools, with the extra benefits of small school attention, focus and flexibility.†

**Master of Science in Clinical Exercise Physiology**

Benedictine University’s Master of Science in Clinical Exercise Physiology (M.C.E.P.) program is a two-year, part-time program designed in accordance with the American College of Sports Medicine for certification as a Registered Clinical Exercise Physiologist. Graduates of this program develop the skills and qualifications to work in the prevention of cardiovascular disease and in the rehabilitation of those who have experienced cardiovascular problems.

This science-based program allows graduates to work in cardiac rehabilitation, private practice and consulting or to go on to earn a Ph.D. or attend medical school. This degree transports students into new careers with higher earning potential.†

**Quick Facts:**

• **Post-Graduation plans** — 85 percent of Benedictine baccalaureate alumni have indicated that they are currently enrolled in graduate school or in a professional program either on a full- or part-time basis.

• 64 percent of graduate level alumni earn $50,000 or more and 33 percent earn $70,000 or more at their place of employment.

• 94 percent of graduate level alumni rated the quality of instruction at Benedictine as excellent or good.

• Despite the weak job market, for those looking for new positions upon graduation, 62 percent indicated that they found their jobs within one to three months of graduation.

(All facts are based on a six-month follow-up employment trend survey for 2002 that was completed by Benedictine baccalaureate and graduate level alumni.)

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Benedictine Alumni Come Back For Their Graduate Degrees.

Patrice Kucia, C91, B.A. Accounting, M.B.A., ’96

When I graduated in 1991 with my bachelor of arts degree in accounting, I had no idea that I would be graduating from Benedictine with a master’s degree within five years. After graduation, I started working at a manufacturing company as a junior accountant. Within a year-and-a-half from starting this position, I was out looking for another job. During my time at this company, I survived several layoffs. The company’s financial problems were growing, and I knew that the next time the company had to layoff employees, I might not be so lucky. So I started a job search for another accounting position by reviewing the job advertisements in the newspapers. From looking at the job descriptions, I discovered that a lot of the accounting positions were starting to prefer or require a master’s degree and/or certified public accounting (CPA) designation. After two months of searching for a job, I obtained a position as an accounting assistant with a small commercial property management company. It was also at this time in my career that I decided that a master’s degree would provide me with more job opportunities in the future. I believed that the next time I would be searching for a job with a master’s degree, I would have an advantage over other job applicants that were applying for the same position. The more education you had, the more training and analytical skills you brought with you to a company. I also had learned that people no longer stay at one company for their whole work career, and anything to make yourself more marketable in this economy was a plus for your career.

After I decided to get my master’s degree, I started searching for a graduate program. I was looking for a master’s program where I could study on a part-time basis, while still working full time. Another factor that I looked at was the cost. Since I was paying for graduate school myself, I needed a program that would not become a financial burden. I attended a fall open house at Benedictine for the graduate program. I was given an opportunity to meet with a faculty member who reviewed my undergraduate coursework. It was determined that since my undergraduate degree in accounting was from Benedictine, I had four classes waived at the graduate level for a master’s degree in business administration. This was a big advantage in regard to my graduate school cost and time commitment. I was also aware that at Benedictine the class sizes were small and the faculty teaching the classes were highly educated and dedicated to their students because that is what I experienced as an undergraduate student. In fact, several of my undergraduate professors taught the graduate level accounting and financial classes, so I knew what these professors’ expectations were and how they conducted their classes. Benedictine was able to give me the flexibility to obtain my graduate degree on a part-time basis with classes offered in the evenings and on the weekends at a convenient location.

The [M.B.A.] program was very good. The majority of the coursework in the master’s of business administration program was case studies based on real-life company situations. At the undergraduate level, you learned the theory of the business principles. At the graduate level, you would review these principles and apply them to the real business world. By seeing these principles in action, it gave you an opportunity to use them in your current position and in your future job opportunities. This way of teaching brought real meaning to the ideas that I was learning in the classroom and reinforced the concepts.

Since obtaining my graduate degree, I have moved from a staff-level property accountant position to a managerial position, where I can apply the skills that I learned in the ➤
Nicole Laughridge, C93, B.A. Psychology, M.P.H., ’00

I decided to earn my graduate degree because I was changing professions. I had a [bachelor’s of art degree] in Psychology, and I had decided to move to the insurance industry.

I had actually begun my graduate degree at Northern Illinois University as a student at large, and I found the class schedule difficult to manage. Most classes were held during the day, whereas all classes at Benedictine were held in the evening or over the weekend. This made it more convenient, as I was employed full-time while attending school. I have been able to further my career as well as apply business practices I’ve learned immediately.

The graduate programs I attended were great — the flexibility existed to bring work-related projects to the table as examples. The majority of the teachers were also working in the industry and current on industry trends, and the classwork was reasonable for working students.

I am currently a product liaison consultant at MetLife, and the majority of my work involves project management, planning and communication. My graduate degree, along with prior work experience, has helped me achieve this position.


I decided to pursue my graduate degree for several reasons. First, I wanted to continue my education and be prepared for future challenges that would be presented in my current position. Second, I have always wanted to teach — by having a graduate degree, I would be able to pursue that dream. Lastly, I wanted to extend my knowledge beyond the undergraduate level and be able to approach analytical problems from several directions.

I decided to stay at Benedictine University for my graduate degree because of the “community and family” environment. I was impressed, as an undergraduate, with the faculty and staff at the University. I wanted to draw upon the vast knowledge and experience of the professors. In addition, I wanted to stay at an institution that valued me as a person — and not a number. The intimate class size and proximity to work and home were additional factors.

I have seen many benefits in my life after receiving my graduate degree. I have been with my current employer for nine years — and was promoted twice after receiving my M.B.A. I am also able to approach technical problems from different angles — using the critical thinking skills that were part of the graduate program.

I am very impressed with the education (both undergraduate and graduate) that I received at Benedictine. The biggest strength was the instructors. They were extremely knowledgeable and very well organized and prepared. The class size was small and manageable. The networking opportunities were fabulous — and long-lasting friendships were made.

I am currently the manager of treasury operations at The ServiceMaster Company in Downers Grove. I am also an adjunct faculty member in the adult program at Benedictine University where I teach Corporate Finance. My graduate degree has allowed me to progress in my career at ServiceMaster and has allowed me the opportunity to pursue my other passion in life — teaching. Many doors have been unlocked by obtaining my graduate degree at Benedictine University.
I always wanted to further my education. About six years ago I attended an alumni meeting in which Dr. [William] Carroll spoke to the board. He spoke of his idea of having a Master of Arts in Liberal Science in which motivated students would learn the arts from teachers who were passionate about their subject. The emphasis would be on writing and oral communication and not taking tests. Since music involves all the arts, this seemed like a major that would benefit me in life and in my career in music.

I wanted to seek my degree [at Benedictine] because I remembered the quality of education I received when I worked on my bachelor’s. Also, I knew the major I was interested in was new [but Benedictine offered it].

Every subject I have taken in my master’s degree I have applied in my job. I am constantly using material from my classes in teaching students at my piano studio. I can give them insights into other arts and how music relates to them.

Besides my career, my master’s degree has given my life new meaning. I have new interests in subjects I knew little of before, and it gave me the impetus to study subjects I would not have thought I had an interest. This degree has given me the excitement of learning again, not because it’s required, but for the love of it.

I cannot praise Benedictine’s program enough. I studied with teachers who were passionate about their subjects. Every teacher was an expert in his [or her] field and seemed to enjoy working with us as we enjoyed learning from them. Going to class was always the highpoint of my week, and although the workload was heavy, the assignments were creative and interesting. Four hours of class went by quickly with the excitement of learning from a teacher who obviously enjoyed imparting his knowledge on a receptive class.

Since my degree, I began offering piano appreciation classes to parents of my students. The graduate classes I took helped me realize a new potential in my studio. The parents of my students are interested in learning about piano literature and how to appreciate piano music. In developing this class, I found I utilized almost every subject I learned in my graduate studies.

“Benedictine has a great graduate program. It’s flexible, convenient and professional. The strengths are the faculty. They offer professional people with real world experiences.”


I thought it would be interesting to shift my focus from the Arts (undergraduate) to a business aspect, since I’m working in advertising, which is based upon strong monthly sales focuses.

I knew Benedictine had a strong core of values and professional faculty and I was familiar with the school environment. I didn’t have to reacquaint myself with another institution.

I gained a valuable understanding of the business world, especially since I was fairly new to my job. The most valuable learning factors were the accounting and financial classes, definitely a weakness for myself.

Benedictine has a great graduate program. It’s flexible, convenient and professional. The strengths are the faculty. They offer professional people with real world experiences.

Currently I’m working in advertising for a major automaker. My graduate degree has made me aware of more opportunities. I’m tentatively planning on switching into marketing to gain a wider scope of my industry. †
The Benedictine Benefits

Adult students can select from a variety of program offerings at Benedictine University. Benedictine offers certificates, associate’s degrees, adult accelerated bachelor’s degrees, master’s degrees and a Ph.D. We have something to offer no matter where a student is in their educational career.

These programs are offered because they are taught by practitioners in the field. Professors and program directors bring first-hand, real-life experience to their teaching. They respect the place in which they work and have a passion about their field of expertise. This is evident in watching them interact with “their” students and seeing them put in long hours at work. I say this not just as the admissions director, but also as an alumna of Benedictine University’s graduate program.

Our graduate studies not only include a variety of programs but also have a variety of formats. Benedictine offers classes during days, evenings, weekends, online and in the cohort format. The whole point is to be flexible around the lives of the student.

We understand students have other commitments; these options allow students to plan education around work and personal commitments.

The Continuing Studies philosophy of Mentoring/Networking/Promoting is alive within the Benedictine University community. This fall, students will experience how each of these Benedictine Benefits can enrich their academic and professional growth.

I am confident Benedictine University has something to offer you, whether it’s acquiring new skills, taking classes for professional development, brushing up on some things you have learned years ago, gathering information about future trends in the workplace or satisfying a personal curiosity. To learn more about the Benedictine Benefits, please visit our Web site at www.ben.edu or call (630) 829-6300 to receive a program brochure. ♦
Understanding the Master of Clinical Exercise Physiology Program
by Craig Broeder, Ph.D.

The Master of Clinical Exercise Physiology (M.C.E.P.) program represents a program that exemplifies how training to become an exercise physiologist has evolved during the last 100 years. In the early 20th century and during the days of The Harvard Fatigue Lab’s pinnacle in exercise physiology research, exercise physiology focused on how the body adapted to various types of acute and chronic physical activity. Since those early days, exercise physiology has evolved extensively due to an increased interest in exercise and health within the professions of physical education, physiology and medicine, especially cardiology.

The M.C.E.P. program at Benedictine University reflects the most current focus of exercise physiology programs throughout the country. The M.C.E.P. program is a highly scientific based program in the Department of Biology that will prepare students for leadership roles in hospitals, independent rehabilitation programs, agencies, schools, corporations and health clubs throughout the United States. The program will also provide a strong educational background for those students planning on continuing their education in Ph.D. and M.D. programs.

The M.C.E.P. program has been specifically designed to provide students with a strong focus on the clinical application of exercise physiology, preventive nutrition and the basic applied sciences. Students will be trained for and exposed to a wealth of experiences from working with diseased populations such as cardiac, pulmonary and cancer patients to understanding the physiological and nutritional needs for world-class athletes of all ages. The program will strongly focus on becoming endorsed by the American College of Sports Medicine in Clinical Exercise Physiology during the 2003-2004 school year. The American College of Sports Medicine is recognized worldwide as the leading organization for clinical sports medicine and exercise physiology. In addition, the M.C.E.P. program will focus on providing real life experiences for its students by developing community outreach programs including obesity treatment programs for children and adults, preventive clinical programs such as advanced cardiac risk screening programs, comprehensive fitness stress testing and exercise prescription programs, osteoporosis prevention programs, and a nutrition-physical fitness lecture series in conjunction with Benedictine’s nutrition department, local hospitals and area health care organizations.

And finally, through several new research grants currently being developed with Molecular Nutrition Inc. and Power Plate of North America, LLC, students will have the opportunity to gain research experience by participating in cutting-edge clinically-based cellular, biochemical and physiological research projects focusing on obesity and anti-aging interventions.

The M.C.E.P. program is a highly scientific-based program in the Department of Biology that will prepare students for leadership roles in hospitals, independent rehabilitation programs, agencies, schools, corporations and health clubs throughout the United States. The program will also provide a strong educational background for those students planning on continuing their education in Ph.D. and M.D. programs.
WebFlex M.B.A. Program
by Mary LaFluer

For more than a quarter century, Benedictine University has been a leader in providing excellence in graduate business management programs. Continuing in that proud tradition, Benedictine University has developed an innovative WebFlex Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) program which blends traditional classroom instruction with Web-enhanced and dedicated online learning designed to meet the unique needs of working adults.

The development of such a program leverages the already solid teachings of the Benedictine M.B.A. course curriculum while expanding its richness and reach via technology. The program educates an underserved community of adult learners who require flexibility with regard to time and teaching.

“When we began formulating this program in spring 2002, we wanted to accomplish several goals,” said Sandra Gill, Ph.D., chair of the M.B.A. programs at Benedictine University. “We wanted to implement rigorous weekend M.B.A. options that responded to the needs of students who travel, and developing a weekend business learning session was essential to our program in this market area.”

Master of Public Health Program
Internship Opportunities
by Alan Gorr, Ph.D., M.P.H.

A generation ago, Tip O’Neill, then the House Majority Leader, is reported to have said, “All politics is local.” In that oft-quoted remark he recognized that national and international initiatives are no better than the individual person-to-person efforts that underlie them. We at Benedictine University’s M.P.H. program are ever more aware of that wisdom lately. We may want to believe that the recent SARS outbreak was half a world away, but a few travelers to Toronto brought it close to home. Shortly thereafter, the monkey pox virus was communicated to prairie dogs and then to humans, making a difference locally. Issues of health care services increasingly have their parallels across state lines and nations. Therefore, what we do here does have implications not only for the local communities, but often well beyond.

The internship is a 180-clock hour experience that models the professional aspirations of our students. They have the opportunity to take on professional responsibilities and to learn on the job.

The internship is a 180-clock hour experience that models the professional aspirations of our students. They have the opportunity to take on professional responsibilities and to learn on the job. Many of our students have substantial experience behind them as physicians, nurses, allied health professionals and administrators. The internship can't duplicate what they typically do on the job. It has to be a true learning experience.

Some students have pursued their internships in local health departments and regulatory agencies. These have led to jobs and positions of leadership throughout the county. Recently DuPage County has been recognized for its leadership in disaster preparedness. Many of the leaders in this county are teachers in our Disaster Management concentration and certificate and have participated in the Suburban Emergency Management Program under a grant from the Bersted Foundation to Benedictine University.

We now are reaching out to our extended community. Under a grant from SBC, courses from the Disaster Management program are being put online. We are investigatig the possibility of delivering our program to clusters of learners across the state, including Springfield. The realization that the local community is also the world community is expected to foster many more initiatives in the coming months.
According to WebFlex M.B.A. student Jennifer Houseward, “Taking classes through WebFlex has been an ideal way to earn my M.B.A. I travel frequently for work, which means I would miss many of my in-class sessions. WebFlex has offered the flexibility of taking my classes on the road, while still being connected to my classmates and instructor. The online courses still have in-class sessions, which provide meaningful personal interaction. WebFlex has made it easier to earn my M.B.A. while continuing to work full-time.”

Joe Benka has been in the WebFlex M.B.A. program since its inception. Benka said, “My experience in Benedictine’s WebFlex program has been wonderful. I am in my fourth class using WebFlex and each time it just keeps getting better. Being a full-time student, it is really convenient to have the opportunity to take some classes from my home.”

The WebFlex M.B.A. program continues to meet the needs of individuals who seek a flexible delivery model, but who also desire face-to-face personal interaction with faculty members and other students in the program. For more information about the WebFlex M.B.A. program, contact Mary La Fleur at (630) 829-6368, or e-mail webflex@ben.edu.

Graduate Program In Clinical Psychology Has Strong Reputation
by Jim Iaccino, Ph.D.

The graduate department of Clinical Psychology recently received a letter from one of its recent graduates, Liz Shallack, M.C.P. ’03. She relates the following: “I cannot imagine what kind of therapist I would be had I been in a different program… I am so glad I chose Benedictine. To all my professors, thank you … both from me and from my future clients!”

Benedictine University’s master’s program in Clinical Psychology has been in existence for more than 30 years and has graduated more than 400 students, providing superior training for counselors and psychotherapists. We continue to receive accolades from our students and from supervisors who welcome and guide our student interns through their field placement training. Our master’s program in Clinical Psychology has professional relationships with approximately 100 clinical field placement sites throughout DuPage, Cook, Will and Lake Counties. The list continues to grow as agencies call to request our student interns. As a result, we are able to offer our students a wide variety of placement opportunities to choose from, ranging from hospital settings to community service organizations and health departments.

The program’s long history and excellent reputation is something in which we take great pride, but most importantly we take gratification in the caliber of the students we graduate. Barbara Leiber, Director of the Department of Social and Health Services, Village of Downers Grove, has been supervising Benedictine University students in clinical field placements for more than 20 years. In that capacity she has worked with all of the major schools in the area and reports, “Benedictine students have consistently been well prepared to begin their clinical work. The Benedictine students come equipped with clinical skills as well as a personal maturity, which markedly enhances their professional growth as they serve their placements. These students are a pleasure to supervise.”

Field placements are a crucial piece of the student’s training in our program. The other critical component is excellent classroom instruction that emphasizes how the psychological theory links to the practical skills acquired in the field placements. Both of these factors ensure a high quality preparation for our students who are then able to provide a valuable service to our surrounding communities. †
The Benefits of A Gift Of Real Estate

If you have thought about making a gift to Benedictine University but feel that the liquidity of your assets is problematic, consider a gift of real estate. It can generate special tax benefits if it has appreciated in value.

1.) One unusual way to make a gift is to donate your home while you retain all rights to live in it for as long as you wish. You would receive an immediate tax deduction while you continue to occupy your home. Some people find this to be more financially sensible than donating their home via their will.

2.) Another type of gift allows the donor to receive back their original purchase price while also receiving a tax deduction for the amount of the appreciated value. It is called a “bargain sale.”

3) You can turn non-income producing real estate into a source of lifetime income by donating it through a charitable remainder trust. Your property is sold and the proceeds placed in a trust. A trustee of your choice invests the proceeds. You receive a percentage of the trust’s assets each year over your lifetime and an immediate tax deduction.

If you have considered assisting future students at Benedictine University and helping secure the future of the University itself, please contact Brad Carlson, development director at (630) 829-6362. ✝

Help Someone Reach For Their Star:

Be a Part of the Educare Scholarship Ball — With Comic Legend, Bob Newhart

On November 1, 2003, the Krasa Center will turn into a spectacular ‘night under the stars’ to raise funds for student scholarships.

In addition to the cocktails, dinner, live music, dancing and popular auctions, there will be an added ‘star’ at this year’s event — comedian and actor, Bob Newhart.

Newhart will be a special guest at this annual Benedictine event. He is well known around the world for his famous one-way phone conversation comedy routine, as well as his two very successful television shows, “The Bob Newhart Show” and “Newhart.” He has also starred in many movies including “In And Out” with Kevin Kline, “Catch 22” with Jon Voight, “On A Clear Day You Can See Forever” with Barbra Streisand, and most recently at theaters, “Legally Blonde II” with Reese Witherspoon.

The Educare Scholarship Ball is an essential fund-raising event for student scholarships, and all alumni are encouraged to attend. You can give back to your alma mater while enjoying a wonderful evening out. Mix and mingle with University teachers, alumni and comic legend, Bob Newhart.

For more information about this event and how to buy tickets, please contact Alumni Director Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu. ✝
Benedictine University’s fundraising efforts during the 2002 fiscal year through direct mail and the phonathon reaped a record-setting $166,024.61 in unrestricted gifts to support the President’s 21st Century Fund. A 31 percent increase over the previous year, this accomplishment was made possible through the unwavering support of our alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends.

These donations will help provide scholarships, technology upgrades, building renovations and overall operating support for the University. We received an additional $49,426.68 in restricted gifts during the spring that will enhance our science, business, education and athletic programs.

As part of our efforts to make contributing to the University quick and convenient, we are designing an online payment system. We hope this online system will serve as another viable philanthropic resource for University friends and family.

Generosity Helps Us Grow

Benedictine University's Annual Fund

Students Spend Their Spring Break Helping Others

The week of Spring Break is a time when many students make plans to go back home or do some traveling. Six Benedictine students took a different route by volunteering their time to help others.

Caroline Benjamin, Paulette Doyle, Nate Rebeck, Rachana Patel, Cory Junious and Pat Shanahan along with the Assistant University Minister Br. Rick Poro, O.S.B., and his niece, Kimberly Skarr, C00, adventured out to the north central part of West Virginia, in the heart of Appalachia, to visit the Nazareth Farm from March 16 to 21.

The Nazareth Farm is a Catholic community that is staffed by laymen and women who serve the needs of the local communities. College and high school volunteers from throughout the United States join in the service along with the people of Appalachia. More than 750 volunteers from all over the United States visited the Farm this year. The organization provides housing services in the area of home reconstruction and rehabilitation as well as other repairs for 30 to 40 families each year.

“While Nazareth Farm’s primary service is home repair, our work involves much more than just the physical labor. We go beyond hammering nails and painting walls and dig deep into the basic need for people to feel loved and appreciated. With a focus on social justice and cornerstones of community, simplicity, prayer and service, we emphasize working with people rather than for them, and we strive to always learn from one another,” states a Nazareth Farm spokesperson.

After coming back from this well-spent week, the students reflected on the importance of service within the community and how we are all capable of making a difference in society. For more volunteer opportunities, contact Br. Rick at (630) 829-6033.

Our new Annual Fund starts in September, and we look forward to your continued support. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, please contact Nellie Carlos, director of annual giving, at (630) 829-6366 or ncarlos@ben.edu.
Ninth Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing

The Cress Creek Country Club of Naperville was the site for this year’s President’s Invitational Golf Outing on July 21. Overnight thunderstorms had done some damage to trees on the course, but it didn’t stop the 192 golfers from teeing off at 7:45 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. and enjoying a beautiful day. The morning and afternoon tee times allowed more golfers to participate in this popular event.

The first-place winning men’s team was comprised of Chad Gregory, Executive Vice President Charlie Gregory, Kyle Gregory and Byron Whitchurch with a score of 58. The first-place mixed team winners were Stephen Collins, Deborah Olson of Wight & Company, former Chicago Bull Bob Love and Mike Wall.

Other winners of the day were: Jeff Kotansky, Longest Drive-Men; Karen Seremet Kunka, Longest Drive-Women; Brian Mosey, Longest Putt-Men; Christine Jeffries, Longest Putt-Women; John Calamos, Closest to the Pin-Men; and Joyce Wagner, Closest to the Pin-Women.

The Alumni Cup was awarded to the alumni team of Jerry Gorski, Terry Kalina, C69, Larry Krypicka and Jim Mathieson with a score of 63. Unfortunately, no one won the car from Fair Oaks Ford on the hole-in-one contest.

The alumni office extends thanks to the sponsors, donors, golf course, golfers and volunteers who helped make this scholarship fund-raising event a success.
Homecoming 2003

Please go to the alumni Web site www.ben.edu/alumni and get updated on new happenings. Special note: the athletic department has planned alumni games for Saturday, October 18, prior to the Homecoming football game. Look for information coming soon. Also, make plans to have your last walk-through of Benedictine Hall on Saturday after the football game.

New Alumni Benefit

Special savings through Liberty Mutual: In an effort to provide our alumni with the best possible benefits, Benedictine University and Liberty Mutual have teamed up to offer you a program called Group Savings Plus®. Some of the benefits offered are: money-saving group discounts on auto, home and tenant insurance; convenient payment plans; round-the-clock claims service; and 24-hour emergency roadside assistance. Group discounts coupled with other premium reductions (multi-car, multi-policy, etc.) could result in substantial savings for you and your family. To compare your current costs and coverages phone Liberty Mutual’s Direct Response Center at: (800) 524-9400.

“Centennial”

The lithograph of Benedictine Hall (detail above) is for sale through the alumni office. There are still some lithographs of “Centennial” by acclaimed artist Franklin McMahon available. This 32” x 24” picture depicts Benedictine Hall on its 100th birthday. There were 300 printed and each one is numbered. To get your print of the building that holds so many memories, you can contact the alumni office or e-mail dsmith@ben.edu. The cost of the print is $300 but the value is priceless. ♠

The first-place winning men’s team — Chad Gregory, Executive Vice President Charlie Gregory, Byron Whitehurst and Kyle Gregory.

Above, Beverage Station Volunteers — Laurie Kuschell; Linda Golan, C99, ’01; Joan Henehan, C91.
If The Walls Could Talk

Tunnels?

by Fr. David Turner, O.S.B., Assistant to the Provost for Academic Affairs

One can encounter individuals who are convinced of tunnels running from the University campus to Benet Academy, to the Abbey and even to Sacred Heart Monastery. To tell the honest truth, there are very few tunnels, and even those that exist are hardly ones that one could walk through, much less crawl through comfortably.

The history of the development of tunnels comes with the expansion of the University campus over the years, and in all cases the issue is heating. When the first section of Benedictine Hall opened in 1901, the boiler room could be found at the north end, on the ground floor of the section running east and west. The residuals of this section lasted into contemporary times with a chimney serving as an incinerator whose use became illegal with the development of houses on the former farm properties.

Tunnels actually began when the power house and coal bin (still existing west of Benedictine Hall) had to supply the developing campus with heat. Prior to the building of this much needed facility, the power house was located in what some refer to as the tin shop, a basement area in Benedictine Hall from where one could, in past years, travel through a tunnel that fed heat to the old gym.

A tunnel was eventually developed to heat the old science hall, and one can even see the residual of this space from the basement area of the Krasa Center. As one comes down the stairs at the east end, one can look up to the right and see a small, locked door.

There is a tunnel running from the power house all the way behind Jaeger Hall and into Kohlbeck. One needs to remember, however, that in most instances these are now simply buried pipes that supply heat to the various buildings, including Neuzil, Ondrak and the Rice Center.

One of the ways one could identify these spaces in the past was to see the sidewalks on which the snow would quickly melt. There was the slant-walk from Benedictine Hall to the old gym that always was clear. However, even in its heyday, this tunnel had to be traveled very carefully lest one be burned by a hot pipe that may have lost some of its insulating cover.

Sorry folks, we truly wish we could take you for walks as well developed as the ones you might find at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. Those tunnels are big enough for food carts to travel through as many of the residential facilities are served from a common kitchen. No such luck on the Benedictine campus. And truly, if there were usable tunnels, do you think some of us oldsters would carry umbrellas and walk in the rain?
Grobl Shoots To Save Lives
by Elizabeth Summers, C00

With a passion for photography and a desire to help non-profit organizations, Karl Grobl, C83, has built a body of photographic work that enables charities and foundations to fully explain their efforts and sell their missions. By photographing communities, families and children in Peru, India and Kenya, Grobl has partnered with such agencies as the United Nations Population Fund, Friends without a Border and the AIDS Kenya IU Moi Partnership to bring attention to their causes and successfully explain their missions and needs.

After 15 successful years as a sales manager in the orthopedics industry, Grobl decided to pursue a career utilizing his passion for photography. He has created photographic images of humanitarian efforts from Belize to Vietnam with stops in Nepal, Tanzania and Malawi. The photojournalist recently completed a year-long assignment documenting the work of Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO), a Washington-based health care provider. In doing that task, he traveled to countries in Africa, Asia and South America creating a portfolio of work that HVO will use in its promotions, educational materials and historical records.

InterAction, a coalition of more than 160 private voluntary organizations involved in humanitarian efforts all over the world, recently held its first annual photography contest, and the Grand Prize was awarded to Grobl at the organization’s annual forum in Washington, D.C. His grand prize photo capturing two school children from the Peruvian Andes as they did their homework on the sidewalk just outside their school won the top award in the basic education category as well.

This is not the first recognition Grobl has received for his photography. He was named Volunteer of the Year by the San Diego Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in 2001. He was also chosen as the Combined Health Agencies Volunteer of the Year for 2002. His works have been seen on the CNN Web page and shown in galleries throughout the nation. Not one to rest on past accomplishments, Grobl has continued his work and most recently documented the struggles of the average person’s life in Cuba.
Daniel J. Julius, Ph.D., has been named Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Benedictine University.

“Dr. Julius brings a wealth of experience in higher education to the University,” Benedictine President William Carroll said. “He is a program builder and a partner with faculty. He is in sync with the Benedictine mission. I agreed with the faculty and members of the search committee who felt that Dr. Julius was the best fit for the University.”

Julius earned his master’s degree and doctorate in education from Columbia University and a bachelor’s degree from Ohio State University. He has been a senior lecturer in the graduate schools of Education and Business at Stanford University and a visiting lecturer at the Academy of National Economy at Moscow State University in Russia.

Prior to his position as vice president for academic affairs and director of the Center for Strategic Leadership at the University of San Francisco, Julius served as the assistant vice chancellor and director of faculty and staff relations of the 23-institution, 350,000-student California state university system and was the system-wide director of personnel services in the Vermont state college system.

Julius also served as a member of the Mayor’s Task Force on Homelessness in San Francisco and was named the 1998 “Person of the Year” by the California chapter of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence. He has authored seven books and more than 50 articles and reviews.

Benedictine University is offering bachelor’s degrees in Business and Economics, Psychology and Management and Organizational Behavior through Springfield College in Illinois (SCI) beginning this fall.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (I.B.H.E.) approved a proposal by Benedictine University to offer junior- and senior-level programs through the college. SCI is a two-year liberal arts college and the first institution of higher education in the state capitol.

Benedictine University and SCI announced a partnership in January 2003 to bring Benedictine University programs and services to the Springfield area. This partnership is expected to move the two institutions toward a merger, following I.B.H.E. guidelines and those of the U.S. Department of Education.

The I.B.H.E. decision also means that SCI becomes the first four-year, faith-based institution in the state’s capitol to offer baccalaureate degrees.

Benedictine Offers
Four-Year Degrees In Springfield

Benedictine Welcomes
New Academic Affairs Administrator
Graduation 2003

More than 500 students received their undergraduate degrees on May 10. Long-time University friend and honorary trustee Dick Locher was the featured speaker at the commencement. Locher, well known for his career with the Chicago Tribune as a political cartoonist as well as the national comic strip, “Dick Tracy,” entertained and enlightened the large crowd of graduates and well-wishers. Portions of his speech are highlighted here.

“The brain starts developing the moment you are born and it doesn’t stop until you get up to speak. This is fortunate for you because, as you know, I am a picture person, not a word merchant.

I haven’t always been in a position to comment on absurdities dotting America’s landscape. I started in college as a chemistry major. It was obvious from the start, and from my professors, that chemistry wasn’t for me. I loved to draw strange pictures.

My career compass went spinning for awhile, but I found out how important it is to “have an open mind about career development, what developments might occur within your career and the power of communication.”

You have picked a major and you will pursue it, but be prepared for speed bumps and detours. They can, however, contain opportunities if you remain focused. In my case, I persisted in a mind-set that a cartoon is a communication tool.

I had a special client called McDonald’s — perhaps you’ve heard of them. It was with McDonald’s that I was privileged enough to be on the designing and promoting of the famous Ronald McDonald clown.

I learned a lot — mainly, it’s the people — their energy, optimism, foresight and communication that launches great ships.

Ray Kroch [the founder of McDonald’s] had a fantastic credo on a sign behind his desk. It read “Persistence, Persistence, Polite Persistence, but Persistence above all.”

Now I urge you to make communication a segment of your career. I’d like to say to you, “Communicate, communicate, politely communicate, but Communicate.”

Speak your mind and inform all of what you see that is despicable, and in turn, what is meaningful. As H.L. Menchan said, ‘Never be shy with the truth.’

You will be pitched some fastballs. Respond to them, be honest with them, go to bat with some energy and you’ll be surprised at what speaking out can do when it is intelligently applied. I may just be in a position to cause the Chicago Cubs to win a World Series. I made them angry and feisty when I showed a fan holding a sign that said, “What the hell, anybody can have a bad millennium.”

For all of us, this is the beginning of a great challenge, that is why you are my heroes. I can see in you, both enthusiasm and brightness. You have a magnificent opportunity to become real-life doers, armed with a fabulous Catholic education, a faith in God and ready to do battle. I urge you to look through the windshield of America, not in the rear-view mirror.

Give, give of yourself. Give back to God what God gave to you. Give quality every day. Don’t be afraid to try something new. Dare to do great things . . . give sustenance to your profession — nurture it, refine it.

Good luck to you all. God bless you.”

 Commodence speaker Dick Locher.

Academic Awards

College of Arts and Sciences
Colleen McNicholas
Bettina Zachariah

College of Business, Technology and Professional Programs
Colleen Anne Powers

School of Education
Kimberly Kuzma

Community Service Award
Mary P. Roberts

Service Award
Kevin Ivers

Thomas J. Dyba Leadership Award
Kristine M. Hoffman

Procopian Award
Amanda Cherie Miller
Not many people realize that when they are at the crossroads of Maple and College Roads they are in Benedictine country. The four corners nicely contain four very different kinds of Benedictine people and work — Benedictine University to the southwest, the Abbey to the southeast, Benet Academy to the northwest and Sacred Heart Monastery to the northeast.

The Benedictine Sisters, as their monk counterparts, were pioneers in this territory. They followed the monks from Chicago to Lisle in 1901, where they purchased 200 acres of prosperous land. Because living quarters were still in Chicago, they moved into the north section of Benedictine Hall and began their silent partnership.

The Benedictine monks worked together with the sisters to keep the college growing. The monks were always more visible as they went about their days of teaching and/or farming. But the Benedictine Sisters were behind the scenes at the college from 1901 to 1958.

Though in the background, their presence was vital to the college. They did the laundry for about 350 monks, students and seminarians. The Sisters also prepared food three times a day with a double shift at breakfast and also sewed and repaired clothing for the monks and boarders.

The days were long — 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. — and in addition to the cooking, sewing and laundry, the nuns chanted three times a day and made time for meditation, spiritual reading and some brief quiet time. Their work was also seemingly impossible with her cheering us on. The synergy created by this passionate caring has involved an increasingly broad spectrum of people who simply want to help. They include … Benedictine University’s Circle K organization, which consists of caring students energized by this atmosphere of caring.”

Because of Benedictine University’s membership in the coalition, its involvement has branched out into the area of education as well. This past June, Benedictine University, National Louis University and the Human Services Department of College of DuPage with combined efforts of the coalition and the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) held a seminar for professionals and students titled “Community Partners in Child Protection — A Multidisciplinary Approach.”

The consortium of the schools has aimed its efforts at increasing awareness of the issue of child abuse and neglect, while providing an opportunity to increase clinical skills for professionals and students planning on working with these victims. The consortium plans to hold the educational event annually with each school serving as the host. Benedictine University is scheduled to host the event in 2005. †
College Mission
The mission of the College is to empower our students and faculty for academic and professional excellence. We strive to graduate world-class, values-oriented professionals, and we aim to be the finest educational resource in the region.

Objectives
1. Ensure academic excellence by continually improving and redesigning our programs.
2. Find/Develop/Enhance educational opportunities.
3. Work with the University to increase the effectiveness of marketing.
4. Work with the University to improve recruitment, retention and student services.
5. Increase the College’s financial resources.

For more information, contact Dean John Cicero at (630) 829-6556.

New Developments In Student Research

Nine students from the Departments of Biological Sciences and Chemistry presented original research at national meetings during spring 2003. Seven students presented cellular and biochemical research at the Experimental Biology meetings in San Diego, California. Kate Hughes (Health Science major), Nathan Kucera, Phil Moy, Renee Peksa and Vassilis Siomos (all Molecular Biology majors) presented posters titled “Analysis of the binding of peptide fragments corresponding to the putative platelet recognition sequences of fibrinogen and the integrin αIIbβ3 by isothermal titration calorimetry” and “Evidence that the mechanism of LSARLAElf-induced αIIbβ3 dependent outside-in signal transduction in platelets is not dependent on dimerization of αIIbβ3 complexes.” These students worked under the direction of Dr. Donald Taylor (Biology), Edward Ferroni, Ph.D. (Biochemistry) and Michael Winkler, Ph.D. (Chemistry). Colleen McNicholas (Chemistry major and recipient of the Academic Award from the College of Arts and Sciences at 2003 Graduation Ceremony) presented “The effect of cadmium on osteoclast apoptosis” and Jonathan Rink (Biochemistry major) presented “Effect of cadmium and osteopontin on Rho-A and the actin cytoskeleton in osteoclasts.” McNicholas and Rink worked under the direction of Allison Wilson, Ph.D. (Biology). All students were supported by grants from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Neha Shah (Health Science major) worked under the direction of Clay Runck, Ph.D. (Biology) and presented her research, “Patterns of periphyton biomass accumulation, productivity and invertebrate colonization above and below a wastewater treatment plant in a phosphorus-rich suburban river,” at the Annual Meeting of the North American Benthological Society in Athens, Georgia.

Haley Meyer (Molecular Biology major) worked at Argonne National Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Monica Tischler. Her results were presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Microbiology Society in Washington, D.C. in May. The title of the poster was “Adsorption of cobalt and cadmium to bacterial surfaces.”

In addition, several students presented original research at a local undergraduate symposium sponsored by the Associated Colleges of the Chicago Area (ACCA). Shaun Daly and Michael Stankos (Biology majors) presented “Effect of caffeine on nervous system propagation” and Jabeen Ahed (Molecular Biology major) presented “Effects of synthetic MCSF peptide on osteoclast differentiation.” These students worked under the direction of Wilson. Genica Zdenek (Chemistry major) and Swetha Duggirala (Biochemistry major), under the direction of Winkler presented “Quantification of inorganic ions in commercial teas.” Jonathan Rink and Nathan Kucera presented their work on “Modeling the action potential in EXCEL” under the direction of Peter Nelson, Ph.D. (Biophysics).
Recent Alumni Events

African American Alumni Association’s Kick-off Event

Dr. William Carroll speaks with Ken Carruthers, C76, at the kick-off event of the African American Alumni Association at Blackie’s Pub in downtown Chicago. The event was held on April 29. A reunion of the group is being planned during Homecoming weekend. For more information, contact Julie Nelligan, alumni relations director, at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu †

After-Hours Fun

The downtown Elmhurst establishment, Fitz’s Pub, was the site of an alumni “after hours” on March 12. Fitz’s is owned by Terry Fitzharris, C67, and Jim Friel, C82. More events have been scheduled at Fitz’s — go to the alumni Web site for events and dates. †

Science Alumni Reunion

Cress Creek Country Club was the site of the Science Alumni reunion where alumni honored retiring professor, Dr. David Rausch, on May 16. The afternoon began with 18 holes of golf, followed by cocktails and dinner. Here, Dean John Mickus (right) talks with Dr. Harold Mozwez, C81, MaryBeth Mozwez, C81 and Dr. Eugene Lopez, C81, during the evening’s festivities. †

Class of ’39
Fr. Frederic Beller, O.S.B. (St. Procopius College) was honored by the monks of St. Procopius Abbey as he celebrated the 60th Anniversary of his ordination. Fr. Frederic was prefect at St. Procopius College Academy in the late 1930s and early 1940s, pastor of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Lisle, served two terms as prior of the monastery and was pastor of St. Mary’s Church in Phillips, Wisconsin, before retiring.

Class of ’49
Fr. Edward J. Kucera, O.S.B. (St. Procopius College) celebrated a Mass for relatives and friends on May 31 in the Benet Academy Chapel to mark the 50th anniversary of his ordination. Fr. Edward taught history and was athletic director at Benedictine University and served as the athletic director at Benet Academy before becoming a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force. Although he retired as a colonel from the Air Force after 20 years, he remains the hospital chaplain at Fitzsimmons Veterans’ Hospital in Colorado.

Class of ’51
Fr. Terence Fitzmaurice, O.S.B. (St. Procopius College), an alumnus of St. Procopius Seminary, was honored by the monks of St. Procopius Abbey as he celebrated the 40th anniversary of his ordination. Fr. Terence was pastor of St. Procopius Parish in Chicago and Our Lady of the North Parish in northern Wisconsin before retiring.

Class of ’61
Don Jacklich, Literature, completed writing his musical “Lovesong” which has been playing at the Crossroads Theatre in Naperville.

Class of ’62
Lt. Col. (Ret.) Kenneth L. Brady, History, is currently an AFJROTC instructor at Arlington High School, CA. Brady received his Ed.D. from the University of Southern California. He and his wife, Sandra, reside in Perris, CA.

Class of ’71
Leo Golembiewski, History, recorded his 500th career victory on January 17 as the head coach of the University of Arizona’s club hockey team. Golembiewski’s record stands at 500-110-17 during his 24 years with the team.

Class of ’76
Mike Sponsler, Biology, is currently chief of the Division of Mineral Resources Management, Ohio Department of Natural Resources. He and his wife, Doris, live in Columbus, OH. Four of his five children live on the west coast and he has three grandchildren in Franklin, OH.

Class of ’80
Julia (Chisholm) Kocal, Psychology, graduated from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology with a Psy.D in clinical psychology. She currently is a medical information scientist with AstraZeneca. She and her husband, James Kocal, Physical Education, have three children and reside in Valparaiso, IN.

Class of ’81
James M. Sullivan, Sociology, has recently been appointed by Chicago Mayor Richard Daley to be the Inspector General for the Chicago Board of Education. Sullivan and his wife, Lynne, reside in Chicago with their three children.

Class of ’83

Class of ’84
Catherine (Stein) Arnold, Nutrition, is the current president of the Illinois Dietetic Association and an associate professor of Nutrition at Benedictine University.

Brian Krajewski, Accounting and Computer Science, is currently the mayor of Downers Grove. He played football for Benedictine and Downers Grove South High School. He was in attendance at
the high school pep rally sending the team back to the state championship for the first time since Krajewski played for them.

Class of ’89
Mark Wanic, Marketing, is currently the director of global sales operations for Lucent Technologies. He and his wife, Leslie, have three boys — Cameron, Chase and Cory — and reside in Long Valley, NJ.

Class of ’90
F. Robert Hartwig, Biology, was promoted to assistant principal at Addison Trail High School, where he has been a biology teacher for 11 years. Hartwig and his wife, Patricia (Depkon) Hartwig, Management, reside in Arlington Heights where she works for Micro Management Technologies as vice president of operations. The Hartwigs have three children, Erin, Jimmy and Kristin.

Class of ’91
Ronald S. Ventura, Jr., Accounting, is currently vice president at Merrill Lynch. He resides in Chicago.

Class of ’92
Andrea Frale-Klouda, Health Education, M.P.H. ’96, is currently an adjunct faculty member at Benedictine University.


Class of ’93
Mary Fleming, Nutrition, ’95 Secondary Education, M.P.H. ’00, is a clinical dietitian at Pfeiffer Treatment Center.

Class of ’94
Cynthia Baranoski, Nutrition, is the recipient of this year’s Illinois Dietetic Association Emerging Leader Award. Baranoski continues to work as a dietitian at Easter Seals of DuPage and a consultant for Quaker Oats as well as being the co-editor of the West Suburban Dietetic Association (WSDA) newsletter.

James Gleba, Nuclear Medicine Technology, was recently promoted to coordinator of nuclear medicine and hospital radiation safety officer at St. Michael Hospital. He and his wife, Anne, live in Belgium, WI.

Class of ’96
Diane Moore, Nutrition, and her husband, Marc Barrera, have recently moved back to the Chicago area where she has accepted the position of manager of Dietetic Practice Teams for the American Dietetic Association. They reside in Plainfield.

Bridget Tuohy, Nutrition, is a clinical dietitian at Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove.

Class of ’97
Judy Manisco, Nutrition, has put together her own weight loss plan and booklet, “Slim for Life” as well as a healthy eating guide, “Back to Basics, Back to Balance.” Manisco consults in the areas of diabetes, hypercholesterolemia, food allergies, gluten intolerance, gastrointestinal problems and infertility; she is also a representative for “Laura’s Lean Beef” and “Gevere Natural Chocolates.”

Hina Moinuddin, Nutrition, is the clinical dietary manager at Beacon Hill and currently studying to get an administrator license.

Class of ’98
Amanda Amburn, Special Education, is the inclusion facilitator at Naperville North High School. She and her husband, Mike, live in Plainfield with their children, Gabrielle and Julia.

Susan Frain, D.C., Music, is president and chiropractor at Frain Family Chiropractic Wellness Center, Ltd. She received the ➤

Class of ’99
If you know where any of the following alumni are, please contact the alumni office at (630) 829-6080 or alumni@ben.edu.

Class of 1998
Ms. Kelly K. Delap
Mr. Robert D. Garcia
Ms. Jennifer L. (Sargeant) Halvorson
Ms. Susan Harnach
Ms. Mary Ann I. Hart
Mr. James E. Hoberg

Ms. Amanda L. Holler
Ms. Sabitha I. Kagdi
Ms. Brenda A. Lissak
Mr. James F. Makki
Mr. David M. McEttrick
Mr. Seen P. McMillen
Ms. Teena M. Messer
Ms. Colleen M. Mulhern
Ms. Valerie A. Newman
Ms. Mary T. (Bucher) Roth
Mr. Patrick M. Ruffner
Ms. Eileen F. Runtz
Ms. Heena A. Sampat
Ms. Aheed J. Siddiqi

2003 Golden Eagles Reunion

The Golden Eagles were recognized this May during the undergraduate commencement ceremony. Dr. William Carroll welcomed these alumni from both the academy and the college during a luncheon on the fifth floor of the Kindlon library. Pictured here: front row; Robert Novak, Bill Hillis, Nick Zabrinas, Mike Novak, Dr. Howard Hurt and Jerome Otawka. Standing: Joan Frauenhoff, Bernie Toussaint, Dushan Krocko, Abbott Dismas Kalicic, O.S.B., Bob Moroney and Dave Rezek. †

Ms. Amanda L. Holler
Ms. Sabitha I. Kagdi
Ms. Brenda A. Lissak
Mr. James F. Makki
Mr. David M. McEttrick
Mr. Seen P. McMillen
Ms. Teena M. Messer
Ms. Colleen M. Mulhern
Ms. Valerie A. Newman
Ms. Mary T. (Bucher) Roth
Mr. Patrick M. Ruffner
Ms. Eileen F. Runtz
Ms. Heena A. Sampat
Ms. Aheed J. Siddiqi

Mrs. Soo R. Sims
Ms. Kristen L. Steskla
Ms. Cinda M. Strnic
Ms. Teresa L. Sullivan
Ms. Sarah J. Talbot
Ms. Vickie K. Valdez
Ms. Shannon A. Verschoore
Mr. James E. West
Mr. Caspar P. Woermann
Ms. Maribeth A. Wojdyla
Ms. Rebecca A. Wysocki
Ms. Jennifer R. Yorke

Ms. Kristen L. Steskla
Ms. Cinda M. Strnic
Ms. Teresa L. Sullivan
Ms. Sarah J. Talbot
Ms. Vickie K. Valdez
Ms. Shannon A. Verschoore
Mr. James E. West
Mr. Caspar P. Woermann
Ms. Maribeth A. Wojdyla
Ms. Rebecca A. Wysocki
Ms. Jennifer R. Yorke
John Connolly Most Outstanding Graduate award from Palmer College of Chiropractic; the Virgil V. Strong Memorial Philosophy award and was the guest speaker at the Palmer College graduation. She and her husband, Patrick Frain, D.C., Communication Arts ’97, reside in DePere, WI.

Nausheena Hussain, Health Science, recently graduated from the University of Minnesota earning an M.B.A. in Marketing and Health Care Administration. Hussain plans to take the summer off and spend time with her two-year-old daughter. The family lives in Brooklyn Park, MN.

Rebecca Jilek, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’00, is a clinical dietitian at St. Joseph Provena in Joliet.

Tricia Skowron, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’00, is a clinical dietitian at the University of Illinois Chicago.

Keirsten Sparrow, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’99, is working as a clinical dietitian with Linda Owens Consulting.

Jennifer Turano, Nutrition, works in bread product development at Turano Bakery.

Jennifer (Gorski) Vargo, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’01, is currently the Vargo Health Care System Service Coordinator for Muscular Dystrophy Association in Florida.

Stephanie Bobruk, Accounting, passed the C.P.A. exam and is the controller for Precision Powerhouse in Minneapolis.

Heather Brixius, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’01, is a clinical dietitian at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago.

Michelle (Sobieck) DiRenzo, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’00, is a clinical dietitian at Delnor Community Hospital.

Michael Isaacson, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’00, is with the Kane Country Health Department as their emergency response coordinator. Isaacson was on the planning team for the Illinois portion of the Topoff Disaster Drill in Chicago and Seattle.

Aimee Jaremowicz, Nutrition, is a renal dietitian at Renal Care Group, an outpatient dialysis facility. Jaremowicz is writing an article for National Kidney Foundation and working on a renal cookbook with other dietitians at the Renal Care Group.

Kellie Kurhajec, M.P.H., is a clinical dietitian at Advocate Christ Hospital.

Beth Murphy-Giacomo, Nutrition, was recently promoted to the director of marketing and special events at the Meadows of Glen Ellen.

Steven J. Taylor, M.B.A., is the director of business development for Allied Domecq Spirits USA. He has received the Sales Leadership Award – Special Recognition and the Team Spirit Award – Business Integration. He and his wife, Lauren, live in Southlake, TX.

Alice Kraft, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’02, is currently the nutrition director at Sun City in Arizona.

Jane Pietrzak, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’02, is a clinical dietitian at Loretto Hospital.

Tiffany G. Pua, Communication Arts, after two years of broadcast news directing at WREX-TV (NBC) in Rockford, is moving to Springfield, MO, to direct newscasts for KOLR-10 (CBS)/Fox-27. Pua resides in Springfield.

Colleen Holton, M.B.A., is currently the regional vice president of finance for Mercy Health Partners in Cincinnati.

Rebecca R. (Smogor) Babby, Biology ’01, was recently married to Thomas Babby. They reside in Tucson where she is a microbiology lab manager.

and her husband, Leonard, reside in Loveland, OH.

Rebecca Karchmar, M.P.H., is a clinical dietitian at West Suburban Hospital.

Jennifer Meyers, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’02, currently works for HCR/ManorCare in Hinsdale.

Susan Murray, M.P.H., is a clinical dietitian at Silver Cross in Joliet.

Angela Principe, M.P.H., is currently working at East Chicago WIC. Nutritionists. Principe also teaches at the Cooking and Hospitality Institute.

Julia Richards, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’03, is a clinical dietitian for ManorCare in Palos.

Edwin M. Rickerson, M.O.B., has joined Mobiltrak as vice president of operations. The company is headquartered in Chandler, AZ.

Erin Walker, Nutrition, M.P.H. ’02, is this year’s recipient of the Illinois Dietetic Association Outstanding Dietetics Student award. Walker is currently working at Riverside Hospital in Kankakee.

Karen Behnke, Nutrition, has been an editor on the West Suburban Dietetic Association (WSDA) newsletter and is this year’s recipient of the WSDA scholarship.

Lesli Biediger, M.P.H., is currently the Regional Nutrition Program manager for the Texas Health Department.

Stephanie (Zook) Ellis, M.P.H., is the director of Nutrition Services at Finegold Weight and Health Management Clinic as well as a clinical dietitian for Victorian Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation.

Jennifer Jordan, M.P.H., is working as a diet technician at Silver Cross.

Amit Vora, M.B.A., is currently the feature manager of Motorola, Class of ’81. Vora and his wife, Seema, reside in Palatine.

Christine Curry, M.P.H., is the corporate dietitian for Fox River Foods, Inc.

Jenny (Arbetman) Garrison, Psychology ’98, and Jeromie Munoz were married in April 2003. They reside in Bolingbrook.

Tina (Blair) Koral, Nutrition ’99, M.P.H. ’01, was recently married to Joe Koral in Rome. Koral works for the American Medical Association as a senior research associate in continuing physician professional development. She also volunteers at the People’s Resource Center in Wheaton doing intake and needs assessment for the food pantry.

Elizabeth (Brummel) Munoz, Biology ’01, was recently married to Jason Struif. They reside in Plainfield.

Richard A. Munaretto, DDS, Health Science ’97, recently married Gretchen Rousse. They reside in Lombard. Munaretto also finished first of 65 at UIC College of Dentistry for his Doctor of Dental Surgery. He is specializing in Endodontics and received his Certificate in Endodontics in June 2003.

Jennifer (Becker) Struif, Management ’98, was married in May 2002 to Jason Struif. They reside in Bartlett where she is a human resources administrator II for Boise Office Solutions.

Jennifer (Proft) Sullivan, M.C.P. ’98, was recently married to Patrick...
Sullivan. The couple will reside in Naperville. She is a therapist for Communities in School in Aurora.

Steven Wesolowski, Ph.D., Mathematics ’96, recently married Meredith Anderson. Wesolowski is a computational chemist at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals where he works in discovery of new drugs for neurological and psychiatric diseases. His wife is an online course developer and consultant. They reside outside of Wilmington, DE.

Births

Janine (O’Connor) Augustyn, Business and Economics ’88, and her husband, James Augustyn, Biology ’89, recently welcomed their fifth child, Gabriel Michael. Gabriel was welcomed to his Geneva home by Madeline, 7; Bernadette, 5; Sam, 2; and Veronica, 1.


Rita (Sullivan) Carlson, Elementary Education ’90, and her husband, Kevin, welcomed Patrick Aner in April 2003. He joined his sisters Caitlin, 7, and Molly, 4, in their Downers Grove home.

Julie (Flaks) Fulton, Nutrition ’91, and her husband, Robert Fulton, Physical Education ’92, announce the birth of their son, Cole Robert in October of 2002. She is the chair of the Illinois Dietetic Association Council on Professional Issues and planned the 2003 Spring Assembly held at the University of Illinois Chicago in April. The Fultons own Mint Condition Wellness and Training Center.

George Hinkes, Computer Science ’93, and his wife, Victoria, welcomed a beautiful baby daughter, Catherine Anne, in November 2002. The family is at home in Elgin.

Victoria (Kohlstedt) Hurley, Biology ’93, and her husband, Christopher, announce the birth of their son, Liam George in December 2002. He was welcomed to their Plainfield home by Alexis, Colin and Ian.

Elizabeth (Marquardt) Konopka, International Business and Economics ’89, and her husband, Raymond Konopka, Mathematics and Computer Science ’89, announce the birth of their second child, Jack William, in June 2002. Big brother Christopher welcomed him into their Naperville home. Ray is the founder of Raize Software, a software development company.

We Need Your E-mail Address:

Having your e-mail address enables us to contact you quickly and efficiently and gives you timely access to upcoming events, information and services.

If you haven’t already done so, please e-mail us your address at alumni@ben.edu.
and consulting firm. Elizabeth is a unit leader with Creative Memories.

Richard Montalbano, Jr., Spanish ’93, and his wife, Wendy, announce the birth of their third child, Rosemary Ann. Sister, Lucille, and brother Vincent, welcomed her to their Naperville home.

Kimberly (Schoen) Osborn, Biology ’92, and her husband, Jeffrey, announce the birth of their third child, Sarah Noelle, in December 2002. Sarah joins brother, Jonathon, and sister, Kelly, in their Spring Grove, IL home.

Mary Ann (Corbett) Petrikas, Health Science ‘96, and her husband, Dr. James J. Petrikas, Health Science ’96, announce the birth of James Joseph Jr. born in April 2003. The family is at home in Naperville where Dr. Petrikas is a resident in radiation oncology at Northwestern.

Steve Prezespolewski, Psychology ’95, his wife, Jill, and daughter, Haley, recently welcomed a boy, Ryan, to their Spring, TX home.

Yuri (Mantera) Wagner, Health Science ’98, and her husband, Joseph F. Wagner III, Education ’97, announce the birth of their first child, Kathryn Marie. The family is at home in Woodridge where she works for Fertility Centers of Illinois and he is the athletic director at Immaculate Conception High School.

William Wilder, Music ’87, and his wife, Donna, announce the birth of their fourth child, Jacob Gregory in April 2003. Jacob joins his two brothers, Jimmy and Jonathon, and his sister, Jillian, in their LaGrange Park home.

Keep In Touch

What’s new in your life? A marriage or a child? A new job or promotion? Have you been published or honored? Let us know!

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

Tell my classmates that . . .

Customer service representative . . .

Please clip and mail to: Debbie Smith
Benedictine University
Alumni Office
5700 College Road
Lisle, Illinois 60532

or fax to (630) 829-6313 or e-mail alumni@ben.edu

In memory


Nutrition Department Highlights

Catherine Stein Arnold (Nutrition) received a $10,000 grant from the General Mills Foundation for a summer nutrition and fitness camp for elementary school children. The “Fun, Food and Fitness” summer camp for 60 children entering grades 2-5 took place this summer in West Chicago. The project also included school-based interventions of bulletin boards at the seven West Chicago District 33 grade schools and newsletters targeted to all of the parents. As the main evaluative component, an assessment of the cognitive and behavioral changes made in the children attending the camp and their households was conducted. Arnold was also a co-researcher and co-author of the journal article “Productivity of educational psychologists in educational psychology journals, 1997-2001,” accepted for publication in a 2003 issue of Contemporary Educational Psychology. She also presented “Are They Ready? Theories of Health Behavior Change” at the Illinois Dietetic Association Annual Conference on April 12 in Chicago.

Julie Moreschi (Nutrition) played an integral role in the General Mills Foundation grant concept formation and the establishment of this school district affiliation. The General Mills “Champions Youth and Fitness” grant program was a national competition and was very competitive. More than 650 applications were received for the 50 grants to be awarded.

Moreschi was also selected as the Outstanding Educator for the state of Illinois for her role as Dietetic Internship Director. The Illinois Dietetic Association recognized Moreschi for her professional leadership and dedicated service to the education of the next generation of dietetic professionals.✝
Fr. Odilo Crkva, O.S.B. (Office Services) marked the 50th anniversary of his ordination. Fr. Odilo, a.k.a. “The Courier,” serves the University by delivering the mail from the campus post office to the U.S. Post Office twice daily and making daily bank deposits for Ben Central. He is also one of the organizers at St. Procopius Abbey.


Sandra Gill (M.B.A. Programs) presented “Building Health System Quality with the Chief Medical Officer,” at the annual Congress on Health Care Management at the American College of Health Care Executives in Chicago on March 18-19. Gill presented with Dr. Gerald Gawlik, chief medical officer and senior vice president for strategy, Central DuPage Health. Four thousand health care executives attended the event. Gill and Therese Yaeger (Organization Development) presented with two doctorate candidates, Marianne Araujo, R.N. and Bashar Attar, M.D., at the Midwest Academy of Management on April 5 in St. Louis. Their session examined unique characteristics of organizational development in healthcare where professionals have multiple roles and leadership identities. Benedictine University had the most significant attendance of faculty and students at this peer-reviewed academic conference, and addressed many inquiries on Appreciative Inquiry and related OD practice and research.

Jim Iaccino (Psychology) had his manuscript, titled “Forever Knight and The Invisible Man: Television Retellings of Jungian Fairy Tales,” published in the refereed journal, Popular Culture Review, Vol. 14 (1) in February. As the editor indicated in the Introduction to that issue, “Touching on cursed heroes, tricksters and fools, Iaccino emphasizes the point that these Jungian archetypes are still alive and well in contemporary sci-fi and horror shows.” Iaccino also conducted a workshop on “How To Write A Selling Sci-Fi/Horror Film Screenplay” at the Annual Popular Culture Association Conference on April 16-20 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Iaccino provided a step-by-step account of the writing of his screenplay, “The Vidbond Connection,” including the genesis of the main idea, the development of the major characters and the composition of the dialogue. Video clips of classic sci-fi and horror films were used as models for each step. Iaccino also addressed “the trials and tribulations” involved in securing an agent of the Writers Guild of America to represent his screenplay and sell it to a film studio.

Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B. (Curator of the University art collection) presented a photographic slide program at St. Joseph Church in Downers Grove and at St. Margaret Mary Church in Naperville on seven famous paintings of the Annunciation of Christ related to its feast day on March 25. He repeated on April 6 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Naperville his Art Institute of Chicago lecture on the spiritual meaning in modern art. All three presentations were sponsored by the adult education programs in the parishes. He also served as judge of awards for the exhibit, “Emergence,” at the LaGrange Art League.

Jonathan Lewis (Sociology) presented “Nautical Fiction and the Western: Common Features, Common Roots, Common Writers” at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association convention April 16-20 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Employing materials housed at the Johansen Collection of Dime Novels at Northern Illinois University, the research was supported by a Horatio Alger Fellowship. A condensed version of the paper appeared in “DuPage Arts Life.”

Rodney McDaniel (Sociology) appeared in the Vince Carney Community Theater production of the play “The Boys Next Door” at the Hickory Grove Community Center in Rochelle in March. McDaniel was also a session organizer and discussant for the Gender Roles Section at the Southwestern Social Science Association Meetings held in San Antonio, Texas, in April. Papers ranged from “Sexual Tourism in Belize, Central America” to “Domestic Violence in the United States.”

William Carroll (President) Benedictine University President Dr. William Carroll had his article “A Discordant Melody of Sameness” published in Trusteeship magazine’s March/April edition. He was also asked to present this article as a keynote speaker at the Lisle Chamber of Commerce Membership Luncheon in April.

This innovative article deals with the idea that liberal arts colleges need to stand out to survive or as Carroll states, “Clearly, the path to extinction might be avoided by taking the path to distinction.”

Here is an excerpt:

“American higher education has been caught in a logjam for decades — a logjam held together by sameness. The last two years have seen the gradual breakup of the logjam. Interestingly, the very phenomena that caused the sameness early on — technology, competition, new pedagogies — are now driving a wedge in the sameness. When the logs are freed, where will your institution be?

…Many of our institutions, at one time, were clearly distinct from others. To succeed in the years ahead, small private liberal arts colleges must return to their distinctiveness. In some cases, the distinctiveness remains at the surface of the institutions and can be recaptured. In other cases, distinctiveness has to be developed anew.

…If our colleges and universities cannot be ‘excellent’ in every program they offer, perhaps the focus should shift to a single excellence that will define the institution to the public. At Benedictine, the faculty and administration are working to regain its excellence in the sciences, but with a twist. The University not only produces excellent scientists, it produces scientists grounded in the Catholic-Benedictine liberal arts tradition.”

September 13, 2003

Fr. Odilo Crkva, O.S.B. (Office Services) marked the 50th anniversary of his ordination. Fr. Odilo, a.k.a. “The Courier,” serves the University by delivering the mail from the campus post office to the U.S. Post Office twice daily and making daily bank deposits for Ben Central. He is also one of the organizers at St. Procopius Abbey.


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September 13, 2003
Steve Million and John Moulder (Fine and Performing Arts) performed a free brown bag concert in April at the Krasa Fireside Lounge.

Dr. Pete Nelson (Mathematical and Physical Sciences) presented the paper “Concentration dependent permeation modes in KcsA” at the Biophysical Society’s 47th annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas on March 1-5. KcsA is a bacterial ion channel that is considered representative of a large class of potassium channels. Potassium channels are present in nearly all-living things. Nelson’s research was funded by a National Institute of Health fellowship and a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.


Nordin also made five 50-minute presentations at the National Student Journalism Conference that met in New York City March 19-22. The presentations were titled: “Survey Stories: Measuring Public Opinion and Behavior on College Campuses;” “Up Against the Wall: Covering Commercial or Sensitive Situations on Church-Related Campuses;” “Research Forum: Questions and Answers;” “Stories Out of Statistics;” and “The First Amendment: Meet the Real World on Church-Related Campuses.”

Four Candid staff members — Michael Friese, Chris Means, Nick Olah and John Vaci — accompanied Nordin to the College Media Advisors event that drew more than 1,000 college student journalists from across the United States. On April 16-20, Nordin chaired a session, “Film VI: Directors: Sturges, Bergman, Kurosawa and Up-and-Coming Women,” and presented a paper, “The Horse in Kurosawa’s Samurai Films,” at the annual Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. Nordin’s paper is scheduled for publication in the “Journal of Asian Cinema” this fall. On May 2, Nordin participated in a day-long session of the Steering Committee of the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) at Heartland Community College in Normal, IL. Nordin is the last remaining founding member of the committee which is composed of faculty, administrators and transfer coordinators from colleges and universities across the state. Nordin also serves as co-chair of the IAI’s General Education Communication Panel (writing and speech courses). The State Board of Higher Education and the Community College Board jointly formed the IAI in January 1993 to help students transfer easily from one state institution of higher learning to another.

John Ostromski (Athletics) longtime Benedictine University head baseball coach, reached a significant coaching milestone in his 30-year coaching career. While coaching the Eagles on their annual Florida trip, he recorded his 700th career victory in an Eagles’ win over Fredonia State University College (3-1) on March 20.

Christine Palumbo (Nutrition) was quoted in a story about soy foods appearing in the June 18 edition of Investor’s Business Daily.

Ethel Ragland (Nursing) gave a poster presentation “Narrative Pedagogy — The Power of Storytelling” at the Nursing Education Conference held in June at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA.

Pete Seely (Communication Arts) chaired a panel on slapstick comedy in early television at the Popular Culture Association’s annual conference in New Orleans April 17-18. He also presented a paper titled “Hail Columbia! A Deconstruction of the Columbia Studio’s Style in Comedy Shorts.” He also presented a paper for the music panel of the American Culture Association titled, “Roxy Music and the Counter-Culture of Art/Glam.”

Carol Swett, Sarah Tibbott and Kim Brown (Intensive English Language Studies) presented a poster session at the state Teaching English as a Second or Other Language (TESOL) convention in March at Navy Pier. The presentation was titled “Integrating International Education Week Across the Intensive English Curriculum.” The poster included examples of student work as well as highlights of International Education Week 2002. Swett also presented “Accent Reduction Demystified,” at the Spring Workshop of Illinois Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages-Bilingual Education held at Richard J. Daley College on April 12.

Alicia Cordoba Tait (Music) performed a staged version of “Carmen” with Sinfonia da Camera as principal oboist in March at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts on the University of Illinois campus in Urbana. On March 16, she was an invited artist to perform for the 15th Anniversary Concert by
CUBE, “Celebrating the Muses.” Tait performed on both the oboe and English horn for a concert held in the auditorium of the Harold Washington Library in Chicago. She was the featured soloist with Sinfonia da Camera in May at the Great Hall in the Krannert Center. She performed J.S. Bach’s “Concerto in A major for Oboe d’amore and String Orchestra” and was principal oboist on Beethoven’s Symphony No. 8. Tait also performed English horn and oboe in the New Philharmonic concerts in April at the College of DuPage Arts Center.

Lisa Townsley (Mathematics) has been elected to a three-year term on the Council of the Illinois Conference of the American Association of University Professors (A.A.U.P.). The conference represents interests and concerns of faculty members at both public and private universities statewide. The association’s purpose is, “…to advance academic freedom and shared governance, to define fundamental professional values and standards for higher education and to ensure higher education’s contribution to the common good.”

Martin Tracey (Philosophy) was admitted to “Peace and Justice in the Bible and the Quran,” a Lilly Fellows Summer Seminar for College Teachers held in July at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

Fr. David Turner, O.S.B. (Academic Affairs), a member of the St. Procopius College Class of 1959 and an alumnus of St. Procopius Seminary, was honored by the monks of St. Procopius Abbey as he celebrated the 40th anniversary of his ordination. Fr. David continues to serve the University as Assistant to the Provost for Academic Affairs and assists at St. Luke Parish in Carol Stream on the weekends.

Therese Yeager (Organization Development) has been elected to the executive board of the Midwest Academy of Management. Yeager was elected to a three-year term through 2005. Other executive board members include faculty from the University of Toledo, University of Nebraska, Indiana University, Kansas State University and DePaul University.†

Fr. David Honored

Fr. David Turner, O.S.B., was honored by Lisle Mayor Joe Broda this past May with a Mayoral Proclamation for his 40th anniversary in the priesthood.†

M.B.A. Program’s Bruce Buchowicz Teaches in Denmark

Bruce Buchowicz, a professor in Benedictine University’s Master of Business Administration program, spent six weeks in Denmark teaching graduate courses in business at the Copenhagen Business School.

Buchowicz and Timothy Goines, an associate professor in the Department of International Business and Political Science, were selected for the honor after a rigorous application and evaluation process.

“There are a couple of benefits to teaching there,” Buchowicz said. “You have a chance to teach students from as many as 30 different countries, so there is quite a bit of learning on both sides.”

Buchowicz planned to test some new material for a course titled Creativity and Innovation in Business.

“I am dissatisfied with the material that is available,” he said. “I felt that what was really needed was a different approach. I was hoping to have a rough draft of a new textbook by the time I was finished.”

He is no stranger to teaching in foreign lands. Last year, he traveled to Peru on a Fulbright Fellowship.†
Eagles Capture Second Straight NIIC All-Sports Title

Benedictine University captured the 2002-2003 Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) All-Sports Championship by a narrow margin over Clarke College, marking the second consecutive year that the Eagles have claimed league supremacy.

The NIIC awards points based on each team’s final standing in 12 NIIC sports (men’s and women’s cross country, men’s and women’s soccer, volleyball, men’s and women’s tennis, men’s and women’s basketball, baseball, softball and men’s golf). Fourteen points are awarded for a league championship, 12 points for second place, 10 for third and so on, with the last place team earning two points.

Benedictine had strong showings across the board. The men’s soccer, volleyball and baseball teams either won or shared league titles. The women’s cross country, women’s basketball and men’s golf teams finished second, while the women’s tennis, men’s cross country and softball teams were third. Women’s soccer and men’s basketball both finished in fourth place.

Justin Hatch was named NIIC Player of the Year in men’s golf, while 27 other Benedictine students were named all-conference in their respective sports. Five student-athletes received NIIC All-Scholastic first-team recognition.

“Our goal is to balance scholar-athletes performing to their potential academically as well as athletically,” said Benedictine University President Dr. William J. Carroll. “Our championships and this award demonstrate that commitment.”

Benedictine University was the only school in the NIIC that did not finish lower than fourth in at least one sport. The Eagles are also handicapped in the all-sports race, earning points in only 11 sports because Benedictine does not field a men’s tennis team.

Benedictine’s baseball team clinched the all-sports championship by winning the league tournament. The Eagles were rewarded for their efforts by receiving a berth in the NCAA Division III tournament.

The NIIC is comprised of four original members: Aurora University, Benedictine University, Concordia University and Rockford College. Clarke College and Eureka College joined the conference beginning with the 1996-97 season. Dominican University is the most recent addition, coming on board beginning with the 2000-01 sports season.†
In The Ranks: New Coaches

Tom Mitchell, Acting Head Football Coach

Tom Mitchell will serve as Benedictine’s acting head football coach during the 2003 season. Previously, Mitchell was the Eagles’ linebacker coach and the defensive coordinator.

Prior to joining the Eagles, Mitchell spent two seasons at North Central College in Naperville. He was the recruiting coordinator, offensive line coach and head junior varsity coach on the Cardinal staff.

Mitchell also spent five years at St. Joseph High School in Westchester, Illinois, as the athletic director and head football coach. Mitchell left St. Joseph as the winningest football coach in school history. Mitchell had prior coaching stints at Elmhurst College, St. Xavier University and Brother Rice High School in Chicago.

Karen Seremet Kunka, Women’s Volleyball

Karen Seremet Kunka has been named the head volleyball coach at Benedictine. She has coached volleyball at the collegiate level for six years, most recently at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio.

Seremet Kunka served as head volleyball coach at North Central College in Naperville for five seasons where she posted a 93-59 record and won a school-record 31 matches during the 1999 season. She guided the Cardinals to two second-place finishes in the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) tournament.

Murnane, Robinson and Ryan named Athletes of the Year

Tracey Murnane and Julie Robinson have been named the 2002-2003 Female Co-Athletes of the Year and Pat Ryan has been named the 2002-2003 Male Athlete of the Year by the Benedictine University Athletic Department.

Murnane, an elementary education major from Tinley Park, was the first Benedictine female cross-country runner to qualify for the NCAA Division III National Championship. Murnane earned All-America recognition by placing 24th in a field of 213 runners.

During the 2002-2003 sports season, Murnane set school records in the 5K and 6K and set the Eagle Invitational course record. Murnane won the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) Female Cross Country Championship race and walked away with NIIC Female Cross Country Athlete of the Year honors for the second consecutive year. She also received NIIC Athlete of the Week honors on five occasions last fall.

Ryan, an accounting major from Chicago, received a number of awards for his outstanding performance on the football field.

The 6-foot-7-inch, 230-pound defensive lineman finished with 79 total tackles and led the Eagles in tackles and tied for 10th place with a jump of 5 feet 3.25 inches. Robinson was a starter on the Benedictine women’s basketball team that finished 13-14 overall and claimed a share of second place in the NIIC. Robinson started every game and averaged 12.4 points per game.

Ryan was an honorable mention selection to the prestigious Hewlett Packard All-American Football team and was named to the second team by D3Football.com. Earlier in the season, Ryan was recognized as Player of the Week by D3Football.com. Ryan was also named the Illini-Badger Football Conference (IBFC) Defensive Lineman of the Year and was a first-team All-Conference selection.
### Three Benedictine Student-Athletes Achieve All-American Status

Three Benedictine University student-athletes have achieved All-American status.

Julie Robinson, an elementary education major from Prophetstown, Illinois, placed second in the women’s high jump competition at the 2003 NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Robinson also competed in the women’s high jump at the 2003 NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championship placing 10th with a jump of 5 feet 3 inches.

Aaron Giza, a marketing major from Lisle, and Ryan Buchanan, a communication arts major from Peoria, were named to the 2003 Division III American Baseball Coaches Association/Rawlings All-America Baseball Team. Giza was a second-team selection and Buchanan was named to the third team.

Giza, who played third base and catcher, led the Eagles in four statistical categories and was ranked nationally in five categories. Buchanan, a first baseman, led the Eagles with a .415 batting average and a .988 fielding percentage. He also led the Eagles in hits (68) and doubles (17).

Giza and Buchanan are the fifth and sixth players in the 96 years of Benedictine baseball to receive All-American recognition. *†*

### Five Benedictine Student-Athletes Land On 2003 All-Scholastic Team

The Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) announced its 2003 All-Scholastic teams this spring and five Benedictine University student-athletes received first-team recognition: volleyball standout Kristy Furtio (a nutrition major from Minooka), tennis and softball performer Ashley Gray (a writing and publishing major from Casey), cross-country star Tracey Murnane (an education major from Tinley Park), and baseball performers Eric Lovitsch (a special education major from Hinsdale) and Brian Nelson (a finance major from Burbank). Baseball team member Brian Mannering (a social science major from LaPorte) was a second-team selection.

To be eligible for the All-Scholastic team, student-athletes must have at least one full year at their institution prior to the season being nominated, have at a minimum a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 (on a 4.00 scale), be a letter winner in a conference sport and have actively contributed on the varsity level. *†*

### Baseball: Eagles Claim Conference’s First Automatic Bid

The Benedictine University baseball team went 3-0 in the 2003 Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) Baseball tournament in May to claim the conference’s first automatic bid to the NCAA tournament. The Eagles, who entered the NIIC tournament as the No. 1 seed with a 13-5 record, snapped Aurora University’s six-year run atop the conference.

Five Benedictine University baseball players were named to the 2003 NIIC All-Conference team: seniors Ryan Buchanan (Peoria), Kevin Ryan (Lockport) and Brad Astrouski (Roselle) and juniors Aaron Giza (Lisle) and Eric Lovitsch (Hinsdale). *†*

### Three Lady Eagles earn all-conference honors in softball

The Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) 2003 All-Conference softball team included three players from Benedictine University: freshman Angela Bellavia (Carol Stream) and juniors Ashley Gray (Casey) and Cari Zalesiak (North Riverside). The Lady Eagles finished the 2003 season with a 13-22-1 record including an 8-7 mark in the NIIC. *†*

### Track Records

The Benedictine University men’s and women’s track and field teams set seven new school records during the 2003 indoor and outdoor seasons. Mandy Semenik (Lockport) ran a 34.06 in the indoor 200-meter hurdles and scored a record 2,574 points in the heptathlon. Julie Robinson (Prophetstown) set records in the indoor (5’5”) and outdoor (5’6”) high jump. Chris Johnson (Altamonte Springs, Fla.) established new marks in the indoor (49’6.5”) and outdoor (48’6”) shot put. Tom Segers (Crestwood) established a new standard in the indoor 35-pound weight throw.

(47’3.5”). *†*

### Hatch Ends The Golf Season On A Bang, Team Places Second

Justin Hatch (South Beloit) completed his sophomore season on the Benedictine University men’s golf team in an impressive fashion. Hatch won the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) tournament, received NIIC Men’s Golf Player of the Week recognition for two consecutive weeks and was named the NIIC Men’s Golf Player of the Year.

The Eagles finished second at the NIIC Men’s Golf tournament for the second
There are an infinite number of stars in the sky . . . Help someone reach for theirs.

Benedictine University's 38th Annual

Educare Scholarship Ball

with comic legend Bob Newhart

Saturday, November 1, 2003

For more information, call the Alumni Office at (630) 829-6077.
2003-04 Upcoming events

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