

Spring 2012

# Spring 2012: Academic Freedom

St. Norbert College

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# ST. NORBERT COLLEGE

M A G A Z I N E

spring 2012 | volume 44 | number 1



## ON THE EDGE OF DISCOVERY

Academic freedom protects the  
ongoing quest for understanding



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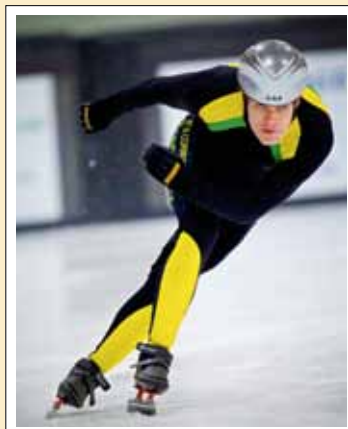
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**On the cover:**

We find ourselves fascinated by the concept of a physicist on ice. Nor is the interplay between his scholarly and extracurricular passions lost on Michael Olson (Physics), who will compete in the American Cup Final Short Track/National Age Group Short Track Championships this spring. Read more about Olson (pictured on our cover) on page 16. This image of the scientist – liberated by the ice, finding new perspectives on his field of study – provides a fitting metaphor with which to open an edition that explores the nature of academic freedom.

Cover photo: Mike Roemer.



## Emancipating mind, heart and soul

College President Thomas Kunkel

As a college president I'm certainly used to busy campuses. Yet wandering around our beautiful grounds on a recent, unseasonably mild Saturday, I couldn't help but be struck by the buzz of activity.

Over in Schuldes our league-leading women's basketball team dispatched Grinnell, after which the men's team rallied to defeat their Grinnell counterparts in a one-point thriller. At the same time, playgoers were streaming into the Webb Theatre for a performance of Knight Theatre's "The Drowsy Chaperone," produced and staged by the students themselves, to rave reviews. In the Campus Center, coed teams darted around the old gym in spirited broomball games, part of our revival of St. Norbert's traditional Winter Carnival. At Dale's Sports Lounge in the new Michels Commons, visiting alums stopped by for free hot chocolate and Chef Dan's chili, while students watched a Wisconsin basketball game on TV. That evening, students returned to Michels for the Winter Carnival ball, while outside their friends skated around the new rink we put up just south of Main Hall.

These are the kinds of images that come readily to mind when people think about the college experience. One big reason to choose a residential campus is to immerse yourself in those pleasant, socializing activities that happen outside the classroom. Still, at its heart a college is about academic and intellectual pursuits. As I took in the bustle of that sunny Saturday, I knew perfectly well that somewhere out there faculty members were working on journal papers, researching impending conference presentations, poring over their latest lab results, redrafting book chapters, creating art in makeshift studios, designing stage sets and putting the finishing notes to new pieces of music. College is about the generation of new knowledge and the interpretation and conveyance of existing knowledge. Our faculty do these things very well – all the more so because, outside the classroom, they continue to learn themselves, through their research and creative work.

This issue of your college magazine provides an unusually good perspective on the intellectual pursuits happening on our campus. Howard Ebert, of our religious studies faculty, discusses the importance of academic freedom. Anthropologist Sabine Hyland takes you with her on her far-flung research travels. Physicist Michael Olson explains the science of one of his recreational passions, speedskating. And you'll read about our former academic dean, Michael Marsden, and his contributions in a relatively new academic field that he helped establish.

Even yours truly tries to keep a hand in original research. For some years now I have been working on a biography of one of America's most significant writers of nonfiction, Joseph Mitchell. Mitchell warrants attention first because of his elegant prose, but also because his themes are the enduring ones we see in great fiction – life and death, hope and despair, disappointment and redemption. To know more about Mitchell's life and work is to know more about humanity – and that understanding, I hope, makes me a better college president.

I recently attended a conference where the former president of Duke University and Wellesley College, Nan Keohane, offered a rousing affirmation of the liberal arts college in the 21st century. In so doing, she quoted an observation that another president of Wellesley, Alice Freeman Palmer, made more than a century earlier. Why college? she was often asked. Her response: "We go to college to know, assured that knowledge is sweet and powerful, that a good education emancipates the mind and makes us citizens of the world."

And so it does. ♣



Reflecting the mission statement of the college, St. Norbert College Magazine links the institution's past and present by chronicling its academic, cultural, spiritual and co-curricular life.

College President  
Thomas Kunkel

Vice President for Enrollment Management and Communications  
Bridget Krage O'Connor '93

Director of Communications and Design  
Drew Van Fossen

Editor  
Susan Allen

Contributing Writers  
Kathleen Greif Berken '71  
Mike Dauplaise '84  
Melanie Radzicki McMamus '83  
Kimberly Niesing '14  
Nicole Jagielski '12  
Jeff Kurowski  
Kim (Lopas) Sullivan '95  
Lisa Strandberg  
Heidi Trembinski

Contributing Photographers  
Anuar Arroyo  
Patrick Ferron  
Mike Roemer  
Jeffery Scherer  
Evan Siegle  
Jerry Turba '74  
Adam Van Fossen '10

Please submit letters, articles and other material to:  
Susan Allen, Publications Editor  
Office of Communications  
St. Norbert College  
100 Grant Street  
De Pere, WI 54115-2099  
e-mail: magazine@snc.edu  
phone: (920) 403-3048  
fax: (920) 403-4010

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## Mythic connections enrich theatrical experience

**Stephen Rupsch** (*Theatre Studies*) says that planning and choosing plays for the program is one of the most daunting aspects of his job. This year, his second production – “Love of the Nightingale,” in the Webb Theatre April 13-21 – relates intriguingly to his first.

Our first play this year, called “The Birds,” was by Ancient Greek comic playwright Aristophanes. Soon after deciding on this production, I was discussing spring-semester options with **April Beiswenger**, our designer and second faculty member in Theatre Studies. I thought it might be interesting to produce another Greek play, but was unsure about the traditional tragedies available.

“The Love of the Nightingale” had been suggested a few years ago, and I recalled that it was a retelling of Greek myth. Once April and I read it, we both knew we had to produce it. The play has a modern sensibility, but is

steeped in history. In fact, interestingly, two of the characters in “The Birds” are also written into “Nightingale.” One play is a comic take on mythology and the other is dark, psychological and somewhat mysterious.

Both April and I were excited to be able to produce two plays that are so different, but drawing from such similar sources. From an educational point of view, this is rich territory. How can one story be told from two very different points of view?

Because we currently produce only two plays a year, we need to lean towards larger casts and compelling design prospects to offer maximum opportunity. We also need to create theatre that we are excited to share with our students. The creative challenge of working with the interplay between these two productions is proving particularly thrilling.

institution of higher education.) She also tallied a 199-121 record coaching softball from 1983 to 1995 and a 130-76 record coaching women’s volleyball from 1977 to 1985. In 54 sports seasons, Tilley has finished only five with records below .500. The Schuldes Sports Center playing court was named in her honor during the 2008-09 basketball season.



Connie Tilley

## Japanese conference comes to De Pere

Four St. Norbert faculty members who brought their scholarship to Japan will soon bring Japan to St. Norbert. **Thomas Conner** (Modern Languages and Literatures), **Wolfgang Grassl** (Business Administration), **Ikuko Torimoto** (Modern Languages and Literatures) and **Joseph Tullbane** (International Education) traveled to Nihon University for the international conference “U.S.-Japan: Special Relationships in a Changing World,” presenting papers to an audience of 300. St. Norbert, in turn, will host a similar conference in October 2013.

Conner, who coordinated the initiative, presented “Fearful Symmetries: Literary Representations of Metropolis in Japan and America.” Grassl’s paper was “Is There Still a Japanese Business Model?” Torimoto offered “Promoting Faculty-Student Collaborative Research in Japan” and Tullbane presented “Partnering for Greater Internationalization: Opportunities and Challenges Using the Internet to Expand and Enhance Our Horizons.”

## Schneider’s campus legacy lives on

The college lost a friend of long standing with the death of **Don Schneider ’57**. The former CEO of Schneider National died Jan. 13 at age 76, after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer’s disease. Schneider and his wife, **Pat**, gave the lead gift toward the construction of the college’s outdoor athletics complex, opened in 2010, that bears their name. Schneider first worked at his father’s modest trucking company as a mechanic’s helper and truck driver during high school, a job he continued to hold while studying business at St. Norbert. After a military stint in South Korea and completion of a master’s degree at the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business, he rejoined his father’s company as a manager in 1961 and became president in 1976. Since then, the company’s annual revenue has grown from \$100 million to \$3.4 billion.

**President Tom Kunkel** says: “We at SNC were fortunate to have a special relationship with Don. He was our graduate, he taught business here for years as an adjunct instructor, he was a longtime trustee, and with his devoted wife, Pat, and his family, he was an incredibly generous benefactor. Over the years Don and the Schneider family have left their mark throughout northeast Wisconsin, in ways large and small. We are a better community for Don’s life and his dedication to the welfare of others.”

Schneider is survived by his wife, along with five children, 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Don Schneider '57

## Three leaders consider the Catholic context for higher education

The college community was able to explore Catholic higher education from three different perspectives when abbot, bishop and college president convened in Fort Howard Theater for a panel discussion on campus.

**Abbot Gary Neville ’73** of St. Norbert Abbey, **Bishop David Ricken** of the Green Bay diocese and **President Tom Kunkel** took part in a conversation and Q-and-A session about Catholic higher education (and

St. Norbert in particular); the Catholic intellectual tradition; and the relationship between their three institutions. The Jan. 31 event, a first for St. Norbert College, gave faculty, staff and students a unique chance to learn more about what it means to be a Catholic college in relationship to the surrounding community.

Each participant was able to speak to their vision of Catholic higher education in the Church and in society, and on what the Catholic intellectual tradition meant to them.

## Mobile website unveiled

The St. Norbert community can now access key campus information quickly and easily through the college’s mobile website, [m.snc.edu](http://m.snc.edu). The smartphone-friendly site includes Michels Commons menus, Green Knight athletics schedules, college news, a “one-click” campus e-mail and phone directory, local weather and more.

The college’s office of communications and its information technology department collaborated to develop the mobile website and its abbreviated content. The format pairs quick entry into the site with faster loading times, for a better experience on the go.

## Tilley nets 900th win

St. Norbert women’s basketball scored a 60-36 victory over Beloit College on Feb. 8 for a record-extending 11th Midwest Conference title – an accomplishment that also put a 900th collegiate sporting event in the win column for head coach **Connie Tilley**.

Tilley has led Green Knight women’s basketball to a 571-262 overall record in her 35 years as coach. (Only two others have spent more time coaching women’s basketball at a single

## Norbertines worldwide prepare to meet at St. Norbert College this summer

A distinguished and very welcome visitor this year has been the abbot general of the Norbertine order worldwide. The **Most Rev. Thomas Handgräteringer, O.Praem.**, has been on campus several times as planning proceeds for the 2012 General Chapter of the order, hosted by St. Norbert Abbey.

The two-week convention brings some 130 delegates from Norbertine abbeys and houses around the world to De Pere. The visiting Norbertines will be housed at the abbey and at the college, and all sessions will take place on campus.

General Chapters are held once every six years and this one, convening July 22-Aug. 4, promises to be particularly historic. It will see the introduction of a new constitution for the order. Further, representatives from communities of the 150 Norbertine sisters worldwide are invited as guests, and will take time to discuss their own constitution, preparatory to the possibility of convening their own, separate General Chapter.

“We have a very ambitious motto, ‘Day of Pentecost,’” says Handgräteringer, “and we hope to look to the future with a new élan, a new impetus, after this meeting, and to bring this message out into the houses.” Notably, this 2012 General Chapter is only the second to be held outside Europe. The first was in 1976 and that assembly, too, was hosted in De Pere. It was also the first General Chapter experience for Handgräteringer, who was then a delegate. “The 1976 chapter was my first chapter, and my first visit here. I started here and will finish here in the states,” he says. He will step down from his position in 2013.

Handgräteringer, who was born in Germany and now lives in Rome, sees communication as a major issue for an organization that is dispersed in small communities across the globe. Assembling with confreres at General Chapter is a particular pleasure because it brings the chance to “meet together, stay together, play together. The General Chapter is the best place to communicate what is going on, to share also the good things, to solve problems and also to look for solutions. Communication in our order is [intended] to build *communio* – to build *communio* as confreres, but also with the people around you.

You know St. Augustine, whose Rule we follow, says we are to ‘live together in harmony, being of one mind and one heart on the way to God.’ In this sense we are to follow together to build *communio* – and, not for ourselves, but on the way, with the purpose, of God.

“I think about the specifics of our spirituality: *communio*, contemplation, action. How can we combine these three points for each religious life, for each Christian life? How to combine this in a small community life and to go out from that life, to others?” Handgräteringer weighs these key elements of Norbertine spirituality in his mind when it comes to another item on the agenda for the General Chapter: vocations. “I’m convinced that this combination is a good model for the future, also. How to convince young people of this? You can only invite them, encourage them to think about this. It’s a little bit contrasted to our society, too, this life. Most vocations are to a relationship to a person. We have to go to a relationship with Jesus, to go deeper. We have to have the courage to speak, that maybe this will be a good way for you.”



Abbot General Handgräteringer

## Bert fosters student philanthropy

Bert, a piggy bank College Advancement is giving students as they begin their relationship with St. Norbert College, is helping instill the importance of community and college traditions.



Bert offers students a place to keep their spare change. Monthly “Bert Alert” e-mails teach students about the community, people and places on campus, and St. Norbert traditions. **Steph Aldrich '15** says: “I like getting some fun e-mail. [Bert is] cute and adds a bit of flair to my desk.”

Introduced this year, Bert has featured in a “Battle of the Berts” contest where students competed for best-decorated Bert, “fattest” (heaviest) Bert and the Bert with the closest match to a mystery amount of money. The hall floor with the highest participation rate received a “Pig-Out,” where residents celebrated their good showing with a treat of their choice.

**Billy Falk '08** (Advancement) says the friendly pig helps build relationships that continue after graduation. Bert teaches students about their roles, responsibilities and opportunities as future alumni, reminding them that they will always have a connection to St. Norbert.

Bert was introduced last August as part of a student philanthropy program that encourages engagement with the college. Bert will stay with the students as they move through their four years at St. Norbert, and long after.

## Founding spirit lives

Heritage Days celebrations on campus saw **Bridget Burke Ravizza** (Religious Studies), **Sarah Griffiths** (international Education), **Carol Smith** (Health and Wellness Services), **Jake DeMarais '12** and **Carrie Roberts '12** honored as Founder’s Award recipients at the annual Founder’s Day Prayer Breakfast.

The awards are given to current employees and students at St. Norbert College who advance the Norbertine principles of community, spiritual commitment, service, collegiality and learning through their lives.

# Let’s eat

Today’s special is served with radical hospitality in a delightfully transformed Commons experience

**Kim (Lopas) Sullivan '95**

It is said that the kitchen is the heart of the home. It is where families gather to find comfort and sustenance. The same is true on a residential campus. And now, with the completion of Michels Commons, the heart of our home is as warm and welcoming as our people – a transformation of the former Sensenbrenner Union that invites students, faculty, staff and guests to linger over fresh food and great company.

The kitchen has long played a vital role at the college – all the way back to when **Abbot Bernard Pennings** taught Latin to the first students in the priory kitchen.

Though no longer doubling as a classroom, the “Caf” continues to be central to campus and its students. Knowing this well, the Michels family was intent on funding a reimagining of the almost 50 year-old building. “Our desire was to have an impact on the campus that all students would benefit from

on an almost daily basis,” **Tim Michels '84** explains.

Michels Commons increases dining-room capacity by 150 seats and the upper lounge by 100. More than an expansion project, though, the renovation creates an inviting and vibrant ambience.

From the outside, the addition of limestone (from one of the Michels Corporation’s quarries) adds a natural and elegant quality. The soft, rounded lines of the main entrance and rotunda entice a person to open its doors.

Inside, warm color tones and wood accents help set a comfortable and hospitable tone. Follow the curving architectural lines and you will find other amenities also housed inside the building – a redesigned Peace and Justice Center, meeting rooms and other campus offices.

At Ruth’s Marketplace, named after **Ruth Michels**, five unique meal stations in a marketplace-style food court offer international

fare, pizza and pasta, grilled and home-style food, fresh fruits and vegetables and a deli bar. The food is “made to service,” which means cooked in small batches in front of students, allowing for even fresher dishes.

Dale’s Sports Lounge, named for the late **Dale Michels**, is cozy with carpet, wood chairs, booths and TVs. It serves as extra seating during meal plan hours and as a relaxing hangout with baskets of appetizers available for purchase after hours.

The dining area boasts a large windowed rotunda, giving the space an open and airy feel. Gone are the heavy curtains, mauve chairs and standard round tables. Now a variety of seating options exist: deuces, four-tops, rounds for six or eight, or a spot at one of two large gathering tables.

According to **Mary Jo Morris** (Dining and Conference Services), the gathering tables look like boats – wider in the middle and then tapered at each end – seating 18. The concept works well on other campuses, particularly in welcoming

students who walk into the dining room alone. **Stacy Nehring '14** agrees. “The big tables give you a sense, you could almost say, like a family dinner, where everybody feels welcome.”

Morris says the gathering tables echo the Norbertine tradition of eating together and give the students a new way to experience *communio*. She says: “When the idea of the large gathering tables came up from the consultant, we were thinking how that would tie in with what the Norbertines talk about and preach. And the more we can do that, the more we feel like a family.”

The people who work in Dining Services are a large part of that family feel. **Mary Zelzer**, who has worked in the kitchen since 2006, is devoted to the students. You can hear it in her voice and see it in her smile when she says, “I do know quite a few students, so I always pop my head out and see how they’re doing.”

**Ruth Johnson** (Auxiliary Services) wants students to feel like they are at home, grabbing a bowl of cereal from their own kitchen. And having conversations with dining staff, whom some students view as pseudo parents, is all part of that family feeling. “It brings in that whole radical hospitality, which the serving staff here really bring to life.”



The experience of space has been transformed for diners and caterers alike. Campus has gained a light and lofty rotunda and Dining Services staff now enjoy connecting with their customers while they prepare many dishes right at serving stations.



Whatever diners fancy, they will find plenty to satisfy at Ruth’s Marketplace. They can choose from a selection of pizzas baked before their eyes at That’s Amoré; an international menu at the Fusion station; today’s offering from the Grill or the Third Street Deli; or just a simple PB & J sandwich with a glass of Sun Drop.



Entering Michels Commons from the northeast takes visitors past the remodeled Peace and Justice Center into a welcoming ambience that offers flexible space and three different dining environments.

## South African peace-builder to speak

The last 30 years have taken Sean Callaghan from the battlefields of Africa to conflict resolution in Iraq. En route, he has worked for sustainable peace and justice not only in his native South Africa, but also across the world. April 11, he will give the spring semester Miller Lecture in Fort Howard Theater.

When just a teenager, Sean Callaghan was conscripted into the South African Defense Force. He served as a medic with Koevoet, the brutal counter-insurgency unit operating in Namibia and Angola. In 1997, he testified before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission about the things he had witnessed as Koevoet hunted down the armed opposition to South Africa's apartheid government. As one of only a handful of conscripts to seek amnesty from the commission, Sean was the first to bring many military atrocities into the open.

Callaghan has handled special projects for several presidents – Mandela (South Africa), Obasanjo (Nigeria) and Chissano (Mozambique) – and has managed client communication at a number of global events. From his base in London, Callaghan is currently engaged in conflict resolution in Iraq, and he mentors local peace-building initiatives in Rwanda, Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka. At St. Norbert, he will speak to the Miller audience on “Unlearning Racism: Confronting Apartheid in our Hearts.”



Dan Zegers '11 (center) re-introduced Aaron Rodgers and Graham Harrell to their TKE roots.

## Packers QBs go Greek

Aaron Rodgers, the NFL's 2011-12 MVP, and backup quarterback Graham Harrell spent a portion of the Packers' January bye weekend at St. Norbert becoming honorary members of the international Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) fraternity's Sigma Xi chapter. The two were initiated at a Jan. 5 ceremony at Old St. Joseph Church.

The ceremony, covered by both ESPN and the NFL Network, drew 60 TKEs, including current students, alumni and fraternity members from across the Midwest. Representatives of the national TKE organization were also in attendance. Rodgers and Harrell joined TKE thanks in part to Sigma Xi's former recruiting chair **Dan Zegers '11**, who works for the Packers as equipment and scouting assistant. A conversation with the pair about TKE during the team's 2010 training camp led to the private induction ceremony. “It meant a lot to know they supported the brotherhood and were interested in our chapter at St. Norbert,” Zegers says.

## Art alums broaden experience for students

The college's art faculty launched ARTHURSDAY two years ago so art students could meet and chat with regional art professionals – photographers, floral arrangers, designers and ad agency employees and more. This year, most of those professionals have more in common with their student visitors than a passion for art; six of them are also St. Norbert alumni.

**Ryan Bloomer '07** works as a digital video editor for LAUNCH Photography, Film and Video in Green Bay. The company creates imagery for commercial, editorial and narrative assignments.

**Josh Harnowski '06** is a tattoo artist at Green Bay's Skin Illustrations-Tattoos By Rick. The go-to place for Packers who want some ink, Skin Illustrations hosts an annual international tattoo convention.

Painter **Christie Donovan '07** has works in many private collections locally. She also paints landscapes and portraits on commission.

Designer **Pam Wieseckel '05** works for Wild Blue Technologies. She specializes in brand identity, collateral, advertising, packaging, signage and web design, and created the 50th anniversary logo for Lambeau Field.

Creative director **Brad Krawczyk '06** has responsibility for all print promotional content for Milwaukee music venue The Rave.

**Brian Danaher '98** is an art director, designer and illustrator working in Minneapolis.

## State history revealed through Norbertine eyes

A diary kept by an Austrian Norbertine who traveled throughout Wisconsin in the mid-nineteenth century is now available in digital form, thanks to an on-campus collaboration.

Almost 50 years before college founder **Abbot Bernard Pennings** arrived in the United States, the Rev. Maximilian Gaertner, O.Praem., of Wilten Abbey in Austria, worked with the Rev. Adalbert Inama to establish chapels and schools in the Milwaukee and Madison areas.

Gaertner kept a record of his day-by-day experiences in a 10-volume diary. He wrote in German, and he included detailed hand-drawn maps, drawings of the sights he saw and financial receipts. **Sally Cubitt** (Library), who worked to publish the diaries online, admits she wasn't prepared for the quality of Gaertner's drawings, nor for how much of his experience can be understood from his drawings alone.

Cubitt says the diaries give you a great view of the early Norbertines in Wisconsin, the difficulties they faced and the tremendous amount of work they did.

**William Hyland** (Center for Norbertine Studies), the project's initiator, and **Nicolas Humphrey** (Modern Languages and Literatures) are currently translating the diaries into English. Digitized copies of the originals are available through WHO: Wisconsin Heritage Online and [snc.edu/library](http://snc.edu/library).

Gaertner's meticulous maps and illustrations enhance his journals, now housed in the archives at St. Norbert Abbey.



# The conversation continues

An institution deeply rooted in its own core traditions enjoys a particular freedom to entertain, explore and engage with a multiplicity of perspectives.

By Howard Ebert '74  
Associate Professor of Religious Studies  
Director, Master of Theological Studies  
Director, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies

It was my first class as a student at St. Norbert and there we were, right out of the gate, identifying some key human questions – and one of them was “Is there a God?” I was shocked. Coming from seminary to a Catholic college, I think I had assumed we would be taught what the Magisterium said, and that it would be that to which we would be held accountable.

But this was Intro to Philosophy, taught by **Bob Vanden Burgt** (Philosophy, Emeritus), where we talked about Plato but also about Jean-Paul Sartre and Albert Camus. It was a genuine, free discussion and there was no heavy-handedness about it. As a student in the 1970s, I learned here that the classroom was a special haven. As I got to learn about academic freedom, I came to understand that this college, and other colleges, are special places where we have an unusual opportunity to talk freely together; where we can let our imaginations run; where we have the privilege of thinking out loud and testing out ideas. I felt almost like an eagle, soaring. It made me want to listen more, to try and understand.

I remember being surprised and impressed by how non-judgmental professors were in their presentations of perspectives that were often not considered “orthodox.” They wanted us to understand diverse views and appreciate both the strengths and limitations of them. They encouraged understanding before criticizing or dismissing ideas that were different. It was essentially an experience of Norbertine hospitality: not only of



It was essentially an experience of Norbertine hospitality: not only of seeing how that key Norbertine value was lived in the classroom through the professors' friendliness and concern, but of seeing how diverse perspectives and views were welcomed, presented and discussed.

seeing how that key Norbertine value was lived in the classroom through the professors' friendliness and concern – and many of them were, in fact, Norbertine priests – but of seeing how diverse perspectives and views were welcomed, presented and discussed.

As a scholar, I have had the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the academic context of my own student experience and, as a teacher, to this day, I continue to live in that tradition. I try to avoid caricature of positions and strive to have students understand the nuances of diverse perspectives. In my discipline of religious studies, that means welcome discussion of, for instance, fundamentalism, evangelicalism, main-line religious perspectives or atheism.

As for my own faith, I think that, at one time, I found God more in the answers. Now, I find God in the questions – in the probing and the challenging. Our best moments of asking the toughest questions are buoyed up by the spirit of God. I've really become aware of the mystery of a living God who surprises us – sometimes uncomfortably.

## Freedom and responsibility

It should be noted that understanding positions does not mean accepting or approving them. As I tell my students, to be open-minded does not mean to be empty-minded. All the same, such academic freedom, critical as it is, is often misunderstood by many outside of higher education and, at times, even by those within the academy.

Too often, academic freedom is seen as a professor's right to say whatever he or she wants to in the classroom or other public venues – in other words, unrestricted and unconstrained free speech. Such an understanding of academic freedom is a serious misunderstanding of this necessary professional privilege, and not reflective of my own experience.

The Statement on Academic Freedom published by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) makes it clear that this privilege extends only to the area of a professor's training and competence. It does not mean that, as a theology professor, I can say anything I want on any matter. Rather, it means that I can present material and probe areas that are in my area of academic expertise. In my case, that is Christian theology, specifically Catholic theology. Even in this specific area, I must represent the tradition accurately and be ready to explain/defend claims to questioning students in the classroom, and to fellow theologians at conferences and in publications.

Additionally, the AAUP parameters remind professors to acknowledge the limited and partial nature of their disciplinary approach. In other words, I cannot enter the classroom and make sweeping statements in the area of politics or economics, or in the vast array of other disciplines in which I am not trained.

While it is important to recognize the constraints that are embedded in the principle of academic freedom, it is critical to also acknowledge the protection that it offers for critical inquiry.

First, a teacher/scholar can follow his or her quest for greater knowledge unimpeded by external powers and influences. This is critical so that the pursuit of truth can proceed according to the internal dynamics and traditions of specific disciplines. It should be noted that this protection against external intervention is also critical for the well-being of today's society, in which special interests and powers – be they political, economical or ecclesiastical – too often drive the flow of "public information." Academic freedom seeks to carve out a space where these extrinsic forces are held to a minimum.

Second, the AAUP definition implicitly recognizes that each area of knowledge and skills – each academic discipline – has a tradition, and an intrinsic method and history, that needs to be honored without extrinsic interruption. Each discipline needs to be seen as an ongoing conversation, a conversation with its own dynamic and rules of discourse.

## The St. Norbert context

As a Catholic, Norbertine liberal arts college, St. Norbert offers a unique context in which the principle of academic freedom takes on a distinctive texture. The reality of academic freedom as I have experienced it here as a student, and as a professor and administrator, both accentuates and elaborates the core AAUP understanding of academic freedom.

St. Norbert, like other institutions of higher learning, formally upholds the AAUP description of academic freedom. The exposure of students to a wide range of perspectives and the development of their critical thinking skills is the heart of a liberal arts education. We professors are to encourage and challenge students to engage critically the material presented in classes. We don't tell students what to think; rather we have them think critically and creatively about the material in front of them.

Specifically, in theology, I present orthodox teaching, with its rationale, and challenge students to understand and analyze it. This requires me not only

to present the position and its best arguments, but also to make students aware of criticisms of it and other viable, contemporary views. So, in my Introduction to Theology class, students read Freud, Marx and Nietzsche along with Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Teresa of Avila and Rahner.

In similar ways, my own research on the question of God and evil in the world (that is, theodicy) is marked not only with knowledge of past theological understandings but also a critical appraisal of them.

The reality of academic freedom in a Catholic college context underscores the reality that any genuine freedom is more than simply a "freedom from"; it is a "freedom for." It does not mean a release from all restrictions and constraints. Rather, the Catholic intellectual tradition argues that academic freedom carries with it inevitable responsibilities.

Specifically, the pursuit of truth in any discipline should not further only the advantage of the professor, the few or the privileged. Rather it should be beneficial for all, and especially the most vulnerable in society. This emphasis on the common good means that I, as a professor, must not let my own idiosyncratic likes and preferences determine what material I present to students. Instead, I must ask the larger question of how course content leads students to grapple with the pressing issues confronting humanity.

Furthermore, the Catholic intellectual tradition, and especially the Catholic theological tradition, encourages the use of reason and critical thought as a way to explore the very mystery of God. The tradition has argued that faith and reason are not contradictory realities but rather complementary. Faith and reason must stay in conversation with each other. As Pope John Paul II reminded us, "Faith without reason is superstition, and reason without faith is idolatry."

The Norbertine tradition further contextualizes the reality of academic freedom, with its emphasis on radical hospitality. This is experienced on campus on

a variety of levels – from friendliness, to helping out someone in need, to extending congratulations for various successes, to condolences for loss. An essential characteristic of such hospitality is a genuine interest in and openness to the other, the stranger. In a world more and more driven by quick dismissals that caricature opposing viewpoints, I believe it is essential that we continue to foster this aspect of a Norbertine education.

And the Norbertine emphasis on addressing the needs of the local community further accentuates my responsibility to structure my classes and my research in ways that address needs – not in some abstract and vacuous fashion, but concretely and specifically. This focus has also led me to explore the place of some form of service-learning opportunity as an addition, or possible requirement, to my current courses.

## A privilege to cherish

Academic freedom cannot be taken for granted. It would be wrong to think that its reality and practice can be without tension and controversies.

For instance, the distinction between teaching and/or advocating ideas in the classroom is a delicate and complex issue. Some might ask, does our identity as a religious foundation – specifically as a Catholic, Norbertine institution – mean there are certain ideas that simply cannot or should not be discussed? These are difficult questions, yet where better to air them or – even more important – where else should they be aired?

There are subtle, and not so subtle, forms of power and influence that try to subvert the open and free exchange and exploration of ideas. But my experience as a student, teacher and scholar at St. Norbert has affirmed that the college has been vigilant in protecting this essential trait of higher education. Academic freedom is a legacy that is both a gift and a responsibility. It is a great heritage, and we are privileged to stand in such a tradition. ♣



The reality of academic freedom in a Catholic college context underscores the reality that any genuine freedom is more than simply a "freedom from"; it is a "freedom for." ... Academic freedom carries with it inevitable responsibilities.

 **Web Extra**  
Pat McCormick of Gonzaga University addresses academic freedom, speaking out of the Jesuit tradition. [snc.edu/go/magazine](http://snc.edu/go/magazine)

## From the American Association of University Professors' Statement on Academic Freedom

The AAUP's Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure, first published in 1940, includes the following tenets. The full statement is available at [aaup.org/AAUP/issues/AF](http://aaup.org/AAUP/issues/AF).

- Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties.
- Teachers are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject.
- College and university teachers are citizens, members of a learned profession, and officers of a learned institution. When they speak as citizens, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. ... Hence they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others.

# First of a kind

By Kathy Greif Berken '71



Shane Kohl and Michael Marsden (English) meet periodically while Kohl works on the dissertation that will complete his master's studies.

Hear Shane Kohl talk about his MLS experience. [snc.edu/go/magazine](http://snc.edu/go/magazine)

As the first graduate of St. Norbert's new Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program, Shane Kohl says his coursework hasn't just made him a better employee — it's made him a better person, too.

Why would someone who hadn't written more than an e-mail or memo in the past decade, who hadn't set foot in a classroom in 14 years, and who already had a fulfilling job, return to school to earn a master's degree that he did not think he needed, in a field that seemed far from his chosen profession? Ask Shane Kohl, the first candidate for St. Norbert's Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree (MLS). Wondering these same things, he almost went home before he attended his first class.

"I pulled into the parking lot behind the admissions building. I thought to myself, 'It's not too late to change your mind,'" Kohl says. He had cold feet, thinking he could be out on the golf course or at home with his wife instead. Now, with diploma in hand, he's glad he stayed.

An Appleton, Wis., native, Kohl graduated in 1996 with a bachelor's in communications processes from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay — where he met his wife, Sheila. He started a career in fundraising for regional nonprofit organizations. From Green Bay's CP Center, he went to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, then returned to UWGB to work in the development office. Most recently, he took a development position in his hometown, at the Trout Museum of Art.

Motivated by Sheila's completion of her master's in education, Kohl searched for an institution offering an advanced degree focused on what he enjoyed about his undergraduate experience — "the exchange of ideas, the concepts involving critical thinking, the strengthening of oral and written communication skills as well as the range of opportunities the major offered in terms of career paths." The college's MLS program, brand-new in 2009, fit the bill.

Kohl met with program director Howard Ebert (Religious Studies) and loved the idea that St. Norbert would choose to build a new graduate program based on its

widely recognized undergraduate liberal arts curriculum.

He also appreciated that he would earn his master's in a classroom setting. "I have nothing against online delivery," he says, "but I'm a people person. I wanted to learn from and with others in a dynamic environment, not from a computer screen."

The six students in his first class — Introduction to Liberal Studies, taught by Michael Marsden (English) — each came with a different background, life story and motivation. "We bonded quickly," Kohl says. Often their classroom discussions "would spill out into the parking lot after class or continue via e-mail throughout the week."

Brenda Busch '93, who began the MLS journey with Kohl, valued her classmate's inquisitive nature and sense of humor. She says he always "asked the tough questions gently."

Another MLS cohort, Nancy Fecteau, says Kohl didn't speak up about a subject unless he had a well-thought-out point to make.

Marsden says, "Shane sought to broaden his horizons by building upon his undergraduate degree and exploring the rich history and traditions of the liberal arts and sciences and their role in the contemporary world. Shane has proven to be a wonderful leader among the other students in the program, modeling for others the importance of living the examined life."

For Kohl, the examined life is a changed life. He says the MLS program has equipped him to "think critically and to view situations from different perspectives" and made him a stronger communicator and a "better employee, husband and person."

The program's first graduate captures its essence by paraphrasing Don Abel (Philosophy). As Kohl's ethics professor, Abel described his course as a class about problems, not solutions; likewise, Kohl says of the MLS, "This is a program about ideas and issues of lifetime learning." ♣

# Liberating a lost language



By Lisa Strandberg

As anthropologist Sabine Hyland investigates a Peruvian artifact that could help to revolutionize the study of the Incas, she finds support from a freeform team of scholars connected by their common interest in unlocking the culture's ancient secrets.

Sabine Hyland (Sociology) has no shortage of frequent flyer miles these days. Her scholarship has taken her to three continents in the last 18 months, sometimes with impressive travel companions.

The National Geographic Channel funded and filmed one of her three trips to Peru, and the Smithsonian arranged and paid for another, along with an October lecture tour in the Caribbean. Hyland presented her work at Germany's Heidelberg University in June; she also delivered a guest lecture to Harvard's anthropology department in December and will speak at Vanderbilt University this month.

Her rather breathless year and a half follows a discovery that one day may help unlock the language of the Incas — a discovery made in concert with a worldwide network of colleagues.

The find that has excited scholars around the world is a 19th-century *kipu* board. For years, Hyland has studied *kipus* — knotted cords of varied material, color and girth first used by the Incas in the 15th century to record information and send messages across their sizable South American empire.

Hundreds of *kipus* still exist, but scholars have yet to crack the code that would render meaningful the Incas' only form of recorded language. That's why Hyland's recent work has her fellow Andean scholars abuzz.

In summer 2010, University of Wisconsin-Madison anthropologist Frank Salomon invited Hyland to a conference to present a paper on the Mercedarians. The priests and brothers of this religious order developed *kipu* boards in 16th-century Peru to track Mass attendance and the like with a combination of *kipus* and Spanish writing.

Hyland had read about a particular *kipu* board in a report by scholar Román



High tech in a very low-tech environment: In an adobe house in the Peruvian Andes, the *kipu* board is readied for scanning by multi-spectral imaging. On the previous page, Hyland is pictured in front of the only surviving temple of Andean religion left in the region.



Robles, who discovered the artifact in a remote Peruvian village high in the central Andes in the 1980s. When Robles returned to re-examine the board – the only one then known to exist – it had disappeared. Hyland set out to find it again.

“I contacted a friend of mine who does archaeology in the region, and I asked him if he knew about the village. He said no, but one of his buddies had just been there,” she says.

She e-mailed that archaeologist. He had good news: He had seen the *kipu* board in the basement of a local schoolteacher who, when cleaning out the village church, discovered it in a wooden chest filled with vestments.

The board, one foot by two feet, bears 282 written names and 174 *kipus*. While the writing does not directly translate the *kipus*

after the manner of the Rosetta Stone, which served scholars as a key to Egyptian hieroglyphics, it does hold promise to help decode the *kipu* system.

“That’s what we’ve never had before. It’s a *sine qua non*. If you’re going to do a decipherment, you have to have a text like this,” Hyland says.

“The study of the Mayas has been completely revolutionized since we’ve been able to read their writing. Who knows what would happen if we could actually read the Incas, what they said themselves?”

To study the *kipu* board, Hyland

first found her way to the remote Andean village in January 2011. A St. Norbert grant covered expenses, and Efraín Vidalón, an associate with regional connections, made her complex travel arrangements. Vidalón manages logistics for Smithsonian Journeys in Peru; Hyland has served as study leader on a handful of the program’s educational excursions there.

Hyland’s bus departed at 4 a.m. from a tiny storefront in a dodgy part of Lima. After a 12-hour ride along treacherous mining roads, she arrived in the village. There, she discovered what one might expect: 200-year-old artifacts tend to have some wear and tear. With spots of bat urine partially obscuring the writing on the *kipu* board, reading it would require expert assistance.

Hyland happened to know just the right expert – Gene Ware of Brigham Young University’s Multispectral Imaging (MSI) lab. With MSI, Ware could read through the *kipu* board’s stains. However, he and his equipment would need to make the costly trip to Peru to do so.

Enter National Geographic Channel’s “Ancient X Files.” In May 2011, a producer from the show contacted Hyland, interested in doing a show on some of her earlier work.

In response to the inquiry, Hyland said, “Well, you can do that if you want, but this is really cool.” Then she described the *kipu* board and her desire to examine it with MSI.

“They said, ‘Look. We’ll take care of all the details. We’ll take care of everything if you allow us to film you,’” Hyland says.

Two months later, with National

Geographic looking on, Hyland and Ware recovered more than 30 names from the *kipu* board. The show detailing their adventure will air later this year. So will “Mankind: The Story of All of Us,” a History Channel series filmed in South Africa and produced in London, for which Hyland provided anthropological consultation from her office in Boyle Hall.

“It’s just been like a dream to see how these things work,” Hyland says.

Hyland did all this while missing only two weeks in the classroom. “I think that students are enriched when they have faculty who are involved in research. It makes them understand better why they’re learning these things in their classes, that it has a real-world application,” she says.

It also inspires her students to explore their own academic interests. For instance, Hyland is collaborating with Sandra Payan ’14 in her ethnographic research on the Kalpulli KetzalCoatlucue, an indigenous community devoted to preserving Aztec dance and ceremony.

“Dr. Hyland has supported me even though [the college does] not offer classes about the Aztecs,” Payan says.

Hyland sees such scholarly freedom as critical in learning about culture and, in turn, about ourselves. She says: “My passion is to try to understand the ancient empire of the Incas, which is one of the most mysterious of all ancient peoples, and one of the least known. This cultural diversity is part of being human. If we lose some of these ancient solutions to the question of being human, then our humanity is diminished.” ♣

# An exercise in hospitality

By Susan Allen  
Editor

Radical hospitality is hospitality that is meant to be tested and, as at any gathering, sometimes your Commencement guests can surprise you – and, perhaps, themselves also.

After Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago – who had already accepted our invitation to speak at Commencement 2012 – found himself in national headlines last December, questions naturally arose about St. Norbert College’s choice of speaker.

Traditionally, Commencement speakers at St. Norbert have been recipients of honorary degrees and, because it is the role of the college’s board of trustees to confer degrees, the board has also decided whom to invite as Commencement speaker. Their intent is to identify some notable person whom it would be an honor to bring to campus, says **President Tom Kunkel**; a person of true accomplishment, someone who has a compelling message to deliver and who can do so succinctly; and, ideally, someone who means something to the community they will address. George, one of the most influential prelates in the American Church, stands in a long tradition of religious who have spoken at our Commencements.

The college’s own faculty handbook speaks to the range of opinions among the speakers we bring to campus, and to why we do not eschew, or “disinvite,” those with whom we might not agree. The handbook states: “The objective of St. Norbert College is education. Included in that objective is the encouragement of free and fearless inquiry and freedom of expression.

“The criterion of acceptability for a campus speaker or any other program officially sponsored by the college is that it helps to achieve such an objective. The views may, indeed should, frequently run counter to opinions of some students, faculty members and administrative personnel – perhaps in extreme cases, all of them. The college cannot avoid controversy, nor does it desire to do so. No educational institution preparing men and women to live, work, and hold responsible positions in the 21st century could possibly live up to its responsibilities if it avoided intensive study

of all points of view on significant issues. ... We hope that our friends will understand our obligations as educators to present as varied – to some extent, as controversial – a program as possible.”

The controversy surrounding Cardinal George arose when he was asked about an upcoming gay pride parade in Chicago that had the potential of disrupting Sunday church services. The cardinal replied that he hoped gay activists would not adopt protest tactics akin to those used by the Ku Klux Klan against the Church in the 1930s. The cardinal later apologized for any hurt his remarks had caused, but the incident caused many to question St. Norbert’s invitation, and also the process by which the college selects its Commencement speaker.

Among formal communications addressing George’s stance, President Kunkel received many from current students, from faculty members, from parents and from alumni. He says: “Regardless of their position or perspective – and they ran the gamut – these notes were heartfelt, articulate and respectful. Please know that I read every one of them and was gratified by the caliber and integrity of the dialogue.”

The dialogue continues. As this magazine went to press, Kunkel set aside a large portion of his mid-year address to explain how the college invited its Commencement speakers, and to open discussion on how that process might evolve.

Radical hospitality – that espoused by the Norbertines since their founding in 1120 – is hospitality from the roots up: the word “radical” itself stems from the Latin *radix*, a root. Yes, the guests you invite to your table can sometimes surprise you – but that does not release their hosts of their obligations. Yes, the conversation continues. And, at the end of the day, what is a Commencement? As Kunkel reminded us, it is a wonderful day for our seniors: an occasion to mark the culmination of all that they have become on their journey so far, and the contributions of all those who are traveling it with them. Without the opportunity for ongoing conversation with others encountered on that road, the journey would be infinitely less rich. ♣

Radical hospitality – that espoused by the Norbertines since their founding in 1120 – is hospitality from the roots up: The word “radical” itself stems from the Latin *radix*, a root.



# A body in motion

... remains in motion. The laws of physics speed a professor on ice – and, back in the classroom, his enthusiasm continues to boost his students' experience.

By Jeff Kurowski

Students in classes taught by **Michael Olson** (Physics) know about his passion for speedskating. They don't have a choice, according to Olson.

"(Speedskating) is all applied physics, every bit of it," says Olson. "I use speedskating problems and examples all the time. It's all about force. It's about moments of inertia. In speedskating, you are trying to maximize the momentum with each step. You seek the greatest force over the longest time. You want to keep the blade in full contact with the ice for the longest time possible."

Olson is in his fourth season as a competitive speedskater. He discovered the sport during a quest to improve his physical fitness.

"I was the school fat kid growing up," he says. "I struggled with my weight most of my life. I was able to get my nutrition under control through my diet, but I needed a physical activity. I got out my vintage 1991 roller blades and grabbed some ski poles."

Olson took up inline skating for the exercise, and his training would evolve into competing in marathons. An inline skating colleague suggested speedskating as a complementary sport.

"Speedskating is an extremely safe sport," says Olson. "It puts no significant stress on your joints. I'm in my mid-forties and there is no joint stress on my knees, hips or back. It's great cardiovascular fitness and it's a sport you can do year-round. I transition from the road to the ice. My inline racing season ends and the next week the ice season starts. I don't have an off-season."

The 1991 roller blades are long gone. "I wore them out," he says. "In the summer, I will grind through two or three sets of wheels because I'm training for competitive skating."

The sports are similar, but the surfaces create significant differences, he adds. "The ice is extremely unforgiving of sloppy technique where on the road, the wheels will skid, slide a little bit," he explains. "You can get away with certain things on the road that you can't get away with on the ice. The friction on the ice will slow you down or you will fall or catch the blade. Going down on the ice is a lot less painful than on the road."

Olson trains short-track at the Cornerstone Community Ice Center in De Pere and skates long-track at the Petit National Ice Center in Milwaukee. His first experience at Petit – an open skate in January of 2009 – was one he will never forget.

"I was just going to skate some easy laps, just to be there and to experience it," he says. "The ice at Petit is like glass. Ten

minutes into my workout, a tall, lanky fellow comes out of the tunnel, puts his stuff down on the bench next to mine and peels off his hoodie to reveal the Olympic speed suit."

Olson was joined on the ice by Olympic gold medalist and world champion Shani Davis, whom he describes as one of the nicest people he has ever met. "I always joke that never in the history of long-track speedskating have the two absolute opposite ends of the spectrum been on the ice at the same time."

The moment brought back a memory from his childhood in Neenah. "It was 1976, I was nine years old and already overweight," he says. "I wasn't playing any sports. I remember watching on television Peter Mueller [Olympic champion] skate in Innsbruck. I remember thinking to myself how much I would love to do that. This was literally a 35-year deferred dream of the school fat kid. I was out there skating with the world champion. I was skating next to the best."

Olson still considers himself a novice in the sport. He soaks up as much knowledge as possible from Shannon Holmes, coach of the Cornerstone program, and from other coaches and skaters.

"Sue Ellis [former Olympic speedskating coach], who does camps for us, calls the compromise of turnover speed and force 'push and patience.' It's all applied physics," says Olson. "Intellectually, the sport really appeals to me that way. There is also a certain aesthetic to it. Intellectually, as a physicist, I understand exactly what I need to do. When coaches speak of certain technical points, I'm translating that into physics terms. My mind knows what I need to do, but getting my body to go along is a different story."

Inline and speedskating are not equipment-intensive sports, which also makes both good fits for the study of matter and motion in the physics classroom, explains Olson. "We can talk about inline in terms of friction, the wheel bearings," he says. "There are certain things that hit me on the ice for use in the classroom. I suddenly find myself thinking, 'Oh that's perfect. I need to use that one.' It's such a clean application of physics. There is no equipment except the blades. There is nothing between you and the ice except the blades. Hit the turn just right with the correct balance and all of a sudden you're off. You have to find that balance of turnover speed and push, and length and duration of the push. It relates directly to some of the things we talk about."

Holmes was not surprised to discover Olson's area of study when he first joined the Cornerstone program. "He had a lot

of questions,” she says. “Michael is so passionate and has such a love for the sport. He is a good student of the sport.”

A race from earlier this season stands out as a highlight for Olson. He fell during the final of the 1000 meters at a November meet in Wausau. “Contact happens; a few of us bumped into each other and I ended up going down,” he says. “I was able to get



*There are certain things that hit me on the ice for use in the classroom. I suddenly find myself thinking, ‘Oh that’s perfect. I need to use that one.’ It’s such a clean application of physics.*

– Michael Olson

up quickly and reestablish my stride and settle back into my rhythm, which is something that I had not been able to do before that race. I finished fourth out of six, but that wasn’t the point. It was how I skated after I went down. Each race is a new experience. Each race I learn something new.

“Every moment is a pinch-me moment,” he adds. “Does it really matter how I finish? No, not really. I want to get better. I want to improve my time. I want to skate more efficiently, cleaner, smarter, all that. I want to improve, we all do, but in reality, any day on the ice is a good day.”

Future St. Norbert physics students should expect more speedskating examples in the classroom. Olson says he is just getting started. “It has been life-changing for me to be able to do this,” he says. “There are skaters who compete into their 60s and 70s, even into their 80s. You skate with people of your same ability. If everything goes well, I’m looking at 40 good years in this sport.” ♣

# Game plan

*A business professor manages a little ice time*

**I**t’s not hard to understand why curling is the sport of choice for Joy Pahl (*Business Administration*). A specialist in strategic management and organizational behavior, our 2004 and 2006 Wisconsin Mixed Curling Champion says the sport she took up in 2002 is sometimes described as “chess on ice.”

Business strategists need to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their company. They also need to accurately assess the opportunities and threats that exist in their business environment. In curling, this is exactly what we do.

As a skip [the anchor of the team], you need to know the strengths and weaknesses of each of your players so that you can plan the strategy of the game, and so that you can build the strategy of each end [section of play]. It is also best to understand the strengths, weaknesses and tendencies of your opponent. If I know these tendencies, I will attempt to take advantage of this as I “call the game.”

The ice itself is a major external force in decision-making. Different parts of a sheet of ice may curl different amounts, so you need to pay attention to how much the ice is curling. Skips who recognize the ice conditions accurately and early in a game are at an advantage. As the game progresses, however, the condition of the ice changes, so players need to adjust.

Similarly, business strategists need to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their company. They also need to accurately assess their business environment, so that they can make decisions that leverage their firm’s strengths and shore up weaknesses, taking advantage of the opportunities that exist and mitigating the threats. Unlike in curling, however, business strategists face multiple competitors simultaneously and they



face a great many more external forces. Nevertheless, there are numerous parallels.

Building a strong team through practice, communication, focus and encouragement is crucial. Strong teams win games and tournaments. Communication is crucial, just like in management. I always tell my students that when they become managers, they may be tempted to think that they don’t have time to go meet with an employee, or to make that phone call, or to hold that meeting. This is when they should remember, “Wait a minute, Joy Pahl told me that whenever I think this, I should realize that I don’t have time to do anything EXCEPT communicate with that employee!” Communication is always the most important thing that managers do. In curling, great teams don’t happen without it, and great shots cannot be made without it, because each shot requires all four members – one shooter, two sweepers and the skip – to act in concert. ♣

# TOWARD A MORE CIVIL DISCOURSE



St. Norbert College plays host to many voices on campus, both out of its mission as an academic institution and out of its calling to extend hospitality to the larger community that makes use of its facilities. Among the significant voices heard on campus in recent years are (left to right) civil rights activist John M. Perkins; Secretary of State Hillary Clinton; author David Maraniss; commentator Gwen Ifill; Bishop of Green Bay David Ricken; and first lady Michelle Obama.

David Wegge (Political Science) speaks out for a more edifying and constructive approach in public life to debating our ideological differences.

**O**ur political system has undergone substantial changes in the past few years. I am deeply concerned about how these changes are impacting the performance of our political system. I am concerned by the undue power of special interests in our system. I am concerned by some of the misaligned priorities that seem to be prevalent. But most of all I am concerned about the nature and quality of our political discourse. Civility in our political discourse is at such a low point that it threatens the very functioning of our deliberative democratic process, and hence democracy itself.

Defining civil political discourse with precision may not be an easy task, but we all know it when we see or hear it. First, there is an emotive element in civil discourse as manifested through manners and norms of behavior; moderating – or failing to moderate – discourse through self-control. Second, there is what political scientist Virginia Shapiro refers to as

“constructive confrontation” – civility manifested through argument, deliberation and discourse. This is the more rational and deliberative side of civility. It is how we would go about making decisions in a democratic system.

## A culture of argument

I suspect if I took a poll and asked you to give me some examples of incivility in the political world, the responses would focus much more on the emotive: Joe Wilson’s “You lie!” interruption of President Barack Obama; the likening of national and state leaders to Hitler; and, perhaps at its most extreme, the shooting of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords.

Deliberative civility in our political discourse – perhaps overshadowed by issues of self-control – has not received adequate consideration, and yet this is the linchpin in democratic decision-making.

Deliberative civility requires that we evaluate how arguments are made and how

evidence is used to make a case for why we should embark on a particular solution to a public problem. Susan Herbst, in her book “Rude Democracy,” argues that we need to create a more productive “culture of argument.”

In debating some of the critical issues of the day, we see both sides playing fast and loose with facts. We see them constructing word images that pander to our emotions, and we see them attempting to frame the issues in clever ways to shape or misshape the opinions of the public. What we don’t see much of is constructive confrontation.

What are the necessary ingredients for developing a “culture of argument”? First of all, you need to have issues that are contested. Then you need a healthy exchange of views and perspectives on those issues. This is when you begin to evaluate the logic and the evidence being presented. You need to acknowledge the other viewpoints and give them full

consideration in relation to your own views. You need to engage in what political scientist Benjamin Barber calls “thoughtful listening.” Only then can you begin to synthesize the various points of view into a whole that is greater than the sum of the parts. Then comes the final decision. Not all will agree, but generally there will be a compromise position that most can accept.

## Understanding

I would argue that the current context in which our political leaders operate has led to diminished “self-control” civility and produced less deliberative civility. Three contextual changes in recent years are undermining the quality of political discourse.

First, the general political environment is currently one in which resources are perceived as scarce. In times of scarce resources, conflict naturally heats up over who is going to get what. Will my program get cut? How much of the budget pie will I get? Will my job be diminished or lost? In addition, we see significant polarization among our citizens and leaders. The political world today is nearly evenly divided between the right and the left. The level of political trust is at a very low level. If we do not trust what others are saying, one of our immediate responses is to stop listening to what they have to say.

Secondly, we have witnessed a shift over the last few decades from election cycles to continuous elections. Our leaders are continuously running for re-election, largely due to the amount of resources that must be amassed to run for office. The average candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives today spends about \$1.5 million – double the 1988 figure. The average cost for U.S. Senate candidates is \$7.5 million. That means if you are a House member you need to raise almost \$15,000 per week. A candidate for Senate needs to raise \$24,000 a week.

If election campaigns are continuous, it means the “electoral” mindset is continuous as well. A campaign mindset is very different from a “governing” mindset. Campaigns are zero-sum conflict. There is always a winner and loser. The “governing” mindset is about collaboration

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HAS NOT RECEIVED ADEQUATE CONSIDERATION, AND YET  
THIS IS THE LINCHPIN IN DEMOCRATIC DECISION-MAKING.

and compromise. It’s about locating that middle ground where we all can find some outcome that we can agree on. It is about working together to solve problems that face our society as a whole. If our political leaders are always in the campaign competitive mode, it makes compromise and collaboration much more difficult.

Furthermore, in continuous campaigns it is necessary for members of Congress to spend as much time as possible back in their districts. Members are spending less time in Washington. The basis of their relationship with other members tends to depend almost solely on interactions of political and policy competition. They are not developing relationships with other members that transcend political issues. The newly founded Center Aisle Caucus in Congress realized this and took action at the 2010 State of the Union Address when it encouraged Republicans and Democrats to sit next to each other, rather than among their partisans. It turned out to be a bipartisan “date night.”

Thirdly, we have seen the massive growth of electronic news outlets; instantaneous communication with text messaging and Twitter; and the growth of blogs, websites and Facebook sites. The growth of these new communication tools means when one side in a political debate makes a comment, the opposition reacts quickly with its “spin” on the statement, and off we go. Communication is not face-to-face; “facts” are not checked; the logic may be flawed; there is little deliberative discussion and very little listening.

## By word and example

While I am an optimist, I am not naïve. It is difficult to make major structural changes to our system’s decision-making rules that may ease this problem. But we can all engage in civil discourse as citizens, and we can raise the expectations we have of our leaders.

### AS CITIZENS WE CAN:

- Recognize that in a multicultural society such as the U.S., individuals and groups are going to have different and hence competing visions of the future for our society.
- Show genuine respect for those whose ideas compete with our own.
- Pay attention and engage in thoughtful listening. Silence can be a marvelous activity for learning.
- Be inclusive. Listen to, and be open to, all points of view. In our multicultural world we can learn much from those with differing cultural backgrounds.
- Assert ourselves – but at the right time. Don’t be bashful about stating our case for our point of view. We do service to others as well as ourselves when we do this.
- Speak truth; do not exaggerate facts or evidence. Speak plainly and to the point.
- Support our arguments with strong underlying logic and evidence.
- Be accountable for what we say, and how we say it. And also hold our leaders accountable.
- Understand that our point of view may not prevail. Be prepared to not always have our way with policy decisions; accept that perhaps our solution may not be the best.
- And, as members of the St. Norbert College community, we can follow the Norbertine ideal of *communio* characterized by mutual esteem, trust, sincerity, faith and responsibility and lived through open dialogue, communication, consultation and collaboration. ♣

*This article is adapted from a speech David Wegge gave to faculty and students at the Academic Honors Banquet, April 26, 2011. Wegge, professor of political science, is also the director of the St. Norbert College Strategic Research Institute.*

## Births/Adoptions

**1994 Shannon (Grill)** and **Stuart Swaziek**, Menomonee Falls, Wis., a daughter, **Alexandra Faye**, March 24, 2011. Alexandra joins brothers James, 4, and Shane, 3.

**1994 Stephanie (Bloch)** and **Barry Moore**, Naperville, Ill., a son, **Mateo Teller**, adopted Oct. 7, 2011. Mateo, 2, joins adopted sister **Maya Isabelle**, 7, and adopted brother **Micah Brandt**, 4.

**1996 Matt** and **Moirá Moran**, Whitefish Bay, Wis., a daughter, **Tessa**, Aug. 11, 2011. Tessa joins sister **Luci**, 8, and brothers **Quinn**, 6, and **Cole**, 2.

**1998 Anne (Dattulo)** and **Ryan Sheahan**, Chicago, a son, **Michael Francis**, March 27, 2011. Michael joins brother **Thomas**, 2.

**1998 Amanda (Domaszek)** and **Juan Urrea**, Brookfield, Wis., a son, **Jacob Patrick**, April 8, 2011. Jacob joins sister **Jacinta**, 10.

**1998 Sean Damitz** and **Krista Blakely**, Smithfield, Utah, a son, **Landon James**, June 23, 2011.

**1998 Tom** and **Rachael Carter**, Wauwatosa, Wis., a son, **Benjamin Robert**, Aug. 17, 2011. Benjamin joins sister **Anna**, 5, and brother **Joseph**, 2.

**1998 Dana (Gosse)** and **Andrew Ferraro**, Pearland, Texas, a son, **Brady**, Sept. 7, 2011. Brady joins brother **Caden**, 6, and sister **Ellie**, 2.

**1999 Nicole (McDonald)** and **Ken Marzec '99**, De Pere, a son, **Lucah**, Sept. 8, 2011. Lucah joins brothers **Micah**, 6, and **Jonah**, 2.

**2000 Erin (Whitty)** and **Kevin Kalish**, Attleboro, Mass., a son, **James Donald**, Dec. 11, 2010. James joins sister **Elizabeth**, 4.

**2000 Cheryl (Lewiston)** and **Jeff Meracle**, Blue Grass, Iowa, a son, **Tyson**, Jan. 5, 2011. Tyson joins sister **Hailee**, 2.

**2000 Lisa (Tutskey)** and **Cory Schubring '00**, De Pere, a son, **Joseph Ji-Seok**, adopted April 6, 2011. Joseph joins sister **Annabelle**, 5.

**2001 Elizabeth Hewitt-Kubiak** and **Brian Kubiak**, a daughter, **Beatrice Katherine**, Jan. 29, 2011. Beatrice joins sisters **Sophia**, 10, and **Estelle**, 2.

**2001 Nikki (Petasek)** and **Mike Frelich '00**, Green Bay, a daughter, **Abby Nicole**, July 5, 2011. Abby joins sister **Faith**, 7, and brothers **Jack**, 5, and **Brennen**, 3.

**2001 Arlene (Helderman)** and **Caesar Montevecchio**, Erie, Pa., a son, **Damian Thomas**, July 21, 2011. Damian joins brother **Andrew**, 3.

**2001 Caroline (Brzostowicz)** and **Thomas Gornick '01**, Volo, Ill., a son, **Tucker James**, Aug. 18, 2011. Tucker joins brothers **Kyler**, 6, and **Kaden**, 4.

**2002 Kelly (Boerboom)** and **Dan Rowe '02**, Oneida, Wis., a son, **Landon**, Oct. 21, 2010. Landon joins sister **Lydia**, 4.

**2005 Courtney (Stecker)** and **Rich Hall '05**, South Elgin, Ill., a son, **Murphy John**, July 4, 2011.

**2008 Amy (Van Straten) '08** and **Andy Coté '06**, Suamico, Wis., a daughter, **Allyson**, Nov. 8, 2010.

**2009 Kat (Reyment)** and **Yates Vanden Heuvel**, Appleton, Wis., a son, **Luke Roger**, Oct. 12, 2011.

# Connections that count



You represent us, you serve, you donate, you participate, you connect – and there’s nothing more valuable to the college than your input as we continue to develop programming that meets your needs. So the office of alumni and parent relations is particularly grateful to every one of you who responded to our latest alumni survey. From a representative sample, we learned that pride in their St. Norbert degree and a sense that their college affiliation has been a strong factor in their lives are among the strongest feelings alumni have for this institution.

We asked alums to indicate how far they agreed or disagreed with statements about the college, and “still feeling a part of the community” saw the largest increase in mean score over 2005 findings. Ninety-three percent are satisfied with the level of connection or engagement they have with St. Norbert. “The survey helps us identify areas of interest among our alumni,” says **Todd**

**Danen '77** (Alumni and Parent Relations), “and it certainly helps us assess the level of satisfaction that alumni currently have regarding their connections to the college. It helps us identify ways in which we can connect with other alumni segments down the road.”

Fifty-four percent of respondents say they have been in contact with a St. Norbert faculty or staff member; 47 percent have purchased St. Norbert apparel; 36 percent have attended an athletics event; 35 percent have attended Homecoming or Reunion events; and 32 percent have returned to campus for a cultural or educational event – an increase of 12 percent over 2005. Twenty-one percent have attended a St. Norbert regional chapter event – and 70 percent have gotten together with a group of fellow alums, independently of a college chapter.

Interested in knowing more? You can see complete results at [www.snc.edu/alumni/survey/results.html](http://www.snc.edu/alumni/survey/results.html).

## Mark Your Calendars

- March 23** Knights on Broadway Alumni Night
- March 29** Young Alumni Happy Hour, Chicago
- April 29** Mass and Brunch, Chicago
- May 5** Alumni and Parent Reception, Philadelphia
- July 16** Alumni Golf Outing, Chicago
- April 28** A Day at St. Norbert
- July 26** “The Sound of Music” Alumni Night





■ Associate academic dean **Kevin Quinn** (Economics) has published “The Economics of the National Football League: The State of the Art (Sports Economics, Management and Policy).” The book offers an economist’s perspective on the business of the NFL and surveys the league’s revenue streams and labor economics.

■ **David Wegge** and **Wendy Scattergood** (Political Science) co-authored “The Politics of Wind Power: A Two State Analysis,” a presentation at this year’s American Political Science Association conference in Seattle.

■ **Betsy Bauman, Karen Park** and **Mara Brecht** (Religious Studies) shared their research at two conferences held jointly in San Francisco last November. Bauman presented “Secret Spaces: The Sexuality of Apocalyptic” at the conference of the Society of Biblical Literature. Meanwhile, at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Park presented “Re-thinking Interreligious Epistemology Through Women’s ‘Idle Chatter,’” and Brecht presented “Gather the Children in This Wild Country,” focusing on the Marian apparition site in Champion, Wis.

■ The college was well represented at the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America in October. Presenters at the Minneapolis conference included **Tim Flood, Nelson Ham, Rebecca (Schmeisser) McKean '04** (Geology), **Scott Kirst** (Education), **Deborah Anderson** (Biology), **Sarah Day '11** and **Katherine Casey '12**.

Kirst and Flood presented on integrating introductory geology and science education courses for K-8 pre-service teachers. Day, McKean and Ham presented work on optically stimulated luminescence dating of stabilized sand dunes in northeastern Wisconsin; McKean also presented on the preservation of marine vertebrates in the

Late Cretaceous Tropic Shale of southern Utah. Anderson and Casey presented an improved technique for producing high-quality photographs of fossil rodent teeth.

■ **John Frohlinger** (Mathematics) has been elected a national councilor for Pi Mu Epsilon, a mathematics honorary society. Frohlinger, **Terry Jo Leiterman** and **Rick Poss** (Mathematics) also served as judges of student papers and presentations at the Mathematical Association of America’s MathFest 2011 in Lexington, Ky.

■ **Teena Carroll** (Mathematics) gave a presentation on using puzzle pieces to draw functions in the calculus classroom at January’s Joint Mathematics Meetings in Boston, during a session on tactile learning activities. Carroll’s research student, **Haoqi Chen '12**, presented at the same conference on the pair’s research on Egyptian fractions.

■ **Ryan Cordell** (English) helped organize and lead a digital humanities workshop held in conjunction with the Modern Language Association annual conference in Seattle in January. The workshop introduced participants to the use of digital methodologies in research,

and launched DHCommons, an online registry that helps scholars find digital humanities expertise and opportunities for collaboration.

■ **Bonnie Lueck** (Teacher Education) presented her paper “Helping Teachers: Articulating Best Practice and Building Confidence” at the conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children in Orlando in November.

■ An article by **Wayne Patterson** (History) on “Immigration and Imperialism: A New Look at the Japanese Takeover of Korea” has appeared in *Acta Koreana*. Patterson, an expert on the history of Korea, was recently quoted in a *Time* magazine article about whether the Koreans should reunify in the wake of Kim Jong Il’s sudden death.

■ The 2012 Distinguished Lecture Series brought five professors to Fish Creek, Wis., to deliver weekend guest lectures this winter. The series attracts a considerable and loyal audience who this year heard from **Charles Jacobs** (Political Science) on “The Supreme Court and Its Coming Agenda,” **Tom Bolin** (Religious Studies) on “Biblical Interpretations,” **Robert Osgood** (Teacher Education) on “U.S. Education and Its Status in the World,” **Wendy Scattergood** (Political Science) on “Polling, Candidates and the Upcoming Presidential Election” and **Gratzia Villarroel** (Political Science) on “The Turn to the Political Left in Latin American Politics.”

■ **Dave Hunnicutt** (Biology) has received \$50,000 from the Wisconsin Sea Grant program to support his genetic analysis of virulence factors of the fish pathogen *Flavobacterium columnare*.

■ Ten years after giving a panel discussion at the Wisconsin Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers with fellow new admission professionals, **Cabrini Jablon '97** (Admissions) rejoined the team to present “Young Professionals Come of Age.” The panel addressed the challenges of middle management; transitioning into supervisory roles; managing career progression; and mentoring new workers.

At the Illinois Association of College Admission Counseling, **Jim Stamatakos** (Admissions) presented “The Role of Student Development Theory in College Admission,” in which he discussed how to use psychological, transition, and personal preference/typology theories to better understand the transition process of college-bound students.

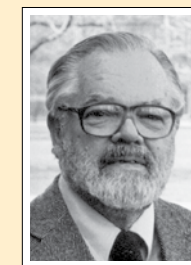
■ The college remembers two members of the faculty for their contributions to St. Norbert and their long careers at the college.

**Jack Cramer** (Sociology, Emeritus), of Boulder, Colo., died Oct. 29, 2011, at the age of 92. He joined the faculty in 1967 after teaching at Seton Hill University and Mercy College in Pennsylvania. He taught at St. Norbert until his retirement in 1984. Cramer, a founding member of the committee on experimental studies, was named Teacher of the Year in 1977.

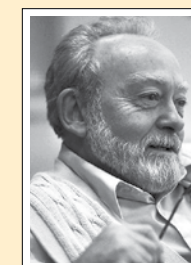
In retirement, Cramer traveled in Europe and pursued his hobbies of woodworking, reading and amateur farming. He is survived by his wife, Kitty, and four of his children: Paul, Mary Grace, Mary Jo and Mark.

**Tom Davidson** (English, Emeritus), of Pierson, Fla., died Nov. 26, 2011, at the age of 84. He joined the faculty in 1963 and spent 32 years at St. Norbert, playing instrumental roles in developing the faculty constitution, strengthening the English department and promoting the study-abroad program, which flourishes today. He counted Shakespeare, Chaucer, Mark Twain and Kurt Vonnegut among his favorite authors both to study and teach.

Davidson enjoyed the outdoors, Dixieland jazz, golf and foreign travel, as well as flying his single-engine airplane. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Dixie, with whom he had six children. He is survived by his second wife, Siv, his five sons and his daughter.

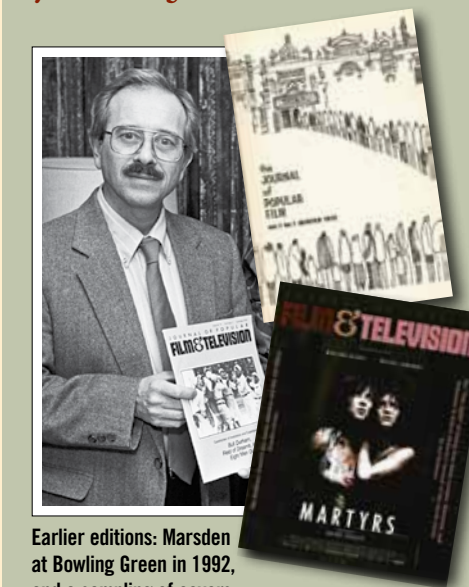


Jack Cramer



Tom Davidson

## Marsden marks 40 years as journal editor



Earlier editions: Marsden at Bowling Green in 1992, and a sampling of covers.

Most cash-strapped grad students spend any income they earn on tuition or rent. Not so for a young **Michael Marsden** (English) and fellow film lover Jack Nachbar. The pair, a Siskel and Ebert of sorts in Bowling Green State University’s department of popular culture, used the stipend they received co-teaching a course in the early 1970s to publish Vol. 1, No. 1 of the *Journal of Popular Culture* in winter 1972.

Forty years, three academic institutions, two publishers and one title change thence, Marsden, now dean emeritus at St. Norbert, still edits the publication, now called the *Journal of Popular Film and Television*. His current co-editor, Gary Edgerton, chair of the communication and theatre arts department at Old Dominion University, served on the faculty at Bowling Green during Marsden’s grad student days. Today, as at its founding, the publication takes media productions as texts for the study of society. “We look at film and television as cultural artifacts,” Marsden says.

The journal was innovative in adding a focus on television in its seventh volume, a change that Marsden says put it on the cutting edge of scholarly film publications.

Marsden underscores such analysis as serious scholarship. Just as in other academic fields, artifacts of popular culture speak and relate to each other through time. “The assumption that, because it’s popular, that it’s therefore transparent is ridiculous,” he says.

## St. Norbert geologist unearths, identifies new prehistoric species

What started with a prospector discovering a few bones protruding from the Tropic Shale of Utah has ended seven years later with **Rebecca (Schmeisser) McKean '04** (Geology) identifying a new species of prehistoric marine reptile. A paper on her discovery appeared in *Cretaceous Research* in November. The plesiosaur, named *Dolichorhynchops tropicensis*, swam the waters covering the western U.S. some 90 million years ago. “It lived at the same time the dinosaurs did,” McKean says.



Web Extra  
McKean talks about the moment of discovery.  
[snc.edu/go/magazine](http://snc.edu/go/magazine)

McKean spent two weeks in Utah with a field crew during summer 2005 excavating one

of the two specimens she used to identify the species. “Once we started digging, it was almost a complete skeleton, which was really exciting,” McKean says. “You knew this was the first time anyone was seeing it since it fell to the bottom of the [Cretaceous] seaway.”

McKean began describing and preparing that specimen as part of her master’s research at Northern Arizona University. She continued her research while she earned her Ph.D at the University of Nebraska and joined the faculty at St. Norbert. Piecing the fossils together in the lab took nine months. In the course of that process, McKean made an even more exciting discovery.

“There are a lot of characteristics on the bones that are different from anything we’ve seen before,” McKean says. From there, she focused on proving that these characteristics called for the naming of a new species.

“It’s a tricky process, and it’s a long one,” McKean says.

Two paleontologists who reviewed her findings initially disagreed with them. In the end, though, McKean’s research convinced colleagues that *Dolichorhynchops tropicensis* indeed stood apart from other species.



McKean '04 uses a paintbrush to meticulously uncover the remains of her plesiosaur.



■ Through the Village Project, first-year education students taking Psychology for Teaching spent the fall semester volunteering twice weekly with after-school programs at six elementary schools in the Green Bay Area Public School District. The program gives students a taste of teaching and offers many their first exposure to underrepresented students, who comprise a significant percentage of the school population in Green Bay.

Rebecca Goodmanson '14 undertook the service-learning experience last fall. She says it helped her decide whether to major in political science or education. "I knew that after this project I really wanted to be an educator, and that I wouldn't be happy with any other major."

AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer Amie Arnoldussen '10, who coordinates the program,

believes the Village Project is "trying to draw upon our students' multicultural awareness, psychology behind teaching, and understanding of social issues to help make them better educators, which in turn will provide better quality education for our community."

■ St. Norbert Times opinion editor **Kaela Gedda '12**, online editor **Claire Westlie '14** and features editor **Sasha Zwiefelhofer '14** represented the student newspaper staff at the National College Media convention in Orlando, Fla., in October. There, nationally renowned journalist and editor Michael Koretzky reviewed the publication, commending its abundant content and encouraging use of creative headlines and relevant photographs.

The annual convention is the world's largest gathering of student journalists and advisers.

■ Students in Biology 180 took their learning beyond the classroom with a field trip to Hinterland Brewery. There they learned the biological basis of brewing and fermenting, and explored the role of biodiversity in producing food and beverages.

■ Pencil tests and animations by **Arthur Cohen '11**, **Leivur Djurhuus '12**, **Devon Englebretson '12**, **Austin Gueths '12**, **Lindsay Hoewisch '12**, **Kristen Kutil '12**, **James Scanlan '12** and **Rodrigo Villalobos Arevalo '12** were exhibited at the Mulva Library this winter to cap off the inaugural semester of New Media Art. In the studio course taught by **Brandon Bauer** (Art), students explore

time-based art forms like digital video; motion graphics and animation; learning to work with green screens; subtitles; and simple filming and stop-motion techniques.

■ St. Norbert's Colleges Against Cancer (CAC) chapter has received a Leader of Hope award for its dedication to the missions of the American Cancer Society and CAC. Only two such awards were granted statewide and only 27 nationwide. The award recognized the chapter's sponsorship of campus events like Relay for Life, the Homecoming dance and a men's health forum.

■ McNair Scholarship recipient **Kaela Gedda '12** has written "Paving the Way for a New Masculinity: Redefining Gender Roles." Gedda studied how the advancement of women in the economy and in higher-education programs prompts reconsideration of traits and jobs traditionally considered masculine. Gedda hopes her project demonstrates that "anyone who is dedicated and uses [his or her] personal talents will be able to achieve a degree in higher education and hold a substantial job."

■ **Kaela Gedda '12** was also in the news when she led the campus community in raising awareness and funds for the American Heart Association at the college's first "Red Out" event this semester. On the morning of April 11, 2009, Gedda's own life changed when she herself suffered a stroke. Soon after, her doctors discovered she had a hole in her heart.

The on-campus campaign was launched ahead of the Feb. 10 men's hockey game against

UW-Stout, where fans had the opportunity to donate \$10 for a Red Out T-shirt and wear it to create awareness of heart disease and stroke. The initiative honored Gedda and classmate **Kevin Reynolds '12**, who has struggled with heart disease since his sophomore year.

■ The Japanese Student Services Organization has awarded **Brian Campbell '13** a \$3,000 scholarship. Campbell, an international business and language studies major pursuing a minor in Japanese, is studying at Sophia University in Tokyo for the full 2011-12 academic year.

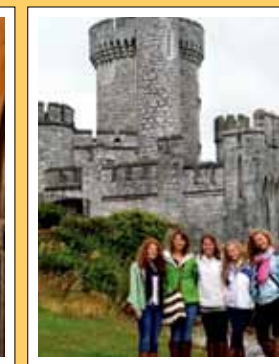
■ Master of Liberal Studies students **Cara Jakubiec**, **Renee Klingensmith**, **Patrick Steinhof** and **Lisa Beyer** presented the panel "Community Festivals" at the Midwest Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association convention, held in Milwaukee in October. Each researched a celebration in his or her hometown for the course Introduction to Liberal Studies, taught by dean emeritus **Michael Marsden** (English).

■ **Maggie Schwanke '13**, **Rachel Gunderson '12**, **Amy Diestler '14**, **Ben Skifton '12**, **Mo Gourrier '12** and **Connie Humann '12** challenged local leaders with questions about contemporary ethical dilemmas – Ohio State NCAA violations, an SAT exam scam and Chrysler public relations missteps, to name a few – during the Good Ethics Day forum at Green Bay's city hall. The six students are members of the Intra-City Student Council.

■ St. Norbert students engaged in more than 26,000 hours of service in the last academic year. Almost the entire student body contributed community service of some kind, with about 2,000 students participating. And some 435 of those students were engaged in a formal academic service-learning initiative – a project that addresses community needs together with structured opportunities designed to promote student learning and development.

Added to these hours were a total of 3,740 hours served by the college's 12 AmeriCorps volunteers. All successfully completed the M3C service program at St. Norbert, to the benefit of 26 community partners in the Green Bay area.

## New blog captures adventures abroad



While phrases like "on my tube ride home" and "how cold could little ol' New Zealand be?" rarely come up in casual conversation on campus, they're all over the Study Abroad department's blog, "Global Knights, Local Daze."

The new blog features the experiences, cultural adjustments and adventures of study-abroad students. In exchange for a travel voucher to help defray the cost of airfare to their program site, students were invited to submit four blog posts during their semesters abroad. Their posts reveal the individual nature of their experiences.

There is a phrase that Italians use often: *la dolce vita*, meaning "the sweet life." It is said that the Italians have mastered the art of working to provide for their pleasures and appreciating every moment that life gives them. Some may call this laziness, others overindulgence. I prefer to think of it as a perfect equilibrium of what one is supposed to get out of life. – **Alexis Achs '13** (Italy).

The Irish come to church when they are able. It does not matter how far in the Mass we are; those Irish will walk right up to their desired pew and join us. I think it's grand. No time to join like the present. – **Katie Riesterer '13** (Ireland).

During dinner, we usually talk about normal day-to-day activities, such as music and whether we liked class that day, but sometimes we talk about politics (my host parents have differing opinions on the French government), crime, natural disasters, unemployment and religion. Conversation is a part of why eating dinner together is so important to the family. – **Alyssa De Valk '13** (France).

One great part of our classes was that, being in the very center of Cuzco, we were able to take field trips just a block away ... and see some of the most important sites in the Incan empire. – **Jack Hayford '13** (Peru).

I even changed my own Facebook [page] to Spanish and I am continually learning new

Spanish vocabulary. What better way to learn a language than actually being immersed in it day in and day out. – **Laura Gordon '13** (Spain).

The professors here are just as eager to learn from the students as they are to teach them. – **Kim Caldwell '12** (Australia).

London, Germany, Ireland, Amsterdam, Italy were all just really cool places I learned about in school, or heard about in movies. Now I can say those places are stamped in my passport. – **Taylor Tencate '13** (England).

The way I have been thinking is different. Three months have passed and I am still wondering in awe where I am and what I am doing here. Two months more to come and I can't help but imagine how I could ever leave. – **Ted Schoenleber '13** (Ecuador).

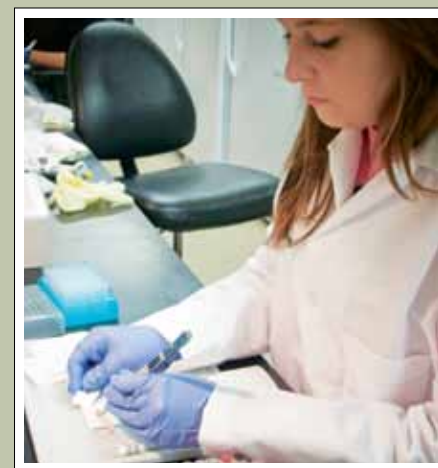
As I begin my last week here, I've got two final papers, a final exam, three days of work left and six days left in London. I don't know where the time went. I remember as if it was yesterday arriving in London and being totally overwhelmed by everything. Now, 14 weeks later, it feels like home. It's strange. I'm completely comfortable living here and moving around the city. I really feel like I'm an actual citizen here, and I'm reminded of that whenever I get stopped by a stranger and they ask me, a foreigner myself, how to get to a certain part of the city. And the best part is that I can [help] them navigate. – **Alex Yurk '13** (England).

## Student's agr research gets national nod

Most high-school students find work at fast-food restaurants or retail stores. Not **Shannon Chesbro '15**. During her senior year, she studied bovine and swine genetics for global company ABS – work that earned her a berth at this fall's national Future Farmers of America (FFA) competition.

The experience has opened her eyes to a world of possibility. "I didn't really realize how much agriculture impacts [our] nation and our world. Once I got involved, I realized how much you can do with an agricultural background," Chesbro says.

Chesbro submitted a résumé of her efforts at ABS to become one of only four qualifiers in the FFA competition's Emerging Agricultural Technology category. Her lab work involved organizing and preparing DNA samples for testing, and assisting with lab maintenance. Chesbro credits her FFA membership and her high-school agricultural class with providing the skills she needed to achieve this success. She plans to give back to the programs that shaped her appreciation for agriculture by helping students from her high school with their agricultural projects. She also hopes to return to ABS this summer.



Shannon Chesbro '15 at work in the ABS lab.

## A round or two later ...

Sixty years after graduation, four alums still reunite every Wednesday for a round of golf.

**Charles Beilke '51**, **Clayton Maloney '51** and the **Rev. Gerald Falk '52** played on St. Norbert College's golf team throughout their undergraduate years under the direction of coaches the **Rev. Joseph Reagen, O.Praem.**, and **Tom Conley**.

Although each took a different direction after graduation, the threesome still kept in touch. "[Maloney] and I always saw each other on the golf course," Beilke recalls. "We knew each other for years and competed against each other in sports all throughout high school. He was really good at football, and we played basketball against each other."

After the Brown County Golf Course opened in 1958, the three played together for more than 20 years. Another classmate, **James Krueger '51**, also joined their regular games.

The group reunited again two years ago at the Royal Scot Golf Club, and have played a round of golf every Wednesday since then – followed by a round of cribbage. "[Falk] is really mild and a wonderful pastor in Appleton. But he occasionally screams out loud on the golf course. I always jump when he does it," says Beilke.

And their golf group continues to grow. Falk's brother, **Bob Falk '55**, has joined their game after returning from decades of service as a mission priest in South Korea.



You'll still find them out on the links: from left to right, Clayton Maloney '51, Jim Krueger '51, the Rev. Jerry Falk '52 and Chuck Beilke '51.

## Marriages

**1973 Richard Jakes** and Kimberly Gamauf, Oct. 2, 2011. They live in Palos Heights, Ill.

**2005 Kaylin Pankratz** and **Bob Berls '05**, June 2011. They live in Menasha, Wis.

**2005 Alissa Theis** and Michael Haensgen, Aug. 20, 2011. They live in Wauwatosa, Wis.

**2006 Jacky Fameree** and Adam Cornelissen, May 21, 2011. They live in De Pere.

**2007 Stephen Wagner** and **Kathryn Schlotfeldt '08**, Oct. 15, 2010. They live in Minneapolis.

**2007 Kelly Schauer** and William Wildenberg, Oct. 1, 2011. They live in Combined Locks, Wis.

**2007 Jared Birkholz** and **Jacquelyn Delie '08**, Oct. 1, 2011. They live in De Pere.

**2008 Amy (Van Straten)** and **Andy Coté '06**, July 11, 2009. They live in Suamico, Wis.

**2009 Tara Marcell** and **Garrett Lancelle '10**, July 16, 2011. They live in Weston, Wis.

**2009 Meghan Engsborg** and **Stephen Cunningham '08**, Aug. 6, 2011. They live in Shorewood, Wis.

**2010 Brice** and Lindsey **Hilgemann**, July 9, 2011. They live in De Pere.

**2010 Kevin Steiner** and Heather Struebing, Aug. 20, 2011. They live in Plymouth, Wis.

**2010 Kelly Haddad** and **David Gusloff '11**, Sept. 3, 2011. They live in De Pere.

**2011 Keytelyne Gribben** and Mark Radde, Oct. 8, 2011. They live in De Pere.

**2011 Allison Harvey** and **Damien Ellis '11**, Nov. 11, 2011. They live in Escanaba, Mich.

## Obituaries

**1947 Marshall Moore**, of Falls Church, Va., died Oct. 25, 2011, at the age of 87. He had a lengthy military career that began when he was an ROTC cadet at St. Norbert and lasted through the Vietnam War. Subsequently, he worked as a research collaborator and visiting scholar with the Smithsonian American Art Museum. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and five children.

**1956 Jo Ann Blair**, of Dyckesville, Wis., died Aug. 20, 2011, at the age of 77. She was a member of the first co-ed class at St. Norbert and later worked at V and V Distributors, UOP and IBM. She is survived by her husband, **Jack '56**, and three children.

**1957 Paul Effinger**, of Olathe, Kan., died Jan. 2, 2012, at the age of 76. He served in the army and taught for 30 years in Milwaukee West and South divisions. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, and three children.

**1963 The Rev. Albert Bozzelli**, of Worton, Del., died June 1, 2011, at the age of 70. After entering the Norbertine abbey in Daylesford, Pa., he earned his master's degree in counseling at Loyola University and worked at several high schools in addition to St. Joseph University. He left the abbey and went on to pastor several parishes. He is survived by two siblings.

**1969 Kathleen Bold McAlaine**, of Hinsdale, Ill., died Sept. 8, 2011, at the age of 63. She worked as a research sociologist at the Illinois State Pediatric Institute and then as director of marketing research at CBS, before her career as an independent writer of marketing programs. She is survived by her husband, William, and a son.

**1972 Gregory Koller**, of Milwaukee, died July 4, 2011, at the age of 60. He was the CEO of ProStar Inc. and was active in community organizations including the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Bucks. He is survived by his wife, Judie, and two children.

**1973 Allen "Ken" Mehring**, of Waterford, Wis., died Oct. 25, 2011, at the age of 60. He had a long career in the real estate broker and appraisal business, and was active in the Waterford Catholic Church and Lions Club. He is survived by his wife, Mary, his son, Ben, and stepsons Kent-Eric and Geoffrey.

**1980 James Beauvais**, of Green Bay, died June 2, 2011, at the age of 53. He owned Rozzi's Italian Deli in Howard, Wis., was president of the Thursday Optimist Club of Green Bay, and was a longtime Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary board member. He is survived by two children.

**1982 Becky Dickhut**, of De Pere, died Nov. 5, 2011, at the age of 51. She earned master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Wisconsin and spent 22 years as a professor at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. She was inducted into the St. Norbert College Athletics Hall of Fame in 2001 for her contributions to the women's basketball team. She is survived by her sister.

**2009 Drew Elliott**, of Milwaukee, died Dec. 10, 2011, at the age of 23. He was pursuing his doctorate in economics at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where he was also employed as a graduate teaching assistant. He is survived by his parents, Rick and Amy, and four siblings.

## Class Notes

**1954 Bill Hinkfuss** is the 2011 recipient of the Brown County Bar Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

**1959 John Snyder** and his wife, Berdeen, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Reno, Nev. Their four children and two of their grandchildren joined them at the four-day celebration.

**1963 Barb (Hyska) Nehring** was profiled in an Artist of the Month feature on the northern Wisconsin website [NewsoftheNorth.net](http://NewsoftheNorth.net).

**1965 Paul Novotny** has been named president of the Green Bay District Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

**1967 Jack Riopelle**, president of the Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, spoke to the organization's role in regional economic development in an article in the *Green Bay Press-Gazette*.

**1968 Patti Bellock** has announced her intent to run for re-election as an Illinois state representative for the 47th district.

**1968 Joe Seroogy** has received the 2011 Civis Princeps Silver Knight Award for his service to the De Pere community.

**1971 Patti (Cowell) Zuelsdorf** has published "The Harbinger," a novel released in August 2011.

## Toy story

A business relationship with roots in the chance pairing of two first-year roommates continues to bear fruit for two families.

By Mike Dauplaise '84

It's hard to argue against fate having a hand in this happy tale. Three members of the class of 1995 – already close friends and spouses – now find themselves linked professionally on multiple levels. The common denominator is play.

Ann (Kotur) Kienzle '95 and Amy (Vrabel) MacLean '95 grew up almost 2,000 miles apart, in southern Wisconsin and western Washington, respectively. They shared a room in Sensenbrenner Hall their freshman year at St. Norbert, eventually pursuing vastly different courses of study.

Little did they know how entwined their lives would remain. Add Amy's husband, **Matt MacLean '95**, and younger brother, **Nate Vrabel '01**, to the mix, and this toy story becomes an illustration of how relationships can play major roles in business success.

Kienzle has worked in the toy industry since graduation, traveling extensively for employers and gaining experience that touched on every aspect of the world of toys. However, when she opened her own specialty store, called \*play, in the Logan Square neighborhood of northwest Chicago in the summer of 2010, she lacked the art expertise needed to market her new enterprise. There was one obvious choice for the logo and other graphics work she needed: former St. Norbert art majors Amy MacLean and her brother, Nate.

In the meantime, the MacLeans, along with Nate and his wife, Krista, were in the early stages of launching a toy business first proposed by the MacLeans' young son, Grayson. The idea involves removable, reusable cling decals for plastic brick toys such as Lego. They founded a company called BrickStix and enlisted Kienzle to help them navigate the toy industry they knew nothing about.

"We talked to Ann about BrickStix, and it was her idea to go to the New York Toy Fair in February 2011," Matt MacLean



Grayson MacLean with his own invention, BrickStix.

explains. "Since its debut there, BrickStix have been picked up by stores all over the U.S. and Canada. Safe to say it's already exceeded our expectations."

BrickStix has already won five awards, including the Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Best Toy Gold Seal, and the MacLeans recently signed an international distribution deal. Grayson MacLean also is heavily involved in the business at the ripe age of 12. He earned the Chicago Toy and Game Group's 2011 Young Inventor of the Year award and appeared on TBS's "Conan" in November.

"It has been a crazy year," Amy MacLean says. "I never imagined doing anything like this. It's fun, but it's hard work. We make it up as we go, and so far, so good."

"It's a great story," Kienzle admits. "It definitely is one of those things you never plan on, but it

certainly has worked out great."

Kienzle's career took a turn toward consulting after she supervised the opening of a retail outlet for a chain of toy stores in California. The experience led to her founding The Toy Business LLC, a boutique consulting firm specializing in the toy and gift industry. It also got her thinking that it might be fun to have a toy store she could call her own.

"That project began with the construction phase and entailed hiring, training, merchandising and buying," Kienzle says. "It was like earning a master's degree in the toy industry."

Her \*play store features toys that are relatively rare, environmentally friendly, developmentally sound and safe. It has been an immediate hit, even earning Best New Toy Store honors from *Chicago Magazine*.

"The consulting business was a starter to the idea of owning my own business," Kienzle says. "I don't think you ever truly know how much work it is until you do it. It's like parenthood, I think." ♣

**1971 Mary Ellen Vehlow-Hessler** is president and creative director at Pensare Design Group. She is also the co-curator of "All Things Round: Galaxies, Eyeballs & Karma," an exhibit at the American Visionary Museum in Baltimore.

**1974 Margaret Ontl** and her husband served as grand marshals for the North Hudson Pepper Festival in August 2011. This honor recognized their service to the community of Hudson, Wis.

**1976 Robert Burns** has been named as one of Wisconsin Law Journal's 2012 leaders in law. Burns is an attorney with Davis and Kuelthau.

**1976 Mary Harp-Jirschele**, executive director of the J.J. Keller Foundation, has received the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce's 2011 Exceptional Mentor Award.

**1977 Judith Schroeder** has published "From Kids to Corporations," a book that draws a parallel between successful parenting and successful business management.

**1978 Terry Lardinois**, CEO of Greenleaf Wayside Bank, celebrated the bank's 100-year anniversary in 2011.

**1979 "Lone Star Law: A Legal History of Texas,"** authored by **Michael Ariens**, has been awarded Texas State Historical Association's Coral Horton Tullis Memorial Prize for 2011. The prize is awarded annually to the best book on Texas history.

**1979 William Kussel** has been appointed by Gov. Scott Walker to serve as a judge for the Menominee-Shawano County Circuit Court.

**1981 Joe Cahill** writes a weekly business column for Crain's Chicago Business, providing analysis of Chicago companies, leaders and industry shifts.

**1982 Richard Holschuh**, his wife, Julie, and their family have been named 2011 Green Bay Diocesan Family of the Year by the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus. They were subsequently profiled in The Compass, the diocesan newspaper.

**1985 Jeffery Steagall** has been named dean of Weber State University's Goddard School of Business and Economics in Ogden, Utah.

**1987** The National Association for Music Merchants has honored the Hortonville (Wis.) School District as one of the best communities for music education in the country. This is the seventh year in a row that Hortonville, where **Greg Forton** chairs the music department, has received the designation.

**1988 Rick Janes** has accepted a position as plant manager at Sensient Flavors in Juneau, Wis.

**1989 Jim Dietsche** has been named to the board of the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

**1990 Andy Stowers** has accepted a role with Lean Logistics, a transportation software company, developing partnering strategies.

**1991 Tony Ahern** has been appointed to the Marian University Board of Trustees.

**1991 Christine Battist** has been appointed managing director of Two Harbors Investment Corp.

**1992 Jim Von Maur** has opened a branch of his family's eponymous upscale department store in Milwaukee.

**1993 Timothy Styka** has been appointed police chief by the

Menasha Police Commission.

**1993 Holly Trimberger Lewis** has opened Cold Nose Canine, a provider of in-home dog training. Lewis, a certified dog trainer, also remains active with shelter and rescue animals.

**1995 Chad Weininger** has received the Henry S. Baird Legislator of the Year Award from the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

**1996 Steve Hyde** has been named vice president and CIO at Alta Resources in Neenah, Wis., where he will oversee the information technology department.

**1998 Brad Houle**, president and CEO of Forward Financial Credit Union, has been elected to the Credit Union Executive Security Board-Wisconsin Council.

**1999 Melanie Kaye** has been named director of communications to second lady Jill Biden.

**2001 Jayme Sellen** has been promoted to government affairs director for the Dairy Business Association. She will work with legislators and regulatory agencies to increase their understanding of the dairy business.

Web Extra

**Maureen Pratt '02** takes her liberal arts education into the corporate world. [snc.edu/go/magazine](http://snc.edu/go/magazine)

**2002 Kara Owens** is a public information officer with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. She was recently featured in the St. Paul Pioneer Press and Minneapolis Star Tribune, and spoke at an international police conference about using social media in law enforcement.

**2003 Stephanie Berto** was profiled by the Madison Times. She serves the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County as youth manager.

**2003 Meghan Umphres** has accepted a position at Booz Allen Hamilton in San Diego.

**2004 Gerrard Diaz** is the sports editor of the Shawano Leader.

**2004 David Vargas** has accepted a position as a global professional instructor at the Crisis Prevention Institute Inc. in Milwaukee. He previously was employed as a deputy sheriff with the sheriff's office in Wisconsin's Waushara County.

**2005 Jeffrey Montoya** has been appointed a bishop in the Universal Anglican Church.

**2005 Jake Schindlerle** has accepted a position as an environmental technician for SCS Engineers.

**2006 Rachel Gonnering**, director of undergraduate admission at Mount Mary College, received the top panel award from the National Communication Association at their 97th annual convention.

**2006 Andrew McIlree** has accepted a position as the foundation major gifts associate for the Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota.

**2006 Alyssa Wood** has received a master's degree in political science from American Military University.

**2007 Kurt Brenkus**, president and CEO of Aver Informatics,

has overseen the release of Aver, web-based software that helps healthcare organizations manage their business.

**2009 Brittany Wollitz** recently shared with the Green Bay Press-Gazette her account of the March 2011 earthquake in Japan. She was teaching kindergarten there at the time of the quake.

**2010 Kim Keil** was awarded a three-year National Science Foundation pre-doctoral fellowship to investigate prostate development.

**2010 Kevin Steiner** has graduated from Marquette University with a master's degree in applied economics.

**2011 Nick Palm** has joined Honkamp Krueger & Co. as a staff auditor.

**2011 Michael Poradek** has accepted a position as a graduate assistant for student activities at Upper Iowa University. He will be involved with campus-wide activities, organizations and leadership development. He also is pursuing a master's degree in higher education administration.

**2011 Deborah Smrz** has accepted a position as stage manager and lighting designer for the Isadoora Theatre Company in Fish Creek, Wis.

■ **Tom Olejniczak '71** and **Fred Schmidt '75** were named to The Best Lawyers In America list by Corporate Counsel magazine. Olejniczak was selected for corporate law, while Schmidt was selected for his work in trusts and estates.

■ **Kevin Shaw '79** and **Erin Flood '03** have both accepted positions at St. Mary's Springs Academy. Shaw is president of the pre-kindergarten through grade 12 parochial school system, while Flood is the school's assistant principal. High school counselor **Charlie Ahern '92**, **Christine (Buerger) Sitter '97** of the learning resource center and middle school art teacher **Charles Wydeven**, who did graduate work at St. Norbert, also work in the 716-pupil school system.

■ Included in St. Norbert's 2012 Hall of Fame class are soccer player **Will Carstens '96**, football and field athlete **Fran Schmitz '72**, and ice hockey players **Roby Gropp '98** and **Tom Maryschak '98**.

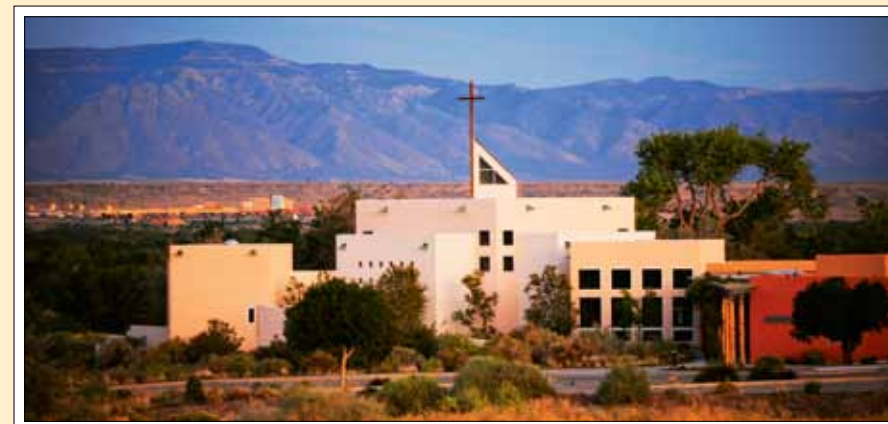
Carstens is the college's first men's soccer player to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. A three-time first-team All-Midwest Conference selection from 1993 to 1995, he graduated as the college's career scoring leader with 31 goals and 26 assists for 88 points after playing only one year as a forward.

Schmitz was a standout defensive lineman for the Green Knights and a member of the track and field squad. Schmitz's outdoor shot put school record of 52 feet 3 inches set in 1971 still stands.

Gropp holds the St. Norbert record for career saves with 2,296 and was the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association Player of the Year in 1997. Maryschak, a teammate of Gropp's, was the Green Knights' first defenseman selected as an All-American by the American Hockey Coaches Association. He was a first-team All-NCHA pick in 1997 and 1998 and was Academic All-NCHA in 1998.

■ **Jean Weber Klass '64** and **Joyce Pfeffer Calderon '65** are planning a reunion of all connected with the music department in the 1960s. Non-music majors who took part in musical groups and events during that decade are also most welcome. The reunion will take place at St. Norbert, June 22-23. For more information, contact [alumni@snc.edu](mailto:alumni@snc.edu).

# New Mexico community attains priory status



More than 400 years after the Roman Catholic faith was brought to New Mexico, the newest canonry in the Norbertine order draws on ancient traditions in its life of community, contemplation and compassionate service with the people of God in the southwestern United States.

By **Melanie Radzicki McManus**

When five Norbertine priests headed south to establish a new foundation, they found difficult times awaiting their fledgling community. Within three years, two of their number – neither very old – had died. “We had a very difficult beginning,” recalls the Rev. Joel Garner, O.Praem., ’62. “We were wondering, ‘What does God have planned?’”

They got their answer last December, 26 years after they left De Pere, when the Norbertine Community of New Mexico celebrated its elevation to an independent Norbertine canonry. “It’s a classic example of how God’s ways are not our ways,” chuckles Garner, superior of the community. “This happened a little later than we’d planned, but it’s still timely.”

When the priests originally traveled to the southwest in 1985, they were charged by the De Pere abbey with establishing a foundation in an area with a growing Spanish-speaking population. Checking out sites in several states, they eventually were welcomed by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe. The archdiocese was looking for assistance with hospital ministry, and in serving Hispanic and Native American parishes. Since Norbertine tradition

requires priests to try and meet the needs of the local church, rather than be locked into a particular type of work, the men enthusiastically dug right in.

But while the Norbertines are dedicated to serving the local church, their primary charism, or call, is to live and pray as brothers in community. So the men eventually purchased a former Dominican retreat facility, set on a 70-acre parcel of land in the region’s South Valley, and converted it to their new home – Santa Maria de la Vid, or Our Lady of the Vine. They also limited their assignments within the vast archdiocese to ministries close to home.

Today, their accomplishments are impressive. The community is now composed of nine priests, one solemnly professed brother and four men in formation. And Santa Maria de la Vid contains a church, private residence for the men, retreat facilities and the Norbertine Library (also a spiritual learning center) that’s open to the public. On top of that, the St. Norbert College Master of Theological Studies program is offered here – especially significant, as there are no



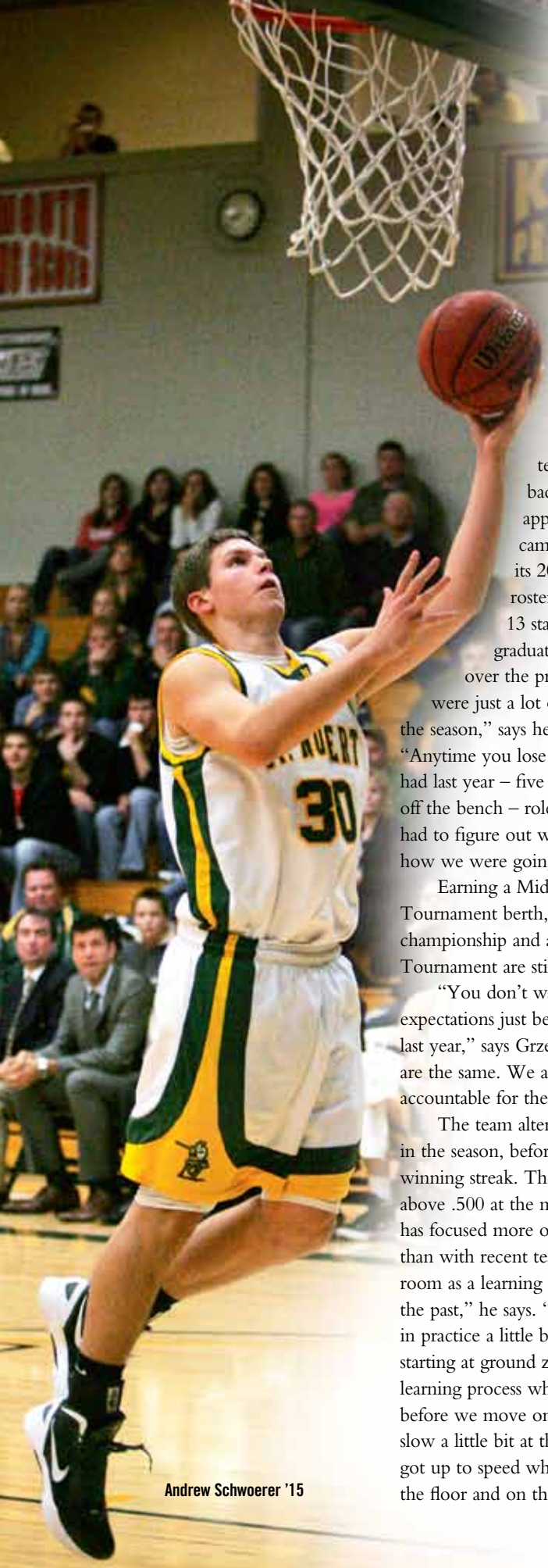
Catholic colleges in all of New Mexico, and no graduate schools offering theological studies within a 600-mile radius. “So even though we’re not strictly involved in education, as many Norbertines happen to be, we did bring that dimension of education here with us,” Garner says.

The master’s program also serves as a tie to the canonry’s past. “The abbey has been very generous to us in terms of supporting us with personnel and finances,” says Garner. “We’re a daughter of the St. Norbert Abbey, if you will. So we still have warm relationships with them, and we’ll always have ties.”

What’s next? The newly independent Norbertines are focusing on the continued growth of their community, and hope to one day attain abbey status. “Not every group of Norbertines has the opportunity to root our almost 900-year tradition of religious life in a new place,” says Garner. “Even though the elders among us are approaching retirement, there’s an enthusiasm about doing this, and a gratitude for the gift of being able to give our tradition a fresh face and a new place.”

*Santa Maria de la Vid is the second daughter house of St. Norbert Abbey in De Pere. Daylesford Priory, in Philadelphia, became independent in 1963.*





Young team meets season with all-new starters

# Starting fresh

By Jeff Kurowski

**T**he faces change, but the goals are the same for the Green Knight men's basketball team. Following back-to-back NCAA tournament appearances and 20-win campaigns, St. Norbert opened its 2011-12 schedule with a roster that accounted for only 13 starts a season ago. Last year's graduating class started 297 games over the previous four years. "There were just a lot of unknowns coming into the season," says head coach **Gary Grzesk**.

"Anytime you lose a group of seniors like we had last year – five starters and your first sub off the bench – roles need to be defined. We had to figure out who was going to play and how we were going to use guys."

Earning a Midwest Conference Tournament berth, winning the tournament championship and advancing to the NCAA Tournament are still the targets, he adds.

"You don't want to change your expectations just because those guys graduated last year," says Grzesk. "The expectations are the same. We are still holding these guys accountable for their play."

The team alternated wins and losses early in the season, before posting a three-game winning streak. The Knights stood two games above .500 at the midseason point. Grzesk has focused more on teaching with this group than with recent teams. "We've used the film room as a learning tool much more than in the past," he says. "We've slowed things down in practice a little bit. We've really gone to starting at ground zero. It's really a master learning process where we master one thing before we move on to the next thing. It was slow a little bit at the beginning, but everyone got up to speed where we are able to learn on the floor and on the fly a little bit more."

Andrew Schwoerer '15

**Kyle Johnsen**, the team's lone senior, provides leadership for the young squad. The veteran guard from Greendale is in his fifth year with the program. He was a medical redshirt in 2009-10.

"The guys always look up to me to get practices going," says Johnsen. "Coach puts an emphasis on everyone talking. It's kind of easy for me because I like to talk a lot and get crazy a little bit. I like to get everyone going; get practices upbeat so we make ourselves better."

The loss of six seniors created opportunities for the returners and newcomers. Competition is fierce on the practice floor, adds Johnsen. "We are always competing, always battling," he said. "This is a close-knit team, which is kind of surprising with how young we are and the age differences among some of the players. We have a lot of fun. We get after it in practice every day."

Among the players with expanded roles as starters this season are sophomores **Andy Fox**, **Brandon Gries** and **Garrett Thorn**, and junior **Paul Appleton**. "We really didn't play a ton of minutes, so our roles have changed," says Fox, a point guard from Hartland. "We are trying to figure out those roles and how to help the team. On this team, everyone has each other's backs. If we keep working hard, everything will work out fine. Coach Grzesk always puts us in good spots and gets us prepared for games."

Freshman forward **Andrew Schwoerer** has emerged as the fifth starter for the Knights. Grzesk acknowledged that the Midwest Conference has traditionally been won by teams with primarily juniors and seniors in the lineup, but will not use inexperience as an excuse. "You just have to work through that," he says. "I think the good teams tend to get better as the season goes on and continue to learn. Ultimately, you are measured by wins and losses, the final score, but we also really want to concentrate on our quality of play."

"It's a different group of guys, but it's invigorating. It's a different challenge molding this group." ♣

# Home at last

Track hosts its first outdoor meets in more than 30 years.

By Mike Dauplaise '84

**T**he last time St. Norbert hosted an outdoor track and field meet at its own facility, Ronald Reagan hadn't yet earned the Republican nomination for president.

That 1980 meet against Ripon College featured the outdated cinder track at Minahan Stadium on the grounds of the De Pere abbey. St. Norbert hosted meets at several area high schools in later years, but indoor meets at the Schuldes Sports Center were the only true "home" competitions.

That is about to change this spring, as the Green Knights will host three outdoor meets – including the Midwest Conference Outdoor Championships on May 11-12 – at the new Donald J. Schneider Stadium. The first meet is set for April 5 against Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan, with the St. Norbert College Invitational scheduled for April 21.

"I'm really excited about it," says **Emily Schudrowitz '12**, the 2010 national indoor 800-meter champion. "For my senior year, this means we get to finish the regular season at our own track. Our parents and fellow students will be able to watch, and it'll be great to have local support."

The teams squeezed in practice time at the West De Pere High School track in previous years, meaning prep competitions and physical education classes trumped the workout needs of St. Norbert athletes.



800-meter star Emily Schudrowitz '12 will finish out her St. Norbert career running in front of a home crowd.

"Instead of working around their schedule, now we have one of the nicest tracks that you can run on in the state," notes long sprinter **Ryan Ascher '12**. "It's nice that our stadium is close to campus. Everyone is able to go on their own schedule, within their event groups, without having to go to the high school as one big group and hope the high school isn't using it."

In addition to the all-weather, eight-lane track, Schneider Stadium features a fully functional athletics training facility, locker-room space for 120 athletes, a coaches' office and laundry services.

"The kids on the team are really excited about having home meets," says head coach **Don Augustine**. "Typically, we were traveling two hours minimum to get somewhere to compete. Now we'll be able to wake up in the morning, be here and have the support of students on campus, along with faculty, staff and parents."

Augustine says the stadium provides benefits on multiple levels, including training, competition and recruiting. "The ability to practice on our own schedule is the single biggest advantage for us so far," Augustine says. "We're able to go down to the stadium and be isolated, and do what we need to do. From a practice standpoint, it's awesome. The advantage to recruiting is the 'wow' factor. It's another thing on campus where kids' eyes light up." ♣



## Smart to the Finnish

Two-time captain of the Green Knight women's hockey team, **Lotta Haarala '14**, teaches Finnish to elementary school children, is the house coordinator at one of the college's international houses, and works in the office of international programming. The international studies major is also now one of 22 students



Lotta Haarala '14

to be recognized with a scholarship from the Finlandia Foundation National. The foundation honors students with academic excellence and strong leadership, whose significant contributions bring Finnish culture to the United States. The scholarship program saw Haarala in competition against students from both undergraduate and post-graduate programs. Her fellows are at institutions like Johns Hopkins, University of Pennsylvania, UCLA, New York University and Harvard.

## Choice teammates

Green Knight volleyball boasts the recent Midwest Conference Player of the Year in **Catherine Guido '13**. Guido finished third nationally during the regular season in digs, at 6.87 digs per set, to help the Green Knights to their 11th Midwest Conference title and fifth NCAA Division III Tournament appearance. Guido was a first-team All-Midwest Conference selection for the second consecutive year. This year, **Danielle Remy '13** joined her on the MWC first team. **Breanne Brocker '15** was a second-team All-MWC choice in her first year on the team.

Women's soccer also received several Midwest Conference honors, including Coach of the Year award for **Dennis Detrie**. **Katie Vanden '15** was named Co-Offensive Player of the Year and **Zoe Kurth '14** was the Defensive Player of the Year.

## BUDDING OPPORTUNITIES

*As the St. Norbert campus breaks into bloom, come be a part of the many activities that burgeon in the spring. For details of these events and more, visit [www.snc.edu/calendar](http://www.snc.edu/calendar).*

<b>March 23</b>	“Going to Life’s Dark Side: Spiritual Journeys in Literature”: a Women’s Enrichment Series event with <b>John Neary</b> (English)
<b>March 26</b>	St. Norbert Community Band Concert
<b>March 28</b>	“Real Healthcare Reform: What Is It Going to Take?”: a CEO Breakfast Series event with Dr. John Toussaint, CEO of the ThedaCare Center for Healthcare Value
<b>April 11</b>	“Unlearning Racism: Confronting Apartheid in Our Hearts”: a Miller Lecture with international conflict resolution consultant Sean Callaghan
<b>April 13-15, 19-21</b>	St. Norbert College Theatre presents “The Love of the Nightingale”
<b>April 14</b>	Phenomenal Woman Conference
<b>April 17</b>	“Taking Control When Everything’s Out of Control”: a CEO Breakfast Series event with Phil Flynn, president and CEO of Associated Banc-Corp
<b>April 28</b>	Spring Choral Concert
<b>April 29</b>	Spring Band Concert
<b>May 11, 12</b>	The Dudley Birder Chorale presents “America Sings”
<b>May 13</b>	Commencement
<b>May 22-24</b>	“A Mirror of Our Culture: Sport and Society in America”: a joint conference presented by St. Norbert College and the Green Bay Packers
<b>June 13</b>	A Day at St. Norbert