As I write this letter, the university is welcoming 650 new freshmen to campus. In 1999, when we began our plan to grow, the freshman class had 368 students.

The young men and women who have recently joined the St. Edward’s community differ in many ways from the alumni you will meet in this issue. They are more diverse ethnically, racially and socioeconomically. They come from a greater number of regions in Texas and the United States. Given our recent retention rates, about 85 percent of them are expected to continue on to their sophomore year at St. Edward’s and eventually be part of the largest graduating class in the university’s history.

After graduation they will enter a world very different from that of their predecessors. No longer is the world economy dominated by the United States, as it was as little as 40 years ago. Emerging economies like those of India and China are redistributing market share, wealth and influence. Culture and religion now compete with nationalistic interests and values to influence world events. And war is waged, anywhere and at any time, by loosely organized, semi-autonomous groups motivated by ideology and the desire to upset the world order.

These global developments require a new approach to higher education, a shift that St. Edward’s is anticipating with the curriculum-wide global education initiative currently being developed. Today’s students must become more familiar with the perspectives and practices of other societies around the globe. And, in a world inundated with information, they must learn how to ask the right questions, evaluate data and create new knowledge. With these skills, students can adapt successfully to the changes that swirl around them.

Yet, for all these differences, our newest students have much in common with our alumni. They seek a learning community in which small classes allow for meaningful dialogue among students and faculty. They define success, both professionally and personally, as a life that is guided by ethical and moral principles. Serving others in the hope of realizing social justice is as important as any personal gain that might come from the rewards of one’s career.

Our students and more than 20,000 alumni are united across decades and generations by the Holy Cross commitment to educate both the mind and the heart. That commitment assures the university’s future and gives rise to much optimism in the face of daunting change.
THE PHYSICS OF FRIENDSHIP

Bob Wilems, ’63, hated Physics. Brother Romard Barthel, CSC, ’47, taught it. Here’s how they forged a friendship that has lasted 40 years.

ALUMNI A TO Z

Introducing — from A to Z — a few of the many alumni who make their alma mater proud.

THE MEN OF TIGER TOWN

From midnight cafeteria raids to Friday football, St. Edward’s High School turned the boys of Austin into the men of Tiger Town.

ALUMNI NOTES

• Can You Hear Me Now?: Martha Ledesma, ’06
• Dennis Sanchez, ’95, Earns Commendation Medal
• Hilltopper Triplets

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ON THE COVER

Meet Sandra Cochrun, Juan Martinez and Felecia Williams — and more than 20 other alumni — starting on page 15.
CAMPAIGN UPDATE

New Giving Record Set in 2004–2005
In addition to record enrollment and retention, St. Edward’s University benefited from a stellar year in fundraising in 2004–2005, with gifts and pledges reaching $10.95 million — including a 57 percent increase in gifts and pledges of $25,000 or more. Overall, gifts and pledges during the last fiscal year propelled St. Edward’s to within 15 percent — just under $10 million — of its $65 million goal for A Special Destiny: The Campaign for St. Edward’s University.

Membership Grows in St. Edward’s Associates
More than 300 donors — 311 to be exact — answered the call to become a St. Edward’s Associate during the last fiscal year. Associates, who make annual gifts of $1,000 or more to the university, provide vital support for programs, scholarships and faculty research at St. Edward’s. Additionally, at the St. Edward’s Associates level, alumni giving grew by 30 percent and parent giving increased 63 percent.

Scholarship Fundraising Goal Exceeded
A recent $1.1 million gift from the estate of Austinite Catherine Dunlap brought St. Edward’s over its $10.5 million goal for scholarships. Dunlap was among more than 50 individuals who have created or added to an annual or endowed scholarship fund at St. Edward’s since the start of the campaign. In the coming year, St. Edward’s will honor these donors at a special reception, where they will have the opportunity to meet the students who benefit from their generosity.

Plants Underway for New Chapel
On Aug. 3, Tucson-based architect Rick Joy met with administrators, trustees and lead gift donor Charles Kolodzey, ’36, and his granddaughter Heather, ’05, to kick off planning for a new chapel. The $5 million center for worship on campus will house the offices of Campus Ministry and the Holy Cross Institute. Renderings of the chapel design are expected early next year.

Natural Sciences Center Takes Shape
Recently, the $7.5 million pledge from the estate of John Brooks Williams was paid in full. The pledge had initiated fundraising for the new 65,000-square-foot John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center, which is currently under construction. Over the summer, workers began exterior construction of the facility’s roof and walls. The process sets the stage for interior construction involving drywall, flooring and built-in furnishings later this fall. Additionally, 85 percent of five-year pledges for the facility and the overall campaign have already been paid, which means the university can build the center through cash reserves instead of relying on a “bridge” loan until fundraising is complete. To view progress on construction, go to www.stedwards.edu/giving and click the rendering of the center.

For more information on A Special Destiny: The Campaign for St. Edward’s University, click “Giving” at www.stedwards.edu or contact Vice President of University Advancement Michael Larkin at 512-448-8452 or michaell@admin.stedwards.edu.

ST. EDWARD’S WELCOMES NEW DEANS

St. Edward’s University welcomed three new academic deans in July.

Charles J. Bicak, dean of the School of Natural Sciences, has taught biology and social sciences for 31 years, most recently at the University of Nebraska–Kearney. Previously, he taught at California State University–Bakersfield. The recipient of numerous teaching and research awards, he is a founding member of the Iain Nicolson Audubon Center Stewardship Board and also has eight years of higher education administrative experience.

Karen Embry Jenlink, dean of the School of Education, is a recipient of the Leadership Foundation in Education Award. She taught for 13 years at both East Texas Baptist University and Stephen F. Austin State University and has worked on curriculum development for more than 10 years. She has also served as president of the Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education.

Brenda Vallance, dean of the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences, has spent more than 26 years as an educator and administrator at the U.S. Air Force Academy, focusing on curriculum development and assessment, strategic planning, educational technology, accreditation review, administrative organization, and international education. She was an American Council of Education Fellow in 1999–2000 and has completed several international consultancies.

In addition to these appointments, two longtime faculty members are retaining positions as administrators. Molly Minus is the new dean of Academic Services, while former Behavioral and Social Sciences Dean Marianne Hopper is now dean of University Programs.
Music for the Eyes
My sincere congratulations to you for the Spring [2005] issue of St. Edward's University Magazine. In addition to fine writing, the photography and layout were exceptional. I especially enjoyed those faculty flashbacks! I also enjoyed the way the issue spotlighted different members of the faculty — and I was glad to see Brother Gerald Muller, CSC, among those featured. I have always thought of him as a musician — and so he is — but I was delighted to hear that God has given him the ability to write and that he has used it so generously. Keep up the great work.

Bishop Emeritus John McCarthy
Diocese of Austin

Knitting Needles Heard ’Round the World
I don’t knit or crochet — whenever I crocheted, it always ended up being circular! — but I was intrigued by the story on the Afghan Project Group in the Spring [2005] issue [page 4]. I am a speech-language pathologist, a contractor with the U.S. Army in Germany. I work with infants and toddlers from American military families who are living on the Army post or in nearby German villages. Many of our soldiers are deployed (some returned in February and will be deploying again next year), and as such, we have a fair number of young children with attachment issues because they have stayed with different relatives while their moms and/or dads are deployed. It is very tough on the kids! What interested me in the Afghan Project Group is seeing how some of our military spouses stay in their relationships because they feel as though they have nowhere else to go — much like many of the women helped by SafePlace and the Afghan Project Group. How can I make a donation to both groups?

Tracy Sherman, ’81
Wuerzburg, Germany

Send donations for the Afghan Project Group to Angie McCown, Campus Mailbox 1048, 3001 South Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78704. For more about SafePlace, visit www.austin-safeplace.org.

Dunn’s Destiny
I was reading “A Special Destiny” about Brother William Dunn, CSC [in the Winter 2005 issue], and was reminded of how very dear he was to me while I was at St. Edward’s. His love for history was an inspiration. I was already obsessed with history myself, and he made it all so interesting and alive. I have thought of him often, and when I heard of his passing [in 2003], I wished I had had the chance to tell him how his spirit inspired me and how often in his face I saw the face of Christ. He was a living example of God’s love and goodness in my life, and I know I am a better person than I ever could have been without him. I thank God for Brother William and feel a renewed obligation to do my best to pass on the love that he so generously gave to me.

I would love to have a copy of his book St. Edward’s University: A Centennial History. Could you please give me information on how I can purchase one?

Paula Daniel Wheeler, ’86
Houston

Copies of St. Edward’s University: A Centennial History are available from the university bookstore for $19.95. For more information, call 512-448-8575.

All in the Family
I can’t tell you how happy and pleased I was to receive the [Winter 2005] issue of St. Edward’s University Magazine, which featured the “A Special Destiny” story about my brother William. I’ve read and reread the article many times and feel it truly described the humble, gentle, caring and intelligent man that our William was. Our family also enjoyed and appreciated the tribute given to Richard Hughes. We knew they were longtime friends — in fact, in the later years, they even discovered they shared the same birthday! Thank you again for the well-written article and for your kindness to our family.

Irene Dunn Kubes
Madison, Wis.
HELPING KATRINA’S VICTIMS

When news of Hurricane Katrina’s devastation reached St. Edward’s, members of the university community held a prayer vigil, worked shifts at the Capital Area Food Bank, staffed Red Cross phone lines, helped find temporary homes and schools for children and families from Holy Cross primary and secondary schools in New Orleans, and organized a food and fund drive that to date has collected about $2,500 and 80 boxes of food and supplies. **Brother Robert LeGros, CSC,** and students living in Moreau House also organized a “Beads of Hope” sale, which offered Mardi Gras beads in exchange for donations benefiting the St. Edward’s students who were displaced by the storm. The sale raised more than $700. In addition, St. Edward’s admitted about 24 transfer students from universities affected by the hurricane. For updates on alumni impacted by Katrina, turn to page 43.

Rachael Zebrowski, ’06 (left), and Elizabeth Poplawski, ’08, sort donations in the Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center.
A “FROSH” START FOR FALL

What do an award-winning diver, an accomplished juggler, a local e-zine reporter, a blogger and a competitive figure skater have in common? They are all part of the 650-member freshman class at St. Edward’s University. With an average SAT score of 1116, this year’s class is the largest and most academically successful in university history. More than 45 percent were in the top quarter of their high school class, and they come from 19 states and nine countries.

Also this fall, the university was recognized for the third consecutive year by U.S. News & World Report. In this year’s list, St. Edward’s is 24th among master’s-granting institutions in the Western region — and one of only four universities in Texas to rank in the top 25.

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS FOR 2005–2006

This fall marked the debut of a new daytime MBA program and two new undergraduate degrees — one offered entirely online — at St. Edward’s University.

The School of Management and Business launched the MBA in Digital Media Management, a full-time, two-year, daytime program in which students explore music, film and interactive media as they gain more-traditional business school competencies. They will couple classroom knowledge with an eight-week summer internship and a week at the fast-paced South by Southwest music, film and interactive media festival.

In addition, New College added the option for students to complete a BA in Public Safety Management entirely online. While traditional classes will continue, the online option was introduced to meet both the scheduling needs of public safety personnel and the demand across the state. The third new program this fall is a Forensic Science major and minor in the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The program combines a basic knowledge of biology, chemistry, criminal justice systems and processes, and forensic psychology with courses in forensic science and crime scene investigation.

Dianne R. Hill, MBA ’77
Assistant Professor of Management

Where is your hometown, and what do you miss most about it?
Midland — I miss West Texans from several perspectives: the work ethic, their friendliness and their candor.

What was your first job?
I was summer secretary to the president of Midland’s First National Bank — I typed overdraft notices! (This was my first “real job,” not including watering and mowing lawns and pet-sitting.)

If you weren’t a professor, what would you be?
I would be a consultant because I love the rapid change of venues and “the edge” created by the unknowns ahead.

What is your favorite book?

Who has been the most influential person in your life?
My mother and my grandmother. I experienced the true meaning of unconditional love from my mother and learned that I “can go where women have not gone before” from my grandmother, who owned and ran a hotel. Both women had college degrees, which was unusual in my grandmother’s day.

If you had a million dollars, what would you do with it?
I would let it earn interest until I could identify where to use it for the most leverage (e.g., social entrepreneurs and education) after ensuring that my immediate family has funding for old age and emergencies.

Who were your childhood heroes?
I cannot remember that I had any — I did read many Nancy Drew mysteries if that counts. I liked the books because Nancy Drew was smart, and she always solved the mysteries!

What historical event would you like to have taken part in?
The first moon landing in 1969 because it was incredibly complicated and involved successful coordination and collaboration among people.

Who is your favorite artist?
Joan Miró for his colors, shapes and contrasts.

What are your hidden talents?
I’m not sure I hide any … because I must use every talent I’ve been given to get through the days successfully!

Hill is an associate dean in the School of Management and Business and directs the MBA program. She holds a BBA in Office Administration from UT–Austin, an MBA from St. Edward’s and a PhD in Educational Administration from UT–Austin. She provides consulting services in Emotional Intelligence and aviation crew resource management through her company, Performance by Design.
MEMORIAL HELD FOR FIRST BROTHER-PRESIDENT

Brother Edmund Hunt, CSC — the first Holy Cross Brother to serve as president of St. Edward's — passed away July 24 at the age of 95. Considered the university's "re-founder," Brother Hunt presided over the university during a time of rapid growth after World War II. While president, he led efforts to build the school's library and the Alumni Memorial Gym. He also helped establish a lay Board of Trustees for the university.

In addition to his position at St. Edward's, Brother Hunt taught at the University of Notre Dame and at several Holy Cross high schools. He also assisted with a rewriting of the Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross and worked at Notre Dame International School in Rome. He finished his career at Rancho San Antonio in Chatsworth, Calif.

Brother Hunt lived as a Holy Cross Brother for 73 years. He was a 1935 graduate of the University of Notre Dame, and he received his PhD in classical languages at the University of Chicago. He later studied at the Sorbonne in Paris.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated July 28 in St. Joseph's Chapel at the University of Notre Dame, and Brother Hunt was buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery. The St. Edward's community celebrated a memorial Mass in Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel on Sept. 12.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Fine Arts Center Gallery

Nov. 4  The Most Reverend Bishop John McCarthy Lecture Series on the Catholic Church in the 21st Century: “Reading the Signs of the Times” with Margaret O’Brien Steinfels, co-director of the Fordham Center of Religion and Culture
Jones Auditorium, Robert & Pearle Ragsdale Center

Nov. 9–20  Way of the World by William Congreve
Mary Moody Northen Theatre

Nov. 11–Dec. 4  A Prayer for Clean Water: Explorations of “Water” as a Prerequisite for Life and a Vehicle for Dreaming by Artist Paul McLean
Fine Arts Center Gallery

Nov. 19  Foundations of the Natural Law Philosophy Colloquium:
Robert & Pearle Ragsdale Center

Dec. 9  Festival of Lights
Main Building Lawn and Mabee Ballroom, Robert & Pearle Ragsdale Center

For a full fall event calendar and event details, click “Calendar” at www.stedwards.edu.
**SPORTS SHORTS**
By Ryan Poulos, '05

**Powerful Performance**
St. Edward's ranked 10th among NCAA Division II schools in the 2005 Collegiate Power Rankings by the National Collegiate Scouting Association. The NCSA rankings help prospective student-athletes and parents evaluate the strengths of universities based on academic and athletic factors, as well as student-athlete graduation rates.

**From the Locker Room to the Classroom**
Spring classroom stats were the best ever for Athletics. The overall GPA for Hilltopper athletes was 3.16—-with 15 students earning a perfect 4.0 average. Of the university’s 172 athletes, 70 percent earned a GPA of 3.00 or higher, and 58 students were named to the President’s Honor Roll, which requires at least a 3.5 GPA.

**Hilltopper Named Conference Scholar-Athlete of the Year — Again**
For the second consecutive year, a St. Edward's student has been named Heartland Conference Women's Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Volleyball captain Jamie Shackelford, ‘05, accumulated 1,212 kills, 1,382 digs, 156 aces and 328 blocks in 475 career games as a Hilltopper. She helped lead the Hilltoppers to a 115-38 record, three conference championships and three NCAA tournament appearances. Off the court, Shackelford was a member of the Alpha Chi Honor Society and presented research at eight symposia over the last three years. She was also a student-athlete mentor and a charter member of the campus Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter. She graduated *summa cum laude* with a BS in Mathematics in May.

**Golf Teams Swing Past the Competition**
The men's golf team celebrated its most successful season to date in May after capturing third place in the NCAA Division II national championship tournament. In March, the team won the Heartland Conference tournament and placed second in the regional tournament to earn a spot in the national championship. Blake Slaughter, '07, earned Third Team All-American honors, and Tyler Duncan, '06, earned an All-American Honorable Mention. In only its second year of competition, the women’s golf team took third place in the Heartland Conference tournament and began the year as the 32nd best team in Division II play.

**Tennis Teams Rally**
The women's tennis team won the Heartland Conference championship last spring, and the men's team finished second in conference play. Both teams advanced to the second round in the NCAA regional tournament. Sophia Adamson, '05; Simon Boyce, '06; Jorge Jimenez, '05; Bruna de Oliveira, '05; Alyssia Palacios, '05; Mario Quintero, '05; and Walter Valarezo, '08, earned All-Conference honors, and Palacios was named Heartland Conference Women's Tennis Player of the Year. Coach Russell Sterns was selected Coach of the Year.

**By the Numbers**

102 Hilltoppers awarded Academic All-Conference honors in Spring 2005.

50 Home runs last season by the baseball team.

36 RBIs last season by softball standout Lindsey Heye, ‘06.

4 Hilltopper Heartland Conference championships (men’s golf, women’s soccer, women’s tennis and volleyball).

3 Hilltopper Heartland Conference Coaches of the Year (Women’s Soccer Coach Jon Clement, Golf Coach Jennifer McNeil and Tennis Coach Russell Sterns).

0 Hits allowed by pitcher Casey Plant, ‘07, against St. Mary’s University on March 26.

**UNIVERSITY HONORS**

**Study Abroad Gets Boost**
The university’s Office of International Education received a $50,000 grant for study abroad scholarships in May from the Institute for Study Abroad Foundation. Scholarships will be available beginning Spring 2006, and funding will continue through the 2008-2009 academic year. In addition, two students have received $5,000 scholarships to study abroad this fall from the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program: Photocommunications majors Candice Munoz, ‘08, and Michael Ruiz, ‘06, will study in Guadalajara, Mexico, and Prague, Czech Republic, respectively. More than 2,000 students apply for the scholarships each year, and about 350 are selected.

**SEU Wins Second Student Fulbright**
Chris Herrington, ‘03, received a 2005–2006 Fulbright Teaching Assistantship to Austria in April. Herrington, who earned a BA in History with a minor in German from St. Edward’s, begins a yearlong teaching assignment this fall. Rachel Howell, ‘03, the university's first student to receive a Fulbright, completed her teaching assistantship in Germany in August.

**Curtain Call**
Honk!, the spring production of the university's Mary Moody Northen Theatre, received awards for musical production, musical direction and musical acting (a dual honor shared by Daniel Adams, ‘08, and David Gallagher, ‘08) from the Austin Critics’ Table in June. Chase Staggs, MMNT technical director, also received awards for scenic design on Austin-area productions including The Death of a Cat and Genghis Khan; and Ben Wolfe, ’99, received an award for supporting comedic acting in the Austin production of The Dog in the Manger.

**Partnering for Education**
St. Edward's and Huston-Tillotson University were named 2005 College Preparation Programs of the Year by Austin Partners in Education, which facilitates community collaboration to make additional resources available to Austin schools. The award recognizes institutions that have made exceptional and innovative contributions to Austin ISD.

Reporting by Hans Christianson. Stephanie Elsea, MLA ’05; Stacia Hernstrom, MLA ’05; Carrie Johnson, MSOLE ’05; Adam Pyles, ’04; and Mia Sims.
I had always wondered what the smell of cooked goose was like, and now I knew because my goose was cooked. Brother Vincent [De Paul, CSC] had just announced to our sophomore Latin class at St. Edward's High School that “a certain senior, who thought he was going to graduate, was actually not going to because he was failing Latin.”

As the only senior in the class of sophomores, I had a fairly good idea who he was talking about. I could have responded like one of my heroes, Lou Costello, by crying out “Brooooother!” or by using a Three Stooges approach and slapping two of my classmates. John Wayne would have told me to lob a grenade. I chose the James Dean response. Who better to emulate than the Rebel Without a Cause, even if I happened to be the Rebel Without a Clue? I did my best impersonation by slouching and wearing a surly look of indifference. I liked the James Dean persona because he rarely spoke, and when he did, he uttered mostly unintelligible sentences. (Oh wait, I just described Latin!)

Even Brother Vincent acknowledged that it was a dead language, and I knew for certain that the only sentence I could decipher — America non est insula — would be permanently etched into my brain to haunt me forever.

But as class ended, I approached Brother Vincent’s desk. “I heard what you said, Brother, and I do not understand it. I have not even been on the Probation List this year.” For the uninitiated, the Probation List was a device designed to shame those on it into performing better. Posted prominently for all to see, it became my Honor Roll. My absence from it in my senior year was so unusual that total strangers approached me in the supermarket to comment on it. Milk cartons appeared with my picture and the caption “Last seen on the Probation List.”

Brother Dunstan was my favorite teacher. He was someone I could never fool, never wanted to and never would.

Brother Vincent was unimpressed. “True, Mr. Stewart, but even though you have passed your vocabulary tests, you still cannot conjugate.” I had taken his class three times. He had always been strict, and we had never gotten along well. Now, I was finally paying the price for my apathy and antics. He certainly had his favorites, and I was not on the list.

The weeks preceding finals were colored with depression and gloom. The thought of not graduating was devastating. Worse, my well-earned humiliation was compounded by the knowledge that the entire student body of St. Edward’s High School seemed to know my predicament. For reasons I still do not fully comprehend, I always looked forward with hope to each day in those early years when I was “so successfully disguised to myself as a child,” as Pulitzer Prize winner James Agee aptly said.

I had enrolled at St. Edward’s High School in 1956. My mother had died five years earlier. I never knew my father. My uncle Adair, who was single at the time, adopted me. People have various ways of coping with the demons of despair and loneliness. My uncle dealt with his by working two and sometimes three jobs most of his adult life. I coped by becoming the class clown. As I struggled with my finals, I could not find anything to joke about. How could I? I had given up any pretext of studying. What was the point?

And then something amazing happened. In the middle of final exams, I was summoned to meet with Brother Dunstan [Bowles, CSC] in the visitor’s lounge. As I approached the lounge, I wondered if someone had been monitoring my tests and had
decided a pep talk was in order. Anything was possible.

Our meeting was short and to the point. Brother Dunstan was my favorite teacher. He was someone I could never fool, never wanted to and never would. He said he knew all about my situation and urged me to take the Latin final and do my best. The logic of his argument did not persuade me — but the tears streaming down his face did. He told me of the struggles he had endured as a student and how important it was to make the effort. At that moment, if he had asked me to sprout wings and fly, I would have tried.

I took my finals, and although I know I did miserably, a short time later I walked across the stage to accept my diploma. Sitting shyly in the last row of the bleachers, off to himself, was the only dad I had ever known. This was the one high school event my uncle had been able to attend. I also saw Brother Vincent, and we struck a silent truce with each other across the room. Oddly, I could not find Brother Dunstan to thank him for his act of kindness.

And so it was 33 years later that my wife and I sat across from him in another visitor’s lounge at my high school reunion. He had not changed much in all those years. I told him of the reason for my visit — to thank him for his act of kindness so many years prior. He responded with a story about his favorite high school teacher, who had recently passed away. He lovingly recalled that in their final phone conversation she had said, “You know, I always loved you.” His simple reply had been, “I know.”

We rose to say our goodbyes, and I realized that Brother Dunstan probably did not recall our last meeting those many years ago. With teary eyes I whispered, “May God bless you.” And he responded in kind.

Later, as my wife and I sat in the car, I could not comprehend the gut-wrenching emotions attacking my soul. And then I realized the genesis of my feelings. A year before this reunion, I had found a letter from my mother written to me just hours before her death from cancer. Just a few faded sentences, written in pencil, on a single sheet of paper. How she must have struggled to write those final words. After encouraging me to “be a good boy” and “mind my uncle,” her last sentence was, “I loved you the best.” In my heart, I have always responded, “I know.”

But on the last night of her life, before I had read those words, my uncle guided me toward her bedside in the hospital. She did not recognize me. “Who is this?” she asked him. Her words caused a reaction I would not experience again until my reunion with Brother Dunstan.

When I realized he did not fully recognize me, I was a frightened nine-year-old once more, afraid of going through life unrecognized or unappreciated. Looking back, though, I realize that because Brother Dunstan had lived a life filled with so many acts of kindness, it was doubtful he would remember his one act of kindness to me. Although there were probably many Fred Stewart types in his life, there was only one Brother Dunstan in mine.
A Sense of Community

The university’s new approach to residence hall design is all about fostering community.

By Carrie Johnson, MSOLE ’05
Community. It’s a concept discussed often at St. Edward’s University. Faculty and students talk about the role of the individual or a country in the world community. And there are the campus community, the local community and the university’s learning community. This fall’s opening of Jacques Dujarié Hall has broadened the discussion to include the residential community.

Dujarié Hall is located just east of Basil Moreau Hall, a student residence that opened in 2003. “Looking at Dujarié and Moreau halls, you get the sense of a village,” said Dave Dickson, vice president of Financial Affairs, who oversees all campus construction projects. “That is intentional. The residence halls, which were designed together, are connected by outdoor courtyards and pedestrian paths. They’re also located in close proximity to the core of the university’s teaching and learning activities.”

The two halls are complementary in many ways. Both feature a range of on-site amenities, such as computer labs, resident mailboxes, recreation rooms and roomy common kitchens. Both are surrounded by Casitas, which provide house-style living for students. And both honor the university’s Holy Cross heritage. The new hall is named for Father Jacques-François Dujarié, founder of two religious orders including the Brothers of St. Joseph, which merged with Father Basil Moreau’s auxiliary priests in 1837 to form the Congregation of Holy Cross.

“Residence halls at St. Edward’s are more than a place to live,” said Jennifer Casey, director of Residence Life. “The Residence Life staff lives the Holy Cross mission by helping residents become well-rounded adults who graduate from St. Edward’s with more than a diploma. Our residents develop a sense of self and a sense of how to be an active member of a community.”

This residential community concept will be expanded in the coming years and is a key element of the university’s master plan. In fact, preparations are already underway for yet another residential community for more than 300 students that will feature a dining facility open to the entire campus.

“As with all of our facility development, student representatives will participate in the planning stages,” said Dickson. “Right now, we’re examining options for a retail-style restaurant and coffee shop so we can offer a dining environment that appeals to the current generation of students.”

And because on-campus living has become more popular than ever at St. Edward’s, the university will begin construction this fall of larger house-style residences, called Casas, for the Moreau/Dujarié community. They will open in Fall 2006.
On a hot August day in 1959, Bob Wilems, ’63 (above, right), sat at a small wooden table waiting to register for classes at St. Edward’s — but he really didn’t want to be there.

His first choice for colleges had been another university in Texas known for its science curriculum, but his mother had intervened at the last minute and sent him to St. Edward’s — where she was certain there were no “atheists or communists.”

Across the desk, Wilems’ advisor carefully read through his file before asking what areas he might be interested in. “I’m interested in math, engineering or science,” he said, “but not Physics — Physics is boring.”

His advisor looked up from the file and studied Wilems carefully. “I’m Brother Romard Barthel (above, left),” he said finally. “I’m in charge of the Physics department, and I teach an introductory Physics course — which you’ll be taking.” Brother Romard looked back down at the file. “Let’s see what other courses you need.”

A Friendship Forged
The following Monday, Wilems went to his first Physics class with Brother Romard. He wasn’t expecting much. Physics had bored him in high school — why would it be different now? But it was. Instead of asking the students to memorize facts and formulas, Brother Romard challenged the class to think.

Physics is a mathematical representation of reality; it’s an ongoing, evolving process, he explained. At the heart of every equation and theory is a simple question — what is the problem to be solved? Brother Romard encouraged his students to be bold and to not be afraid of making mistakes. Science is not for the timid, he would remind them.

For the first time in his life, Physics began to make sense to Wilems. He started asking questions in class and kept asking them into the next spring — when he enrolled in another class with Brother Romard. By the time
Wilems needed to declare a major during his sophomore year, the choice was obvious.

As he pursued a major in Physics, his friendship with Brother Romard evolved. What had started out as a student taking advice from an advisor had turned into two friends working toward a common goal — college graduation and a career in science for Wilems. The partnership was cemented when Wilems was accepted into a prestigious summer fellowship program at the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies in Oak Ridge, Tenn. — a fellowship Brother Romard himself had participated in a decade before and had encouraged Wilems to consider.

Wilems returned to St. Edward’s the next fall to finish his bachelor’s degree, and after graduation he began work on his PhD in Radiation Physics at the University of Tennessee. Though he was only occasionally able to return to campus as his career advanced, his friendship with Brother Romard continued — and it would finally come full circle more than four decades later.

Staying in Touch

Wilems continued to stay in contact with Brother Romard, often at the urging of his wife, Nela, who had first met Brother Romard during the senior prom in 1963. But it wasn’t always easy keeping up with Brother Romard, who himself was a busy man with an ever-changing career. Along with a teaching career that spanned five decades at St. Edward’s, where he served as head of the sciences division and was a prefect in the residence halls, he served as the provincial of the Holy Cross Brothers and as the assistant general of the Congregation of Holy Cross in Rome.

Wilems’ career varied as well. His undergraduate interest and emphasis in Physics — and his introduction to computers at his summer fellowship with the Oak Ridge Institute — led to a career working in computer modeling and simulations. While other scientists concentrated on small, individual issues, he stood back and tried to put the problem into its simplest equation. He asked the tough questions — what is the problem, why is it important and how do we represent it? — and he was never afraid to take risks or take on a challenge.

The Challenge Ahead

Last March, Wilems faced a new challenge — how to honor his friend and mentor. When he learned that Brother Romard was retiring, Wilems wanted to give something back to the man who had given so much to him. But what do you get for a Holy Cross Brother who is not interested in earthly possessions or monetary gifts?

The answer came from an unlikely source — Brother Romard himself. On discovering he had received the university’s Distinguished Teaching Award in May, Brother Romard took his $1,000 award check and gave it back to the university with one request — that a scholarship be created in his name.

Armed with this request, Wilems picked up the cause. He immediately provided the lead gift for the scholarship and contacted fellow science alumni from the early 1960s — friends and classmates who had also been influenced by Brother Romard and had embraced his philosophy of science in their own careers — to ask for their support. The grassroots effort paid off. To date, more than $37,000 has been raised to endow the scholarship.

“It’s been great fun to reconnect with my classmates. Everyone I’ve talked to has agreed to make a gift, and they all have their own stories about how Brother Romard changed their lives,” Wilems said. “Creating an endowed scholarship in Brother Romard’s name is the perfect tribute to him. It’s a way to help future students and honor the man who embodies the mission of St. Edward’s.”

The Brother Romard Barthel, CSC, ’47, Endowed Scholarship will be awarded annually beginning Fall 2006 — the same time that the new John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center will open (see story, page 2). According to Brother Romard, he would like the scholarship to be awarded to a student interested in the sciences, a student who asks questions, a student who isn’t afraid to make mistakes. A student a lot like Bob Wilems and his classmates.

To make a gift to the Brother Romard Barthel, CSC, ’47, Endowed Scholarship or learn more about endowing a scholarship in honor of a St. Edward’s faculty member or Holy Cross Brother who changed your life, contact Joe DeMedeiros at 512-233-1443 or joed@admin.stedwards.edu.

Share Your Special Destiny

Who at St. Edward’s — past or present — has transformed your life? Give thanks to them by sharing with us how a professor, mentor, classmate or friend shaped your special destiny. E-mail staciap@admin.stedwards.edu, or write St. Edward’s University Magazine, 3001 South Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78704.
Did you know that, for four years, St. Edward’s was turned into a military academy? The academy was officially established in 1942 in response to a War Department directive to prepare boys for military life and was even part of the Texas State Guard.

The St. Edward’s University Archives, tucked back in the second story of the Scarborough-Phillips Library, is a treasure trove of such information. Founded in 1958 by Brother Philip Odette, CSC, the archives collects, appraises, arranges, preserves and provides access to resources that tell the university’s story — everything from course catalogs and committee reports to bits and pieces of ephemera.

University records, photographs, student publications and other memorabilia make up the bulk of the archives’ collection, including yearbooks from as far back as 1925 and issues of the student newspaper (originally called The Echo, then The Hilltopper and now Hilltop Views) that date back to 1885. Among some of the most interesting things in the archives are old football cleats (the university fielded a team from 1894 until 1939), a student-made recruitment film from 1952, files of campus ghost stories, old playbills from Mary Moody Northen Theatre productions, and Nicholas J. Clayton’s original 1888 blueprints for Main Building.

The archives also owns various donated collections, including paintings and prints by William J. Reynolds, ’41, a self-taught artist whose paintings currently hang in the Smithsonian Institution’s National Air and Space Museum. A special collection area houses a Texana and American History section, as well as unusual books pertaining to the literary works of D.H. Lawrence.

The archives relies largely on donations to keep the collection growing — but “relevant” is the key word. “The collection exists to document the university’s history, so we’ve recently limited our scope to official university records and unofficial materials like photographs, oral histories and student publications,” said Archives and Special Collections Librarian Dianne Brownlee, ’94, MLA ’03 (above, with Senior Library Assistant Armando Garcia, ’90). “Anything that helps us imagine or reconstruct what it was like to be a student, faculty member or Holy Cross Brother at St. Edward’s is immensely valuable.”

For scholars, students, alumni and Austinites alike, the archives is an essential resource — whether they are looking for help with a research project or a way of satisfying a curiosity of bygone days. From photos of the tornado and fire that ravaged Main Building in the early 20th century to memorabilia from Dallas Cowboys training camps on campus in the 1990s, the archives tells pieces of the St. Edward’s story that many are unaware of ...

Did you know that students used to do farm work to help pay their tuition? That St. Edward’s had its own high school (see story, page 36)? That until 1966, the Hilltopper student population was entirely male? … ■

Make History To learn more about donating items to the archives, scheduling a research visit or sharing your memories with the archives staff, contact Dianne Brownlee, ’94, MLA ’03, at dianneb@admin.stedwards.edu or 512-448-8476.
The tattered photo a proud dad keeps in his billfold. The crayon drawings that stay stuck to the refrigerator for a decade. The soccer trophies in the cabinet, the science fair ribbons tucked in the corner of the mirror, the glittered construction-paper ornaments dancing on Christmas tree limbs each year …

This issue of St. Edward’s University Magazine is just like those cherished mementos. It’s an alumni scrapbook. And it spotlights — from A to Z — a few of the many alumni who make their alma mater proud.

By Hans Christianson; Stephanie Elsea, MLA ’05; Jonathon Goodsell, ’05; E. Brook Haley; Stacia Hernstrom, MLA ’05; Carrie Johnson, MSOLE ’05; Jamie Larson, ’04; Ryan Poulos, ’05; Adam Pyles, ’04; and Patrick Ricci, MLA ’04

What Letter Are You?

Do you sing O pera? Forecast the W eather? Work the N ight shift? C ollect something C ool? R ide the R odeo? Let St. Edward’s University Magazine know what letter you represent and you could appear in a future issue:

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3001 South Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78704
staciap@admin.stedwards.edu
In 1996, it took Cisco Systems two weeks to close its books. These days, it takes four hours, thanks to Rick Timmins, MBA '79.

In the more than nine years that Timmins has been Cisco's vice president of worldwide sales and service finance (and originally the corporate controller), he has steadily created an e-culture within the company — while cutting $150 million from the budget. He has standardized and automated all of Cisco's finance practices, including its executive information systems, gross margin and distributor reporting, online purchasing, expense and revenue tracking, reporting of deals, and quote-to-cash figures.

Now, Cisco's accounts payable system routinely processes 40,000 invoices a week, and employees are reimbursed for travel expenses within 48 hours. When Cisco acquires a company, the acquisition is completely integrated into Cisco's systems in 30 days. And thanks to the four-hour closing process, company leaders can see what (and how) the business is doing at any given time. International offices submit their reports by 9 a.m., U.S. offices by 10 a.m. By noon, Cisco's CEO and CFO are looking at a comprehensive, accurate, real-time profit-and-loss report and balance sheet.

But establishing an e-culture didn't happen overnight. When Timmins first took the job, "Cisco didn't have the right information to implement a virtual finance system," he said. "We had grown up as this wild, wild West small company in which every department had its own metrics. No one's information matched anyone else's. We had to address that first."

He began the automation process by benchmarking Cisco's finance practices against companies with a similar size and sales volume. He was also part of the process that changed the company's approach to IT by giving each major internal department its own IT budget. The change allowed departments to determine their own technology needs and balance the costs with other department-specific necessities. Even more important, each new project had to clearly and directly benefit customers.

Overall, Timmins says, 50 percent of Cisco's significant improvements have been process-related, and the other 50 percent have involved systems and technology. "Examining our own processes ensures that we're tracking the right activities and that we're monitoring and improving the quality of our financial information," said Timmins, who has a BBA in Accounting from the University of Arizona and is a CPA. "It is essential to challenge every assumption."

Timmins learned these skills long before taking the reins at Cisco — they were an essential part of his education in the MBA program at St. Edward's. "Cisco never stops focusing on quality and improvement. Neither does St. Edward's. The MBA program taught me how to prepare realistic business plans and carry them out successfully. I use those skills every day."

At Cisco, he has also benefited from buy-in at the top. "The advantage I have over the vast majority of finance chiefs is that I work for a company completely and utterly committed to e-finance," he said. "Ultimately, we strive to be a true business partner — to our internal clients and our customers." — S.H.
Sandra Cochrun, ’94, knows what it’s like to lose everything. In 2001, she had a stable 25-year corporate career, and with some stock from Dell, she and her husband, Jack, had built a new home. “My life was great. I had control over my career and my money,” she said. “But the rug got pulled out from under me.”

When Cochrun left her corporate job to work for a small start-up, she was excited about the new challenge. Then the tech bubble burst, Sept. 11 happened, and Cochrun’s company went belly up. Within a year, she had lost her house, all her money was gone, and her savings and retirement funds had dried up. In late 2002, she and her husband moved to Tennessee to live with their son and were soon getting food at a local food pantry in Hendersonville, a Nashville suburb.

Inspired by the help they received in Hendersonville, Cochrun and her husband returned to Texas in 2003 and found jobs in Pflugerville as managers of a AAA Storage Unit facility. They also found their calling — the facility’s owner agreed to let them use the warehouse to start their own food pantry. Six months later, they opened the Storehouse Food Pantry, and last fall, they opened a location in South Austin. Today, each pantry feeds between 1,500 and 2,000 people every month.

“My life has come full circle. God had a plan for me, and I’m living according to that plan,” Cochrun said. “In my opinion, the best job you can have is one that takes your focus away from yourself and on to others.”

Cochrun and her husband see expansion in the future — “We are visionaries!” she said. “We see a centrally located Storehouse in metro Austin with satellite locations in the outlying areas where there are no bus routes. We hope to partner with area churches to provide volunteers for each location, and we have plans to start a thrift store that would create revenue for additional groceries and supplies.

“Sometimes we don’t realize that being a missionary can happen in our own communities — we don’t need to travel a long way,” said Cochrun. “The fact that Jack and I have two food pantries in the Austin area shows that there is a need to help the poor, and being able to help meet those needs affirms the direction our lives have taken. Our story is about being blessed — and, in return, blessing others.” — E.B.H.

Additional reporting by Hans Christianson.

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver.

— II Corinthians 9:6–7

To learn more about donating food or volunteering at the Storehouse Food Pantry, visit www.thestorehouseofaustin.org.
You could have heard a pin drop. By the third volley, the 15,000 spectators gathered in Madison Square Garden for the Masters Series Tennis Tournament in the early 1980s were unusually silent. Not many of them were aware that wheelchair tennis existed — and far fewer had actually viewed a live match. But they were getting an introduction to the sport at this exhibition — and were mesmerized by the flawless abilities of the two players on the court.

If anyone knows about ability, it’s Dan Dwyer, ’63. Dwyer, who was inducted into the university’s Athletics Hall of Fame in 1989, has coached the likes of John McEnroe and Gene Mayer. In fact, McEnroe began taking lessons from Dwyer at age seven — and still plays with the form he learned from Dwyer.

But the achievement Dwyer is most proud of is his involvement in the sport of wheelchair tennis. It all began when he received a call from wheelchair athlete Johnny Johnston three years before the exhibition at Madison Square Garden. Dwyer brushed him off at first, but Johnston’s persistence won him over. When they met at the court for a singles game, Dwyer was still doubtful of Johnston’s abilities.

But not for long. “After 10 minutes on the court with this guy, I was sweating bullets! He was a natural.” Dwyer went on to coach Johnston for three years, and just last year, Johnston became the first wheelchair player to compete against able-bodied players and make it to the finals of a U.S. Tennis Association league tournament.

Inspired by Johnston’s talent, Dwyer became involved in the advancement of wheelchair tennis. One of his initial tasks was to arrange the exhibition at Madison Square Garden. Soon after, the U.S. Tennis Association organized a wheelchair tennis committee with Dwyer as chair. Dwyer is also the first American to serve on the International Tennis Federation’s wheelchair tennis committee.

This year, he saw another of his original goals for the sport come true when wheelchair tennis made its debut at the U.S. Open.

With the success and acceptance of the sport, Dwyer now devotes much of his time to a new cause — coaching Multiple Sclerosis patients for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, which approached him after hearing of his involvement in wheelchair tennis. Ultimately, Dwyer says, his involvement in the sport is about more than making tennis a possibility for people from different aspects of life. “It’s about seeing people do something they never imagined they could do. It opens doors for them for the rest of their lives — and constantly reminds me that anything is possible.” — J.L.
In the mid-1990s, Atif Abdulmalik, ’88 (center), was working in Bahrain for leading global investment house Investcorp. While there, he recognized the growing demand among investors from throughout the Middle East for the same products offered by Investcorp — private equity and real estate investments from across the world — but with one significant difference. The products needed to be developed to keep with Islamic law, or *sharia*.

Islamic banking in general is a relatively new industry, only 20–30 years old, compared with the conventional banking system, which goes back as far as Elizabethan England. Many families in the Gulf region still use conventional banking products but, as required by *sharia*, do not take or pay interest or invest in companies that engage in non-*sharia*-compliant activities.

To meet the demand for high-quality, cutting-edge, *sharia*-compliant investment products, Abdulmalik began to gather the shareholders needed to set up Arcapita Bank, and by 1997, he had offices in Bahrain and Atlanta. “The foundations on which we conceived the business were solid and well-researched,” he said. “But looking back now, more than eight years later, I know how lucky we were to have found such a supportive and experienced group of shareholders to guide us from the start.”

Abdulmalik and his colleagues have made the most of this support: By July of this year, the bank had completed 43 transactions throughout the world, with a total value exceeding $8.7 billion, and had an equity capital base in excess of $300 million. They have prominent investors from all over the Middle East, have been innovators in the fast-growing field of Islamic finance, and have grown revenues and net income significantly every year since inception, notwithstanding the market shocks caused by the end of the tech boom and the geopolitical fallout of Sept. 11. Today, Arcapita has a full-service operation in Bahrain, Atlanta and London with almost 200 employees.

“Within Arcapita, the dedication among our employees is tangible. I am particularly proud of the uncompromising attitude to quality that I see in everything that we do,” said Abdulmalik, who is president and CEO of Arcapita. “We take tremendous care to find the best people for every part of our operation, and when we find them, we aim to keep and develop them. We are serious about growing this business for the long term, and it’s our people who will decide that success.” — H.C.

It was the snazzy blue and gold jackets that made the Edsmen stand out in a crowd — but it was their volunteer work and contributions to school spirit that kept them in the spotlight for nearly two decades. Created in 1960, the Edsmen recruited members by invitation only and under the watchful eye of moderator Brother Simon Scribner, CSC. Members organized blood drives, managed the campus bowling league, published and distributed basketball programs, set up the auditorium for school events, publicized Campus Ministry activities, and flew the flag each day. Along with getting the bass drum added to the basketball pep band to heighten school spirit, the service club was the first student group, besides athletic teams, to issue a jacket to its members. To top it off, the organization raised funds by selling the first-ever St. Edward’s University beer mug to students, faculty and fans. That calls for a toast — here’s to the Edsmen! — S.H.
Gold Glove winner Roger Metzger, ’70, plays on a new field now. These days, the retired Houston Astros shortstop spends afternoons on his tractor tending to his three acres and small garden in Brenham. But in May, Metzger returned to the playing field and became the first athlete in university history to have his jersey number retired.

He attributes Sunday trips to the ballpark with his uncle as the root of his love for the game. Raised in San Antonio, he and his uncle often attended St. Mary’s University baseball games, but when Metzger was in high school, it was one of the visiting teams that began to stand out most. When he did some research on St. Edward’s University, he found two things he liked: baseball, of course, and Mathematics.

Metzger enrolled at St. Edward’s with an academic scholarship in Fall 1966. He worked on a bachelor’s degree while setting records on the field — his school record for highest batting average in a single season (.457) still stands, and in 1967, he became the first player to hit a home run over the fence at Lucian-Hamilton Field, home of the Hilltopper baseball team.

During his junior year, Metzger learned that he had been selected in the first round of the professional baseball draft by the Chicago Cubs. “I think one of the main reasons for my success was Tom Hamilton, who coached me at St. Edward’s,” said Metzger. “His patience and foresight were truly immeasurable ingredients in my maturing process on the baseball field. He was the reason I had a season.”

Metzger worked his way through the Triple-A ranks and eventually found himself playing with the Astros in 1971. He was determined to finish his degree, so he returned to St. Edward’s and graduated with a BA in Mathematics in 1972. The next year, he was awarded baseball’s highest defensive honor, the Gold Glove.

But there is one honor that Metzger cherishes even more. On Saturday, May 7, between a St. Edward’s-Lincoln University doubleheader and in front of friends, family and former teammates, Metzger’s number 14 jersey was retired. “There are probably many others who should have been selected before me,” Metzger said. “It is a tremendous honor, and the entire ceremony was a family affair.” In fact, there was one special family member watching from the stands — his uncle.

These days, instead of assisting double plays, Metzger assists those in need. He works with his wife, Tamy, in Brenham High School’s vocational department helping mentally retarded students develop new skills. “My favorite part of the job,” he said, “is helping people become more independent.”

When he’s not working at the school or working on his tractor, Metzger likes to spend time with his grandchildren, Bailey, 3, and Aubrey, 1, who live in Dallas. “If they don’t come and see us, we go and see them,” he said. “They are the light of my life.”

When Metzger’s grandchildren grow up, and when their grandchildren grow up, he hopes they’ll be able to spend Sunday afternoons at the ballpark as he did, watching sharp throws, snappy double plays and diving catches. And at Lucian-Hamilton Field in particular, they’ll enjoy something else: number 14 hanging on the wall in left center field. — R.P.
When it comes to choosing a college, one choice stands out for members of the Ikard family — St. Edward’s. For more than five decades, this close-knit family has sent children, grandchildren and cousins to the hilltop — a tradition that started in the late 1940s when Jim Ikard, hs ’49, ’53, traveled from New Mexico to Austin to attend St. Edward’s High School. His brother John, hs ’50, ’54, also attended.

“My dad wanted a good, Catholic education — and St. Edward’s was closer to home than Notre Dame,” said Jim’s son David, ’82. At St. Edward’s, Jim found the Catholic foundation he was looking for, but he also found small classes, new friends and professors who took the time to get to know him. Among his favorite teachers is retired Physics Professor Brother Romard Barthel, CSC, ’47 (see story, page 12), who formed a lifelong friendship with the Ikard patriarch.

Other Ikards have made the journey to Austin, too. The list includes daughter Suzanne Yaeger, ’78; nephew John, MBA ’81; sons David, Robert, ’90, Paul, ’95, and Luke, ’04; and granddaughter Arynn Yaeger, ’04.

And the Ikard-St. Edward’s tradition is primed to continue as David looks forward to the day he can offer his two daughters, Chloe, 9, and Samantha, 8, the chance to go to college on the hilltop. Going to St. Edward’s is, after all, “an Ikard thing to do.” — H.C.

What do you get when you cross Chicago Bulls legends Dennis Rodman and Scottie Pippen? WNBA star Taj McWilliams-Franklin, ’93, who strives to play with Rodman’s “crazy, gung-ho” intensity and maintain Pippen’s “finesse and game.” And unlike Rodman, McWilliams-Franklin looks good in a dress.

At 35, she has just finished her seventh WNBA season as a power forward and center for the Connecticut Sun. She is ranked in the top 10 in 11 WNBA categories — in the top 20 in 15 more — and she has earned two WNBA division titles, four All-Star berths and a World Championship medal.

She played four years in the now-defunct ABL before joining the WNBA, and between semesters at St. Edward’s, she spent five seasons overseas. In fact, she still spends her off-seasons playing in the European basketball league — most recently in Italy and the Czech Republic.

“You might say she’s making up for lost time. McWilliams-Franklin didn’t actually pick up a basketball until she was 15, when her history teacher stopped her in the hall to tell her that the sport could put her through college. These days — with a BA in English Writing and Rhetoric hanging on her wall — she plays to make a better life for her daughters, Michele, 16, and Maia Simone, 2, and her husband, Reggie, a U.S. Army sergeant scheduled to deploy to Iraq in January.

McWilliams-Franklin regularly juggles physical therapy sessions, morning workouts, evening games and constant travel with Dora the Explorer videos, Elmo dolls, Cranium nights and math homework. “My family gives me the mental willpower to continue playing ball season after season,” she said. “Basketball is my job, but family is my life.” — S.H.
Over the past 60 years, members of the St. Edward’s community — alumni, faculty and staff — have exchanged vows on campus. Here are a few snapshots of happy couples who have said “I do” in Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel.

Jana, ’90, MAHS ’01, and Peter Whittier were married on March 3, 2001. Her father, Robert Mora, hs ’47 (above), gave her away.

Heather and Joseph Mayer were married on Oct. 9, 2004. Heather is an admission coordinator in the Center for Academic Progress.

Sonya, ’99 and Jesse Butler, ’99, were married by Father Rick Wilkinson, CSC (center), on Feb. 8, 2003.
Cissy, ’94, and Marcelino Gamboa, ’95, were married on Dec. 18, 1999.

Fred, hs ’63, ’67, and Evelyn McNair were married on April 20, 1968.

Julio Rojas, ’85, MBA ’87, and Eileen Ryan-Rojas, ’87, were married on Aug. 23, 1986.

Ramona V. Padilla, ’72, and Ralph Menillo were married on Sept. 27, 2003. Ramona is an adjunct instructor in the School of Education.

Danica, ’86, MAHS ’94, and Stan Frampton were married on April 28, 2001. Danica is a research associate in the Office of Institutional Research.
Inez Flores, ’03 (left), has a hard time finding the words to describe her recent trip to Japan — but she does have a “top 10” list that involves bright green pay phones, the number 3 and the Backstreet Boys (below, left).

Flores was one of six teachers from Texas selected for a three-week immersion experience in Japan last summer through the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund. She was one of only 200 teachers from all 50 states to receive the award based on her proposal for bringing cross-cultural dialogue into the classroom.

Flores became interested in Japanese culture as a student in Freshman Studies with Associate Professor Cecil Lawson, ’74, and during her trip, she experienced firsthand what Lawson had described in class. “There is an indescribable respect and kindness among Japanese people,” she said. “Teachers are treated like celebrities because the culture truly values learning, and teaching is a prestigious job.”

During her trip, Flores visited Nikko, a famous shrine that is a center for Shinto and Buddhist worship, and she relaxed at a traditional hot springs in the mountains north of Tokyo. She stayed with a Japanese family — and spent her first birthday outside the United States with them. “The hospitality the family showed me was beyond my imagination,” she said. “They even had a Mexican-themed birthday dinner to make me feel at home.”

Now back in her classroom at Dawson Elementary School in Austin, Flores has a detailed plan for sharing her Japanese experience with her fourth-graders — they will soon spend an imaginary day in Japan learning calligraphy, reading Japanese folk tales, making origami cranes, eating sushi with chopsticks and drinking green tea with tiny sweets. The experience is sure to make the students’ “top 10” list, too. — E.B.H.

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When in Japan ... Inez’s Top 10

10. Take off your shoes at restaurants.
9. Have green tea and tiny sweets as dessert.
8. Try out the bright green pay phones.
7. Drink sake — but always serve others first.
6. Bow to others as a sign of respect.
5. Say “itadakimas” before every meal.
4. Remember that gas pumps are located above (not beside) the car.
3. Avoid anything with the number 3. It’s unlucky.
2. Look for celebrities while you wait at the airport — I saw the Backstreet Boys.
1. When you gotta go, you gotta go — those funny holes in the ground are toilets!

Like most theater students, Jeff Kyrish, ’03 (left), dreamed of the spotlight — but he wanted to be behind it, not in it.

It all began with a trip to Las Vegas, Nev., organized by his high school theater program. Sitting in the darkened theater at the Treasure Island Hotel and Casino, the then 17-year-old was mesmerized by Cirque du Soleil’s Mystère. Before the curtain closed, he had decided to focus his future on the technical aspects of making magic on stage. Today, Kyrish is living his dream as a lighting technician on KÀ, Las Vegas’ newest Cirque show. At 24, he is one of the youngest technicians on the crew and...
Alan Cross, ’92 (below), doesn’t look like the typical fast-walkin’, cell-phone-totin’, black-power-suit-wearin’ New York mover and shaker — he wears a button-up shirt that’s a bit too large tucked in the front but undone in the back, holey jeans and sandals. If you passed him on the street, you’d probably think he was on his way to pull a late-night shift at Starbucks — but you’d be wrong. This laid-back, casual guy has three Emmy nominations to his credit and one of the sweetest jobs in New York City — he’s a freelance writer for Saturday Night Live’s “Weekend Update.”

As an SNL freelancer, Cross is required to e-mail 15 jokes a week to the show. As long as one joke is picked up during the season, he gets to stay on the list. This fall marks his third season — not bad for a former radio DJ who moved to New York at the age of 30 with a dream to write comedy.

He decided that the best way to break into the biz and make connections was to find an internship, but he quickly discovered two roadblocks: He was too old and too qualified for internships that typically went to 19- and 20-year-olds. He finally caught a break from Late Night with Conan O’Brien, which offered him a three-month, unpaid internship with one condition — he had to receive college credit. After every college and university in Manhattan turned him down, he caught his second break with the Universal Institute of Metaphysical Theology, which offered him college-student status and a master’s degree — all for the low price of $59.

Following the internship, Cross wrote for Comedy Central’s The Man Show and MTV’s Celebrity Death Match before landing as head writer for VH1’s Pop-Up Video. “I basically wrote the producers a cocky letter saying I could do a great job on the show,” he said. “They bought it.” After four years and three Emmy nominations, he decided to look for a new writing assignment. A friend of his worked at SNL as an assistant and told him about the freelance writers’ list. He knew immediately that this needed to be his new gig — he just had to convince the show’s producers that he was the perfect man for the job.

After six months of persistence, Cross got a chance to prove himself during a three-week trial period. Even though none of those first jokes made the cut, the producers were impressed with his style and offered him a place on the freelance list. Now, he spends his mornings scouring newspapers for a golden egg — a political faux pas or a quirky news item he can turn into a joke.

“Writing full-time for Saturday Night Live is the job every comedy writer wants,” he said. “For now, I’ll settle for an occasional joke appearing on the show.” — H.C.

Additional reporting by Jamie Larson, ’04.

was hired immediately after graduating from St. Edward’s — a rare exception for the prestigious Cirque company.

When he moved to Las Vegas to begin work, KÀ was little more than an idea shared by the designers and director — there were no scripts. Working as many as 16 hours a day, he and the rest of the crew slowly watched the production take shape. The end result incorporates Cirque’s signature acrobatics and adds martial arts, puppetry, multimedia and pyrotechnics. Unlike other productions, which don’t involve plot, KÀ tells a story of separated twins and their adventures as they search for one another. For his part, Kyrish helped set up the more than 3,200 stage lights and operates one of eight spotlights during the show.

So while Vegas visitors won’t see Kyrish’s name in lights, he wouldn’t have it any other way — instead, they can see his handiwork illuminating the stage. — S.E.
Where there’s water, there are mosquitoes. And where there’s mosquitoes, there’s malaria. And where there’s malaria, there’s Douglas Schuster, ’04 (right).

Schuster returned in July from a three-month research project in Sumatra, Indonesia, where he studied the effectiveness of the antimalarial drug Chloroquine in young children. “Ultimately, treating malaria all comes down to saving money, but it’s a balancing act,” said Schuster, who grew up in Indonesia. “Drugs that are more effective cost more, so they can be used to treat fewer people. Chloroquine is cheaper, but isn’t as powerful.” Schuster’s research helped ensure that Chloroquine was still a viable option for treating malaria.

A graduate student in Yale University’s School of Public Health, he was the only student to receive more than one fellowship to fund his research — Yale awarded him an international travel fellowship and a grant from the Council on Southeast Asia Studies. But before planning and carrying out his research, he had another obstacle to overcome: the Yale Ethical Committee. He was required to write an 80-page response on his ethical ability to work with drugs and children in a foreign country.

“This was not an easy process — but I was more prepared than most students for this type of questioning,” he said. “St. Edward’s gave me the fundamental ability to use ethical reasoning, which is commonly overlooked in the sciences. After being at Yale for a year, I can easily say that the faculty at St. Edward’s is Ivy League caliber.”

Schuster will finish his Master of Public Health in the Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases in May and then begin medical school. He plans to return to Indonesia next summer to continue his research — and hopes to practice medicine there one day. — E.B.H.

Sitting alone in his empty Austin apartment on Christmas morning in 1996, Juan Martinez, ’99 (left), learned a crucial business lesson: the greater the risk, the greater the potential for reward.

A few weeks earlier, the then 21-year-old Venezuelan native had arrived in Austin with no real plan for his future. His family believed he’d be back home in Caracas by June. Instead, Martinez toughed out those first few lonely weeks and saw his risk rewarded with a baseball scholarship to St. Edward’s and a job in the telecommunications industry.

Four years ago, Martinez found himself in a similarly risky situation. He could continue in telecommunications or take a leap of faith into the foreign territory of marketing and design. Not surprisingly, Martinez jumped — he founded web design consulting firm N2View Business Strategies. And last year, he ventured into the print publishing world when he founded NSIDE, a premier business-to-business magazine dedicated to inspiring, educating and encouraging business growth in Austin. The quarterly magazine recently celebrated its first anniversary and now prints...
10,000 copies distributed at more than 325 Central Texas locations. The publication, whose primary audience is successful local business professionals, offers information for everyone from beginners to executives.

Martinez plans to further increase his risk — and potential reward — by launching NSIDE editions in Houston, Dallas–Fort Worth and San Antonio within the next year. His latest entrepreneurial adventure, currently in development and set to launch this fall, is challenging another business adage — never mix business with pleasure. See for yourself at SwingPong.com. — S.E.

Riots, teen gangs, bullying in schools — Leslie Matula, ’98 (above), couldn’t bear to turn on the nightly news in the early 1990s. Disturbed by all-too-frequent reports of youth violence, Matula decided to take action in her hometown of Houston.

In 1992, she founded Project Wisdom, a program designed to build character and confidence in children. Project Wisdom sends out a positive message to kids — literally — by supplying schools with daily inspirational quotes and stories along with prompts for class discussions. Within the first few years, she had more than 200 clients. “It wasn’t hard to convince teachers and principals to try it out,” she said. “It’s easy to implement — it just takes one minute each morning — and we’ve seen great results.”

In fact, in response to an online survey in 2002, 98 percent of administrators said that Project Wisdom fosters an understanding of multiple perspectives, and 67 percent said the program helped decrease teasing and bullying within their schools. Teachers and principals have also reported decreases in detention referrals and suspensions and positive impacts on teacher morale. Today, Project Wisdom is employed in more than 13,000 schools across the country in grades K–12.

One of Project Wisdom’s greatest successes — and biggest challenges — is crafting messages that cross racial, religious and socioeconomic boundaries. To try and reach as diverse an audience as possible, Matula and her content development team of seven draw inspiration from their own families. “My parents were my role models,” she said. “My mother was second-generation Italian, and we were raised to have a clearly defined sense of right and wrong.” Matula’s two sons, now grown, also help her understand what children today need to establish strong character during and beyond their formative years.

“I’m proud of the team of people I work with and what we’ve done together. I couldn’t have done this without a lot of help,” said Matula, who recently helped launch another program, called MindOH!, which focuses on character education through ethical development. “Building character is all about core values — teaching a child to understand them, care about them and act on them.” — J.G.

For more information about Project Wisdom and MindOH!, visit www.projectwisdom.com and www.mindohfoundation.org.
Que

Grilling up the best barbecue in the Lone Star State is no picnic. Just ask Rebecca Jones, '85 (right).

Jones has competed in regional barbecue cook-offs across Texas for the last decade, pitting her secret-recipe Que Queen Barbecue against upwards of 100 cooks at each competition. A regional finish in the top 10 earns her additional points toward her ultimate goal — a berth in the state championship.

In fact, she has competed in the Lone Star Barbecue Society's state championship five times — and placed in the top 10 every time, including a second-place finish in 1999. Though she makes a mean brisket and spare ribs — she regularly places in the top 20 when she competes in these categories — chicken is her specialty.

The key, she says, is being able to adapt your recipe to the tastes of the region. “In north Texas, they like their sauce gooey and sweet, but in the south, they like no-frills meat. You have to follow the trends.” But being one of the best cooks in the state also has a downside — everyone wants to know her recipe. All she’ll reveal is that “the key is temperature control and a special blend of spices.”

Jones learned from one of the best. She apprenticed with Giddings chef Harley Goerlitz, who is featured in the Legends of Texas Barbecue Cookbook as the “Winningest Barbecuer in Texas.” Even before perfecting her barbecue recipe, Jones was a state-winning chili cook. She competed in chili cook-offs for six years before venturing into barbecue, and her team won the grand prize in 1995 at the 25th Annual Republic of Texas Chilympiad in San Marcos, one of the world’s largest chili cook-offs at the time with nearly 600 competitors.

These days, Jones is taking a break — she’s “burned out” on barbecue. But she still fires up the grill, occasionally catering friends’ weddings and cooking for her family. “Grilling at home means I can enjoy good company and good food without the pressure of traveling and competing,” she said. “For me, the best part of barbecuing is spending time with loved ones.” — S.H.

Revitalize

When he’s not traveling to far-flung Texas cities to help them preserve their historic downtown areas, Robert Johnson, MLA '05 (left), can be heard strumming his guitar to songs ranging from jazz classics to “new wave” rock of the 1980s. Johnson, an economic development specialist for the Texas Historical Commission’s Main Street Program, cites one particular early ’80s tune as inspiration for his work — The Pretenders’ “My City Was Gone.” The song describes an Ohio town in which none of the beautiful buildings remain and the landscape has been “reduced to parking spaces.” For Johnson, the threat of losing historic buildings is a serious one. “It’s like that song. These buildings represent people’s collective memory, their history,” he said. “And once they’re gone, they’re gone.”

If the Pretenders’ song represents a worst-case scenario of urban management, most of the 84 Texas cities participating in the Main Street Program are, according to Johnson, doing things right. They want to maintain what he calls “the unique sense of place and identity” that their older districts impart — it’s just a matter of finding the funds, and the vision, to revitalize these areas.

That’s where an economic development specialist comes in handy. After cities apply to the program and are accepted, Johnson points city managers to state grants, tax credits and other resources allocated for improvement efforts. He also works with local business owners on implementing more-competitive business strategies for self-preservation. He advises, for instance, that smaller downtown stores modify their hours to stay open into the evenings and on weekends — when most retail transactions take place. And he suggests that small-business owners pay
attention to the little things that the big chain stores do to successfully market their goods.

Case in point: He once asked a hardware store owner in a Main Street downtown to name the store's top-selling product — paint — and then to point out the product's location. The storekeeper aimed an outstretched finger at the very back wall. “But if you look around in the chain stores,” offered Johnson, “you’ll see the popular items just to the right of the entrance,” where people tend to head upon entering. The owner ultimately reorganized — he moved the paint and then watched its sales jump nearly 40 percent the next month.

Even though the Main Street Program's quantifiable impact is impressive — $860 million of private funds have been reinvested in Texas downtowns, more than 18,200 new jobs have been created and more than 4,600 new businesses have emerged — downtown revitalization isn’t just a numbers game, Johnson says. “It also involves instilling a preservation ethic in whole communities.”

And until what he refers to as “the big box stores” — and their expansive parking lots, of course — become backdrops for wedding photos or popular tourist destinations, Johnson expects the value of historic revitalization to be a pretty easy sell in its own right. — PR.

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As a fifth-grader growing up in Houston, Felecia Williams, ’99 (below), witnessed a group of schoolmates vandalizing the track coach’s car. She contacted the police, who were able to apprehend those responsible thanks to her tip. Williams’ ability to aid the police — along with the overwhelming feeling that those in her urban community needed people to fight for their safety — sparked her interest in pursuing police work as a career.

Williams, who graduated from the Austin Police Academy in 1988, has spent nine years as an APD officer and eight as a detective.

In May, she was promoted and now trains police cadets, leading them through role-playing scenarios like family violence situations and burglaries. Her job as a trainer comes relatively easily for the 17-year veteran.

“I’ve experienced more scenarios than you could imagine during my time as an officer and detective, but I’ve truly been blessed to have had so many positive experiences with the people in this community that I, too, am a part of,” she said. “Many know me by my first name.”

A big part of the job for Williams is learning to look at life from every possible angle and perspective — a skill she learned at St. Edward’s. “The most satisfying part of my career is when citizens of any age or background approach me and thank me for what I did for them — whether it was talking with them, listening to them, taking a genuine interest in their situations or, yes, even arresting them.” — AP.

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As Josh Ruddell, '95 (left), walks across the tarmac to his A-10 fighter jet, he looks a bit like Tom Cruise's character Maverick from the movie Top Gun. Sporting a leather bomber jacket and a pair of Ray-Bans, he is cool, confident and collected. There are a few differences between the two pilots, though — Ruddell flies for the Air Force, not the Navy; he doesn't have a co-pilot because his A-10 is a single-seat fighter; and he's “never buzzed a flight tower,” he says.

His primary mission is to provide close air support for U.S. ground troops in combat situations and participate in combat search-and-rescue missions, where he locates and protects aircrew shot down or caught behind enemy lines. Armed with up to 16,000 pounds of weapons and a 30 mm GAU-8 that fires 3,900 armor-piercing rounds per minute, Ruddell and his A-10 “Tank Killer” are up to the task.

But the reality of being a fighter pilot is considerably different than the stereotypical Hollywood portrayal, Ruddell says. Between the planning, briefing, flying and debriefing, the flight crew can spend up to 16 hours on a two-hour mission. “Pilots are often glamorized because we’re the ones flying the jets,” he said. “In reality, it takes a network of people to fly missions safely — without good maintenance support, we wouldn’t have any jets to fly.”

Upon final inspection, however, Ruddell may have a little bit of a Maverick streak in him after all — he admits that cruising 100 feet above the ground at 350 miles per hour is a “helluva lot of fun!” — H.C.

When she graduated with a BBA in Business Management, Christi Courtney, '01 (right), owned a closet full of suits and sensible shoes — perfect for taking her from business school to law school and eventually into the courtroom. But before heading to law school, Courtney booked a summer getaway to Cozumel, Mexico. Already a certified diver with an interest in underwater photography, she planned to explore Mexico’s coral reefs.

Four years later, she’s still there. Inspired by the culture and diving opportunities in Cozumel, she extended her trip and began working for local dive shops. In 2002, she officially replaced her business suits with bathing suits and scuba gear when she opened her own business, Blue XT Sea Diving, on the island.

But Courtney’s dream job isn’t always a day at the beach. She starts preparing for the day’s dives with her staff of four at about 5 a.m. Between leading or coordinating dives, managing paperwork, washing towels, baking, preparing for the next day, and answering calls and e-mails about future dives, Courtney rarely leaves before 8 p.m.

“When I first started, I was diving every day; now, I spend more time in the office than in the water,” she said. “Once I figure out how to take my laptop underwater, the world will be a much better place!” But even out of the water, Courtney’s business is thriving — her attention to detail and personalized services, like the homemade muffins and tropical fruit she provides for each dive, have won her plenty of fans and repeat customers. — S.E.
A “call within my call,” that’s what former Holy Cross Brother Jim Hanson, ’66 (above), answered when he founded Hermanos de Juan Diego.

With permission from the Diocese of Austin and the Holy Cross Brothers, Brother Jim resigned his position as a Religious Studies faculty member at St. Edward’s to form the hermanos in 1985. Three years later, he received a papal dispensation of his vows in Holy Cross, which allowed him to renew his vows in the Constitutions of Juan Diego.

“After 25 years as a Holy Cross Brother, it was both a transition and a celebration as I intensified my vows in a more austere life,” said Brother Jim. Recognized officially as a society of apostolic life, the hermanos originally set out to train Hispanic ministers and lay Catholic leaders in East Austin. In 1992, members relocated to Mexico.

They live in mendicant poverty “by faith and begging” among the people they serve, most of whom live in tugurios, or slums, on the northern outskirts of Mexico City. It’s a fitting locale for an order named for St. Juan Diego, the poor Indian peasant who became Mexico’s first indigenous saint. In fact, the order’s novitiate is in Tulpetlac Ecatepec, next door to where St. Juan Diego lived.

Their work focuses on providing a spiritual connection to the poorest of the poor. “We believe very strongly that every human being has a spirit and that giving food and clothes is not enough,” said Brother Jim. “We encourage everyone to let the Holy Spirit teach them to be joyful and hopeful and to recover their human dignity in the midst of poverty.”

The brothers — now joined by the Sisters of Juan Diego and a secular third order, Ayudantes de Juan Diego — fill their days with silent prayer, parish ministry and fellowship with the local community. Near the novitiate, the brothers have opened Centro de Juan Diego, a home for their spiritual, educational and occupational community outreach programs. They also have a contemplative house, Monte Alverna, in Acelotla, Hidalgo. There, the brothers retreat to renew themselves in eremitical silence, and the local community conducts outreach programs for the rural poor.

In the past year, Brother Jim has worked to forge connections with artists in Central Texas — including St. Edward’s University alumni and faculty members, like Associate Professor of Photocommunications Bill Kennedy — to support the brothers’ efforts to teach art as a way of helping the poor develop new sources of income.

“Brother Jim and I have had many conversations about using art not only to bring what the hermanos do to the people but also to enrich those people’s lives,” said Kennedy. “If you learn art, it’s like learning a language. It expands your frame of reference and how you understand yourself and the world.

“I’ve been friends with Brother Jim for a long time, and what I’ve learned from his work is how valuable it can be to make a conscious decision to live your life in the service of other human beings.” — C.J.
Where in the World are SEU Alumni?

**California Club**
Nearly 700 alumni live in the Golden State.

**North America:** 20,000+

**Beach Party**
Nearly 500 alumni call Florida home.

**Vive le hilltop**
Eight Hilltoppers call Paris home — five in the French capital and three in good ol’ Paris, Texas.

**Austin Power**
More than 10,000 alumni live in the capital city of the Lone Star State. Two Austinites don’t hail from the Live Music Capital of the World, though: Denise Lake, ’96, and Danny Wright, ’78, call Austin, Ark., home.

**Central America:** 53

**South America:** 52

**Europe:** 58

**Beltway Bonanza**
Nearly 250 alumni live in Washington, D.C., and surrounding areas.

**Chicago:** 165

**Mexico:** 119

**Africa:** 22

**Mission Possible**
About 15 alumni live in Brazil, including Holy Cross Brothers Harold Naudet, ’51; Ronald Hein, ’55; Alfred Ledet, ’55; Leonard Reeson, ’64; and Robert Weinmann, ’66. Brothers Hein and Reeson serve in the Diocese of Santarém, and Brother Naudet is a pastoral associate at Igreja São Felipe Apóstolo. Brother Ledet is a teacher and counselor at Colégio Dom Amando, while Brother Weinmann directs the Centro Comunitário Irmão André.
Athenians Unite
Only one graduate — Dennis Stucker, ’99 — calls Athens, Greece, home, but Stucker can take comfort in knowing there are two other Athenian Hilltoppers, albeit halfway around the world. Joyce Sansing, ’94, and Sarah Tinsley, ’01, hail from Athens, Texas.

Asian Infusion
While the majority of alumni in Asia reside in the Middle East, 24 alumni call Hong Kong home, and four live on mainland China. Japan, Taiwan and Thailand are each home to 16 alumni, and 15 live in Indonesia. There are nine in Pakistan, six in India and three in Bangladesh, while only one alumna — Patricia D’Angelo Abderholden, ’80 — lives in Korea.

Meet in the Middle
More than 150 alumni live in the Middle East — and an alumni chapter was formed in Bahrain last year. (Read about chapter volunteer Atif Abdulmalik, ’88, on page 19.)

Lost & Found
About 6,000 alumni are “lost,” meaning St. Edward’s has no way of getting in touch with them. But there’s good news — it just got easier for you to track down lost classmates. By joining the 1,400 alumni who’ve already signed up for the new online alumni directory, you can check out a list of lost classmates and help “find” them — all while keeping in touch with other alumni and sharing your latest news. All you need to access the directory 24/7 is an Internet connection. Log in today at www.stedwards.edu/alumni.

The Next Chapter
Want to know how many alumni are in your area? Interested in starting an alumni chapter? Contact Alumni Programs at 800-964-7833 or seualumni@admin.stedwards.edu.

Miles Ahead
Andrew Kennedy, ’98 — the only graduate residing in Perth, Australia — wins the prize for being geographically farthest from the hilltop. But Kennedy can stay connected across the miles through the new online alumni directory and the SEU Connect e-newsletter (see “Lost & Found” above and the story on page 27).
David Moeller, ’68 (above), is a detective — of sorts. Through the science of radiology, he investigates what’s making a person sick so he can help them get the appropriate treatment.

In fact, Moeller has built a career capturing X-rays that enable physicians to accurately diagnose disease.

He first witnessed the power of the X-ray as an emergency room volunteer at Brackenridge Hospital in Austin. “The very first X-rays I saw were portable X-rays. At that time, there were no CAT scans to diagnose a stroke, but I had the opportunity to observe a carotid arteriogram, where dye is injected through a needle into the carotid artery and then rapid X-rays are taken of the head. I saw, too, how very helpful those X-rays were to the physician and to saving a life.”

That experience influenced his decision to pursue radiology, though his route into medicine was circuitous. After completing a BS in Biology, he taught the subject at St. Edward’s High School in Lakewood, Ohio. Then, he returned to Austin to work as a disability examiner for the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

After volunteering at Brackenridge, he enrolled at UT–Medical Branch in Galveston. He worked in hospitals for several years after completing his degree and eventually joined other radiologists to found Greater Texas Imaging. The company operates its own imaging center in Bellaire, and employees also work for outpatient imaging centers “from Sugar Land to the Woodlands and every place in between.”

Moeller is passionate about his chosen field. “As technology has improved, radiological imaging is playing a more important role in corroborating a diagnosis,” he said. “Molecular imaging and molecular treatment of diseases — where we are able to see the chemical processes happening in the body — will revolutionize diagnosis as well as therapy.”

And he credits two Holy Cross Brothers, Thomas McCullough and Daniel Lynch, as inspiration for his commitment to invest his work with enthusiasm. “When I was a student at St. Edward’s, there was no way that we could foresee what we would be doing today with magnetic resonance imaging or molecular imaging. However, both of those men were excellent teachers who prepared us well for the future by inspiring us to always find enjoyment in whatever we chose to do.” — C.J.
The first thing Ed Olliges, '55 (left), does when he gets to work in the morning is greet his employees. Chairman and owner of Friendly Ford in Las Vegas, Nev., for its entire 35 years in business, Olliges likes to start his day knowing his staff is doing well, and his favorite part of the job is “seeing employees exceed their own expectations.”

Ultimately, happy workers benefit Friendly’s bottom line. “High employee satisfaction leads to high customer satisfaction.” And high customer satisfaction leads to repeat business, the staple of his success. “You have to earn all of that business — and then you have to go out and re-earn it.”

Olliges and his 286 employees have more than a little experience pleasing Las Vegas car buyers. Friendly Ford recently became the only dealership of its size to win a 12th President’s Award, Ford’s highest honor for customer satisfaction. It also achieved its highest ever national sales ranking this year, breaking into the top five in retail volume for cars and trucks.

If Olliges sounds a bit like a proud parent when he describes his professional achievements, it’s understandable — both son Steven and daughter Dana have followed him into the business. And they all share the necessary faith in the product they sell. In fact, Olliges’ very first car was a ’36 Ford five-window coupe. Nowadays, he can be spotted zooming around in Fords of more recent vintage, including a Ford 500 sedan, Expedition SUV and F-150 pickup. “Just like that old coupe, they’re great cars,” he said. “I love ‘em!”

— P.R.
St. Edward’s High School officially received accreditation in 1924, though its unofficial beginnings coincide with that of the university around 1880. Enrollment boomed during the 1920s, busted during the Depression and began to recover when the high school converted temporarily into a military academy during World War II. By 1962, enrollment had passed 400. The last (and largest) graduating class accepted diplomas in the gym in May 1967, when the school closed due to a lack of space and financial support from the diocese. Nearly four decades later, St. Edward’s High School is an institution — and an experience — captured only in yearbooks, school newspapers and conversations between old friends.

*St. Edward’s University Magazine* sat in on a few of those chats and dusted off the annuals last summer to celebrate St. Edward’s High School — and the St. Edward’s men it reared.

“A man of faith and honesty, of strength of character through self-mastery, of respect for the Christian family and lawful authority, of leadership in the pursuit of good — that is a St. Edward’s man.” — *St. Edward’s High School Handbook*, 1958

Special thanks to St. Edward’s University Archives: Jesse Casarez, hs ’67; Boyd “Corky” Cave, hs ’60; Rudy Cisneros, hs ’69, ’74; R. Michael Grannis, hs ’64, ’68; Frank Moore, hs ’63; Brother Edwin Reggio, CSC; and Mark Skrabacz, hs ’67, for their assistance with this story.
The Holy Cross Brothers who ran St. Edward’s High School strived for “harmonious development of the whole man,” accomplished by educating the heart and the mind. The brothers themselves set the example — many held master’s degrees in their fields, and others worked toward higher degrees while teaching full time. All were committed to their vocation as educators.

School days began at precisely 6:25 a.m., when boarding students readied for breakfast and, if it was Wednesday or Friday, attended Mass. Classes with the day students were next, followed by extracurriculars, supper, study hall, night prayers, an evening snack and lights out at 9:30 p.m. sharp — activity-filled days meant tired eyes closed as soon as heads hit the pillow.

The busy schedule was by design. Students hailed from as far away as China, Liberia and Cuba, and the brothers packed the day with activities to keep boarders from being homesick (and to discourage mischief from boarders and day students alike). Between classes, sports, dips in the swimming pool, band and glee club rehearsals, theater run-throughs, rifle club, scuba club, yearbook staff, preparation for the annual science exhibition, and more, free time was minimal.

Despite the bustle of activity, every student participated in religious education. Boarders were expected to attend Mass regularly, though non-Catholic boarders could attend other denominational services off campus if they wished. The brothers also strongly encouraged parents of day students to require attendance at their own church’s services. Equally responsible for their education were the students themselves, for only a steadfast commitment to self-improvement ensured that students would, in the words of the high school handbook, “live up to the spirit for which St. Edward’s [stood].”

“‘There was always some mischief about that required the greatest of secrecy.’” — Boyd “Corky” Cave, hs ’60

Hearts & Minds

Night Rats & Day Dogs

Even with the activity and example provided by the brothers, St. Edward’s High School students couldn’t resist a little tomfoolery. Occasional “fisticuffs” were necessary to settle disputes, usually between a night rat (as the day students affectionately called the boarders) and a day dog (as the boarders equally affectionately tagged the day students). Despite the rivalry, the clans mingled regularly, with day students inviting boarders over for holiday dinners and long weekends. A day student might also set up a boarding classmate with a cousin or sister and even secretly provide a car — forbidden for boarders — for the evening. This generosity, of course, was not given for free. A six-pack of Lone Star Beer (also forbidden on campus) or weekend lunches at the cafeteria on Oltorf Street were frequently bartered.

For those caught breaking rules, discipline was swift and egalitarian. Those in violation could choose between revoked off-campus privileges for a weekend or a place on the Saturday line-up, where the challenge was to take your “lick” without backing away from the paddle and risking a good ribbing from your friends. Those not in violation of the rules gleefully watched the line-up and eagerly reported every detail of their off-campus adventures — from live music and a juicy steak at Hill’s Café to two-for-one bags of Fritos at the U-Tote-Em grocery store.
Food was on everyone’s mind at St. Edward’s High School. The cafeteria on Main Building’s ground floor wafted the heavenly scent of fresh-baked rolls into the classrooms and dormitories above, making concentration in Brother Francis Barrett’s civics class or Brother Jacob Eppley’s typing class impossible. The beef tips with rice and weekly steak were specialties of the cafeteria staffers, like Daisy, who worked at the high school in the 1960s and made sure table manners were followed to a T. Legend goes that she broke many seniors’ hearts by refusing oft-requested dates.

Broken hearts or not, students craved food even when it wasn’t mealtime. A spot at the head of the lunch line could be bartered for just about anything, like a pack of cigarettes or a date to the Sweetheart Dance. And when stomachs rumbled after lights out, those who were especially brave (or oblivious to the punishment for breaking curfew) would sneak down to the cafeteria for a midnight snack.

The highlights of the high school social calendar were weekend dances — the get-acquainted dance in September, the Halloween party in October (where students came dressed as everything from “ghouls to gangsters to gauchos”), Homecoming in the fall, the Christmas formal, the Sweetheart Dance, and prom. Finding a date was rarely a problem. Most students took dates from nearby St. Mary’s Academy, and practically every day student had a friend or knew a girl — or had a friend who knew a girl.

When the perfect girl was located and an invitation had been extended, students often finalized details via telephone. They shared two booths outside, as well as one phone on each hall where students lived in Main Building. Waits were long, cutting in line wasn’t tolerated, and bribes were routinely offered for a closer spot.

Like the right date, decorations and music were important details. From mistletoe ropes, crepe paper and parachute silk to the occasional papier-mâché object suspended from the ceiling, Holy Cross Brothers Dunstan Bowles (see story, page 8) and Hubert Koeppen transformed the gym for each occasion. Music varied, ranging from the Keynoters and their crowd-pleasing version of the “Bunny Hop” to Nash Hernandez’s Latin rhythms to a coin-free jukebox.

Despite the excitement a dance brought, freshman and sophomore boys were often reluctant to cut a rug. On more than one occasion, a particularly confident girl, tired of being a wallflower, would approach one of the brother-chaperones and demand that he remedy the situation. After much cajoling, a suitable young man would be persuaded, and slowly, other couples would join in. No cajoling was necessary for juniors and seniors, however. In fact, brothers routinely prowled the gym to separate couples dancing too closely and patrolled the area outside to break up any snuggling or necking. When St. Mary’s hosted dances, this task fell to the nuns chaperoning there.

Whether following the rules or bending them, students made the most of each social occasion, for it was an opportunity to see and be seen — and stay out just a little later than usual.

“The term ‘a high school education’ means more than four years of schooling. It comes to mean a way of life, a breaking away, a discovery.”
— The Edwardian, 1967
Football, basketball, baseball and track were the primary sports for the St. Edward's High School Tigers, with golf, soccer and tennis teams added in later years. Along with athletic prowess, diversity on the playing field made the Tigers stand out. The high school had integrated by 1950 — years before the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision and even longer before the ruling began to impact other local schools. On more than one occasion, rivals even refused to play Tiger teams with black athletes. But the students and coaches at St. Edward's remained committed to putting together the best teams based on ability, not skin color.

Players formed strong bonds through regular practices, relying on salt tablets and lemon wedges to stay hydrated, and they also ate pre-game meals together, usually steak, iced tea, honey and bread (no milk because it curdled stomachs). Game-day excitement was palpable. Athletes got out of class early for the ride to the opposing team's school, while everyone's concentration in afternoon classes waned when the opposition's bus rolled into the heart of campus, called Tiger Town by the students.

Even athletic events hosted outside Tiger Town were ripe with opportunities for school spirit. When the football team began playing home games off campus in 1961, student council members masterminded Tigers On Parade during Homecoming. The band — which exalted the creed “You don't have to be big to be good, but you have to be good” — led the procession in the back of a flatbed truck and played the Tiger fight song. The cheerleaders rode in “The Big Cat” — a 1950 gold Cadillac hearse acquired (and accented with Tigers on the doors) by Brother Victor Valla, CSC, and Robert Johnson, hs '64, '75. The football team rode in the “Blue Goose” bus, decorated meticulously by the seventh- and eighth-graders. Each class created a float decorated with vibrant tissue paper tigers attacking the opposing team's mascot with unusual and creative weapons, including a hangman's noose, an axe, a cannon and a motorcycle. The senior class even finagled a real (but caged) tiger onto their TOP float in 1965.

Bringing up the rear were as many as 100 cars, filled with St. Edward's and St. Mary's students. Each year, the driver of the car with the most spirited decorations received the TOP Rod Award during halftime, when the TOP Queen and her court were also announced. The class with the highest attendance at the game won the coveted Spirit Trophy, and the post-game TOP Hop topped off the weekend.
Ed Williams, hs ’44, ’48, of Lafayette, Ind., is currently working on an anthology of poetry. He has two children, Monica and Timothy, and three grandchildren, Chris, Sheena and Samantha.

José (Joe) Roberto Juarez, ’57, of Laredo, received the Carlos Eduardo Castañeda Award at the spring meeting of the Texas Catholic Historical Society. The award recognizes outstanding service in helping the society accomplish its mission of educating others about the Catholic history of Texas and the Southwest.

Austin Maley, ’57, of Roswell, N.M., won first place in his division at the New Mexico Senior Olympics State Games golf competition in August. He also won the competition in 2003 and earned a spot in the national Senior Olympics golf competition, which took place in Pittsburgh, Pa., in June. His 2005 state tournament win guarantees him a spot in the 2007 national competition.

George Kaiser, ’61, of New Albany, Ind., retired from Kaiser Wholesale Inc. in 2001, but he returned to the company last year as CEO. He enjoys traveling with his wife, Ruth, and their four children and 14 grandchildren.

Mike Prendergast, ’62, of Austin, recently got together with Tom Board, ’60, also of Austin, and John Holm, ’60, of Rancho Murieta, Calif., for a round of golf at the new UT Golf Club in Steiner Ranch. “While the course record was not in jeopardy, we all did well in spite of our ages,” joked Prendergast.

Fred McNair, ’67, of Austin, and his wife, Evelyn, traveled to Bangkok, Thailand, in June to attend the 63rd Serra International Convention and the Fourth Continental Congress on Vocations in Asia. McNair has been grants committee chair and president elect of Serra International’s foundation, and he is currently serving as president for 2005–2006.

Dave Uhlik, ’67, of Rockport, Maine, retired last year after 23 years teaching and working in pharmaceutical research and development. He enjoys living on the coast, gardening, reading, writing and volunteering at an extended-care facility in Rockport.

Don Cellini, ’71, of Manitou Beach, Mich., received the 2005 Teaching Excellence Award from Adrian College in August. He is a professor of Modern Languages and Cultures.

Dan Morrison, ’73, of Castro Valley, Calif., has taught in the Hayward Unified School District since 1974. He has worked primarily at Tennyson High School and was director of activities and yearbook advisor for 10 years. He plans to retire in 2007.

Richard Lamb, ’75, of Fulton, is working to garner support for a presidential proclamation establishing National American Waters Heritage Month. Lamb also founded the U.S. Maritime Literature Awards.
Nate Thomas, ’79, of Los Angeles, Calif., is a tenured professor of Cinema and Television Arts at California State University-Northridge and is head of the Film Production option in the Department of Cinema and Television Arts. He has directed or produced projects ranging from television commercials and music videos to public service announcements and documentaries.

Linda A. Wray, ’81, of Midlothian, has retired from Tarrant County after 17 years as a probation officer. She enjoys volunteering and playing with her grandchildren.

Rozanne (Ward) Curtis, ’84, of Houston, is education coordinator and a professional school faculty member at Theatre Under The Stars. She recently choreographed her first motion picture, On the Rocks, which is scheduled to open next May. She also assistant-directed The Sabre, a Christian film due out next summer. She and her husband, Henry, have a son, Henry Curtis III, who is 10.

James Dale, ’84, of Milliani, Hawaii, is retired from the U.S. Air Force and is president of Honolulu-based DFI, which distributes the Paradise Yellow Pages in Hawaii. “Aloha!” he writes to friends and classmates.

Thomas M. Bolin, ’88, of De Pere, Wis., recently presented “Know Thyself, Know Thy Place: Ancient Wisdom for Modern Man” at the Door Community Auditorium in Fish Creek as part of the St. Norbert Distinguished Lecture Series. He is associate professor of Religious Studies at St. Norbert College.

Anna Swisher, MBA ’89, of Austin, is a board-certified lactation consultant. She co-authored the fourth edition of Counseling the Nursing Mother with its original author, Judith Lauwers. The textbook, one of the key texts for students studying for the international board certification exam, was published this year by Jones and Bartlett.

Heavy Medal

Capt. Dennis A. Sanchez, ’95 (above, with Iraqi children), earned the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for heroic achievement and distinguished combat service last year. The official award summary cites Sanchez’s training, tactical knowledge, combat skill, leadership, and reputation for being fair, direct and bold. He gained that reputation by coordinating an innovative supply-buying program to improve relations between troops and locals — and by distributing those supplies to residents in hostile towns and neighborhoods. His unit even collaborated with an elementary school principal to build a playground.

Sanchez began his second tour in Iraq on July 4 and is continuing the work he was trained for. But he knows the cost well. During his first tour, 22 Marines in his unit were wounded in action, and two were killed. “My young Marines are so brave. I will never forget their sacrifice — for our great country and for another country in need.” he said. “As a Marine and an officer, that is the job. When you have the opportunity to use your skills, you step up.” — Joan Vand, ’03

ALUMNI EVENTS

Dec. 15
Fall Graduation Party
Celebrate graduation with the newest group of alumni

Feb. 10–12
Homecoming 2006
(See details, page 42)

DALLAS
Nov. 2
Monthly Happy Hour
For more information and a complete list of ongoing events, visit www.stedwards.edu/alumni.
What’s New on the Web?

Your complete Homecoming 2006 planning guide is now online — just click “Homecoming 2006” at www.stedwards.edu/alumni to start planning your trip back to campus Feb. 10–12. Here’s a look at the resources you’ll find on the web.

The Latest Event Details
The Friday night kickoff reception, Hilltopper basketball and the pre-game tailgate party, the Athletic Hall of Fame induction, Sunday Mass — all your favorites are back this year, plus new events like campus tours that include the new Jacques Dujarié Hall and the John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center construction site (see stories, pages 2 and 10). Also find out about the MBA Distinguished Alumni Award ceremony and special events for alumni celebrating their 50th, 25th, 10th and 5th class reunions.

Early Bird Registration
Registration is quick and easy thanks to the user-friendly online form — and alumni who register by Dec. 15 can take advantage of a discounted price. Early birds will also be entered into a drawing for an “Austin Weekend” package including a hotel stay during Homecoming and a gift basket of uniquely Austin goodies.

Between Now and Then
Homecoming isn’t until Feb. 10–12 — so after you register, check out the latest alumni events happening across the country and in your hometown. From networking happy hours and receptions with President George E. Martin to holiday service projects and career panels, reconnect with old friends and classmates before the big Homecoming shindig.

www.stedwards.edu/alumni

90s cont.
to hear from classmates, especially baseball teammates from 1990 to 1991, at MRaceMann@aol.com.

Matt Lankes, ’91, of Austin, was one of seven photographers featured in the Austin Museum of Art’s “Capturing the Soul of a Musician” panel, which took place in June.

Brian Rawson, MBA ’91, of Austin, was named director of service delivery for the Department of Information Resources in June. Previously, he was CIO for the Texas Education Agency.

Annette Chavez-Alvarado, ’92, of McAllen, was recently elected vice chair for McAllen’s Community Development Board. She and her husband, Michael, honeymooned on a 12-day Caribbean cruise, including a stop at the Panama Canal, in January. Classmates Kim Edwards, ’89; Doug Godinich, ’91; Johnny Gonzalez, ’92; and Cristella Elizondo-Garcia, ’94, attended their wedding.

Jesse Dominguez, ’92, of Austin, was named CPA of the Year in Industry, Government and Education by the Austin Chapter of the Texas Society of CPAs in May. He is controller of the Texas Motor Transportation Association and is responsible for TMTA financial management and human resources. Last year, he was TSCPAs Young CPA of the Year. He and his wife, Laura, have a daughter, Corina, 7. He would like to hear from classmates at jesse@tmta.com.

Croschelle Harris, ’92, of Washington, D.C., completed her Master of Public Administration at Syracuse University in June 2004. She taught in Romania through a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship, and in January, she was sworn in as a Foreign Service Officer for the U.S. Agency for International Development.

J. Hollis Bone, ’93, of Round Rock, was promoted to senior vice president and business banking manager with Wells Fargo Bank in July. Bone is also on the Board of Directors for the Williamson County Crisis Center, is president of the Central Texas chapter of the Risk Management Association, is a board member and volunteer instructor for Junior Achievement of Central Texas, and is a member of the Leadership Round Rock Planning Committee.

Anna Marie Amezquita, ’94, of Moreno Valley, Calif., is a tenured English instructor at Riverside Community College’s Moreno Valley campus. She also coordinates the writing center and Puente Program, which strives to increase the number of educationally underserved students who enroll in four-year colleges and universities.

Ross Fischer, ’95, of Kendalia, was appointed to the Texas Ethics Commission by Gov. Rick Perry in July. The commission administers and enforces laws concerning political contributions and expenditures, political advertising, lobbyist activities, and the conduct of state officers and employees.

Fischer is assistant chief for the State Bar Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel and a certified mediator.

Esmeralda Lozano, ’95, of La Feria, was recently promoted to assistant vice president of marketing for the Council of South Texas Economic Progress.

Capt. Dennis Sanchez, ’95, of Twentynine Palms, Calif., is currently serving his second combat tour in Iraq. He received the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for heroic achievement and distinguished combat service in 2004. (Read more about Sanchez on page 41.)

Evonne (Macias) Gottsch, ’98, of Corpus Christi, started a monthly newspaper called FYI Lifestyle, Arts & Entertainment last year. She also volunteers with the Art Museum of South Texas and is executive producer of the Velocity Games, an action sports event held every Memorial Day Weekend in Corpus Christi.

Laura-Beth Hatem, ’99, of Houston, is marketing communication manager at PROS Revenue Management. She and her husband, Kevin, recently celebrated their second anniversary.

IN MEMORIAM

Edward Lonnie Langston, hs ’56, of Lubbock on April 8.
James Eugene Toups, ’34, of Baton Rouge, La., on Feb. 28.
Jack Sterling Snowdy, ’52, of Reserve, La., on June 20.
Thomas R. Stouliol, ’70, of Tulsa, Okla., on May 27.
Ronald Duval, MBA ’72, of San Antonio on April 17.
Lt. Col. Lucy Pinto Bland, ’72, of Akron, Ohio, on Aug. 27.
Walter B. Cooper Jr., ’73, of Manchaca on May 13.
Catharine Goth, ’78, of Bremen, Maine, on Aug. 9, 2004.
Linda L. Tehee-Kees, ’82, of Duncanville on March 4.
Bradley Christopher Scott, ’94, of Dos Edwards Ranch, N.M., on May 1.
ALUMNI NOTES

ALUMNI UPDATES FROM HURRICANE KATRINA

Bernard Cleary, '81, of Metairie, La., and his wife, Laura, evacuated 75 miles to their son’s home in Baton Rouge on the fringe of Hurricane Katrina. There was light flooding in their neighborhood, far less devastating than in New Orleans, and damage to their house was slight. They returned to commence cleanup up on Sept. 16. He thanks Brother Simon Scribner, CSC, and the St. Edward’s community for their prayers.

Dwight Luckett, ’80, of Canton, Miss., and his wife, Beverly, sustained wind damage to their home but have nearly completed the cleanup. They were without utilities for a week but feel blessed to be alive. They ask that alumni pray for residents on the Gulf Coast and in the New Orleans area.

Lynn Russell, '91, of Walker, La., experienced 100-mile-per-hour winds and a tornado, and she has been busy cleaning up branches and debris. Though her job has been shut down for several weeks, she is volunteering by answering phones, maintaining the Louisiana Hemophilia Foundation’s website and helping to unload trucks arriving with emergency supplies. A licensed massage therapist, she is also giving chair massages each week to Red Cross volunteers.

C. Patrick Gendusa, ’92, of New Orleans, La., and his parents evacuated to his brother’s house in Baton Rouge, though he has not yet been allowed to return to New Orleans to assess the damage to his property. He recently relocated to his uncle’s home in Mandeville and has registered with the Federal Emergency Management Association for unemployment and other assistance. Friends may reach him at cpgendusa@bellsouth.net.

Chris Krejcí, '99, MLA ’04, of Baton Rouge, La., sustained mild damage to his residence but has been able to return to classes in the Theatre PhD program at Louisiana State University. For more on the university’s efforts to aid Katrina’s victim, turn to page 4.

MARRIAGES

Annette Chavez, ’92, to Michael Alvarado on Jan. 29, living in McAllen.

Joel Romo, ’94, to Denise Mahnke on Feb. 19, living in Brenham.

Giovanna Arias, ’97, MBA ’03, to Gabriel Garcia-Pons on April 30, living in Miami, Fla.

Michele DeWenter, ’97, to Bill Fanning on April 23, living in Austin.

Wedding Belles

When Michele DeWenter, ’97, married Bill Fanning on April 23, three classmates from St. Edward’s were by her side. From left, Margie Trejo Lohmeier, ’98, who is an associate director of Campus Ministry at St. Edward’s, Stephanie (Spradlin) Eiting, ’97, DeWenter, and Teri Driscoll, ’97.

Campus News

Alumni and Parent Programs staff members spent the summer “on tour” talking with chapter volunteers about how to improve local programs. Look for more conversations — and an expansion of events and programs — this year.

One such program — the new alumni online directory — is already up and running. Through the directory, alumni can update information, share news and accomplishments, and help reconnect “lost” alumni (see story, page 32). To access the directory, click “Stay in Touch” at www.stedwards.edu/alumni.

Alumni also volunteered on panels at parent orientation over the summer and fall. To get involved, e-mail Kippi Griffith, MBA ’01, at kippig@admin.stedwards.edu.

Mark your calendars for Homecoming 2006 on Feb. 10–12. In addition to events for all alumni, the classes of 1956, 1981, 1996 and 2001 will host special class activities (see story, left).

Board News

The alumni board of directors is currently working on several initiatives: providing tools and resources for local volunteers, supporting recruitment by volunteering at college fairs, and encouraging fellow alumni to support The St. Edward’s Fund (see story, page 44). Look for more information in this section in coming issues.

Chapter News

Austin: The chapter assisted with the May Graduation Party and Fourth Annual Alumni Night at the Ballpark and hosted happy hours and career networking workshops. The fall happy hour in September had record attendance.

Chicago: The chapter attended a local festival in August and enjoyed the music of Texas band Los Lonely Boys. Members are now planning monthly gatherings for spring.

Dallas: The chapter will welcome President George E. Martin on Nov. 17 and is planning its annual holiday service project with the Salvation Army.

Houston: More than 45 alumni and family members cheered on the Houston Astros at the chapter’s Alumni Night at the Ballpark in October. The chapter is also hosting First Thursday Networking Happy Hours every month and will welcome President George E. Martin on Nov. 3.

MBA: The chapter hosts quarterly networking events and recently started an alumnae networking group in Houston.

Rio Grande Valley: The chapter is currently planning events for spring. To get involved, e-mail Manny Pandya, ’99, at mannyp@admin.stedwards.edu.

San Antonio: The chapter has hosted several volunteer luncheons and is planning regular events in the area. To volunteer, e-mail Manny Pandya, ’99, at mannyp@admin.stedwards.edu.

Student Alumni Association: Members are increasing membership and visibility through a fall recruitment drive. SAA will also continue to assist with events like the December Graduation Party and Homecoming.

Washington, D.C.: More than 50 alumni and family members watched the Washington Nationals battle the Atlanta Braves in September. D.C. alumni also assisted with admission recruitment in the area and are planning a volunteer brunch for January.

Click “Alumni Association Chapters” at www.stedwards.edu/alumni to find news and events in your area, or call 800-964-7833 or 512-448-8415.

From left: Steven Rocha, ’05, Jay Saenz, ’97, and Yvonne Loya, ’05, mingles at the Austin alumni happy hour at the Roaring Fork bistro in September.

From left: Teri Driscoll, ’97.
Can You Hear Me Now?

If your phone rings this fall and it’s Martha Ledesma, ’06, on the other end of the line, don’t be surprised. She and 50 of her friends are calling you and other St. Edward’s alumni as part of Phonathon 2005.

Students like Ledesma call alumni, parents and friends twice a year, to update contact information, share and record success stories, and publicize upcoming university events. Phonathon also raises donations for The St. Edward’s Fund, which supports student scholarships and programs like Mary Moody Northen Theatre, Athletics and Campus Ministry (see stories, pages 4, 7, 20, 21 and 24).

Ledesma took a few minutes out of her busy calling schedule to give St. Edward’s University Magazine a behind-the-scenes view of Phonathon.

Why did you decide to be a Phonathon caller?
Scholarship money doesn’t raise itself — Phonathon is crucial to The St. Edward’s Fund and ongoing expansion of the university. I’m proud to be a part of it.

How does Phonathon benefit the university?
Through Phonathon, we establish and maintain relationships with alumni and other individuals who support St. Edward’s in numerous ways. Without it, we’d lose a key support system that keeps the university running.

What are misconceptions about Phonathon?
Phonathon isn’t just about asking for money. We also want to expand awareness of St. Edward’s and encourage more people to get involved and attend university events and programs, like Homecoming or career development workshops.

Describe your best call.
A call that stands out is one I made to the father of one of my fellow students. Even though he had limited means, he was very eager to support the school that had provided his daughter with a scholarship. He felt it was important to give — no matter the amount — if only to express his gratitude. Needless to say, his $15 donation really felt like $1,000.

Describe your worst call.
I called an elderly alumnus at 8:30 p.m. — and I got scolded for it!

How many hours a night do you call?
Three hours a night, five nights a week for the six-week duration of Phonathon.

Why is giving back to St. Edward’s important?
It’s one of the many ways to give back to the school that has given so much to its students. I’ve gained an enormous sense of satisfaction and purpose knowing that my efforts enable future students and faculty to share in the St. Edward’s experience.

What is the best part about the job?
Making new friends and strengthening connections with old friends — and the free food Alumni Programs provides, of course!

What would you like people to know about Phonathon?
All of the callers participating in Phonathon are students — so please be nice to us!

— Hans Christianson

Kudos, Alumni!

Nearly 2,000 alumni contributed to The St. Edward’s Fund in the 2005 fiscal year and provided everything from new library books and athletic equipment to student scholarships and faculty grants.

What’s more, this year’s 14 percent alumni giving rate includes more young alumni and first-time contributors than ever before. And the percentage of alumni who give back to St. Edward’s — no matter how big or small the gift — is one of the factors that organizations like U.S. News & World Report use to calculate annual university rankings (see story, page 5).

How can you help? Listen for your phone to ring — students like Martha Ledesma, ’06 (see story, right), will be calling you this fall as part of Phonathon 2005 to benefit The St. Edward’s Fund.

90s cont.
Elisa Macias, ’99, of Corpus Christi, is director of community relations for the Corpus Christi Hooks, the Double-A affiliate for the Houston Astros.

Alex Meade, ’99, of Brownsville, is manager of business development for the Harlingen Area Chamber of Commerce. He is responsible for strengthening Harlingen’s retail industry and assisting the chamber president with Texas Economic Development Council marketing.

Cynthia Diaz de Leon, ’00, of Harlingen, teaches third grade at Rangerville Elementary School. She was one of 30 finalists — out of more than 3,000 nominations across the state — for the 2005 H-E-B Excellence in Education Award.

Arlene Marie Glowe, ’00, of Newport, R.I., was elected to a two-year term as eastern regent of Kappa Gamma Pi, the National Catholic College Graduate Honor Society. Over its 79-year history, more than 45,000 graduates of Catholic colleges have been nominated to the organization for outstanding scholarship, leadership and service. Almost 700 have been nominated from St. Edward’s University since 1970.

Leonard Noel, ’00, formerly of San Antonio, finished a Master of International Relations from St. Mary’s University in 2004 and joined the Peace Corps. He is currently working to develop municipal infrastructure in Paraguay.

Rosey Solis-Guerra, ’00, of Edinburg, finished an MS in Educational Management from the University of Houston–Clear Lake in May. She is now assistant principal at Lincoln Middle School in McAllen ISD.

Lydia J. Morgan, ’02, of Boston, Mass., is an agricultural specialist for the Custom and Border Protection Division of the Department of Homeland Security.

Lisa Cisneros, ’03, of Kyle, is currently working on an MA in Counseling at St. Edward’s.
Michelle C. Colaninni, '03, of Frisco, was recently promoted to senior relationship manager for First Horizon Home Loans in Dallas. She specializes in residential mortgage loans.

Inez Flores, '03, of Austin, was one of six teachers in Texas awarded the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Scholarship last summer. She spent three weeks in Japan learning about the culture and planning a lesson on diversity for her fourth-grade class at Dawson Elementary School. (Read more about Flores on page 24.)

André Ford, '03, of Houston, participated in the National Black Theatre Festival in Winston-Salem, N.C., in August. Ford is currently working in New York City at the Covenant House, which advocates for at-risk youth and works to raise awareness about youth-related issues.


Tyler Hotzel, '03, of Houston, received the Rookie Teacher of the Year Award for 2004–2005 and was twice named Teacher of the Month at Sugar Land Middle School last year. He teaches eighth-grade American History.

David Thompson, MLA '03, of Austin, recaptured the National Irish Storytelling Championship in March after a one-year hiatus. His winning story, The King of Elfland’s Daughter, was loosely based on characters and events from the Lebor Gabala Erenn, the Celtic Book of Invasions. Thompson also won the title in 2002 and 2003.

Milissa Tivnan, MSOLE '03, of Austin, is development and marketing director of Girlstart, which was founded in Austin in 1997 to empower girls to excel in math, science and technology.

Katie Storms, '04, of Parker, Colo., was recently promoted to marketing director with David Weekley Homes. She oversees marketing efforts throughout Colorado.

Chris Young, '04, of Erfurt, Germany, is interning with Carsten Schneider, a member of Germany’s national parliament, the Bundestag.


FUTURE HILLTOPPERS

To Diana (Lowther) Manning, '89, and Mike Manning of Corona, Calif., daughter Reyna Lee in February.

To Jason Killough, '91, and Linda Killough of Dallas, daughter Monica Grace.

To Patricia Waschitzki, '93, and Hans Waschitzki of Annandale, Va., daughter Shelby Elise on April 22.


To Amanda (Kelly) Laurence, '98, and Curtis Laurence of Austin, triplets Kathryn Rose, Nathan Travis and Luke Weldon on April 17.

Seeing Triple >>

Amanda (Kelly) Laurence, '98, and her husband, Curtis, of Austin, welcomed triplets on April 17. The future Hilltoppers are from left/Luke Weldon, Nathan Travis and Kathryn Rose.

submit your alumni note

A fun vacation, volunteering, a job change — whatever your news, share it with friends and classmates via St. Edward's University Magazine. Submit your news by Dec. 1 to be considered for the next issue. If your address or other information has changed, please let us know.

Name: ____________________________

Former Name: __________________ Class Year: ______

Address: _________________________

City/State/Zip: __________________ Phone: __________________

E-mail: __________________________

Your News: _______________________

When faxing or mailing your note, please photocopy the form to the right.
Recommend a Hilltopper

Do you know someone who would be a good candidate for admission to St. Edward’s University?

Now it’s even easier to recommend potential undergraduate, graduate or New College students: Just visit www.stedwards.edu/referastudent.

And for every candidate you refer by Dec. 1, you’ll receive a free gift from the Office of Alumni and Parent Programs.

Questions?
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seualumni@admin.stedwards.edu

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