

# St. Edward's

FALL 2003  
VOLUME 5  
ISSUE 1

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

MAIN BUILDING &  
HOLY CROSS HALL  
CELEBRATE  
*100 years*

FALL ENROLLMENT SETS RECORD ■ SEU JOINS PREPAID TUITION PLAN  
JAMES AVERY ON PHILANTHROPY ■ USDA GRANT FUNDS LIFE SCIENCE RESEARCH



# There's an air of celebration at St. Edward's this fall.

As the university prepared to welcome the largest, most academically talented and most diverse freshman class in its history, the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings were released — and St. Edward's learned it had moved into the top tier of master's-granting universities in the West. This latest national recognition followed the high marks St. Edward's received in the most recent National Survey of Student Engagement, which includes data from 135,000 students at 613 colleges and universities. St. Edward's exceeded the national average in all five of the survey's benchmark areas — level of academic challenge, active and collaborative learning, student interactions with faculty, enriching educational experiences, and supportive campus environment.

From fireworks at Hillfest, our annual student festival marking the opening of school, to champagne at the President's Meeting I host for faculty and staff each semester, our community took time to recognize the university's achievements. These events anticipated the observance of Main Building's 100th birthday. As you read about the building's history, I invite you to reflect on the ways its architectural beauty symbolizes the university's commitment to excellence. It is this rich tradition that will guide the future of St. Edward's as one of the best small universities in the country. ■

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George E. Martin".

George E. Martin, PhD

# St. Edward's

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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Main Building's signature red doors have welcomed students, alumni, faculty and staff for more than 100 years. Learn about Main Building's storied history on page 10.

## 100 YEARS



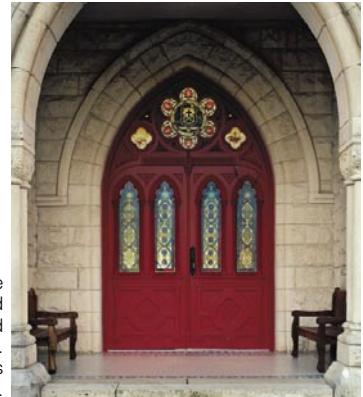
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## MODERN REFLECTIONS



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## ON THE COVER



COVER PHOTO BY BILL KENNEDY

## ST. EDWARD'S JOINS NATIONAL PREPAID TUITION PLAN

St. Edward's has joined more than 200 U.S. private colleges and universities in the Independent 529 Plan, a prepaid tuition plan that allows families to lock in tomorrow's tuition at today's price.

The Independent 529 Plan is offered through the Tuition Plan Consortium, a nonprofit organization formed in 1996 to make education at independent colleges and universities more affordable and accessible to U.S. families. The plan's investments are managed by TIAA-CREF Trust Company FSB, part of a \$282 billion financial services organization that includes the premier retirement system for U.S. colleges and universities.

A parent, relative or friend can establish an Independent 529 Plan account for a student beneficiary with as little as \$25. Contributions must total \$500 within two years of the account's opening. No fees are charged to open an account. Benefits are transferable to the beneficiary's other family members, and refunds are available if the beneficiary receives a scholarship or decides not to attend college.

For full details and information about opening an Independent 529 Plan account, visit [www.independent529plan.org](http://www.independent529plan.org) or call toll-free 888-718-7878.

## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Hispanic Heritage Month, nationally recognized Sept. 15–Oct. 15, spotlighted the traditions and contributions of Hispanic culture. Sponsored by Student Affairs and supported by many university offices and organizations, numerous events — centered on the theme "Mapping Las Américas: Our Journey Begins Here" — were held for the campus community.

Festivities began with a celebration of Mexico's Independence Day and included a lecture on the African influences in Latin America, a performance by the Latino Comedy Project, a Spanish Mass, and entertainment provided by local Hispanic musicians and dancers. There also was a market square featuring local vendors and their merchandise.



**Members of SEU Ballet Folklórico perform during Hispanic Heritage Month.**

## May we e-mail you?

If you would like to receive e-mail updates on university news, please contact us! Just e-mail your name, class year, home address and preferred e-mail address to [cherih@admin.stedwards.edu](mailto:cherih@admin.stedwards.edu).



## HILL AND ZANARDI ATTEND WYE

**Dianne R. Hill**, assistant professor of management and director of the MBA program, and **William Zanardi**, professor of philosophy, attended the Wye Faculty Seminar this summer — and became the first faculty members from St. Edward's to participate in the program.

Co-sponsored by the Aspen Institute and the Association of American Colleges and



Universities, the annual seminar brings together approximately 40 faculty members from liberal arts institutions across the country for a weeklong workshop on the personal impact of American citizenship and government.

Through selected readings, round-table discussions and role playing, participants explore the ideas and values that impact their teaching.

"The seminar was intellectual fun," said Zanardi. "I enjoyed the free-flowing discussion with educational peers from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines about how political views flavor our own teaching styles."

"We discovered that so many of these concepts are embedded in our personal philosophies without our realizing it," said Hill. "The process of internalizing the discussion and then articulating my thoughts was most challenging, but also most inspiring."





## NEW TRUSTEES APPOINTED

The St. Edward's University Board of Trustees welcomed three new members in September.



**Roxann Thomas Chargeois** is the former executive director of the Austin Housing Authority, a former principal with Chargeois Investment and Insurance in Houston, and a former financial officer of JMC Auto Group, parent company of Pavilion Lincoln Mercury in Austin. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Illinois, as well as a bachelor's degree in secondary education and an MBA from the University of Chicago. Active in the

Austin community, Chargeois has served as president of the St. James' Episcopal School Board and on the boards of Laguna Gloria Art Museum, the Austin Women's Chamber of Commerce and the National Charity League.



A retired IBM executive, **Donna Van Fleet** is an active speaker, mentor and advisor on technology and community development. She holds a BS in mathematics from Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania. She has served on boards of the Girl Scouts Lone Star Council, the Long Center for the Performing Arts, Ballet Austin and the United Way Capital Area. Van Fleet is president of the board of GENaustin (Girls Empowerment Network) and has served on advisory boards for the School of Natural Sciences and the Graduate School of Management at St. Edward's.



**Kevin O'Connor, '73**, is an attorney in private practice in Miami, Fla. Previously, he served as president and managing partner of a law firm specializing in medical, insurance and malpractice defense; environmental law; and product liability. A former student body president at St. Edward's, O'Connor earned a BA in history in 1973 and holds a law degree from the University of Notre Dame. Along with his law practice, O'Connor has served as council member and mayor of Miami Shores and was appointed to both the Judicial Nominating Commission of Florida's 3rd District Court of Appeals and the Florida Bar Standing Commission on Professionalism.

Additionally, two trustees were elected to leadership roles: **Larry Franklin**, of San Antonio, was elected treasurer, and **Stephen Jones, MBA '94**, of Austin, will serve as secretary. And longtime trustee **Sister Amata Miller, IHM**, has resigned from the board. Sister Amata has begun teaching at St. Edward's and will work with the newly created Kozmetsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance.

## WELCOME WEEK

At the beginning of every academic year, St. Edward's hosts a series of events to introduce and familiarize students with the campus, its resources and its traditions. This year, Welcome Week extended from Aug. 22 through Labor Day.

While some events were strictly for freshmen, the entire campus community was invited to events ranging from a volleyball tournament, movie nights and barbecues to Topper's birthday party and hypnotist Mark Maverick's performance.

Dean of Students **Lisa Martinez** said, "Every event had a tremendous turnout that created great energy and excitement. It's phenomenal because incoming students get a firsthand look at the level of interaction that is reflective of the general St. Edward's experience."

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## INTERNATIONAL CHOIR TOUR

The St. Edward's Chorale and other university music ensembles, under the direction of **Pamela Stout**, area coordinator of the music program, traveled to New York City and Montreal, Canada, on an international choir tour in May.

Members of the Vocal Jazz Ensemble, the Madrigal Singers, the Omni Singers, and the St. Edward's Chorale performed concerts at The Church of the Epiphany and St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. They also performed a concert and sang daily Mass at St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal. The ensembles sang *a capella* and performed pieces in Latin, Italian and Swahili. "It was rewarding to learn about and experience different cultures," said **Scotty Castro, '06**.

Aside from performing, students toured the cities and saw opera and musical performances, and they visited the Olympic Park in Montreal and several museums. "For the students, watching the organist play and improvise totally without music for the whole Mass was truly incredible," said Stout.

**Participants in the international choir tour visit Rockefeller Center in New York City.**



COURTESY OF PAMELA STOUT

## VP OF UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT NAMED

**Michael F. Larkin** joined St. Edward's as vice president of University Advancement in August. His more than 17 years of experience in educational fund raising — 15 in Catholic secondary and higher education — includes service as associate vice president for development and director of campaign resources at Fordham University in New York City, as well as vice presidencies at Saint Peter's College in Jersey City, N.J., and Polytechnic University in Brooklyn, N.Y. Larkin holds a BA in philosophy from Haverford College and an MS in education from Fordham University. "I am impressed at how the university's distinctive mission continues to guide its strategic priorities today, as it has for more than a century," Larkin said. "It is quite a pleasure to be in a position to help implement the St. Edward's vision under the leadership of President Martin and a dedicated group of trustees."



## THE FUTURE OF FORENSICS

In March, the St. Edward's University Board of Trustees approved a new forensic chemistry program and major. The degree plan builds on the chemistry curriculum and includes courses in toxicology, chemical residue analysis and criminal justice. A required forensic internship will prepare students to work in labs without additional training. The program readies students to pursue similar graduate programs and enter pre-professional programs.

"According to the National Institute of Justice [as reported in *Time* magazine], forensic science is a growing profession, and the United States will need 10,000 more forensic scientists in the next decade," explained **Eamonn Healy**, professor of chemistry. "We're responding to this projected need and preparing our students to succeed in this field."

## OTHER NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS FOR FALL 2003

### Undergraduate College

- BA in Latin American studies
- Women's studies minor
- Creative writing track in English writing & rhetoric major

### Graduate Programs

- MBA & MAHS concentrations in health care management
- MBA in Entrepreneurship (an intensive, two-semester program)

### New College

- PACE BA in Public Safety Management (the only program of its kind in Texas)
- BBA in Human Resource Management
- Computer Systems Management minor through PACE

## SUMMER MUSIC CAMP FOR KIDS

This summer, the St. Edward's music program hosted the second annual Summer Music Camp, which gives elementary students the chance to explore and improve their musical talents. Students from St. Edward's learned to teach music to children through the camp. Activities were designed to support each child's creativity and included piano classes, singing sessions, practice time, arts and crafts, and fun ways to learn musical theory. Children also had the chance to make musical instruments and learn about theater productions.

**Oliver Worthington**, adjunct instructor of music, made a guest appearance to perform and discuss the art of singing opera. **Pamela Hernandez**, adjunct instructor of Spanish, brought her family to the camps, and she, her husband and her children performed using international musical instruments.

According to **Pamela Stout**, area coordinator of the music program, many faculty and staff members — such as **Susan Gunn**, director of the Center for Prior Learning Assessment, and **Dick Kinsey**, assistant to the president — sent their children and grandchildren to the camp. "Our goal is to reach out to the St. Edward's and Austin communities to spread the joy of learning and participating in music," Stout said.

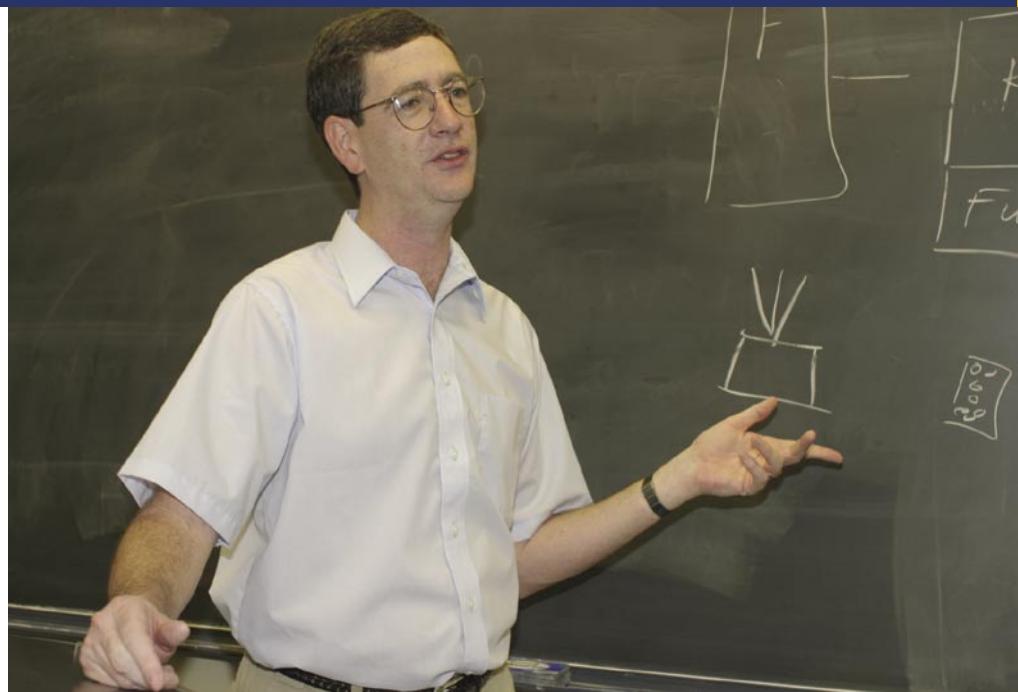


COURTESY OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

**Teachers from Nuevo León, Mexico, visited St. Edward's for a four-week English-language program.**

## MEXICAN TEACHERS STUDY ENGLISH AT ST. EDWARD'S

In June, 20 teachers from Nuevo León, Mexico, took part in a four-week English-language program at St. Edward's. Funded by La Unidad de Integración Educativa de Nuevo León and St. Edward's, the program was designed to improve the teachers' English grammar and conversation skills and to enhance their work teaching English as a second language to Mexican children. While the teachers were on campus, **Lisa Schwarzwald**, director of Continuing Professional Education, organized several events to supplement their classroom learning. More than 30 volunteers from the campus community served as *intercambios*, or conversation partners, hosting the teachers at their homes or treating them to sightseeing or dinner in Austin. During one week, students in the "Spanish Institute" — U.S. Spanish teachers who come to St. Edward's each summer for an intensive Spanish course — were paired with the Mexican teachers every evening to share teaching experiences and practice both English and Spanish over dinner. The Mexican teachers also attended a Foundations in Education course taught by Instructor of Education and Reading **Louise Clark**, where they discussed the differences in teaching in the United States and Mexico and learned about the history of U.S. education. Schwarzwald also organized group outings to take in a play at Mary Moody Northen Theatre, visit Zilker Park, and sample the shopping on Austin's South Congress Avenue and at the outlet malls in San Marcos.



## FACULTY FACES

### Steve Crowl

*Director, Master of Science in Computer Information Systems program  
Assistant Professor of Computer Information Systems*

#### **What do you enjoy most about teaching at St. Edward's?**

I was attracted to St. Edward's by the mission statement. All my graduate work was done while I was working a full-time job. I want to give back for what I've received.

#### **If you weren't a professor, what would you be and why?**

I spent over 20 years working for Fortune 500 and start-up companies. My new position at St. Edward's is the culmination of a transition to teaching I began two years ago. When I announced my new position to a former colleague, he said, "How appropriate — you've been teaching me for 10 years."

#### **Where is your hometown, and what do you miss most about it?**

I'm from Kansas City, Mo. I still have a lot of friends and family I like to visit there. I miss the great snowfalls — just frequent enough to be pretty and not annoying.

#### **What is your favorite class to teach?**

I really enjoy teaching computer-networking classes because it's much easier today with the proliferation of the Internet. I like to discuss the origins and the path to how we arrived where we are today. It is a sequence of researchers solving each problem in concert with the spirit of the Internet.

#### **What historical event would you like to have taken part in?**

The first message was sent between the only two nodes of the Arpanet from UCLA to Stanford during Labor Day weekend in 1969 — that was the beginning of what we know today as the Internet. I would like to have been a part of the excitement. The computer sent the first three letters of the word "login" and crashed.

#### **If you could have a conversation with anyone in history, who would it be and why?**

Tesla. He has received very little credit for his contributions to science. Our current electrical power system is based on his discoveries, in spite of Thomas Edison's efforts to subvert Tesla's contributions. Tesla had a brilliant outlook.

#### **What are your pet peeves?**

Seeing "alot" in print. It is either a lot or allot. Hearing someone say "revert back" is a close second, though less frequent.

*Crowl holds a BS in computer science from the University of Kansas, an MSA in information systems from George Washington University, and an MS and a PhD in computer science from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.*



PHOTOS: BRET BROOKSHIRE

**MMNT's production of *A Flea in Her Ear* was directed by Ev Lunning, assistant professor of theater arts.**



## SEU RECEIVES FUNDING FOR MCNAIR SCHOLARS

In August, St. Edward's University received a four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to begin a McNair Scholars program. The McNair Scholars program is named in honor of Ronald E. McNair, an African-American engineer, scientist and Challenger astronaut who was killed when the shuttle exploded on liftoff in 1986.

McNair Scholars are undergraduate students interested in pursuing PhDs who are typically underrepresented in their fields of interest. A majority are low-income and first-generation college students. Through the program, McNair Scholars benefit from trips to graduate schools, academic counseling, course tutoring, professional conferences, preparation for GRE exams, advice and assistance with the graduate selection and application process, and partial funding for graduate school interviews and faculty-directed summer research.

The grant awards St. Edward's \$220,000 to initiate the program. Funds will be used to recruit students, hire staff, and provide stipends and room and board to scholars during their eight weeks of summer research. Twenty-two students will be selected as McNair Scholars this fall, and 15 juniors will complete summer research projects on campus in Summer 2004.

The new McNair Scholars program is the second for the university. In 1999, St. Edward's joined the CANDAX-ME McNair Scholars program, which is sponsored by the University of Notre Dame and includes partner institutions Clark Atlanta, Xavier and St. Mary's universities. In addition to hosting its own program, St. Edward's will continue to be part of the CANDAX-ME program.

"The mission of the McNair Scholars program is to serve educationally disadvantaged students, something St. Edward's is also committed to," said **Molly Minus**, dean of academic standing and director of the McNair Scholars program at St. Edward's. "With the new grant, we'll be able to serve more students and provide them academic opportunities to prepare them for advanced study."

## MARY MOODY NORTHEN THEATRE PRESENTS

The 2003–2004 season began Sept. 18 with *A Flea in Her Ear*, a classic French farce by Georges Feydeau.

**Ev Lunning**, assistant professor of theater arts, directed the production, which featured Equity Artists Dirk van Allen, David Stokey and **Annie Suite**, adjunct instructor of theater arts.

### Upcoming productions

*Raisin in the Sun*

by Lorraine Hansberry

directed by Melba Martinez

Nov. 13–23

*Amadeus*

by Peter Shaffer

directed by Scott Thompson and

Richard Byron

Feb. 19–March 7

*House Project*

written and directed by J. Ed Araiza

April 15–25

TBA — fun summer fare

directed by Melba Martinez

June 24–July 11

To purchase tickets, call the MMNT Box Office at 512-448-8484.

## BOLIVIAN MOSAICO XII

In conjunction with the Austin Bolivian Association, St. Edward's hosted Mosaico XI — an evening of South American culture on July 26. More than 200 attendees enjoyed live music from the Andes, traditional Bolivian snacks and performances by the Ballet Folklórico Bolivia Magica. South American clothing, art and crafts also were displayed. Discounted tickets were offered to the students, faculty and staff at St. Edward's.

"It is important to encourage multiculturalism and the promotion of Hispanic culture, especially through music and dance," said **Pete Erickson**, assistant director of Student Life. This is the third year St. Edward's has co-sponsored Mosaico with the Austin Arts Commission.

Reporting by Mia Allen, **Cassandra Elizondo**, '03,  
Stacia Hernstrom and Carrie Johnson.

# James Avery: Happiness through serving others

**What recipients of the Ken Bastian Memorial Endowed Scholarship are saying:**



"Thanks to this scholarship, I can enhance my education and my abilities to become a better person in my community. The scholarship is giving me and other students the opportunity to improve ourselves, our future careers and our lives. It's helping us take small steps toward big change."

— **Martin Padilla, '04**



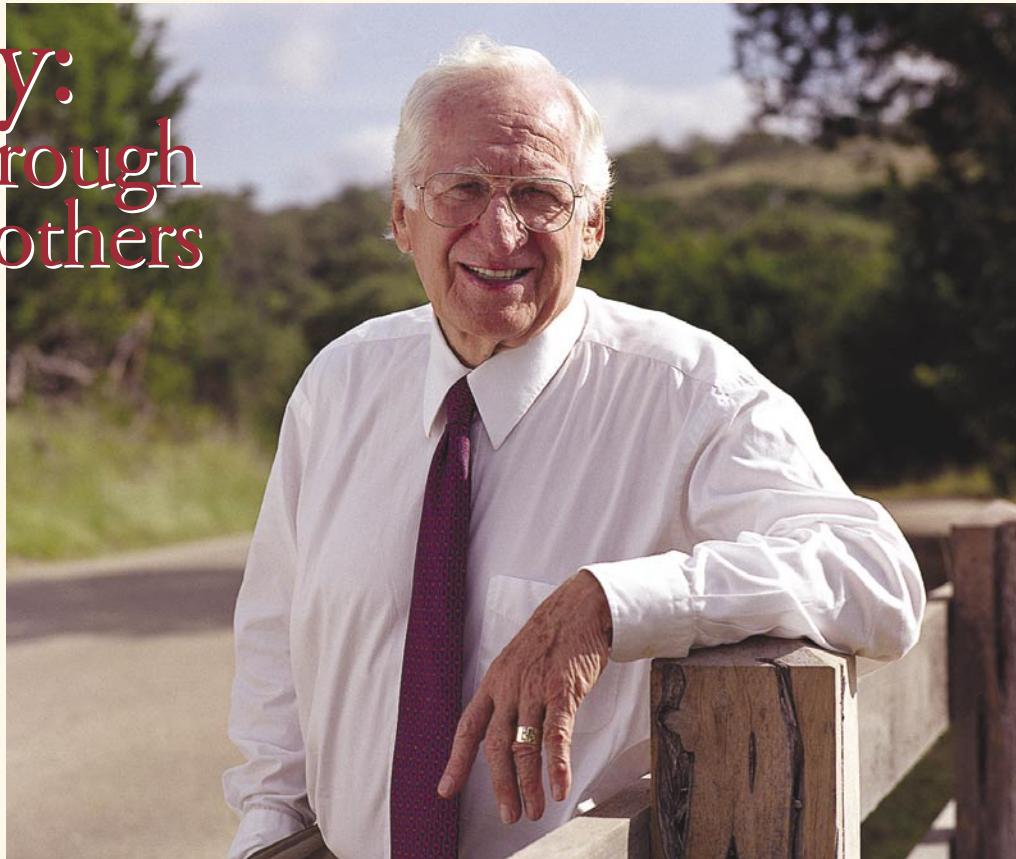
"This scholarship has eliminated a financial barrier in continuing my higher education to become a bilingual teacher. I have benefited from internships that offered me firsthand experience in the classroom, working one-on-one with students. What better way to prepare for my career?"

— **Aime Morales, '05**



"This scholarship is helping me further my education and continue with the goals that I have set to accomplish. The most significant experience I've had at St. Edward's is working with the Community Mentor Program. Helping children from low-income families and looking at every child struggling to come to school yet willing to work hard has been amazing."

— **Marcela Zavala, '06**



**James Avery** finds happiness by serving others. The founder and president of James Avery Craftsman said, "It's so important to help others, especially those who have talent and ability and need just a little support to go on with their education.

"I always tell students, 'You can find the money for college; you can't afford not to go.'"

A former professor of industrial design, Avery left academia and launched his jewelry business in 1954 — in a two-car garage with about \$250 in capital. His dream of creating quality jewelry with lasting meaning and value grew into a successful company now headquartered in Kerrville, Texas. Jewelry from James Avery Craftsman is sold via catalog and 32 retail stores in Texas, Oklahoma and Georgia.

Driving through Austin in the course of his business, he was always aware of the presence of St. Edward's, with its Main Building perched on a prominent hilltop overlooking the city. But he embraced St. Edward's after former President Patricia Hayes introduced him to the university and its values-centered, personalized educational approach. He has recommended the university to several aspiring college students, including a high school classmate of his daughter.

Establishing the **Ken Bastian Memorial Endowed Scholarship** for students in the College Assistance Migrant Program fit naturally with his belief that well-timed financial support makes college accessible to qualified students with limited means.

"CAMP attracted my interest because of its mission to offer educational opportunities to students who are mostly from Mexican migrant families. It's close to my heart because of the association I have with so many similar families in our company whose children are working and looking for opportunities to go on to college and a better education," Avery said.

"I always tell my friends it's easy to give back in service to others. You don't have to give everything you have, and you don't have to give a lot of money. You can reach out to others by encouraging them, by leaving something in your will or by making gifts, including small gifts that add up over time."

The endowed scholarship he created — which has assisted nine CAMP students since it was first awarded in 2000 — proves the wisdom of Avery's words. ■

COURTESY OF JAMES AVERY

# Fall Enrollment Sets Record



FARRAH GRAJ '03

**By Stacia Hernstrom**

On Monday, Aug. 25, fall semester began. Meadows Coffeehouse sold 57 cappuccinos. Students consumed 540 hot dogs at mascot Topper's second birthday party. The Office of Student Financial Services distributed \$827,967 in financial assistance, and 10,731 textbooks leapt from the shelves of the St. Edward's University Bookstore. One television reporter broadcast the day's excitement live from the north side of Main Building.

And 546 freshmen began their first week as students at St. Edward's University.

They make up the university's largest incoming class of undergraduates — 60 percent women, 40 percent men, from 20 states, eight countries, and virtually all faiths

and walks of life. Their average SAT score is 1092, the highest ever for the university. In fact, the average SAT score of incoming freshmen has risen more than 50 points since 1999, when the university adopted seven strategic priorities to reach its vision of attaining recognition as one of the best small universities in the country. One priority calls for increasing enrollment so that more students, like the record-breaking freshman class, can experience the transformative education offered at St. Edward's.

Another calls for recruiting and retaining high-quality faculty and staff. Twenty-two faculty members joined St. Edward's this fall so that the student-faculty ratio remained 14:1 in the Undergraduate College.

But numbers don't tell the whole story. "Our faculty is teaching students from a variety of backgrounds. Our classrooms reflect the cultural and social diversity of our ever-changing world," said **Sister Donna Jurick, SND**, executive vice president. "Such diversity presents an extraordinary opportunity for our students, and we strive to maintain this atmosphere. We want to continue our Holy Cross mission of providing students from all backgrounds with a personalized education that prepares them to address the challenges of society."

Members of the new freshman class embraced this mission in high school. One volunteered over 1,300 hours with Amigos de las Américas, which trains youth to implement community service projects in their hometowns and in Latin American communities. Another was the youngest volunteer to deliver medical supplies to Cuba with MedAid, whose volunteers have transported over \$3 million in supplies to Cuba in the last seven years. And one received a full scholarship to live in Poland for two months as part of the Experiment in International Living, which promotes cultural understanding through immersion programs in 26 countries.

Students' commitment to living the university's mission was equally evident on the first day of class. One planned her campaign for freshman-class senator in the Student Government Association. One signed up for Cybertopia, a Freshman Studies course exploring the impact of technology on the individual and society. One decided to apply for Emerging Leaders, a Student Life-sponsored program for freshmen that develops leadership skills through workshops and service.

On Monday, Aug. 25, the university's 119th year of real-world, values-based Holy Cross education began at St. Edward's University. ■

# INFP

I'm an INFP; I'm idealistic, understanding, curious and loyal to my values. If this reads like a personal ad, it's not. These are my results from the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator survey I took as a freshman at St. Edward's University. The survey identified my dominant personality traits and classified me as an INFP, which means I am an Introvert who is driven by iNtuition, Feelings and Perceptions. From the survey, I discovered that my feelings play an important role when I'm making decisions, such as choosing a college.

The college question floated around in my thought bubble for years. St. Edward's University didn't exist in my world until a friend introduced me to it my senior year of high school. He said it was a small private school in Austin next to El Gallo — one of his family's favorite Mexican restaurants — and

that it was like a castle on a hill. He encouraged me to check it out.

Well, here I am in Austin, but why did I choose St. Edward's University? I chose St. Edward's not because of the impressive statistics, the small classes, the diversity and the stories people shared with me. I am a feeler; I make choices by examining my values and comparing them with the world around me. As an INFP, I responded to a feeling from within.

I knew that St. Edward's University was for me when I visited during SEU Overnight. The program gives prospective students a taste of college life in a two-day period. Visiting students reside with campus residents, attend classes and mingle with Hilltopper students. Although three years have passed since my overnight experience,

**By Rachel Tydlacka, '04**

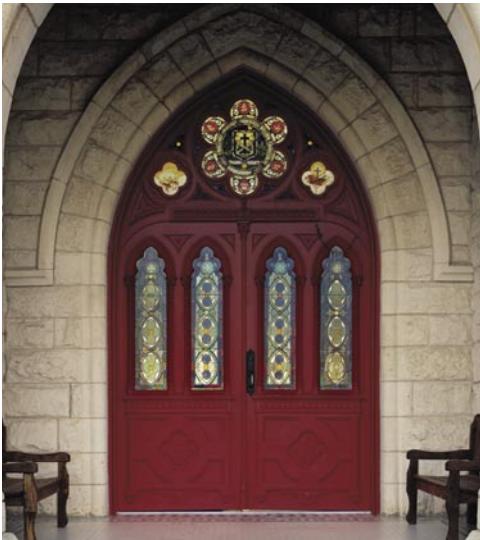
one life-changing moment will always be vivid in my mind.

Three other people and I were taking the scenic route back to East Hall after a performance by the comedy improvisation troupe Fat Buckle. We had just passed Main Building, and I glanced back, seeing the "castle" glowing against the night sky. Then I turned and saw the geometric array of lights outlining downtown Austin. A feeling of warmth engulfed my body. It felt like I'd taken a sip of savory chicken noodle soup on a chilly winter's day — and the warmth was soothing and assuring. Elated, I tucked away my thoughts and joined my new friends in conversation as we sauntered down the steep hill by Mary Moody Northen Theatre. I felt St. Edward's University was where I belonged. ■

*Hilltop Voices features perspectives on the St. Edward's experience in the words of students, alumni and other members of the university community. This essay was written by English writing and rhetoric major **Rachel Tydlacka, '04**, as part of Assistant Professor **Laurie Drummond's** Magazine Writing class.*



JON PATTILO



# MAIN BUILDING & HOLY CROSS HALL CELEBRATE *100 years*

**W**hen a devastating fire swept through Main Building on April 9, 1903 — leaving its two entrances and only portions of its limestone walls standing — the structure was only 15 years old. The Congregation of Holy Cross and St. Edward's University quickly initiated reconstruction. By the fall, Main Building had risen again alongside a new facility, Holy Cross Hall, which then served as a dormitory for the university's expanding student body. Today, Main Building is a registered Texas Historic Landmark, and it, along with Holy Cross Hall and other historic buildings on campus, earned St. Edward's the distinction of National Historic Site on March 16, 1973.

On Oct. 14, 2003, St. Edward's celebrated the 100th birthday of Main Building and Holy Cross Hall. President **George E. Martin** welcomed members of the university and Austin communities to a ceremony marking the occasion. National, state and local officials offered proclamations celebrating the centennial milestone. And the Austin Heritage Society presented a merit award to St. Edward's for its historic preservation efforts. Guests were treated to tours of Main Building, a photo exhibit on the two buildings and, of course, birthday cake. ■



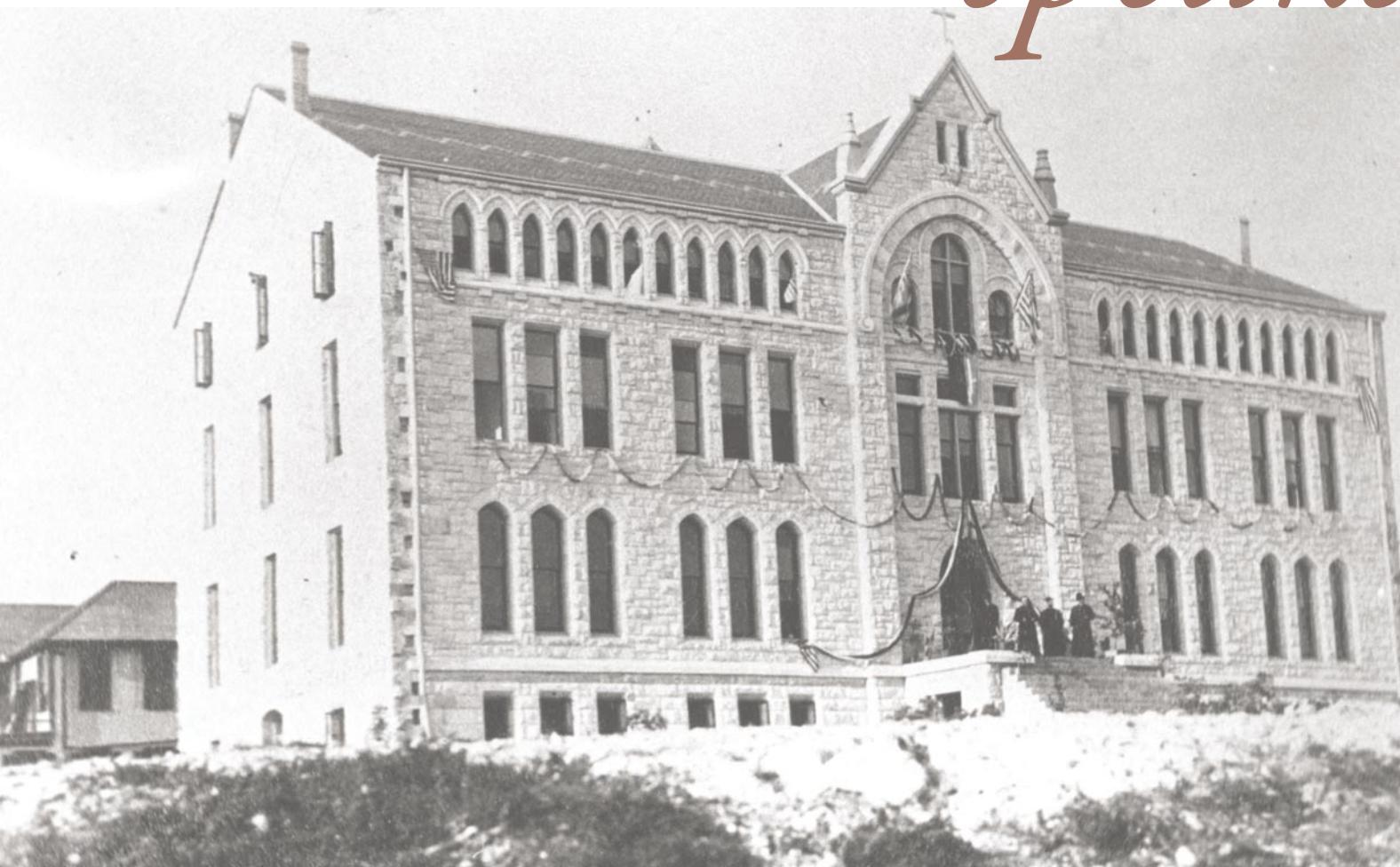
PHOTOS: BILL KENNEDY

*Explore the history of Main Building  
and Holy Cross Hall and reflect on the  
lives they have touched.*



SINCE ITS ORIGINAL DEDICATION IN 1889, MAIN BUILDING HAS OFFERED QUIET COMFORT TO ITS INHABITANTS AND ADMIRERS. THROUGH THEM,

# THE BUILDING *speaks*



Original Main Building, 1889.

## MAJOR EVENTS OF 1903

Henry Ford and 11 investors incorporated Ford Motor Co. in Michigan.

The Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur of Dayton, Ohio, achieved the first successful sustained, powered flight in a heavier-than-air machine at Kitty Hawk, N.C.

The United States leased land at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, to create a naval station.



Above, after the fire, 1903. Below, the *Austin Statesman*, April 10, 1890.

The dedication of an institution of higher learning, to be conducted under the fostering care of an organization whose zeal is proverbial, and whose noble [effects] are benevolence and the elevation of humanity, marks a step in the onward march of progress. In these spacious academic halls will gather year after year an ever increasing throng of eager students seeking to unravel the deeper mysteries of the truth, and the answers here received will do much to guide their footsteps through ... to honorable success.

— Clarence H. Miller,  
Austin lawyer and orator

As paraphrased in the *Austin Daily Statesman*,  
Oct. 11, 1889, on the dedication of the  
original Main Building

\* \* \*

Marie Curie became the first woman and the first Pole awarded a Nobel Prize in physics; she was honored along with her husband, Pierre Curie, and Henri Becquerel for research in radiation phenomena.

W.E.B. Dubois' treatise *The Souls of Black Folk* — on the "strange meaning of being black here in the dawning of the Twentieth Century" — was published.

Pablo Picasso painted *The Old Guitarist*, later counted among the most famous works from his "blue period."

Enrico Caruso made his debut at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City.

On driving up in front of St. Edward's at Austin, I could scarce credit my eyes. There stood the central structure of the college — completed and occupied about a year ago — a magnificent edifice in modern Gothic style built of beautiful white Texan limestone, four stories in height. ...

The corridors are spacious — double stairways run from the basement to the central tower on the top of the edifice. Special attention has been given to light and ventilation. The school furniture is of the latest pattern. The roof is of the best slate. The view from the college [tower] is equal, if not superior, to that from the dome of the capitol. It commands the city, the finely-wooded valley of the Colorado and of hills rising tier upon tier in the blue horizon at a distance of 30 miles.

— Father T.D. O'Sullivan, CSC  
*Notre Dame Scholastic*, March 29, 1890

\* \* \*

St. Edward's [C]ollege, situated on an eminence three miles south of this city, and one of the leading educational institutions in the [S]outh, is reduced to ashes, and what was once a magnificent four-story stone building is now razed to the ground. ... Fire, which originated in the dormitory of the [youngest students], completely destroyed the magnificent structure. ...

Smoke yet ascends, but the damage is done. ... Totally gutted in the interior, the exterior is a mass of leaning walls and crumbling columns that may fall without a moment's warning.

The work of rebuilding the main structure will be inaugurated as soon as plans can be drawn. It is recognized that the institution is a necessity and the fact that all is now ruins will not deter [the] Holy Cross community from replacing the college as soon as possible. Work is commenced to begin as soon as the burned walls are cold.

— As reported in the *Austin Statesman*,  
April 10, 1903

\* \* \*

**AUSTIN  
STATESMAN**

AUSTIN, TEXAS, FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1890.

**MAGNIFICENT ST. EDWARD'S  
COLLEGE A MASS OF RUINS**

Fire Completely Consuming Buildings and Fixtures at a Loss of \$240,000, With Only \$50,000 Insurance.

**THE VERY VALUABLE AND COSTLY  
LIBRARY WAS WHOLLY DESTROYED**

No Casualties Reported--Earl Ray, a Student, Overcome by Heat--Firemen Worked Like Demons to Save Exhibition Hall--Work of Rebuilding Will Begin Immediately.

The most horrible disaster in the history of St. Edward's will be commemorated next month on its 50th anniversary by the launching of the new [u]niversity expansion program.

Groundbreaking for the new library will be the principal commemoration of the terrible fire which destroyed St. Edward's great new [M]ain [B]uilding on April 9, 1903. Construction on the new library is scheduled to begin immediately after Easter.

Thus it will be the same spirit that 50 years ago led the courageous St. Edward's administration to announce the construction of two new buildings to take the place of the one destroyed by fire that will be exemplified here in the new expansion program.

— *The Hilltopper*, March 27, 1953

\* \* \*

Picture yourself cruising southward on [IH-]35, ... you are soon startled by the appearance of a tall, Gothic building, seemingly straight out of Camelot.

Take hold, you say to yourself, ... that fugitive from the Middle Ages can't be real. Ah, gentlemen, but it is.

For what you see is the Main Building of St. Edward's High School. That structure, and its predecessor [destroyed by fire in 1903], were standing long before you were around; and in all probability will still remain long after you aren't. ...

Here at St. Edward's, surrounded by an [aura] of Victorian magnificence into which has been blended the remnants of following eras, it would be hard for a student to forget any such heritage; but lest anyone begin to feel that St. Ed[ward]'s was built ... by some offbeat architect who found the Gothic style easiest to sketch, here are some thoughts to retain. ...

Please remember that in [1888–1889] Main Building was constructed.

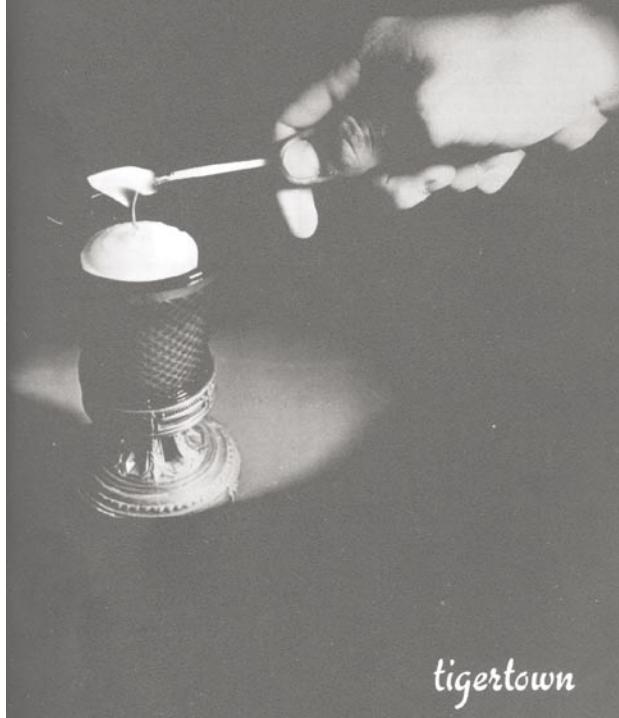
In the 1840s the Oregon Trail was established. The Civil War was over in 1865. ...

Jack London's *The Call of the Wild* was published.

Bob Hope was born Leslie Townes Hope in Eltham, England.

february

64



John Maher, hs '66

tigertown

The cattle drives had just ended, and we still had [a decade] to go before we fought the Spanish-American War. ... [Main Building] was standing here [13] years after the telephone was invented. It was being erected during the Age of Steel and the construction of the first skyscrapers. ...

Main Building has seen a lot of history pass by. It has watched the development of Austin from scrub frontier town to what it is today. ... It is an ageless monument, one which time will never affect.

— **John Maher, hs '66**  
“Tigertown’s Past,” *Tigertown*, Feb. 6, 1964

\* \* \*

The part of the building that fascinates me most [is] the front steps. ... They have been worn away by generations. In a very real sense, we can all say that we have left our mark. However hard and durable that stone is, it is also soft enough to give way to us. Over the years, its hard edges have become rounded and smooth. So when I climb those steps in the morning headed to my office, I am aware as at no other time, that I am following in the footsteps of others.

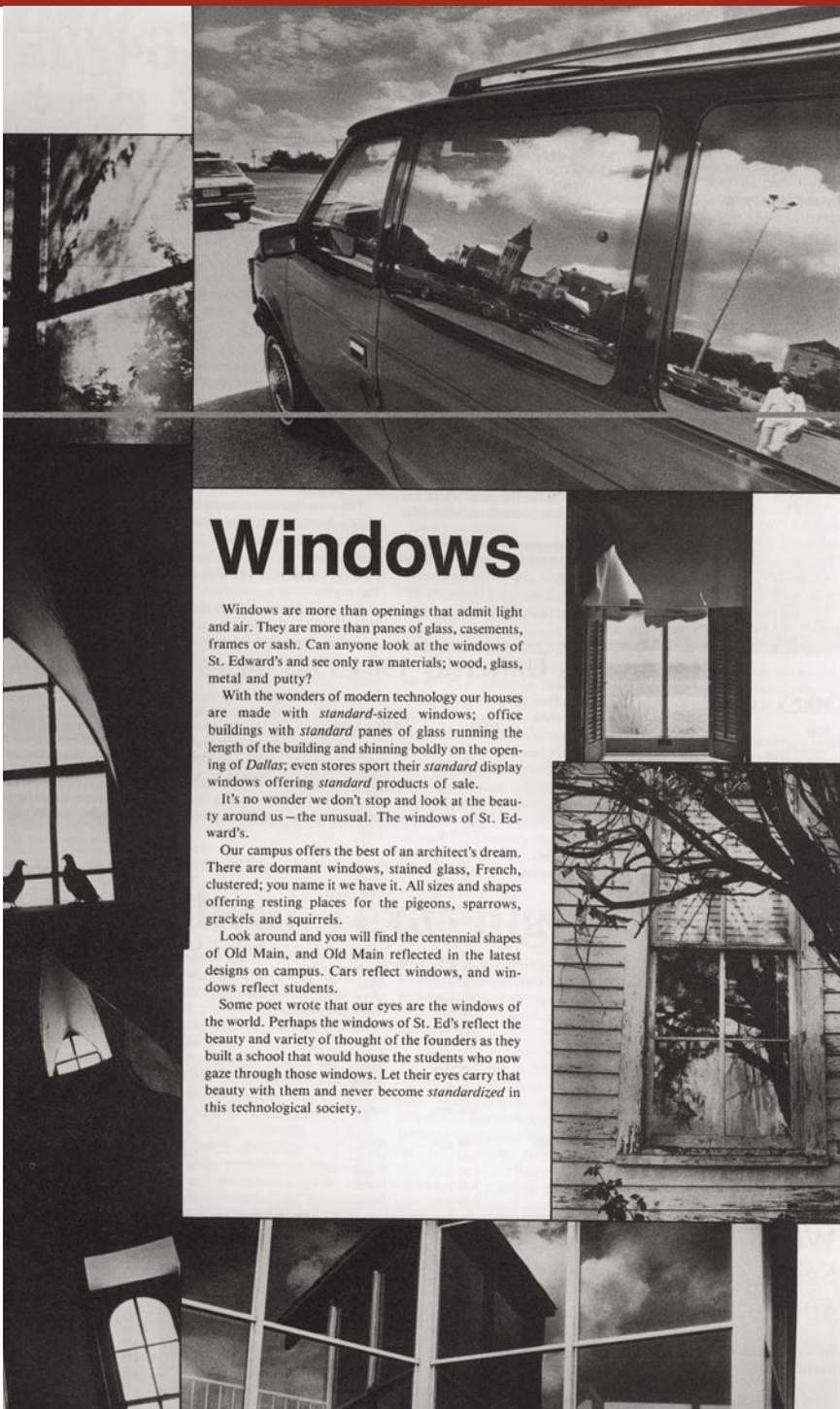
— **Brother Stephen Walsh, CSC,**  
president, 1971–1984  
*The Hilltopper*, Oct. 8, 1982

\* \* \*

The Boston Pilgrims (later known as the Red Sox), champions of the upstart American League, defeated the National League-champion Pittsburgh Pirates in the first matchup of what was later called the World Series.

New York City enacted the first “rules for driving” to regulate motor vehicle traffic.

## MAJOR EVENTS OF 1903



## Windows

Windows are more than openings that admit light and air. They are more than panes of glass, casements, frames or sash. Can anyone look at the windows of St. Edward's and see only raw materials; wood, glass, metal and putty?

With the wonders of modern technology our houses are made with *standard-sized* windows; office buildings with *standard* panes of glass running the length of the building and shining boldly on the opening of *Dallas*; even stores sport their *standard* display windows offering *standard* products of sale.

It's no wonder we don't stop and look at the beauty around us—the unusual. The windows of St. Edward's.

Our campus offers the best of an architect's dream. There are dormant windows, stained glass, French, clustered; you name it we have it. All sizes and shapes offering resting places for the pigeons, sparrows, grackles and squirrels.

Look around and you will find the centennial shapes of Old Main, and Old Main reflected in the latest designs on campus. Cars reflect windows, and windows reflect students.

Some poet wrote that our eyes are the windows of the world. Perhaps the windows of St. Ed's reflect the beauty and variety of thought of the founders as they built a school that would house the students who now gaze through those windows. Let their eyes carry that beauty with them and never become *standardized* in this technological society.

Windows are more than openings that admit light and air. They are more than panes of glass, casements, frames or sash. Can anyone look at the windows of St. Edward's and see only raw materials; wood, glass, metal and putty? ...

The windows of St. Ed[ward]'s reflect the beauty and variety of thought of the founders as they built a school that would house the students who now gaze through those windows.

— “Windows,”  
*The Hilltopper*, Nov. 9, 1984

\* \* \*

The usual cornerstone ceremony is one that we associate with new ventures, untried ideas, and a group of people who want to give those ideas a chance and have a real vision. When the first cornerstone was put in this building, that was exactly the kind of gathering it was. ....

It is striking how many parallels there are with the cornerstone that we will be placing today. Certainly the vision of Austin, as the center of education, is more important and perhaps more in need of renewal and recommitment today than it was then. ....

I simply hope that a hundred years from now when someone is reading another history and looking back, he or she will see that the people ... assembled here today, in a very serious way, committed themselves once again to create that future.

— Patricia Hayes, president, 1984–1999

Excerpted from Main Building rededication speech, April 8, 1987

\* \* \*

*Compiled by Cassandra Elizondo, '03,  
Stacia Hernstrom and Michelle Martinez, '01.  
Historical content and images courtesy of  
University Archives. Special thanks to Assistant  
Professor Dianne Brownlee.*

The Trans-Siberian Railroad was completed.

The United States and Panama signed a treaty to build the Panama Canal.

The first wave of organized Korean immigration to the United States brought more than 100 Koreans to Hawaii.

The Russian Social Democratic Labor Party split into two factions, the Mensheviks and the Bolsheviks (the latter led by Vladimir Lenin), which set the stage for the birth of 20th-century communism.



*“One hundred years have passed since St. Edward’s University was founded on a small farm south of the Colorado River. Since that time much has changed in Austin, but perched atop a rise with its landmark old [M]ain [B]uilding and grassy slopes, St. Ed[ward]’s retains a full measure of tranquility and calm in the maddening world.”*

— “Centennial Celebration Coming,”  
*The Austin Citizen*, July 27, 1974



COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



JON PATILLO

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M O D E R N  
*reflections*

There are certain days that stick out in my mind, one more clearly than the rest. It is the day in August 2000 when I left my home in San Antonio to move to a new, unfamiliar place. After the pain of saying goodbye to my parents and with a stomach full of butterflies, I cried myself to sleep. The next morning I went for a run to explore this foreign place. I laced up my sneakers and started up the huge hill at St. Edward’s Drive only to stop. But it was not a cramp that stopped me that morning — it was the stunning view of Main Building and its red doors. I sat on the steps and thought about my past and about home, and then it hit me. I was home. I was thankful God had given me the opportunity to grow academically, professionally, socially and spiritually under the red roof of Main Building.



I am a senior now. In Main Building I have been challenged to think critically by the best professors. I have gained real-world experience working alongside Assistant Dean of Students **Nicole (Guerrero) Trevino, '99, MAHS '01**, and Dean of Students **Lisa Martinez**. They saw something special in a shy girl and offered me a position on the orientation staff, which has allowed me to form a cherished relationship with Main Building and the university. One of the last events this summer was a barbecue welcoming new students and their parents to the St. Edward's family. I know my time at St. Edward's is nearing an end, but to all the new students who have the opportunity to go in and out of Main Building's red doors, I can think of only one thing to say: *mi casa es su casa*.

— Connie Rey Rodriguez, '04

IN MAIN BUILDING I HAVE BEEN  
CHALLENGED TO THINK CRITICALLY  
BY THE BEST PROFESSORS

M O D E R N

# reflections

Main Building at St. Edward's is many things: a symbol, a place that has housed wonderful people, the source of memories and stories, and a witness to the university's Holy Cross heritage.

The fact that the university's logos have depicted the building tells even casual observers that "Old Main" symbolizes the university.

Like other historic buildings, it somehow "holds" the great people who have lived and worked in it: **Brothers Simon Scribner and Stephen Walsh, CSC; Sisters Ann Virginia Bowling and Mary Mercy Geohegan, IHM; Richard Hughes and Virginia Dailey**, to name a few.

When I go to my third-floor office with the best view in Austin, I remember how before the renovation I felt apprehensive about walking on that same floor. The undulating floor in the dance studio, now the Maloney Room, was so uneven it looked more like a lake than a dancing surface. And I remember the rooms, now offices, that the art majors were happy to have as their individual studios, although they never seemed that appealing to me with their crumbling plaster, broken floor boards and worn, chipped paint.

I remember the stories, too. Some tell of ghosts. One ghost turned out to be a student who needed a place to sleep for a while. When he thought it was safe, late at night, he would turn on a light. The occasional passer-by, looking up, would see a faint light and a shadowy figure in the windows. Eventually, the student was discovered, but not before the ghost story had developed.

For years, Main Building is what I have looked for on the horizon when I return to Austin. It means I'm home. Its feeling of community and welcoming hospitality, inspired by Holy Cross over the years, is for me its strongest message.

— Sister Anne Crane, IHM,  
associate professor of English



JON PATTILO



BILL KENNEDY

MAIN BUILDING IS WHAT I HAVE LOOKED FOR ON THE HORIZON WHEN I RETURN TO AUSTIN



THE SIGHT OF  
MAIN BUILDING  
TELLS ALL:  
IMPORTANT WORK  
GOES ON HERE

M O D E R N  
*reflections*

Main Building, for me, has always been a source of peace, hope and assurance. When faced with seemingly intractable people or problems, I think of the difficulties and triumphs of those who came before me, living and working where I work: in Main Building. Clearly, nothing in my time approaches the tragedy of the 1903 fire or the heroic efforts required to rebuild and open for the fall term (albeit a little late). The loss was estimated at \$170,000 (\$3.45 million in 2002 dollars), and insurance covered only \$33,000 (\$670,000 in 2002 dollars). **Father John Boland, CSC**, then



JON PATTILLO

the university's president, dedicated himself to finding a solution — we are in Main Building today because of his guidance and the ingenuity of the community he led.

I sometimes think that the spirits of all of these heroic people walk the halls with us and share our offices every day, and this is reassuring. The people of each generation who lived and worked in Main Building, who faced serious challenges and found ways to continue to serve students, are an inspiration. It calms me to think that what I do each day, in the same space in which they worked, isn't nearly so difficult as what they faced. When I ponder the tasks before me and compare them to the challenges of earlier times, this building, old and beautiful, is itself a source of inspiration and peace. As I make my way up East Side Drive and up the front steps in the cool, early morning sunlight, the sight of Main Building tells all: Important work goes on here, work assigned to us by our founders and by the Gospels. Given what generations past have accomplished with so few resources, I see only great hope and promise for our future.

— **Dick Kinsey**, assistant to the president



JON PATTILLO



PARRAH GRAJ '03

MAIN BUILDING  
HAS BEEN A  
PART OF THE  
LIVES OF OUR  
ENTIRE FAMILY

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M O D E R N  
*reflections*

My introduction to Main Building came on a summer day in 1948. I was with my parents and younger brother, who was visiting the campus prior to registering for his freshman year. I had no way of knowing, as I enjoyed the rural peace of the campus, that by 1965 I would be a member of the university faculty!

My long association with the building as a home away from home began when I was appointed dean of faculty in 1969. For the next 26 years I spent most of my daylight hours — and quite a few others — in this

wonderful building. I relished each phase of the building's metamorphosis over those years. The contrasts were great, from the simplicity of the beautiful high school chapel that occupied the west end of the first floor in the mid-1960s to the elegance of the new Maloney Room in the late 1980s and the subsequent renovations throughout the building. Gradually the predominance of Holy Cross Brothers in their black cassocks or suits gave way to a mixture of religious and lay faculty and staff and, along the way, an array of dignitaries who came to campus to participate in various activities and ceremonies.

Main Building has been a part of the lives of our entire family, from our children (seven of them earned nine degrees from



St. Edward's, and three also have worked here) to the grandchildren and great-grandchildren who have taken part in each year's Festival of Lights and other traditions. Here I formed lasting friendships with many exceptional people, and here, in 1997, I bade farewell to a joyfully satisfying career. Over almost 40 years, Main Building has played a significant role in the lives of four generations of Daileys.

— **Virginia Dailey**  
professor emeritus

Although the St. Edward's community has been a part of my life since I was a toddler, my earliest memories are of other buildings on campus: a Christmas potluck at the old Union, midnight Mass at Our Lady Queen

of Peace Chapel, and cookies and hot chocolate at St. Joseph Hall. Looking back, I think Main Building was just "Mother's office" (and, later, "Grandmother's castle" to many of my nieces and nephews).

I really came to know Main Building when I became a student in 1982. My favorite memory of that year is sitting in the art classroom on the second floor with the windows wide open, the breeze occasionally tumbling dust bunnies through the air and across the sloping wooden floor. I was in the art room only one semester, but I still remember the peace I felt in Main Building. Today, all I have to do is pull up the blinds in my office, open the windows to let in the breeze and look out to find that feeling again.

Main Building's windows are the link to the past for me. The structure and look of the rooms may change, but opening the windows with their old wooden frames somehow brings that connection and memory back.

Every evening as I sit in my car ready to leave, I look up above the trees to the top of the tower and the stained glass windows of the Maloney Room. Once the windows of the old chapel, they remind me that Main Building is still the same at heart that it always was. The chapel windows — and all the windows — of Main Building reveal its peaceful soul to me from inside and out.

— **Danica Dailey Frampton, '86, MAHS '94**,  
senior research associate,  
Office of Institutional Research

# *an ARCHITECTURAL &emotional center*



**“Architecture depends on order, arrangement, symmetry, propriety and economy.”**

— Marcus Vitruvius Pollio, first century B.C.

BILL KENNEDY

BY ARTHUR ANDERSSON, PRINCIPAL, ANDERSSON•WISE ARCHITECTS & DESIGNER, TRUSTEE HALL

Main Building at St. Edward's speaks to us in poetry and prose, intellect and emotion. The history of the university is reflected in it, and Main Building is both an artifact and emotional center of the university. The building has a timeless quality — reflected in the words of Vitruvius' famous treatise, *de Architectura*, written over 2,000 years ago — and is today a built example of how the ideals of order, symmetry, propriety and economy can inspire an entire institution. In fact, Main Building presents such a powerful architectural presence on the hilltop that the surrounding structures work mostly to reinforce the center it defines.

It was designed by the prominent Galveston architect Nicholas J. Clayton.

Stone for the structure was quarried directly from the site and, within a 16-year period, both the architect and the institution patiently built the structure in 1888–1889 and then, after its destruction in a 1903 fire, rebuilt it. As with all great architecture, then, we should add patience and perseverance to Vitruvius' list of essential qualities.

#### **Order, Arrangement and Symmetry**

Main Building teaches us that it is important for all buildings within a campus environment to remain flexible to changing methods of teaching as well as use. Over its life, Main Building has been used as a classroom building, lecture hall, dormitory, administration

headquarters, student center and living room for the campus. Accommodating these various functions under one roof speaks to the versatility of both the floor plan and room proportions Clayton designed. Within the structural masonry walls of the building's central bay are two longitudinal arcade walls that define a wide central hall. Bracketing this central zone are two additional bays, on the east and west, which are essentially very large, flexible spaces with no intervening walls. This simple plan provides varied space on the inside and articulates the massing of the exterior envelope.

When my firm embarked on the design for Trustee Hall, the newest classroom facility on the St. Edward's campus, we first studied

the drawings of Main Building. With flexibility in mind, we developed a structural system of concrete columns and floor slabs that offered the same kind of large open spaces available in Main Building. We scaled the width of our new facility to be the same dimension as the bays that are on the east and west of Main, allowing for a useful set of classroom spaces while reinforcing a specific relationship within the larger scale of the campus. The western approach to Trustee Hall offers a framed view of Main Building's profile under the canopy of large live oaks. And Trustee Hall's exterior circulation and gathering areas take in a view of Main from varied elevations and angles. Additionally, the cast-in-place structural concrete we used to form Trustee Hall's most public exterior wall has a permanent presence and singular

character that does not imitate Main, yet can solidly stand near.

#### Propriety and Economy

Main Building's bold masonry walls provide a thick and naturally textured base for the dramatically shaped top. Architects would say that the building has "good posture." It stands upright and makes us feel like doing the same. Main Building does not attempt to nestle into its environment; rather, the walls rise boldly out of the site. The vertical proportions of windows and towers cause your eyes to look toward the sky as you take in the shape.

Main Building is hand-made. Its chiseled rock walls are the result of painstaking craftsmanship. The effort put into shaping and fitting each stone is palpable. There is a rugged

reality to the building, reinforced by the limitations of its reconstruction. After the 1903 fire destroyed most of the building, many of the original hand-hewn limestone blocks were damaged beyond usefulness. Main Building's reconstruction, therefore, included the more affordable "Austin Common" brick, which was made of mud dredged from the Colorado River. This seeming compromise proved fortuitous for the university, as the elegant Austin Common was successfully used on other campus buildings, most notably Holy Cross Hall.

Main Building speaks to us of nobility founded in a feeling of permanence. The calm, material presence of the building forms the central image of the St. Edward's campus and should inspire future campus architects, the buildings they design and the students who are ultimately served. ■

## Main Building speaks to us of nobility founded in a feeling of permanence





FARRAH GRAJ, '03

BILL KENNEDY



## *The St. Edward's I Remember*

Obscuring dust falls thick  
From off the wings of years  
Which come and go.  
Some things forgotten are  
And some remembered still.

Those days which I remember  
Have been separate from these  
By intervening spaces  
Fraught with hopes and tears  
And filled with strivings  
For the things which life so oft' withhold.

And now I think of that old wooden hall  
And wonder if it stands there still,  
Spread low upon its sloping hills —  
St. Edward's — when my dreams  
were young.

I feel that if at twilight  
I could stroll within its ancient walls,  
I could not fail to hear the laughter  
Of my friends at play —  
The college friends of years gone by

I could not fail to hear  
Their whisperings and sighs  
O'er troubles they thought insurmountable.

That friendly hall would hold  
Such things close to its heart,  
And it would whisper them to me  
And tell me of its loneliness.

I have not thought of palaces  
Wrought from the dreams of genius,  
With far-flung halls  
And marble pillars glistening;  
Nor symmetry of domes thrown to the sky  
With golden tips,  
Whose banners stream through sun-kist days  
And through the star-bright night.  
I have not thought of fountains playing  
Nor rose-draped grounds,  
Through which your student walks today  
And dreams!

— Oliver Culmer, Class of 1889  
*St. Edward's Echo*, May 1923



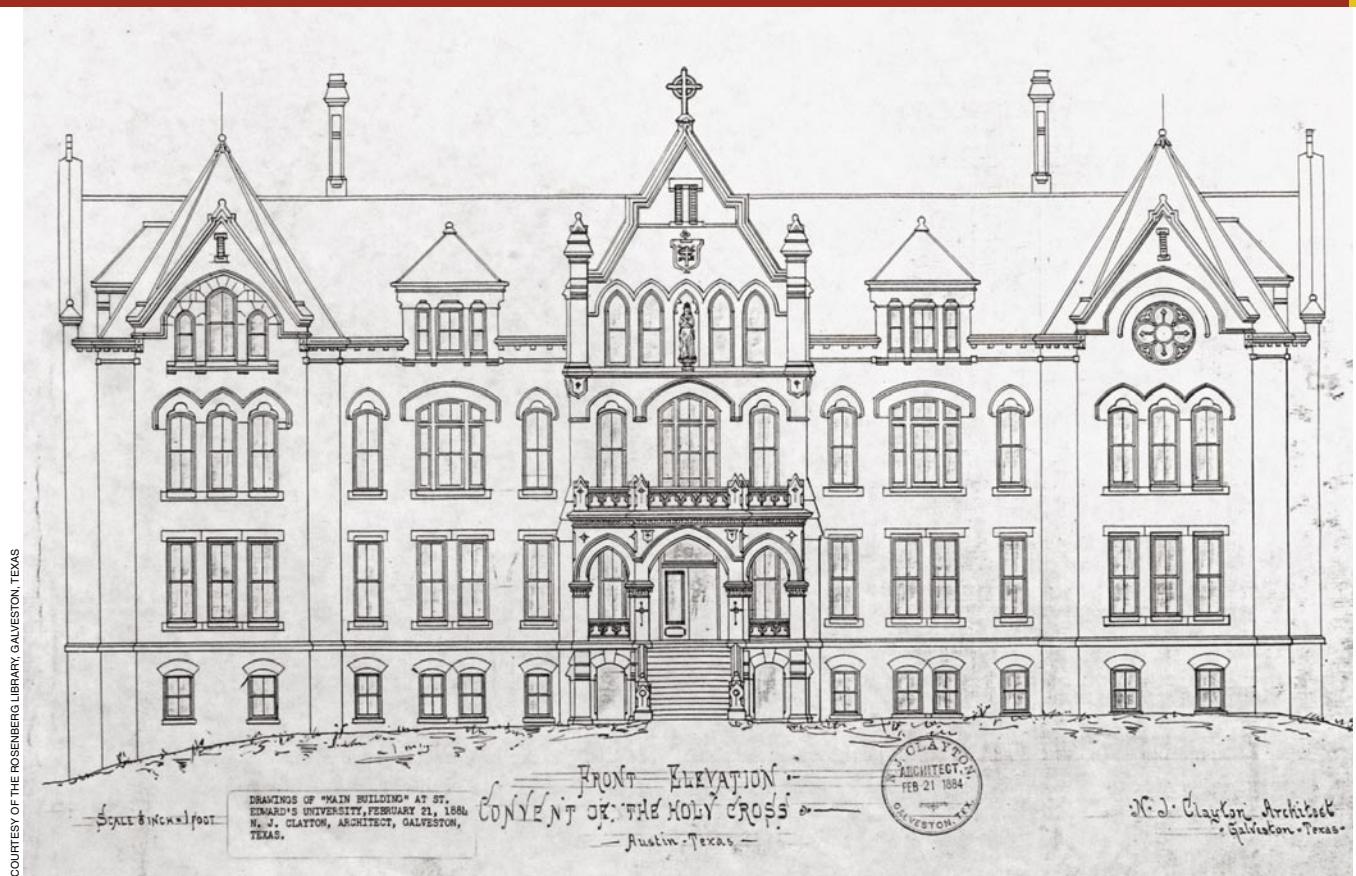


*wrought from the dreams of genius*

— Oliver Culmer, Class of 1889



BILL KENNEDY



# NICHOLAS J. CLAYTON

## *The Man & His Work*



Clayton at 32. Above, his original plan for Main Building.

BY CARRIE JOHNSON

**N**icholas J. Clayton was one of the first professional architects to practice in Texas. He is mostly associated with Galveston — where his architectural career was launched and where his most well-known work, the Gresham House, commonly known as the Bishop's Palace, is located. A faithful Catholic and gifted architect, Clayton left an indelible mark at St. Edward's through two architectural works: Main Building and Holy Cross Hall.

Born Nov. 1, 1840, in Cloyne, a small village on the southern coast of Ireland, Clayton lost his father, Nicholas Joseph Clayton Sr., the next year to the plague.

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## CLAYTON WORKED ON MORE THAN 40 DESIGN PROJECTS FOR CHURCH STRUCTURES, INTERIORS AND ALTERATIONS

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Soon after, young Nicholas and his mother, Margaret O'Mahoney Clayton, came to the United States. They settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, near her relatives, including her brother-in-law Daniel Crowley, whose work in the building trades likely influenced Clayton's interest in architecture.

Clayton attended Roman Catholic parochial schools and, after high school, lived in Memphis, Tenn., and St. Louis, Mo. He joined the U.S. Navy during the Civil War and is thought to have served on the U.S.S. Juliet during the Battle of Vicksburg, which gave the Union control of the Mississippi River. After his discharge in 1865, he lived in Louisville, Ky., and Cincinnati, working as a stone carver and draftsman.

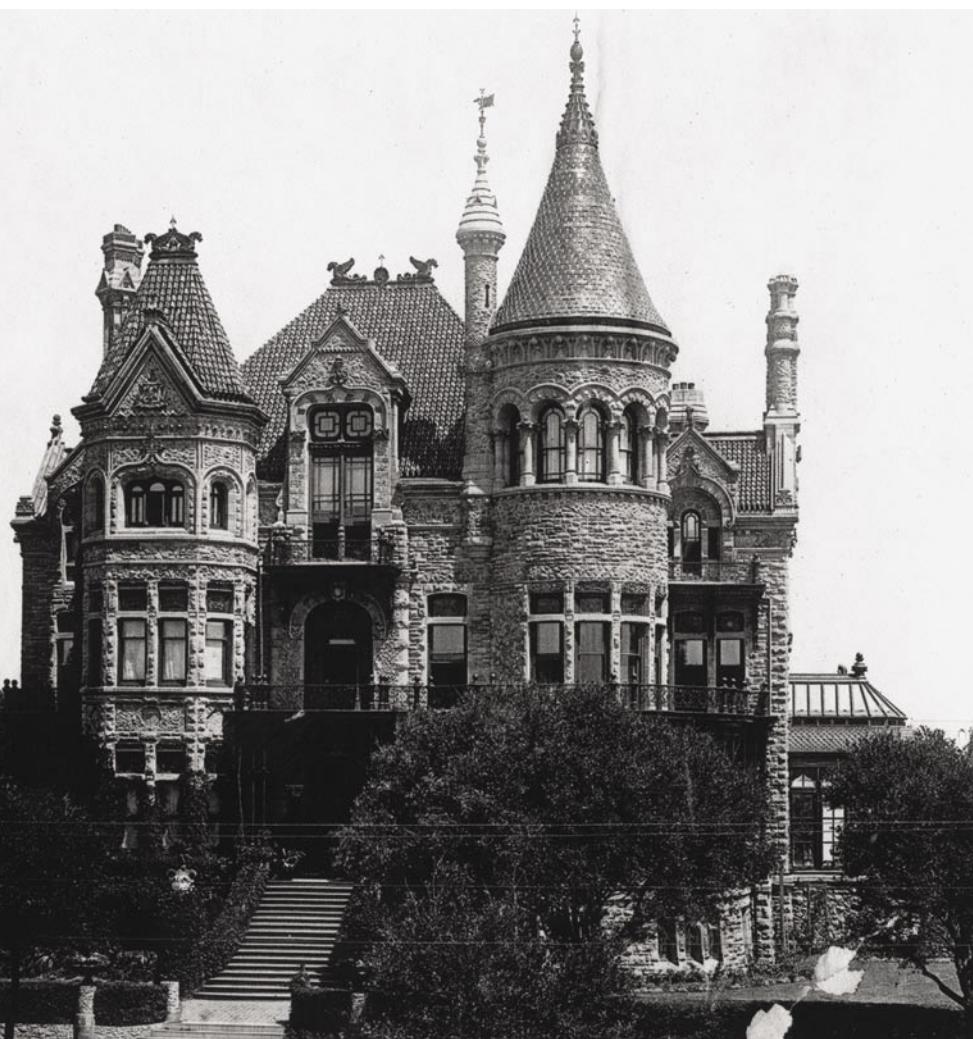
Although his architectural training was never documented, his descendants said

he trained under Mathias Baldwin of the Memphis architectural firm Jones and Baldwin. In 1867, Clayton began work with the firm and then moved to Houston in 1871. The following year, he was commissioned by Jones and Baldwin as a supervising architect for the First Presbyterian Church in Galveston. This led to Clayton's first independent commission to design St. Mary's Church in Austin, then part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Galveston. The church still stands today as St. Mary's Cathedral of the Diocese of Austin and is currently undergoing a \$1.6 million restoration.

Churches captivated Clayton. "While listening to others talk or just thinking alone, he would sketch church buildings, windows, altars and steeples," reported Robert A. Nesbitt in *The Legend of Nicholas Clayton*. During his career, Clayton worked on more than 40 design projects for church structures, interiors and alterations. While not all of his designs won commissions, the work represents a significant portion of his more than 300 design projects. In fact, Clayton's final work was an onion dome for the transept of Sacred Heart Church in Galveston.

By 1875, Clayton had opened his own architectural office. "Clayton's talent caught the attention of three powerful forces in the city: the Catholic Church, the railroads and the wealthy business families," wrote Jim Steely in a 1986 *Texas Architect* article. "From Bishop Claude-Marie Dubuis came introductions that [led] to dozens of church commissions." Because Bishop Dubuis is usually credited with inspiring Father Edward Sorin's interest in establishing a Holy Cross educational institution in Texas, it's no surprise that the bishop's influence brought Clayton to St. Edward's, for which he designed Main Building in 1885.

His career was nearing its zenith. In 1887, Clayton was one of three architects brought in to consult about the dome construction underway at the Texas Capitol. The following year, he was hired to select furnishings for the capitol. Over the next decade, he executed nearly 100 designs. But by 1897, the year he invested \$10,000 to construct the N.J. Clayton Building in downtown Galveston, Clayton found himself embroiled in a legal battle over seizure of a bond he had posted for the Galveston County Courthouse project. A short time later, he saw the 1900 Galveston hurricane — one of the deadliest natural



Bishop's Palace, Galveston, built 1885–1892.

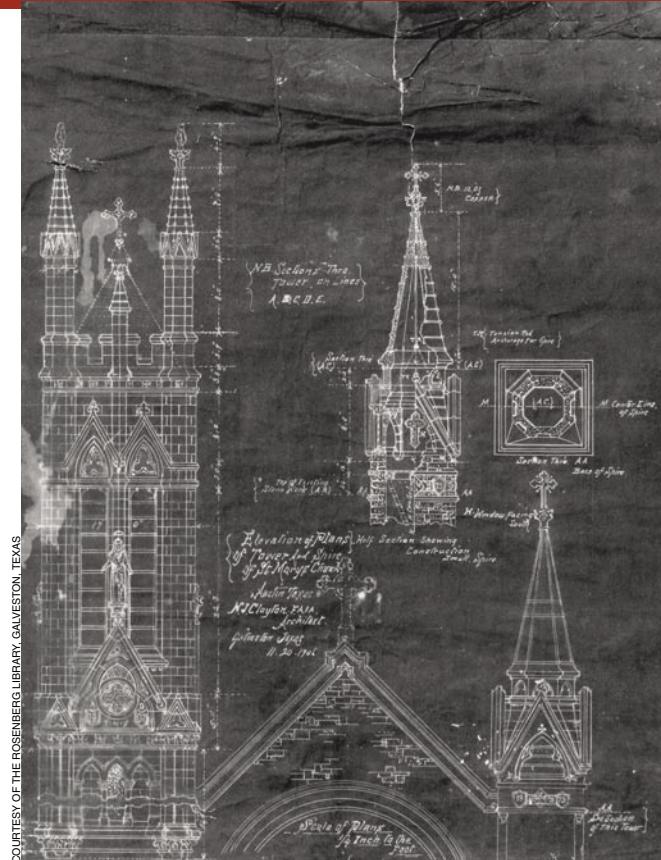
COURTESY OF THE ROSENBERG LIBRARY, GALVESTON, TEXAS

disasters in U.S. history — wipe out most of his life's work on the island. By 1903, Clayton filed for bankruptcy and his architectural practice was barely existent.

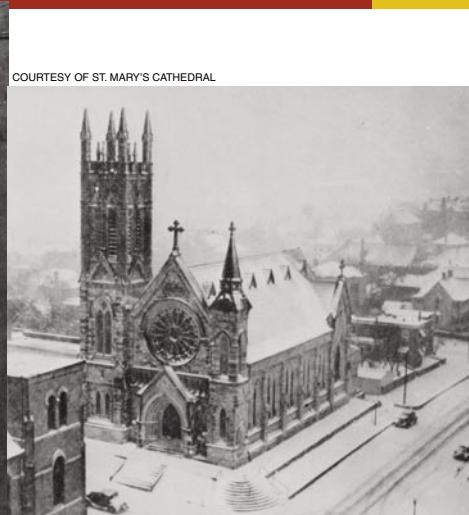
Then a fire ravaged the St. Edward's Main Building, leaving it in ruins. Clayton was summoned, and three days later he was on the scene surveying the damage and meeting with university and Congregation of Holy Cross officials. They decided to have Clayton not only oversee Main's rebuilding but also design and manage construction of a new dormitory, Holy Cross Hall. While both porticos from the original Main Building survived, one was moved to create the entrance to Holy Cross Hall. The architect, who had become skilled in the use of structural iron and steel, used the materials during reconstruction to minimize the danger of fire. The buildings were completed by September, in time for fall classes, and were dedicated on Oct. 13, the feast day of St. Edward.

Clayton's final years in Galveston were difficult. He was often passed over for commissions because of his prior legal battle and the influx of architects and builders who came to Galveston, then a thriving port city, in search of work. On Dec. 9, 1916, he died of pneumonia, following an accident in which he was badly burned while inspecting a chimney in his home. He is buried in Calvary Cemetery, which he had designed earlier in his career.

Today, interest in Clayton's work is strong. Bishop's Palace was included in the American Institute of Architects' centennial publication, which celebrated 100 outstanding structures in the United States. And in 1966, Howard Barnstone's *The Galveston That Was* spurred architectural preservation in the city and renewed interest in Clayton. In the 1970s, Galveston's Rosenberg Library — which holds a collection of Clayton's drawings and papers — began compiling a complete inventory of the architect's work. In 2000, that inventory was included in *Clayton's Galveston: The Architecture of Nicholas J. Clayton and His Contemporaries* by Barrie Scardino, an architectural writer and historian, and Drexel Turner, who teaches architecture at the University of Houston. Currently, Clayton's surviving buildings are considered architectural treasures, and many, like Main Building and Holy Cross Hall, are listed on the historic registers of Texas and the nation. ■



COURTESY OF THE ROSENBERG LIBRARY, GALVESTON, TEXAS



COURTESY OF ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL  
Left, Clayton's plan for St. Mary's Church (now Cathedral), Austin, 1873.  
Above, St. Mary's in the early 1900s.

## THEY DECIDED TO HAVE CLAYTON NOT ONLY OVERSEE MAIN'S REBUILDING BUT ALSO DESIGN AND MANAGE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DORMITORY, HOLY CROSS HALL

The 1915 design for an onion dome — Clayton's final project — for Sacred Heart Church, Galveston.





# INNER WORKINGS

## maintenance



FARRAH GRALI '03

## & preservation

BY CARRIE JOHNSON

How does St. Edward's keep the 100-year-old Main Building fit for the needs of a 21st-century university? Through careful planning, the efforts of a dedicated Physical Plant staff and help from specialists in architectural preservation.

Since the late 1970s, St. Edward's has invested significant resources to simultaneously maintain the building's historical character and to meet modern teaching and administrative needs.

The first major project came after a violent hailstorm on Baccalaureate night in 1975.

**Dave Dickson**, vice president of financial affairs, vividly recalls the storm. "My family and I spent half an hour in our home's bathroom while the hail rained down. Ours was the only house on the block that didn't lose a window."

Insurance money funded replacement of the damaged roof of Main Building — and of the Carriage House and Holy Cross and Sorin halls. The red metal shingles that cap each building are rated for 75 years, Dickson says.

Then, in the 1980s, structural engineers determined that the wooden joists and cinder-concrete floors of Main Building's upper stories were failing. J. Neils Thompson,

an engineer who served on the Board of Trustees, helped guide the university's \$4.5 million renovation in 1985–1986. The structure was vacated, and the interior was gutted. On the upper floors, steel joists and concrete floors replaced the aging joists and outmoded flooring. All usable existing doors, windows and hardware were refurbished. Modern electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems were installed. And ceilings in office and classroom areas were lowered to increase energy efficiency. Additionally, the exteriors of the newly restored wooden frame windows were painted to protect them against the elements.

"The events that led to the closing of Main Building underscored the need for ongoing maintenance of the facility once the renovation was finished," said **Dick Kinsey**, special assistant to the president.

In the mid-1990s, the university made improvements to the building's electrical and fire safety systems and modified several office spaces to accommodate a faculty and staff that was growing to meet the needs of increasing enrollment. Later that decade, with help from the city of Austin and the Historic Landmark Commission, the university restored the north and south entry doors — including the stained glass on the building's signature red doors.

This year, the university is putting the finishing touches on an interior repainting project. And over the next three to five years, the university will complete an exterior renovation, guided by an exhaustive inventory of every stone and window that was completed this summer by historic renovation specialists with ArchiTexas. More than half of the building's existing mortar will be replaced. Workers will complete minor roof and tower maintenance and will repaint the wooden frame windows. Window sill, sash and glazing repairs will include a restoration of the building's two rose windows. Additionally, the exterior limestone will be repointed or replaced and sealed.

"Main Building has withstood more than a century of exposure to sun, wind and rain," explained **Michael Peterson**, director of Physical Plant. "The current exterior renovation project will help preserve this historic building and ensure it continues to play an important role in daily campus life for generations to come." ■

# the view from MAIN BUILDING

BY STEPHANIE ELSEA



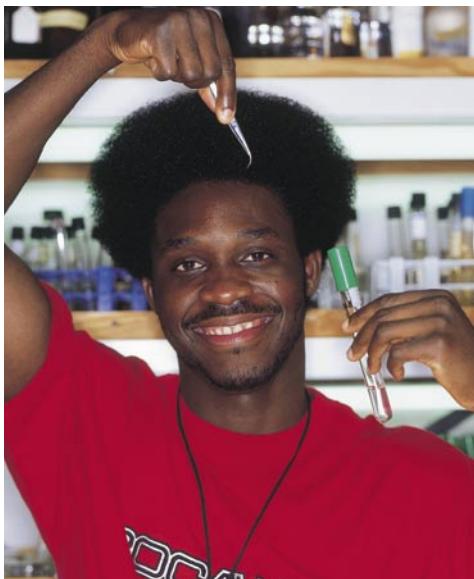
As I work in my office on the top floor of Main Building, I often stop to gaze out my western-facing window, scanning the horizon in search of inspiration. There's no question that the distant hills with their green trees grazing that impossibly blue Texas sky are beautiful; but when it comes to inspiration, I simply look down. Right now, dozens of students are walking to classes in Trustee, Andre and Holy Cross halls, a small group of percussionists is playing under the trees near Fondren Hall, and still others are heading into the Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center — probably to grab some lunch before their next class.

The view from Main Building is indeed beautiful, but it is especially dazzling because it encompasses each student's hopes and dreams and the vision for the future of this remarkable institution. ▀

# The GENE School



PHOTOS: JON PATTILLO



21 students.

By Cassandra Elizondo, '03

In 2001, the U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded St. Edward's University a three-year, \$300,000 grant for a project entitled "Integration of Research Internships into the Undergraduate Life Sciences Curriculum." St. Edward's was one of 20 institutions in the country to receive such a grant, which funded laboratory equipment, student and faculty stipends, and supporting expenses. The grant was split three ways between St. Edward's, Monsanto Laboratories in St. Louis, Mo., and UT-Austin, although St. Edward's received the largest portion — 70 percent.

Since then, biology faculty members **Allan Hook**, **Jimmy Mills**, **Fidelma O'Leary** and **Bill Quinn** and 21 students have participated in innovative scientific research in

genetic engineering and insect behavior at St. Edward's, Monsanto and UT-Austin.

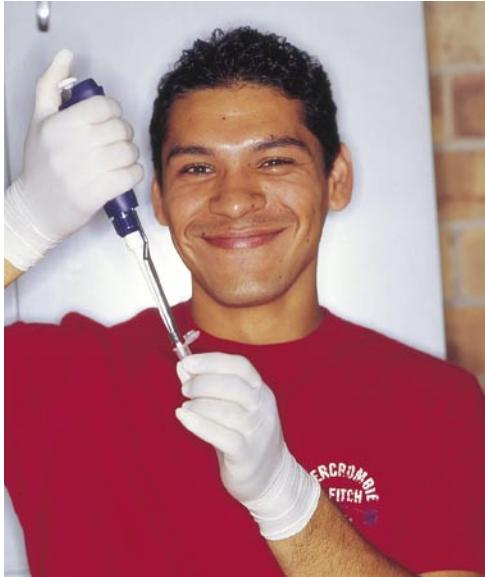
A key element of the project was the opportunity for faculty and students to conduct research at Monsanto. In 2001, Quinn and O'Leary journeyed to Monsanto to work and learn about splicing "genes of interest" into crop plants. They brought the knowledge they gained about DNA splicing, genetic constructs and experimental plant protocols to six students who completed research at St. Edward's during Summer 2002. And last summer, four of the original scholars — (*from left*) **Pamela Scheiber, '04**; **Wilfried Foadey, '04**; **Danielle Baker, '04**; and **Elizabeth Vermillion, '04** — and two new scholars — **Alberto Pasillas, '05**, and **Andrea**

**Guion, '05** — traveled to Monsanto, where they worked in teams to develop research ideas and test them. "My hands-on experience has enabled me to better understand the concepts I read about in textbooks," said Pasillas.

Students learned very specific parts of the gene-splicing process. Baker and Scheiber, for example, studied the effects of varying concentrations of bacteria in the genetic transformation of plants in labs at St. Edward's. When they arrived at Monsanto a year later, they diversified their field of study.

"I researched *Conyza canadensis* or Mare's tail, which is a weed resistant to Roundup, Monsanto's famous herbicide. By altering the genetic makeup of the plant, we can grow resistant, better crops," said Scheiber.

3 years.



4 professors.

## Plenty of groundbreaking research.

"It's important for consumers to understand research, especially research about genetically modified organisms," Baker added.

Alternatively, at St. Edward's, Foadey and Vermillion studied the effects of exposure timing in the plant transformation process — the infection of a plant with bacteria and the regeneration of a new plant from one infected cell. This process allows plants to take on new genetic traits. Then, at Monsanto, Foadey searched several different plant species for a specific gene, while Vermillion field-tested — in greenhouses and farmers' fields — the results of research similar to that of the other St. Edward's students.

All six interns presented research findings to their colleagues at Monsanto, and Scheiber,

Foadey and Pasillas are currently trying to publish their results. In addition, Vermillion, Baker, Scheiber and Foadey summarized their on-campus experiments in August 2002 at the annual meeting of the American Society of Plant Biologists in Denver, Colo.

"The research I exhibited gave me a chance to converse with scientists across the nation who are interested in the work I had done," said Vermillion.

"We focus much of our energy on building scientific research into our undergraduate curricula, and we build our own capabilities while we develop associations with outside research labs," said Quinn. "That strategy is what makes our students so successful." ■

1 grant.

In addition to the six scholars who traveled to Monsanto Laboratories in St. Louis, Mo., this summer, the grant enabled 15 other students over the three-year period to gain hands-on experience.

Under the supervision of **Allan Hook**, associate professor of biology, **Sophia Angelo**, '05, **Anthony Francisco**, '03, Sister **Florence Kajoina**, '05, **Gregory Palmer**, '04, and **Melanie Payne**, '03, studied insect behavior at Pedernales Falls State Park and the St. Edward's University campus.

**Natalie Cole**, '05, **Patricia Hayes**, '04, **Regina Loya**, '05, and **Samantha Ramirez**, '04, studied the molecular classification of algae in the botany labs of UT-Austin and St. Edward's University under the guidance of **Jimmy Mills**, professor of biology.

**Bill Quinn**, professor of biology, and **Fidelma O'Leary**, associate professor of biology, also worked with **Joe Hidrogo**, '05, **Paul Marabella**, '03, **Sandy Martinez**, '05, **Jessica Mauricio**, '06, **Jorge Moreno**, '05, and **Rita Salinas**, '04, on the genetic transformation of plants at St. Edward's.

# A JOURNEY TO *Mecca*



JON PATTILLO

By Michelle Martinez, '01

Often, a journey begins from within. Fidelma O'Leary, associate professor of biology, converted to Islam in college and dreamed of making a spiritual voyage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, the religion's epicenter. It wasn't until this year that her plans came to fruition. Like two million other Muslims who travel to Mecca each year to take part in the sacred pilgrimage, or Hajj, O'Leary meant her trip as the ultimate declaration of faith.

"I felt as though I was being pulled to Mecca, like a pin is drawn to a magnet," O'Leary said. "I went because I believe in God, and I believe that God asked me to go there."

As O'Leary was preparing to leave for Mecca, Anisa Mehdi, a representative from *National Geographic* who was directing a

documentary featuring three Muslims from around the world as they traveled to Mecca, called. "I wanted to show the diversity of the Muslim community worldwide," Mehdi said. "I wanted an American woman as a vehicle to subtly address the stereotypes that exist about Muslim women. I finally found Fidelma, who is articulate, clear about her purpose and knowledgeable about Islam."

O'Leary hesitated. "There is no doubt that this pilgrimage is completely personal," she said. "The pilgrim is alone before God, during a period of intense soul-searching and self-evaluation. However, ultimately I felt that the documentary might help promote understanding and tolerance among people of all faiths."

O'Leary was the only Muslim from the United States in the documentary. Once she arrived in Saudi Arabia, she learned that there were benefits to being filmed. "A very beautiful and unexpected bonus that came from being with the crew were the many opportunities to meet and talk with people from all over the world. A film crew attracts attention, so I had chances to converse with many people who would otherwise probably just have walked past me," she explained.

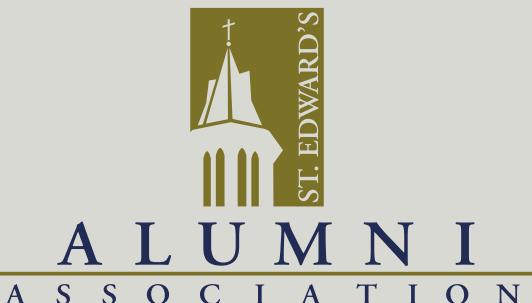
As the camera crew documented the rites and rituals of the Hajj, O'Leary was busy with her own spiritual introspection. Tracing the footsteps of Abraham and Mohammad, she made her way toward the city of Mina on the first day of her pilgrimage. On the second day, O'Leary proceeded to Mount Arafat. "At Arafat on the Day of Mercy and Reconciliation, I had the strong sense of being alone before God, pleading for mercy and help," she said.

*National Geographic* then followed O'Leary as she circled around the Ka'ba, the famous structure of Muslim faith. "Circumambulation of the Ka'ba is an amazing experience," O'Leary said. "It takes hours, and the action walking helped keep me focused on my worship. I was so happy to be there and humbled by the thought of such good people as Abraham and Mohammad who had preceded me."

The documentary aired Oct. 22 on PBS, and the film now serves as a permanent visual record of O'Leary's spiritual journey.

As she reflects on the spiritual and emotional impact of her Hajj, O'Leary realizes how important it was to make the pilgrimage at this point in her life and to evaluate and reaffirm her faith in God.

"Mecca is probably the farthest from home that I have gone. In addition to being a physical journey, it was an internal, spiritual journey. On that level it was hard work. Honest self-evaluation and deep introspection are not casually done," she said. "However, it was tremendously rewarding. I had fun on Hajj. And I have changed for the better in several ways. I hope to go again, God willing, and am already planning it for 2008." ■



I know of no image that conjures up good memories of St. Edward's better than Main Building. And this October, we celebrated the 100-year anniversary of the reconstruction of Main Building after the 1903 fire. Those of you who have visited the hilltop over the years can attest that today's campus looks very different from the campus of decades past, but Main Building has remained a constant centerpiece of the university. Countless students have walked through its grand red doors to begin an education that would take them to places only imagined.

This milestone is just one of the many things that alumni have to celebrate about St. Edward's. I hope the recent *U.S. News & World Report* ranking of St. Edward's among "America's Best Colleges" fills you with pride in your alma mater. It's nice to see national recognition of something that we, as alumni, already know.

In closing, I ask you to mark your calendars for Homecoming (which now includes Alumni Reunion and Parents Weekend) during the weekend of Feb. 20–22. This marks our second year to hold the combined event during the spring semester when alumni may visit campus during an active semester and interact with current students. To add to the nostalgia, this year's event coincides with the annual St. Mary's basketball games. I hope to see you there, rooting for the Hilltoppers.

**Paul Tramonte, '91**  
Chair, Alumni Association

## ALUMNI EVENTS

### AUSTIN Oct. 28

Happy Hour/Social  
Info: Robert Ritchey, '00, [rritchey@austin.rr.com](mailto:rritchey@austin.rr.com)

### CHICAGO Nov. 20

President's Reception  
Info: Alumni Programs, 800-964-7833 or  
[seualumni@admin.stedwards.edu](mailto:seualumni@admin.stedwards.edu)

## 50s

**Stanley Havelka, '50,** of Georgetown, and his wife Louise celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 11.

**Edward Herskowitz, hs '50,** is retired and living in Tula, Hidalgo, Mexico. He is active in the church and head of the prison ministry. He may be reached at [edhersk@aol.com](mailto:edhersk@aol.com).

**Brother James Greteman, CSC, '58,** of Notre Dame, Ind., is a licensed clinical marriage and family therapist and the author of numerous books and articles. His latest works are *When the Trust Breaks: Healing Psychological, Spiritual, and Emotional Wounds and Divorce and Beyond*.

**Ted Benton, hs '59, '65,** was featured in a *Boston Globe* story about his work developing a hypnotherapy practice that specializes in treating children at Winchester Hospital's Community Health Institute in Woburn, Mass.

## 60s

**Fred A. Stewart, hs '60, '64,** of Wylie, submitted to *Reader's Digest* his story "An Act of Kindness," which he wrote as a tribute to

**Brother Dunstan Bowles, CSC.**

**Sister Nancy Johnson, IWBS, '64,** of Corpus Christi, celebrated a Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving for her 50th anniversary of religious profession in June.

**Tom Ryan, '63,** served as grand marshal of Houston's 2003 St. Patrick's Day parade.

**Joseph Ferger, '68,** retired from teaching special education and moved to Boca Raton, Fla., in October. He may be reached at [jferger@aol.com](mailto:jferger@aol.com).

**Pat Lessner, '69,** of Dixon, Ill., retired in June after 33 years in the business department at Dixon High School. He also has worked with AIG/American General for the past 19 years and will continue to do so.

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Eliseo Elizondo, '87, MBA '98,  
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Brendan McCauley, '93  
Dawn Lotti-Martinez, '92  
Fred McNair, hs '63, '67  
Bruce Mills, '90  
Frank Moore, hs '63  
Bob Oppermann, '56  
Tony Pompa, '94  
Donna Rodriguez, '87  
Chris Ryan, '81  
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Ken Tedesco, '71  
Kirk Wagner, '94  
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Tom Ryan, '63  
Frank Woodruff, '69

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## AND NOW WITH THE TRAFFIC REPORT ...

### JOE TAYLOR, '01

While an undergraduate communication major, **Joe Taylor, '01**, interned with Austin's KTBC Fox 7 Sports. After the internship, Taylor kept in contact with several people, including a Fox 7 sports reporter whose wife was a traffic reporter at KLBJ-AM. When the couple moved to Houston, Taylor seized the opportunity to apply for the traffic reporter position at KLBJ. Metro Networks, a division of Westwood One, one of the nation's largest broadcast corporations, hired him in October 2002 to perform the airborne traffic report. "Don't ever say internships don't count for anything," Taylor said. Today, he can be heard all over Austin on "Skywatch Traffic" broadcasts on KLBJ-AM, 101X, 107.1 KGSR, HOT 93.3 and Oldies 103.5 stations.

"It's all about one-on-one communication. I try to imagine myself right there with the listener," Taylor explained. "I love this job. Helping people is a top priority, but sometimes it's a little scary." Every weekday Taylor puts his personal safety on the line eight times a day — during takeoff and landing — to help Austinites make their commutes smoother and safer.

While Taylor is on land and off-duty as a traffic reporter, he helps broadcast Longhorn games for KLBJ. "My dream is to make it to the major leagues as a play-by-play announcer. Yankee Stadium would not be a bad place to work," he said. "St. Edward's gave me the opportunities to speak, listen, observe, play baseball and interact with a variety of different people," Taylor said. "I received a quality education in every respect, and because of that, I'm very blessed."



FARRAH GRAJ, '03

### KEN THOMAS, '83

While working on the independent film *No Pain, No Gain*, **Ken Thomas, '83**, met Don Phillips — the person who would introduce him to reporting traffic. After Phillips, who became Thomas' mentor and trainer, died, Thomas succeeded him as traffic reporter for News Talk 1260 KWNX and KXAN

TV-36 in Austin. "He was a motivating factor in helping me get to where I am today," said Thomas.

At the station, Thomas, a theater arts major, often uses his talents to get by "on the fly" when technology fails him. "You have to know how to improvise," Thomas said. "Every job

has its ups and downs, but I like knowing that I'm helping people get around everyday problems."

Aside from reporting traffic, Thomas has appeared in the films *Miss Congeniality* and *The Faculty* and on television in an episode of *America's Most Wanted*. He also has acted in several commercials and, while an undergraduate, performed in numerous plays at Mary Moody Northen Theatre. Thomas also was a member of the U.S. Army for nine years and experienced the U.S. invasion of Panama in 1989 firsthand. "I've developed a deep, deep respect for military veterans," he said.

Thomas has relied on his St. Edward's education often throughout his career. "It's amazing that cultures from all over the world are within a small campus like St. Edward's, and you have the opportunity to develop an understanding and appreciation for them," Thomas said. "I feel like I can work with anyone."

— Cassandra Elizondo, '03

## 70s

**John E. Zick, '72**, of York, Pa., was named global director of training and sales force development for DENTSPLY International, a manufacturer and distributor of professional dental equipment and materials. Previously, he served as director of human resources for the company's professional and Canadian divisions.

**Gloria M. Boudreaux, '74**, earned her master's degree in nursing from Texas Woman's University in 1976. She served in the Army Nurse Corps for 30 years and retired as a colonel in 1994. In 1996, she retired as an assistant professor of nursing from Louisiana State University in Eunice, La. Since then, she has done volunteer work as a disaster worker and instructor with the American Red Cross. She also volunteers with the cancer society and the local health clinic for the working uninsured. Boudreaux serves on the Board of Directors for the State Service Council and the State Nurses Executive Committee. Last year she received the Jefferson Award and the Louisiana State Nurse of the Year Award. This year she received the Clara Barton Honor Award for Meritorious Volunteer Leadership.

**Frederick Chan, '75**, of Houston, and his wife, Diana, have two children, Ashley and Ross. Ashley attends UT-Austin and Ross is looking forward to enrolling at St. Edward's.

**Deni (Cowles) Hirsh, '78**, was elected in November 2002 to a four-year term on the Memphis City Schools Board of Commissioners. She says she is pleased to use her theatrical talents — honed at St. Edward's — in the political arena, but her focus is making a difference in the lives of Memphis children. In addition to her work on the board, Hirsh co-owns a public relations/marketing consulting firm that specializes in events for non-profit organizations. She and her husband, Steve, have two teenage daughters, Alyssa and Stephanie.

**Mark Peppard, '76**, was named 2003 Austin Dentist of the Year by the Capital Area Dental Society.

## 80s

**Frank "Skip" Suraci, '85**, was awarded a certificate of recognition by the Tulsa County Bar Association in June for his *pro bono* services and contributions to Tulsa Lawyers for Children Inc., a nonprofit organization of attorneys who voluntarily represent infants and juveniles in cases of neglect and abuse.

**Luis C. Ramirez, '88**, of Austin, began working with the Seton Cancer Care Team in April. He helps the city's growing Spanish-speaking population obtain health care services. This fall, Luis traveled to Mexico to observe social services in the country's health care system. His mother, **Carol Cofer**, began teaching social work courses at St. Edward's in August and loves it!

## 90s

**Todd Darby, '90**, opened Golf Etc., a retail golf shop in Round Rock in November 2002.

## FUTURE HILLTOPPERS

To **Michelle de Ybarrendo-Gall, '90**, and Archie Gall of Lakeway, son Liam Rafael on July 27, 2002.

To **Isaac Garza, '91**, and Sylvia Garza of San Juan, son Steven Maverick on Aug. 20.

To **Melissa (Morris) Homer, '94**, and **Chris Homer, '93**, of Austin, daughter Layne Annette on June 25.

To **Peter Rangel, '94**, and Melissa Rangel of Fort Polk, La., daughter Mia Elizabeth on May 5.

To **Sandra Trujillo-Garcia, '94**, and Mario Richard Garcia of Dale, daughter Maya Ines on Jan. 24.

To **Patrick Klier, '95**, and Amy Klier of Austin, son Graysen James on May 3.

To **Sarah Jo Skinner, '95**, and Steve Skinner of Richardson, son Ezekiel "Zeke" Martin on June 10.

To **Erick Gordon Burns, '96**, and Christina Zapata-Burns of San Antonio, daughter Gabriela Elaine on June 7.

To **Christopher Fredrickson, '97**, and Michaela Fredrickson of Staten Island, N.Y., daughter Madison Caroline on Aug. 12.

To **Jessica (Monreal) Barrientes, '98**, and **David Barrientes, '97**, of Arlington, daughter Rian Nicole on June 20.

**Roel Rodriguez, '90**, works at the Literacy Academy in Eagle Pass. He is currently working on a master's degree.

**Mike Hamilton, '91**, of Arkeny, Iowa, started his own computer company, Tech Doctors Inc. He may be reached at mike@tech-ect.com.

**Kristen Bell, '92**, of Plano, works as a desktop publisher for a marketing research company in Irving.

**Tom Drohner, '92**, coached Stevens Point Area Senior High to its third consecutive Wisconsin State Softball Title in 2003. He says hello to "all baseball alumni, especially **Larry Taglieri, '91**, **Todd Massey, '92**, **Andy Mueller, '94**, **Marco Acevedo, '91**, and **Kevin Karo, '91**.

**Dianne Wilson, '92**, of Sugar Land, received the 2003 County Trailblazer Award from the Texas Association of Counties Leadership Foundation. The award is given annually to one county official in the state who has consistently paved the way for improvements and enhancements in the delivery of governmental services.

## PROFILE

### ROB ROSE, '00

**Rob Rose, '00**, received an academic scholarship to a state university in 1989, but personal and family concerns led him to withdraw in 1993. He got a job selling encyclopedias and then worked the graveyard shift at a packing company. When jobless, he spent seven months crashing on friends' couches because he couldn't afford rent.

A decade has passed since Rose dropped out of college. Today, he is beginning his MBA at Cornell University's Johnson School — with a \$50,000 scholarship. Rose also is one of only 49 students from 16 universities nationwide selected this year for a prestigious Toigo Fellowship. As a Toigo Fellow, Rose joins an extensive network of accomplished and ethical business professionals dedicated to serving their communities. The fellowship honors his commitment to service and the significant personal development that turned his life around.

The first step for Rose was returning to college in 1997. But the restrictive schedule at the institution he chose conflicted with his obligations to a newborn daughter and a full-time job as a floor operator at Advanced Micro Devices.

"I knew I needed a school with a more flexible program that offered night and weekend classes," he said. In 1999 Rose enrolled in the PACE BBA program in New College at St. Edward's University. PACE, the Program for Accelerated College Education, offers a rigorous yet flexible evening and weekend schedule that allows adult students to take concentrated courses and earn their degrees quickly.

"PACE was challenging. The intensity of the program and the academic demands were difficult," he said. "But I earned my degree quickly and benefited from exceptional teachers who helped me find confidence in myself."

After graduating in 2000, Rose was promoted to engineer at AMD. He left the company in 2001 for an opportunity in manufacturing at a start-up company but found himself jobless again when the start-up's funding dissolved the next year. Rose began to think seriously of returning to school full time for his MBA.

He began volunteering for BiGAUSTIN, a nonprofit that provides education and access to capital for small businesses. Rose wrote business plans, drafted grant proposals, and facilitated marketing and pricing workshops. He also applied and was accepted to Cornell.

"Ultimately, I want to head an organization that offers affordable housing and combats predatory lending practices that disproportionately affect minority communities," said Rose. "I'm not looking to make a lot of money; I want to make a difference."

— Stacia Hernstrom



MARC SWENDER, '92

## P R O F I L E

**CYNDI CONTRERAS DE ROBLES, '00**

As a job training specialist for Communities In Schools — the leading dropout prevention program in Central Texas — **Cyndi Contreras de Robles, '00**, inspires students to help themselves. Through guidance, crisis intervention, college and career exploration, and job training, she assists students in realizing their potential.



JON PATILLO

While an undergraduate student at St. Edward's, Contreras de Robles completed her senior internship with CIS, working on volunteering and the Pebble Project. The latter encourages

elementary school students to be "safe, strong and free," through a child abuse prevention-protection model. "This motivated me to continue working directly with youth and families," she explained.

Contreras de Robles also worked with the university's Community Mentor Program. "I earned a scholarship to attend the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in New Mexico. It was my first opportunity to fly on an airplane and the first time I left Texas. I met so many new and receptive people from all types of backgrounds, experiences, and professional and educational levels. This was an exceptional part of my St. Edward's experience and one I will never forget."

As a high school student in San Antonio, Contreras de Robles benefited from CIS programs. "Now I am able to provide opportunities and services for students who are in the same position I was when I was their age," she explained. "I feel I've come full circle."

Contreras de Robles is currently enrolled in the Master of Arts in Counseling program at St. Edward's with aspirations of becoming a professor.

— Cassandra Elizondo, '03

**90s CONT.**

**Matthew Graves, '94**, lives in Brussels, Belgium, and is European/Asian director of marketing and sales for Pulp Paper International.

**Peter Rangel, '94**, of Fort Polk, La., was deployed during Operation Iraqi Freedom. His wife, Melissa, sent him pictures and videos of his newborn daughter, Mia Elizabeth, and his son, Matthew, 3.

**Sandra Trujillo-Garcia, '94**, of Dale, is the principal at Reilly Elementary School.

**Aaron Civil, '95**, of Wesley Chapel, Fla., left IBM to attend the University of South Florida this fall.

**Robert Coyne Sr., '95**, of Los Alamos, N.M., earned a Master of Social Work from New Mexico State University in May.

**J. Michael Bluhm, '96**, is in his second year of residency for

# Homecoming 2004

Feb. 20–22

Last year, St. Edward's University combined Homecoming, Parents Weekend and Alumni Reunion. It was among the largest and most celebrated gathering in the university's history. So St. Edward's has made the change permanently. Mark your calendars for Homecoming 2004, Feb. 20–22, and watch your mail for detailed information.

"Our alumni base is now growing by 1,000 members each year," said **Joe Barry**, director of Alumni Programs. "Hosting an annual event provides more opportunities for alumni to network, visit with each other and their professors, keep up with campus enhancements, and connect with the St. Edward's community."

Alumni attending Homecoming 2004 can enjoy traditional Alumni Reunion events like the renewal of wedding vows in Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel, networking receptions, the tailgate party before the homecoming basketball games against St. Mary's, and the Golden Guard luncheon for alumni celebrating 50 or more years since their graduation.



JON PATILLO

New this year will be a special young alumni program (for 1994–2003 graduates) with workshops, networking and a night on the town. "Our alumni are an important part of the St. Edward's community, and we are dedicated to developing customized programs

and services to help them continually advance in their careers," said **Manny Pandya, '99**, assistant director of Alumni Programs. "It will be a great opportunity for alumni to take a break, spend a weekend in Austin, visit with professors and catch up with friends."



reconstructive forefoot surgery as a podiatrist in Mesa, Ariz.

**Kenneth Free, '97**, lives and works in Malta, Italy.

**Christopher Fredrickson, '97**, of Staten Island, N.Y., may be reached at chrisfred@aol.com. He reports that his daughter Madison's first words were, "Dave Grant, '97, is cool."

**Alexis Sascha Biesi, '98**, lives in Lancashire, England, with her husband, Paul Tunney, and their daughter, Ruby Dawn Tunney.

**John Moses, '99**, of Panama City, Panama, works at Banco Continental as an asset management advisor. He may be reached at jjmoses21@hotmail.com.

**Melanie Marie Velasquez, '99**, of San Marcos, earned her master's degree in education from Southwest Texas State University in May. She has taught public school for five years.

**Felecia Williams, '99**, of Austin, earned her master's degree in criminal justice from Sam Houston State University in August.

## 00s

**Diana M. Maldonado, '00**, was elected to the Round Rock ISD School Board, Place 2, with 60 percent of the voter turnout. Her three-year term began in May. This is Diana's first elected position.

**John Ryan Schmidt, '00**, graduated from Texas Tech University School of Law in May. He is an associate attorney at Anderson, Smith, Null & Stofer in Victoria.

**Victoria Rae Wiggins, '00**, graduated from the University of San Diego Law School in May. She also took the Bar Exam for California in July.

**Brother Jesus A. Alonso, CSC, '01**, of Austin, made his first profession of religious vows to the Congregation of Holy Cross in August.

**Christi Courtney, '01**, moved to Cozumel, Mexico, after graduation and started Blue XT Sea Diving in May 2002. The company

specializes in custom diving charters and all levels of dive instruction. Courtney is the sole administrator and scuba instructor. Visit her web site at [www.bluextseadiving.com](http://www.bluextseadiving.com).

**Leslie Curry, '01**, completed training as a border patrol agent at the border patrol academy in Charleston, S.C., in January. She is now stationed on the southwest border in Rio Grande City.

**Tanya Marie East, '01**, works as a communication specialist for the McKinney Police Department.

**Mark Holt, '02**, accepted the comptroller position at Alaska DigiTel in Anchorage, Alaska.

**Michael Muska, '02**, of Pflugerville, was promoted to director of Texas Yes!, a new program of the Texas Department of Agriculture that celebrates rural Texas. Visit the organization's web site at [www.TexasYes.org](http://www.TexasYes.org).

**Evan Streusand, '02**, was selected from more than 600 applicants for a travel internship with Contiki Holidays last summer. He went on a free 18-day journey to England, Holland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy and France. During his trip, Evan submitted travel journal entries and photos to [www.contiki.com](http://www.contiki.com).

**Brandon Benavides, '03**, of Hyattsville, Md., is working as an intern in the U.S. House of Representatives' Radio and Television Gallery. He began graduate school at American University this fall.

**Stephen Hoffman, '03**, of Sylvania, Ohio, is a business consultant for Newell Rubbermaid. Stephen said, "One word of advice to current and future Hilltoppers, always believe in yourself and your abilities and always work hard. The sky is the limit." ■

## I N   M E M O R I A M

**J. Ben Fanette, '33**, of Beaumont on May 3.

**James Thomas Hill, hs '33**, of Austin on Feb. 25.

**Jack C. Allen, '35**, of Dallas on Aug. 29, 2002.

**John M. Gemoets, '35**, of Las Cruces, N.M., on Feb. 19.

**Harvey Hoelscher, '35**, of Conroe on Jan. 1.

**Frank L. Maerz, hs '35, '38**, of Wharton on June 20.

**Rowan Shaw, '35**, of Fort Worth on June 18.

**Daniel Godfrey Seitz Sr., '38**, of Mission on Jan. 15.

**Joseph T. Maceo, '40**, of Galveston on May 8.

**Edward De Paul Oliver, '40**, of Carrollton on Oct. 15, 2002.

**James L. Powell, hs '40**, of Houston on Aug. 18, 2001.

**John Sigrist, '42**, of San Francisco, Calif., on Feb. 22, 2002.

**Clyde A. Lake Jr., '43**, of Austin in July 2002.

**Joseph B. Seitz, '44**, of Mission on Nov. 3, 2002.

**Paul Clyde Gunn, hs '46, '50**, of Pearland on April 25.

**Robert J. Wagner, MD, '47**, of Shiner on Feb. 9.

**Ernest L. Marik, '51**, of Cypress on July 28.

**Milton Leo Politte, '51**, of Crystal, Minn., on June 29.

**Carroll D. Simons, '51**, of Huntsville on Oct. 22, 2002.

**Ed Belshan, hs '53**, of Galveston on March 29.

**Donald P. Peak, '54**, of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., on Aug. 12.

**John Barry Sullivan, '57**, of Flower Mound on March 3, 2002.

**Michael A. O'Connor, '58**, of Corpus Christi on July 23.

**Brother Rene Lenhard, CSC, '59**, of San Antonio on Sept. 8.

**Hector X. Pagan, '62**, of Southbury, Conn., on April 18.

**Emil P. Nemec Jr., '65**, of Corpus Christi on June 23.

**Brother Jeremias Mysliwiec, CSC, '69**, of Austin on Sept. 5.

**Joseph J. Superty Jr., '70**, of Delray Beach, Fla., on Sept. 1, 2002.

**Cristobal E. Luna Sr., '73**, of San Marcos on April 27.

**Don A. Montgomery, '77**, of Austin on Aug. 30, 2002.

**Betty Tyler Anderson, '80**, of Lexington on July 29.

**Roger O. Gary Jr., MBA '81**, of Fort Worth on Feb. 17.

**Timothy R. Turner, MBA '84**, of Austin on May 24.

**Linda Black Kubena, '90**, of Austin on April 18.

**Tina M. Fitzpatrick, '91**, of Wichita, Kan., on Feb. 25.

**Gloria M. Robles, '91**, of Arlington on Sept. 4.

**Cheri R. Gelber, '93**, of Lubbock on April 16.

**Joy K. Krohn, '93**, of Austin on Aug. 9.

**Katherine Ann Bukowski, '94**, of Austin on March 20.

**Lynette Ellsworth, '94**, of Georgetown on Sept. 7.

**David W. Carpenter, '97**, of Austin on May 22, 2002.

**Nancy Turner McCoy, '97**, of Seguin on Aug. 6.

**Barbara Black, '01**, of Pflugerville on June 12.

**Craig Vance, '01**, of Leander on Oct. 10, 2001.

**Gregory Paul Erickson, MBA '01**, of Austin on Nov. 16, 2002.

**Gema Flores, '03**, of Austin on June 29.

**Alan R. Villegas, '03**, of Austin on March 6, 2002.

**Jay P. Ewing, '07**, of Round Rock on Aug. 31, 2002.

## P R O F I L E

## M A T T H E W   B U N C E , ' 0 3

Why do people build personal web pages? **Matthew Bunce, '03**, considered this question in Text and Discourse Analysis taught by **Mary Rist**, assistant professor of English writing and rhetoric. After the course, his interest in personal web pages endured and led to several discussions via e-mail with Charles Chueng, author of the article, "A



Home on the Web: Presentations of Self on Personal Homepages," and Cynthia Selfe, editor of the international journal *Computers and Composition* and author/editor of several essays and books concerning digital literacy and its political and social implications. "I felt as though many of my questions about building identity on the personal homepage were not answered, and I wanted to enter the rhetorical conversations that Cindy Selfe and my professors are involved in," Bunce explained. "This was the first time I'd

done research for the sake of learning and not for a grade. I wanted to show the composition and communication field that St. Edward's is teaching students to thrive in a techno-driven society."

Fate played a key role in his success. While embarking on a research trip with his mentor and advisor **Brother John Perron, CSC**, Bunce decided to read his newly acquired copy of *College Composition and Communication*, an academic journal. The vehicle they were traveling in stopped suddenly and jolted the journal out of his hands. When he reached to pick it up, it had opened to a call for papers from *Young Scholars in Writing: Undergraduate Research in Writing and Rhetoric* — the nation's only undergraduate journal about writing and rhetoric. Bunce revised a paper written for Rist's class and submitted "Online Texts, Online Identities."

"I believe my essay was selected for publication because it offered a new perspective using three theoretical frameworks — a cultural framework, a critical literacy framework and a classical rhetorical framework," Bunce said.

Bunce currently attends Michigan Technological University, where Cynthia Selfe teaches composition and communication. He is earning an MS in Rhetoric and Technical Communication, and he hopes to complete a PhD and become both a professor and a scholar.

— Cassandra Elizondo, '03

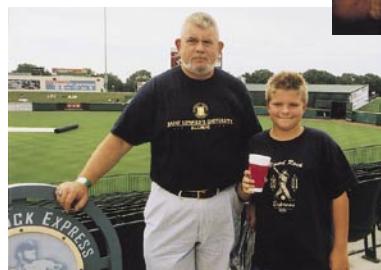
## Alumni Programs Summer Wrap-Up

Highlights of Summer 2003 alumni programming included an Alumni Volunteer Workshop in June; a "night at the ballpark" to watch a Round Rock Express game along with university faculty, staff and students — including members of the newly formed Student Alumni Association; and Summer Send-Off parties in Dallas, El Paso, Houston, San Antonio and the Rio Grande Valley, to welcome the university's newest students and their parents.

"As a student or alumnus of St. Edward's, you are part of a family and are welcomed in many places," said **Bert Jaime, '80**, whose family hosted the Valley Summer Send-Off at their home in McAllen.



MARC SWENDNER, '92



**Alumni families enjoy a "night at the ballpark," where Brianna Jones, '02, performed the national anthem, and Steven Pinkenburg, '98, took on Student Alumni Association member Sarah Brunelle, '04, in the "dizzy bat" race.**

MARC SWENDNER, '92



FARRAH GRAJ, '03

**Alumni Volunteer Workshop participants enjoyed a two-day training with staff from Alumni Programs, Undergraduate Admission and The St. Edward's Fund.**

## M A R R I A G E S

**Mary Kay (Misko) Martinez, '90**, to Jesus "Toro" Martinez on Aug. 9, living in San Antonio.

**Heather (Hirshorn) Dadey, '94**, to Jim Dadey on July 26, living in New York, N.Y.

**Arturo Gonzalez, '98**, to Brandy Daniel on Nov. 29, 2002, living in Eagle Pass.

**John Moses, '99**, to Patricia Quijano on June 21, 2002, living in Panama City, Panama.

**Lori Russel-Siemer, '99**, to **Paul Siemer, '99**, in March, living in Arlington.

**Melanie Marie Velasquez, '99**, to William "Rusty" Weedman Jr. on July 5, living in San Marcos.

**Lori L. (Smith) Edwards, '02**, to Mark D. Edwards on Oct. 19, 2002, living in Leander.

# What I did on my summer vacation



**Matt Abbott, '03, and Stephanie Bazan, '02, of Austin spent two weeks in Hawaii this summer. Above, Bazan's photo of the Napoli coastline.**

**Tim, '89, and Kathy Tray of Houston visited New England in June. At right, Tray's photo of a covered bridge in Sullivan County, N.H.**



**Paul Epple, '64, traveled to France in Summer 2003. At left, he also sold his pit-fired pottery at a U.S. pre-1840-style fur trade rendezvous.**

## get noticed... submit your alumni note

Keep in touch with your friends and classmates. A fun vacation, a new hobby, volunteering, job changes — whatever your news, share it with friends and classmates via the *St. Edward's University Magazine*. Submit your news by Nov. 19 to be considered for print in the next issue. And if your address or other contact information has changed, please let us know.

### E-MAIL:

catherib@admin.stedwards.edu.

Or send news via the St. Edward's web site: [www.stedwards.edu](http://www.stedwards.edu)

### FAX:

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Catherine Bedell  
St. Edward's University  
University Advancement  
3001 South Congress Avenue  
Austin, TX 78704-6489

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Former Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Your News: \_\_\_\_\_

*When faxing or mailing your note, please photocopy the form to the right.*

# RAGSDALE PLANE DEDICATED



On Aug. 28, the St. Edward's University community and members of the Robert "Bobby" Ragsdale family gathered to dedicate a large-scale model airplane built in 1928 by then 12-year-old Bobby Ragsdale, a benefactor of the Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center. The barnstormer model plane, which is approximately 10 feet long with a 14-foot wing span, will be permanently hung in the center's Mabee Ballroom atrium. The aviation-themed ceremony included invitations designed as boarding passes, individually packaged peanuts and pretzels as snacks, and balsa glider planes emblazoned with the university logo as souvenirs.

**Shana Spring, '04**, netted two round-trip tickets on Southwest Airlines by winning a contest to guess the weight of the plane, 460 pounds.



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