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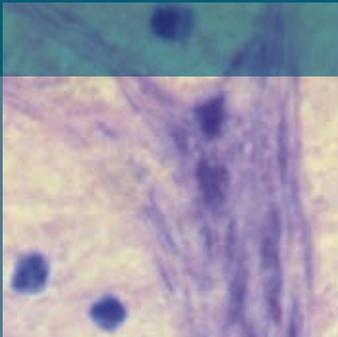
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research



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Research is Preparation for Lifelong Learning

George E. Martin, PhD

Ordinarily, when we think of research, we think of scientists and the awesome advances in medicine, chemistry and physics that we have witnessed in our lifetimes. Less often, we think of notable research in other academic disciplines such as the social sciences, literature and history. Rarely, unless one is part of higher education, does undergraduate research come to mind. Yet, in its own way, undergraduate research is as important and as significant a gift to society as the research that captures headlines.

Undergraduate research has a profound influence on students and can shape their worldview even as adults. Think of President John F. Kennedy and his senior thesis, *Why England Slept*. It is evident that he wove the threads of that project into his approach to foreign policy as president. Even more important, though, research completes a student's learning as it provides experiential exposure to the search for truth and the challenges of that lifelong search. That is why St. Edward's requires all students to complete a Capstone research project for graduation.

As part of choosing a topic for Capstone, undergraduate students must select a significant social controversy with identifiable value conflicts and pose an "open question" for study. They must describe alternative positions on the controversy and develop a hypothesis. Their research involves reviewing the literature on the subject; conducting field research, including identifying experts, designing a questionnaire and interviewing; constructing and analyzing arguments that demonstrate the ability to reason critically; and exploring the moral and ethical

implications of each argument. Upon completion of the project, students must share their findings in a formal oral presentation and in writing. What better way to prepare students for lifelong learning? What better way to strengthen their intellectual defenses against facile, misleading sound bites, generalizations, base appeals to emotion and ad hominem arguments?

The Capstone course is the culmination of the undergraduate experience. But students in all majors and in the university's six master's programs conduct research projects throughout their course work. They collaborate with each other and with faculty, present at national conferences, get published in noteworthy journals and gain experiences that set them apart from their peers. Often they find a passion for research that fuels their professional careers long after they complete their degrees.

As you read through this issue of our magazine, you will discover the impressive accomplishments of students who have excelled in research. Who knows? One or two of their papers may contain the youthful musings of a future world leader. ■

BEVERLY BARRETT

President Martin talks with Trustee Carolyn Lewis Gallagher at the reception for former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who spoke on campus in November. *Read more on page 10.*

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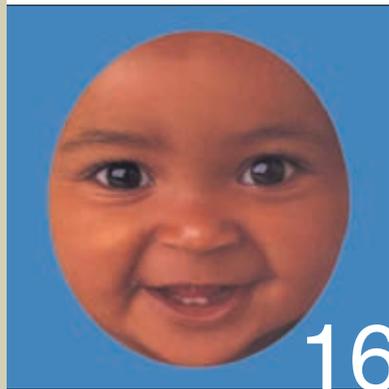


CENTER STAGE

Foreign policy superstars Madeleine Albright and Lloyd Axworthy visit campus.

WILLING & ABLE

Why (and how) Biology and pre-med student Margaret Whitney advocates for the inclusion of children with disabilities in Austin classrooms.



RESEARCH SPECIAL SECTION

From capitalism to cancer to pop culture, faculty, students and alumni conduct research across the globe — and make the world better, smarter and safer along the way.

ALUMNI NOTES

- Alumni in London
- Remembering IHM Sisters Mary Kevin Kenny and Mary Mercy Geohegan
- Ken Thomas, '83, Returns to the Big Screen



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ON THE COVER

Research at a liberal arts university? Absolutely. Read about the research — and meet the people behind it — starting on page 16.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Taking Aim for Athletics

The first Hilltopper Golf Tournament (pictured at right, and see story, pages 9 and 49), held in October, raised nearly \$20,000 for the university's varsity athletic teams.



STEWART JARMON, '07

Giving at a Glance (for the period July 1, 2005–Dec. 31, 2005)

- Total new gift and pledge commitments: \$3.4 million
- Total cash received (includes payments on previous pledges): \$6.9 million
- Number of new gifts and pledges over \$25,000: 16
- New St. Edward's Associates (gifts of \$1,000 or more): 190 received, 58 pledged
- Percentage growth of membership at St. Edward's Associates level: 29 percent

St. Edward's Closes in on Title V Goal

With \$470,000 in gifts and pledges, the university's Title V program has come within striking distance of its goal to raise \$550,000 by Sept. 30. Title V, a U.S. Department of Education grant, provides matching funds (81 cents per dollar) for designated Hispanic-Serving Institutions, those schools with at least 25 percent Hispanic enrollment. St. Edward's has earmarked the money raised through Title V for the College Assistance Migrant Program scholarship endowment.

SBC Gives \$25,000 for CAMP

SBC gave \$25,000 for CAMP during a special Sept. 26 benefit performance of *César & Ruben* by actor and activist Ed Begley Jr., who co-directed the play at Mary Moody Northern Theatre last fall (see story, page 5). The event raised an additional \$15,000, some of which also went to support the university's Theater Arts program.

Munday Endowment Doubles

Trustee **Pat, '97**, and **Bill Munday** have doubled the size of their Munday Endowed Scholarship from \$500,000 to \$1 million. The couple created the endowment in 2003 to give students demonstrating financial need an annual \$2,500 scholarship. The doubling of the scholarship endowment will in turn double the number of Munday Scholars from 10 to 20. On March 28, the Mundays will host a reception honoring not only their scholarship recipients but also all of the university's scholarship recipients and the generous donors who funded them.

This year's Munday Scholars are:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ Daniela Arredondo, '08 , Psychology | ■ Dagoberto Garcia, '08 , History |
| ■ Luis Avila, '06 , Computer Science | ■ Cindy Lopez, '07 , History |
| ■ Aaron Barnes, '06 , Biology | ■ Jorge Loredo, '05 , Computer Science |
| ■ Dahlia Campbell, '07 , Chemistry | ■ Cicely Oliver, '06 , Marketing |
| ■ Andrea Casares, '06 , Psychology | ■ Ruben Ruiz, '07 , Kinesiology |

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

A Special
DESTINY
THE CAMPAIGN FOR ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY

AL HOOK NAMED LUCIAN PROFESSOR

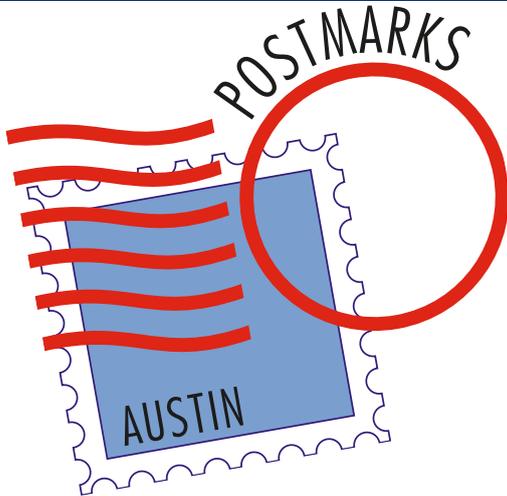


Professor of Biology **Al Hook** (left) was recently named the Brother Lucian Blersch Professor for the 2005–2006 academic year. The Lucian Professorship was endowed by **J.B.N. Morris, hs '48, '52**, and his family in honor of the longtime Holy Cross Brother and professor of Engineering, who died in 1986.

As Lucian Professor, Hook will teach fewer classes but will hire two undergraduate research assistants for a six-to-eight-week study of solitary wasp behavior, his primary research interest. He will also help organize the Brother Lucian Blersch Symposium, an annual half-day event that brings prominent scientists to campus to discuss innovative topics in the natural sciences. The 2006 symposium, "Biodiversity: A Land of Plenty or an Extinction Crisis," is scheduled for Friday, March 31.

"The Lucian Professorship is a great opportunity," said Hook. "It not only promotes undergraduate research and enables scholarly work, but it also brings leading experts to campus and exposes the university to the current trends in science and research."

Hook is the third faculty member to be named Lucian Professor. **Brother Daniel Lynch, CSC**, professor emeritus of Biology who passed away in 1997, and Professor of Mathematics **Jean McKemie** have also held the professorship.



Remembering a Hero

When I graduated in 1960, I had my heroes among the faculty. At the top of the list was **Brother Edmund Hunt, CSC**. I was fortunate to have him as my class advisor, and I took whatever he was teaching, including all of his French classes and the one-on-one classes where the two of us would study vocabulary with an emphasis on pronunciation.

Brother Edmund was referred to as “the Greek god” by those of us who were in training to become Holy Cross Brothers. Some of what led to that nickname was his immersion in the classics, some of it was the dominating figure he presented on the tennis court, but at the base of it all was the fact that he was such a great teacher. I was not aware that he was still alive but was still saddened to hear of his passing.

Reverend Arthur O’Brien, '60
Daytona Beach, Fla.



Great Books, Great Teachers

St. Edward's University Magazine is both easy on the eyes and a pleasure to read — altogether a remarkable publication. But that's not what prompts this letter. I was saddened to see the notice of **Brother Edmund Hunt's** death. Of all the classes I took at St. Edward's, the Great Books class monitored by him and **Brother Simon Scribner** was the most memorable. There were only about a half dozen of us who took the class and met a couple of times a week in Main Building. We sat around eating candy and drinking coffee or soda with

these two “worthies,” discussing some great piece of literature, usually classical Greek, sometimes until 1 a.m. Because of this course, my education really began after I graduated in 1949 and started a lifelong reading habit that continues today. I owe that to Brother Edmund and Brother Simon. Great men!

Bill Bauer, '49
Houston



Stamped in Our Memories

I was in the last batch of GIs to attend the university on the GI Bill in the late 1940s. Calming down ex-soldiers and sailors was no easy task for **Brother Edmond Hunt, CSC**, who became president in 1946. We couldn't believe “lights out” at 10 p.m.! I visited with him and **Brother Simon Scribner, CSC**, in the 1990s, and it was a real pleasure after so many years apart.

I was actually on campus to see **Brother Thomas McCullough, CSC**, who died in 2004 and was an avid stamp collector, as I am. So many students, past and present, are from foreign countries, and so many make trips to foreign countries for purposes connected with their educations. Could you put me in touch with the stamp collectors among these students and perhaps the faculty?

It is simply amazing to see the present physical developments on campus and the growth of students, faculty and activities supporting the university. It's come a long way from the time that Holy Cross Hall was my dormitory!

Ed Fahey, '50
San Antonio

To swap stamps or memories with Ed Fahey, contact him via St. Edward's University Magazine at staciap@admin.stedwards.edu.



Fifth Time's a Charm

I received the Fall 2005 issue of *St. Edward's University Magazine* and was drawn to the pictures on the front cover and the “A to Z” theme. I couldn't put the magazine down. Admittedly, I left St. Edward's the same way I've left four other universities, but not for the same reasons. I was usually fed up with the other colleges, but when I left St. Edward's, I had a lingering feeling that I'd be back to visit or to continue school. I haven't made up my mind yet, but I haven't forgotten you like the others. I'm a proud alumnus of yours.

Larry G. Branch
Austin

OH COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL HILLTOPPERS

On Dec. 9, more than 400 faithful Hilltoppers gathered on the front lawn of Main Building for the 27th annual Festival of Lights celebration. Luminarias lined University Circle, welcoming the community for a program of prayer, reflection, spiritual readings and song. During the ceremony, attendees lit candles as a transformed Main Building was illuminated by hundreds of lights.



STEWART JARMON, '07

Coordinated by Student Life, the event was followed by a Christmas concert in the Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center featuring the Hilltopper Chorale, Madrigal Chamber Choir and Omni Singers.

Connect to the Virtual Hilltop

Reconnect with classmates, network with fellow alumni and keep up with university news through the new online alumni directory.

Log in now by clicking
“Stay in Touch”
at www.stedwards.edu/alumni.



LORI NAVAR, MLA '05

FACULTY FACES

Charles J. Bicak

Dean, School of Natural Sciences

What is your favorite spot on campus? In Austin?

St. Joseph Hall. There is something both serene and dynamic about the residence of the Holy Cross Brothers. While the serenity is conveyed by the landscaping and the building's chapel, the dynamic nature of St. Edward's University is conveyed by the brothers who continue to live the mission on a daily basis.

I have been in Austin for seven months now, and I must say my favorite place in the city continues to be the St. Edward's campus, whether it's the spectacular view of the city from the entrance of Main Building, the excitement of the soccer field or the ecology of the on-campus pond.

What is your favorite subject to teach?

I have always had a passion for Ecology. This area of Biology encompasses elements of many other areas of the discipline — not to mention Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics. Ecologists utilize simulation modeling and make predictions using statistical tactics, yet the best ecologists balance time spent in the lab and at the computer with time in the field. It's that combination of indoor and outdoor science that has always appealed to me.

What was your first job?

When I was 16, I worked as a member of the grounds crew for a local college. I did this for two summers and then worked in the cornfields of Nebraska for the next five summers. I was pretty much oriented toward outdoor work, I suppose. That wasn't necessarily a conscious choice at the time; I just kind of fell into that pattern.

Who has been the most influential person in your life? Why?

My parents. They were always supportive, always available. My father was a college Biology professor, so it's pretty clear he has had a great influence on my life!

What attracted you to the position as School of Natural Sciences dean?

The university's mission, with its focus on the development of both the mind and the heart, is fully consistent with my view of education. It is clear to me that the mission is genuine and is lived on a daily basis by students, faculty and staff. St. Edward's is a caring, nurturing institution, yet one where people recognize that challenge and compassion go hand in hand.

Bicak became dean of the School of Natural Sciences in July and is teaching Science in Perspective this spring. He has a BS in Biology from the University of Nebraska-Kearney, an MS in Plant Science from the University of British Columbia and a PhD in Range Science from Colorado State University. He is a founding member of the Iain Nicholson Audubon Center Stewardship Board, dedicated to education and research about birds and the ecology of the Great Plains.

ST. EDWARD'S PRESENTS *CÉSAR & RUBEN*

In September, the Mary Moody Northen Theatre at St. Edward's University presented the Austin premiere of *César & Ruben*, a play that honors the lives of workers' rights advocate César Chávez and *Los Angeles Times* writer Ruben Salazar. Filled with the music of Ruben Blades, Enrique Iglesias, Carlos Santana and other well-known artists, *César & Ruben* is a celebration of love, family, friendship and passionate activism. The play was written by award-winning actor and activist Ed Begley Jr. as a tribute to his friend Chávez.

Begley was a student of Assistant Professor of Music **Brother Gerald Muller, CSC**, when he taught at Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, Calif. Their longtime friendship led Begley to bring his production to St. Edward's. On Sept. 26, Begley hosted a special benefit performance for nearly 200 alumni, donors and friends of the university — with proceeds benefiting the Theater Arts program and the College Assistance Migrant Program.

Incoming freshmen attended the production of *César & Ruben* in conjunction with their study of the farmworkers' movement, which they began last summer by reading *The Fight in the Fields: César Chávez and the Farmworkers Movement*. Freshmen and other members of the university community also had the opportunity to hear civil rights and social justice leader Dolores Huerta speak on campus on Sept. 20. Huerta, who co-founded United Farm Workers with Chávez, shared stories of her friendship with him and their fight for farmworkers' rights. She also encouraged students to become active in promoting civil rights and equality for all Americans.



MARC SWENDNER, '92



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Top: Actor and activist Ed Begley Jr. greets his old high school teacher Brother Gerald Muller, CSC, at Mary Moody Northen Theatre's Austin premiere of Begley's play, *César & Ruben*. **Above:** Mical Trejo, '97 (second from right), as title character César Chávez with (from left) guest artist Annie Treviño, Joseph Parks, '06, and Lanella Zotter, '07.



FABRIZIOPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

ON STAGE THIS SPRING

Antigone: Feb. 15–26

Courageously choosing loyalty to family over loyalty to the king, Antigone sets into motion a series of tragic events in this classic Greek drama by Sophocles.

Durang/Durang: March 30–April 10

Six hilarious short plays by satirist Christopher Durang make up this delightful spoof that takes aim at Tennessee Williams, Sam Shepard, David Mamet and more.

For show times and ticket information, contact the Mary Moody Northen Theatre box office at 512-448-8484.

PREMONT'S GRAND REOPENING

The addition of Jacques Dujarié Hall, which opened last fall, offered students a brand new, well-designed, amenity-rich residence option. Dujarié Hall was another step in the university's long-term investment in facilities and technologies designed to serve students better.

The new residence hall enabled the university to renovate Premont Hall, an older residence hall on west campus. Construction crews converted the building into offices for faculty and staff last spring and summer, implementing chic signage, vintage-style fixtures and warm colors to create an inviting yet professional ambience. The renovation was part of the university's master plan, which includes using resources more effectively by remodeling existing facilities rather than demolishing them.

Staff members from the Center for Teaching Excellence, Instructional Computing, the Office of Faculty Grants, Human Resources, the Business Office and the Holy Cross Institute, in addition to 19 faculty members, moved into their new offices in September, and the new Premont residents held an open house in October.



STEWART JARMON, '07

HAPPY 1,000TH BIRTHDAY, ST. EDWARD

It's not every day the university's patron saint turns 1,000. To celebrate, the community held festivities throughout October to honor St. Edward, the Confessor and King, who ruled England from 1042 to 1066 and constructed Westminster Abbey (*see story, page 20*).

Birthday events culminated at the "Fit for a King" bash on Oct. 20. Attendees feasted on a medieval lunch of pumpkin soup, crusty bread and meat pies before turning their attention to *The Confessor*, an original performance on the life of St. Edward by Theater Arts students. The university's Madrigal Chamber Choir provided music, and kids and adults alike were invited to "Create Your Own Crown" and visit "Ye Royal Photo Booth."



JESSICA ATTIE, '04

Refusing to attend the party empty-handed, students, alumni, faculty and staff gave the gift of service to honor St. Edward. Crushing the original goal of 1,000 hours, the university community contributed nearly 3,500 hours to nonprofits across the country between the first day of fall classes and the "Fit for a King" celebration. New College student **Kathleen Harman, '06**, completed the most service by an individual — 128 hours with the American Red Cross assisting Hurricane Katrina evacuees at the Austin Convention Center. Computer Training

Coordinator **Cousett Ruelas, '03, MLA '06**, and undergraduates **Kristen Dempsey, '09, Rebekah Haskins, '09**, and **Katie Martin, '09**, accumulated the most team hours — 390 — by volunteering with the Schoenstatt Movement of Austin, part of an international Catholic organization dedicated to Christian service and education. The service project carried out farthest from the hilltop was that of **Nancy Koughan, '85**, of Decatur, Ga. She contributed four hours of service at Hands On Atlanta.

In conjunction with the 1,000th birthday celebration, the university community participated in three Founder's Day service projects on Oct. 14. In the spirit of Holy Cross founder **Father Basil Moreau**, who embraced different styles of prayer, volunteers experienced a meditation in nature by working at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Volunteers also cleaned up trails at Blunn Creek in the spirit of **Brother Daniel Lynch, CSC**, professor emeritus of Biology and an active environmentalist, and they served food to the homeless at Caritas of Austin in the spirit of longtime Caritas volunteer and Professor of History **Brother William Dunn, CSC**.

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Margaret O'Brien Steinfels, co-director of the Fordham Center on Religion and Culture, spoke at St. Edward's in November as part of the Most Reverend Bishop John McCarthy Lecture Series on the Catholic Church in the 21st Century. Steinfels delivered her lecture "Reading the Signs of the Times" to an audience of more than 75. She stressed the importance of transmitting faith and the Catholic tradition in a rapidly changing world plagued by war, terrorism, natural disasters, and a diffusion of authority in politics and the church.

Steinfels has written extensively on topics including child care, bioethics, religion and politics, and foreign policy. She co-directed "American Catholics in the Public Square," a three-year Commonwealth Foundation project funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts. From 1988 to 2002, she edited *Commonweal*, an independent biweekly journal of political, religious and literary opinion produced by Catholic laypeople.

Hosted by the Center for Ethics and Leadership, the lecture series was created to honor Bishop McCarthy, who led the Diocese of Austin from 1985 to 2001, and to underscore the university's commitment to its Catholic roots and Holy Cross heritage.

The next lecture in the series — "That the World May be Transformed: The Role of the Laity in the Catholic Church" by Reverend Edward A. Malloy, CSC — is March 29. Click "Calendar" at www.stedwards.edu for details.

PLASTIC SMILES



LORI NAVAR, MCLA '05

The 20 members of the university's Environmental Club sold hemp and beaded jewelry, along with hand-painted, reusable grocery bags, at its annual fundraiser on campus in October. The student organization offered discounts to patrons who brought in plastic containers and plastic or paper grocery bags and collected seven extra-large trash bags full of recyclable items (including the trash bags themselves). The group raised about \$350.

THE ABC'S OF COLLEGE

In September, Associate Professor of Education **Barbara Frandsen** and 10 students from the School of Education offered a fourth-grade class from Pleasant Hill Elementary School the opportunity to experience a day as college students.

The children visited classrooms, the Mary Moody Northen Theatre and the Fine Arts Gallery and had soft drinks in South Congress Market. **Brother Gerald Muller, CSC**, assistant professor of Music, organized a concert of traditional Spanish tunes, while two cheerleaders and mascot Topper taught the children a cheer.

The day concluded with lunch and an inspirational talk from Student Government Association Vice President **Gaby Diaz, '06**. She told the children about her own experience in elementary school as a bilingual student from Venezuela. "I faced hurdles on my way to college, but with a little hard work and some help from my teachers and counselors, I made it," she said, "and I love it." Students from the School of Education also shared encouraging words with the children.

Frandsen and the students from St. Edward's received notes of appreciation from the children and, according to their teachers, couldn't stop talking about the experience.

In October, Frandsen and her students continued their community outreach by welcoming a group of San Marcos High School students interested in teaching. The students toured campus and received information about St. Edward's, the School of Education and Student Life.



LORI NAVAR, MCLA '05

FALLING FOR FINE ARTS

Hanging in the St. Edward's University Fine Arts Gallery this fall was a painting of a baptismal scene clearly depicting a biblical time period — yet the observers of the baptism are clad in modern bathing suits. The piece was part of *Saints, Seekers and Seers*, an exhibit by **John Patrick Cobb, '83**, featuring his highly spiritual works, which explore how these spiritual themes apply to the world today. Most of his paintings are done in egg tempera.

Cobb collaborated with seniors in Associate Professor of Art **Stan Irvin's** Art Exhibition Techniques course to put together the display. In addition, Cobb conducted a series of workshops with Professor of Art **Walle Conoly's** painting classes and worked directly with the students to critique their work.

After Cobb's exhibit concluded in October, the exhibit *Electrified* featured New York clay artist Richard Zakin

and included the works of 16 Texas clay artists. Zakin also presented workshops for ceramics classes and for members of the Greater Austin Clay Artists, which co-sponsored the exhibition. He is a professor of Art at the State University of New York-Oswego and has authored several popular texts on low- and high-temperature oxidation-fired glazes.



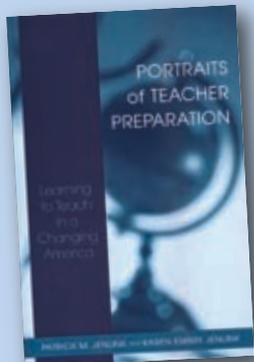
"The Virgin Mary As A Child, Her Grandfather Joaquim Guiding" by John Patrick Cobb, '83.

Later in the month, Los Angeles, Calif., artist Paul McLean exhibited *A Prayer for Clean Water*. His multimedia works included paintings, drawings, photographs, animations, video, text, sculpture and wall treatments on the theme of water as a prerequisite for life and a vehicle for dreaming. McLean also offered two gallery talks for students: "What Is Art?" and "Who Is an Artist?" The Art program's guest artist series is funded by a grant from the Still Water Foundation.

For information on spring Fine Arts Gallery events, contact Irvin at 512-448-8685 or stanleyi@admin.stedwards.edu.

FACULTY BOOKSHELF

Karen Embry Jenlink, dean of the School of Education, has written *Portraits of Teacher Preparation: Learning to Teach in a Changing America*, which explores the challenges of preparing teachers in urban settings. Co-authored by Patrick M. Jenlink, professor of Doctoral Studies in Educational Leadership at Stephen F. Austin State University, the book was published by Rowman and Littlefield Education



in partnership with the Association for Teacher Educators last October. Embry Jenlink, who has an EdD in Supervision, Curriculum and Instruction from Texas A&M–Commerce, was named one of 115 outstanding alumni by her alma mater's College of Education and Human Services in October in honor of the university's 115th anniversary.

Lisa Justine Hernandez, assistant professor of Cultural Foundations and Freshman Studies, has published three entries in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in the United States*, a four-volume set published by Oxford University Press last July. Her entries discuss the works of Chicano author and poet Gary Soto and the significance of Internet use and hypertext on U.S. Latinos. Hernandez has a PhD in Comparative Literature from UT–Austin.

Bill Martello, assistant professor of Management, has been selected as a contributor for the upcoming *Encyclopedia of Business Ethics and Society*, which will be published in 2007 by Sage Publications. He is writing entries entitled "Airline Deregulation" and "Savings and Loan Scandal." The encyclopedia, edited by Robert W. Kolb of the University of Colorado, is a comprehensive compendium of reference articles on business ethics issues. Martello has a PhD with a focus in Social Responsibility and Strategic Management from the University of Pittsburgh.

MERITORIOUS EMERITI



LORINAVAR, MUA '05

St. Edward's celebrated the conferring of professor emeritus status on five longtime professors in October. The university's Board of Trustees approved the designations in September for Brother Andrew Angermeier, CSC, who taught English Literature from 1957 to 2001; Brother Romard Barthel, CSC, who taught Math and Physics from 1947 until his retirement last spring; Glenn Hinkle, who taught in the School of Education from 1970 to 2001; Jimmy Mills, who taught Biology for 32 years and retired in 2005; and Pete Pesoli, who taught English for 48 years before retiring in 2002.

From left: Newly designated professors emeriti Glenn Hinkle, Pete Pesoli, Brother Romard Barthel, CSC, Jimmy Mills, and Brother Andrew Angermeier, CSC.

CAMPUS SUPPORTS AFRICAN ARTISANS

The university community joined together last fall to raise awareness and support for two different Holy Cross missions in Africa by purchasing gifts and crafts made by women in Uganda and Kenya.

In October, students in the Hispanic Business Students Association and advisor **Lorelei Ortiz**, assistant professor of Business Communication, organized the Kenya Red Ribbon Sale, which raised \$350 to benefit the Women's HIV/AIDS Center in Nairobi. Students sold hand-beaded red-and-white pins made by Nairobi women and created a promotional campaign including the slogan "Save a Woman, Save a Nation." Their supply of 50 pins sold out in four hours.



STEWART JARMON, '07

In November and December, Ortiz's Business Communication students joined with students in the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences' Service Learning Seminar taught by Assistant Professor of Theater Arts **Sara Medina-Pape** to host the fifth annual SE-Uganda craft sale. The sale featured baskets, woodcarvings, artwork, jewelry and Christmas cards made by women in Kirinda, Uganda, who have learned hand sewing, machine sewing, reading and writing from Holy Cross Sisters stationed there. The sale raised more than \$7,000 for the artisans and the Holy Cross Family Center — a 20 percent increase over the previous year.

SPORTS SHORTS

By Ryan Poulos, '05

Alumni Tee Off

Alumni, athletes, coaches and friends gathered in October for the first-ever Hilltopper Golf Tournament at the Golf Club at Circle C. The scramble-style tournament benefited the university's varsity athletic teams. After lunch and warm-ups on the driving range, teams of four competed for honors including closest to the pin and longest putt. **Aaron Chilek, '00**, who hit the day's longest drive, and teammates **Wes Foerster, '00**, **Blair Trousdale, '01**, and **Doug Yeamans, '00**, won the tournament with a low score of 58. Afterward, the fun continued with live music, prizes and an auction.

Baseball Team Rallies for the Cure

The St. Edward's baseball team hosted a pancake breakfast in November to cover players' registration fees for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's annual Race for the Cure in Austin. The Hilltoppers were led by outfielder **Bradley Goldsmith, '08**, who lost his mother to breast cancer last May. "The team really supported Bradley," said Coach **Jeremy Farber**. "Everyone liked the idea of being involved in the race — it really fit the team's personality." Players raised more than \$1,000. In addition, a team of 100 students and members of the faculty and staff led by Career Manager for Adult Students **Amy Bush, MLA '04**, and Professor of Accounting **Barbara Cassidy** participated in the race, which raised \$1.1 million overall for research and awareness initiatives in Central Texas.

Doubles Team Goes to Small College Championships

With the help of the Hilltoppers' number-one men's doubles team of **Simon Boyce, '06**, and **Tyler Lyon, '08**, the men's tennis team ranked 20th among NCAA Division II teams in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association rankings released on Nov. 18. After winning the ITA Regional Championship in October, Boyce and Lyon traveled to the 2005 ITA National Small College Championships in Fort Meyers, Fla. The duo defeated a team from Drury University before barely falling to the eventual champion, Barry University. The pair will return to the court next season.

Men's Golf Team Gets New Coach — and National Ranking

Athletic Director **Debbie Taylor** announced **Ryan Murphy** as the new head coach of the men's golf team in August. Murphy joins St. Edward's after four seasons as assistant golf coach at the University of New Mexico, where he helped the Lobos win three Mountain West Conference championships and make four NCAA Division I tournament appearances. Murphy joined the Hilltoppers just weeks before Golfstat announced the team as 11th best in the nation. The team finished in the top five in all of their fall tournaments, including a first-place finish at the Territory Classic on Sept. 20.

By the Numbers

- 71.8** Season stroke average of men's golfer **Nicholas Cristea, '07**.
- 39** Service aces this season by volleyball player **Camille Broadus, '07**.
- 17** Nationally ranked teams faced by the men's soccer, women's soccer and volleyball teams last fall.

- 7** All-Conference honors earned last fall: men's soccer players **Robert Descant, '06**, **Noor Jehangir, '08**, **Jonathan McQuade, '07**, and **Chris Sanders, '08**; women's soccer player **Kristen Gascoyne, '08**; and volleyball players **Lindsey Douglas, '09**, and **Kristen Lozano, '08**.

- 6** Shutouts by the men's soccer team. ■

UNIVERSITY HONORS

The Residence Halls of Tomorrow

The Association of College and University Housing Officers International has selected President **George E. Martin** as one of nine university presidents from across the country to participate in the 21st Century Project, a national initiative to develop prototypes for residential facilities designed to meet the diverse living and learning needs of future students. Martin joined about 100 university administrators, architects and residence life professionals for the first project summit in Chicago, Ill., in February.

GEP Wins @ Work

The university's Graduation Enhancement Program earned statewide recognition when it won the Upper Rio Grande @ Work Award in November. The annual award, sponsored by the Upper Rio Grande Workforce Development Board — a network of business, education, labor, community and government organizations — is given annually to a school or university that has developed employment or educational opportunities for the area. GEP, a seven-week summer residential work-study program for rural migrant high school students, allows students to earn high school credits, receive a stipend for classroom time, benefit from paid on-the-job training and gain firsthand experience of a college campus. Five freshmen currently participating in the university's College Assistance Migrant Program are GEP graduates.

Ethics Team Tops Competition

Accounting Information Technology major **Linus Akanoh Jr., '06** (see story, page 32), and Philosophy majors **Philip Jones, '06**, and **Garett Sansom, '06**, took first place in the 2005 Ethics Match in October. The team's faculty sponsor was Professor of Philosophy **William Zanardi**. Centered on the theme *consilium virtusque*, or reason with honor, the annual ethics match is hosted by the Texas Independent College Fund. In the competition, teams presented arguments that place the highest value on life and liberty and that exhibit qualities such as wisdom, honesty, fairness, respect and compassion. Eighteen colleges and universities from across the state competed in the match.

Reporting by Hans Christianson; **Jessica Ciancarelli, '05**; E. Brook Haley; **Stacia Hernstrom, MLA '05**; **Carrie Johnson, MSOLE '05**; and Steve Wilson.

Center Stage

The Kozmetsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance
welcomed Madeleine Albright and Lloyd Axworthy to campus last fall.

By Mischelle D. Amador

When **Rosario Green** stepped into her role as visiting professor and faculty chair of the Kozmetsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance last January, she brought with her 37 years of experience as a diplomat and educator. She also brought a network of distinguished government and business leaders. And last fall, two of these dignitaries came to campus to share their insight on international politics, human rights issues and the world economy.

Lloyd Axworthy, Canada's former minister of foreign affairs, visited St. Edward's on Oct. 24, the 60th anniversary of the creation of the United Nations. In celebration of U.N. Day, when member countries renew their commitment to the U.N. charter, Axworthy spoke about the responsibility of individuals and nations to protect members of the international community. Axworthy is widely recognized for his advancement of the human security concept and his leadership in the Ottawa Treaty — a landmark global treaty banning anti-personnel landmines. Currently, he is president and vice chancellor of the University of Winnipeg and chair of

the Human Security Centre for the United Nations' University for Peace.

Then, on Nov. 17, more than 1,500 people gathered to "eavesdrop" on a conversation between Green and her friend Madeleine Albright. Both Green and Albright earned the distinction of being the first women to serve as secretary of state for their respective countries, with Albright serving the United States from 1997 to 2001 and Green serving Mexico from 1998 to 2000.

During the public dialogue, Albright gave the audience a preview of her new book, *The Mighty and the Almighty*, which explores the role of God and religion in American foreign policy. "Instead of saying that religion should have no part in policy, I have come to the realization that we need to understand much more [about] what role religion really does play," said Albright. "Therefore, as diplomatic problem solvers, our diplomats have to know more about the culture of the country, [including] its religious life."

Students will play a distinctive role in our ever-expanding global marketplace, Albright said. "This generation is going to be more

global than any other. Most people in this room will go somewhere abroad in their lives, and their lives will be affected very specifically by something that is happening somewhere else." She also emphasized the importance of understanding foreign languages, history, cultures and economics. Reflecting on her tenure as U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations and addressing the purpose of the global organization, Albright said, "In this world we have a duty to protect people in other countries. To do that, students have to know about what is going on in other countries." ■

The Kozmetsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance was established through a \$3 million gift from Ronya Kozmetsky and her late husband, George. They envisioned a center of excellence in global finance that would benefit not only students at St. Edward's through interdisciplinary scholarly activities and international forums, but also individuals around the world who will be affected by sustainable financial stability. Visit the center at www.stedwards.edu/kozmetzky.





Willing & Able

By Hans Christianson

When **Margaret Whitney, '07** (*left*), first arrived at Fulmore Middle School last April to volunteer with special needs students, she didn't exactly receive a hero's welcome. The counselors and principal were excited that she wanted to volunteer — but finding the extra time to help her get started seemed impossible. Most of the teachers were too busy to talk to her, and the director of Special Education wasn't quite sure what to do with her.

Not dismayed by the lackluster introduction, she jumped right into her mission — helping out wherever she could and assessing the students' needs so she could recruit more volunteers. This included facilitating tests for students with learning or reading disabilities, monitoring students with behavior problems, and just being nearby to give attention or encouragement to students feeling overwhelmed.

Whitney, a pre-med Biology major from the Washington, D.C., area, is no stranger to volunteer work and helping people — particularly children with disabilities. As a teenager, she spent four years teaching therapeutic horseback riding. She also worked two summers at a San Antonio-area camp for children with disabilities that was founded by her aunt, **Chris Plauché, '71**, a pediatrician who specializes in neurological disorders. Through her experiences, Whitney discovered that she wanted to pursue medicine and continue helping people with disabilities. A scholarship at St. Edward's funded by the Brown Foundation Inc. of Houston is helping to make that happen.

The foundation — which is family-run and primarily supports education, community service and the arts — funded the Brown Scholars program in 1996 with a \$500,000 gift to the university's endowment. Each year, St. Edward's awards \$5,000 Brown Scholarships to five traditional undergraduates with at least 45 credit hours, a 3.5 cumulative GPA and a demonstrated commitment to community service. As part of the scholarship, Brown Scholars also plan and implement a community service project during the year they receive the award.

Whitney first learned about the scholarship from **Barbara Filippidis**, professor of English and director of the Honors Program, who encouraged Whitney to apply. When Whitney sat down to fill out her application, she already knew what topic she would focus her service project on — inclusion of special needs students into mainstream classrooms.

She became interested in the topic of inclusion after discussing social justice issues and then researching and writing about the topic for her Honors American Dilemmas class with **Peter Beck**, assistant professor of Environmental Science and Policy. As a result of her research and her personal experiences working with special needs students, Whitney came to the conclusion that the current public school strategy of separating students with disabilities is ineffective, and she wanted to advocate for the alternative solution of inclusion.

"Not every child with special needs and disabilities is the same," she said. "A child who is in a wheelchair has totally different needs than a child with Down Syndrome, yet the current system throws them both into the same category."

Adjunct faculty member **Leila Levinson** served as Whitney's faculty mentor and helped her with the service project proposal for the Brown Scholarship. Together, they defined how the project carries out the mission of the university and the Brown Foundation; showed why the project is important to the community; and prepared a step-by-step implementation plan. Levinson also provided a personal connection to the project — not only is she a friend of the Special Education director at Fulmore, but her son is a special needs student in sixth grade.

Working with Levinson's son has provided Whitney with new insight into the struggles that families face raising children with special needs. "By spending only a few hours a week with these kids, I have come to realize that these issues are not just something we read about," she said. "These are obstacles that families deal with on a daily basis — and

Share Your Special Destiny

Who at St. Edward's — past or present — has transformed your life? Give thanks to them by sharing with us how a professor, mentor, classmate or friend shaped your special destiny. E-mail staciap@admin.stedwards.edu, or write *St. Edward's University Magazine*, 3001 South Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78704.

the strategy of inclusion is an opportunity to facilitate a quality education for students with special needs."

The service project has also taught Whitney another valuable lesson. As project coordinator and leader, she brings other students from St. Edward's into the middle school to serve as volunteers in special needs classrooms. Managing those volunteers and trying to pair them up with the right classroom is a challenge, she says. "Most of the teachers are already overworked, and while they are open to having volunteers in the classroom, they don't have the time to hold their hands. If a volunteer isn't very outgoing or doesn't show initiative by jumping right in, it can actually be counterproductive."

But the challenges aren't stopping Whitney. She is continuing the project this spring and is seeking out new volunteers, particularly students from the School of Education who are training to be teachers. Whitney also hopes that her project will continue to grow and thrive after she graduates next May and moves on to medical school.

"As college students, we have so much going for us that it's easy to get lost and think everything is about us — but it's not," Whitney said. "There are lots of people with needs, and this is just one way to help." ■

To learn more or volunteer with Whitney's service project at Fulmore Middle School, contact her at mwhitne@acad.stedwards.edu.

Eye of the Storm

By Erin Whitworth, '99, MBA '02

I was hired as the director of business operations at the Central Texas Red Cross chapter just one month before Hurricane Katrina made landfall. Then, before we could catch our breath, Rita loomed on the Texas coast. Talk about a steep learning curve.

While the Central Texas chapter is well-versed in deploying trained volunteers to handle large-scale disasters, these two were different. They came to us — and the Austin community responded. Our phones never stopped ringing. Most calls were from people wanting to donate time, money or things. Eventually, we had 24 working lines in our headquarters, and it still wasn't enough. (So if you weren't able to get through, that's why!) We had thousands of spontaneous volunteers show up on our doorstep every day for several weeks. Boxes of supplies and money for disaster relief poured in as well.

Our 15-person staff started out at quick-shuffle pace, but we were able to make improvements and pick up speed quickly with the support of the community. We broke some ground doing it. We had offsite locations — including a phone bank, computer lab, and volunteer check-in and service centers — to equip and staff during Katrina relief operations, which served more than 6,000 evacuees. By working with local vendors, we were able to provide real-time monetary assistance for those in need. For Rita, we opened 50 evacuation centers at local schools and took in more than 19,000 people. We couldn't have accomplished this without the help of neighbors and parents at the various schools. We strove to provide the highest level of service to evacuees, and word spread quickly. Evacuees from Houston, San Antonio and Dallas, just to name a few cities, came to Austin.

It's been a wild ride these last few months, but I wouldn't trade the experience for anything. Ten years ago, I would never have imagined myself going to school in Austin, let alone staying here. When I started at the Red Cross, I had visions of a healthy work-life balance and the opportunity to continue serving the city I had grown to love. But this summer, I found myself grateful to be living in Austin for a much more important reason than the great music, restaurants and lifestyle — the people.

And while hurricane season is thankfully winding down, we are working with our local cadre of volunteers, who have accomplished so much — and have the potential to accomplish so much more — on both a local and national level. We are providing life-saving skills training every day. We are continuing to educate the Austin community about



the impact of our local chapter, and we are staying busy trying to better prepare for next summer.

Why? Because we know that there are always disasters looming. And whether these disasters make the news or not, we will respond because of the generosity of local donors and volunteers. ■

"Hilltop Voices" features perspectives on the St. Edward's experience in the words of students, alumni and other members of the university community. Send in an essay for consideration by e-mailing staciap@admin.stedwards.edu.

CalculationStation

Four researchers take data about teaching, learning and serving students and bring the numbers to life for the campus community.

By Cyndi Swendner

Twenty-one percent of traditional undergraduates pursue further education after graduation. More than 84 percent of first-time freshmen returned for their sophomore year last fall. And about 98 percent of students in New College, the university's undergraduate program for working adults, say they are satisfied with their St. Edward's education.

So how does the university come up with these statistics?

It's thanks to **Bhuban Pandey**, associate vice president of Institutional Effectiveness and Research, and his staff of three researchers, who work diligently to keep faculty and staff up-to-date with accurate figures such as these. Pandey's team members make up the Office of Institutional Research, and they gather, process and report data utilized by virtually every office or program on campus.

The staff is made up of Pandey (*far right*) and (*from left*) Research Associate **Connie Carey**, Assessment Coordinator **Ralph Wilburn**, and Senior Research Associate **Danica Dailey Frampton, '86, MAHS '94**. Their duties — which include collecting data, “cleaning” data (locating the source of incorrect data) and preparing reports — vary greatly from day to day. This variety is what keeps the job interesting, says Frampton.

But how exactly do they obtain all this data? They rely on tools such as student surveys and the university's database of student information. They collect data from external reports and studies to compare students at St. Edward's with students at other universities, and they respond to external surveys from sources like *U.S. News & World Report's* college guide. They also assist faculty and staff with

what is known as institutional effectiveness — helping identify how processes can be improved to better serve students.

“Offices like to know if they are doing their job well — are they meeting their goals, are students learning and are they satisfied with their learning experience?” said Pandey. “Our role in institutional effectiveness is to help faculty and staff gather data and to assist in the analysis of the information.”

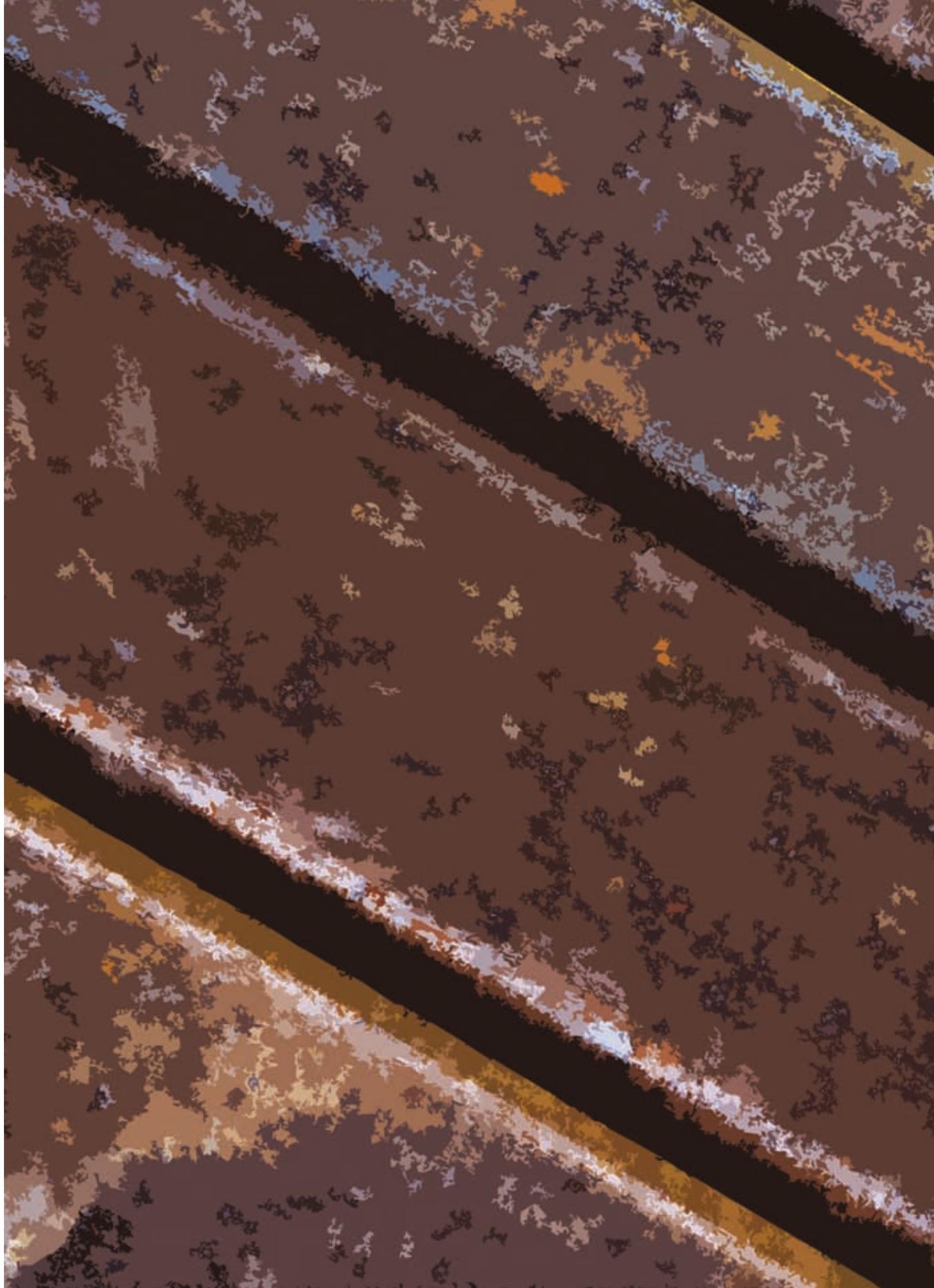
The Office of Academic Planning and Support Services, which supports freshmen and transfer students by offering advising, counseling and tutoring, finds these services invaluable. **Greg MacConnell**, director of Academic Support and Retention Programs, has recently worked with Pandey to analyze the results from the College Student Inventory, an early-alert system meant to identify at-risk students. Pandey has also assisted MacConnell in preparing this data

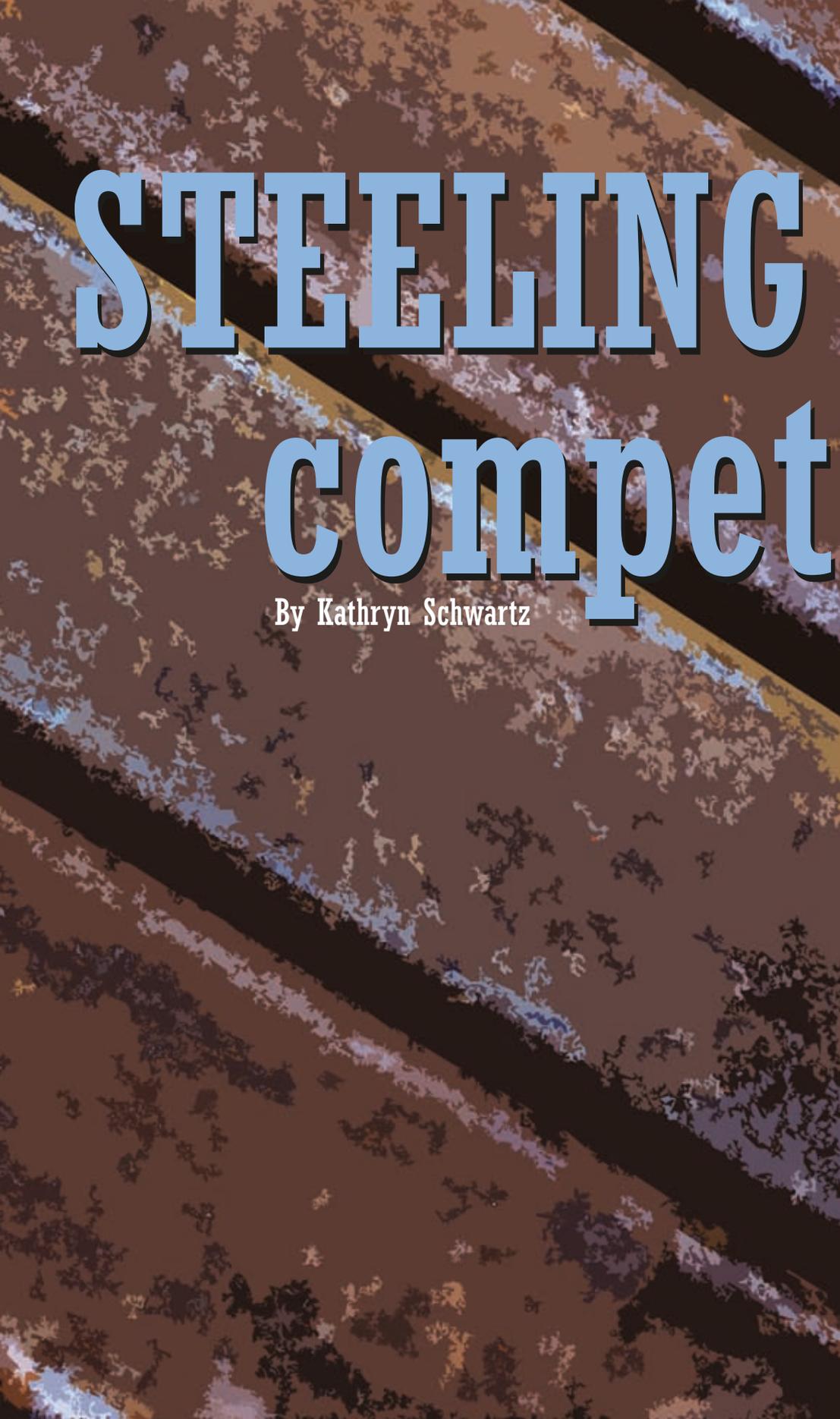
for presentations to the Board of Trustees and university administrators.

Through the College Student Inventory, MacConnell and his staff are examining why students leave St. Edward's, whether it's because of something beyond the university's control, such as illness or a family situation, or because of a particular experience at St. Edward's. In instances where it's the latter, “we want to put processes and people in place to help prevent that,” said MacConnell, who reports that last fall's 84.4 percent freshman retention rate — the number of freshmen who returned as sophomores — was a university record and higher than the national average.

“Without good data, decisions are based on hearsay and anecdotal evidence, which isn't always reliable,” said MacConnell. “Bhuban and his team help me interpret data without bias. They make the information come to life.” ■







STEELING the competition

By Kathryn Schwartz

Three MBA students from St. Edward's University rode through the streets of Eastern Slovakia last November packed in an impossibly small taxi. They had been briefed on what to expect for the consulting project that brought them there, but the centuries-old structures, post-Soviet graffiti and lone McDonald's awed them just the same.

And that was just for starters. Team member **Bukky Buraimo, MBA '05**, a quality assurance analyst for Cingular, saw only two other African Americans during his entire visit. Yet he found Slovaks all but colorblind. **Bill Barton, MBA '05**, a project manager with Milburn Homes, couldn't get over the rapid modernizations he saw alongside historical markers. "Their experience with a free market is only 15 years old," he said. "They have done in 10 years what we have done in 200." Likewise, team leader **Mark Dale, MBA '05**, a retired customer engineer for Verizon, admired the country's commitment to overcoming a system historically rife with corruption for the rewards of a free market.

Translating Success

These and other perceptions that the students gathered on their trip last fall helped them solve the problem faced by their client, U.S. Steel Corporation: how to translate



Slovakia's economic opportunity back to America. Only about 120 U.S. companies do business with Slovakia. U.S. Steel is one of them, and it wants to raise those numbers. When the company bought an existing steel operation in the eastern Slovakian city of Košice and became one of the biggest steel producers in central Europe in 2001, it promised as part of the deal to spend two years enticing other outside businesses to invest directly in eastern Slovakia.

U.S. Steel started by launching an economic development corporation, but it wasn't proving effective enough. To get its efforts back on track, U.S. Steel turned to Assistant Professor of Management **Gary Pletcher**, chair of the Global Business concentration in the university's MBA program. Pletcher has worked on numerous international consulting projects in the past, including those in Belgium, Germany, the Czech Republic, Belize and Costa Rica. But U.S. Steel, he says, "was our largest corporate partner to date."

A People Problem

Pletcher first took a look at U.S. Steel's strategies to interest companies in investing in Slovakia. He confirmed what the company had already assumed: "They weren't attracting

the right people." Or, as Barton described it, U.S. Steel had been trying to attract "anyone and everyone."

Pletcher tasked his students with narrowing the focus to better target companies that would have a higher likelihood to want to invest in the country. First, the team paid some house calls, visiting eight companies and two government ministries around the region. Then they left the beaten path to knock on the doors of businesses big and small. "We wanted to know what companies are successful there so far and why," said Barton.

Buraimo collected and analyzed data regarding companies' profitability, the length of their stay, management turnover and similar factors — "anything that could provide more concrete data for targeting and messaging," he said.

Creating this detailed record of what businesses have worked in the past was essential for helping U.S. Steel project and predict which companies to target, says Dale. "We assigned a point system to help them methodically choose who to try to develop in the future."

Welcome to Eastern Europe 101

Another part of the team's research involved deciphering the current American mindset

toward doing business in Slovakia. "Typical American businesspeople don't understand the opportunities available in Slovakia," said Dale. "We wanted to explore the origin of that viewpoint so we could start the education process."

The team found that the problems in translation included basic information about Slovakian culture and geography. American business leaders, for example, didn't know how to distinguish eastern Slovakia from the better-known western Slovakia region. For that matter, they could rarely distinguish Slovakia from the rest of Eastern Europe.

Another problem: addressing the lack of information about the country's current stance on free markets and its safety as an investment. Slovakia embraced free-market reforms more slowly than its neighbors. It didn't help that "there was a lot of corruption in the initial transition," said Barton. Even the Slovak Investment and Trade Development Agency, created to drum up the same business U.S. Steel wants to attract, has had problems with corruption. And currently, 20 percent of the Parliament remains communist.

Still, the government has developed a pro-investment reform policy and, as Buraimo put it, understands that "becoming a free market is

"We are determined to create a model in Slovakia that will lead the way to a world where there are many more winners. I have no doubt that there can be social justice through economic integration."

a process.” He takes the country’s willingness to open its doors for business as a good sign. “As part of the European Union, more eastern Slovaks go out to see how business has been done elsewhere, and they realize that their system is not quite right,” he said. “They can import that knowledge back to their culture. They will learn to challenge the remnants of the old system.”

Eastern Slovakia: Open for Business

Once the MBA team had explored these issues, the students assembled their data and crafted key messages for translating the business opportunity they had witnessed. The pros for investing in Slovakia, they argued, included English-speaking, well-educated citizens living and working in the cities; low production and labor costs; pro-business governmental policies, such as a tax structure built around a 19 percent flat tax rate; industrial sites in good geographic locations with transportation to huge markets in less than a day; and involvement with the European Union and NATO. Not to mention the help offered by U.S. Steel’s economic development corporation. The cons for investing in the country — which U.S. Steel promises to help other businesses overcome — include lingering political problems and corruption, as well as different customs and traditions.

The message came down to this: eastern Slovakia has the necessary resources and capital for any business to be successful.

The team’s research results will be incorporated into a business plan and implemented by U.S. Steel, but already, the work has produced tangible results. For the university, the project has furthered its global education initiative and mission of service. “What we essentially accomplished was an economic development service-learning project,” said Pletcher. “In this case, it was providing service to the people of a formerly communist country. Our hope is that the project leads to future projects of this magnitude.”

In fact, 12 MBA students are planning a return trip to eastern Slovakia to finalize the

project. And in April, St. Edward’s and the U.S. Steel leadership team will host a “road-show” for investors from around the world who are interested in learning more about the opportunities in Slovakia.

The ultimate goal, says Pletcher, is to change the international business paradigm. “In the global world, there are always winners and losers. We are determined to create a model in Slovakia that will lead the way to a world where there are many more winners,” he said. “I have no doubt that there can be ‘social justice through economic integration.’”

A People Solution

And for the students, who produced meaningful research and recommendations for a large multinational company, their résumés can breathe a collective sigh of relief. These days, many business professionals undertake at least one international assignment during their careers. Barton, Buraimo and Dale have completed one before graduation.

“I watched the team gain a tremendous amount of confidence on this project,” said Pletcher. “They learned to simplify the complex, to take positions for which they could make the case and to be persistent. These imperatives are applicable in any situation, anywhere — and they are what make an MBA from St. Edward’s so valuable in our global world.”

But enhancing their own employability is just a bonus, says Dale. “If our project entices more businesses into Slovakia, more work and a better standard of living will surely follow for its people.”

Not bad for one semester’s work. ■

Opposite, left: MBA students Mark Dale, Bukky Buraimo and Bill Barton researched economic development opportunities in eastern Slovakia last fall as part of a consulting project for U.S. Steel.

Opposite, right: The MBA team visited a Lear Corporation manufacturing facility where door panels for Porsche and Volkswagen are made.

Below: The Primate’s Palace in Bratislava is famous in part because Napoleon Bonaparte and Francis I of Hapsburg signed the Pressburg Truce there in 1805.



King confessor

By Cyndi Swendner

As Susan Akin, '02, MLA '04, emerged from her evening graduate classes, she would notice the constant breeze and take a moment to look out on the lights of Austin from the St. Edward's campus. "I had the feeling that the spirit of St. Edward was watching over us, whispering, 'Stay your course; be true to yourself, and you will be rewarded,'" she said.

Akin, who was born in England, had visited the tomb of St. Edward in Westminster Abby. She moved with her family to Austin in the 1960s, and when she and her best friend first walked to the university's campus from their quaint Travis Heights neighborhood, Akin instantly felt a connection. When she joined the university as a staff member in 1995, she noticed that most incoming freshmen knew nothing about the saint for whom the university was named. She grew more conscious of this lack of awareness when she became business manager in the Residence Life Office three years later.

Her interests in St. Edward (the saint and former king of England) and St. Edward's (the university) officially converged when she enrolled in the Master of Liberal Arts program and began considering topics for her master's thesis. She chose to write about St. Edward, who led England from 1042 to 1066 and

was known as Edward the Confessor for his religious purity and his practice of confessing his faith to God.

But Akin decided against writing a biography of his life. Rather, she wanted to focus on whether or not there was a connection between St. Edward and the university. Would he still be a good person to name a school after? Would the values of an English king still match the values of the students at a modern university? Could his life inspire students today?

Akin returned to Westminster Abbey to begin her research. She spent several days looking through articles and books from as early as the 18th century. She was also allowed to view some materials from the 12th century, which were written in medieval French and Latin. She continued her work at the British Museum and the Museum of London.

Reviewing her findings back in Austin, Akin began to see themes about St. Edward's life emerge. Edward, the only English king to be sainted, was considered a transitional king who helped reconcile the country's diverse cultures. He appointed men to his council who represented England's many nationalities, and he made a deliberate attempt to understand

other countries' customs and use diplomacy more effectively. He is remembered for providing peace for his people and implementing reforms in the church, including condemning corruption and establishing monasteries to provide education and promote justice.

Akin's research led her to the conclusion that Edward's beliefs could easily transfer to the mission of St. Edward's University. Many of his

core values, she noted, could well have been lifted from the university's mission statement: acceptance of diverse cultures, involvement in the broader community, commitment to service, and dedication to seeking justice and peace.

Akin's explorations also had a profound personal impact. Edward's belief system made her take a look

at her own life and values. Realizing

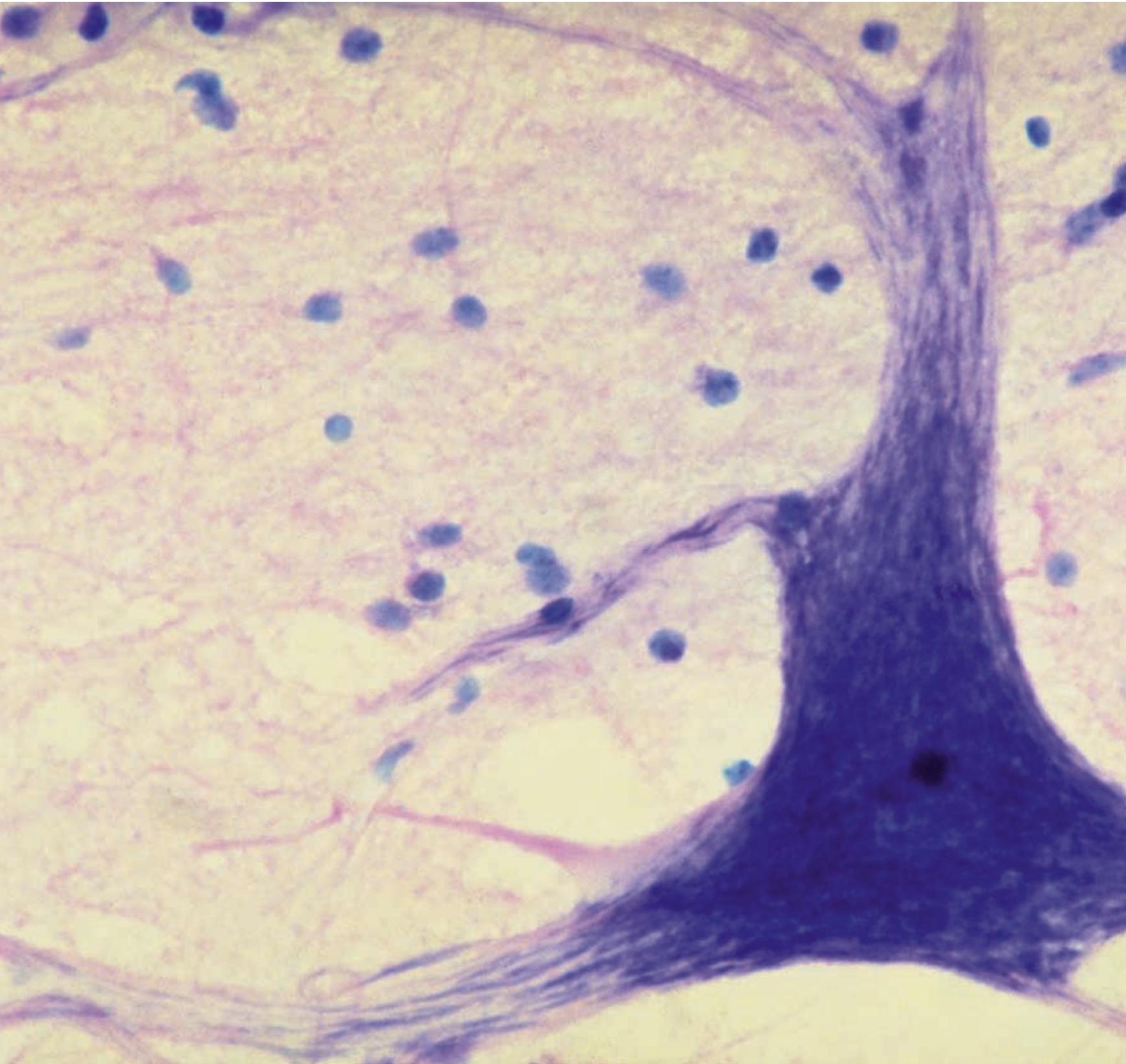
her dream of becoming an author, she resigned from her job at St. Edward's and dedicated her time to continuing her research. She ultimately hopes to publish a book on Edward.

"To say that my life was touched by Edward, the Confessor, is an understatement," said Akin, who now has a shelf in her home library dedicated to works concerning Edward. "In a sense, he has become a part of my life." ■



Susan Akin







the **ROOT** of *stems*

By Amy E. Lemen

Photography by Jessica Attie, '04

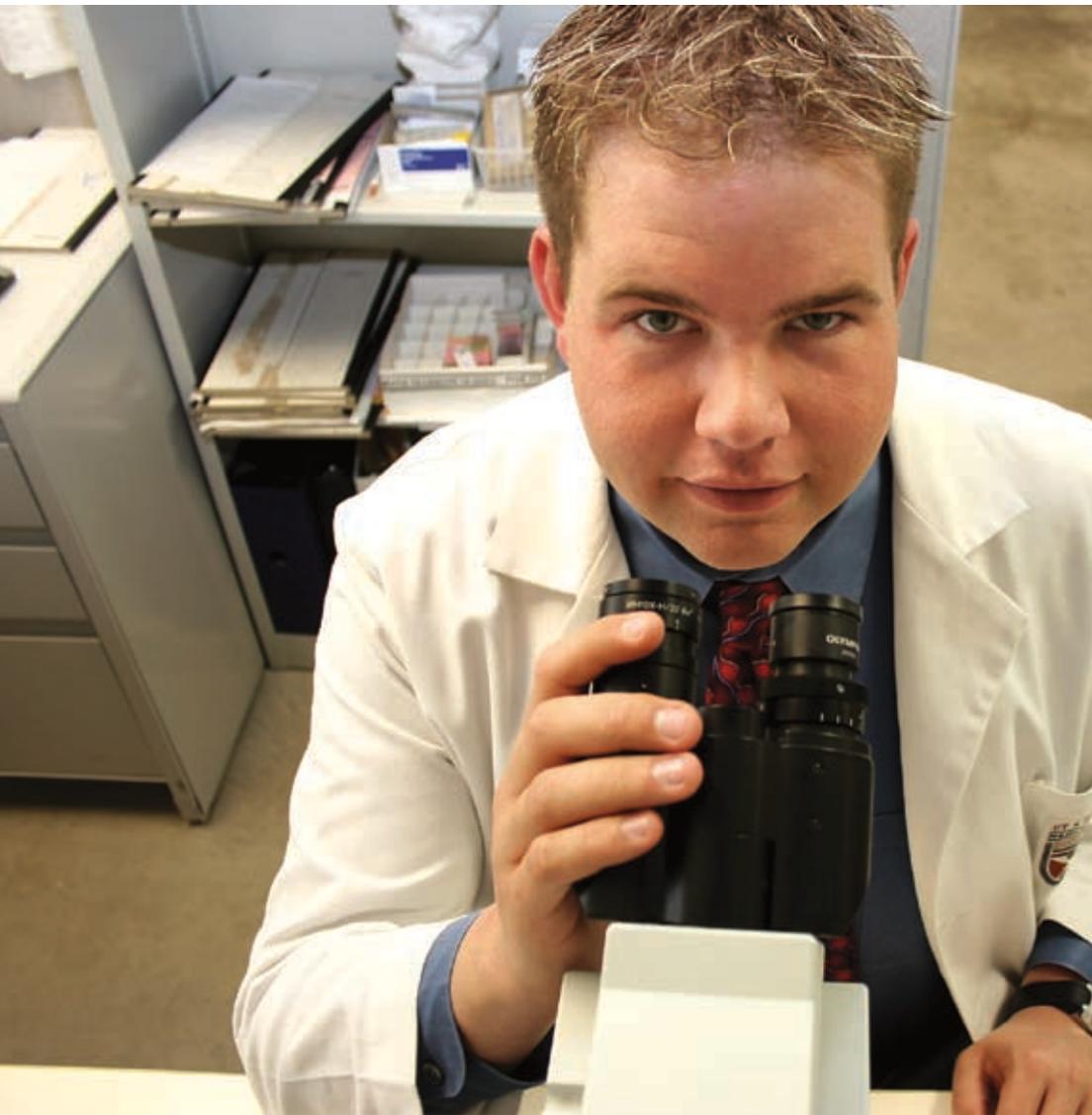
At the age of 13, **Adam Conley, '02**, observed his first operation and began volunteering at a local hospital. Medicine has been part of his daily life ever since.

“My mom asked me what I wanted to be, and I always said a doctor,” he said. “I was the first person in my family to go to college — it really was my own initiative.”

Conley, who was home-schooled by his mother and grandmother in Dallas, credits his nontraditional education and the flexibility it offered with giving him the discipline he needed to effectively manage his time. It’s a skill that’s very much in demand in his second year of medical school at the UT–Health Sciences Center in Houston.

“I have a lot of passion for the field,” he says. “I see students who are here because the profession has been thrust upon them, and they’re miserable. You have to really want this to do it.”

While working on a BS in Biology, Conley was selected for a summer undergraduate research fellowship his sophomore year — an “externship” that gave him the opportunity to study the characteristics of nuclear cell division at the UT–San Antonio Health Sciences Center. Back at St. Edward’s that fall, he conducted



Adam Conley

“When you’re able to contemplate ideas of what you *should* do and what you medically *can* do, there’s balance.”

research on bio-agricultural engineering for the U.S. Department of Agriculture via a three-year grant awarded to the Biology program at St. Edward’s in 2001.

Getting to the Root of Stem Cells

That experience led to an invitation after graduation from Tulane University’s Center for Gene Therapy to conduct stem cell research on adult nonembryonic stem cells in bone marrow. It was an opportunity that he couldn’t refuse for more focused, real-world learning on a hot topic.

“It was the first time I’d been exposed to professional-level labs and academic medicine,” he said. “The center has had amazing results with nonembryonic stem cells, especially with implications for spinal cord injuries and neurological problems.”

At Tulane, Conley worked on mice with induced spinal cord injuries that were then injected with adult stem cells at the site of the injury. “The cells would go straight to the nerves to repair and remodel the nervous system,” explained Conley. “We compared nerve function before and after and saw a complete reversal of the injury.”

Groundbreaking Research

Adult stem cells are already being used in treatments for more than 100 diseases and conditions. While at Tulane, Conley also tested stem cells at the molecular level, looking at multiple-myeloma cancer and the interaction between cancer cells and stem cells.

Multiple myeloma causes the bones to break down (it starts in bone marrow), and those who die from it don’t usually die from the cancer — rather, they die from complications caused by injuries from falls, like hip fractures. Conley’s research looked at how adult stem cells could keep the destructive bone-weakening cells from forming.

“We injected mice with multiple-myeloma cells and then gave them antibodies made with stem cells to see if that could reverse the effect,” he said. “It worked.”

Conley presented the research findings at the International Society for Cellular Therapy conference in Dublin, Ireland, in 2004. His paper on the research appeared in the November 2005 issue of the *Journal of Stem Cells*.

While Conley didn’t work on the embryonic stem cells that have caused much debate

at the national level, as a medical student and soon-to-be doctor whose Catholic background has had a big influence on him, he has opinions. “I wouldn’t personally do research on embryonic stem cells, but I think there is validity in studying embryonic cells because of their potential,” he said. “The more important thing for me personally is to explore other options that are morally and ethically attainable.”

Philosophical Medicine

Conley credits his studies in the Honors Program at St. Edward’s, as well as teachers like Professor of Chemistry **Eamonn Healy**, who taught Conley Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, with giving him valuable perspective on such complicated issues.

“I had the opportunity to discuss moral and philosophical issues — beyond learning science,” Conley said. “When you’re able to contemplate ideas of what you *should* do and what you medically *can* do, there’s balance.”

For his part, Healy — who is in his 16th year of teaching at St. Edward’s and in 2001 was named a Piper Professor, one of the state’s most prestigious teaching honors — says Conley was one of those students whose drive was “fundamentally intellectual.”

“He was really interested in the intellectual process and putting that together in the bigger picture,” said Healy. “His drive was obvious; it was a mixture of work ethic and commitment to what he was doing.”

What really struck Healy about Conley was more than just his intelligence; it was

his skill in putting all the pieces together. Students of Conley’s ability present an “interesting challenge” to professors, Healy says, because they’re really capable of teaching themselves.

“You have to provide them with outlets. As you’re feeding them information, you help them make the connection,” Healy said. “Adam is one of those students capable of making those connections — and he’s obviously still making them.”

Love of Teaching

For Conley, whose great love besides medicine is teaching, Healy was an influence beyond academics at St. Edward’s. He is one professor Conley will “take with him forever” because Healy is more than just a scientist when it comes to his students.

“Part of being successful academically is to involve yourself with professors who really love to teach,” said Conley. “They have the big picture in mind and are there for their students.”

It’s not surprising then that Conley got involved with the Teaching Scholars Program at St. Edward’s soon after arriving at the university. Conley and others taught chemistry students from Lanier High School and, at the end of the program, brought them to the St. Edward’s campus for a tour to introduce them to college life.

“I always knew I’d want to incorporate teaching into my career,” he said. “Even now, up to my eyes in medical school, I want to stay in academic medicine.”

Into the Field

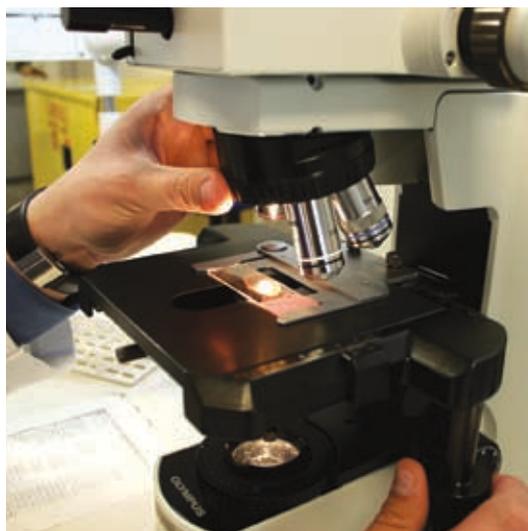
Conley is finishing up his second year of medical school and will graduate in May 2008. It’s an exhaustive commitment of time and resources, but he is dedicated to the profession — and to the challenge. He plans on going into a surgical residency in trauma after medical school.

These days, he studies trauma, a line of research inspired by his days working as a paramedic at Brackenridge Hospital during the five years he was in school at St. Edward’s. “Working at Brackenridge was a great experience from a clinical perspective, and it really prepared me,” he said. “I know how to talk to people and communicate with patients and their families.”

Currently, he’s working with patients who come in with severe injuries, using a new technology that allows him to see how the body utilizes oxygen post-trauma to determine which patients will better survive organ failure — one of the leading causes of death in trauma cases.

“There are very aggressive treatment plans, like administering higher levels of oxygen to meet the demands of internal organs, that work for some trauma patients,” said Conley. “My job is to identify those that prove effective.”

“I’ve always wanted to be a surgeon, and I know there will always be a new treatment or research to learn about. But trauma victims are the ones you can have the most immediate and profound effect on — the people who need you the most.” ■





uncle sam

says

By Adam Pyles, '04

Kathleen Brown, associate professor of History, is an unabashed book lover. Her office shelves, desk and chairs overflow with them; the floor is carpeted with them. She devotes vacations to book-hunting; she has leafed through dusty paperbacks at sweltering Texas swap meets and rummaged through out-of-the-way barns in rural Maine. Her tastes are eclectic — Americana, autobiographies, regional fiction, journalism, theater and film memoirs, and mystery novels are all sought-after treasures.

“I start out with one question, which leads me to another question, and pretty soon, all available space is filled with books, articles and primary sources in which I seek the answers to those questions,” Brown said.

This strategy works for her personal interests and her professional ones. In fact, the majority of Brown’s research, which often focuses on the history of American radicalism and the women’s movement, involves using interdisciplinary methods. Her current project involves searching through popular cultural sources — films, magazines, newspapers and, of course, books — to explore the debate on the military’s role and impact in American society in the 1940s and 1950s. The World War II era is outside of her usual milieu, but a combination of factors led Brown to the subject.

Her experiences in developing and teaching classes on World War II and the Cold War through film, combined with her research for those classes, inspired her to write a paper for “War in Film, Television and History,” a conference organized by the Film and History League in November 2004. Her paper — “Vestments of Civil Life in *Kane Mutiny* and *Attack*” — argues that there was never a “Cold War Consensus.” The term

refers to the idea that Americans were united in their faith in corporate capitalism, their commitment to policing the world, and their belief that the Soviet Union’s communism was the most important threat to American safety. Her paper was subsequently published in the conference’s proceedings and its annual *Film & History* CD for 2004–2005. Recent analogies made by the media about the current conflict in Iraq and World War II have also inspired Brown to look further into the subject of mid-century militarism and its relation to popular culture.

Brown’s research thus far indicates that Americans were not united over the aims and tactics of American military and domestic strategies during the first half of the 20th century. In fact, she says, American novelists, journalists, memoirists and screenwriters engaged in an ongoing debate about the possible political and cultural effects of militarization throughout the war years and well into the Cold War.

“You may not know it, but the 1930s had as large a peace and anti-militarism movement as the 1960s,” she said. “Those Americans opposed to militarism and to war joined peace organizations, wrote books and articles, sent petitions to Congress, and no doubt talked with their neighbors on barstools and street corners.”

When she is finished with her current work, Brown intends to resume her focus on a book she has been working on for several years. Tentatively titled “*Love and Loyalty*”: *Ella Reeve Bloor and American Communism*, it is a biographical study of the union organizer and communist leader.

And as Brown’s research progresses, her book collection will undoubtedly continue to grow. Booksellers in Austin and beyond, rejoice! ■



Kathleen Brown

ME # M M G NE N N N

FAMILY

How To Raise
HAPPY
CONFIDENTIAL

Baby Care For
The Summer
Months

Keep Your Children Safe

*At The Beach *In The Pool *In The Yard

How Tall
Will Your
Child Be?

Alma's
Summer



Why Pink & B

BB APR 1999



Alan Swinkels



Amy Moses



Emily Johnson

If you go to the grocery store, or a shopping mall or perhaps a local park, chances are you will find a variety of parents pushing strollers or walking hand-in-hand with small children. Immediately following World War II, these children would have most likely been dressed in traditional colors — boys wore blue and girls wore pink. Today, more parents are moving away from traditional colors and are instead opting for gender-neutral yellows, greens and whites.

But the wardrobe change is having little to no effect on people's perceptions, explains **Alan Swinkels**, professor of Psychology, whose research focuses on gender identification and sexist language. Every day, people mistake girls for boys, and Swinkels wants to know why.

What a Cute Little Boy

Swinkels first realized that there might be a problem to pursue after his daughter, Casey, was born five years ago and a stranger asked how old "he" was. During the first year of life, children tend to look fairly nondescript because they lack many of the facial gender cues that characterize adult faces, explained Swinkels, but he wanted to know why someone would automatically assume his daughter was, in fact, a boy. After all, there was a 50/50 chance that she was a girl.

With the help of **Amy Moses, '03**, Swinkels embarked on a series of 11 studies beginning in 2002 to discover whether adults could accurately identify the sex of infants without the presence of traditional gender cues. They expected adults to perform poorly at this task, but they were more interested in the kinds of errors that would be made. Specifically, they predicted that adult judges would be more likely to misidentify girls as being boys, rather than the other way around.

The first study gathered St. Edward's University students ranging in age from 18 to 41. They were shown a series of 36 photographs (18 boys and 18 girls) of infant and toddler faces from five months to three years old. The researchers had scanned pictures from popular magazine covers like *Parents*, *Parenting* and *American Baby* and had digitally manipulated the photos to exclude gender cues such as clothing and hairstyle, leaving visible only the facial features of each child. The participants saw each image individually on a computer screen against a black background.

Swinkels systematically modified the next several studies. Some included a greater majority of pictures of girls than boys. Another showed the full pictures without any digital manipulation. One study looked at the gender identification ability of daycare workers, while another set of studies showed

participants an array of photos and asked them to judge the relative proportion of girls and boys depicted.

Across the research, as predicted, participants were not much better than chance. Given 50/50 odds of choosing the right gender, most participants made correct identifications about 58 percent of the time. It was the pattern of their mistakes, however, that confirmed the researchers' hypotheses — rather than being equally likely to mistake boys as being girls and vice versa, participants were much more likely to misidentify girls as being boys.

"It's as though participants saw the world through 'boy-colored glasses,'" said Swinkels. "Because we live in a very male-oriented society, people carry with them a kind of default: 'when in doubt, assume it's a male.' In the present case, a better operating principle might be, 'when in doubt, ask the parent.'"

He Said/She Said

Swinkels' gender identification research falls in line with his other concurrent area of research — examining the prevalence of sexist language in popular print media. In particular, he focuses on the problem of "masculine generics" — using "mankind" rather than "humankind" or using "he" or "him" when referring to members of both sexes.

Blue **isn't** Black & White

By Hans Christianson



KATY ROGERS '08

Girl or Boy?

Professor Alan Swinkels' research shows that when adults aren't provided with gender cues for infants and toddlers, they tend to overestimate the presence of boys compared to girls. See if you make the grade by guessing the gender of these nine children. Check your answers below.



1



2



3



4



1.F 2.F 3.M 4.F 5.M 6.M 7.F 8.M 9.F

Academic writing, he explained, especially in Psychology and related fields, has all but eliminated these forms of sexist language. But popular writers, particularly in newspapers and magazines, have been slower to adopt a gender-neutral approach. That's problematic, says Swinkels, since millions of readers each month are subtly reinforced with a male-biased view of the world. In fact, his review of all available studies pointed to virtually the same conclusion: when people hear or read masculine generics, they think exclusively of males.

In 2000, Swinkels surveyed the copy editors of 400 magazines regarding their official policy on sexist language. The results of the survey indicated that a majority of the publishers did not have a formal policy about sexist language, even though most of the editors acknowledged being aware of and concerned with the problem. While they tried informally to edit out sexist language, the editors acknowledged that their deadlines often prevented a thorough review. "It was clear that despite the best intentions, their nonsexist attitudes didn't always translate to nonsexist behavior," said Swinkels.

Case in point was a 2003 study in which Swinkels and his research team analyzed the content of more than 350 magazine articles for the presence of sexist and nonsexist language — and found that sexist language was 10 times more prevalent. In 2004, Swinkels pursued an intriguing finding from this research, namely, that magazines and books targeting parents and children often showed the greatest amount of sexist language. After reviewing 75 guidebooks for parents, he

discovered that books targeted specifically at women or men showed a higher incidence of sexist language compared to books written for both parents.

A Little Help from My Friends

A unique element to all of Swinkels' projects is his recruitment of undergraduate student research assistants. Typically, he works with three or four assistants a year — students who show a knack for the research process and the subject matter.

"I want all of my assistants to get a sense of how professional research gets conducted," he said. "That is exactly what we are doing — real science with unanswered questions."

Typically, his research assistants help design the studies, collect the data, conduct some of the analyses and write up early drafts. They also present at professional conferences as first authors. In fact, over the last nine years, 12 of these students have presented at the Southwestern Psychological Association and have won Outstanding Undergraduate Research Awards from Psi Chi, the national honor society in Psychology.

One of his current assistants, **Emily Johnson, '07**, a Psychology major who has been working with Swinkels for more than a year, recently submitted an abstract to present at the association's 2006 meeting. In their study, Johnson and Swinkels found that the covers of parenting magazines depict more girls than boys — by a 3-to-1 ratio. This is driven perhaps by the idea that girls are cuter, sweeter or more appealing to a predominantly female readership, though when Swinkels and

Johnson showed the photographs to study participants, girls and boys depicted were judged to be equally cute.

Being involved in this project with Swinkels has sparked an interest in social psychology and research for Johnson. "I didn't really know a lot about research, and I knew even less about social psychology," she said. "Now, I've changed my career path from counseling to research and teaching, and I'm on the road to graduate school."

Working as a research assistant has also opened Johnson's eyes and ears to the instances of sexist language among her peers' writing. "I knew there was a problem before, but I couldn't really put my finger on it. Now, I can see there is a scientific basis and strong evidence, and something needs to be done about it," she said. "I want to educate people — especially college students — about this. I think most of them don't even realize they are doing it in their own writing."

That's exactly the kind of critical thinking Swinkels is looking for in his student researchers. One of his goals, he says, is to help them prepare for graduate school and their own careers. "Graduate schools are taking more and more notice of undergraduate research during the admission process," he said. "I want all of my students to be able to conduct good research, appreciate where the data come from and recognize that there isn't a cookbook approach to tackling real scientific problems."

Just like there isn't always an easy way to tell whether the baby you're cooing over is a girl or boy. ■





RED ALERT

By Jessica Ciancarelli, '05

On the 16th floor of a corporate skyscraper, a lone accountant ticks away at his computer, changing expenses to assets and hiding the \$100,000 birthday party the boss charged to the company credit card. That was before Enron, before WorldCom, and before **Chris Cahill, '05**, and **Linus Akanoh Jr., '06**, combined accounting and computer science into unique senior projects to research corporate fraud detection techniques.

In Fall 2004, Cahill and Akanoh walked into their Senior Seminar course wanting a challenge. With the encouragement of Associate Professor of Computer Science **James McGuffee** and their advisor, Associate Professor of Accounting **Mike Harris**, they decided against traditional computer science or software projects in favor of addressing the hot topic of corporate fraud. Their research incorporated aspects of the university's Accounting Information Technology program, which grants its graduates a BBA in Accounting and a BA in Computer Information Technology. The five-year program provides both the 150 college credit hours and the 30 hours of Accounting courses required to sit for the CPA exam.

Akanoh and Cahill worked independently on separate projects but decided to present

their results as a team. Both used the financial statements of publicly traded companies and adopted accounting algorithms to analyze ratios and look for trends.

By comparing 10 years' worth of financial statements of reputable companies like Microsoft and Dell against those of proven-fraudulent companies, Cahill and Akanoh found clues hidden in the statements that flagged inconsistencies in the fraudulent companies' accounting techniques. Akanoh used Visual Basic macros to analyze his results, while Cahill used Python programming to predict the existence of fraud.

Their hard work paid off. Last spring, they took third place at the annual meeting of

the Texas Academy of Science — and became the first business students in the academy's history to win an award. They also earned first place at the university's annual SOURCE, the Symposium On Undergraduate Research and Creative Expression, in April.

Surprisingly, the pair didn't intend to present their research competitively. They originally thought that presenting together at the Texas Academy of Science would give them a

practice run before they presented individually for a grade in their Senior Seminar course.

"Collaborating with Linus was inevitable, but our methods were completely different initially," said Cahill. "We spent a lot of time on the front end talking about what types of methods were appropriate to examine fraud and consulting with our professors about which methods we could successfully develop into a program in the three months we had to work. In the end, two brains were stronger than one!"

Both Cahill and Akanoh value the experience they gained through the project. Cahill was part of the first class to graduate from the AIT program last May. He has recently taken a position in Miami as an external auditor for Orth, Chakler, Murnane and Company, which specializes in auditing credit unions around the country. The new position allows him to apply the accounting side of his degree to financial audits and the technology side to information system audits. For Akanoh, the research helped him develop analytical skills and find his chosen career path.

"I feel comfortable doing this type of work," said Akanoh, who is continuing his fraud research for his Honors Program thesis and plans to pursue a master's degree in Accounting. "I believe that if you find a job you love, you'll never work a day in your life — and I found it." ■



Chris Cahill (left) and Linus Akanoh Jr.



The caretaker of Mariner's House, a New Bedford boarding house for fishermen, poses in one of the rooms.



the history of me

By Hans Christianson
Photography By Nicky Tavares, '03



Nicky Tavares

It's a chilly December evening in New Bedford, Mass., and a group of about 350 men, women and children have gathered together in the community center. They're celebrating a centuries-old tradition from the Azores, an archipelago off the coast of Portugal. Children play and run around the room while adults talk about life at the factory and at sea, and everyone eats a traditional meal of sausages, vegetables and bread. All the while, three freshly slain pigs — two full-grown pigs and one piglet — hang upside down from a stand in the corner.

One series of Tavares' photographs documents elderly members of New Bedford's Portuguese community. *Right: Vizinha of São Roche, São Miguel. Next page, from left: Tavares' aunt Maria Luisa Viveiros of Lagoa, São Miguel; Dr. Steven Cabral of Agua de Pau, São Miguel; and Tavares' grandmother Maria dos Anjos Tavares of Lagoa, São Miguel.*



After the meal, music starts to play and people dance and laugh. A man dressed in a white coat pulls the two adult pigs down from the stand and butchers them on a nearby table. He auctions off the various pieces of meat, including the heads and the untouched piglet, to the highest bidder. So goes *A Matança do Porco*, the Killing of the Pig.

In years past, this tradition was often crucial to the welfare of Portuguese families living in the Azores, particularly those in remote areas and without access to transportation. The freshly butchered pig represented food for the coming year. In 2005, the New Bedford Portuguese-American community continues the tradition as a fundraiser of sorts, a way to raise money for the different summer festivals that take place in the surrounding

areas to honor the patron saints from the nine islands of the Azores. It is also a remembrance of more difficult times.

Through it all, from the slaying to the butchering to the dancing, **Nicky Tavares, '03**, shoots every detail with her Kiev camera. This is the medium that puts her back in touch with her people.

Aren't You Portuguese?

During a visit to New Bedford as a teenager, Tavares sat in a restaurant, struggling to understand the menu. Her cousins, submerged in the Portuguese culture and language of the close-knit New England community, naturally assumed she could speak and read Portuguese, too. When she mispronounced the name of a sausage, they started

to laugh. One of her cousins looked up at her and said, "How can you mispronounce that? You're Portuguese!"

This cultural slip only added to the feeling of being different that Tavares was already well accustomed to. Though born in New Bedford, she spent most of her youth and teenage years in Plano — not exactly the easiest place to be Portuguese, according to Tavares. "I wasn't really Anglo, but I wasn't Hispanic either," she said. "There just aren't very many Portuguese Americans in the Dallas area."

Tavares' parents didn't push their heritage on her either. Her mother stopped speaking Portuguese to her when she was a little girl after her brother complained that his friend thought it sounded weird. And most of her Portuguese relatives, including



her grandmother and eight aunts, lived in the New Bedford area. She visited them frequently during holidays and vacations, but every time she arrived, she felt a different kind of awkwardness. Not understanding the culture or language, she was an outsider there, too.

Tavares realized she was Portuguese in name only. She had no real understanding of her family heritage or its culture. Then something happened to change all that: She discovered her father's love for photography.

The Power of a Photograph

When she was 14, Tavares found an album of black and white photos her father had

taken as a college student in Portugal. He shot his photographs of college friends and places he had visited, but she was most interested in the photos of the darkroom he had rigged up in his bathroom. The mystique of the different photos and the stories behind each subject or place captivated Tavares. With the help of her father, she built her own darkroom and began taking photographs.

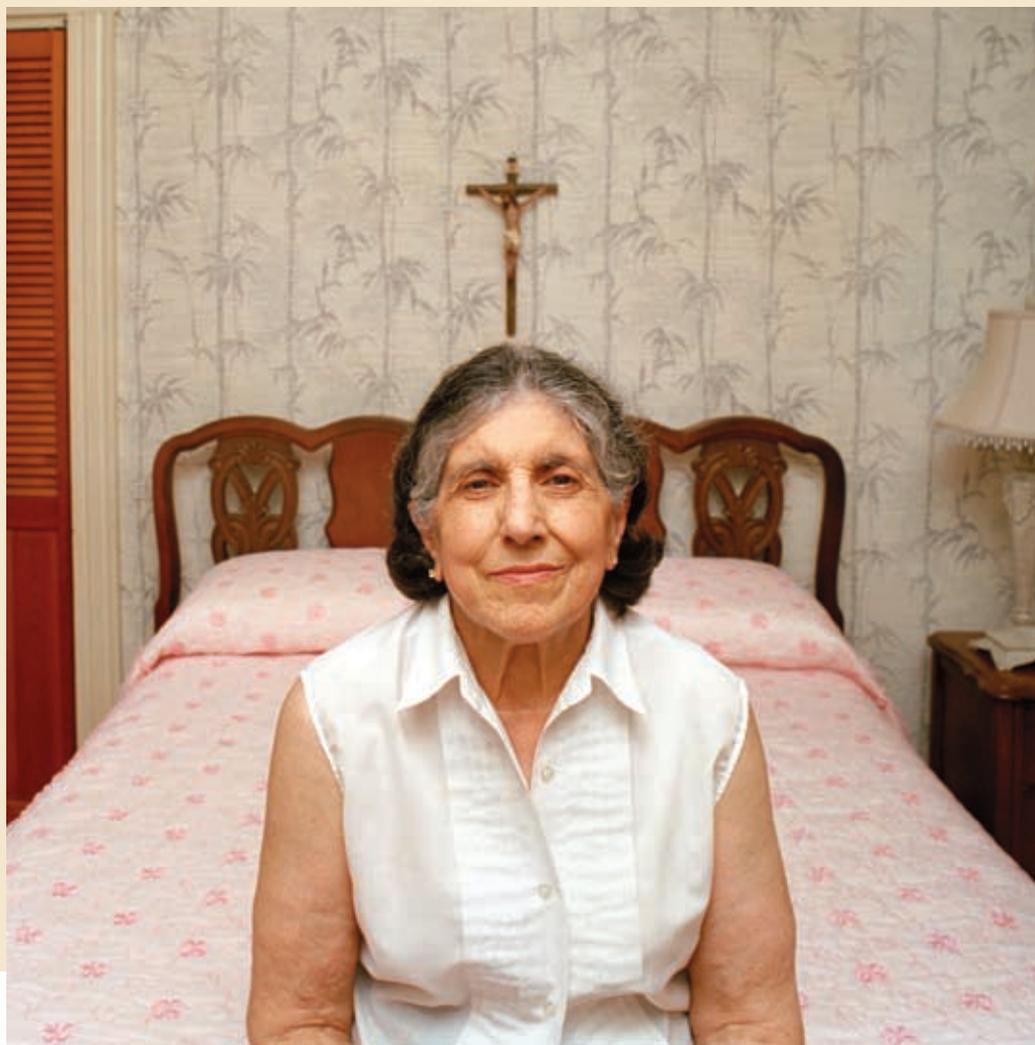
"Watching my first image emerge in the developing tray — it was an excitement that I haven't found anywhere else," she said.

The fascination continued through high school and into her Photocommunications studies at St. Edward's. As a college student,

Tavares came to embrace photography as more than just a hobby; it became her medium for documentation and a way to learn more about her Portuguese heritage. This new interest got her talking about moving back to New Bedford and documenting its inhabitants, but it was her 80-year-old grandmother who provided the final push she needed to make the journey.

"I realized if I didn't go there and spend time with my grandmother, I would probably not have the opportunity again," she said. "It would be lost."

So, in Summer 2004, she loaded up her car and hit the road bound for New Bedford.



A Family Reunited

Since returning to her birthplace, Tavares has experienced a homecoming of sorts with her family — particularly with her grandmother, who immigrated to New Bedford in the 1960s to work as a seamstress. Because of the strong Portuguese culture and community that was established, she never had any real need to learn English. Until recently, the language barrier kept granddaughter and grandmother from ever getting close.

After Tavares moved back to the area, she enrolled in a Portuguese-intensive language course. She started conversing with her grandmother and learning more about her

family — in Portuguese. “As I learn more of the language, I learn more about my family. For years, my parents and my aunts have been laughing and telling stories in Portuguese, but I didn’t understand them — until now.”

Back to the Azores

While the bulk of Tavares’ research remains personal, she has branched out professionally, too. She works as a reporter for *O Jornal*, a bilingual Portuguese/English newspaper, and while she writes her stories in English, she has conducted interviews in both languages. Along with her writing duties, she teaches photography to at-risk youth in the

New Bedford area and is pursuing a post-baccalaureate certificate in Fine Art at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

Tavares also plans to travel to the Azores to continue her research. Ultimately, she hopes to publish a book about the hybrid nature of Portuguese culture in the Azores and in the United States. But for now, she’s concentrating on immersing herself in the culture and experience.

“I’m not totally sure where this will take me,” she said. “I’m still exploring the culture and the stories, but I’m excited to see where the research will go.” ■



Mating *the*

The human mind is perhaps the most fascinating body part we have. After all, the brain performs an incredible number of tasks, like controlling body temperature, blood pressure, heart rate and breathing; handles physical motion like walking, sitting and running; and lets us think, dream, reason and experience emotions.

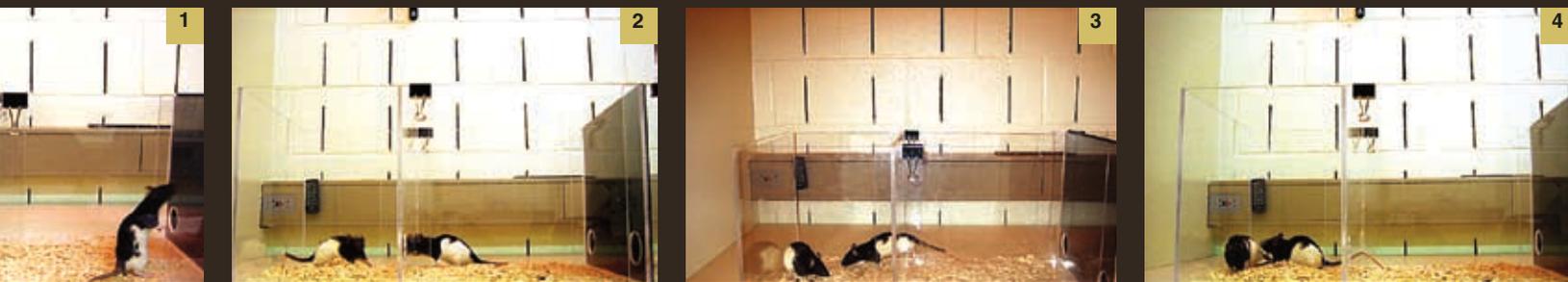
It's this complicated organ that several students at St. Edward's had the opportunity to explore in a neuroscience research project that they designed and scored themselves. As part of a Research in Behavioral Neuroscience course led by Assistant Professor of Psychology **Russ Frohardt**, students conducted research on the effects of stimulant drugs on paced mating behavior in rats. The students based their experiments on earlier research that

identified certain brain areas that are critical for female mating behavior in rats and centered their study around the effect of stimulants in these brain regions.

Experiments focused on two areas of the rat's brain: the nucleus accumbens, the brain's "pleasure center," and the medial preoptic area of the hypothalamus, which regulates sexual receptivity. The students infused amphetamine into these brain areas and studied its effect

on sexual receptivity and the timing of sexual activity. To observe the stimulant's impact on the rats' mating habits, Frohardt supervised the students performing brain surgeries, which required them to open up each rat's skull and implant a thin tube called a cannula.

Conducted at Southwestern University in Georgetown, where Frohardt's wife, Fay Guarraci, runs a brain research and histology lab, the experiments have the potential to help



1. The female rat (*on the right*) paces the frequency of her sexual contact with the male rat (*on the left*).
2. The female rat uses behaviors like hopping or ear wiggling to indicate her receptivity.
3. She passes through holes in the divider that the male cannot pass through.
4. She assumes a receptive posture and often leaves the male's chamber depending on the timing and intensity of stimulation from him.

and Mind

By Amy E. Lemen



Russ Frohardt



Debra Hines



Stephanie Troyer

scientists eliminate sexual side effects when developing drugs to treat illnesses like depression. The results may also have important implications for treating human sexual dysfunction, infertility and post-menopausal conditions.

This opportunity to do real research and use surgical techniques went far beyond senior Psychology major **Stephanie Troyer's** expectations. "The project reinforced my goal to go to medical school," she said, "and showed me how much I enjoy combining medicine with research."

"I really understood what it took to complete the experiment, write the summation and focus on the results," agreed **Debra Hines, '05**, who is majoring in Psychology and International Relations. "Dr. Frohardt was always willing to let us jump in and do anything we wanted to try."

At the end of the project, Troyer and Hines had to euthanize the rats so they could observe the changes that had occurred in the brain. Hines acknowledged that the procedure, which was performed to a strict and humane code, is a necessary part of the scientific process and that her grandfather, who has had cancer, no doubt benefited from testing like this for the treatments that have helped him live a fuller life. But she learned it's not for her as a career.

And that's a valuable insight, says Frohardt, who encourages his students to come into a project with an open mind before committing. "When students come to me and say they're interested in neuroscience, I offer them a chance to come work with me," he said. "They need to see what it's like before they devote their careers to it."

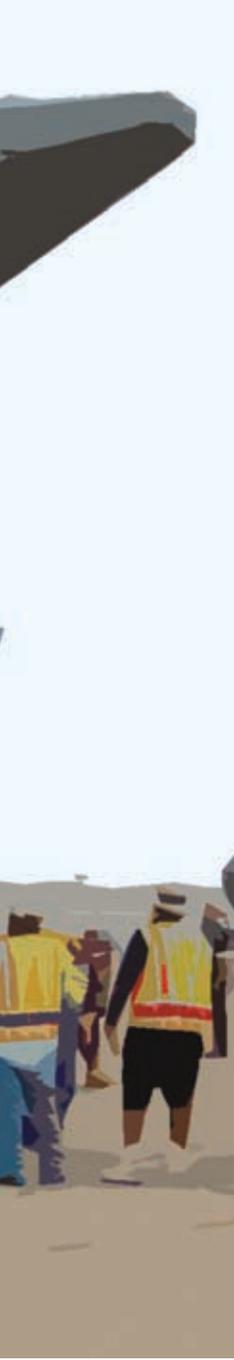
In fact, as an educational institution, St. Edward's places high value on teaching students about both personal and ethical dilemmas — and how their own values can shape their futures. For Hines, the future includes a PhD in Psychology and a career in cognitive neuroscience working with human subjects. Eventually, she hopes to become a professor. Troyer's aspirations include a career in obstetrics/gynecology.

Besides a wealth of experience in their chosen fields, the research gives both students the opportunity for further professional development. Hines and Troyer will present their research results at separate conferences this spring: Hines at the Southwestern Psychological Association and Troyer at the Texas Academy of Science. ■



By the Book: Preparing Austin for an **EMERGENCY**

By Kathryn Schwartz



Bruce Mills, '90, received the confirmation call on his cell phone at 1:30 a.m. Planeloads of Hurricane Katrina refugees were headed to Austin.

Mills, director of the city's newly created Public Safety and Emergency Management Department, had been in office all of three weeks. He responded to the Austin Convention Center, where he, two colleagues and a pigeon had the place to themselves. It was hard to imagine that within 24 hours the number of people at the center would jump to 5,000, becoming a small city within itself.

Mills and his colleagues went to work. They took an existing plan to create an emergency shelter, adapted it and quickly implemented it on a grander scale. Mills began calling city officials and businesses to help — everyone from construction workers who could build showers to CVS Pharmacy employees who could help set up a drugstore.

A City Within a City

And when refugees began arriving some eight hours after the initial confirmation call, they found what they needed. After checking in, they were given bedding and a place to sleep. They received food and clothing, were able to visit the showers to clean up or the nearby CVS trailer to fill prescriptions, and had a bank and post office at their disposal.

With necessities taken care of, volunteers began to think about extras. For diversion, they stationed large televisions around the building, with cartoons for children and news for adults. They assembled a beauty salon. Outside one of the back doors, a mini-Bourbon Street formed, where refugees could socialize and listen to boom boxes or bands made up of other refugees.

What had Mills done to orchestrate such a transformation in such a short time? In two words: his homework. He brainstormed, planned, used computer models, talked to experts, learned from the city's past experiences and collected existing data. But he didn't complete this research and preparation in the short days between learning that New Orleans would be evacuated and welcoming the city's influx of refugees.

Three Decades of Homework

Mills was able to respond to the disaster so quickly by combining the knowledge and training acquired through 25 years as an Austin police officer and six years as assistant director of security and operations at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

His years on the police force taught him about commitment, hard work and leadership. Beginning as a dispatcher at 18, Mills worked his way

up to assistant chief. He was awarded a Medal of Valor, the highest national award for a public safety officer, in 1978. He also completed his education through New College, the university's undergraduate program for working adults. "The classes I took and the research methods I learned have helped me throughout my career," said Mills, who earned a BLS in Criminal Justice from St. Edward's and then went on to complete an MS in the same field at Texas State University.

In 2000 he got the assistant director of security and operations job at the airport, where he learned more about planning and preparation. He collaborated with a team over the course of two years to complete a premier crisis plan, and he learned to manage a large number of details. To him, working at the airport was like "operating a small city."

During his tenure, Sept. 11 occurred, bringing with it a new set of stringent safety requirements for airports. Together, he and his staff revised their crisis plan and worked a great deal with the federal government to incorporate the new regulations into this "small city." He coordinated emergency drills instigated by the Office of Homeland Security to make sure the airport was ready for any crisis.

After such drills, Mills assembled all the players to go over the response. "No finger-pointing was done," he noted, just a comprehensive review to capture important observations and learn how to be more effective next time.

Katrina: The First Test

In 2005, Mills was asked to direct the city's new Public Safety and Emergency Management Department. Among other duties, he was charged with providing disaster management services and homeland security planning and preparation. Because this position brought together all his various work experiences, he was ready to move quickly if needed. He didn't have to wait long.

"You make plans and hope you never execute them," Mills said. "But suddenly, we had a real 'exercise' with Katrina."

The *Austin American-Statesman*, among other opinion leaders, found few complaints with the "exercise." Positive headlines included "Evacuees Find Comfort, Kindness in Austin"; "Austin Throws Its Doors Open"; and "Thankful to Arrive in Austin."

But Mills knew from the first night he walked into the convention center and talked with evacuees that they were much more comfortable. He remembers a woman who pulled him aside



COURTESY OF CITY OF AUSTIN OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



COURTESY OF CITY OF AUSTIN DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION

Above: Austin's Emergency Operations Center was home base for city agencies and organizations coordinating the influx of refugees from Hurricane Katrina.

Left: Evacuees from New Orleans land at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport and *(below)* board buses bound for the Austin Convention Center.



COURTESY OF KENNETH NEAFCY

“You make plans
and hope
you never
execute them.
But suddenly,
we had a real
‘exercise’
with Katrina.”

MATT LANKES '91



Bruce Mills

and asked, “Do you hear that?” Mills said he heard nothing. “Exactly,” she said. “It is peaceful and quiet here — no crying babies, no nothing. People are happy.”

Austin volunteer Kate Amerson, in a letter to the *Statesman* editor, had this to say: “I can’t find words enough to describe how coordinated, professional and compassionate our emergency responders and citizen volunteers were. Comfort, smiles, food, information and good spirits were handed out along with quick, practical and efficient medical and social services.”

But there is always room for improvement, Mills says. If anything, the city was unprepared “for the phenomenal turnout of volunteerism” from Austin residents and couldn’t immediately put all of them to use. The next plan will have better systems for the intake and placement of volunteers.

Anticipating the Next Disaster

With one successfully managed crisis under his belt, Mills is already learning from it and planning for future incidents. He is once again focusing on his basic charge: to provide leadership to the Public Safety and Emergency Management Department so that Austin is ready to respond efficiently and effectively to an emergency.

To do that, he is using the same research tactics that worked well for him at the airport and with Hurricane Katrina to anticipate the

next potential crisis. The New Orleans disaster led Mills and his team to begin brainstorming about what type of crisis might lead to an evacuation of the entire city of Austin. At first, they thought problems associated with one of the dams breaking on the Colorado River might lead to this extreme outcome. But actual testing of the dams revealed no potential problems.

The “scenario of worst consequence” then shifted to the one-in-1,000-years storm that would bring extensive flooding to the city. With a crisis identified, the planning began. Mills and his staff have talked with experts, examined the area’s flood history and scrutinized evacuation routes. They are working on drafting a response plan, and after that, they will test the plan, perhaps using student actors to simulate real conditions. They will incorporate computer models to walk through “what ifs” and examine thousands of possible scenarios so they can be as prepared as possible if something happens.

Peculiar to the nature of Mills’ job, the plan will never be complete. “If you wait for perfect information, you would wait forever. The important thing is to keep incorporating new and relevant research information as it becomes available,” he said. “You operate with the best information you have at the time.”

And while Mills hopes he never has to stay up all night again to create a city within a city, he’ll be ready if (or when) the call comes in. ■



Wonder woman

By E. Brook Haley

At Wonders & Worries, children express themselves with leaves. They scribble anything they want to say on a piece of construction paper and attach it to the mural of a tree that hangs on one of the color-splashed walls. The tree is ripe with thoughts, but one leaf in particular captures the Wonders & Worries experience best. It reads: “Mommy loves me.”

“What children don’t understand creates fear and worry, but if a parent is open and honest, a child can feel more comfortable with the situation.”



MARIC SWENUNGER '09

Cooper employs age-appropriate tools to explain complex medical treatments to the children she serves. Here, she uses a teaching doll to demonstrate how a port-a-cath delivers chemotherapy to cancer patients.

Meredith Cooper, MAHS '01, realized she needed to create Wonders & Worries after working as a pediatric child life specialist at the Children’s Hospital of Austin. Day after day, she saw firsthand how the health system didn’t provide enough support for the children of parents with cancer.

“I was trained to work with patients using a family-centered approach, but it was evident that the health system didn’t have adequate support for children whose parents were undergoing cancer treatment,” Cooper said. “Children and siblings of cancer patients were being overlooked, leaving an emotional and social void.”

To help fill that void, Cooper founded Wonders & Worries in April 2002 with colleague Melissa Hicks. Cooper used the research and training from her MA in Child Development from UT–Austin to create the organization’s model for teaching and supporting children. She also relied on the theoretical knowledge and practical experience gained at St. Edward’s through the MA in Human Services program and the preparation

courses for the Licensed Professional Counselor designation. This training, coupled with an acute awareness of children’s mental and emotional well-being honed during her years at the children’s hospital, helped get Wonders & Worries off the ground.

The organization has stayed afloat thanks to Cooper’s continual assessment of her techniques and frequent “sharing sessions” with other local professionals. To date, Wonders & Worries has served more than 300 children and parents by offering individual counseling, group support, parent training programs and bereavement services.

“These children are watching their parents go through chemotherapy, so it’s important that they understand what they are seeing,” Cooper said. “What children don’t understand creates fear and worry, but if a parent is open and honest, a child can feel more comfortable with the situation.”

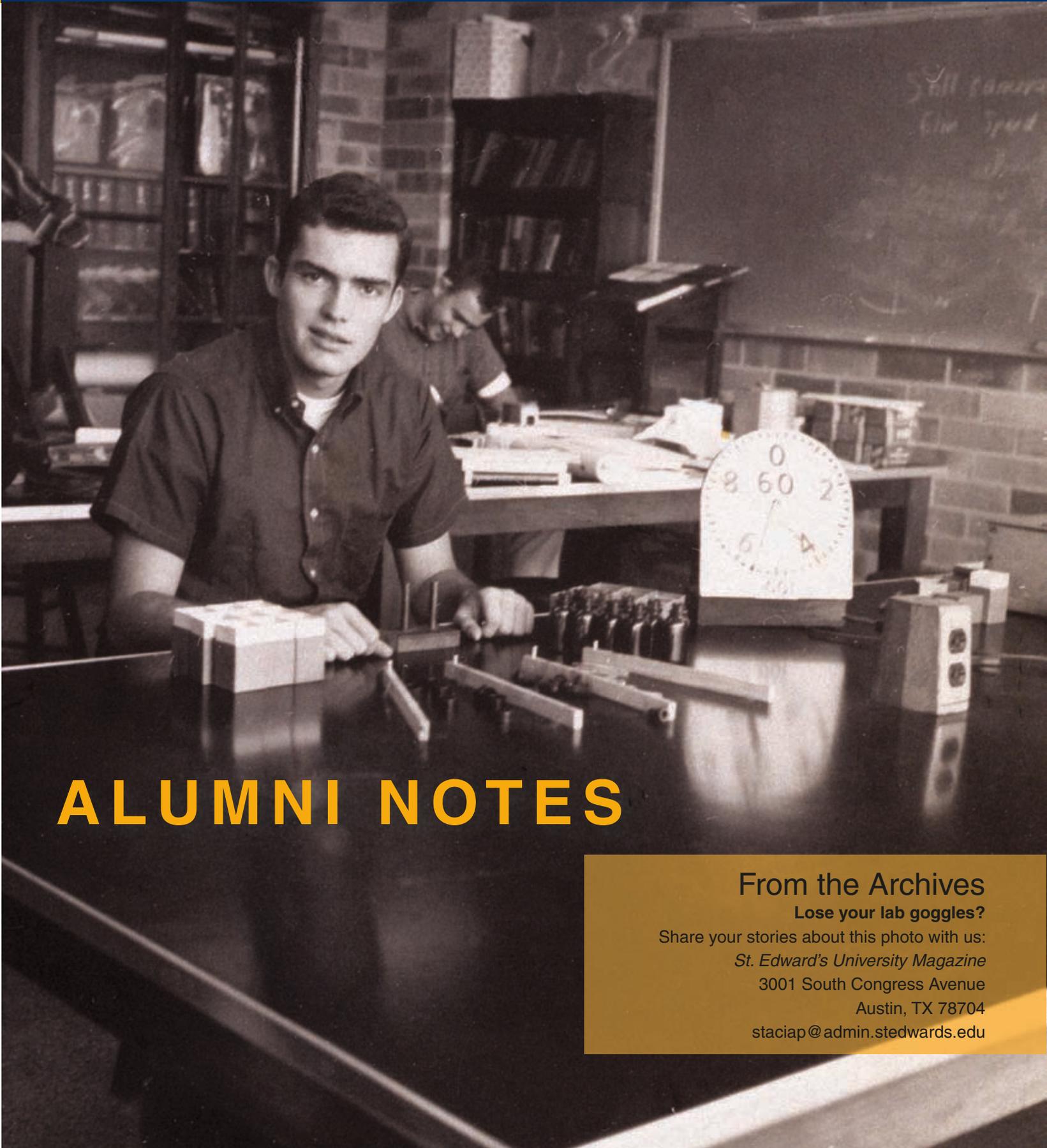
Wonders & Worries makes time for play as well, through family outings like boat trips on Town Lake. “These activities create connections with other families who are

undergoing similar struggles,” said Cooper. “Although a parent might be fighting cancer, that doesn’t mean the family can’t have fun.”

For Cooper, the fun part is making a difference. Wonders & Worries began offering group workshops for Spanish speakers three years ago through a grant from the Lance Armstrong Foundation, which is Wonders & Worries’ largest financial supporter. Last fall, Cooper added a bimonthly support group for teens. Now, she is looking to add locations in North and East Austin. And last April, the Capital of Texas Counseling Association named Wonders & Worries “Mental Health Provider of the Year.”

If Cooper has her way, the organization will expand beyond Texas’ borders — the Lance Armstrong Foundation has already consulted with her to create a similar program in Fallon, Nev. “Wonders & Worries isn’t an organization typically found in cities across the United States,” she said. “But I plan to make that change.” ■

To learn more about Wonders & Worries, visit www.wondersandworries.org.



ALUMNI NOTES

From the Archives

Lose your lab goggles?

Share your stories about this photo with us:

St. Edward's University Magazine

3001 South Congress Avenue

Austin, TX 78704

staciap@admin.stedwards.edu

40s

Theodore A. Aanstoos, '41, and his wife, Margaret, have posthumously made a gift for the new university chapel. The gift, made through Margaret's estate and executed by their son, **Michael P. Aanstoos, '76**, also honors the Class of 1941.

50s

Frank Heyde, '56, of San Antonio, retired in 1983 from U.S. Air Force Civil Service. He was a member of the initial working group to consult with Russian and former Soviet military officials in support of disarmament under the SALT treaty. He and his wife, Margaret, have three children and five grandchildren.

60s

Stephen (Buck) G. Gardner, '69, of El Paso, recently became a Chartered Life Underwriter, or CLU, with the Mass Mutual Financial Group and qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table, a network of leading insurance and investment financial services professionals and advisors. He will attend the group's annual conference in San Diego, Calif., in June.

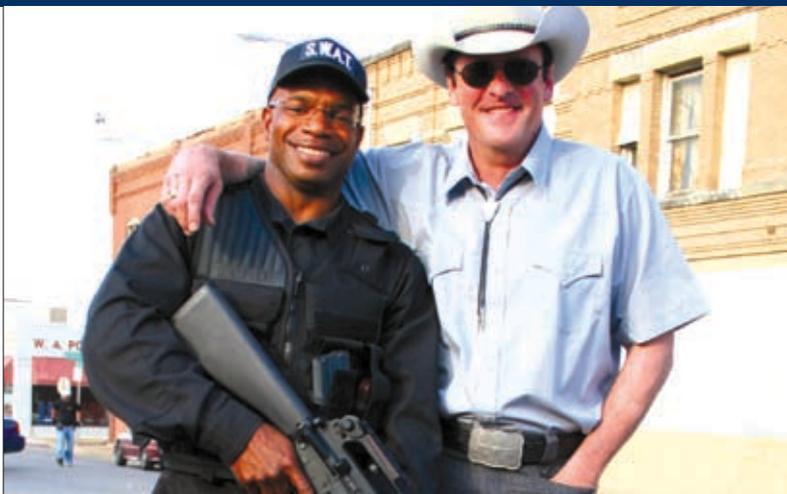
70s

Joe J. Naizer Jr., '70, accepted a position as an asset accountant with the Energy Reliability Council of Texas in April. He, his wife, Mary Ellen, and his youngest daughter, Paula, recently relocated to a home in Taylor that Mary Ellen's family has owned for three generations.

Michael Putegnat, '70, of Brownsville, is in the process of publishing his first novel, *Laguna*, a political suspense thriller set against the historical backdrop of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. He expects *Laguna* to be available in June.

Molly Taylor, '71, of San Angelo, has accepted a position as city secretary for the community of Alpine. She is glad to be closer to her family, who live in the area.

Patrick V. Mancuso, '73, of Avon Lake, Ohio, recently retired from his position as regional audit manager at the Ohio Department of Taxation,



TODD JENKINS

Sergeant Silver Screen

Ken Thomas, '83 (above, left, with actor Michael Madsen), knows how to look intimidating. After all, he was in the U.S. Army for nearly a decade and experienced the invasion of Panama firsthand. So playing SWAT team leader Officer Bishop in *Living and Dying*, a feature film scheduled for release in March, wasn't too much of a stretch for his acting chops. But it sure was a blast, he says. "As an ex-police officer, it was a lot more fun to get the 'promotion' to SWAT, even if it was only for the movie. Believe me, when you walk around in that gear, it gets a lot of attention!" Thomas, who finished shooting *Living and Dying* in October, has also appeared in *Miss Congeniality*, *Sin City* and *No Pain, No Gain*.

where he worked for 33 years. He now enjoys playing golf on the course behind his new house.

Barbara Irvine, MBA '74, of Ingram, recently began teaching private music lessons in Austin on Saturdays and Sundays as part of Driftwood Music Services Company. The company, which she founded in 2003, provides musical theater vocal coaching, audition workshops, music direction, and performance and preparation services such as arranging and transcriptions.

Gary Gimbel, '76, MBA '79, of Martinsburg, W.Va., wrote an article on the Battle of Falling Waters featured on the cover of last fall's edition of *Blue & Gray Magazine*, a bimonthly Civil War periodical. He and his wife, Gabi, live in a pre-Civil War-era house near the area where the battle took place.

80s

Elaine O'Donnell, '80, of New York, N.Y., has been recovering from a stroke she had in 2004. She has been writing a book about her

MARRIAGES

Marco Acevedo, '91, to Lourdes Neris on Aug. 17, living in Chicago, Ill.

Rolando Ramirez, '92, to Lilia M. Sifuentes on July 9, living in La Feria.

Steven McGlaun, '93, to Jodi Erpelding on Oct. 21, living in Winona, Minn.

Corey Sanderford, '96, to Jennifer Redd on Dec. 18, 2004, living in Sumner, Wash.

Nathan Street Allen, '99, to Jessica Lundborg on Oct. 1, living in Dallas.

Heather Pearson, '01, to Michael Stebbins on Sept. 3, living in Kerrville.

Christine Mobin, '04, to Barton Hejny, '04, on Sept. 17, living in Austin.

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Brendan McCauley, '93
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?

What's New in Houston?

Q&A with Veronica Rink, '01

Why is the Houston alumni chapter important to you?

Houston is a fun city, but because it's so large, it's hard to meet people if you're not from here. I grew up in the suburbs and still found it hard to meet people I had things in common with. Having a place to go — like alumni events — is a great way to welcome new alumni to our city and to meet people in all industries.

What is your favorite hot spot in your city?

Midtown ... at the moment this is the place to eat, go out and live. It's full of new developments near all the best places in Houston, including the sport arenas, shopping areas, restaurants and bars. This is where all the young professionals moving to Houston want to live.

What is the best event in your city?

The most exciting event was the last game of the Houston Astros' regular season when the team clinched the wild-card playoff spot. About 50 alumni and I got to feel the excitement of the season firsthand at our inaugural Houston Alumni Night at the Ballpark in October (above). We're planning to hold the event again this year, and I hope we see a lot of new faces.

Veronica Rink, '01, is president of the Houston alumni chapter. E-mail her for the latest chapter news at Veronica.Rink@compassbnk.com.



80s cont.

experience called *What a Heck of a Way to Lose Weight or More Than 200 Things I've Learned Since I Had My Stroke* and would like to hear from classmates at divagoddess@lycos.com.

Donna Loflin, MAHS '83, of Leander, received one of nine Champion in End-of-Life Care Awards from the Texas Partnership for End-of-Life Care in November. The award honors individuals whose compassionate work helps individuals and families cope with end-of-life issues. Loflin also received the Chuck Meyer Award for Excellence, which is given annually to someone who "most demonstrates the character traits of a beloved end-of-life advocate." Loflin is vice president of education at the Texas Association of Homes and Services for the Aged.

Ken Thomas, '83, of Buda, can be seen this year in the film *Living and Dying*, which was directed by Jon Keeyes and stars Edward Furlong and Michael Madsen. Thomas plays SWAT team leader Officer Bishop. *Read more about Thomas on page 47.*

Khalid Bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, '84, of London, was appointed as the new Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Kingdom of Bahrain in September.

Paul R. Cerqua, '85, recently relocated to Las Vegas, Nev., and is continuing to pursue his RN degree. He also runs an orthodontic laboratory.

Kevin Phinney, '86, recently relocated from Austin to Seattle, Wash. Co-host of Austin radio station

KGSR's *Kevin & Kevin* morning show for more than a decade, he published his first book, *Souled American: How Black Music Transformed White Culture*, in September. Currently, he is working on a documentary based on the book.

Keith Mandabach, '89, of Las Cruces, N.M., received the Chef Herman Breithaupt Award from the International Council of Hotel Restaurant and Institutional Educators last September. The award recognizes outstanding achievement and contributions to food service education. Mandabach is an associate professor in the School of Hotel, Restaurant and

Tourism Management at New Mexico State University.

Diana (Lowther) Manning, '89, of Corona, Calif., has been a special agent for the U.S. Secret Service for 10 years. She and her husband, Mike, have two daughters, Kyla Rae, 2, and Reyna Lee, 1.

Father Isidore Ndagizimana, '89, of Austin, is pastor of St. Albert the Great Catholic Church in North Austin. He would like to hear from classmates at fri@thegateway.net.

90s

Debby Greer-Costello, '91, of Houston, was diagnosed with leukemia last October. She is currently

FUTURE HILLTOPPERS

To **Susan (Greenwood) McCormick, '90**, and **Paul McCormick III** of Billings, Mont., son **Paul McCormick IV** on Oct. 13.

To **Betsy Pistone, '90**, and **Joseph Pistone, '90**, of Longview, son **Dominic Everett** on Dec. 9.

To **Yvette Flores-Garcia, '92**, and **Moses Garcia** of Austin, daughter **Monica** on Sept. 26.

To **Kevin Durgens, '93**, and **Liza Durgens** of League City, daughter **Morgen** on Oct. 10.

To **Amy Griffith, '93**, and **T.K. Griffith, '93**, of Akron, Ohio, son **Andrew Philip** on April 27.

To **Jennifer Perry, '94**, and **Todd Perry** of Katy, son **Mitch Clayman** on Oct. 7.

To **Rick Ramirez, '96**, and **Jeannie Ramirez** of Lewisville, daughter **Mia** on Aug. 11.

To **Corey Sanderford, '96**, and **Jennifer Sanderford** of Sumner, Wash., son **Evan** on Nov. 18.

To **Brad Hanes, '97**, and **Lea Hanes** of Lubbock, daughter **Avery Noelle** on Jan. 5, 2005.

To **Angie Hollman, '97**, and **Wade Hollman** of La Porte, son **Colby Pierce** on Sept. 24.

To **Juan Carlos Rodriguez, '98**, and **Dorisa Lee Rodriguez, '98**, of Grand Prairie, daughter **Mayeli Analis** on June 12.

To **Ashley (Wilson) Holmes, '99, MLA '04**, and **Travis Holmes** of Austin, son **Henry Nelson** on Oct. 21.

To **Sonia Horton, '99**, and **Stephen Horton** of Shoreacres, son **Ashton Biltmore** on July 8.

To **Jose Reyes, '99**, and **Mirna Reyes** of Clarksville, Tenn., daughter **Ariana Isabel** on June 21.

To **Abigail (Epperson) Longson, '02**, and **Eric Longson** of Austin, daughter **Josephine Daneille** on Sept. 12.

To **Tiffany Jobe, '02**, and **Michael Jobe** of Austin, son **Trevor** on Dec. 19.

To **Danielle Noonan, '03**, and **Christopher Noonan '01**, of Houston, son **Lucas Edward** on July 2.

UPDATE

ALUMNI PROGRAMS

Campus News

In October, alumni attended the first Hilltopper Golf Tournament to benefit the university's varsity athletic teams and traveled to London to celebrate the 1,000th birthday of St. Edward, the Confessor and King, the university's patron saint (*see stories, pages 6 and 20*). Alumni also spoke to students at the second annual alumni career panels with Academic Planning and Support Services. In December, **Bob Wilems, '63**, and **Wendell Mayes, '02, MLA '05**, addressed graduates at the fall commencement ceremonies.

Chapter News

Austin: The chapter hosted its second annual fall networking happy hour, a complement to its monthly happy hours (*see "Ongoing Events" below*) and sponsored its annual holiday service project with The Salvation Army. Spring activities include a continuing education event, the fifth annual May Graduation Party and a reception with university President **George E. Martin**.

Chicago: The chapter assisted with various recruiting events throughout the fall and is planning an Alumni Day at the Ballpark event to cheer on a local team.

Dallas: About 70 alumni gathered in November for a reception with President Martin. The chapter also hosted quarterly networking events and held its annual holiday service project at The Salvation Army.

Houston: More than 70 alumni and parents gathered for a reception with President Martin in November. The chapter also held monthly networking events and is planning its spring calendar.

MBA: The women's MBA alumnae network has expanded to Houston. For MBA alumnae contacts in the Houston area and volunteer opportunities with recruitment, e-mail **Kippi Griffith, MBA '01**, at kippig@admin.stedwards.edu.



Range Rovers ^

St. Edward's hosted the first Hilltopper Golf Tournament benefiting varsity athletics in October. The winning foursome of (*from left*) **Doug Yeamans, '00**, **Blair Trousdale, '01**, **Wes Foerster, '00**, and **Aaron Chilek, '00** — who hit the day's longest drive — finished with a low score of 58.



California Connection ^

Alumni gathered in Los Angeles, Calif., at the home of **Leopoldo Hellmund, '69**, and his wife, Mary, in November to talk about starting an alumni chapter in the area. Similar events are planned for Miami, Fla., and Evansville, Ind., this spring. To learn more, call 800-964-7833.

San Antonio: The chapter hosted a volunteer luncheon in September and an art exhibit on St. Peter and the Vatican in October. A reception with President Martin is planned for the spring.

Student Alumni Association: SAA hosted its third annual December Graduation Party for fall graduates. Spring events include new member recruitment, continuing education programs and the May Graduation Party.

Washington, D.C.: On the heels of its successful Day at the Ballpark event last fall, the chapter is planning a volunteer brunch in early spring.

Ongoing Events

Austin Alumni Chapter Networking Events

First Thursday of the month

MBA Alumnae Women's Networking Group — Austin

Second Wednesday of the month

MBA and BBA Alumnae Women's Networking Group — Houston

First Wednesday of the month

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

ALUMNI BOARD

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 Neil Brown, '02,
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Nominating Chair

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 Kay Arnold, '04
 P.R. Avila, '96
 Jessica Burkemper, '07,
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 Eliseo Elizondo, '87, MBA '98
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 Dave Hughart, MLA '05
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Holy Cross representative
 Bob Oppermann, '56
 Tony Pompa, '94
 Rich Ries, '57
 Donna Rodriguez, '87
 Joel Romo, '94
 Chad Skinner, '97
 Tony Tijerina, MBA '98
 Bill Zanardi, *faculty representative*

BOARD CHAIRS EMERITI

Don Cox, '69
 Eliseo Elizondo, '87, MBA '98
 Marilyn O'Neill, '74
 Maurice Quigley, hs '50
 Tom Ryan, '63
 Paul J. Tramonte, '91
 Frank Woodruff, '69

Alumni are elected to the board for rotating three-year terms and may serve on the board for up to six years.

being treated at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Her chemotherapy is going well, and she expects to have a bone marrow transplant soon. She encourages everyone to donate blood and platelets and would like to hear from classmates at debsterc@earthlink.net.

Alan Cross, '92, of New York, N.Y., appeared in a Sprint television commercial that aired during the Super Bowl on Feb. 5. He is a freelance writer whose jokes have appeared on *Saturday Night Live's* "Weekend Update."

PROFILE

A Human Resource: JOYCE STEARN, '87

Applying to New College at St. Edward's with 10 years in human resources under her belt, **Joyce Stearn, '87**, thought her work experiences might net her at least a few credit hours toward a degree in Business Administration. Well before classes started, she did her homework, reading course descriptions and researching textbooks to find how much about her industry she already knew. In the end, she earned 61 hours of credit through the university's prior learning assessment process.

But Stearn's work had really just begun. When she wasn't slogging through 12-hour, overnight shifts at Motorola, she was diving into her classes, taking every regular and condensed summer session course she could. The demanding schedule didn't bother her too much, though, because the personal attention from her professors made her eager to learn. "From the first day I walked on campus," she said, "I was home."

Soon, she grew to appreciate another reward of her hectic endeavor — she could put her education to immediate use, applying what she heard in lectures to her job. Her separate lives in the worlds of corporate America and academia fueled each other.

She also learned the importance of helping and supporting others during her time at St. Edward's. Today, as a vice president for human resources shared services at Limited Brands, she has made a career out of satisfying the internal customer: employees. "The St. Edward's community was eager to help me achieve my goals. Now I do the same for the people at Limited Brands through human resource services."

And Stearn is still an active part of the St. Edward's community, even though her home in Powell, Ohio, is 1,200 miles from the hilltop. She contributes generously to The St. Edward's Fund each year (see "Growing Pains," left) and stays in touch with friends and former classmates through the online alumni directory.

University outreach efforts like these continually impress her, she says. "Based on conversations with my colleagues, who attended other schools, I know good communication is not always the norm. St. Edward's really excels when it comes to staying connected with its graduates."

To learn more about the online alumni directory, click "Stay in Touch" at www.stedwards.edu/alumni.



COURTESY OF JOYCE STEARN, '87

90s cont.

T.K. Griffith, '93, of Akron, Ohio, is admissions director at Akron's Archbishop Hoban High School. He is also in his 13th year as head basketball coach for the school's men's team.

Steven McGlaun, '93, of Winona, Minn., is development editor for Saint Mary's Press, a nonprofit Catholic publisher administered by the Midwest Province of the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

Bettye D. Groom, '94, recently retired from a position as inventory control analyst at Legerity and relocated to the East Texas city of Paige, where she is enjoying the area's many pine trees.

Marc Martinez, '94, of Dickinson, recently accepted a position as principal of True Cross School, a Catholic school that serves more than 300 students from pre-kindergarten to eighth grade.

Cory Sanderford, '96, of Tacoma, Wash., accepted a position as a firefighter/paramedic in Sumner, Wash., in April. He and his wife, Jennifer, have a son, Evan, 3 months.

Baher Biltagi, '97, of Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, is employed in the finance department at global petroleum company Saudi Aramco. He became a CPA in 2004 and recently completed SAP certification in Strategic Enterprise Management.

Brad Hanes, '97, of Lubbock, is a database administrator at United Supermarkets. He and his wife, Lea, have two daughters, Robyn, 4, and Avery, 1.

Karin Peterson-Sitrin, '97, of New York, N.Y., published her first book, *Magic of Intention*, under the pen name Karin Janin in 2004. She is director of the Mid-Hudson Women's Network, which provides resources for women in the area to facilitate professional networking and friendships. She is also founder of the nonprofit organization Orphan Connection. Visit her on the web at www.karinjanin.com.

Growing Pains

Two decades ago, there were 32. Now, there are more than 300. If you do the math, that means the number of alumni and friends who annually give \$1,000 or more to The St. Edward's Fund has increased nearly ninefold.

This generous group of contributors — called the St. Edward's Associates — supports university programs and initiatives like scholarships for deserving students, training and professional development for faculty members, and academic resources and services for students.

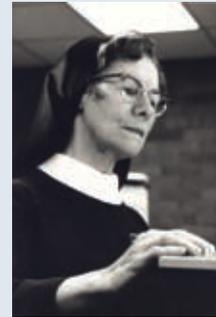
The university thanks associates by recognizing them in the annual Honor Roll of Donors, hosting a private reception with President **George E. Martin** and offering priority seating at university events. But the greatest reward, say associates like **Joyce Stearn, '87** (see *story, right*), is seeing the tangible impact their gifts have in the lives of students.

Find out more about the St. Edward's Associates by clicking "The St. Edward's Fund" at www.stedwards.edu/giving.

— Jessica Ciancarelli, '05

Remembering Maryhill's Founders

When St. Edward's University administrators decided to open Maryhill College, a coordinate institution for women, five Sister Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary from Monroe, Mich., agreed to run it. Maryhill welcomed 76 freshman women in its first semester in Fall 1966, and by 1970, the school had been officially integrated into St. Edward's.



Kenny

Kevin also ministered at the House of Hospitality located in Immaculata Convent and worked at Marygrove College in Detroit before retiring in 1996.

Sister Mary Mercy professed her vows in 1939 and spent more than two decades as an educator in the Midwest before coming to St. Edward's, where she was dean of women and chair of the Behavioral and Social Sciences division. Six years after Maryhill merged with St. Edward's, Sister Mary Mercy returned to Monroe to join her order's central administration. She also served as an administrator and adult education counselor at the IHM Human Potential Center at St. Mary's Academy until she retired in 2001.



Geohegan

Send your memories of Sisters Mary Kevin and Mary Mercy to University Archives at dianneb@admin.stedwards.edu or mando@admin.stedwards.edu.



The five founders of Maryhill College (from left), IHM Sisters Marie Andre Walsh, Mary Mercy Geohegan, Mary Kevin Kenny, Grace Mary Ols, and Ann Virginia Bowling, returned to campus for the 25th anniversary of Maryhill College in 1991.

J. Humberto Garcia, '98, of El Paso, was recently promoted to district manager of Wells Fargo Financial. In the new position he oversees West Texas and Southern New Mexico.

Sonia Briseño Castellanos, '98, of Austin, received the *Luz Professional* award from the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce at its Seventh Annual Community Service Awards in September. She was recognized for her commitment to improving the economic, cultural and educational conditions of the Hispanic community through her work as assistant director of the Junior League Hispanic Mother-Daughter Program.

Juan Carlos Rodriguez, '98, of Grand Prairie, accepted a position as assistant U.S. attorney for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas in September. His wife, **Dorisa Lee Rodriguez, '98**, accepted a teaching position at South Grand Prairie High School in August. They have two daughters, Mireya, 3, and Mayeli, 7 months.

Jose Reyes, '99, of Clarksville, Tenn., commands the Headquarters & Headquarters Troop unit in the 2nd Squadron of the 17th Cavalry Regiment, which is the 101st Airborne Division's Air Cavalry Squadron. He deployed to Iraq in September and is stationed near the town of Kirkuk.

Nathan Street Allen, '99, of Plano, is a staff accountant with Nexstar. Classmates **Jeff Shalin, '97, MAHS '98, Jesse Butler, '99**, and **David Michael Blacklock, '99**, served as groomsmen at his wedding in October.

Ms

Christi Courtney, '01, of Cozumel, Mexico, is owner of Blue XT Sea Diving. She and her staff endured hurricanes Emily and Wilma last year and experienced minor damage to the company's boat. She would like to hear from classmates at www.bluxtseadiving.com.

Monica Flores, '01, of Austin, completed a teaching internship with Associate Professor of Biology **Fidelma O'Leary** last summer and began work on her PhD in Science Education with a focus in Molecular Biology at UT-Austin in August. She continues to participate with the St. Edward's Ballet Folklorico troupe.

Theresa Jenkins, '02, of Austin, was named executive director of the Texas chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences in January. As executive director, she develops and implements outreach programs, advocacy initiatives, professional education and special events for the chapter.

Brandon Benavides, '03, of Tyler, produced his first live one-hour special, "Drugs, Sex & Recovery: A

IN MEMORIAM

Ralph Louis Ross, '45, of Dallas, on Oct. 24.

Brother Leo V. Geiger, CSC, '53, of Notre Dame, Ind., on Sept. 8.

H. Frederick Stegall, '56, of Kenmore, Wash., on Aug. 24.

Raymond L. Mooney, '69, of Rocky River, Ohio, on June 29.

Scott S. Harris, '87, of Miami, Fla., on Nov. 16.

Manny Woo, MBA '00, of Austin, on Dec. 25.

Brother Silverius Adelman, CSC, of Austin, on Dec. 4.

Dan Y. Dabney, of Austin, on Sept. 26.

Sister Mary Mercy Geohegan, IHM, of Monroe, Mich., on Oct. 1.

Sister Mary Kevin Kenny, IHM, of Monroe, Mich., on Oct. 26.

W.K. Parks, of Austin, on Oct. 6.

Stephen Richard Rogers, of Sherman, on Dec. 13.

PROFILE

CHRIS DOOSE, '03

House Quest

Five years ago, as a sophomore International Business major, **Chris Doose, '03**, paid a visit to Internship Coordinator **David Uribe, '98, MSOLE '04**. "I want to be governor," Doose told him. "How can I get there?" Uribe responded to the challenge, and over the next three years, Doose landed three internships: one with former Texas Secretary of State Gwyn Shea, one with state Speaker of the House Tom Craddick and one with the NAFTA Division of the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration.



STEWART JARMON, '07

Doose envisioned himself eventually taking a leading role in the import/export industry before jumping into politics in his 30s — on a path to being governor of Texas. But when he graduated, he took a completely different path. He traded his power tie for a hard hat and dove into renovation and real estate at the dawn of the state's renovation boom in 2003.

He looked to his family's 50-year history in development to seize on an opportunity to co-own renovation company Granite Capitol Investments with his mother. Doose moved to Dallas, where he also started work on a master's degree in Real Estate, Finance and Development at UT-Arlington. Last year, he returned to Austin to take a construction manager position with the NuHome division of Lennar, the nation's third-largest homebuilder.

While living in Dallas, Doose became actively involved in the university's alumni chapter there. When he returned to Austin, he got involved in the local chapter, too. In fact, he sat on an alumni panel for parents and new students during orientation last summer and stressed the importance of gaining real-world experience and taking time to "try on" a career.

He also talked about networking. "Getting to know other graduates from St. Edward's, both before and after graduation, helps you make contacts in the business world," he said. "Networking helps you bridge the gap between life as a student and life as a professional."

Doose's passion for politics hasn't waned, and he still hopes to call the governor's mansion home one day. But for now, he's enjoying being back in Austin — and wearing his hard hat.

— *Jessica Ciancarelli, '05*



Canterbury Trails

In October, **Brother Stephen Walsh, CSC, '62** (back, third from right), former university president and current executive director of the Holy Cross Institute, led a group of 10 alumni, faculty and staff on a six-day excursion to London. Held in conjunction with the 1,000th birthday of St. Edward, Confessor and King, who is the university's patron saint, the Alumni Association's inaugural travel adventure included a special exhibition at Westminster Abbey, a conference on St. Edward at King's College-London and a day trip to Canterbury. *For more on 1,000th birthday festivities, see page 6.*

00s cont.

KETK Community Special," in July. The special included in-depth stories, live panelists and a telephone hotline for viewers to call in with questions or for help. Benavides also taught an undergraduate course called Videography: An Introduction to Video Journalism at UT-Tyler last fall.

Chris Doose, '03, of Austin, recently accepted a position as construction manager for Lennar Homes. He is currently building homes in Manor. *Read more about Doose at left.*

Carrie Kotecki, MAHS '03, is a literacy teacher at the Notre Dame Education Center in Boston, Mass. The position is her second service commitment with the Notre Dame Mission Volunteers-AmeriCorps program. She recently spent six months as adult education coordinator for the program's national office in Baltimore, Md.

Larry Merington, MLA '03, of Metairie, La., is a U.S. Air Force Reserve commander at the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base

outside New Orleans. In the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the base is operating as a staging area for FEMA, active duty military personnel, National Guard personnel, Red Cross volunteers and several other agencies.

Allison Slomowitz, '03, works as a news photographer at the *Temple Daily Telegram*.

Jamie M. Barnes, MLA '05, of Austin, works with at-risk youth at American YouthWorks Charter School, where she is the career and business teacher.

Stephanie Elsea, MLA '05, of Austin, accepted a position as associate director of public relations for the Lance Armstrong Foundation last summer. She plans to complete her second marathon in February.

Jocelyn Gaudi, '05, of Dacula, Ga., is an inside sales representative for the Boston Celtics. She would like to hear from fellow classmates in the northeastern United States at jbgaudi@gmail.com.

Mariscela Mendez, '05, of San Antonio, was featured in the Nov. 11 issue of the *San Antonio Express-News* for her documentary film research on Latino Korean war veterans. The project began at St. Edward's and was inspired by her grandfather, who was drafted at age 19. She would like to hear from classmates who know of more Korean veterans like her grandfather at mariscela_mendez@yahoo.com.

Lori Najvar, MLA '05, of Austin, had her documentary, *Czech Links: 800 Pounds of Tradition* shown at the Alamo Drafthouse's downtown location on Oct. 8. The film showcases a San Antonio-area Czech family's annual sausage-making weekend and was screened as part of the Central Texas Barbecue Association's Texas Barbecue Festival. ■

A Circumstance for Pomp: HOLY CROSS BROTHERS CHARLES MCBRIDE & PHILIP SMITH

On Sept. 23, 2005, Holy Cross Brothers **Charles McBride, '65**, and **Philip Smith, '69**, represented St. Edward's University at the inauguration of Notre Dame's 17th president. More than 4,000 people attended the two-day event that instated Rev. John I. Jenkins, CSC, in splendor and pageantry meant to honor the history of Notre Dame, a school founded — like St. Edward's — by the Congregation of Holy Cross.

"The inauguration ceremony was something right out of the Middle Ages — hundreds of academics in every conceivable gown and color," said Brother Philip. "My impressions were that, as Father Jenkins is only the third president of Notre Dame in more than 50 years, the pomp and ceremony were very appropriate."

As a scholastic brother assigned to St. Edward's in 1965, Brother Philip studied English and French and was active in the choir. He also assisted **Brother Thomas McCullough, CSC**, his Chemistry professor, by collecting beetles for experiments.

"Indeed, it might have been the only reason I passed my science requirement!" joked Brother Philip.

Brother Charles, the communications director for the Midwest Province, joined the Holy Cross Brothers in September 1954. He entered as a sophomore in the brothers' high school juniorate program in Watertown, Wis., and was professed in January 1958. He then enrolled at St. Edward's, where he majored in U.S. History and English.

One of the inaugural highlights for the two brothers was a Holy Cross-only affair held next to the original 1842 log cabin where Notre Dame was founded (it now serves as a memorial to Father Edward Sorin, CSC, and the Holy Cross Brothers who helped found the university). Father Jenkins and Father Hugh Cleary, CSC, superior general of the Congregation of Holy Cross, were among the many Holy Cross priests, brothers and sisters who attended.

Brother Philip summed up the event best: "I was honored to do this."



Holy Cross Brothers Charles McBride, '65 (right), and Philip Smith, '69, represented St. Edward's at the inauguration of Notre Dame's 17th president in September.

— Adam Pyles, '04

stay in touch

submit your alumni note

A fun vacation, volunteering, a job change — whatever your news, share it with friends and classmates via *St. Edward's University Magazine*. Submit your news by March 15 to be considered for the next issue. If your address or other information has changed, please let us know.

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MAIL: Lucie Perez
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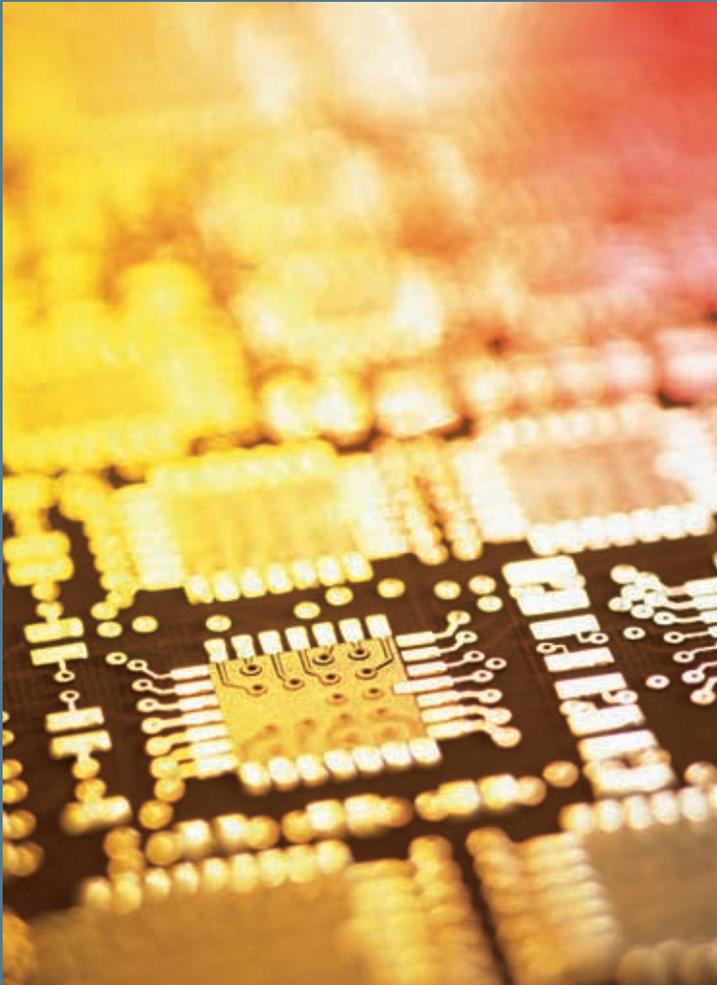
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