

St. Edward's

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

WINTER 2009 VOLUME 10 ISSUE 1

Pursuits

SPORTS AT ST. EDWARD'S
CAMARADERIE BEFORE COMPETITION
FINDING THE FULBRIGHT
NOT-SO-TRIVIAL PURSUITS



President George E. Martin (third from right) with Christophe Béchu, Conseil Général, Maine and Loire (Anjou) Region, and other new partners. Left to Right: Jean-Marie Patier, Benoit Patier, Christophe Béchu, George E. Martin, Richard Ramos and Guy Bedouelle.

OCTOBER

17

Washington, D.C.

Attended the executive committee meeting of the Council of Independent Colleges.

21

New York City

Participated in the Institute of International Education forum.

24–27

Bahrain

Met with St. Edward's alumni from Bahrain during a reception and administrators of the University of Bahrain.

DECEMBER

2–5

Paris and Angers, France

Held press conferences with new partners Université Catholique de l' Ouest, Institut Bois-Robert and Apple.

10–11

Washington, D.C.

Attended the Academic Leadership meeting.

13

Austin

Shepherded graduates across the stage during the fall commencement ceremony at the Frank Irwin Center.

NOVEMBER

3–4 & 6

Austin

Hosted board meetings of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities and the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas on campus.

10–11

Washington, D.C.

Attended the Presidents Only Symposium sponsored by the Engelhard Center and the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

20

Dallas

Met with the St. Edward's alumni chapter of Dallas at a reception.

JANUARY

4–7

Bonita Springs, Fla.

Attended board of directors meetings of the Council of Independent Colleges and Presidents' Institute.

22–24

Seattle, Wash.

Attended annual meeting and president's forum of the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

29

Austin

Attended the Ballet Austin board of directors' meeting.

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*St. Edward's University Magazine*is published three times a year by the
Marketing Office for alumni and friends.

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TOP OF THE GAME

The steady rise of athletics at St. Edward's.

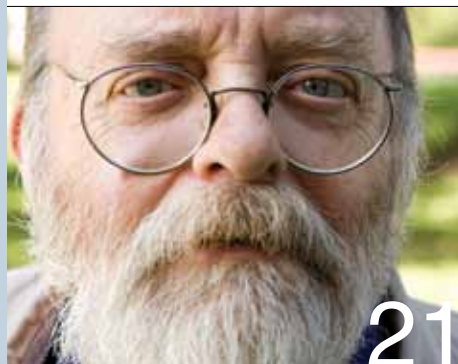
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MORE THOUGHTS ON "THE THINKER"

*Editor's Note: Seeing **Eric Roberts '83** in a "Thinker" pose in last issue's "From the Archives" section amused readers well enough, but the documentary proof of snow in Austin seemed to elicit the most enthusiasm and memories from alumni. "I recall it snowing in early 1973 too," wrote **Mike Jachimczyk '74**. "It was fun throwing snowballs at cars as they sludged along."*

Several readers pointed to **David Koempel '83** as the photographer of the 1980 picture. A sophomore at the time, he shot often for the yearbook and campus newspaper, the latter of which Roberts himself edited as an upperclassman. As Koempel recalls, Roberts broke into the pose on the spur of the moment as the two took in the spectacle of a snowy campus, such as students using trash-can lids to slide down the hill over the track field. The two-to-three-inch accumulation didn't last long. "It was Austin snow," says Koempel. Enough said.

MILITARY MANEUVER MEMORIES

On the last page in the Spring 2008 issue of the magazine, there was a brief note about the St. Edward's Military Academy. The note needs clarification. Before Fall 1943, when the academy went military (remember the university was closed), there was already a military unit on campus (1942) of about 35 members, all volunteers and only from the university.

For the old generations past, a silent tear of nostalgia. And for the present generation and those yet to come, be proud to be Edwardians and carry on the high traditions that have always been a part of St. Edward's.

Phillip R. Joram hs '41, '45
Washington, D.C.

REMEMBERING BROTHER TOM

It was good to read the story of **Brother Tom Delman, CSC '52**. I didn't think there were many from '52 left. It's great people like Brother Tom who really make the world go 'round. I am proud to have been in his class.

God Bless St. Edward's University.

Godfrey E. Cronin '52
Colon, Mich.

RAYMOND FLECK AND ME

Thanks so much for running the photos in the recent magazine of Professor **Raymond Fleck** and me at the St. Edward's reunion and our tour of the revamped Fleck Hall.

President Fleck brought me into the St. Edward's administration in August 1960 as his vice president for Development. We had a great nine years together helping the university grow from around 500 students to about 1,300 in 1969. Five new buildings were built during this time. Our most important achievement was to take St. Edward's from a men's university to a coed university. I was accused of helping to do that so my daughter, **Sylvia Paulissen-Dunlap**, could be in the first class to graduate women in 1969.

This was our first visit to campus together since we left in 1969, and we are so proud of the fine university that St. Edward's is today. Thanks so much for documenting our visit with your fine photographs.

Ted Paulissen hs '41, '67
Houston



Students light candles for the 30th Annual Festival of Lights.

SEPTEMBER

IFTAR DINNER



The Muslim Student Association and Campus Ministry organized the traditional meal that breaks the daily fast for Ramadan.

AN EVENING WITH BOB SCHIEFFER



The veteran broadcaster talked about current events and his newest book, *Bob Schieffer's America*.

OCTOBER

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

The Hispanic Student Association organized a four-day festival for the holiday.

JOB AND INTERNSHIP FAIR

Students interviewed with several employers from various fields in this annual event.

BOB SCHNEIDER CONCERT



The musician gave a free "glow in the dark" concert on campus.

Bob Schneider image courtesy of Hilltop Views and Christina Villarreal.

"CRYPTOZOOTOLOGY"

The Fine Arts Gallery displayed a collection of Jeff Wilson's photographs that insinuate the mysterious and unexplained in everyday life.

NOVEMBER

THREE SISTERS



Mary Moody Northern Theatre presented its take on the classic play by Anton Chekhov.

"THE ALCHEMY" WITH DAVID MACK



The creator, author and artist of the graphic novel *Kabuki* gave a talk at the opening of his Fine Arts Gallery exhibit, "The Alchemy."

Q&A WITH IAN MACKAYE

The former band member of Fugazi and founder of the Dischord record label answered audience questions as part of a national tour.

DECEMBER

30TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

The St. Edward's community gathered in early December to reflect on the Advent season through prayer, readings and song under the illumination of Main Building.

EIGHTH ANNUAL LAS POSADAS



A candlelight procession commemorated the journey of Mary and Joseph in search of an inn.



► CAMPUS RACE RAISES MONEY

MILES FOR A MISSION: A NONCOMPETITIVE COMPETITION

In November, 140 members of the St. Edward's community joined in Campus Ministry's first Miles for a Mission race (above), which raised money for Alternative Spring Break, International Immersion, S.E.R.V.E. Austin and the Hunger Week Thanksgiving Food Drive. The decidedly noncompetitive 5K drew more participants than the planners expected. "It was amazing to see students, faculty, staff, families and even a few Holy Cross Brothers come out to run or walk side by side," says race organizer **Liza Manjarrez**, assistant director of Campus Ministry. "I think the event is the beginning of a new tradition."

► MEET THE NEW FRESHMEN

THE THINGS THEY CARRIED: CLOGS, CORKSCREWS

When she was younger, **Meghan Harper '12** traveled from Irish pub to Irish pub, step dancing for the patrons. No, this wasn't a hard-knock Irish childhood, just Houston on St. Patrick's Day. Harper was demonstrating the dance skills of her Irish heritage, skills that won her Irish *feis* dance competitions all over Texas and in New Orleans.

Harper, who hung up her dance shoes her senior year of high school, is one of 743 freshmen bringing a unique background to campus this year. The undergraduates of the largest freshman class in the university's history include **Aven Garms '12**, who drew a horse picture that sold for \$7,000 at the Fort Bend County Fair auction, and **James Zalaznik '12**, who maintains a collection of more than 900 corkscrews (see page 23). In all, the class is 17 percent larger than last year's, which means 17 percent more unique experiences and perspectives that have become part of the hilltop. As for Harper, she hopes being in Austin will give her a chance to get back into dance. "My former teacher's sister teaches at an Irish dance school here in Austin, so I'll probably end up going there," she says.

► NOYCE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDED

SCHOLARS STEM FROM HISTORIC GRANT

The largest National Science Foundation grant St. Edward's has ever received will fund one of its most ambitious scholar programs yet. Faculty members from St. Edward's, Austin Community College and the Charles A. Dana Center at UT–Austin co-wrote a grant to the National Science Foundation for \$737,565 to recruit 18 high-performing, first-generation college students and forge them into mathematics and science teachers.

The Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship will boost the number of teachers in the understaffed science, technology, engineering and math fields, collectively referred to as STEM, by recruiting students who've been historically underrepresented in those classrooms. The grant funds 18 two-year scholarships for future teachers, who then commit at least four years to the Austin Independent School District's high-need schools. Faculty members and administrators from St. Edward's and ACC will work together in selecting the Noyce Scholars and providing them instruction, professional development and mentorship.

School of Education Dean **Karen Jenlink**, who helped spearhead the grant, says the program will also serve as an experiment to identify strategies for recruiting, educating and retaining math and science teachers from traditionally underrepresented populations. "The impact of the program will be felt long after the grant period has ended," she says.

► ACCOLADES

- In August, the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce recognized St. Edward's with its nonprofit innovation award. The nomination focused on the university's campus master plan, its expansion to France and its affiliation with Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve.
- Last summer, St. Edward's received a \$10,000 planning grant from the Association of American Colleges and Universities for its global-understanding initiatives.

SERVICE LEARNING ON TWO FRONTS

STUDY ABROAD ITINERARY: INDIA

When: March 2008

Who: Students from the MBA Global Capstone class and three other classes, for a total of 16 MBA, MSCIS and International Business students and alumni. Leading the trip: Executive in Residence **Ram Matta** and **Ann Pham '01, MBA '04**, adjunct instructor.

Where: Four cities, including The "Golden Triangle" of Delhi, Agra and Jaipur, as well as Mumbai.

What: The students developed strategies and a business plan to deliver affordable health care services in India for a U.S.-based firm, formulated personal strategies to live and work in India, and assessed business communication strategies used in the region. Matta worked on the project with three classes over a 12-month period.

Why: India has the largest number of diabetics in the world — 41 million and growing rapidly. There are three different demographics in India, including 600 million people at the bottom of society that make do on an income of \$60 a month. The challenge is compounded by a fragmented distribution chain and the presence of three multinational businesses. Yet there is more than one viable strategy for entering this market that desperately needs innovative and lower-cost solutions. The students identified alternative health care strategies and potential business partners in India for their client.

Matta: "An interesting side effect of this trip was that two of the travelers ended up in jobs working with India and South Asia. This is globalization creating jobs for U.S. citizens, which is the reverse of what is normally portrayed in the media."



BUSINESS STUDENTS HELP COSTA RICAN NONPROFIT ABROAD AND ON CAMPUS



Casa Luz in San Jose, Costa Rica, provides a home for teen mothers and gives them the life skills to be better parents. It's a worthy mission, one that Business students at St. Edward's are helping strengthen through several service-learning efforts this academic year.

On a study abroad trip to Costa Rica this summer, undergraduate students will help Casa Luz enhance a fledgling jewelry-making enterprise between their classes. Meanwhile, MBA students will work with Casa Luz to devise a workable business plan for raising money to upgrade facilities. The experiential learning won't stop at the borders of Costa Rica. Undergraduate and graduate classes will research international tax laws and other matters pertinent to nonprofits, and seven sections of Business Communication classes are competing to create the best Casa Luz brochure for soliciting donations.

The university's Global Business and Social Justice Institute is making Costa Rica something of a second campus for business students. The country is close to Texas by plane, and **Gary Pletcher**, director of the institute and chair of Global Business, has developed several contacts through other study abroad trips in recent years. Professor of Business Communication **Catherine MacDermott** says these factors make the country the perfect setting for the kind of study abroad the institute was created to foster.

"The students are going to learn about culture, society, economics, history, business, entrepreneurship — you name it," she says. "They'll have a full plate, *un plato gordo*."



death Warmed Over

By Stacia Hernstrom MLA '05

Adjunct writing instructor **Joe O'Connell** looked death in the face for three months as a volunteer at Hospice Austin's Christopher House in 2001. He only blinked once — when he met a businessman who reminded him of his own father. Now, O'Connell has turned the experience into a novel, *Evacuation Plan* (see page 12), named a Violet Crown Book Award finalist by the Writers' League of Texas in November. Here, he explains why there's not a lot of death in his book about, well, dying.

HOW DID VOLUNTEERING AT CHRISTOPHER HOUSE IMPACT YOU?

I was one of nine writers and visual artists sent to Christopher House as part of a competitive program sponsored by Opening Closed Doors, *Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review* and Hospice Austin. I wish I could say I was trying to better the world, but I was actually doing research for a mystery novel. But the experience was so compelling, so life-changing, that it drew me in to write this book. Most hospice care takes place in the home, but in the residential hospice there is little of the fluff that fills our lives — no talk of politics, sports or the weather. People are living in the moment, sometimes with fear, sometimes with laughter and joy.

YOUR STYLE IN *EVACUATION PLAN* HAS BEEN LIKENED TO TIM O'BRIEN'S. WHICH WRITERS OR WORKS INSPIRED YOU?

Tim O'Brien is one of the best writers we have today. I'm also very influenced by Charles Baxter and the short-story master Andre Dubus, whom I worked with long distance while in graduate school. All three of these writers strive to get at the truth of what it is to be a human being. I think that's at the heart of our job as fiction writers, and it can be a daunting task.

HOW WILL YOUR BOOK CHANGE THE WAY YOU TEACH CREATIVE WRITING?

I'm fascinated by the worlds that writers can bring us into. Hospice is the world for this book, but any world that a student can reveal deeply is right. I have one very talented student now who writes a lot about the rave dance scene. It works because he is striving for the truth behind it.

HOW DO YOU HOPE YOUR BOOK WILL INSPIRE OR EDUCATE OTHERS?

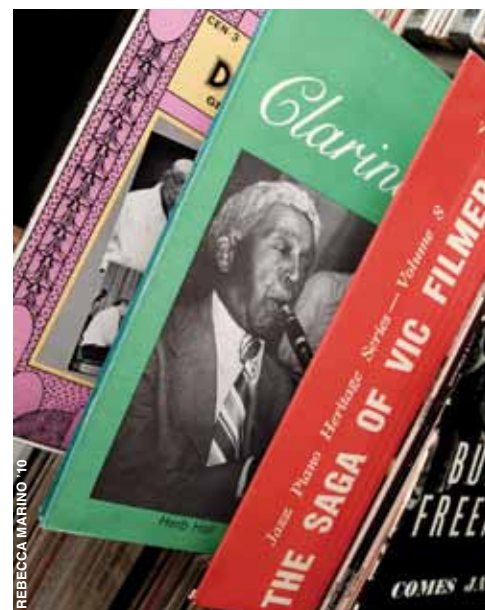
The one idea I came away with from Christopher House was that hospice isn't about death; it's about life. That's been an odd notion for some book reviewers who have said there's not enough death in the book, a notion that I guess says a lot about the expectations a reader brings to a book. Hospice is really about the end of life and letting people be in charge of their own demises in a high level of comfort. That gift of getting to say goodbye is a big one. What more could we ask?

ATTENTION BOOK CLUBS

Reading *Evacuation Plan*? O'Connell wants to hear from you — and talk to your club by phone or, where possible, in person. Contact him at josephoc@stedwards.edu.



MUSIC: For the Record



When **Ed Meyer** donated his collection of more than 2,300 jazz records (and three decades of jazz periodicals) to St. Edward's, the adjunct faculty member wanted the music to be heard, not shelved. Scarborough-Phillips Library Director **Tom Leonhardt** felt the same way. The archive of LPs — valued at nearly \$50,000 — is being digitized, which will prevent further wear and tear on the originals. "Some day, students and the public alike can listen to this music, read about the people who made it and enjoy the pleasure that comes from things of beauty," says Meyer.

PRINT: Burning the "Midnight Oil"



The 20th anniversary of the university's Alpha Sigma Lambda chapter for adult students recently garnered attention in *Midnight Oil*, the national ASL newsletter. The chapter inducted 68 new members last spring.

ONLINE: Lost in Translation



Andres Perez-Gonzalez MBA '04 spent two months last summer getting hopelessly lost ... on purpose. Now, he's documenting his experience biking 2,400 kilometers across Europe in an online magazine, *Vicariously Through Andres*, launched in November as part of APG Media, an information systems management company he founded in 2006. Check out more than 70 images from his trip at www.apgmediaweb.com.

THEATER: A Change of Scenery



All the world's a stage for Transit Theatre Troupe. Literally. The new student organization has performed inside buildings, on sidewalks and even along the banks of the campus retention pond. Changing the scenery is precisely the point — it makes for a richer experience, says Managing Director **Nigel O'Hearn '09**. Though homeless, the troupe is rooted in commitment. Past plays have raised more than \$600 for nonprofits like Invisible Children and the Austin Humane Society.

Poll Position

By Stacia Hernstrom MLA '05

Adjunct writing instructor **Owen Egerton** is in love with Austin: "the water holes, the coffee shops, the backroom theaters, the movie makers, the part-time bands, the every-weekend festivals." As it turns out, Austin loves Egerton, too.



For the second straight year, he was named Best Local Author/Poet in the *Austin Chronicle's* Best of Austin Readers Poll. A founding member of the comedy group The Sinus Show, Egerton has published a novel and a short story collection (see page 12); recorded two comedy albums; and performs in Cedar Fever, self-proclaimed as "Austin's hottest boy band sensation." But writing is his passion. "I'd call it my vocation. Wrestling with the pages of a novel or story I'm writing changes me, shapes my soul," he says. "I've always felt comedy was a great way to support my writing habit."

Though he and his screenwriting partners recently sold a script to Warner Brothers, Egerton has no plans to trade his 78704 address for something closer to 90210. "Austin is still somewhat affordable — I don't think I could have gotten away with avoiding a 'real job' trying to pay New York or L.A. rent."

I'LL GRANT YOU THAT

Putting two **research grants** at St. Edward's **under the microscope**

By Robyn Ross

As the number of research projects grows at St. Edward's, so do the grants that fund them. Here's a look at two recent research grants and what they accomplished.



CÁDIZ RESEARCH TRIP

Recipient: Director of Sponsored Programs
Joanne Romagni-Colvin

When she wanted to create an international research experience for students at St. Edward's, Director of Sponsored Programs **Joanne Romagni-Colvin** turned to her own research: how Antarctic lichen species adapt to the hole in the ozone layer. She applied for National Science Foundation funding to allow up to 10 students to travel to the University of Cádiz in southern Spain for as many weeks in the summer. In the program's pilot year two students, **Alicia Jones '09** and **Adriana Pavia '11**, spent their summer months isolating compounds within the lichens that could help reveal the nature of the ozone hole.

Colvin says the lab staff at first supervised the women (or students) closely. But when Jones and Pavia consistently arrived at work an hour earlier and left two hours later than everyone else, they were soon entrusted with all the equipment. "They set a very high benchmark," Colvin says. "All the faculty were asking to work with our students."



INVESTIGATING "THE GREAT DIVIDE" IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Recipient: Associate Professor of Religious Studies
Richard Bautch

According to a recent study led by the University of Notre Dame, university students in Religious Studies classes tend to want to explore their own faiths more deeply in their coursework. Meanwhile, their professors are informed by years of training in the critical and intellectual study of religion. "The great divide," as religion scholars sometimes call this difference in agendas, was explored by Religious Studies faculty this summer as they developed a new foundational methods course for Religious Studies majors.

The investigation of "the great divide" was led by Catholic University of America Assistant Professor Lucinda Nolan, whose visit was supported by a grant

Associate Professor of Religious Studies **Richard Bautch** received from the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion. "Both the needs of Religious Studies students and the aims of the faculty are affirmed wholeheartedly at St. Edward's, but the two are at a different starting point," Bautch says. Nolan, an expert in the design of introductory religion courses, helped the faculty anticipate the divide and develop teaching strategies to bridge it.

FACULTY BOOKSHELF



Charles Hauser

associate professor of
Bioinformatics

Co-authored paper titled
"Undergraduate Research:
Genomics Education
Partnership" in *Science*,
October 2008.

Allan E. Pevoto

chair of Human Resources Management in
the School of Management and Business

Co-authored *Heroes and Survivors: Personal
Experiences of the Texas City Disaster*
(Groundbreaking Press, 2008).



Joanna Robinson MLA '04

adjunct instructor of writing

Authored essay titled
"Mars" in *The Southern
Review*, Autumn 2008.

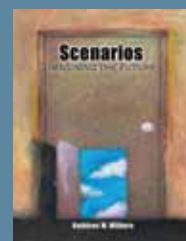
Also recently published essay
titled "Skin Deep" in *River
Teeth* and had another

essay titled "Journey through the Trees" accepted
for publication in *Tampa Review*.

David Haney

adjunct instructor in University Programs

Authored *The Americanization of Social Science:
Intellectuals and Public Responsibility in the
Postwar United States* (Temple University Press,
2008). The book outlines the development of
sociology as a discipline and why, given its focus
of study, it failed to develop into a force in the
intellectual currents of the United States.



Kathleen Wilburn

associate professor of
Management

Authored *Scenarios:
Imagining the Future*,
(Kendall-Hunt Publishing Co.,
July 2008).

Doyle goes Green

☼ New roof insulation →

☼ White reflective roof ↘

☼ New two-story addition minimizes impervious cover. Recycled metals used where possible ↓

☼ Sun-shade system to minimize heat gain ↓

☼ Energy-efficient lighting, heating, ventilation and cooling. Occupancy sensors turn off lights automatically ↑

☼ New double-pane windows with low-emissivity coated glass ↑

☼ Low-toxin paint, sealants and adhesives →

☼ Most of shell and interior walls re-used to avoid landfill →

← ☼ Landscape maintains existing trees and uses hearty plants that need little irrigation

Christmas break signaled the beginning of a new era for 48-year-old Doyle Hall, one of the university's oldest residence halls. An interior renovation began over the holiday that will result in a new addition, three new classrooms, 50 faculty offices, a revamped psychology lab and an overall greener building. Once redone by August 2009, Doyle will house the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences, the Offices of Human Resources, and Auxiliary Services.

GOOD • TO • GO

THE GO PROJECT RAISES THE BAR FOR STUDENTS

In his early adulthood, a special-education student had a weight problem. He came from a family of large people and had never learned much about exercise or a healthy diet. That was before the Go Project at St. Edward's paired him with a fitness trainer — a student in Associate Professor of Education **Tom Pate's** Kinesiology 2324 class, which focuses on sports training for special-education students. With the health tips the student learned from his trainer, he lost 80 pounds.



REBECCA MARINO '10

Created in 2002, the Go Project brings to campus college-age special-education students who are still in local high schools. With access to the university's resources, they have a chance to expand their horizons in a variety of campus activities. One of the greater benefits: the chance to participate in university classes. **Leslie Vlasman**, director of the Go Project, works with faculty liaison **Lori Peterson**, associate professor of Communication, to help students sit in on a variety of classes. For instance, every year the students attend some of adjunct instructor **Stephen Yanoff's** Presentational Speaking class to help them produce a book collecting the results of the Go Project's annual writing contest.

The advantage of sitting in on classes goes beyond intellectual stimulation. For many Go participants — who have been completing high school coursework alongside students who grow younger year after year — this is a unique chance to interact with peers. "Learning with people their own age can have an enormous benefit emotionally as well intellectually for our students," says Vlasman.

The Go Project also imparts life skills to students through internships on and off campus. Students clean tables in the dining hall, wash dishes at Opal Divine's, and do various jobs at St. Vincent de Paul thrift store and HEB grocery stores. They even learn to navigate the city bus system to reach some of these jobs. The idea, says Vlasman, is to help their lives become as independent as possible.

"We're here to raise the bar of expectations for these students," says Vlasman. "That means more than getting them in classes and gyms, though those activities are very beneficial. But it also means empowering them with jobs that will give them a sense of pride and responsibility that they can build on later in life."



ABIGAIL JUSTICE '04

Bon Appétit's Biodiesel Program

There's oil on the hilltop. Cooking oil, that is. And in the right hands, it can be turned into biodiesel fuel. Since August, Bon Appétit, which runs the university's dining service, has contracted with a local outfit called DieselGreen Fuels to carry away its kitchen waste oil once a month and convert it into biodiesel. **Hays Atkins**, general manager of Bon Appétit at St. Edward's, estimates that the university generates 30 gallons of oil a week.

"The idea of turning waste vegetable oil into fuel is very appealing, and it doesn't cost us anything," says Atkins.

In other efforts at eco-conscious food preparation, Bon Appétit also recently expanded its network of local farmers and secured a year-round supply of sustainably harvested wild sockeye salmon.

Downtown on Campus

The new residential village

A taste of urban living came to campus when the university's new 119,000-square-foot residential village opened its doors for students in January.

A TOWN CENTER

Located on the east side of campus, the village bridges the space between the university's apartments and Teresa Hall. Its three residence halls offer courtyards, outdoor spaces and a pedestrian street for students, faculty and staff members alike to gather. Essentially, this area functions as a "town center" on campus, a place to congregate and mingle.

The village also sports late-night food options, a convenience area, dining hall, a combined Health and Counseling Center, and more. By combining retail and residence space in the same area, the complex creates something close to a downtown living experience in the heart of campus.

A TASTE OF HOME

Designed by Chilean architect Alejandro Aravena, the village's Edmund Hunt Hall, Le Mans Hall and Lady Bird Johnson Hall have been designed to feel like the homes students have left behind. The common spaces mimic living rooms, community kitchens have a homey feel, and outside terraces function as backyards.

But the halls also exude a contemporary feel through designer touches like multicolored glass walls in the upper-floor common areas. Sections of the opaque glass are made up of two different shades of red, complemented by bronze-tinted glass.

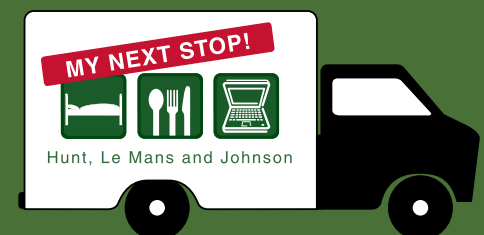
A NEED

The village was designed to provide additional on-campus housing for the university's growing freshman student population. St. Edward's has seen a 97 percent growth in the freshman class since 1999 — Fall 2008 freshman enrollment grew to 3,430, up from 3,280 in Fall 2007. The complex also sets aside space for a limited number of upperclassmen who want to continue living on campus. Hunt Hall and Le Mans Hall together accommodate 220 freshmen, and the private suites of Lady Bird Johnson Hall hold 80 upperclassmen.

Aravena has said the village is an attempt to create intimacy in a structure that by necessity must take up a large volume of space. He also designed it as a complement to Main Building. "Not all buildings can be monuments and have the articulation of Main Building," he says. "We want Main Building to remain the most important building on campus. We want other buildings, like the residence hall, to somehow catch the corner of the eye, to be the fabric around the monument but still have their own character."

View virtual tours of the complex at

www.stedwards.edu/tournnewresidencehall



WINTER READING

Three excerpts from books by authors at St. Edward's

From *Evacuation Plan*

(Dalton Publishing, 2007)

by Joe O'Connell, adjunct writing instructor

"Was there a best moment to your life?"

She licks her lips, and after a few seconds her eyes clear and focus on mine.

"In the Army. Vietnam. Doing paperwork at hospitals. Front lines. One day a doctor comes in. Pregnant woman. Says needs help. I didn't know what to do. Coming out so slow. Head pops out. He says catch the baby. I look down and here it comes. Falls right in my hands. A baby girl."

"That's beautiful."

I take out my pad and scribble her words on it. Her eyes start to wander again. I have to speak up before I lose her.

"You believe in heaven, Mrs. Fiola? Hell?"

She props her hand and forearm straight up in front of her, and the arm wavers like a gas gauge in a car.

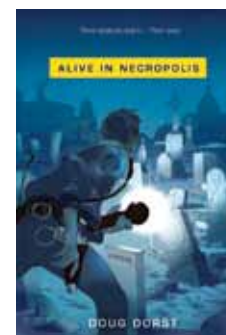
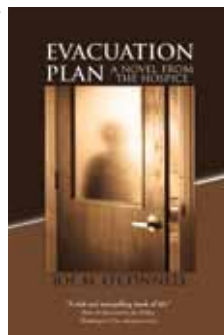
"Done some bad things, some good," she says. "Hope my balance is over the proper way. Figure I'm right on the thin line."

From *How Best to Avoid Dying*

(Dalton Publishing, 2007)

by Owen Egerton, adjunct writing instructor

Lish's specialty was two-worded poems. Once she had tried to write a three-worded poem. She got as far as "Loosely Gargle" and hit a block. For days she prayed that the third word would fall from heaven, float down like a piece of cloud and land in her pink and purple notebook. "Come on, God," she whispered. "Lend a hand." But God gave no word. Eventually she stopped waiting and considered the poem complete. When she read it, she always paused for an extra beat after "Gargle" and before her curtsy. That extra space is what made the poem special. It quickly became her favorite poem because it had been coauthored by God. She had written the words and He had written the silence.



From *Alive in Necropolis*

(Riverhead Books, 2008)

by Doug Dorst, assistant professor of writing

The glow of morning spreads over the easternmost cemeteries of Colma: Olivet Memorial Park; the Serbian Cemetery; Pets' Rest; and the two Chinese cemeteries, Hoy Sun Memorial and Golden Hills.

Across Hillside Boulevard.

Nocturnal gamblers emerge from the front doors of the Lucky Chances 24-Hour card house, slack and pale as fish in a bucket; they rub their eyes in the morning light, then collapse into their cars and drive away. All of them — the winners, the losers, the breakers-even — will be gnawed at by the if onlys until the next time they rest their elbows on the soft green baize and ante up.

The day advances into Holy Cross cemetery, Colma's oldest, a former potato field blessed in 1892 as a Catholic cemetery to serve San Francisco. Skyrocketing land values had convinced city dwellers that death was best dealt with elsewhere, and it was roundly agreed that a ten-mile trip southward was not an onerous journey for the dead to make — a mere step or two, in fact, compared to the great voyages on which their souls had already embarked.

The sun rises higher. Cypress Lawn East. Hills of Eternity. Eternal Home. Hills of Peace. Salem Cemetery. The Italian Cemetery. The Japanese Benevolent Society Cemetery.

Lawnmowers sputter and cough out puffs of blue exhaust, then rumble to life and prowl the gentle slopes of the graveyards. In the lots of the car dealerships that clot Serramonte Boulevard, beads of dew glimmer on the polished hoods and roofs and trunks, while strings of red, white, and blue plastic pennants flick in the breeze, hopeful as America.



Pursuits

WHEN “HARD-DRIVING ACHIEVERS” ARE “IN IT TO WIN IT,” THEY’RE BOUND TO “MAKE IT TO THE TOP.” OR SO THE CLICHÉS WOULD HAVE IT. BUT AT ST. EDWARD’S, STUDENTS, FACULTY MEMBERS AND STAFF HAVE ALWAYS TAKEN A MORE ORIGINAL APPROACH TO COMPETITION.

On its playing fields and in its classrooms, the university strives to instill the drive to win but also emphasizes the importance of teamwork and the experience behind a pursuit.

The Hilltopper teams of several sports have enjoyed an unprecedented level of wins and championships while scoring high in the classroom as well. On the academic side, more students than ever are applying for prestigious fellowships, reaping benefits whether they get them or not. Likewise, certain university community members win nothing more than enrichment from their pastimes.

St. Edward’s is proof positive that “winning isn’t everything,” but that winning done right can be all the more gratifying.

TOP OF THE GAME

By Hans Christianson

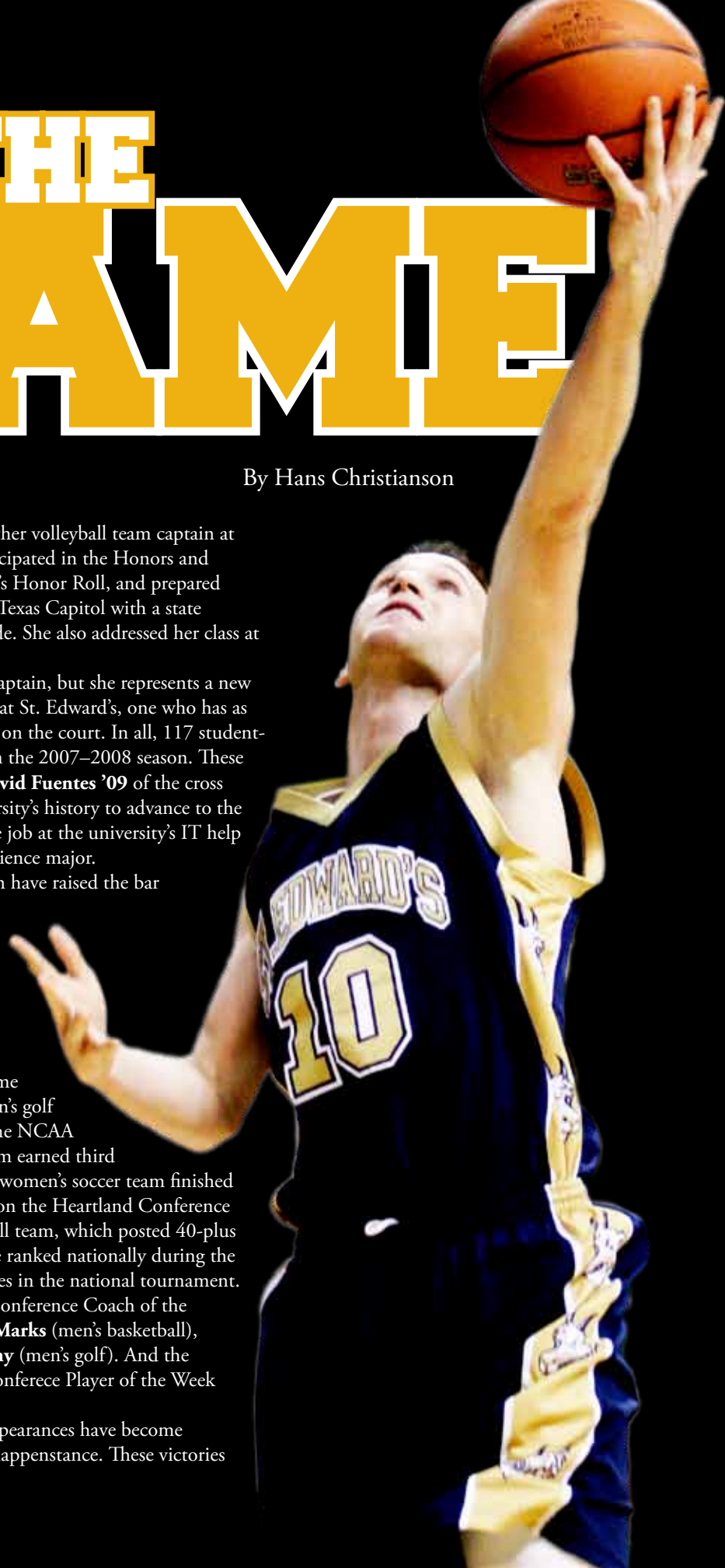
Recent graduate **Angela Vorpahl '08** was just another volleyball team captain at St. Edward's. She had a 4.0 cumulative GPA, participated in the Honors and Fellows programs, consistently made the President's Honor Roll, and prepared for a future in law and politics by interning at the Texas Capitol with a state representative and a state senator as a legislative aide. She also addressed her class at graduation as valedictorian.

OK, Vorpahl wasn't just any volleyball team captain, but she represents a new breed of student-athlete that's becoming common at St. Edward's, one who has as many impressive achievements in the classroom as on the court. In all, 117 student-athletes received academic all-conference honors in the 2007–2008 season. These players aren't just coasting along in class either. **David Fuentes '09** of the cross country team became the first runner in the university's history to advance to the NCAA national meet as he maintained a part-time job at the university's IT help desk to augment his schoolwork as a Computer Science major.

Fuentes, Vorpahl and scholarly jocks like them have raised the bar academically and athletically at a university with a sports program that is — it can be said no other way — at the top of its game.

As St. Edward's has grown closer to achieving recognition as one of the best small universities in the nation, its athletics program has kept pace. After winning nine of 13 Heartland Conference championships in 2006–2007, five teams took home conference championships in 2007–2008. The men's golf team finished the season tied for second place in the NCAA Division II National Tournament. The softball team earned third place in the Division II College World Series. The women's soccer team finished with 17 wins for the second-straight season and won the Heartland Conference title for the second-straight year. So did the baseball team, which posted 40-plus wins for the second-straight year. Eight teams were ranked nationally during the 2007–2008 season, and six teams made appearances in the national tournament. Three coaches from St. Edward's won Heartland Conference Coach of the Year honors for their sports in 2007–2008: **Ryan Marks** (men's basketball), **Jennifer McNeil** (women's golf) and **Ryan Murphy** (men's golf). And the student-athletes themselves garnered Heartland Conference Player of the Week honors 45 times.

National rankings and NCAA tournament appearances have become commonplace on the hilltop, but they're not just happenstance. These victories



are the result of long-term planning and cultivation by Athletics Director **Debbie Taylor**.

"I can't say I'm surprised by our success," says Taylor. "Our student-athletes are of the highest caliber, both as students and athletes, and our coaches have the ability to bring out the best in their players."

Taylor, who joined St. Edward's as volleyball coach in 1990 and became the university's seventh director of Athletics in 2002, has taken care to recruit coaches who share her vision of athletics as something far beyond simple wins and losses, conference championships and national tournaments. She stresses that student-athletes should reach their potential in the classroom as well as their sport. She also mandates that they participate in meaningful service activities that make a difference in the community.

In other words, Taylor wants her student-athletes to embody the mission of St. Edward's. Team members have risen to the challenge and thrived as a result. Vorpahl says she wouldn't have maintained a 4.0 GPA or developed the close friendships she made at St. Edward's if she hadn't been on the volleyball team.

"The bonds I made with my teammates cannot be paralleled by any other relationship," says Vorpahl. "And my lifestyle as a student-athlete forced me to learn self-discipline and time management skills to earn high grades."

You can see how Taylor's approach has helped the softball team, which has benefited from the right coach making the right decisions about the development of the minds as well as bodies of her players.

Amy Coulter, softball team coach, arrived on the hilltop in 2001 as a softball assistant coach, and it didn't take long for her to start a winning tradition. Now entering her sixth year as head coach, she has posted a 170-127 overall record. In 2007, Coulter led the team to a 43-18 record and its first national ranking. The team also won its second-consecutive Heartland Conference championship and appeared in the NCAA regional tournament for the second time. Its third-place tie in the Division II College World Series followed its first-ever NCAA regional title in 2008.

When Coulter talks about working on the mental game of her team, she's not just talking strategy. One of her goals is to keep the team's overall GPA at or above 3.0. For a "national powerhouse in softball," as she says, that ranks fourth in the nation, maintaining those academic standards is no easy feat. But Coulter has faith in her athletes as people as well as players. "I have great leaders and great individuals who make so many sacrifices to become the best they can be in life as well as softball," she says. "It's the greatest feeling in the world to watch a group grow and overcome adversity and doubt to become the best at what it does. I enjoy developing relationships with my student-athletes."

With coaches and a community looking out for their development in this way, the student-athletes of St. Edward's learn about much more than competition from their time on the court and in the field.

"The environment at St. Edward's demonstrates a lifelong commitment to achieve excellence on the court and in the classroom," says **Kelli Payton '10** of the women's basketball team. "This helps me become an individual with the inner drive and desire to meet and reach my personal goals and values as I continue my life after St. Edward's."

INTRAMURAL MAN

Why settle for one sport?

Ask the athlete who plays three ...

Michael Jordan's minor-league baseball career barely lasted a year. College basketball star Marion Jones turned out to be a performance-drug fake on the Olympic track. And does anybody these days "know Bo" (as in Bo Jackson, the 1980s flash in the pan of baseball and football)?

Life can be rough for the multisport athlete, but that hasn't stopped **Adam Robertson '10**.

The Political Science major plays not one but three intramural sports at St. Edward's: flag football, basketball and softball. And to hear him talk, he's not just in it for grins.

"Collegiate-level athletes have practices, trips and meetings for their sport, while most intramural teams just show up on game day. But there's no lack of intensity when you compare the two," he says. "There will always be a few teams that just want to have fun, but how far do they make it in the playoffs?"

For his part, Robertson has made it to the playoffs several times. His basketball team has made it to the semifinals twice, and his flag football team reached the finals twice — only to lose both times. Softball, he admits, is his worst sport, but he won the Home Run Derby championship his freshman year.

Intramurals have given Robertson lots of shining moments — like scoring 40 points and making the winning shot in a basketball game last year — and the sort of friendly but intense rivalries with other competitive students that feed his soul. Still, why would a former high school football, basketball, baseball and golf player who also ran track settle for intramurals when the glory of a St. Edward's sports team beckons?

"In high school, I was the sport stud on campus, so when coming to college, I knew I had a shot to walk on to a team," he says. "However, I had to take a second and realize everyone on the team was the sport stud at their school too. It was a humbling experience to gauge everyone else's ability against mine."

The bottom line was tuition — Robertson didn't want to try out for a team unless he knew he was good enough to get a scholarship.

Otherwise he couldn't justify the greater time commitment a Hilltopper team would require. He says he has no regrets, but "it's something I'll think back on and wonder 'what if.'"

— Steve Wilson





HIGHLIGHTS

WINNING SEASONS

- After taking nine of 13 Heartland Conference championships in 2006–2007, five teams took home conference championships in 2007–2008. Women's soccer, men's basketball, baseball, men's golf and women's golf all achieved top honors.
- Eight teams were ranked nationally during the 2007–2008 season, and six teams made appearances in their national tournaments.

THE “STUDENT” IN “STUDENT-ATHLETE”

- 63 percent of all student-athletes posted a 3.0 GPA or better during the Fall 2007 semester; 34 percent had a 3.50 GPA or better.
- 67 percent of all student-athletes had a 3.0 GPA or better during the Spring 2008 semester; 40 percent posted a 3.50 GPA or better.
- The combined GPA for all student-athletes was 3.20 for the 2007–2008 academic year.
- St. Edward's has a graduation rate of 82 percent among its student-athletes, the second highest in the Heartland and Lone Star conferences combined. This is 13 percent higher than the NCAA Division II aggregate academic success rate of 69 percent.
- 28 student-athletes achieved a 4.0 semester GPA in Fall 2007, and 29 student-athletes earned a 4.0 semester GPA in Spring 2008. Six student-athletes have a cumulative GPA of 4.0.

COACH ACCOLADES

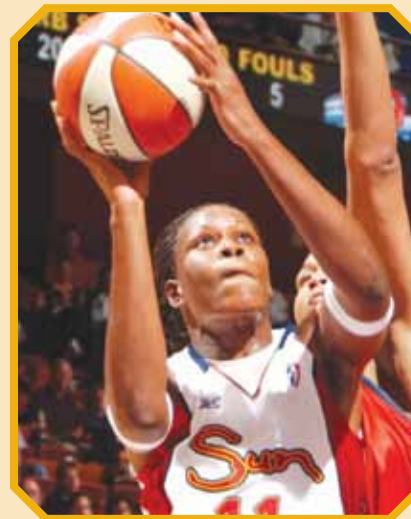
- During the 2007–2008 season, **Ryan Marks** (men's basketball), **Jennifer McNeil** (women's golf) and **Ryan Murphy** (men's golf) each were named Heartland Conference Coach of the Year for their respective sports.
- McNeil and Murphy were also both named Golf Coaches Association of America South Central Regional Coaches of the Year, and **Amy Coulter** (softball) was named National Fastpitch Coaches Association Regional Coach of the Year.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Student-athletes assisted more than 40 different campus and community organizations during the 2007–2008 academic year.
- Students-athletes completed 2,510 hours of community service in 2007–2008.

THE PROFESSIONAL

Taj McWilliams-Franklin '93 reflects on a stellar WNBA career



Taj McWilliams-Franklin '93

didn't actually pick up a basketball until she was 15, when her history teacher stopped her in the hall to tell her that the sport could put her through college. She quickly made up for lost time, playing overseas between her semesters studying for a BA in English Writing and Rhetoric at St. Edward's. After four years in the now-defunct ABL, she joined the WNBA's Orlando Miracle in 1999 and moved with the team (and husband

Reggie and daughters Michele and Maia Simone) to Connecticut in 2003. She has helped win two WNBA conference titles, was selected to six All-Star teams and won a World Championship medal. Along the way, she scored her 3,000th career point against Indiana in 2006 and achieved the rank of third on the WNBA's all-time leading rebounder's list with 2,222. *St. Edward's University Magazine* spoke with McWilliams-Franklin just before she helped the Detroit Shock win the WNBA championship in September.

At St. Edward's, ever think you would play for a WNBA championship?

No. I just thought I'd be going overseas to play.

This is your third appearance in the finals. What's it like?

I'm not as juiced up and excited as I was in the first two. That first one I was so excited and hyper and just everything. Now I'm cool and I'm calm and I'm collected. And you know what? I've been playing much better. And that's really my game, the quiet side of the game. So I'm very calm and I don't know why. I think it got easy at some point.

Can you talk a little bit about your time on the hilltop?

St. Edward's took me in. People care there; it's so close-knit. I took my daughter Michele to class, and you don't get that anywhere else. I remember in my Religious Studies class with Professor Ed Shirley, Michele was with me in the front row and she said, "La la la!" and he said, "That's right, Michele! What she said!" The experience I had at St. Edward's is like nothing else.

You're writing a book. How's it going?

I just keep writing away a little at a time, refining, writing, refining, writing, and it becomes a work always in progress. Hopefully one day I'll finish it and it will be good.

— Logan Lawrence



finding the fulbright

How Caroline Morris helps St. Edward's students pursue prestigious fellowships and scholarships
by Robyn Ross

JESSICA ATTIE '05

Kelly Whitebread '08 two-stepped her way into one of the most prestigious academic awards in the world.

Her application for the Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Germany included the usual demonstrations of academic excellence and language fluency. She also added a taste of Texas: besides teaching English 12 hours each week, Whitebread proposed that she lead a "community outreach" program that would incorporate lessons on cooking barbecue and Tex-Mex food, as well as line dances and the two-step.

The strategy worked: Whitebread is spending this academic year teaching — and cooking and dancing — at a vocational school in northern Germany. And besides Professor of German **Harald Becker**, she has **Caroline Morris** to thank for her winning application.

As director of fellowships, Morris helps students obtain nationally competitive scholarships like the Fulbright. Since her arrival at St. Edward's last September, Morris and the students she advises have submitted more than a dozen scholarship applications — more than double the previous year's total. Of this year's crop, some have been turned down, and some are still waiting for a decision. But

Morris emphasizes that anyone who submits an application for such an award has already undergone a valuable reflection process about his or her personal goals.

"The most fun part of my job is to ask students, 'If you could do anything — what would it be?'" says Morris, who has worked in education policy for the Clinton administration, practiced law and started an educational nonprofit that later became a charter school. "Young people in general don't know how many options there are, and faculty and administrators can help them dream."

She separates these dreams into three categories: the most prestigious awards that fund overseas studies (the Rhodes, Marshall, Mitchell and Fulbright scholarships); funds that support graduate education (the Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship and the Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships); and fellowships for specific student profiles, like women of color in the sciences or environmental activists.

The Application Process

Successful candidates are often fluent in a second language and have completed independent research. They're willing to spend

four to five months working diligently on their application. And most importantly, like Whitebread, they tell their stories in coherent, compelling ways that distinguish them from the mass of other qualified candidates.

Last summer, to help students add chapters to their stories, the university began awarding academic excellence grants to rising juniors with ideas for independent-study projects. Among the 10 initiatives chosen were a pre-med student's trip to Chile to be a medical intern with a local health service and an art student's family history photography project.

The grant winners often return from their trips as stronger and more eager candidates for prestigious scholarships. Biochemistry major **Alicia Jones '09**, who conducted research at the University of Cádiz in southern Spain over the summer, returned invigorated about both her scientific acumen and ability to travel abroad. With only two weeks lead time, she worked with Morris on an application for the Mitchell Scholarship, which funds a year of graduate study in Ireland. While Jones didn't ultimately win the award, she said the process of constructing her résumé and personal statement was infinitely useful for her eventual graduate school application.

Morris says the bulk of her work in the last year has been one-on-one meetings with student applicants: “incredibly intense conversations, and five or six drafts of every essay.” With a JD and an MFA in Creative Writing — and two completed novels — she draws on extensive writing experience to coach her students through multiple revisions. Together they dig up biographical details and potential areas of specialization, often surprising themselves in the process. “If you repeat it back to them — ‘Here are the three things I see you gravitating toward’ — they say, ‘Oh, really? I haven’t thought of that.’”

Students also have to envision themselves as an outsider might see them. When Whitebread applied for the Fulbright, Morris and Becker reminded her she had a special advantage as a Texan applying to teach in Germany, where a romantic stereotype of Texans as cowboys persists. She proved a good

fit for the school in Germany, which had specifically requested to work with a Texan.

Expanding What's Possible

Morris’ biggest challenge is often making students aware of the opportunities available to them, especially if they aren’t familiar with the specific awards. “A huge part of my job is telling students, ‘People will pay you to do interesting things because you’re excellent,’” she says.

The more applications a university submits, the bigger it gets on the radar of funding committees. The Fulbright has taken notice of St. Edward’s in part because of Becker’s affiliation with the Goethe Institute and its German Summer School program in Taos, N.M., highly regarded by the academics who review applications for the German teaching assistantships. When

Becker encourages students to apply, he uses a strategy he learned from a mentor at UT–Austin.

“I always ask candidates to read [the bestselling 1958 novel] *The Ugly American* and tell them that they should spend the first six months listening, learning the language and the subtleties of the culture, and not teaching about the United States,” he says. “I remind them that Fulbright was a senator from Arkansas who wanted to build a bridge between countries, and it goes both ways. We should go and listen and learn.” He asks students to build this humility and global awareness into their applications.

A Waiting Game

Once the final drafts are written, the recommendation letters are gathered and the whole packet’s in the mail, all anyone can do

Fulbright Applications: A Sampling



REBECCA MARINO, '10

Jake Cowan '10

Major: Religious Studies

Applying for: Fulbright Full Grant to Germany

Research interest: “The Third Reich posthumously held up composer Wagner as an ideal German nationalist. How and why did they make this association, and is it fair to Wagner? I’ve arranged to work with two prominent Wagner scholars and hope to meet Wagner’s descendants.”



REBECCA MARINO, '10

Amanda Bartenstein '09

Major: English Literature

Minor: German

Applying for: Fulbright Teaching Assistantship to Germany, and Austrian teaching assistantship

Research interest: “German and Austrian literature are vastly different despite the common language. The literature of Germany has dealt with guilt about the Holocaust, but Austrian writers have been more reluctant to acknowledge their country’s role. Also, Germans typically separate comedy and tragedy, but Austrians often combine them in dark comedy.”



REBECCA MARINO, '10

Caitlin Greenwood '09

Major: Philosophy

Minor: English Writing and Rhetoric

Applying for: Fulbright Full Grant to Germany

Research interest: “The writing of WWII POW veteran Heinrich Böll speaks to a specific type of guilt stemming from the struggle of faith and obligations to society — a necessary mentality for today’s generation as it deals with the ramifications of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.”

is wait. This year's Fulbright candidates found out in late January whether they advanced to the second round of the competition. Their experience with academic life at St. Edward's has inspired most of them to earn advanced degrees and return to teach in a university setting. So in the meantime, they're writing still more personal statements for graduate school applications.

Nothing, though, is likely to be as rigorous as what they've already done. To **Jake Cowan '10**, the most difficult part is waiting to learn the committee's decision about the application that took so much soul-searching and energy. "To quote Homer, 'It's in the lap of the gods,'" he says. "You work with this baby, this sculpture; like Pygmalion, you're forming it and giving it a life of its own — and you just wait to hear back.

"I feel like a parent. I know now how my mom felt when I left for college. I know why she cried."



Prestigious as a Fulbright is, Alejandro Natal, professor of Regional Development at El Colegio Mexiquense in Mexico, didn't apply for it himself. UT–Austin, for which he'd taught classes to students abroad for four years, wanted to bring him over as a Fulbright scholar-in-residence and invited St. Edward's to do a joint application. During Fall 2008, Natal taught at both universities on Latin America, specifically an area of specialty that he's written books about: community development in the region.

Preferring a hands-on approach, he tasked his students at St. Edward's with planning a sustainable poverty-fighting program and gave them some expert advice: Through webcams and online chat technology, Natal linked with guest speakers in Nicaragua, Colombia, Mexico, Brazil and Peru. They spoke from firsthand experience on the fair trade movement, micro-finance, sustainable agricultural production, school projects and other programs of self-reliant development.

Natal returned to Mexico at the end of the semester, but he's arranging to potentially continue teaching at St. Edward's — this time from the other side of a webcam.

Fulbright Recipients from St. Edward's

2003

Rachel Howell Herrington '03
teaching assistantship to Germany

2004–2005

Chris Herrington '03
teaching assistantship to Germany

2007

Jennifer Walden '07
teaching assistantship to Brazil

2008

Kelly Whitebread '08
teaching assistantship to Germany

Current Applicants

Jake Cowan '10
research grant to Germany

Amanda Bartenstein '09
teaching assistantship to Germany,
non-Fulbright teaching assistantship
to Austria

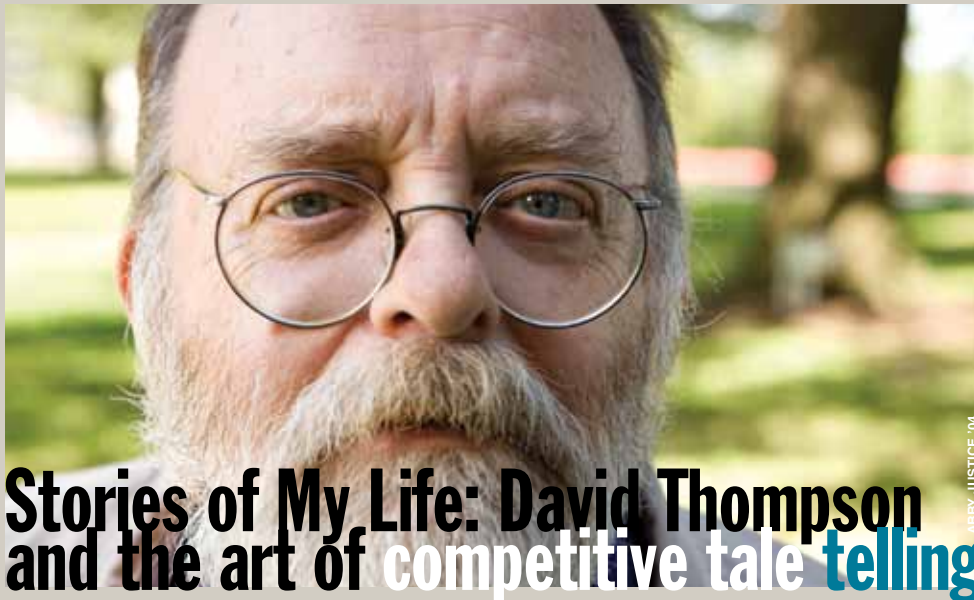
Caitlin Greenwood '09
research grant to Germany

Alice Puccio '08
teaching assistantship to Norway

Blake Smith MBA '08
Mexico Binational Business Program

Aaron Helton MSCIS '10
research grant to the U.K.

Competition comes in flavors beyond the athletic and academic. Here are some of the more curious passions of the St. Edward's community.



Stories of My Life: David Thompson and the art of competitive tale telling

By Matthew Bey

Professional storyteller **David Thompson** **MLA '03** has told stories for more than 35 years. He's performed his art on three different continents, on National Public Radio and as a four-time gold medalist at the annual National Irish Storytelling Competition in Boerne. An administrative coordinator at St. Edward's, he regularly tells tales and lectures about them in classes, but it was Thompson's own personal story that *St. Edward's University Magazine* asked to hear.

What exactly does it mean to be a storyteller?

A storyteller is a person who carries a tradition that reaches back beyond recorded history. Storytellers pass on the folklore, the fairy tales, the legends and the myths. We call writers and movie people storytellers, and it's true they are, but in the storytelling community, it's all oral tradition.

So this isn't just storytelling for kids.

Basically, I don't tell to children. Children have enough storytellers. Adults need storytellers.

What sorts of stories do you tell?

I specialize in the ancient epics and sagas such as the *Epic of Gilgamesh* from Babylon or the

Ulaoid Cycle from Ireland. I look at these epics that were once in the common consciousness; but now they're on some scholar's bookshelves gathering dust. I take these stories, learn them and bring them back to the public.

How does that work?

I read through the story several times to get the gist and the meaning. I'll strip it away to its bare bones and take my own words and put them on. Then I practice a lot of vocal techniques: How do I do the screams of the battle crows that preceded The Morrigan, Celtic Goddess of War? Or the sound of a rusty chest being opened? I continually practice until it feels comfortable. Storytelling is not memorization.

How do storytellers compete?

Last year I tied for second place with a dear friend of mine. We were just as happy as we could be. The person who got the gold medal had never told in public in her life. So we were cheering and screaming. We were so happy for her. The competitiveness is friendly.

Any advice for would-be storytellers?

Read, read and read some more. Apprentice and talk. Find what resonates with you.



On a High Horse

In the equestrian world, they call it "eventing," a combination of cross-country riding, show jumping and dressage (also known as "horse ballet"). "You could view it as a triathlon, except with a horse," says **Alexandra Lee Zavoyna '11**. And she should know — she started riding at the age of five, eventually traveling around the country for competitions and coaching from the sport's elite.

Before her third and last year competing in the North American Young Rider Championships, Zavoyna, bound for college, figured she should be content with the silver and gold medals she'd won on teams. But she decided she'd kick herself later if she didn't compete solo one last time. She and her horse Merloch ended up winning the individual gold.

Now retired from eventing, Zavoyna says she's drawn lots of good lessons from her horse days that have carried her through life. "I was also blessed with some of the worst and some of the best horses imaginable," she says. "The bad ones taught me to never give up and made me appreciate the good ones even more."

Not•So•Trivial Pursuits

CONTINUED



Gordon O'Hara '11 has been blowing a mean bagpipe since his days in the high school band at St. Thomas' Episcopal in Houston. He's even lent the unique sound of his instrument to the accompaniment of a brass band in England. *St. Edward's University Magazine* sat down with O'Hara and gave him a chance to blow his own horn.

Is there a verb for bagpipe playing?

Not really. I guess "piping."

How did you get into piping?

I've been playing since fourth grade. Technically the fifth because I spent one year on the chanter, which is like a recorder where you just practice the basics.

How long did it take to learn how to play?

I'm still learning, but to be able to play a few tunes perfectly, which we call a set, probably takes two months.

Are bagpipes hard to play physically? How do you avoid running out of breath?

Most people think they can play them, but I've only ever encountered one person who could even get out just one note. The best way to avoid running out of breath is practice. I can feel the difference if I haven't played for a week.

Are bagpipes expensive?

Yes, they are pretty pricey. They start about \$700 and go into the thousands.

Any special songs you like to play?

It really depends on the mood, but the *Star Wars* theme is definitely a crowdpleaser. I also really like the more upbeat and modern tunes.

Some people treat bagpipes as a joke.

Any thoughts on that?

It doesn't bother me a bit. I love to make people laugh, and that's usually the reaction when I start playing.

Corkscrew King

Ah, Paris. The city for lovers, artists ... and corkscrew collectors. The parents of **James Zalaznik '12** were on their honeymoon when they picked up a couple of corkscrews in a quaint kitchen supply store. Cut to several years later. Their son, James, is buying corkscrews on eBay to build on the family collection, which now stands at more than 900 corkscrews. (Seeing is believing at www.corkscrewcollectors.com.)

Zalaznik keeps a humble perspective on the family hobby, pointing out that some collections out there weigh in at more than 9,000 corkscrews. "Corkscrews are a very popular collectible," he says. Still, it's not every collector who's scored an 18th-century prosthetic arm with hand, fork, hook and corkscrew attachments. "Unfortunately, I don't know much about the arm other than it is French, very old and one of a kind," says Zalaznik. "I can say that it's our most unique corkscrew."

So is there a limit to the number of corkscrews he plans to own? "Nope," says Zalaznik. "The only limit is price."



James Zalaznik '12 at home with corkscrews.

Award-Winning Pursuits

Put on a Happy Face

Duncan Coe '10 and **Nigel O'Hearn '09** just weren't happy with *Sad, Sad, Sad*, a play they wrote in late 2007 and staged locally in early 2008. But, on a whim, they entered their tale of assassins, bombs and murder into this year's New York International Fringe Festival two days before the deadline. A retooled version of *Sad, Sad, Sad* won a slot in the festival and made its New York debut in August. "We had a nearly sold-out house on closing night and an overwhelming response from audiences throughout the run," says O'Hearn. "Press was not as kind, but if they were saying something wonderful off the bat, it would probably mean we weren't doing our job well enough."



Duncan Coe '10 (top) and Nigel O'Hearn '09 took their play to the New York International Fringe Festival.

Eyewitness to Emmy

When the I-35W bridge collapsed over the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minn., in 2007, TV news producer **Brandon Benavides '03** worked 16 straight hours at his station, KSTP-TV/5 Eyewitness News. He helped with almost every aspect of the ongoing coverage, including producing a 2-to-5-a.m. block of late news on the fly. The efforts of Benavides and his team helped the station win an Emmy for Breaking News Coverage. Benavides also helped pull in another Emmy for the morning show he produces for the station.



Brandon Benavides '03 (left) won Emmys as a news producer.

Ticket to Fantasmaville

Raul Garza, adjunct instructor of Communication, won the 2007 National Latino Playwrights Award for his play *Fantasmaville*, a comedy that explores lives out of balance in the wake of Austin's gentrification. "I found a vast range of emotions and preconceptions among my peers, neighbors and the media in response to community change," says Garza. "I thought it was a fascinating reflection of the current state of human communication." Garza is also co-founder and creative director of TKO Advertising and spent several years as a writer and producer for Austin's Latino Comedy Project.



Raul Garza's *Fantasmaville* explores Austin's gentrification.



CAMARADERIE BEFORE COMPETITION

How two athletic eras on campus helped define the way St. Edward's plays sports

A HILLTOP OF THEIR OWN: THE FIRST YEAR OF WOMEN'S ATHLETICS AT ST. EDWARD'S

By Steve Wilson

There's no way to sugarcoat the 90-33 defeat UT–Austin dealt the St. Edward's women's basketball team on Dec. 10, 1974. But to talk to the Hilltoppers who played that day, the moment sounds more like a victory. To them, the very first intercollegiate women's basketball team at St. Edward's, losing in UT–Austin's storied Gregory Gymnasium was far better than their previous option: not playing anywhere at all.

"We lost big time, but it was great to be on the Gregory Gym court, a place where I'd always dreamed of playing," says **Annette (Edwards) Porfirio '75**, a member of that first team. "Just playing at the collegiate level in the first place meant a lot to me and to all of us."

Even after the 1972 passage of Title IX — which made equal opportunity in schools a law but wasn't fully enforced yet — collegiate sports programs for women weren't very common. Many athletic women had few ways to keep pursuing sports after high school. At St. Edward's, only coeducational since 1970, female athletes had to content themselves with intramurals. They squared off against each other in volleyball, basketball, football, softball and other sports, playing on teams with jokey names like Sorry Excuse, Bad Luck and Billingsly Brewery. Though the competition could be serious, the rivalries were rarely intense. "I remember once we stopped a football game because someone lost a contact lens," says Porfirio. "We didn't get back to playing until we helped her find it."

However much fun the students had on the field, intramurals weren't enough for some of the more hard-core players. Recognizing this need, the university tapped Professor of Physical Education **Diane Daniels** to start a women's sports program. Daniels already knew most of the women athletes at St. Edward's after playing alongside them in most every intramural sport. So did Professor of Psychology **Emma Lou Linn**, who agreed to serve as Daniels' assistant coach.

The exact way the first women's volleyball and basketball teams at St. Edward's came together seems to be a fine detail lost to history. "We may have had something like tryouts," jokes Linn. "But my bet is that everybody who came got on the team." Porfirio remembers the best of the intramural players signing up, making the gathering an intramural all-star team of sorts. "In intramurals you'd have about three good players on a team and everybody else you were afraid to throw the ball to," says Porfirio. "So it was nice to play with the best the university had to offer."

Eager to take their skills to a new level, the teams easily put aside past rivalries and bonded as they adjusted to the new rigors of collegiate competition. In basketball, they learned to play the game full-court instead of the intramural half-court they were used to. "Full-court was a big deal," says **Tina (Luksinger) Brandon '75**. "You had to run a lot more."

Bigger challenges faced the new teams and their coach. The program wasn't part of a league yet, so Daniels — who taught her full courseload on top of her coaching duties — had to set up games with any nearby university that would have the Hilltoppers. That's how both the volleyball and basketball teams came to play and be defeated by UT–Austin. They fared a little better against Concordia, Southwestern, Incarnate Word and other schools.

In any event, winning was a secondary concern to simply keeping the new enterprise afloat. The program started with practically no budget or resources. Linn recalls going to local businesses with a St. Edward's connection to raise money for uniforms. The teams held practices around the men's established schedules, which meant more than one late dinner in the cafeteria when sandwiches might be the only food left to eat. And without a dressing room to call their own, the women changed in a bathroom so small they had to take turns getting dressed.

"We all felt like at the time we had to fight for everything," says **Pat (Cardenas) Eichas '78**, a member of both the basketball and volleyball teams.

For all the troubles they endured that first year, the teams never drew large crowds to their games. Their scores weren't exactly the best in the record books either. They had so few games that many players had time to hop back into intramurals.

Yet through it all, Daniels, Linn and their players knew their efforts weren't in vain. Daniels passed away in 1989, but Linn — who still teaches at St. Edward's — says the coach knew the significance of her actions. "I was involved in the women's movement, so not having a program had been a sore spot for me," she says. "Diane was pretty laid-back and not very political. She was also very shy and reluctant to stir the pot. So she was not very vocal about it, but she had a burning desire to get the program off the ground."

Some of the players had the sense even then that what they were doing was worthwhile for more than their personal satisfaction. "A lot of us did it to get it started so people could follow us," says Brandon, now a paralegal in Dallas. "It was more of a donation of time and effort to get this established than a desire to go out and win."

Eichas, now a teacher and former coach with the Leander Independent School District, says she didn't get that perspective until she neared the end of a four-year run on volleyball and basketball. In that time she saw the program grow and gain more recognition. "It didn't matter that we didn't win that much, it mattered that we got things going. And in a way it wasn't that hard because every year we had girls who wanted to play. They just kept coming."

Opposite page, top: The first women's volleyball team in action. Neither women's volleyball or basketball won a lot that first year, but team members knew just starting the program was important. Middle: Coach Diane Daniels (center) had to start the first women's basketball team at St. Edward's from scratch.

TEAM TIGER: THE SPORTING LIFE AT ST. EDWARD'S HIGH SCHOOL

By Matthew Bey

As late as 1959, five years after *Brown v. Board of Education*, a local high school refused to play against the football team of St. Edward's High School. The reason, according to the *Eddie the Edsman* newsletter that year: The St. Edward's High team had an African American on the roster.

Records indicate that from its founding in the late 1800s as a Holy Cross institution, the high school never turned away any student based on race. That meant integrated teams. The small school had no room for division among the students, and it wasn't going to change just to fill out its sports calendar. St. Edward's canceled any further games with the opposing high school rather than cut its teammate.

When it came to sports at St. Edward's High School, inclusiveness came before competition.

THE EARLY YEARS

Sports at St. Edward's High School didn't officially organize until 1923, a year before the high school became accredited. **Brother Norbert Lengerich, CSC** spearheaded the program "to help build sound and strong bodies which form the basis for the best moral and intellectual growth," as a student handbook explained it.

It was rough going those first few years. Challenging other schools meant traveling over crude country roads in crude automobiles. During the Depression there were hardly enough students enrolled to fill an entire football team. Then, after World War II, St. Edward's started holding its own in Central Texas high school athletics. The 1950s brought routine district victories for the baseball team, and Coach **Ed Fleming** won 70 percent of his games in three major sports.

By the 1960s, St. Edward's played most games within the Texas Catholic Interscholastic League, an association of Catholic high schools within a reasonable commute. Sports were big. "Everybody went to the games," says **Charlie Nohra hs '63, '68**. "The gym was packed for every basketball game."

THE BIG THREE

Basketball, football and baseball formed the major sports of Tiger Town. The more athletically inclined students would go out for several sports every year — the same faces pop up in yearbook team photos over and over. "High school sports didn't have all the specialization we have now," remembers **Paul Seals hs '67, '72**, now an Austin lawyer specializing in environmental law.

In the high school's final year, Seals won the coveted Athlete of the Year award after he managed to play four sports. He squeezed in track during the spring then caught up on the last couple of weeks of baseball after the season overlap.

The Tigers' big football rival was the Texas School for the Deaf. Because the School for the Deaf was a special-education institution, some of the players on their football team were much older than normal highschoolers. "So they'd beat the hell out of us every year for 20 years," says Nohra. "But my junior year we beat 'em."

A lot of the games were against schools in San Antonio, so a victory meant a long, celebratory bus ride back to Austin. "Somebody would pull out a guitar and we would sing the songs of the day," says Seals. The bus would exit I-35 and drive up to the back of the school with everyone singing the fight song.

As for the sidelines, typically the cheerleading squad consisted of four boys from St. Edward's and four girls from St. Mary's Academy in downtown Austin. The schools did musical productions together, held joint sockhops and dances, and cheered together too.



PREPARING THE ATHLETE

Just because it was high school didn't mean the players had it easy. St. Edward's High School shared many athletic facilities with the university, and most of its coaches came from the ranks of St. Edward's University sports heroes.

Nohra remembers the training as a crude affair. "You didn't have the gymnastics equipment that you have today. We did the calisthenics and the push-ups, and squats out on the field. We ran a lot." But he hurries to downplay the strenuousness. "It wasn't that tough. We were in great shape."

Practice was also a time to bond the team together and instill its ethos in the players. **Mark Skrabacz hs '67** says that when he, as a 15-year-old sophomore, accidentally broke an upperclassman's femur in practice, the other seniors "gave me a lot of grief about it. It was their leadership and sympathy coming into play," he says. "They wanted me to know that it wasn't okay to hurt your own teammate, much less take him out for the season." Skrabacz has since channeled his youthful interest in sports into teaching yoga.

SOCCER AND ST. EDWARD'S

Aside from the major sports, several other athletic disciplines drew players over the years. St. Edward's had golf, bowling, cross country, horseback riding, tennis, fencing and even sharpshooting. But perhaps the high school's most unique athletic offering for a time was its soccer team. Though largely unknown in Texas, soccer dated as far back as the 1940s at St. Edward's High School, providing a way for the school's boarding students from Mexico and Latin America to express their culture. There weren't many other high school soccer teams to play against, but the Tigers did manage a rivalry with St. Stephen's Episcopal Academy, and they sometimes scrimmaged with UT-Austin. "We traded wins with UT-Austin," says **Arjen Foreman hs '67**. "They were good so beating them was very satisfying."

LASTING LESSONS

The last few years of St. Edward's High School saw a peak in enrollment and a cresting of athletic accomplishment. In 1962, four teams became district champions. Hardly a year went by without a playoff or a championship to brag about. The school transitioned from the AA to the AAA league, because the smaller schools the Tigers had been playing against just weren't challenging enough.

Even after all these years the athletic habits linger on. Nohra, now a debt adjuster, thinks his days as the starting quarterback shaped his outlook on life. That's a sentiment shared by **Oscar Howard hs '64**, who won Athlete of the Year in 1964 for his skills in football and track. Howard's athletic accomplishments at St. Edward's earned him a scholarship to North Texas University, which in turn set him down the path to become a Baptist minister. He says he learned his greatest lessons through the example of the Holy Cross Brothers as his coaches and teachers. "I had the inclination to be a minister before going to St. Edward's, but taking a course in religion helped me tremendously and really opened my eyes to the fact that there is such a thing as a Christian gentleman."



Opposite page, from top: From the turn of the 20th century until the 1960s, team unity in sports like football and basketball often trumped a burning desire for victory at St. Edward's High School. Far right, from top: The all-boys school and St. Mary's Academy pooled cheerleading efforts. Gymnastics, circa 1900. The soccer team, an oddity in 1940s Texas. High School alumni remember boxing bouts as useful stress relief.

ALUMNI NOTES



COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

From the Archives

Can you still do the can-can?

Share your stories about
this photo with us:

St. Edward's University Magazine
3001 South Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78704
stevew@stedwards.edu

50s

Frank E. Kern '52 won the 2008 Thomas C. Hasbrook Award from Bosma Enterprises, an organization dedicated to empowering people who are blind.

Andres Rodriguez Velasco '54 is a published author and poet laureate of Laredo.

60s

Michael Tracy '64, of San Ygnacio, was featured in an article on the front page of the Arts section of the Oct. 29, 2008, *New York Times*. The art review "Making Secular Art Out of Religious Imagery" discussed his work "Cross of the Sacred Peace" (1980), on exhibit with other work at in a show at PS 1 Contemporary Art Center. Tracy had a retrospective at PS 1 in the late 1980s.

Michael F. L'Annunziata '65, of Oceanside, Calif., saw his most recent book, *Radioactivity: Introduction and History* (Elsevier Science, 2007), reach YBP Library Services' bestseller list in the physics category last year.

70s

Richard Halpin '72, of Austin, received the 2008 Ernst & Young Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award in May. The award recognizes innovative leaders at organizations dedicated to addressing the social needs of their communities. The award carries with it a \$100,000 Silverton Grant, which has been directed to American YouthWorks, which Halpin serves as executive director.

Claude Markham '74, of Spring, gave a presentation, "Transitioning from Federal Law Enforcement into the Private Sector," at a Henley-Putnam University teleconference in November. In 1996, Markham founded CR Markham and Associates, a private investigation firm that specializes in criminal and civil investigations.

Oscar Rodriguez '78 and his wife, Leonora, of San Antonio, celebrated 29 years of marriage on Jan. 2. After more than 20 years with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and more than 31 years in government service, Rodriguez recently retired. He would love to hear from classmates at oscar.rodriguez56@live.com.



Homecoming 2009 Alumni Awards

Alumni Achievement: Margaret Juárez Gómez '91, MLA '04

In 1980, **Margaret Juárez Gómez '91, MLA '04** defeated a 14-year incumbent to become the first Mexican-American woman elected constable in Travis County. She held that position for 14 years while taking classes and raising a daughter. Four years after graduating with a degree in Sociology, Gómez won the county commissioner seat for Precinct 4. Re-elected to her fourth term in 2006, she also earned a Master of Liberal Arts degree along the way.

What inspired you to run for constable?

During the 1970s, I had been very active with the women's movement and knew there would be a lot of support for a woman running for this job. The incumbent got back into the race because, in his words, "this was not a job for a woman," which encouraged me even more.

How was it running for office while pursuing a degree?

I was in the middle of my campaign in March 1980 when I received a phone call from my advisor that I had qualified for 32 hours. That news made me keep walking door to door to campaign.

What was the focus of your MLA?

It focused on how the family experiences of Hispanic girls prepared them for public service. Some of us were lucky to have parents who were ahead of their time and believed that girls, too, needed to be educated to think for themselves so that they could achieve more and reach their full potential. We were taught that learning can be achieved at any age. It is not just for the young.

Sherry Perkins '76, of Round Rock, was featured in a recent issue of the *Austin Business Journal* about her work as a management and human resources consultant.

80s

Judith F. Fox '80, of Austin, co-authored *Voices of Strength: Sons and Daughters of Suicide Speak Out* (New Horizon Press, September 2008).

Terry Mitchell MBA '80, of Austin, president of Momark Development, was recently featured, along with his firm, in the *Austin Business Journal*. The publication named the 1999 Chestnut neighborhood plan, a collaboration the firm participated in, as the Community Impact winner in the "Best Real Estate Awards."

Doyle Valdez '81 was featured in the *Austin American-Statesman's* "2008 Heroes" series on Dec. 25. The profile on Valdez focused on his effort to buy laptops for a classroom of third-graders in East Austin last summer. Valdez served eight years on the Austin school board, the last four as president.

Jim Franz '82, of Tyler, has been selected to receive the National Catholic Educational Association's Catholic Secondary Education Award. The award recognizes his "distinguished service to Catholic education" as principal of the Bishop T.K. Gorman Catholic School. Franz will receive the award at the 2009 NCEA Convention in April in Anaheim, Calif.

Daisy A. Palmer '83, of Austin, retired after more than 23 years at the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool.

Robin M. Gilchrist '84, of Washington, D.C., became chief of staff to the U.S. Department of Education under Secretary Margaret Spellings in October 2008. She previously served as senior counselor and deputy chief of staff to the secretary and as acting director of International Affairs in the department. She joined the Department of Education in March 2004 as a liaison to educational associations and foundations.

Chris Bentley '85 recently became head coach of the Rockport-Fulton High School women's varsity basketball team in Rockport. Bentley, who has more than 20 years of coaching experience, previously coached at Aransas Pass High School.

Guadalupe Velasquez '89, of Austin, recently became a member of the university's School of Education Board of Advisors. Velasquez is principal of Allison Elementary in the Austin Independent School District.

90s

Julie Poth Fisher '90 and husband, Dale, own the "Bow Wow Resort" for dogs in Apopka. Julie previously worked at Sea World of Florida as a marine mammal animal trainer. Visit the resort online at <http://bowwowresort.com/home>.

Rodney Eric Terry '90, men's basketball assistant coach at UT-Austin, was recently inducted into the Angleton Independent School District's Athletic Hall of Fame. The award honored Terry for his career as a three-sport athlete (football, basketball and baseball) at Angleton High School from 1982 to 1986. Terry was a four-year starter in basketball, a two-year starter at wide receiver and a two-year starter for the Wildcats' baseball team. He earned a basketball scholarship to St. Edward's, where he was a three-year starter at point guard.

Deborah Moody '91 has relocated with her family to Granbury from Plano. She teaches third grade and enjoys being the traveling cheer mom of a Maverick All-Stars cheerleader.

Hollis Bone '93 was selected as chairman of the board for the Round Rock Chamber of Commerce in the 2008-2009 fiscal year. His one-year term started in October.

Taj McWilliams-Franklin '93, of Detroit, Mich., helped her team, the WNBA's Detroit Shock, win the WNBA championship in September (see page 17).

Susie (Martinez) Villalpando '93 recently joined the Leander Independent School District as the principal of Westside Elementary. She and her husband, Nick, have two children.

Sally Gillam MAHS '95, of Spicewood, was appointed to the board of the nonprofit Texas Organization of Nurse Executives in 2008. She represents District 7, which includes multiple counties in Central Texas. Gillam has served as chief nursing officer at St. David's South Austin Hospital for 20 years.

Barbara Moncivais '95 started a PhD in Therapy at Pacifica in Carpinteria, Calif., in October.

Mary Goehring '96 received her law degree with honors from Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, N.H., in May 2008. She passed the Texas bar in November.

Jennifer Lynn Cervantes '97, of Washington, D.C., a senior advisor with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was recently promoted to deputy chief of staff. Cervantes first became involved in agricultural policy management as a deputy White House liaison in 2001. She also served more than two years at the White House in the Office of Presidential Personnel as a deputy associate director for recruiting and recommending candidates for senior executive and presidential appointments.

Kate Robertson '99, of Rio Grande, Ohio, is a freelance photographer whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Newsweek* and *Ohio Magazine*. She also teaches photography at the University of Rio Grande.

00s

Claudia Garza '00 recently joined the Children's Museum of Brownsville as the new educational director.

Kerry Kern '01 was selected to the board of directors of the Austin chapter of the Institute of Real Estate Management.

Ann Pham '01, MBA '04, adjunct instructor in the School of Management and Business, helped Executive in Residence Ram Matta lead 16 MBA, MSCIS and International Business students and alumni on an MBA Global Capstone class trip to India in March (see page 5).

Victoria Scoggins '01 graduated with a Master of Healthcare Administration from Texas Woman's University-Houston in May 2008. Upon graduation, Scoggins was accepted into the Administrative Fellowship Program with the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System in Montgomery, Ala.

Allison Allen '03, of Austin, has launched WomenBloom (<http://womenbloom.com>), a web site devoted to inspiring and supporting women to make the most of mid-life.

Jessica Attie '04, of Austin runs a wedding photography business with **Erica Nix '03**.

Andres Perez-Gonzalez MBA '04, of Austin, is documenting his experience biking 2,400 kilometers across Europe in an online magazine, *Vicariously Through Andres*, launched in November as part of APG Media, an information systems management company he founded in 2006 (see page 7).

Paul L. Robinson '04, of Austin, was recently named director of sales at Apogee Search. Robinson is the former director of customer acquisition at Hoover's. Prior to Hoover's, he worked at MCI.

Wesley Hurt '05 expanded Hey Cupcake, the cupcake business he runs out of an Airstream trailer on Austin's South Congress Avenue, into an additional permanent location in October. The new location features indoor seating, a bakery with large viewing windows for patrons, cupcake-themed clothing and a cabana with live music.

Carrie Johnson MSOLE '05 has left a six-year career as director of Marketing Services for St. Edward's to become director of Communications for Fordham University Law School in New York City.

Amanda Lee Buhler MBA '06, of Georgetown, recently joined HC&B Healthcare Communications as its media director.

Scott Rich MAHS '06, of Austin, is helping to plan the creation of a Dispute Resolution Center in Williamson County with a group of Project Management students from St. Edward's. Rich serves as director of court-referred mediation services at the Austin Dispute Resolution Center.

Robert Gilbreath MBA '07, of Austin, started an MBA alumni community on LinkedIn.com with the aid of **Dave Benton MBA '08**. In December, the group drew more than 100 attendees for a happy hour at Roux in Austin.

Michelann Quimby MSOLE '07, of Austin, has joined with **Karl Logue MSOLE '07**, **Carol Howard MSOLE '07**, and **Jeff Schoeneberg MSOLE '07** as partners in DiaMind Consulting (www.diamindconsulting.com). Inspired by their Capstone, "Framing Change: A New Approach to Change Management Analysis," the foursome launched the consultancy in June.

Chuy Ayala '08, of Austin, is an auditor and consultant at Temple-Inland.

Carlos Valentino Byerly '08, of Dallas, was named a semifinalist in Resource One Credit Union's search for a spokesperson for its My Life My Money service.

Jonathan Hiatt '08, of Austin, co-authored an ethics teaching case study with **Carolyn Conn**, associate professor of Accounting, and **Kay Guess**, professor of Accounting and Accounting chair. The case study, "Centurion Media: Doing the Right Thing," was published in the North American Case Research Association's *Case Research Journal*, volume 28, last fall and was nominated for an award in the ethics track at the annual North American Case Research Association conference when it was presented in Fall 2007.

Kelly Whitebread '08 received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship for the 2008–2009 academic year in Wildeshausen, Germany (see page 18).

Shelley Renee Seale '08, of Austin, recently finished a narrative nonfiction book: *The Weight of Silence: Invisible Children of India*. It tells the stories of some of the 25 million children living without parents in India's orphanages or on the streets and the people advocating for them. Learn more at <http://weightofsilence.wordpress.com>.

FUTURE HILLTOPPERS

To **Paul Tramonte '91** and Anita Tramonte, of The Woodlands, son Samuel Paul and daughter Sophia Francesca on Sept. 4.



To **Mia Hosty Riffett '93** and Scott Riffett, of Bastrop, daughter Alexis Sofia Riffett (left) on April 28.

To **Jennifer (Smith) Perry '94** and Todd Perry, of Katy, daughter Grace Jewel on Feb. 25, 2008.

To **Esmeralda Lozano Hoang '99, MAC '04**, and **Thuy B. Hoang '99**, of Austin, daughter Isabella Maria on Aug. 1.

To **Jason Arellano '08**, technical support analyst III for Instructional Technology, and **Erika Arellano '06**, son Michael Javier on Nov. 9.

To **Tracy Manier**, associate vice president and dean of Admission, and Dan Floyd, son August William Floyd on Nov. 24.

To **Caroline Morris**, director of Fellowships (see page 18), and Jonathan Wei, son Elias Harper Wilson Wei on Sept. 11.

To **Steve Rodenborn**, assistant professor of Religious Studies, and Tracy Rodenborn, daughter Catherine Jean on Nov. 1.

To **Rebecca Tresch**, testing coordinator for the Counseling and Consultation Center, and Ross Brown, son Jonah Ross Brown on Nov. 29.

MARRIAGES

Todd Freemon '97 to Lori Koniski on Oct. 12, living in West Hollywood, Calif.
Ryan Edward Flores '02 to Elizabeth Marie Flores on Jan. 3, living in McAllen.

Homecoming 2009 Alumni Awards

Distinguished Alumnus: Anthony Scaperlanda '59

Before **Anthony Scaperlanda '59** retired from Northern Illinois University in 1998, he chaired the Economics Department, directed Graduate Studies and held several other administrative positions. Now living in Charlottesville, Va., Scaperlanda is active in his parish and local organizations like the Blue Ridge Area Food Network. At St. Edward's, he has established the Scaperlanda Family Endowment Scholarship for nontraditional juniors or seniors majoring in humanities, economics or social sciences.



How was your time at St. Edward's?

St. Edward's was great for me in that it provided a close-knit academic environment that guided and encouraged intellectual exploration. I was the first in my family to attend college, so I did not arrive on the hilltop with an intellectual focus. Consequently, my understanding of the purpose and benefits of an education was shaped there. My time at St. Edward's provided a solid foundation for my future endeavors. And it was a fun time.

What did your PhD focus on?

A free-trade agreement in Latin America.

What drew you to economics and social injustices of economic disparity?

I was an undergraduate business major and that required the study of a fair amount of economics. I studied philosophy and theology. My interest in the distributive side of economics was formed and reinforced at St. Edward's by some of the papal encyclicals to which I was exposed.

Is that how you came to specialize in papal policy on economics?

My research showed that multinational enterprise expansion can foster disparities and injustices in both the home and host countries. Standard economics does not provide an analytical framework for understanding these difficulties. I needed an alternative paradigm. So I turned to papal teachings on the economy that I had been introduced to at St. Edward's.

Do you see the recession as a chance to address social justice problems?

Whatever social justice problems we may have, they are magnified many times in most of the non-Western world. In general, solutions to many of our social justice problems will have a greater probability of being developed if we can maintain the generous and compassionate mind-set that overcomes us in a time of disaster. When we begin to first think of the general well-being instead of personal well-being, we as a nation will be more inclined to prevent new social justice problems from arising.

ALUMNI PROGRAMS

CAMPUS NEWS



Phonathon Reaches 10,000

This fall, The St. Edward's Fund Phonathon reached out to more than 10,000 alumni, parents and friends of the university. The Phonathon raises money for The St. Edward's Fund, which supports scholarships, student and faculty programs, and more. Thanks to all who helped make this Phonathon one to remember.

Thank You, Alumni Volunteers

In November, alumni spoke at the fourth annual alumni career panels with Academic Planning and Support Services, where they shared their expertise with freshmen majoring in Business, Political Science, Communication, Criminal Justice and others. Thank you, volunteers.

We'd also like to thank our alumni volunteers who represented the university at more than 30 college fairs this fall. They shared their educational experience with prospective students and their parents, assisting in recruiting the best students from across the country and the world. Thank you for your time, effort and dedication.

And thanks also to our local alumni volunteers who sacrificed their time this past fall for our community service projects. Your hard work and dedication embodies the St. Edward's mission. This fall, we had 112 alumni volunteers give 427 hours of service to nonprofits in their communities. Through your commitment to service, you shared the mission with the thousands of people you served.

Gonzales, Reichel Send off Graduates

In December, **Alexander Gonzales '80** and **Betty Reichel '88** addressed graduates at the fall commencement ceremony. Both alumni established scholarships at St. Edward's in honor and in memory of their parents with Gonzales using the occasion to announce his intentions. Here's an excerpt of the parting words they gave to the audience:

Gonzales



"Especially in these turbulent and sometimes even frightening times, it is easy to want to take action at all costs to fix the problem. To just do it, right or wrong. To cut corners on values

and ethics, on laws and civil rights, all in the name of emergency and expediency. But just stop! Listen! Do you hear it? It's St. Edward's. If you pay attention, you can see, hear and feel the values you developed here, your code of ethics, your faith. Step back a moment from the problems. Think about this university and Main Building. You are going to make it. Indulge yourself in a little smile as you stroll through the memories of this place and lessons you learned. And then, go out there and do the right thing."

Reichel



"My generation has worked very hard to mess up society and our planet, and now we look to you to fix the events that got us to this point. St. Edward's has given you

the basic tools for your chosen path. Now it is up to you to keep learning and engage in the world at large. Remember to pursue the career that makes you happy, know life is a moving target, and that knowledge and not accepting the status quo will bring you an exciting future and confidence to face life through all of its challenges."

CHAPTER NEWS

Austin — The Austin chapter held a monthly happy hour and a toy drive for its holiday service project in November. In December, Austin area alumni also welcomed December graduates into the Alumni Association at the chapter's annual High-Five Social Hour. To learn more details and participate in upcoming events, contact sealumni@stedwards.edu.

Dallas-Fort Worth — In November, more than 60 alumni and parents attended a reception with **President George E. Martin**. In December, more than 30 alumni volunteers participated in the chapter's annual holiday service project with The Salvation Army Angel Tree in December. To learn more details and participate in upcoming events, contact sealumni@stedwards.edu.

Houston — In December, Houston chapter volunteers contributed to the chapter's annual holiday service project with The Salvation Army. To learn more details and participate in upcoming events, contact sealumni@stedwards.edu.

MAHS — In November, MAHS alumni gathered for their annual service project with the Chuy's Children Giving to Children Parade and Toy Drive, benefiting Operation Blue Santa. To learn more details and participate in upcoming events, contact sealumni@stedwards.edu.

MBA — The new St. Edward's MBA alumni group hosted a happy hour in December and enjoyed networking with more than 100 fellow alumni and current students. To learn more details and participate in upcoming events, contact sealumni@stedwards.edu. Visit the LinkedIn alumni community at www.stedsmba.com.

San Antonio — The San Antonio chapter volunteered at the San Antonio Food Bank in December for its annual holiday service project. To learn more details and participate in upcoming events, contact sealumni@stedwards.edu.

New York City — The chapter is gearing up for its inaugural appearance in the 2009 New York City Saint Patrick's Day Parade. To learn more details and participate in upcoming events, contact sealumni@stedwards.edu.



St. Edward's community members like Professor of Philosophy William Zanardi, right, volunteered at the Austin alumni chapter's toy drive service project in December.

Washington, D.C. — Current students traveling from St. Edward's as part of the six-day Hilltop Leaders Reception met with local D.C. alumni at the District Chophouse and Brewery. To learn more details and participate in upcoming events, contact sealumni@stedwards.edu.

Homecoming 2009 Alumni Awards

Distinguished Alumnus: Brother Romard Barthel, CSC '47



In 2005, **Brother Romard Barthel, CSC '47** received the university's Distinguished Teaching Award. Along with the award came a \$1,000 prize — which he promptly returned. Instead, he asked that a scholarship be created with the funds. Thus began the Brother Romard Barthel, CSC '47 Endowed Scholarship. Three students have received the award so far, and countless others have benefited from Brother Romard's 58 years as a professor at St. Edward's.

Valedictorian of his Evansville, Ind., high school class, he graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1947. Soon after, he professed his final vows and became a Holy Cross Brother. Later that year, he began teaching at St. Edward's while also taking classes on campus. He went on to earn a PhD from UT–Austin in 1951. In addition to teaching at St. Edward's, Brother Romard chaired the Physical and Biological Sciences Division and was religious superior at St. Joseph Hall. He also chaired the Board of Trustees. He retired in 2005 and was named professor emeritus in 2006.

Brother Romard celebrated 60 years of service to the Congregation of Holy Cross in 2004. He has been provincial of the South-West Province and first assistant general of the Congregation of Holy Cross in Rome. But he always remained "focused on teaching," he says. His favorite part of the job? "The students. They're the most fun. In fact, I'd almost pay to be able to teach if I didn't have to grade papers and tests!"

What drew you to become a Holy Cross Brother?

I first came to know the Holy Cross Brothers at Reitz Memorial High School in Evansville, Ind. I had good teachers who showed interest in my joining them. Even from elementary school I wanted to be a teacher. After I got to know the brothers in high school, I decided that I wanted to be a Holy Cross Brother. I joined their candidate program immediately after high school.

Did you ever feel a personal conflict between science and your faith?

I never saw a problem reconciling science and my Catholic faith. They were like two complementary sources of knowledge of the world.

You taught for 58 years at St. Edward's. Were you tempted to make it to 60?

Not really. I knew when I had reached the end of my best years.

What changes did you see at St. Edward's in that time?

Countless. Prominently, the expansion of the university, its going coed and an increasing number of lay teachers.

What are you up to these days in your semi-retirement?

I make myself available for tutoring physics students who want some help. Other than that, I read to keep up with current physics, do a little writing, try to represent the brothers at campus activities, and welcome and encourage current university students.

Bahrain Alumni Host Receptions

In 2004, 2007 and 2008, alumni in Bahrain hosted President George E. Martin and other members of the St. Edward's community at receptions in their country. We'd like to thank these alumni for extending the invitation and for the hospitality they showed during the visits.



From left, Atif Abdulmalik '88 and Tariq Al-Sindi '88 at a 2007 reception for President George E. Martin in Bahrain.



Bahrain alumni gather with President George E. Martin and other visiting members of the St. Edward's community at the 2007 reception and dinner in Bahrain.



From left, President George E. Martin and Yasser Al-Raei '88 at a 2008 dinner in Bahrain.

Homecoming 2009 Alumni Awards

Distinguished Alumnus: Sidney Marceaux Jr., JCL '62 (deceased)

Col. Chaplain Monsignor Sidney J. Marceaux Jr., JCL '62 joined the Texas National Guard in 1956. More than half a century later, he was the oldest U.S. soldier stationed in Kuwait, even completing a one-month assignment in Iraq. Ordained in 1970 after years of teaching and earning a bachelor's in Business and History from St. Edward's in 1962, he was a chaplain at Baptist Hospital and served as superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Beaumont. In 1975, he joined the U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain Corps and was assigned to Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Marceaux, who passed away in September, made it his duty to serve soldiers of all faiths. "My greatest challenge is to help soldiers turn off the horrors of the fight," he said, "so that they will be able to rest their bodies [and] clear their minds."



His classmate, **Mike Prendergast '62**, describes "Sweet Sox," as he was known, as shy and quiet but easy to get to know when they met their junior year at St. Edward's. Later in life, Prendergast says Marceaux admitted that the combat he saw in the Desert Storm conflict of the early 1990s scared him, but he went right back to the Army anyway. "Volunteering for active duty after that, knowing what was ahead, says volumes about his character and devotion to duty in serving his fellow soldiers," says Prendergast. "His personality seemingly never changed, but he kept amazing us all."

Homecoming Highlights

Homecoming and Parents Weekend 2009
Feb. 27, 28 and March 1



Friday, Feb. 27

- 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. • **Golden Guard Luncheon**
Main Building, Maloney Room
- 2 p.m. • **Campus Tours**
Main Building front steps
- 6–9 p.m. • **Welcome Dinner and Alumni Awards**
Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center, Mabee Ballroom
- 9 p.m. • **Casino Night**
Homecoming Tent

Saturday, Feb. 28

- 10–11 a.m. • **President's Welcome**
Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center, Mabee Ballroom
- 11:15 a.m.–noon • **Learn to Think: Courses for Curiosity's Sake**
Various classrooms
- 1 p.m. • **35th Anniversary Reception for Women's Athletes**
Recreation and Convocation Center
- noon–2 p.m. • **Sneak Peek of the New Residential Village**
Residential Village
- 2:45–5:30 p.m. • **Homecoming Tailgate**
Homecoming Tent and Faculty Parking Lot

Sunday, March 1

- 10 a.m. • **Sunday Mass and Farewell Brunch**
Mabee Ballroom and Homecoming Tent

Learn about more events at www.stedwards.edu/homecoming.

IN MEMORIAM

Louis Ferrandino '71, of Staten Island, N.Y., on Feb. 9, 2008.

Edwin F. Wilkins '45, of Dallas, on July 26.

William J. Shaw Jr. '46, of Fort Worth, on Feb. 1, 2008.

William V. Dunn '51, of Corpus Christi, on July 6.

James J. "Jim" Hoiby '51, of Dallas and Lake Fork, on Oct. 19.

Leanro "Andy" Arriaga '54, of Austin, on Oct. 10.

Arthur F. Field III '54, of Indianapolis, Ind., on August 2.

Brother Thomas J. O'Linn '59, of Cleveland, Ohio, on Nov. 15.

Donald Penner '60, of Sarasota, Fla., on Dec. 17.

Charles Pizarro Martinez '62, of Wailuku, Hawaii, on Sept. 28.

Guillermo "Willie" David Guerra '63, of McAllen, on Dec. 22.

Owen R. Revell '66, of Austin, on Sept. 29.

Louis P. Ferrandino '71, of Macungie, Penn., on Feb. 9, 2008.

Thomas L. Huelsman Sr. '81, of La Vernia, on Sept. 13.

Juan F. Lopez '87, of Austin, in September.

Kathleen "Kathy" Backus '88, of Georgetown, on Oct. 18.

Patricia Ann Terry Dardeau '90, of Chickasha, Okla., on Oct. 4.

William McAlpine Ross '97, of Austin, on Aug. 24.

David M. Henry '99, of Largo, Fla., on March 1, 2008.

Brother Andrew Angermeier, CSC, of Austin, on Jan. 2.

Brother Franklin Cullen, CSC, of Notre Dame, Ind., on Jan. 18, 2006.

Homecoming and Parents Weekend 2009: Class Reunions

A roundup of class reunions on the hilltop during Homecoming weekend



Classes of 1959: 50th Reunions

Among other activities, class members of St. Edward's High School will be inducted into the Golden Guard. Those alumni who can't make it will have the chance to attend a high school reunion for all classes, in the works for June. "Homecoming and the upcoming reunion will be unprecedented opportunities to hang out for a while and tall-tale about the days before hairlines, waistlines, eyesight and prescription drugs became the main topics of conversation," says **John Dudney '59, '64**, co-organizer of both events. "Anyway, we won't be doing anything that'll get us arrested ... maybe."

Members of the university class of 1959 will be inducted into the Golden Guard and may attend the Friday night awards ceremony to see classmate **Anthony Scaperlanda '59** honored with a Distinguished Alumnus award.

Class of 1969: 40th Reunion

Feb. 28 Mix and Mingle

El Gallo, 2910 S. Congress • 7 p.m.

Woodstock, the moon landing, ever-more-vocal Vietnam protests, civil rights — 1969 has come to be considered a pivotal moment in American history, one that its graduating class at St. Edward's won't soon forget. "Our class experienced some interesting times and historical events at both a national level and at our university's level," says **Larry George '69**, who has joined classmates **Mike George, Don Cox, Ray Smilor, Bill Hopfensack** and **David Noblet** on the Class of 1969 Alumni Reunion Committee. "Nationally, we were at war, and its specter was constantly on our minds. Locally, we were sophomores when the first class of women joined our university."

To help commemorate the historic nature of that first class of women, organizers have invited women from the classes of 1970 and 1971 to join the reunion. Together, the classes will have reserved seating and specific events slated just for them, including a mix and mingle at El Gallo on Feb. 28.

Class of 1999: 10th Reunion

Opal Divine's on South Congress • 8 p.m.

At St. Edward's, **Jesse Butler '99** and other Political Science majors helped start an informal club called the Great Society. They'd get together every Thursday evening at one of Austin's watering holes, often with Professor of Political Science **Neal Wise**, and talk about their internships at the state capitol, the Clinton impeachment and politics in general.

Now Butler is helping to organize a 10th anniversary reunion during Homecoming 2009. His fellow volunteer

organizers from the class of 1999, including **Nathan Wittig, Eric Bauer, Bryan Looke** and **Erin Prather Stafford**, expect 50 to 100 attendees. They created a Facebook group page (Facebook name: St. Edward's University Class of 1999 Reunion) to generate interest and send updates.

"The mid-to-late 1990s were great economic times, which allowed us as students to concentrate on having a good time," says Wittig. "I'd love to go back to those glory days. We're hoping to achieve a renewed excitement about the school and the experiences we had together."

Other Reunions:

- **Class of 1984 25th Reunion:** Members of the class of 1984 are invited to the Friday night opening dinner and to catch up with each other after 25 years away from the hilltop.
- **Residence Hall Reunions:** Feb. 28, noon–2 p.m.
- **Student Government Association and Lacrosse Club:** Members of both groups are invited to meet at the Tailgate Party, Feb. 28, 2:45–5:30 p.m., at the Homecoming Tent.



HOLDINGS

A look at items of note held by University Archives and Special Collections

SEAL OF APPROVAL

Made of solid iron and weighing as much as a cinderblock, this device stamps the seal of the Knights of Columbus St. Edward's Council No. 2559 on paper as crisply as the day it was forged. However, the campus organization the seal represented was not quite so durable.

The Knights of Columbus opened shop on the St. Edward's campus in 1924, making No. 2559 one of the oldest collegiate councils in the state. Anti-Catholic bigotry was a serious problem at the time. Only two years before, the Ku Klux Klan had burned a cross near the St. Edward's campus. That made promoting Catholicism in Texas an urgent priority.

In 1926, the order founded the Knights of Columbus Historical Commission. Headquartered at St. Edward's and guided by the St. Edward's librarian **Paul J. Foik**, the group put together the Catholic Archives of Texas and urged every diocese to celebrate March 2, Texas independence day, as an occasion "of great patriotic rejoicing."

The order also made Columbus Day another campus event, with a special Columbus Day program (and virtually no mention of the Arawak, but these were simpler times). In the happy-go-lucky post-WWII era, Council No. 2559 also put a focus on the social life of campus, organizing picnics, hayrides, initiations and a yearly cruise on the Colorado River.

By the late 1970s, St. Edward's Council No. 2559 had all but faded away. But the council's legacy lives on, as does their 15-pound paper muncher.



stay
in touch

send in 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 April 1 to be considered for the next issue. If your address or other information has changed, please let us know.

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St. Edward's University
3001 South Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78704-6489

Name: _____

Former Name: _____ Class Year: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Your News: _____

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A Ride with Bob to Benefit Wild Basin

Chevron Presents *A Ride with Bob: The Bob Wills Musical*
Starring Ray Benson and Asleep at the Wheel

Friday, March 13, and Saturday, March 14, at 7:30 p.m.
The Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside Dr.

See the first-ever play about the life and music of Bob Wills, including
the live performance of 15 Bob Wills songs.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve,
a St. Edward's affiliate.

Information available at:
www.aRideWithBob.com

For tickets, visit:
www.thelongcenter.org
512-474-5664

***A Ride
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The Bob Wills Musical

