

# REFLECTIONS

THE ARTMAN IMPRINT

1994-2006





## from the president



Not long ago I was visiting with a local foundation executive and was asked how long have I been at Siena – 5 years, he asked? At a recent non-profit board meeting in the community, one of our alumni referred to us as Siena Heights College and apologized for her slip. I offered no rebuke, only noted that it was 8 years ago that we changed our status to University. More examples come to mind that affirm the adage *time flies when having fun*.

A presidential search consultant writes “the college presidency is one of our society’s most multifaceted and demanding roles.” If one examines job requirements for college or university presidents, the word fun is usually not included. But you could find it camouflaged in front of one of the primary duties – **fund**raising! What other executives live in big houses and beg for a living?

More than fun, it has been a distinct honor and privilege to serve as the president of Siena Heights College and Siena Heights University these past 12 years. Joan and I cherish the thousands of relationships established since our arrival in 1994. So many of you have extended handshakes, hugs and welcome mats as we’ve traversed across campuses and across the country. Your stories are etched in our memories, your families are part of our lives, and your alma mater and beloved Siena is part of our DNA.

The theme of my inaugural address was “Better Than Imagined.” Those who witnessed the installation might remember my imaginary slide show, a series of images and dreams that described a better Siena Heights. Many of those slides have been realized, some described in these pages. Younger and brash, I said this at my inauguration: “Being better is not a destination. It’s a pursuit. It’s a passion. It’s our potential. It’s not about perfection, but it’s a fire in the belly that insists upon change and demands accountability, which will make us better.” And we are.

On this journey toward the betterment of Siena Heights, we have experienced mountains and valleys, accelerated on fronts beyond imagination, and hit a few speed bumps beyond our control. We have made mission the driver and remained student-centered. We grew stronger in numbers and strengthened our Catholic and Dominican identity. We refreshed our sponsored relationship with the Adrian Dominicans; we renewed our pride, we released our potential.

The possessive subject is intentional. All that WE are and do are gifts from The Almighty. Our accomplishments are collective and shared, bottom to top. God gifted me with a facility for remembering names, but there is neither sufficient printed space nor cranial storage to recite all the names and thank all the students, parents, faculty, staff, trustees, alumni, community leaders, government officials and Sisters in the congregation who have made this time at Siena Heights so enjoyable, so much fun. My contribution toward Siena’s betterment is marginal compared with the way you have made me a better leader, a better colleague, a better Catholic and a better person. In the language of Catherine and in great sincerity, Grazie!

**Richard B. Artman**  
President



# on the inside . . .

## SPRING 2006

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The mission of Siena Heights, a Catholic university founded and sponsored by the Adrian Dominican Sisters, is to assist people to become more competent, purposeful and ethical through a teaching and learning environment which respects the dignity of all.

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## On the Cover

Outgoing President Richard Artman (center) arrived on the Siena Heights University campus nearly 12 years ago promising a future "Better Than Imagined." With his mantra for the University being mission-driven and student-focused, President Artman is pictured with students (from left): senior Mara Culp, senior Katie Hatch, senior Brian Biggs and junior Ricardo Valdez.



# REFLECTIONS

# from the editor



## View From the Garden Level

My office is on the first floor of Sacred Heart Hall, often affectionately referred to as the “garden level.” The terms ground level or basement are just as accurate – though not nearly as charming.

I guess the term germinated from the idea that anyone looking through the window on that level is eye-to-eye with a shrub, flower or the occasional wandering squirrel hoping to find some remnant of bird seed I’m told is distributed in abundance on the floors above.

As a newcomer to Siena Heights University, I also started at the “garden level.” But after a few months, I am gradually working my way up the familiarity ladder.

After working in the field of journalism for many years, it is exciting to start anew in a university environment. I have not been disappointed. While my days as an undergraduate are long past, it is invigorating to go “back to school” once again.

My first lesson is that an organization is only as good as its people. Consider Siena Heights blessed. I have found its people ready, willing and able to help me at every opportunity.

Does the Siena Heights mission of “Competent. Purposeful. Ethical.” still apply?

Check, check and check.

Now, my charge is to bring out the best in Siena Heights.

This magazine is a good introduction. As you will notice, there have been some design changes made to *Reflections*. But in case you are wondering if I’m focused more on “style over substance,” rest assured *Reflections* will continue its outstanding storytelling tradition.

For some, if this magazine is the only way of staying directly connected to Siena Heights University, I invite you to take a closer look at your school. There are some remarkable projects in various stages of development on campus:

- a new, state-of-the-art residence hall is under construction;
- the campus bookstore and Benincasa Dining Hall will undergo significant makeovers;
- a complete web site redesign will allow a more user-friendly interface.

And, of course, Siena Heights will have a new president in place, hopefully by July 1.

This issue of *Reflections* profiles outgoing President Richard Artman, who arrived at Siena Heights 12 years ago preaching a message of “Better Than Imagined.”

Although President Artman is departing for Viterbo University later this spring, I hope Siena Heights University can retain, nurture and enhance his message.

Even from my “garden level” view, I clearly see exciting times ahead.

Thanks for reading,

**Doug Goodnough**  
Editor

# from the heights

## Eternally Grateful

**University Chaplain Fr. Thomas Helfrich, OSFS Grateful for Kidney Donated By Fellow Priest**

By Doug Goodnough

Fr. Thomas Helfrich is 56 going on 30.

At least he feels that way.

The University chaplain and director of Campus Ministry at Siena Heights is back in his office in Sage Student Union less than two months after undergoing kidney transplant surgery.

"I realized for a long, long time that if I had been born 50 years earlier, maybe 20 years earlier, I would have died many times before this," Fr. Helfrich said of recent medical advances. "It certainly makes me profoundly grateful. And sometimes awkwardly so. When I consider my situation, to have two successful transplants, not only in our society, but to look at it globally, to realize how few people in the world even have an opportunity for a life-expanding surgery like this."

Fr. Helfrich has suffered through kidney problems since childhood, and first received a kidney donated by his brother more than 16 years ago. Unfortunately, kidney problems resurfaced in 2005, and doctors determined he would need a second transplant surgery.

This time no other immediate family members were a match, however, a member of his extended family proved to be a life-saver. Fr. Ken McKenna, a fellow priest in the religious order of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, said he would be a willing donor. Fr. Helfrich soon found out just how willing he was.

"I guess there were just some things that Ken said and did that made it clear that this was more than just a quick comment," Fr. Helfrich said of Fr. McKenna's sincerity. "He was very serious and very sincere about it."

After the extensive screening process was completed, a surgery date was set for Dec. 22. However, because Fr. McKenna's ministry includes working with the deaf, he wanted to be able to sign the Christmas Mass for his parishioners. So the date was pushed back to Jan. 12 at the University of Michigan Medical Center.

Surgical procedures have changed—for the better—over the past 15-plus years. Fr. Helfrich said this time he was also better prepared psychologically for transplant surgery.

"I knew what to expect," he said. "It was very, very similar... There weren't any big unknowns. I had a good experience the first time. I had a good experience the second time."

Initial tests show the surgery was a success, though Fr. Helfrich said doctors will know better in the next few months.

"What strikes me so much after this transplant, even after the first one, is just the endless comments about how great I look now," said Fr. Helfrich, whose first transplant was in 1989. "I just want to say, 'Did I look that bad before?'"



Fr. Thomas Helfrich, OSFS, university chaplain and director of Campus Ministry at Siena Heights University, is back on the job in his Sage Union office after undergoing kidney transplant surgery Jan. 12. It was the second time he has had the surgery, with the first coming in 1989.

While still not yet at full strength, he is appreciative of the second chance he has been given.

Make that his third chance.

Now, with a new kidney, and a renewed vigor for life, Fr. Helfrich is eager to get back to his ministry.

"It has freed me from that sense of anxiety of 'Oh, I don't know what to say,' " he said of counseling the troubled or the grieving. "This is one of the things that really has enabled me to bring an invitation to gratitude to a suffering person, but especially to a family. There's this whole sense that 'Oh, no, grandma might die.' I love to remind them that, 'My gosh, how grateful we are that we had grandma this long.' ... That has grabbed me personally. No matter how tough things are, there's a lot to give thanks for."

He said he also leaned heavily on his Catholic faith.

"Death is not this mystery way out there, but something that's drifted past my door a few times," Fr. Helfrich said. "OK, I know you are there. It all goes back to the power of faith."

Obviously an advocate for organ donation, he said he will use his newfound energy serving others.

"It's certainly no simple or easy thing to be a living donor, like my brother or Ken McKenna," Fr. Helfrich said. "It's a great, great gift. I profoundly appreciate it. For both my brother and Ken, (for me) it becomes a challenge to take care of my health and to use my time and abilities well for the good of my own vocation and my ministry."

He is especially grateful to the Siena Heights community.

"Siena has just been incredibly accommodating to my needs and my limits," said Fr. Helfrich, who arrived at SHU in July 2005. "The outpouring of prayer and support from members of this community has just been really, really humbling." ♦



## Rolling Out The Red Carpet

Siena Heights University will honor outgoing President Richard Artman and his wife, Joan, with the themed event, "A Night at the Oscars," May 13 in the Fieldhouse.

The pre-party begins at 6 p.m. with the "awards ceremony" and dinner at 7 p.m. A post-Oscar bash will follow at 9 p.m.

Tickets are \$100 per person, and there is special pricing for Siena Heights faculty and staff. There will also be an opportunity to make a donation to the Rick and Joan Artman Endowment Fund at Siena Heights University.

Deadline for registration is May 1. Black tie is optional, and valet parking will be available.

For more information, contact Jere Righter at 517-264-7144.



## The FYI On The FYE

### First Year Experience Promises To Transform Campus Life for Incoming Freshmen

By Doug Goodnough

What's with the sky blue office?

"I think it is a magnet for students," said Rachel Duff Anderson, who is heading the novel First Year Experience program at Siena Heights University, of her freshly painted office walls. "This program is exciting, so this space had to be exciting for students."

Her office, centrally located in the heart of Archangelus Hall, is just a microcosm of what Duff Anderson hopes to accomplish with the FYE. The 2000 Siena Heights graduate worked in admissions the past two years, and was part of a committee that planned and coordinated the FYE program. However, when the committee decided a full time director was needed, Duff Anderson was quick to apply.

"I was very, very excited to apply," said Duff Anderson, who will better utilize her master's degree in community organizing in her new position. "I knew I wanted to work in higher ed, because I really enjoy this population. I really like the molding of students because they are at such a transitional age. I knew this is where I wanted to be."

Other college and universities have similar programs, but the FYE was tailored specifically for Siena Heights.

"We researched and we planned, knowing well that we wanted to frame this whole freshman year class experience in the mission of the university," said SHU Dean of Students Trudy McSorley, who helped spearhead the program with Sister Sharon Weber, OP, dean of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences. "And framing it within the pillars of Dominican tradition. That was really where we wanted to be."

What makes Siena's program unique is it will be team taught by SHU faculty and staff. Starting next August, all freshmen students will be required to take a two credit hour class in the first semester, then a one-hour module in the second. McSorley said she is excited about the team teaching aspect of the FYE. A faculty and a staff member will teach about 20 students per class from 8-8:50 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

"Historically at Siena there has been a FYE class and a D and D (dilemmas and decisions)," Duff Anderson said. "The fact (is) that (FYE) will be a year-long class. We're really trying to orient (freshmen) better to school. I think we make a lot of assumptions that students know how to make that transition from high school to college. And the bottom line is they don't."

McSorley said earlier SHU efforts to help incoming freshmen did not have all of the elements of the FYE.

"I became more aware of the fact that we were not doing what we were supposed to do," said McSorley, an instructor at Siena for more than 30 years before taking over as dean. "Being here all this time, I was aware of all the courses that we've tried. ... All of these were good efforts, and people put their heart and passion into it, and they really tried hard. But we never seemed to do it."

Duff Anderson said the first semester will focus on the who, what, when, where and how of Siena Heights, with freshmen learning about "a lot of academic stuff." Students will be required to keep journals and also participate not only in university functions, but in community events as well. Students will be expected to visit art galleries, go to a theater or a sporting event.

"Schools want their students to feel like they are part of this community, and there's no reason that shouldn't happen at Siena," Duff Anderson said.

The second semester will be an "offshoot" of what was introduced in the first semester.

"It will all be pieces of what Siena is," Duff Anderson said. "And we're going to do it in a group setting, where it might not be as scary for them to go and experience these things."



Rachel Duff Anderson heads the First Year Experience program at Siena Heights.

Making the transition from high school to college is not all academic. There are other issues to consider, including managing finances, health and new relationships. Duff Anderson believes the group setting of the FYE will provide a better comfort level for many first-year students.

"The program will be a better introduction in a formal way," she said. "We do it in many informal ways, but we want to make sure that the message is getting heard with every freshman throughout their freshman year, not just hit or miss."

"I know freshmen, who go to class, go up to their room, sit around and never leave," McSorley said. "And I know of one who doesn't even go to the dining room. It's painful."

Though the FYE officially begins next semester, Duff Anderson is already on the job. She is in the process of generating a list of faculty and staff who will help administer the FYE. Creating a general theme for the program is another goal, as is crafting a syllabus. Once the program details are in place, Duff Anderson said faculty workshops will be conducted. Her familiarity with the Siena Heights community has helped in the process.

"I want to be that bridge and that link between the students and faculty because I think students don't realize the faculty and staff are really here for them," she said. "We are working for students and with them. We need to make them more aware that it's more with them than anything else."

A main objective of the FYE is to help with student retention, but Duff Anderson hopes it will lead to much more.

"I don't want to give the idea that this is just about (student) retention, because it is not," she said. "I just don't see it just helping retention, I see it helping our recruitment as well. I think it's a huge recruitment tool for us."

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But most importantly, the FYE hopefully will instill a sense of pride in Siena Heights University.

"My hope is that there's a different spirit and a different atmosphere and there's a real connection to this university," Duff Anderson said. "It won't be someplace that they just hung out for four years, it's someplace they were proud to be, and they come back and tell people about their experience."

"I am totally convinced we have the right person in place," McSorley said of Duff Anderson. "I think that Rachel's passion, her youth, her energy, her vision, her excitement, her life experience, her degrees will all serve this institution. I think what she is going to be doing is invaluable. It's as important as anyone or anything anybody is going to do."

And what about the blue office walls?

"Hey, it's her space, and students love it," McSorley said, with a laugh. "It's not about us, it's about (the students)." ♦

### You've Got To Have Art!

The next time you consider purchasing art for your home, business or as a gift, consider a Siena Heights alum. Here are a few of our many artist alumni. Meet more in future issues of *Reflections*.

#### Allan Rodewald

Class of 1980  
 American Abstract Artist Painter and Mural Artist  
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#### Gail Kowalski

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#### Ken Thompson

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### "Brave New Families"

With national debate currently raging over many new reproductive technologies, bioethics expert and author Scott Rae was the guest speaker at the Siena Heights University-sponsored Chiodini-Fontana Endowed Lecture Series on Ethics March 21 in Francoeur Theatre. Dr. Rae, a fellow of both the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity and the Wilberforce Forum, spoke on the topic, "Brave New Families: Reproductive and Genetic Technologies." He is an author of six books dealing primarily with the application of Christian ethics to medicine and the marketplace. Earlier in the day, Dr. Rae spoke to students, faculty and staff on "Lies, Swindles and Building a Healthy Business" during a business ethics luncheon in Dominican Hall. The lecture series, in its fifth year, is named in memory of Emilio Chiodini and Mildred Fontana, parents of Siena Heights friend Catherine Reuther. It was established to give students and the community an opportunity to reflect on matters of moral significance affecting today's society. The series explores theoretical issues in ethics, current issues of moral importance and the nature and meaning of Catholic identity.

### Siena Heights Contingent Traveling To Ireland

The Siena Heights University Board of Trustees is inviting community members to travel with board members to Ireland this summer.

The trip is scheduled from July 20-30, 2006, and includes a full itinerary that will capture the heritage of the Emerald Isle.

The tour will begin and end in Dublin and will feature many famous sites, including St. Patrick's Cathedral, Blarney Castle, the Dingle Peninsula and the cliffs of Moher/Galway. There will be time to golf, as well as shop and dine.

The tour price includes lodging, nine full Irish breakfasts, one afternoon tea at Rathbaun Farm and five dinners. There will be a professional tour guide accompanying the group who will conduct a complete sightseeing program.

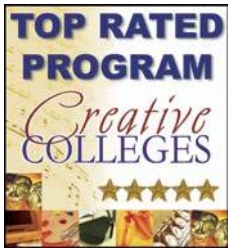
Cost of the trip is \$1,994 per person, based on double occupancy, and does not include air fare.

Those interested should contact Conlin Enrichment Tours at 1-888-426-6546.



## Siena Heights University Selected As Leading Creative College

### New Book Names SHU Creative Writing Program One Of Top 200 In Nation



A new book has named a Siena Heights University program as one of the top 200 in the nation for creative students.

“Creative Colleges: A Guide for Student Actors, Artists, Dancers, Musicians and Writers” is aimed at college-bound creative students and gives them the information and resources necessary to pick the right program. Author Elaina Loveland researched programs from across the country and ultimately selected 200 art, drama, dance, music and creative writing programs in arts conservatories, liberal arts colleges and universities to recommend to potential students.

The creative writing program in the Siena Heights English department was recognized in the book. According to Nancy Schumann, coordinator of the SHU English Program, credited the excellence of the department’s dedicated, well-educated faculty, as well as the creative environment the university fosters.

“Writing classes are small, so students have ample opportunities to have their work critiqued by the professor and fellow students,” said Schumann of Siena Heights’ creative writing program. “I am in constant awe of both the natural talent of our creative writers and the poignant writing that emerges throughout the semester. It’s an honor to be mentioned, and it shows that our dedication has paid off.”

According to Loveland, the programs were selected after nearly 1,100 electronic surveys were sent to departments offering creative degrees in the fields of art, creative writing, drama, dance, and music. Because English departments usually house creative writing programs, departments with either majors in creative writing (BA or BFA) and concentrations in creative writing were considered for the book.

Based on surveys, programs that were ultimately profiled in the book were chosen based on the departments strengths, such as the number of courses offered (breadth of creative writing courses offered), selectivity (number/percentage of students accepted each year and if a writing portfolio is required for creative writing students), scholarship availability, department activities (such as a literary journal) and overall prestige.

The author is a former editor of the NACAC Journal of College Admission and holds a master’s degree in English and has taught both college-level English and dance to children in the Washington, DC, area. She is an active member of the National Dance Education Organization and lives in Alexandria, Va.



### New Center Director In Battle Creek

Siena Heights University is pleased to announce the appointment of Mike Rocklin as the new Center Director for the University’s program located on the Kellogg Community College campus in Battle Creek. Rocklin takes the helm of the bachelor’s degree-completion program from retiring Center Director Marilyn Okos. His new duties will include serving as the recruiter, advisor and administrator of the University’s bachelor’s degree-completion programs.

Okos has served as the program’s director since October 2000. Marilyn said she was proud to have helped more than 300 people earn their bachelor’s degrees during her time with Siena Heights. Traveling and spending time with family rank high on Okos’ list of retirement plans.



Siena Heights University President Richard Artman lauded Okos’ contributions to the University in a letter of recognition he read at a recent retirement celebration held in her honor.

“We all will surely miss Marilyn’s congenial spirit, her positive attitude and her competent administration,” noted Artman.

### Alumni in Admissions

At college and university campuses around the country, admissions representatives utilize a variety of resources during the process of recruiting new students. One very important resource, which is often times under utilized, is the alumni of any college or university.

Such is the case at Siena Heights! As in many colleges and universities around the country, the alumni of Siena Heights College and Siena Heights University represent a strong link between the past, present and future of our institution. At graduation, our former students take with them unique experiences and knowledge gained in the classroom, on the athletic field, or as members of a student organization. Shared with others, this wealth of knowledge and experience provides a unique and interesting perspective for our future students. And, those experiences have the potential to realize an enormous positive impact in the decision-making process of these young men and women. The successes of Siena Heights’ alumni, in the workplace speak volumes as to the long term value and impact of a Siena Heights education. So, there is no group better suited to share that enthusiasm and those experiences with prospective students and their families than our own alumni. Will you help?



Last fall, the Admissions Office began to seek the assistance of alumni interested in adding a unique dimension to the recruitment process of first-time freshmen to the Adrian campus. Many of our graduates have already generously responded, but more help is needed!

Here are several ways you might consider helping:

- Making direct referrals to the Admissions Office
- Writing letters, sending emails or phoning prospective students
- Assisting the Admissions staff at college fairs or on the Adrian campus by speaking one-on-one with prospective students
- Hosting information gatherings for interested students in your home or business

Please consider “giving back” in this way. For more information or to indicate a willingness to help with this new endeavor, please contact Sarah Baker Korth ('82/'97 MA) in the Admissions Office by phone at (800) 521-0009, extension 7187, or email her at [skorth@sienahs.edu](mailto:skorth@sienahs.edu).

## Making the CASE

### Jennifer Hamlin Church Receives Distinguished Service Award At Annual Conference

The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education recently awarded Siena Heights University's Jennifer Hamlin Church with the district's highest honor.

Hamlin Church, associate vice president of Advancement and director of Alumni Relations at Siena Heights, received the CASE V 2005 Distinguished Service Award at the CASE District V Conference in Chicago, Ill.



Jennifer Hamlin Church reacts with surprise to the announcement of her award. "I kept thinking, I should know this person," she said, recalling the presenter's description of the mystery recipient.

Established in 1980, the annual award recognizes an advancement professional who has given outstanding service to the district for at least five years. Service to the district, which is completely volunteer-operated, is the major factor in determining recipients.

"All those who are fortunate enough to work with Jennifer, know what a pleasure it is," said Michael Ziemianski, CASE colleague and director of Development at Saint Meinrad School of Theology. "She mixes humor with getting the task solved. I am grateful for the service she has offered our profession by her work for CASE."

Hamlin Church's involvement with CASE dates back more than 25 years, serving in a variety of capacities. A CASE International Trustee from 1999-2001, she also has been a District V board member and chaired the Fellowship and Awards Committee. In 2003, she was a member of the Nomination Committee.

According to award presenter Gene Haberman, the 2004 award winner, Hamlin Church "more than qualifies for this award." He added her commitment to CASE District V goes "well beyond" the terms of her official roles on the conference committee, the District V Board and the International Board.

"Her insights have always been invaluable and her support never-ending," he said during the award presentation.

Hamlin Church has been with Siena Heights University since 1995. At Siena Heights, her experience has included development and direction of the alumni relations program, donor stewardship and cultivation, special events management and marketing/communications including nine years as editor of Reflections. Currently she is a member of the search committee that helped in the selection of our new president at Siena Heights University.

"Jennifer has exemplified Siena Heights' Dominican mission of being competent, purposeful and ethical," said Siena Heights University President Richard Artman. "I know I am speaking for the entire Siena Heights community in saying we are thrilled her efforts, achievements and years of service were duly acknowledged by CASE. We congratulate Jennifer on her award."

Her educational background includes a Master of Arts degree in Mass Communications from the University of Minnesota and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from Middlebury College (Vermont). Before arriving at Siena Heights, Hamlin Church served as the director of Public Relations at Ohio Wesleyan University from 1986-95 and the director of Publications and Information at Adrian College from 1979-86.



### Alumni Event July 23 In Cleveland!

The Siena Heights Cleveland Area alumni are hosting a potluck picnic from noon to 4 p.m., Sunday, July 23, at the Brecksville Metropark near Cleveland, Ohio.

The picnic will be at the Ottawa Point Picnic Area, and those attending should bring a dish to pass.



Siena Heights University's Fred Smith (right) was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame March 12 in Branson. SHU President Rick Artman presented Smith with his award at the ceremony in Branson, Mo. Smith, who leaves a career mark of 527-198, averaged 25 wins per season during his career. He was named WHAC Coach of the Year four times, and was chosen the NAIA Regional Coach of the Year in 1989. The Saints recorded five 30-win seasons, 12 appearances in the NAIA National Tournament and eight Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference titles. His 1996-97 squad finished as the NAIA Division II national runner-up, losing the title game to Bethel College 95-94.

## COACH SMITH STEPS ASIDE

After 21 consecutive winning seasons and 500 career wins, Fred Smith is stepping aside as head men's basketball coach.

The 51-year-old Smith, who also serves as the university's athletic director, announced his decision to resign on Feb. 28. However, he will remain at Siena Heights as athletic director and will be part of the process to hire his successor.

"After 23 years of coaching and being athletic director, I can concentrate on just being athletic director," Smith said of the dual role he has had at SHU. "This will allow me to do things that really need to be done in the modern world of athletics, where you have an AD taking care of the day-to-day activities of all our 15 athletic programs."

He said his decision to discontinue coaching was planned.

"This is something that is not new," Smith said.

"President Artman and I have discussed this and set this plan in motion so we could do it as smoothly as possible. Coaches just coach basketball, and I do both. And something had to give."

"While we could be disappointed in Coach Smith's decision to relinquish his coaching duties, we must celebrate his tremendous coaching career at Siena Heights," said Siena Heights President Richard Artman. "I know I speak for hundreds of student-athletes, parents of athletes, alumni, faculty, staff, coaching peers and friends from throughout the country in thanking Fred for his service. Not only has he produced outstanding teams, exciting basketball, and entertaining moments, he has positively influenced the life of many young men.

"I am deeply grateful for the many sacrifices that Fred and all our coaches make to develop and sustain a winning program. We thank their families for supporting their long hours and time away from home."

An Adrian native, Smith was a standout college player in the 1970s. He joined the SHU coaching staff in 1977 under then head coach Ben Braun, who is currently the men's basketball coach at the University of California-Berkeley.

He was named SHU athletic director in 1983, and when Braun left Siena Heights after the 1984-85 season to accept the head coach position at Eastern Michigan University, Smith took over the Saints basketball program.

During Smith's tenure, Siena Heights has become one of the winningest small-school programs in the country. The Saints recorded five 30-win seasons, 12 appearances in the NAIA National Tournament and eight Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference titles. His 1996-97 squad finished as the NAIA Division II national runner-up, losing the title game to Bethel College 95-94.

"We've been blessed," Smith said of his program's consistent excellence. "A lot of it is we got it rolling and we have had great continuity. We were blessed to have a great group of players and coaches who have been dedicated to the team and not to individual accomplishments. This attitude has been the trademark of Saints Basketball. I am very grateful to Ben Braun, who gave me my start and taught me a lot, and to Al Sandifer, who has been with me for almost all of this time."



Smith said the search for his replacement will begin immediately.

"We are going to find a great coach to keep up the tradition of this basketball program," Smith said.

Smith's career mark of 527-198 ranks him 14th among all active NAIA coaches, averaging 25 wins per season during that stretch. The Saints have 13 consecutive seasons of at least 20 wins, including this year's mark of 20-11. He was named WHAC Coach of the Year four times, and was chosen the NAIA Regional Coach of the Year in 1989. In March 2006, he was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame.

"Siena Heights is indeed fortunate that we will continue to have Fred's leadership in the Athletic Department as we continue to field successful teams, and develop women and men who make the University proud, as student athletes and as alumni," Artman said. "I'm not going anywhere," Smith emphasized. "I'm going to be right here (at Siena Heights). In the grand scheme of things, we are going to have a great basketball program, and I'm going to be here cheering them on." ♦

# saints highlights

## Attention!

### Baseball and Softball Statistics Needed

The Siena Heights University Athletic Department is trying to complete its records for both baseball and softball. The baseball program is missing its final season statistics from the years 1977-'86, while the softball program needs season statistics from 1984, '87, '88, '90, '91 and '92. Anyone who has any season stats from these years is asked to contact Sports Information Director Scott Oliver at (517) 264-7879 or soliver@sienahts.edu.

## Fall Sports

### Men's Soccer

The men lost 1-0 in the semifinals of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament to Davenport to finish the year 10-10. Matt Konopinski was recognized as first team All-WHAC. The junior captain from Farmington Hills, Mich., finished second on the team in scoring with three goals and seven assists. Leading the squad in scoring with eight goals was Brandon Smith (Utica, Mich.), who was named second team All-WHAC. Senior captain Paul Kujawski of Spring Lake, Mich., also received second team all-conference honors for his defensive play. Chris LaMasse, a senior from Canton, Mich., was named honorable mention All-WHAC. Konopinski and LaMasse were recognized as Academic All-WHAC.

### Women's Soccer

The Saints lost to nationally ranked Madonna 1-0 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament to close the season 6-11-2. Junior transfer Nikki Romano of Sterling Heights, Mich., was named first team All-WHAC. She led the Saints' defense and also finished with one goal and three assists. Senior Carey Canty (Royal Oak, Mich.) and sophomore Kristen Brundage (Clarkston, Mich.) were named second team All-WHAC. Brundage led the team in scoring with three goals and one assist. Seven Saints received honorable mention recognition, including juniors Carol Roman, Christine Coleman and Katherine Koch, sophomores Allie Davis and Colleen Luther and freshmen Kim Stoutenburg and Ashley Wilmoth. Canty, Coleman and Ashleigh Olano were named to the All-WHAC Academic Team, with sophomore Maggie Vaillancourt recognized as a NAIA Champion of Character.



Senior captain and outside defender Carey Canty (left) of Royal Oak, was named to the second team All-WHAC conference.

## Volleyball

Under first-year head coach Susan Kelly, the Siena Heights volleyball qualified for the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament, eventually falling to UM-Dearborn to end the season 7-27 overall, 2-10 in the WHAC. Junior middle and outside hitter Abbie Riddle (Temperance, Mich.) was voted onto the second team All-WHAC team. Freshman outside hitter Ashley Hubbard (Adrian, Mich.) earned accolades on the All-Freshmen WHAC team. She was also recognized on the NAIA Champions of Character team.

## Men's Golf

The gold squad finished its season fifth in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. Joey Busddieker of Monroe, Mich., earned honorable-mention All-WHAC honors, ending the season with a 76.8 average. Senior John Wenderski (Newport, Mich.) was named to the Champions of Character team for sportsmanship.



Senior golfer John Wenderski of Newport was named to the Champions of Character Team for sportsmanship.

## Women's Cross Country

Junior Krishawna Parker made a strong showing at the NAIA Cross Country National Championships in Louisville, Kentucky, last November. Out of 260 female runners at the meet, she finished in 5th place. The Detroit, Mich., native earned All-American recognition as well as set a new school record with her time of 17:41.85. Her time was merely five hundredths of a second behind the 4th-place finisher. Parker also won the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference individual championship as the Saints finished second to Aquinas in the final team standings. Siena's top finishers were Danielle Smith (8th), Leonie Vanderhoff (9th) and Ashley Tryban (12th).

## Men's Cross Country

Siena's men's cross country team finished only behind top-ranked Aquinas in the final Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference standings. Robert Deo (Hudson, Mich.) was sixth in a time of 25:59. Other top finishers for the Saints were Eric Walter (13th), Greg Kierczak (17th), and Terry Fisk (19th). Deo, just a sophomore, went on to earn all-region honors and helped Siena Heights to a 5th-place finish at the NAIA Regionals. He qualified for the national meet, finishing 130th in a time of 26:35.4.

## Winter Sports

### Men's Basketball



Senior Perry Gilbert (above, #32) from Highland Park was named the conference Player of the Year after averaging more than 20 points and 9 rebounds per game.

The Siena Heights men's basketball team reached the 20-win mark for the 13th consecutive season. However, the Saints had their season end in the first round of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament, dropping a 63-60 decision to Concordia. The Saints ended their season at 20-11, including 9-5 in the WHAC. A senior class that amassed a win-loss record of 99-36 in their four-year career was led by Perry Gilbert. The 6-foot-4 forward from Highland Park, Mich., was named the conference Player of the Year after averaging more than 20 points and 9 rebounds per game. Gilbert ends his career with a total of 1,457 points and 715 rebounds, good for 7th on both career lists. Senior guard Brian Biggs (Detroit, Mich.) ended his career with 1,010 points and earned third team All-WHAC honors. Senior Jamie Beach (North Adams, Mich.) earned a spot on the NAIA Champions of Character squad. Beach and junior Grant Hesson (Monroe, Mich.) were also named to the league's all-academic team.

### Women's Basketball

Junior forward Laura Panozzo earned first team All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference honors after leading the Siena Heights women's basketball team in both scoring and rebounding this season. The 5-foot-10 native of Berkley,



Junior forward Laura Panozzo (above) from Berkley averaged 18.5 points and 11.9 rebounds per game to lead the Saints in scoring and rebounding this season.

Mich., averaged 18.5 points and 11.9 rebounds per game. She finished the season with 346 rebounds, demolishing the previous SHU single-season record of 280. Panozzo also grabbed 27 rebounds in one game to set a new single-game mark. Heading into her senior, Panozzo, a first team All-WHAC selection, is a mere 369 points shy of the all-time career scoring record. She currently is in 5th place with a total of 1,324 points and is also 5th in career rebounds with 792. Panozzo could become the first Saints women's basketball player to amass 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds for her career. Senior Jenny Mandock (Otisville, Mich.) was named to the all-league defensive team and also the all-academic squad. Senior Ryane Roesch (Sugargrove, Ohio) was named a NAIA Champion of Character. The Saints finished the season 6-23 overall, 3-11 in the WHAC under head coach Sue Syljebeck.

### Indoor Track and Field

Led by national champion Amanda Haines, the Siena Heights men's and women's track teams both placed in the top 10 at the NAIA National Indoor Track and Field Championships March 9-11. Haines, an Adrian High School graduate, won her second national championship in the women's pole vault, clearing 12 feet, 5 1/2 inches to take the top spot. The women finished seventh overall while the men were 10th. The Saints set five new school records and had 10 athletes named All-Americans. Luke Forrest was fifth in the men's weight throw with a new school mark of 58-6 1/2, while LeeAnn Fleming was third in the women's weight throw with a school record toss of 56-2. Those making the top six in each event were named All-Americans. Jameel Jones was fourth in the 600 meter run in a record time of 1:19.95, while Eric Brown was fourth in the long jump (23-8). The 3200-meter relay of Cole Monaghan, Terry Fisk, Jon Kleinow and Jones were fourth (7:45), to also claim All-American status. Krishawna Parker set a new school record in the women's 800 (2:15.88) preliminaries, but pulled a hamstring and had to drop out of the meet. The other school record shattered was by the 1600 relay team of Luke Pawlaczyk, Brown, Kent Laskowsky and Jones, who finished just one spot out of the finals in a time of 3:17.99.



Senior Amanda Haines (above) from Adrian won her second national championship in women's pole vault at the NAIA National Indoor Track and Field Championships.

## SHU Athletic Hall of Fame Class of Named

The Siena Heights University Athletic Department's 2006 Athletic Hall of Fame class features five outstanding former athletes and one team. The Class of 2006, to be inducted this fall during Alumni Weekend, consists of Steve Chappell, Robyn Humes, Ayana Nash, Anthony Staffney and Brett Steele. This year the 1993-94 men's basketball squad will be recognized in the Hall of Fame team category. The following is a brief biography of each inductee:

### Steve Chappell '88, Men's Soccer

Chappell was a stalwart midfielder for the Saints powerhouse teams of the late 80s. He played three seasons for the Saints and originally hails from Walnut Creek, California. As a midfielder he controlled the tempo of the game and was a both an excellent passer and defender. In 1987, Chappell led the Saints with 11 assists and throughout his career quarterbacked the Saints to a 45-16-4 overall record, along with two District 23 Championships and two Area 8 runner-up titles.

### Robyn Humes '96, Softball

Humes was one of the best pitchers ever to come through the Saints softball program. She recorded at least 10 wins every year in her career, and is fourth in single-season strikeouts with 135 in her 1993 campaign. For her career, Humes is first in earned run average (1.06) and in fewest earned runs allowed (49). She is third all-time in wins with 54 and fourth all-time in strikeouts with 292. Throughout her four-year career, the Saints went a combined 140-46 and captured three Wolverine Hoosier Athletic Conference titles.

### Ayana Nash '95, Women's Soccer

Nash was one of the Saints best defenders in the program's history. She was selected as a 2nd team All-American in 1993, and also picked up honorable mention All-American status in 1992 and 1995. Nash helped the Saints to three WHAC titles and four straight regional appearances.

### Anthony Staffney '99, Men's Basketball

In his first year of eligibility for the SHU Hall, Staffney was one of the best two-way point guards ever to wear the Navy and Gold. He finished his career with the most steals in school history, was 10th in points scored, and was second on the all-time assists list. He was the National Catholic Basketball Tournament Most Valuable Player in 1997, and was a first-team NAIA All-American in 1998. He helped lead the Saints to their runner-up finish at the 1998 National Tournament. In addition, Staffney was selected as team Most Valuable Player three times, was on the All-WHAC Defensive team twice and was All-WHAC three times.

### Brett Steele '87, Baseball

One of the first great pitchers to play for the Saints, Steele will be posthumously inducted into the Siena Heights Hall. Possessing a potent fastball, he led a Saints' pitching staff that one year recorded the lowest team earned run average in school history. In 1984, he posted a 2.22 ERA, is the fifth lowest in school history, and recorded the 10th most strikeouts with 51. In that season, he earned five wins to go with six saves.

### 1993-94 Men's Basketball Team

The Siena Heights University Hall of Fame Committee will honor the 1993-94 men's basketball team for its 27-8 record. The Saints were 9-1 in the WHAC, and won both the WHAC regular season and tournament titles and advanced to the NAIA National Tournament in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The team included SHU Hall of Famers Brent Tucker and Joe Dettling and 2006 NAIA Basketball Hall of Fame Inductee Fred Smith as coach. Other members of the team were: Kevin Woodmore, Jo Jo Boggin, Chuck Worthy, Scott Norkey, Aaron Downs, Greg Hartman, Derrick Bryant, Brian Allers, Jamie Salenbien, Chris Williams, Eric Hicks, Chuck Foster and Jim Plowman.

The 2006 class will be inducted during Alumni Weekend festivities Sept. 29th-31st. The Hall of Fame Banquet will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 30th in Benincasa Dining Hall.

The 1995 Men's Cross Country team was honored at the 2005 ceremony during alumni weekend. The Saints ran their way into the record books with a WHAC Championship and an 8th place finish at the NAIA National Championships. The 8th place finish was the program's best ever finish at nationals. See Class Notes for information on last fall's individual inductees.





At age 20, Khedaywi runs his own company while tackling full course load at SHU

# Student CEO

Anthony Khedaywi has come up with what he thinks is a foolproof business idea. Actually, it is more like a waterproof one.

The Siena Heights University student is developing a line of waterproof backpacks drawing national interest, including from the U.S. military. In fact, the 20-year-old has been the CEO of his own company, Khedaywi, Inc., for more than a year while still finding time to be a full time college student. He said his entrepreneurial spark was first lit while a student at nearby Onsted High School.

He and high school friend Nate Coats were tinkering with a roll of duct tape one day when they made a purse out of the metallic-looking stuff. Their creation was a hit at school, and soon they were crafting other items from duct tape. In fact, Khedaywi crafted a duct tape tuxedo and was a hit at his high school prom wearing the one-of-a-kind design.

However, the duct tape business didn't stick, and Khedaywi was again searching for a unique product he could mass produce.

While researching various markets, he said the idea of a waterproof backpack came to mind. He asked one of his business contacts if there was such a product on the market, and was surprised at the answer.

"I did some more research, and there wasn't anything like this, ever," Khedaywi said.

He and Coats, now his business partner, quickly went to work on a design. After creating his business in March 2005, Khedaywi took his invention to the world's largest outdoor retailer show in Salt Lake City, Utah. At his display was a tank filled with 120 gallons of water. A waterproof backpack filled with rocks was submerged in the water for 85 consecutive hours – without a drop seeping in.

"It was pretty much an eye-catcher," Khedaywi said of the display. "We were way in the back (of the trade show), but yet we still had tons of people coming to our booth and checking us out."

The backpacks are similar in appearance to a traditional backpack, but the fabrication process is much different. Khedaywi said only urethane-coated or laminated materials are used, not the traditional vinyl. A special welding process gives the backpack its waterproof quality.

"It's not like a weld that people are familiar with," Khedaywi explained. "It's about the strongest thing you can do."

The ultrasonic welding works by vibration, heating the materials together to form a strong bond. Other processes includes hot air and radio frequency welding. He said the welding process is far superior to any stitching.

"With your needle, what you are doing is you are poking millions of little holes in it," Khedaywi said of the stitching process. "With (welding), you are basically combining the two materials. It's very, very strong. And it will last a lot longer, too."

While several representatives in the outdoor industry have expressed interest in Khedaywi's backpack, he said he is currently targeting a more specific market – the U.S. military. He said he is in contact with representatives from the Special Forces, and hopes to one day supply operations such as the Navy SEALs, Army Rangers and the Green Berets with the multi-purpose backpacks.

"If they want something done, we will make it for them," he said.

He said there are also plenty of potential civilian applications for his backpacks. One promising market is the fast-growing sport of canyoneering. Popular in places like Utah and Europe, canyoneering has people descending into narrow, deep canyons. Because dangerous flash floods can sometimes quickly fill the canyons, Khedaywi said the backpacks can operate as a floatation device.

One backpack prototype includes a self-contained compartment for MP3 music players. The MP3 device can be placed in a watertight partition, and the headphone outlet can actually be plugged into the backpack – and it's completely waterproof, Khedaywi said.

One major obstacle is finding a manufacturer for his backpacks. He first investigated China, but mainly because of quality issues, that option did not materialize. He is currently looking at manufacturers in the U.S., and finding one here would allow him more oversight and control of the process.

"When you are doing something waterproof, you can't fudge on (quality)," he said.

Khedaywi transferred to Siena Heights from Western Michigan University to focus more on his business, which he runs primarily out of his parents' Onsted home.

"I'm in my room most of the time, which is my office," he said.

The business major is currently taking 18 credit hours, and is trying to graduate a year early.

"I take a little bit of everything," said Khedaywi, who is particularly interested in his computer class at SHU. "Being the CEO of a company, I have to know a little bit about everything. ... I like the atmosphere over here (at Siena Heights). I'd taken classes in my senior year (in high school), and I enjoyed it. I liked the atmosphere. That was a huge part (of attending Siena)."

Khedaywi is hoping to have his backpacks in production later this year. However, he has no plans to revisit his duct tape fashion line.

"I still have one," Khedaywi of his duct tape tuxedo. "I probably won't wear it. It doesn't breathe very well." ♦

# The Artman Imprint



President Leaves A Legacy of  
Betterment, Including The Transition  
from College To University

By Doug Goodnough

I

t is safe to say Richard Artman is probably the first president in Siena Heights University history to go bungee jumping. Standing on a bridge in New Zealand 12 years ago, he overcame his fear of heights by completing the jump.

Artman is a risk-taker by nature. He took another leap of faith in 1994 when he accepted Siena Heights' offer of becoming its ninth president, leaving comfortable surroundings as vice president of student affairs at Nebraska Wesleyan University (Lincoln, Neb.) to move with his wife, Joan, to the Adrian campus in southeastern lower Michigan.

And during his nearly 12 years on campus, the man with the expansive smile and a knack for remembering names has ushered in some of the most wide-ranging changes in the school's 87-year history. From overseeing Siena Heights' metamorphosis from college to university to overhauling the school's technology, Artman has acted on his inaugural promise of "Better Than Imagined."

Now he is embracing another change. In November, Artman accepted the mantle of president at Viterbo University, a Franciscan university in La Crosse, Wis. In what he calls a "bittersweet" time, Artman will spend the next few months completing his duties at Siena Heights before beginning his new charge July 1.

In recounting a dozen years of recollections and relationships, Artman tries to provide a sense of what Siena Heights University has meant to him and his family.

### "Raise The Spirits"

Rick Artman arrived on the Siena Heights campus replacing an interim president and found a school looking for direction. One of his major goals was to "raise the spirits" of those in the Siena community. And what better way to do this, he thought, than go directly to the school's roots.

"They were proud of their Dominican heritage, but said little of their Catholic identity," Artman said of his initial impression of the school. "One of the charges for me was to invigorate, renew our Catholic identity . . . If you are going to call yourself Catholic, you have to be about certain things."

He even wanted to have Mass at his inauguration, which raised a few eyebrows. He was told by some it might make students and staff feel uncomfortable.

"Some people thought they could be Dominican and not Catholic. And you can't," he said. "It took me a few years to start rebuilding that. But we've come a long way in restoring our Catholic identity."

Relying on the church encyclical from the late Pope John Paul II, "Ex corde Ecclesiae," Latin for "From the heart of the Church," Artman tackled the challenge of reconnecting the college to its Catholic identity. He formed a committee to look at this issue. It took a few years, but a consensus was reached. Today, Siena's mission statement is boiled down into an easy-to-remember sentence that includes mention of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, the school's founders and sponsors, as well as the University's purpose.

President Artman at left hosts the ceremony on July 1, 1998 to celebrate the changing of Siena Heights from college to university.





Part of the restoration process included beefing up the campus ministry program. There was just one campus minister in place when Artman arrived. Thanks to the support of the Adrian Dominican Congregation and two generous donations, two additional full time positions were created. The school has also put a renewed emphasis on social justice and service issues, strengthened its relationship with the Adrian Dominican Congregation and began a theological studies program in partnership with the Lansing Diocese. The Dominican pillars of study, prayer, community and preaching are foundational themes frequently named and witnessed.

“Our worship experience for students hasn’t quite reached its potential, but we’ve made progress there,” Artman said. “And we made a big leap forward hiring a full time priest, Fr. Tom Helfrich, OSFS, this past academic year.”

President Artman and wife Joan at the Roman Colosseum during the Board of Trustees’ trip to Siena, Italy in September 2004.



### President Of The People

With his student affairs background, Artman had little trouble interacting with college students. However, as president of Siena Heights University, he had to learn how to walk the accessibility tightrope. It is a delicate balance indeed.

“Yes, the balance is being accessible but not handling every complaint or taking on every concern that (students) have,” Artman said. “That’s why you have a staff. If I’m handling every student housing problem, I can’t do the things that the president ought to do.”

His relationships with students are some of the ones he cherishes the most. In fact, he established the Presidential Scholars program, which awards half-tuition scholarships to approximately 15–20 incoming freshmen each year. As part of the scholarship requirements, students participate in four leadership workshops a year – which Artman leads – an experience that allows these students one-on-one attention with their president.

“It was one way of attracting higher quality students . . . but it also was a plan for me to be engaged with the students,” said Artman, who has group pictures of each Presidential Scholars class hanging on his office wall. “With those students I have a very close relationship . . . I kind of follow them through the four years.”

He also has an uncanny ability to remember names, and he uses this ability at every opportunity to connect with students.

“One of the gifts that God has given me is a good recollection of names,” Artman said. “That really helps students feel important. That has given me an edge. Not a close relationship with every student, but something more than just ‘Hi’ in the hallway.”

However, ultimately he understands his role as president.

“I know an awful lot more students that a president of a bigger institution wouldn’t know,” Artman said. “Yet at the same time there is a distance, even at a small institution. You are leading instead of managing. You are not in the day-to-day trenches, but you still have some sense of what’s going on.”



On deck during the alumni vs. faculty and staff softball game in September 2003.

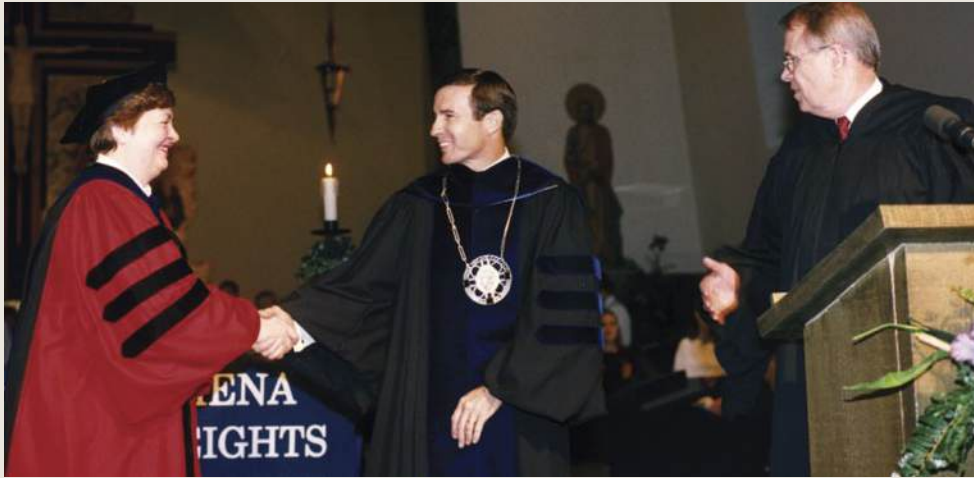
President Artman cuts the tape celebrating the opening of the new Siena Heights Metro Detroit office in October 1995.



Always an annual participant in student move in day, President Artman carries a box for one of Siena’s newest students in September 2005.



President Artman is welcomed to Siena Heights by former Prioresse Pat Walter, OP and former Board of Trustees Chairperson John Tierney at his inauguration ceremony in October 1995.



President Artman poses with Campus Minister Tom Puszczewicz as Santa during the annual Siena Christmas gathering in December 2004.

President Artman during the University's annual golf outing in June 2005.



### The Demands On A Leader

After Artman took the job as president of Siena Heights University, he knew that his and Joan's lives would change.

"You read about it in the literature, the president's schedule. But you don't understand it until you live it," said Artman, best trying to describe the overarching duties of a college president. "It's not uncommon to have events six nights a week during the academic year. Your time is not your time."

When Artman first arrived, he felt obligated to attend every community function. Fortunately for the Artmans and Siena Heights, they understood that seemingly never-ending pull from the university. But it was an adjustment.

"You are always in demand, particularly in a small community," Artman said. "If you're a president in Manhattan, you go out to a restaurant and nobody knows who you are. I can't go to the recycling center without somebody knowing me. And when they see me, they see Siena Heights. They don't see Rick Artman. That can be good, but it can also be a pretty big burden, 24/7."

He said he's enjoyed learning the fundraising element to his job, and seeing how many people care about Siena Heights University.

"It's not that hard to ask for support because the people who we are talking to know we care about education, Catholic education, Dominican education, helping Siena Heights," he said.

### Change Or Die

The difficult part of his job, however, is effecting change.

"There's an old joke on the president's speaking circuit: 'A president's job is like being the head of a cemetery. There are a lot of people below you, but nobody's listening,'" said Artman, with a laugh. "Because power and authority are decentralized in the university model. You exercise true power very judiciously, if at all.

"It's similar to hospitals. There's a lot of deference to the doctors, the faculty, who are experts in their field. They don't want you telling them how to and what to teach, and I don't want to tell them how to teach or what to teach. But, at the same time, I'm accountable for what they do."

If Artman had his way, he would much rather steer a university like a Wave Runner. But he knows guiding an institution is much more like being at the helm of a cruise ship — it takes a lot of energy and time to change course.

"I'm much more of a risk-taker than this culture is," Artman admitted. "I've had to temper or put a governor on (change), partly because we don't have the risk capital. We don't have a large endowment, and so you risk what you are able to risk and you have to be really careful . . . because you just don't have the capacity to make mistakes on bold initiatives."

One such initiative was to oversee Siena Heights' transition from college to university in 1998.

"I think changing from college to university was a bold initiative," Artman said. "We weren't the first to do it, but we were early in the more recent vanguard."

Siena Heights was the first college or university in Michigan to become a wireless campus. That move was part of a technology update Artman said was sorely needed.

“I’m very proud of where we’ve come technologically,” Artman said. “It positions us well for the future.” We had a great staff chart the course; I just helped ensure there were resources to make it happen.

In 1994, the secretaries, business office and the business manager shared a telephone party line operated by an antiquated switchboard system. Thanks to selling the president’s home and a student-funded revolving technology fee, improvements such as a new phone system and a wireless Internet system were installed, and now are the standard on most college campuses.

Artman also points to the numerous facility upgrades over the past decade, including renovations to the fieldhouse and athletic fields, the science and math buildings, theater, chapel and the under-construction Residential Village, a student housing project expected to be completed this fall.

But positive change isn’t always linked to the monetary.

### With Respect and Dignity

A president should have pride in his or her university, and that should trickle down to the entire campus community.

“Part of that pride is as simple as picking up paper,” Artman said. “I’m constantly walking and stopping and picking up a can or a water bottle or trash. You seldom today see trash on campus. We haven’t added more custodians, we’ve created a greater sense of ownership.”

He said he has tried to use his position – not his power – at every turn.

“Of all things that I’ve tried to do, the most important has been to maintain that focus on mission, and make sure from the office of the president, that everyone was treated with respect and dignity,” Artman said. “Whether it was custodians, freshmen or a distinguished alum, we are all gifted in different ways, and we’re all the same, deserving of dignity and respect. And I think that’s an important thing for all of us in higher level of positions to remember – we are all the same in the eyes of God. With different talents we come together and can make a lot more things happen than just any one of us singularly.”

In fact, in trying to recall the “high points” of his time at Siena Heights, he’s left treasuring the “little moments” as president.

“A few years ago an alumna was in the hospital where Joan works,” said Artman. “She recognized Joan’s name tag, though she hadn’t met Joan, she made the connection to Siena. She said, ‘I just want to tell you that I’m a graduate of Siena Heights, and before your husband came I was not proud to say that. But now I am.’ It’s the kind of thing that you hope for. To see change. To imbue pride in your alumni and their experiences here.”

An Artman trademark is calling faculty and staff members on their birthdays.

“If it’s on a weekday, the first thing I do in the morning is check the birthday list and leave a voice message wishing somebody happy birthday,” Artman said. “It’s a tiny little thing. It takes 30 seconds, but you can’t imagine . . . It touches to the soul.”

### Parting Advice

To his successor, Artman has the following advice: Listen, but act.

“You have to listen to the community, but you have to act, too,” he said. “You cannot wait until everybody is on board, because not everybody gets on board. But you do have to listen and be mindful that decisions affect different segments of the constituent base differently, and often their interests are at odds . . . The new president needs to listen, and I think I’ve tried to do that. But you have lots of pressure to create meaningful change . . . You can’t always wait until you build consensus, there’s too much inertia in an academic institution. It will seldom change on its own accord.

“Respect the office. It has enormous stature in the eyes of the community,” Artman continued. “The office is bigger than a person. A lot of presidents forget that . . . They get wrapped up in the perks and perceived power of the office. The presidency is a unique perspective, and nobody else at the university has that perspective . . . Nobody sees the university with all its tentacles and its perspectives as does its president. It’s a privileged vantage point, and therefore a unique platform from which to act.”



The Chiodini/Fontana Endowed Ethics lecturer and author Dinesh D’Souza stands with President Artman in February 2005.



President Artman with honorary degree recipient Most Reverend Carl F. Mengeling, Bishop of Lansing, and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Fr. J. Patrick Murphy, CM, following commencement in May 2005.





President Artman and a proud new graduate following commencement exercises in May 2004.

**Fond farewell**

Artman said he wants to emphasize he had a lot of help along the way as president of Siena Heights University. He is especially grateful to his wife of 37 years and high school sweetheart, Joan. While maintaining her professional nursing career, Joan has served the University as an exemplary presidential spouse.

“Her support and love, and her willingness to assist with the entertaining, traveling and relationship building have been invaluable assets to the University,” Artman said.

Artman acknowledges the wonderful support provided by the Board of Trustees and the Adrian Dominican Congregation.

He is fond of the quote – “Water is to flowers as praise is to the heart.” To accentuate that philosophy, Artman helped form a recognition committee on campus to make sure those who were worthy of credit received a well-deserved pat on the back for going the extra mile for students and advancing the mission of the University.

“There’s a debate that money is a motivator,” Artman said, “but nobody disagrees that praise and recognition are powerful motivators . . . Little gestures such as thank you notes, a gift certificate for dinner or a shirt from the bookstore recognize the contributions that many faculty, staff and students make to the University and I think add to our sense of community.”

And community is what he and his wife will take away from Siena Heights.

“The most lasting (memories) will be the memories of relationships, the people who Joan and I have been fortunate to interact with internally and externally,” Artman said. “Clearly our spirituality has been enhanced by being a part of this Catholic community, our sensitivity to differences, a greater awareness to what makes an academic community thrive. And that’s because of the different gifts and strengths we all bring to the table.

“We leave with wonderful memories and a great sense of accomplishment. But nothing is done singularly. All has been with the help of God and many others who accepted my vision that Siena could be better than imagined.” ♦



President Artman thanks retiring trustee Barney Stickles in October 2003 for his years of service to Siena Heights.



Rick and Joan Artman proudly show their engraved Fieldhouse bricks in August 2004 highlighting the successful Campaign for Siena Heights University.



Former Chairperson Doug Kapnick and President Rick Artman present a congratulatory cake to the Board of Trustees in February 2004 following the successful completion of the Campaign for Siena Heights University which exceeded its goal and raised \$13.4 million.



# from the alumni office



## Alumni Association Board of Directors

Joseph J. Balusik, III '90, *President*  
Deborah Carrington Keller '74, '75, '02, *Vice President*  
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Shannon Bruley '04  
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Mary Fairweather '01  
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D. Jean Heller-Durst '75  
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Karen Johnson '04  
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Dr. Anthony J. Scioly, *Faculty Representative*  
Erin Mareel '07, *Student Representative*

## Ready To Reconnect?

Alumni relations is all about (surprise!) building relationships. As head of the Alumni Office, it's my job to help alumni connect with Siena Heights – and with each other. And 2005-06 has been a great year for connections. Consider a few examples:

Last fall's Alumni Weekend brought together the "Beautiful Losers" of the early '80s for a rollicking reunion of alumni who hadn't seen each other (or Siena Heights) in two decades. Class reunions, fraternity gatherings, seminars and sports brought others to SHU. All across campus, alumni were re-connecting.

"I knew I'd have a good time, I just didn't realize I'd have a wonderful time," wrote one alum afterward. Others said: "Beautiful liturgy... Something for everyone... Lots of fun." And this: "The university really tried to take care of us. I had a good feeling about Siena Heights afterward." That's the sort of comment that brings me back to work after the exhausting, but invigorating, extravaganza that is Alumni Weekend!

Later in the fall, students in several of Siena's off-campus programs drove from both sides of the state to spend a Saturday morning exploring the main campus. This pilot program helped our far-flung future alumni put down roots at Siena – literally: By Commencement the tulips they planted will be in bloom. "Excellent!" wrote one participant. "I now feel like part of the university."

We also nurtured Siena connections at the 8th annual Lake Michigan holiday gathering; at a Theater Siena Shakespeare production; at March Madness events in Ohio, Georgia, North Carolina and Washington, D.C.; and in getting-to-know-you visits around the country.

As I write this column, we are just a few weeks past Alumni Awards Day – a "once-a-year celebration of Siena's past, present and future," according to Alumni Board President Joe Balusik '90. While on campus, our four honorees met with students from 20 different classes. Connections? Just listen! Meeting the award winners "inspires me to be the best that I can and to get involved with my passions to make a difference in the world," said one student. The program "made me feel like I'm in a great place," wrote another. A third student said he felt "a kind of bond... because we are all part of the SHU tradition."

These are the things that make my job at Siena Heights so rewarding. When alumni reconnect – with each other and with SHU – and we all come away inspired and proud, then I know we're on the right track in alumni relations.

If you'd like to be more involved, come to Alumni Weekend. Volunteer to help at an alumni event – or host one. Call. Or email. Or visit campus – you'll find the Alumni Office in Sacred Heart Hall 102. One way or another, we'll connect!

**Jennifer A. Hamlin Church**  
Associate VP for Advancement &  
Director of Alumni Relations  
(517) 264-7143  
jhchurch@sienahs.edu

# catching up



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## Siena Scenes: Reconnecting

1 & 2—A few late '80s alumni and their children enjoyed a winter get-together at the home of Sid and Mary Kloeckner Halley in Hillsdale. (1) Future Saints (from left) Mitchell Hanosh, Mallory McGurk, Laura Smith, Maggie Halley, Morgan McGurk, Alex Hanosh and Hunter Smith. (2) Reminiscing Saints (front) Jack McGurk '90 and Ted Hanosh '91 and (standing) Mary Helen Kloeckner Halley '89 and Ellie Teunion-Smith '89.

3, 4 & 7—Students from several off-campus Siena sites came to campus in October for a "SHU & You" orientation to the history and heritage of Siena Heights. (3) Participants paused on the Archangelus steps during an interactive campus tour. (4) Lori Timmis, coordinator of the Washtenaw, Port Huron and online programs, distributed "keys to graduation" when the group visited the Fieldhouse where Commencement takes place. (7) Students got to put down roots at Siena by planting tulip bulbs outside the Fieldhouse.

5—Adrian Dominicans and lay alumnae came together for the Class of 1955 50th reunion celebration last fall. Valiant women shown here are (from left): Sister Clara Patricks, Rosemarie Togar Champagne, Sister Mary Beaubien, Ruth Stechsulte, Margaret DeLoach and Pilar Cruz Lujan. Missing from photo: Mary McDowell Bissonette and Sister Mildred Huber.

6—Among those who reconnected during Alumni Weekend last fall were Father Ray Jarboe '76 and Mike Griffin '80. (For another photo of the Beautiful Losers reunion, featuring Cindy Wilson Sparks '80, Mike Griffin '80 and Joni Warner '83, see the Contents page.)

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## A More Judicial Approach

By Doug Goodnough

# Alumni Profile

### Siena Heights Graduate, Board Member Margaret Noe Appointed Probate Judge Of Lenawee Circuit Court

After practicing law for more than 20 years, Margaret Noe was finally sent to the bench.

The 1975 Siena Heights graduate was appointed Lenawee Circuit Court probate judge by Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm. Sworn in Dec. 19, 2005, her appointment fulfills a longtime ambition.

"It was always a goal," said Noe, who served as an assistant prosecuting attorney for the county, with her work primarily consisting of prosecuting neglect and abuse cases. "Throughout the 20 years (as a lawyer), I acted as a pure advocate of the law. (However) I continued to feel a strong pull, a more judicial approach to the law."

Probate court handles all juvenile matters, including adoptions, as well as mental health issues, estates and neglect and abuse cases. Also overseeing divorce and family court issues, she said her experience as a lawyer prepared her well for her new position.

"My experience, both personal and professional, I think, have readied me well to an appointment to the probate bench," Noe said. "I've been around long enough that I sidestep my emotions. Never ignore a child's pain, but you can be more focused on alleviating the pain, redirecting the family and successfully disposing of the cause of the pain."

"As a judge, you don't have hands-on (influence)," continued Noe, comparing the duties of a lawyer and a judge. "But you still see people through crisis and can bring them to resolution. I think that is a necessary part of life."

In becoming a judge, she said her biggest adjustment is her interaction with new colleagues, as well as getting acquainted with obscure and little-used laws.

"Judges have a greatly reduced number of peers or judicial colleagues," Noe said. "Although here at the courthouse they have been wonderful. They have shared great wisdom with me, welcomed me and given me very sound direction."

Because many of the cases she presides over involve children and family issues, she is focused on improving the educational system at all levels.

"I am dedicated to a better understanding of the educational system in our community," she said. "I am interested in proposing new programs and enhancing numerous existing programs."

Enhancing and improving her alma mater is at the top of her list. Noe has held a seat on the Siena Heights Board of Trustees since 1998, and currently serves as board vice-chairperson. Also an adjunct faculty member, Noe teaches a courtroom demeanor class at SHU.

Noe and her husband of 29 years, Bill, reside in Adrian. They have three grown sons. She said Siena Heights has influenced every aspect of her life since arriving on the Adrian campus nearly 35 years ago.

"I feel as though as I grew up at Siena Heights University," said Noe, who was first steered to Siena Heights as a student at a Dominican-run high school in suburban Chicago. "I walk through the halls of Siena Heights and I still feel the same way I did when I was 18. ... Siena Heights has given me that, and I always have been able to maintain it. Being on the Board of Trustees has solidified my ability to give back."

This spring, Siena Heights utilized Noe's skills as a judge — she recently chaired the search committee to find the new SHU president.

"It was a wonderful, democratic process," Noe said of the committee, composed of SHU board members and representatives of the Dominican Congregation, faculty, staff, alumni and students. "And it worked, and it was fantastic. Everybody, the (Dominican) congregation, the University, the search committee, the faculty, staff, alumni and students, we all wanted the best president." ♦

Siena Heights graduate and Board of Trustees Vice Chair Margaret Noe achieved a lifelong goal when she was appointed a probate judge by Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm last December.





## A Day All To Herself

By Kaniqua S. Daniel of The Oakland Press  
Special to Reflections

# Alumni Profile

### Shipp Surprised With Early Graduation Ceremony Before Shipping Out To Iraq

Most graduates share the excitement of a commencement ceremony with hundreds of fellow classmates.

But Shawn Shipp, a graduate of Siena Heights University, had the day all to herself.

At SHU's off-campus degree-completion center in Southfield, a personalized ceremony for the 34-year-old Shipp was conducted. To make the day even more memorable, the event was secretly planned.

University officials decided to surprise Shipp with a mock ceremony after learning she would miss the official ceremony in May.

Shipp, of Trenton, was heading to Iraq to be a civilian contractor for the U.S. Army, serving as a desktop support supervisor. She also has served in the U.S. Air Force and Navy.

In January, Shipp took a leave of absence from the Army Reserve to complete her degree requirements.

As Deborah Carter, dean of the college for professional studies, addressed the audience, she said, "Every graduate deserves a commencement ceremony, regardless of the circumstances.

"Rituals are too important to skip," said Carter, who traveled from her St. Joseph home to personally hand Shipp her diploma. "A lot of people worked hard to make this happen. This process usually involves about 400 other students instead of one, but that just goes to show how special Shawn is."

Aimee Adamski, assistant site director for the university, organized the ceremony after Shipp made an appointment with her to have lunch.

Although only one student was recognized, Shipp's graduation experience was as close to a traditional ceremony as possible. Faculty and staff came dressed in robes and chords. A full program was printed and distributed.

Perhaps the best aspect of having a personal ceremony was front-row seats for the family. As Shipp entered the room, she was greeted by her husband, Eric, 34, who helped dress his wife in her robe and cap.

"We knew a couple of weeks ago, but Shawn had no idea. It was pretty special seeing her walk in. She was completely surprised," he said. "Seeing everything she's been through in the past year...it was really a great feeling seeing that smile on her face."

Before the smile came tears of joy once Shipp noticed who else was in the audience.

Aside from school staff and faculty members, her two children – Ethan and Hannah – and Hannes Kroger, a foreign exchange student she is caring for throughout the school year, filled the seats in front of the podium.

"I'm happy I wore my waterproof mascara," Shipp said.

Shipp will live in Iraq for one year. She was expected to complete her last two courses online by the end of December to fulfill the degree requirements for a bachelor of arts in multidisciplinary studies.

"I had no idea they were doing this. It's very sweet they would go to all this trouble for me. That shows what a kind and caring school this is." ♦

Editor's Note: Reprinted with permission of The Oakland Press. This feature appeared in a December 2005 edition of the paper.



Above: The Shipp family (left to right), Hannes Kroger, Hannah, Shawn, Ethan and Eric celebrate "Mom's" graduation together three days before Shawn left for Iraq during a special graduation ceremony at the degree completion center in Southfield.

Top of Page: Siena Heights Dean of the College for Professional Studies Deborah Carter (left) with Shawn Shipp and Aimee Adamski at the graduation ceremony. Adamski, Assistant Director of the Metropolitan Detroit program, planned this special event.

# SIENA HEIGHTS IN THE SERVICE

BY JENNIFER A. HAMLIN CHURCH



WITH SO MANY PEOPLE IN HARM'S WAY THESE DAYS BECAUSE OF ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE, CIVIL WAR, POLITICAL DISPUTES AND THE WAR ON TERRORISM, THERE IS SOME SMALL REASSURANCE IN KNOWING THAT A FEW OF THE PARTICIPANTS CARRY WITH THEM THE SIENA HEIGHTS MISSION OF COMPETENT, PURPOSEFUL AND ETHICAL CONDUCT. MEET A FEW MEMBERS OF THE SHU COMMUNITY NOW SERVING IN THE U.S. MILITARY.

Above: Ken Kops '84 at the Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan in 2004.

## Kenneth Kops '84 Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army

Ken Kops celebrated this past New Year with a Dec. 31 promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in the U. S. Army.

Ken's military career has taken him to Korea, Afghanistan, Iowa, North Carolina, and now to the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. And that's just the past six years! Since Ken intends "to continue active service with the Army until my retirement," who knows where else he'll go.

Ken joined the Army Reserve while still in college, but he was not aiming for an Army career. A history major at Siena and member of the Saints track team, he moved to Ann Arbor after graduation and spent the next seven years in an editing job.

But wanderlust overtook him, and he embarked on what he calls "the great adventure of my life: Korea." For most of the 1990s, he lived in Seoul, teaching English, learning the Korean martial art of taekwon do, and earning several master's degrees.

All the while, he was a member of the Reserve. He had always enjoyed serving, and after working as a liaison officer between U.S. military forces in Korea, he began seeking "a way to expand my role."

In 1999, he entered active service, having risen to the rank of Captain in the Reserve. By 2000, he was a Major, moving first to Des Moines, Iowa, then Fort Bragg, N.C., Bagram, Afghanistan, Riverdale, Md., and finally, last year, to the Pentagon.

Accompanying him in this life of "military travel and relocation" is his wife, Young Sun, whom he married in 2002. "We constantly seek out new and wonderful adventures," Ken says, adding that, "Young Sun is the reason I am where I am today."

Life for Ken today still includes the martial arts: he is now a 4th dan (degree) black belt. He still enjoys learning, and since entering active service has attended a number of advanced professional military education courses.

And he still is guided by the strong Catholic faith he brought with him to Siena Heights. Despite frequent address changes in far-flung locales, he and Young Sun maintain their parish affiliation with St. Joseph's Roman Catholic parish in Jackson, Mich.



## John Detro '85 Captain, U.S. Army

This past fall, John Detro completed his 18th year of service in the U.S. Army and his third tour of duty in Iraq. He marked these milestones by earning the Bronze Star, the Bronze Star with Valor, the Army Commendation Medal with Valor, and his second and third Purple Hearts (the first came in Iraq a few years ago).

"Enough," you might say. But you're not John Detro.

"I'll probably do two more tours," he wrote in January, although he hopes the second might involve "less fighting, more paperwork." He returns to Iraq this spring. It will be his fifth combat tour, four in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. He's a bit crackier but otherwise as upbeat and hard-driving as ever.

A biology major and chemistry minor at Siena, John enlisted in the Army in 1987 and immediately put his studies to good use as a medic. After returning from Operation Desert Storm, he became a cytotechnologist (a specialist in identifying cellular abnormalities), then went on to become a physician assistant (PA). Along the way, he earned a second bachelor's degree in physician assistant studies, and master's degrees in family medicine and orthopedics.

In 1999, things changed: John volunteered to apply his medical skills as a Ranger.

Ranger School is one of the Army's toughest training programs, and John was considered old for the physically grueling course. Undaunted, he finished at the very top of his class.

The Rangers (officially the 75th Ranger Regiment) are an elite infantry combat unit. Rangers are "experts in leading soldiers on difficult missions." Not surprisingly, Ranger medics have plenty of work.

As the PA in charge of a battalion of Ranger medics, John has what he admits is "the most rewarding but physically demanding job an Army PA could have."

He could let up on himself, give the orders and hang back; but, as he puts it, "my athletic mind won't let me ease up toward the finish line and when I am at a base with the guys, I have to go out on missions. I want my medics to understand that I don't expect them to do anything I am not willing to do myself."

John's "athletic mind" was well-honed at Siena Heights where he was a four-time NAIA track & field All-American. An inaugural inductee into Siena's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1999, he was described then as "one of the top distance runners" in Siena history.

Running is still part of his life, although age and multiple injuries (including a parachute accident and recent grenade wounds) have led him to give up competing as a runner. Now, he "only" runs about 30 minutes a day. And he's begun "leaning" toward retirement, he says...but not yet. For now, he'll focus on Iraq.

"My guys are teasing me about my chances of getting my fourth purple heart on this next deployment," he says. "I think they want to be on the missions I'm not on."

On the other hand, if there's any chance of getting hurt, where better to be than with the Army's best PA? In March, John received what is essentially the "PA of the year" award: the U.S. Surgeon General's Annual Physician Assistant Recognition Award.

And he has lots of reasons to come home in one piece — chief among them his wife, children and two grandsons.

## Jenifer Hinckley '06 Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army National Guard

Many students hope to study abroad during their Siena Heights years. But few expect to do it in uniform.

Jen Hinckley was hard at work on her biology degree three years ago when the call came saying she would be going overseas...to Iraq...in two days...with the National Guard.

A 1996 Jackson High School graduate, Jen joined the Army that same year, not having any definite career direction. After four years spent entirely "stateside," she completed her service in 2000 and was ready for school. With full time Army status behind her, she joined the Guard as a way to help fund her education, fully expecting to fulfill her six-year commitment through monthly weekend service and annual two-week summer tours.

She started at Jackson Community College, then transferred to Siena Heights where she could study biology and run cross-country and track for the Saints.

March 15, 2003, was a Saturday. (Jen remembers the specific days and dates of every turning point in this chapter of her life.) The call came in the evening. "Two days, they said," Jen remembers. In fact it was a month before she left, time enough to make arrangements to finish some classes after her return. Other classes, she had no choice but to drop.

After two months of "Iraq Training" in Kansas, Jen left the U.S. on June 13. She returned on May 7 the following year, having spent one month in Kuwait and ten months in Iraq—in Baghdad, "Camp Dogwood," and Mosul. She worked primarily in communications, working with radios, antennas and mobile subscriber equipment.

She had "a couple of close calls" but says, for the most part, she "wasn't in any real danger."

"We didn't lose any of the 500-plus in my unit," she said. "And I didn't encounter any mean Iraqis. They were really nice."

Still, the experience sobered her. The concentration required by living amid constant mortar attacks leaves everyone "stressed out," she says. "And when you come back, you're just hyper-sensitive to everything."

She also came back more focused than ever on her academic goals. And now she has the results to prove it: Jen is one of two Siena Heights students to be accepted into the doctoral program in chemistry at both University of Michigan and Notre Dame University.

Jen's National Guard commitment ends this September and she has no plans to re-enlist. Instead, she'll be pursuing research in natural products chemistry among the Fighting Irish at Notre Dame!

## William Good, Current Student Specialist, U. S. Army

Billy Good is the Siena Heights student with the longest commute. And the shortest. As a student in Siena's first "totally-online" degree cohort, he currently lives in Germany, where he is stationed with the U.S. Army. To get to class, he goes only as far as his computer.

An avid learner, Billy came to Siena from the Specs Howard School of Broadcasting. As a soldier, he has completed more than 1,000 hours of military correspondence courses, attended the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Course at the NATO school in Germany — and now has found a niche that works for him, pursuing his bachelor's degree with Siena Heights.

Conversing by email last fall, Billy wrote, "I'm in the middle of my first class with Siena and I love it. My professor is excellent, the feedback is fast, and the course work is great. The online threaded discussions are a terrific way to communicate with other students in the class — you can really get your point across."

The totally online program "has been a Godsend" for Billy and other students, near and far. Billy does his assignments "anywhere I can get an internet connection — whether I am in the DMZ (demilitarized zone) in Korea or the mountains of Bavaria." ♦

Below: Ken Kops (left) and friends in Afghanistan.



Above: John Detro (front, far right) with his Ranger medics. John recently was honored as the Army's Physician Assistant of the year.

# Siena Heights Recognizes Alumni Award Winners



Pictured above are this year's Alumni Award winners. From left are Seyed Jalal Hosseini '96, Sister Mary Ann Flannery, SC '64, Sister Rosalie Esquerro, OP '65 and Iqbal Roshd '83 with Siena Heights President Rick Artman. The award winners were also honored during a program in Rueckert Auditorium

Though Siena Heights University is a Catholic institution, its history of inclusion is apparent in this year's alumni award winners.

The Siena Heights University Alumni Association honored four distinguished graduates – including two Muslims and one Sister from outside the Dominican order – during its annual Alumni Awards Day March 14.

Receiving the Recent Graduate Award was Seyed Jalal Hosseini. Sister Rosalie Esquerro, OP, received the Saint Dominic Award, and Sister Mary Ann Flannery, SC, the Sister Ann Joachim Award. Iqbal Roshd was given the Outstanding Alumni Award.

“We celebrate your achievements and are so proud that the mission of Siena Heights University lives through you,” said Siena Heights President Rick Artman at the awards program. “And your gifts of leading, creating jobs and opportunities, counseling, healing, teaching and serving make us so proud that you are part of Siena Heights University.

“You inspire us, and I hope you inspire our students,” he continued. “It reminds us of what we do and why we do it. Our work today is to create outstanding alumni of tomorrow.”

The Recent Graduate Award recognizes alumni who have graduated within the past 10 years who exemplify dedication to Christian values through professional achievement, community involvement and/or civic commitment – and who represent the spirit of Siena Heights University.

The Saint Dominic Award recognizes alumni for commitment to Christian education in family, school or community. Named for the 12th century Spanish nobleman who founded the Dominican order, the award honors people who embody the Dominican philosophy and the spirit of Siena, and who promote pride in Christian ethics and education.

The Sister Ann Joachim Award is presented in memory of faculty member Sister Ann Joachim, OP, and recognizes significant contributions to the University and/or community through activities that demonstrate strong leadership, the ability to get things done, and the capacity to confront issues head on while maintaining the image and spirit of Siena Heights.

The Outstanding Alumni Award recognizes alumni with outstanding professional achievements and/or volunteer contributions who promote Siena positively to the community. The honoree demonstrates strong leadership characteristics, serves as a significant role model for others and embodies the spirit of Siena Heights.

Awards are open to alumni of Siena Heights University (including Siena Heights College and St. Joseph College). An alumna or alumnus may be nominated for consideration by another graduate, a member of the faculty or staff, or another person who knows the nominee and the University well. Final selection of award recipients rests with the Alumni Association Board of Directors, which reserves the right to consider a nominee for an award other than that suggested by the nominator.

A brief biography of each honoree is provided to the right.

## Recent Graduate Award Jalal Hosseini '96

As a native of Iran, Seyed Jalal Hosseini traveled from the Middle East to the Midwest of the U.S. when he enrolled at Siena Heights University. A political science major and member of the soccer team while at Siena, he knew he wanted to make a difference in the world. He is now getting that chance. After completing his graduate studies, he was hired as associate director for Educational Programs with the Harvard School of Public Health. He is involved in the AIDS Prevention Initiative in Nigeria (APIN), which is working to stop the spread of the AIDS/HIV pandemic. Based in Boston, Mass., his work has him traveling to Nigeria often, and his office is responsible for implementing several initiatives. His responsibilities include organizing, managing, budgeting and hosting a number of in-country workshops/symposia and short courses both in Nigeria and in Boston. His office is also in charge of communications, including print and electronic materials. A devout Muslim, Hosseini and his wife, Michelle, reside in the Boston area.

## St. Dominic Award Sister Rosalie Esquerro, OP '65

As a child, Sister Rosalie Esquerro, OP, learned from her parents “to be in love with those most in need.” That love has been evident in her life, especially when she co-founded the nonprofit organization Life Directions in 1973. The mission of the Detroit-based group is to motivate at-risk young adults, especially the poor, to become mature, responsible and productive adults. Life Directions helps young adults discover their values, culture and faith and inspires them through the value of forgiving. The program's outreach is now nationwide, with other organizations in places like New Orleans, La., St. Louis, Mo., and Tucson, Ariz. Recently, Sister Rosalie was promoted to CEO of all Life Directions in the U.S. It is estimated that more than 130,000 young adults age 18-35 have been helped since the organization's inception. She has also used her bilingual skills in English and Spanish to work in the Hispanic community. She was the coordinator of a Title VII project that advocated bilingual education for children in the Detroit area. Sister Rosalie also has mentored numerous children and conducted many workshops in Spanish on communications skills, assertiveness, conflict management and cultural awareness. She has been a member of the Hispanic Leadership Association since 1991. Receiving a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Siena Heights, Sister Rosalie has been a member of the Adrian Dominican Sisters since 1955.

## Outstanding Alumni Award Iqbal Roshd '83

When Iqbal Roshd was searching for a school while living in Montreal, Canada, he contacted more than 30 colleges and universities in the United States. He knew he wanted to attend school in the U.S., and Siena Heights' close proximity to Montreal was a strong selling point. A member of Student Senate, his engaging personality made him a favorite on the SHU campus. After graduating, Roshd was searching for a meaningful career path. Bill Blackerby, one of his SHU teachers and advisers, told him he should use his people skills in the business world. “Iggy,” as his friends call him, followed that advice, joining Wendy's Restaurant of Canada as a management trainee. After completing training, Roshd served as assistant manager of a Wendy's in Georgetown, Ontario. Roshd soon shot up the corporate ladder, earning a promotion as general manager of two of Wendy's largest restaurants in Canada. From there, he was soon overseeing the operations of several restaurants along Highway 401 from Montreal to Toronto. However, he still had dreams of opening his own business. On Dec. 19, 1995, he was awarded his own Tim Horton's franchise, and has since opened eight more restaurants and has plans for a ninth. A native of Bangladesh and a devout Muslim, he and his wife, Tanzila, have two children.

## Sister Ann Joachim Award Sister Mary Ann Flannery, SC '64

Sister Mary Ann Flannery, SC, was one of four Sisters from a young, struggling Vincentian Sisters of Charity community who took advantage of the Dominican Order's offer of a free education at Siena Heights University. After graduating from SHU with a major in English and minors in Latin and history, Sister Mary Ann went back to teach at her order's high school in Cleveland, Ohio. She rose to the office of General Superior of the congregation. As General Superior, she encouraged Sisters to minister in Appalachia, where illiteracy was the highest in the nation. Because of that encouragement, the Sister Marjorie Learning Center was established to help educate children and adults. The center puts a special focus on helping adults earn their high school equivalency diplomas. Sister Mary Ann also initiated a volunteer health care group made up of health care professionals and pastoral people who minister to the terminally ill and their families. The St. Joseph Ministry to the Terminally Ill, which recently celebrated its 25th anniversary, is the forerunner of today's hospice systems that did not exist in the area at the time. Sister Mary Ann also encouraged major changes in her congregation, and volunteered as a member of the Interreligious Task Force on Central America, working to help relocate undocumented immigrants during the 1980s. She is currently serving as an associate professor of Communications and chairs the Department of Communications at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Alumni Weekend '06—September 29–October 1

You Can Come Home Again!

# SHU & YOU

FAMILY TIES

### Who made Siena Heights “home” for you?

Was it classmates? Roommates? Teammates? Professors?  
Was it singers, Spanish majors, or fellow public safety officers?

However you define your Siena family, gather the clan for Alumni Weekend '06. **You CAN come home again!**

### Special-Interest “Family” Reunions:

- Madrigal Singers Reunion – sing for your supper once more!
- Spanish Program Reunion – calling all majors, minors and Mexico program alumni.
- Public Safety Alumni—attention all former student safety officers.

### “All in the Family” Siena Heights Reunion:

How many SHU diplomas hang on your family tree?! Gather your Siena sisters and mothers and brothers and cousins!  
Which extended family can claim the MOST Siena Heights graduates? Make your family reunion part of ours: we'll treat you right!

### Graduation Year Reunions:

- 50th Reunion Class of 1956
- 40th Reunion Class of 1966
- 25th Reunion Class of 1981
- All other classes ending in “6” or “1.” (Contact the alumni office to organize your year.)

### Athletic Reunions:

Alumni Baseball, Soccer and Volleyball Games.  
Athletic Hall of Fame: friends and teammates of honorees Steve Chappell '88, Robyn Humes '96, Ayana Nash '95, Anthony Staffney '99, the late Brett Steele '87—and the 1993-94 men's basketball team.

All this and more: Savvy Seminars, Alumni Liturgy, Septemberfest, Sunday Prayer Brunch.  
Activities for family of all ages! Join us!

### Mark your calendar today. Celebrate your SHU family ties!

For further information, contact the Alumni Office at:  
(517) 264-7143 or [alumni@sienahts.edu](mailto:alumni@sienahts.edu).

# stay in touch

**EMAIL:** [alumni@sienahts.edu](mailto:alumni@sienahts.edu)

**PHONE:** (517) 264-7143  
(800) 693-0506

**FAX:** (517) 264-7704

**MAIL:** 1247 E. Siena Heights Dr.  
Adrian, MI 49221

Note: We gladly publish wedding and birth announcements; but we do not announce engagements or pregnancies.

The Class Notes section is compiled from news clippings as well as your notes, letters, emails and phone calls. We welcome updates from graduates of all SHU locations. Information received after March 15 will appear in the next issue of Reflections.

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

SHU Campus Attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title/Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is spouse a Siena graduate?  Yes  No Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Note: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# class notes

## From The Sites

### SHU@KCC—Battle Creek

**Kassie Hamaker '02** married Justin Murphy Sept. 25, 2004. After a honeymoon in Saint Martin, they settled in Marshall where Kassie owns and operates Happy Trails Training Center and Pet Resort. Justin owns and operates Just In Time Snow and Lawn.

**Nola Baker '04** writes from Coldwater: "Since graduation in 2004, the job market for me (and many others, I'm sure) has not been good. However, I am trying to make the best of it. I am working part-time at our local library and I am also a Teahaus consultant. Teahaus is a company based in Boston that went nationwide this past spring. I am the first consultant in Michigan. I conduct tea parties and sell loose leaf teas and teaware. I enjoy tea so this is very interesting and fun. I am looking forward to completing my master's in library science, as my goal is to be a library director or a children's library director within the next five years. I am enjoying my two grandchildren, Madison (2 ½) and Zachary (6 months)."

**Hadijah Miller '05** married Thomas Auble July 16, 2005. Hadijah currently works at Maple Lawn Medical Care Facility.

### SHU@LMC—Benton Harbor

**Trina Foster Ramos '95** of Niles is a parole and probation agent for the Michigan Department of Corrections, working out of the Cass County Courthouse in Cassopolis.

**Janeen Ross Zerbe '96** and her husband, Mark, announce the arrival of their son, Ross, on June 28, 2005. The Zerbes live in St. Joseph.

**Midge Lewis '97** of South Haven is a weaver, fiber artist, and enthusiastic traveler who enjoys sharing her art and experiences with others. This past fall, she spoke at Fernwood Botanical Gardens about a recent three-week trip to remote areas of eastern Turkey, introducing her southwest Michigan audience to traditional Turkish handcrafts and weaving. Midge is a member of the Niles Handweavers Guild, Michigan League of Handweavers, Handweavers Guild of America, and the Surface Design Association.

**Ricky Hill '00** ran for a seat on the Benton Harbor City Commission this past fall. Having served on the Commission from 1991 to 2003, he has experience as chair of the Planning and Economic Development Committee. In addition, he has served on the Benton Harbor Housing Commission board since 1985.

**Rebecca Lightner '01** of Hartford is working as city clerk for Bangor. Since graduating from Siena Heights, she also has earned a master's degree in educational leadership from Western Michigan University.

**Nadine Fish '03** lives in St. Joseph and works as a realtor with Coldwell Banker in Stevensville.



Deborah Carter, Dean of the College for Professional Studies, and Jeremy Frew, Director of the Siena Heights University program located on the Lansing Community College, congratulate Kurt Thom (middle) who is this year's recipient of the CAHEN 2006 Outstanding Adult Learner Award. Kurt was nominated by Instructor Bill Motz for his leadership and community involvement. CAHEN (Capitol Area Higher Education Network) represents eleven colleges and universities in the Lansing area. Each school nominated an outstanding learner and awards were presented at an event held at Thomas M. Cooley Law School on April 19, 2006.

### SHU@JCC—Jackson

**Jason Golightly '03** of Jackson is a supervisor at Michigan Seat and co-owner of Rookies Sports Bar and Grill.

### SHU@LCC—Lansing

**Lisa Clark '05** married Joshua Horwath May 14, 2005. They are living in Dimondale.

### SHU@MCCC—Monroe

**Jeremy Langton '03** and **Lorryn Reilly '05** were married Sept. 9, 2005.

**Alan Brown '04** of Monroe is a CAD designer for the Monroe County Road Commission and is pursuing a master's degree in engineering technology at Wayne State University.

**Joanna Duford '04** married Michael Renders II May 28, 2005. They honeymooned in Aruba and are living in Monroe.

**Shawn Satterfield '04** married Todd Allen July 2, 2005. Shawn is maintenance project coordinator for the Monroe County Road Commission, where Todd also works in the sign and signal department.

**Rebecca Dennison '05** married Daniel Woolwine Oct. 30, 2005.

**Sara Everett '05** is a branch manager for Fifth Third Bank in Monroe.

### SHU@SC4—Port Huron

**Gail Innis '04** of Deckerville is an educator with Sanilac County MSU Extension. She supervises family and consumer services programs, bringing education to Sanilac County residents on issues ranging from nutrition, budgeting and organizational skills to parenting, canning and food safety. She also is co-chair of the statewide Zero to Five Advocacy Network and a columnist for the Sanilac County News. Gail and her husband have three children and one grandchild.

**Margaret Coucke '05** of Allenton is a radiologic technologist. She reports: "Following graduation, I was promoted to supervisor of outpatient medical imaging services at Port Huron Hospital. My family that gave so much to help me get through the program at Siena will now enjoy the fruits of our labors. Siena was everything I could have asked for. The instructors were fantastic." Margaret and her husband have two sons and two daughters.

## Stay In Touch!

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Send your news by email to [alumni@sienahts.edu](mailto:alumni@sienahts.edu). Or if you prefer snail mail, fill out the form on the previous page and send it to: Siena Heights Alumni Office, 1247 E. Siena Heights Dr., Adrian, MI 49221. Or pick up the phone and call anytime: (517) 264-7143 or (800) 693-0506.

**SHU@WCC—Ann Arbor**

**Debra Ault '05** of Dundee, a member of the first Siena Heights cohort to graduate from the partially online degree completion program headquartered at Washtenaw Community College, reports that "I finally got my promotion! My title is Foreman 1 for the Electrical Technical Department (at University of Michigan). I'm excited for the challenges that I will face and know that through the critical thinking and time management skills I have developed through the Siena Heights Online Program, I will do well. Having my bachelor's degree helped me to fill all the requirements for this new position." Degree in hand, Deb is, she says, "taking charge."

**Metro Detroit Program—Southfield**

**Rosalind Watson '88** of Holly is the new director of care management for CAPE Health Plan, serving about 86,000 people, primarily beneficiaries of Medicaid and MICHild health insurance. In the position, Rosalind, a registered nurse, is responsible for case management, discharge planning, and use management. Previously, she was director of quality management, credentialing and care management at the Wellness Plan.

**Susan Durst '90** recently was promoted to vice president of nursing services at Mount Clemens General Hospital. Susan has worked at the hospital since 1972, first as a nurse, then as: clinical manager of the emergency center, coordinator of ambulatory services, and director of the emergency center and critical care services, and, since 2004, director of health, education and wellness. She is a longtime resident of Richmond.



**Michael Lauhoff '97** (left) has been elected a senior associate/stockholder with Albert Kahn Associates, Inc., a leading planning, design and management firm of the built environment. With more than 28 years' management experience, Michael is director of facilities management for Kahn Global Services, Inc., working on behalf of building owners. He handles planning, construction, operations and maintenance for all client-owned facilities including the historic Albert Kahn Building. He lives in Macomb with his wife, Darlene.

**Vincent Galati '02** married Heidi Dobberstein Oct. 1, 2005. They are living in Maybee. Vincent is an engineering technologist with Ford Motor Company. Heidi is an accountant.

**Ivy Hunter '04** opened a 2,200-square-foot fine art gallery in Royal Oak last spring. Called Art of the Diaspora, the gallery features artists of all styles and ethnicities and geographic regions. Ivy and her husband, Lindsey, an NBA player with the Detroit Pistons, have four children and three dogs.



Rita Geiger Schwing '52 and her husband Fred celebrate 50 years of "a wonderful life" together.

**Main Campus**

**1940s**

**Jean Robinson Bechtel '44** and her husband, Ken, of Casa Grande, AZ, celebrated their 60th anniversary this past December. The years since their 1945 Christmas Day wedding took them from coast to coast. Ken worked as a newspaper editor in Pittsburgh, Cleveland, San Francisco and Seattle, while Jean worked as director of dietetics at several major hospitals. According to an interview in the Casa Grande Dispatch, a highlight of Jean's career was meeting actor John Wayne in 1960 while working at the renowned Scripps Clinic in La Jolla, CA. She administered "The Duke's" diet during his stay, prompting a handshake and his profuse thanks for aiding his recovery. Today, Jean's interests include portrait painting. The Bechtels have five children, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

**Doris Barga Rindler '45** and her husband, Paul, live in Dayton, Ohio, in "a big, older home open to many: seven children, 16 grandchildren and many friends." Doris, a watercolorist, enjoys painting and attending daily mass.

**Rosemarie Van d'Elden Birman '47** reports that she and husband Paul arrived at their winter abode in Ft. Lauderdale just days before Hurricane Wilma—and they spent a good while cleaning up in Wilma's aftermath. "Our apartment building was luckier than most." The Birmans are looking forward to a spring 2006 cruise in the South Pacific with stops in Tahiti and Bora Bora among other ports.

**Rosemary Dorr '48** reports the sad loss of her brother, Fr. Richard Dorr, in September. He was a Senior Priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit and had recently celebrated his 50th anniversary as a Roman Catholic priest. A Navy veteran of WWII, Fr. Richard was interred with full military honors. For the past several years, he had lived with Rosemary and her sister, Germaine, in their Clinton Twp. home.

**Lois Hueneman Chazaud '49** and her husband, Jacques, of South Portland, Maine, marked 50 years of marriage this past November. The anniversary celebration included mass and a renewal of vows, and a part with their four children and many close friends.

Lois Hueneman Chazaud '49 and husband Jacques celebrated 50 years of marriage.



**1950s**

**Liz Geyer '52** of Long Island, NY, the acknowledged chronicler of the Class of '52, wrote in September reporting on the 50th anniversary celebrations of two classmates who "walked the long aisle" back in 1955. **Gloria Aaron Diana '52** and her husband, Vincent, tied the knot in Chicago and settled in Manchester, Conn., to raise seven children, all now married and parents of Gloria's 18 grandchildren. **Rita Geiger Schwing '52** and her husband, Fred, said "I do" in Trenton, New Jersey, and eventually settled on oceanfront property in Long Beach Island, N.J., where they still live. The Schwings, who also are parents of seven (grandparents of 13), spend winters on Long Boat Key in Florida. "Both couples had wonderful parties to celebrate the milestone anniversary", Liz reports.

Gloria Aaron Diana '52 and husband Vincent at their 50th wedding anniversary celebration.



**Maria Goretti Browne, OP '55** lives in Grayson, Kentucky, and writes, "For the past six years I have worked with the Glenmary Home Mission Society, ministering where Catholics are the minority, in rural areas where people are poor and 'unclaimed' by any church."

**Margaret DeLoach '55** of Midland is "retired from working at my parish, Saint Brigid Church, in the liturgy department—but I keep up my voluntary activities, presiding and preaching at morning, midday and evening prayer, or at funeral vigils, as my turn occurs, along with writing the prayers of the faithful, and seeing those who come to me for spiritual direction. In addition, I write a column once every two months for *The Catholic Weekly*, our diocesan paper."



**Bernadette Pelland '55, '79/MA** (left) recently completed what she says will be her last semester teaching. Since retiring from full time administration, teaching and counseling at Siena Heights in 1996, Bernie has taught as an adjunct at Siena's off-campus centers. She lives in Ann Arbor and enjoys traveling, reading, gardening, physical activities and the arts.

**1956: Don't miss your 50th Reunion!** This is a once-in-a-lifetime celebration so plan to be here for Alumni Weekend, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2006.

**1960s**

**1961: 45th Reunion.** Want to help make it happen? Mark your calendar (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) and contact the alumni office.

**Angie O'Neill Bidlack '64** recently bicycled 400 miles from her Pennsylvania home to Michigan, for her 45th high school reunion in Lansing. The trip took five days. Daily temperatures rose as high as 96 degrees, but Angie still managed to ride anywhere from 68 to 92 miles each day. Her husband made the trip behind the wheel of a van. After the trip and back at work as a stockbroker, Angie reflected that "cycling to the 45th reunion at Siena Heights in 2009 would be a grand idea." All this energy isn't just for fun, though. "The three issues of aging are strength, flexibility and balance," she said. "It's critically important to be active to stay healthy. You don't have to do what I did, but just do something regularly."

**Mary Ann Flannery, CS '64** is the 2006 recipient of the Sister Ann Joachim Award from Siena Heights. (See story elsewhere in *Reflections*.)

**Rosalie Esquerra, OP '65** is the 2006 recipient of the St. Dominic Award from Siena Heights. (See story elsewhere in *Reflections*.)

**1966: 40th Reunion.** Mary Jo Miller LePage '66 is already working to build enthusiasm. Want to help? Mark your calendar (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) and contact the alumni office.

**Sandra Kotulis '67** is a professor at the Wayne County Community College District Downriver Campus in Taylor, where she lives.

Below: Alumni Board VP Deb Keller '74 (standing, left) and Student Senate President Ricardo Valdez (standing, center) visit with several Siena College for Professional Studies students at the "SHU and You" campus event in October.



**Eileen Quinn Knight '69**, professor of education at St. Xavier University in Chicago, has been involved in an innovative educational effort with an apprenticeship charter school that links academics and the trades. The ACE (architecture, construction & engineering) Technical Charter High School came about through a collaboration among St. Xavier, the Chicago Public Schools, trade unions and business corporations. Distinctive elements of the ACE school program include weekly sessions with trade professionals who first discuss the nature of their work and then complete a project with the students, such as electricians teaching the students how to create serial and parallel circuits. Such sessions are intended to provide information early enough that high schoolers can make informed choices about their own futures, Eileen reported. With her son, Patrick, a doctoral candidate, Eileen traveled to Belfast, Northern Ireland, last June to speak about the ACE project at the 23rd International Conference for Innovation in Higher Education. "Other countries are having similar problems with education," Eileen noted. "What worked in the past no longer works in a global society. Other countries are hungry to hear our story and the structures we use to make sure the students and the school are successful."

**1970s**

**1971: 35th Reunion.** Mary Phillips '71 is working to make it a memorable reunion. You can help. Mark your calendar (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) and contact the alumni office.

**Elizabeth Linn '71** is an associate professor of art at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. As a fine arts photographer, she has exhibited from Paris to New York and throughout the U.S. She is represented in numerous collections such as the San Diego Museum of Art, the Toledo Museum of Art Print Collection, the Maine Photographic Workshop Gallery, and the Visual Studies Workshop Press in Rochester, N.Y.

**Mary Jo Potter '71** (right) of Walnut Creek, Calif., recently began a three-year term on the Board of Directors of CHRISTUS Health, one of the 10 largest Catholic health care systems in the U.S. Mary Jo, a nationally recognized compliance and governance expert, is the Managing Partner and CEO of Higherlink, an international human capital management consulting firm. Mary Jo also serves on the boards of Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) and Hope Unlimited International in Brazil, and is a trustee of SHU.



**Kathy Forner '73** of Duncanville, Texas, will be a proud parent at this year's Siena Heights Commencement when son Andrew receives his SHU bachelor's degree. Andrew plans to follow in Mom's footsteps by becoming an elementary school teacher.

**Max Holly '74** has a new CD out. "Love Letters" is available online at cdbaby.com where you can listen to 30-second clips of each song before purchasing. The CD also is available for download at I-tunes and other internet music sites. For further information, visit the maxholly.com website. Off-line, Max lives in Whitmore Lake.

**Kathleen Morse '74, '75/MA** lives in Las Vegas.

**John '75 and Penny Clark Eshleman '75** are high school teachers in Novi. As advisor to the Student Council, Penny is in charge of the homecoming which, again this year, conflicted with Siena's Alumni Weekend. In addition to his teaching duties, John advises the Model United Nations, which also happens the same weekend. "We sure would have loved to come," Penny wrote. "We missed the reunion again."

**1976: 30th Reunion.** Make it something special. Mark your calendar (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) and contact the alumni office to see how you can help.

**Christine Appel Clauson '77** lives in Warren.

1980s

**Alejandro Salazar '80** lives in Chicago.

**1981: 25th Reunion!** Can you believe it's been 25 years? Come for Alumni Weekend and see how much everyone else has changed! Mark your calendar (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) and contact the alumni office to help.

**Ben Braun '81/MA** was inducted into the Eastern Michigan University Athletic Hall of Fame this past November. The Eagles' winningest basketball coach, Ben led EMU to three NCAA tournament berths during his 11-year tenure. Before going to Eastern, he compiled a 148-103 record at Siena Heights as the first men's basketball coach (1977-85). He was inducted into the SHU Hall of Fame in 1999 as part of the inaugural class.

**Geraldine Boykin '81** of Adrian published an audio CD this past fall, telling the story of her experience living through the tragic 1998 drownings of her 2-year-old son and 17-month-old grandson. Titled "Healing," the CD "is about the incident, how it happened, and how, by the grace of God, I'm still here," Geraldine said. She recorded the disc in Ann Arbor and will use proceeds from the project to start a memorial fund for the boys. She previously published a book of inspirational poems titled "The Promises of God."

**Lynn Charland Slezak '81** lives in Palatine, Illinois.

**Tim Savona '81** is vice president of operations at the Indianapolis Zoological Society, Inc. He lives in the nearby town of Fishers with his wife, Pam, and their two children. Tim recently started a master's degree program at the University of Indianapolis.

**Iqbal Roshd '83** is the 2006 recipient of the SHU Alumni Association's Outstanding Alumni Award. (See story elsewhere in *Reflections*.)

**Reggie Moore '83** (left) of Adrian was inducted into Siena's Athletic Hall of Fame as part of Alumni Weekend activities last fall. He was one of the first outstanding players on the Saints' men's basketball team and was the all-time leader in assists and rebounds at the end of his four-year career. A logistics manager for Delphi, he also is co-director of the Lenawee Magic Basketball Club.

**Ken Kops '84** was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army on Dec. 30, 2005. (See story elsewhere in *Reflections*.)

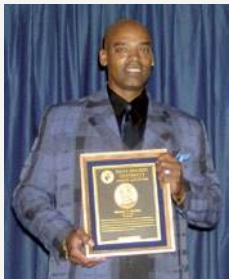
**John Detro '85** earned his 2nd and 3rd purple hearts in Iraq last summer as a Ranger with the U.S. Army. (See story elsewhere in *Reflections*.)

**Patricia Kaufman '85** is the new president of Baker College in Jackson. She is a 12-year veteran of Baker College in Clinton Township, the second largest campus of the Baker College System; there, she served first as dean of general education, then as vice president of academics. After graduating from Siena Heights, Patricia earned a master's degree in sociology from the University of Toledo and a doctorate in education leadership and policy studies from Wayne State University.

**Gregg Milligan '85** of Canton reports with pride that his son, Gregg Jr., is a freshman at Siena Heights! Dad works as associate vice president at H&R Block in Detroit.

**1986: 20th Reunion.** Mark your calendar (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) and contact the alumni office if you want to help rally the troops for Alumni Weekend.

**Ted Spiegler '86** reports from Columbia, Maryland, the he recently finished production of 20th Century Fox's "The Devil Wears Prada," filmed in New York City starring Meryl Streep. Ted works as a grip.



**Valeri Garland '86** lives in Watervliet and is a case worker for the Van Buren County Department of Social Services.

**Linda Emerson '87** is working as director of emergency services and the food program at the Monroe County Opportunity Program. MCOP aims to enhance the quality of life and reduce the effects of poverty for eligible Monroe residents. Previously, she was director of Prevention First, a substance abuse prevention program for the Lenawee Intermediate School District.

**Mary Hellner '88** writes from Chelsea that "time really does fly especially when having fun raising two lovely daughters!" Her Hannah is an active 5th grader at the same school Mary attended. Sophie, in 2nd grade, has a contagious laugh and "true sweetness."

**Tamera Clawson Bates '89** (right), a softball stand-out for Siena Heights who was named Most Valuable Player in three of her four seasons with the Saints, was inducted into the SHU Athletic Hall of Fame Sept. 30, 2005 as part of Alumni Weekend. Tammy remains active in athletics as a softball and basketball coach at the high school and junior high school levels in Jackson. She serves as a deputy court administrator for the 12th District Judicial court and lives in Albion.

**Rebecca King Roehm '89** closed her home child-care business a year ago after eight successful years and now works with Mitsubishi Motors R&D of America, Inc., in Ann Arbor as an administrative assistant—a position that gives her summers off to spend with her children, Adam (9) and Mary (8). Rebecca, husband Charles and the children live in Saline.

**Rick Hilderley '89** lives in Tecumseh where he previously was an elementary principal and now serves as principal of Tecumseh Middle School. He and his wife, Amy, have three daughters.

**Mary Kloeckner Halley '89** reports that her family has ventured into the food and retail business. This past fall, her husband, Sid, purchased "Oakley," a store and deli in Hillsdale where they live. "Sid is now the owner and operator and is adjusting well. He is still working with area high school teams until the hospital can find a full replacement. Our daughter, Maggie, loves the deli and is convinced that she is the boss."

**Julie Warner '89** married Timothy Bock July 2, 2005. Julie works at Wacker Chemical Corp. and Timothy works for the City of Tecumseh. They live in Tipton.

Above: Metro Detroit alumnus Montez McDonald '01 and friends show off his award winning Studebaker at Alumni Weekend.



**1990s**

**1991: 15th Reunion.** Mark your calendar (Sept. 29-Oct. 1). Come back and see who else you find on campus!

**Anthony Racka '92** wrote recently: "After 11 years at Ford Motor Company I have switched careers and now teach business administration at Oakland Community College. I'm also an assistant coach for the men's basketball team at OCC. Last April, Michele and I had a baby boy, Anthony Mitchell."

**Colleen Bairl '94** of Minneapolis, Minn., was inducted into the Siena Heights Athletic Hall of Fame during Alumni Weekend '05 in recognition of her accomplishments on the soccer field. An athlete who "rewrote the Siena Heights women's soccer scoring records during her four-year career," she was named WHAC Conference Player of the Year in her final season and participated in the Umbro Select Senior Classic national all-star game. At her induction, she ranked second all-time in goals and third all-time in points.

**Jacob Bialik '94** of Manistee was inducted into Siena's Athletic Hall of Fame during Alumni Weekend '05. The first outstanding golfer to play at Siena, he was the named to All-Conference and All-District teams in all four years of competition. After graduation, he continued to excel as an amateur golfer, competing in both the Michigan Open and Michigan Amateur finals. Now a plant manager for Morton Salt, Jacob remains active in athletics, coaching soccer, basketball and baseball and serving on the Manistee/Mason County YMCA Board of Directors.

**Melissa Bologna Garno '94** moved recently from Wilmington, N.C. to the Big Apple. She wrote from her New York home: "I am the proud co-creator and director of development for EMPYRE Productions, LLC, a multi-media production company. During my time in Wilmington, I starred in several productions regionally including "Into the Woods," "Bat Boy The Musical," "Carousel" and the world premiere of "The Toy Maker," written and composed by my dear friend and business partner, Bryan Putnam. I also produced several projects including two new musicals and several musical benefits for local charities—some of my most exciting accomplishments to date." Melissa relocated to NYC in September '05 and already has starred in a show, produced a reading off-Broadway and studied with Tony Award winner Victoria Clark; and is now developing a musical benefit to aid New York's homeless. She adds, "You never know where your choices may lead, but if you follow what is truly in your heart, your dreams are always attainable."

**Elise Wilson '94** has returned to New England after first receiving her MFA from Savannah (GA) College of Art and Design and then working as a graphic designer and art teacher in the Midwest. Now living in her native Malden, Mass., Elise is one of several women artists-in-residence in the Soho Art Center, which they are developing as an artists community center in Malden Square. According to the Malden Observer, Elise is "a proud descendent of Irish heritage" who is currently painting rural landscapes, many of the Irish countryside.

**1996: 10th Reunion.** It's about time you came back to campus! Mark your calendar (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) and see who else shows up.

**Sheila Landerschier Daniels '96** (left) of Macomb was inducted into the SHU Athletic Hall of Fame during last fall's Alumni Weekend. A stand-out on the basketball court, Sheila remains the Saints' all-time leading scorer and career leader in steals, and ranks fourth all-time in both rebounds and steals. She received NAIA Honorable Mention All-American honors as a senior at Siena.



Jacob Bialik '94 (right) and teammate Mark Merriman at Siena's Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony during Alumni Weekend '05.



**Syed-Jalal Hosseini '96** is the 2006 recipient of the Recent Graduate Award from the Siena Heights Alumni Association. (See story elsewhere in Reflections.)

**Amy Brinton Trosino '96** of Medina, Ohio, exhibited her work in the Croswell Opera House Gallery in Adrian for the month of September. Amy works and teaches children's and adult art classes in her own Artventure Studio in Medina. She also teaches as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Akron.

**Sally Pinchock '96/MA** has moved from Tecumseh to Plymouth.

**Brett '97** and **Heather Huffman Burns '97** welcomed the birth of a second daughter, Cylie Rose, on March 21, 2005. Cylie joined older sister Cassidy Reed at home in Rockford. Brett teaches middle school and Heather teaches kindergarten. Heather has completed her master's degree in reading; Brett will finish his in education technology sometime this spring.

**Stephanie Grace Pilon '98** is living in Irving, Texas.

**Corey Burgermeister '99** married Laura Ziemke July 23, 2005; they are living in Temperance. Corey and Laura both teach in the Bedford Public Schools. Corey also is working on a master's degree from Spring Arbor College.

**Darcey McFalls '99** lives in Raleigh, N.C., and writes: "I decided to leave the snow and freezing rain and trade it in for year-round sunshine. I have been in Raleigh for a year-and-a-half and love it. In a change of events, I left the hospitality industry and began anew as a buyer for Stock Building Supply. I guess what they say is true: 'You never end up doing what you got a degree in!'"

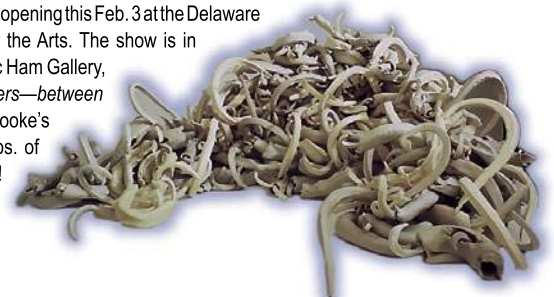
**Josette McWilliams-Richardson '99, '04/MA** is teaching fifth grade in Tecumseh Middle School. She and her husband, Thomas, are the parents of McKenna and Brynn.

**Jessica Spiegel '99** married Michael Cory July 23, 2005. Jessica teaches in Dundee; Michael is a technician for Tec-Option. The Corys live in Blissfield.

**2000s**

**Heather Simpson Cattivera '00** wrote with this update: "After graduation, I found a teaching job in my hometown, Center Line. I taught a first, second, third grade multi-age classroom for two years and then for the next three years, I taught a first/second looping classroom. I absolutely loved the little ones and watching children learn to read was an amazing experience for me. I got married in 2002 to a wonderful man. Tony was/is the best friend of my sister's husband so we are one close family. His father owns a construction company which he helps run, building and renovating commercial buildings. Last April, we were blessed with a little boy, Dominic Anthony. Upon his arrival, I decided to take a year off teaching and enjoy every moment—it has been the best time of our lives. Not too long ago, a bunch of us met at Siena to catch up—the fieldhouse looks amazing and we were all excited to see the new residential building going up!"

**Brooke Hine '00** wrote this winter from Philadelphia: "I'm shouting out about my opening this Feb. 3 at the Delaware Contemporary Center for the Arts. The show is in the Carol Bieber and Marc Ham Gallery, and it's called *Crossovers—between art, craft, and design.*" Brooke's piece (to right) is 1600 lbs. of handmade porcelain clay!



**Karla Pennington Stanton '00** is working in the insurance business as a financial associate with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. She and Kris Stanton '02 live in Manitou Beach with their daughter, Jenna. Kris keeps busy teaching, coaching in Hillsdale, and pursuing graduate study.

**Dan '00** and **Amber Karl Pena '04** are living in South Bend, Indiana. Dan and Amber were married June 5, 2004, in Lumen Chapel. A year later, they moved to South Bend where Dan works as general manager at Garfield's Restaurant. Amber is working at the University of Notre Dame as a manager in the Catering by Design office. "I will have all of the athletic teams as my clients!" she wrote, while getting ready for football season.

**2001: 5th Reunion.** Mark your calendar (Sept. 29-Oct. 1), call a few friends and plan a road trip to the Heights.

**Shawn Langton '02** married Renee Elliott June 3, 2005. After a honeymoon in Maui, they settled in Monroe. Shawn is a wholesale account executive with Citi Financial Mortgage; Renee works for the Monroe County Intermediate School District.

**Jill Connaughton '02** has nearly completed her master's program at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, and hopes to continue for a Ph.D.

**Sam Skeels '02** is coaching men's soccer for Adrian College. When the Bulldogs met the Saints last fall, Sam—Siena's career leader in goals scored and a three-time NAIA All-American with the soccer Saints—was really hoping for a victory! "It was like a little brother trying to beat a big brother," Sam told the Daily Telegram, before adding, "It just didn't happen. Siena was the better team."

**Jennifer Brautigam '03** has been living in New York City for two years and working in property management. "I am the operations coordinator for The Trump Corporation; we manage the NY Trump Properties, mostly condominiums."

**Dawn Edwards '03** is teaching art in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, where she lives with her sons, Justin and Normal. She recently earned a master's in education from the University of Phoenix.

**Rebecca Dore '03** of Decker is an administrative assistant at Walbro Engine Management in Cass City.

**Lori Shearer Kosarue '03** lives in Adrian with her husband, Adam, and their daughter, Caleigh. Lori is a financial aid specialist at Siena Heights!

**AimieJo Kirk '04** of Horton is substitute teaching for the Jackson County Intermediate School District.

**Heather Schneider '04** married Mark McCutcheon May 22, 2004. Heather has been working at Napoleon Lumber Company, Mark at Cowhy-Hayes.

**Tony Butler '05** is dedicating a year of service with the Dominican Volunteers USA. He is working with the Visitation Scholarship Program at Visitation School in Chicago.

**Michael Lane '05** is living in Flint and keeping busy with a variety of theater activities. He starred in the Flint Youth Theater production of "Robin Hood (The Somewhat True Tale)" last summer; and in the fall directed "The Guys" for the Lake Fenton Community Schools Foundation's first performing arts series. "The Guys" is a play set in New York shortly after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Mike is also teaching theater and writing.



**Kermit Williams '05** of Pontiac ran for City Council this fall representing the city's District 7. Among his hopes for Pontiac: clean up blight, help youth become productive, link seniors to the community, and maintain careful budget oversight. "My top priority," he told the Oakland Press, is "to ensure that the decisions we make are not only for today but for the future." Kermit works as an account marketing executive for a high-tech firm.

## Deaths

**Elma Beaupre Claycomb '35** of Grosse Pointe died Jan. 26, 2006, at the age of 94. One of nine children, she attended Siena Heights when it was still St. Joseph College. She graduated with a double major in biology and chemistry plus minors in English and mathematics. She is survived by two daughters, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Noreen McKeough, OP '36** (formerly Sister Mary Paul) died Oct. 1, 2005, at the Dominican Life Center in Adrian. She was 91. She earned master's and doctoral degrees in language and literature from the National University of Ireland. She ministered in education for 35 years in the Midwest and Florida, including serving as president of St. Dominic's College in Illinois from 1963 to 1966. In addition, she had served on the Adrian Dominican Sisters' General Council and worked as field supervisor for the Senior Companions Program in Las Vegas, director of volunteers for St. Rose Dominican Hospital in Henderson, coordinator of the Penafort Program in Chicago and volunteer in the Congregation's Office of Information.

**Helen Pahl, OP '38** (formerly Sister Alberta Marie) died June 16, 2005, in Adrian. She was 98. Her English degree from Siena Heights aided her in the 43 years she ministered in education in New Mexico, Michigan, Ohio and Illinois. Retiring in 1972 at St. Lucy Penafort in St. Clair Shores, she continued volunteering in the parish and community. She came to the Dominican Life Center in 1995. She was preceded in death by her sister, **Ann Therese Pahl, OP '38**.

**Magdalen Therese Peplin, OP '38** died July 24, 2005, at the Dominican Life Center at the age of 98. She spent 43 years in education, serving in several states with lengthy stays in California and in Michigan, where she served parishes in Munising, St. Joseph, New Baltimore and Newberry. She taught instrumental and choral music and was the organist at many schools. She also loved playing the harmonica and would teach any student interested in learning how to play.

**Marie Christine Fraley, OP '40** died at the Dominican Life Center in Adrian Jan. 10, 2006. She was 91. She spent 39 years ministering in education in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Florida. While in Adrian, she ministered the Weber Center and the Congregation Finance Office. Sister retired in 1990 and became a resident of the Dominican Life Center. Sister Marie Christine is survived by loving nieces and nephews.

**Eileen Marie Ryan, OP '40** died Jan. 7, 2006, in Adrian at age 99. Born in County Clare, Ireland, she graduated from St. Joseph Academy before coming to Siena Heights. She earned a master's degree from DePaul University in Chicago and worked in education for 64 years in Michigan, Florida, and Illinois, including serving as principal at two Chicago schools. She came to the Dominican Life Center in 1995. She is survived by two sisters, both Adrian Dominicans.

**Marie Martha Kennedy, OP '42** died at the Dominican Life Center on Oct. 11, 2005, at the age of 91. She earned a master's degree in education from DePaul University and a Master of Library Science from the University of Michigan. She worked in education for 61 years in Iowa, Illinois, Michigan and Florida, including 23 years as a librarian at Barry University.



**Imelda Patrice Marx, OP '43** died Sept. 15, 2005, at 88 years of age. She earned a master's degree in teaching mathematics at the University of Detroit and spent 26 years ministering in education in Michigan and Illinois. She also was a pastoral minister for 15 years in St. Joseph Parish, and worked in environmental services at St. John Seminary, in food service for the Adrian Dominican Motherhouse, and on the staff of St. Lucy Convent, all in Michigan. She was preceded in death by a cousin, **Marie Urban Schwartz, OP '48**.

**Josephine Lamantia, OP '44** (formerly Sister Philip Marie) died at the Dominican Life Center on Oct. 8, 2005, at the age of 92. She came to Siena Heights from St. Joseph Academy, and earned a master's in education degree from DePaul University after graduating from Siena. Her 55 years in education took her to Michigan, Illinois and Ohio and included service as principal at St. Matthew in Chicago from 1961 to 1964. She was a volunteer at St. Albert the Great Parish in Burbank, Ill, until moving to the Dominican Life Center. Survivors include her sister, **Mary LaMantia, OP '52**.

**Barbara Riley Behling '47** passed away June 3, 2005, at her home in Harbor Springs. Before retiring to their summer home, she and her husband had lived primarily in Albion and Hillsdale. Barbara was active in her church and several women's groups, and enjoyed golf, bridge, sewing, gardening and cooking. Survivors include her husband, Roland, two children, and a grandson.

**Clare Daniel Watson, OP '48** died May 29, 2005, at the age of 92. She graduated from St. Joseph Academy before enrolling at Siena Heights. Her 64 years of ministry included service in Michigan and Illinois before taking her to Florida where she was a principal in two parish schools before starting 24 years as pastoral minister and religious education teacher at St. Mark Parish in Ft. Pierce. She came to the Dominican Life Center in 1999.

**Honora McElroy '48** of Ann Arbor died Feb. 11, 2006.

**Julie Ann Burns, OP '49** passed away Sept. 5, 2005, at the Dominican Life Center. She was 85. She ministered in education for 50 years in Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Florida, Arizona, California, and South Carolina. In 1989, she retired in St. Clair Shores and came to Adrian in 1998. Survivors include her sister, **Mary Burns, OP '49**.

**Mary Murnane '50** died Dec. 11, 2005, in St. Clair Shores. Mary worked in education in the Detroit area for more than 30 years including service as principal at Benediction High, Sacred Heart, Queen of Martyrs and Queen of Heaven. She also was a teacher at Bishop Gallagher and St. Jude schools.

Word has been received of the death in January 2005 of **Ruth Wells Bach '51** of Eastpointe. She is survived by her husband, Richard.

**Celeste Beauregard, OP '51** died Sept. 6, 2005, at the age of 94. She ministered in education for 29 years in Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, and Florida. She also was a pastoral minister in New Baltimore and Southgate, Mich., for eight years. She retired in 1979 and volunteered in several Michigan parishes before moving to the Dominican Life Center in 1996.

**Eileen Hussey, OP '52** (formerly Sister Kevin Maureen) died June 16, 2005, at her home in Albuquerque, N.M. She was 80 years old. She earned master's degrees from Northwestern University (music education) and University of Detroit (religious studies) and spent 28 years in education in Illinois, Texas, and New Mexico. She also served in the Adrian Dominican Formation Program one year and was Chapter Prioress for the Southwest Mission Chapter from 1984 to 1990. In addition, she was a pastoral minister for 17 years.

**Marie Esther Ream '53** of Clayton died Jan. 24, 2006, at home at the age of 85. Marie was a teacher for 40 years in Rome Center, Fruit Ridge, Block, Cadmus, Clayton and Adrian; and was a member of the Lenawee County Retired Teachers Association.

**Veronica Tamm, OP '56** (formerly Sister Bernadette Ann) died Jan. 18, 2006, at the age of 74. She worked in education for 28 years in Illinois, Michigan and Arizona, then ministered at Bon Secours Hospital, the Detroit Archdiocesan archives, and the Adrian Dominicans Great Lakes Chapter Office. She came to the Dominican Life Center in 1983.

**Anne Russell, OP '57** (formerly Sister Anne Raphael) died in Adrian May 20, 2005, at the age of 71. She held two master's degrees and earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Jesuit School of Theology. Her ministry included 22 years in education serving in Michigan, California, and Arizona; and 19 years as campus ministry coordinator at the Campus Ministry Center in Hayward, Calif. In 2004, she came to the Dominican Life Center.

**Marvel Glasford, OP '57** (formerly Sister Donald Mary) died Dec. 20, 2005, at age 82. In 1943, before entering the Adrian Dominican Congregation, she was a WAVE in the United States Navy, decoding messages from Germany and Japan. She then spent 23 years ministering in education in Michigan, Illinois, Ohio and New Mexico. She also worked as Chaplain at Alpena Hospital and at St. Joseph Hospital in Mt. Clemens. She volunteered at St. John Hospital in Springfield, Ill., for five years before coming to the Dominican Life Center in 1995.

**Anna Marie Lorencz, OP '58** (formerly Sister Joan Kathleen) died in Adrian May 15, 2005, at the age of 76. She earned master's degrees at Providence College and Creighton University, and ministered in education for 30 years at locations throughout Michigan. She also was a diocesan consultant for Religious Education in Indiana for six years. In 2004, she became a resident of the Dominican Life Center.

**Susan Sory Baltz '59** of Adrian died Jan. 25, 2006, at her daughter's home. She was 68. Susan was a teacher for many years. In recent years, she enjoyed playing cards with friends and spending time with her son, daughter and eight grandchildren.

**Bridget Maier, OP '72** died April 24, 2005, in Adrian at the age of 60. She earned master's degrees from Marygrove College and Loyola University, and ministered in education for 25 years at nine different schools in Michigan. She came to the Dominican Life Center early in 2005. Survivors include three brothers and six sisters.

**Sharon Jones '73** of Blissfield died June 10, 2005. She was 69 years old. She attended Siena Heights while managing a 12-room farmhouse and six growing children. Her career focused primarily in human services. She served as nutrition director for the Title VII Nutrition Food Program for senior citizens in Lenawee County; and counseled disadvantaged youth for SER Jobs for Progress. She also worked for H.O.P.E. Recreation Center as an outreach worker for the homebound. When her children had grown, she offered non-traditional personal spiritual growth classes in her home. Sharon is survived by her six children, 14 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Word was received recently of the death in 1987 of **Richard Sebring '77/MA** of Hillsdale. His widow, Maxine, survives.

**Adeline Elizabeth Zywiol '80** (Southfield) of Dearborn passed away April 13, 2005.

**Karyn A. Dege '81** (Southfield) died Feb. 24, 2005. She was 54 years of age. Survivors include her husband Robert, her mother and sister.





**Susie Clark '85** of Toledo died April 25, 2005.

**Margaret "Peggy" Plagens '86** (Southfield) of Riley Township died June 7, 2005, at the age of 59. She worked as a registered nurse anesthetist at Henry Ford Health Care Systems and was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Richmond. She enjoyed cooking, gardening and sewing. Survivors include her husband, three children, and two grandchildren.

**Robin Emerson Lippens** of Blissfield, a student at Siena Heights from 1982 to 1987, died Feb. 25, 2006, at the age of 41. She is survived by her husband, Jerry, a daughter, five stepchildren, her parents and extended family.

**Denise Keeley '88** of Adrian died of lung cancer Oct. 11, 2005, at the age of 75. A homemaker for more than 30 years who put her education on hold to support her husband and raise eight children, she enrolled at Siena Heights as a non-traditional student and an aspiring artist. She became an accomplished stone sculptor, using her art to explore the human experience and especially women's experience. Her sculpture also promoted awareness of AIDS and the power of faith. Denise was honored by the Siena Heights Alumni Association in 2001 as that year's recipient of the Recent Graduate Award, in recognition of her Christian values, professional achievement and devotion to community. She is survived by her husband Richard, eight children and 11 grandchildren.

**Robin Dumas '89** died of a heart attack June 28, 2005, at her home in St. Clair Shores. She was 37. After earning her degree in psychology and criminal justice at Siena, she began work for the City of Detroit, becoming a neighborhood city hall manager for Mayor Coleman Young. Under Mayor Dennis Archer, she became a liaison to business and civic associations. By 1998, she was managing employee regulations and civic and governmental affairs for the MGM Grand Detroit Casino. In 2000, she took a similar position for Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc., helping to provide legal services for low- and moderate-income people. She was a member of the Macomb County Community Action Advisory Board, NAACP of Detroit, Macomb Homeless Coalition, Macomb County Youth Violence Prevention Council and the United Way Community Services Public Policy Community. At the time of her death, she was working on a Ph.D. in public policy from the University of Phoenix. Robin is survived by her mother, brother, sister, and extended family.

**Gerald Michael Bufton '89** died Oct. 5, 2005, at his home in Adrian at the age of 72. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict. In addition to his Siena degree, he earned a master's degree in industrial technology from Eastern Michigan. He was a process engineer for Tecumseh Products until his retirement in 1995. In retirement, he was a woodworker, handyman and outdoorsman who also enjoyed gardening. Survivors include five children, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Grant DeMars '93** (SHU@LMC) of Stevensville died July 15, 2005, after an eight-month battle with cancer. He was 57. He worked at Continental Can for 27 years, during which he attended Siena Heights, becoming the first in his family to graduate from college. He was a passionate golfer, an accomplished handyman who enjoyed any mechanical challenge, and a dedicated husband and father. Survivors include his wife, Marcia, two daughters, and extended family.



**Patricia Venner '96** (SHU@LMC) of Kalamazoo died Aug. 20, 2005 at the age of 74. She worked for 15 years in the family business, R.J. Venner Jewelry, managing the second store in Portage. She was an artist and nature lover, combining those interests in watercolor painting. She enjoyed tennis and sailing, and traveled by sailboat with her husband Richard throughout the Great Lakes, the east coast and the Caribbean. She was involved in a number of organizations, including serving as president of the Kalamazoo Art League and of the John Dunning Guild. She was a lifelong member of the Episcopal Church. Survivors include her husband, three sons (including former Siena art professor **Tom Venner**) and six grandchildren.

**Nancy J. Vogel '02** of Hillsdale died Sept. 30, 2005, from injuries sustained in an auto accident. She was 51 years old. She was a supervising counselor at The Manor in Jonesville and took great pleasure in her family. Survivors include her mother, two children, two grandchildren and extended family.

## Friends

**Thomas P. Dettbarn, 46**, an accomplished organist and friend of the Siena Heights music department, died unexpectedly at his home in Adrian on July 30, 2005. Active in the Adrian music community, he was director of music for the Adrian Dominican Sisters. He also played for many of Siena Heights' special masses and celebrations. He is survived by his wife, son, and extended family.

Former Siena Heights Trustee **Radcliffe F. North** died Nov. 26, 2005, at his Clark Lake home at the age of 83. A prominent builder and developer in the Jackson area, he was the third generation of his family to head the North Construction Co. He was active in the community and served on the Jackson Planning Commission. His four children survive.

**Giacomo "Jack" Bologna** (right), professor of business administration and management at Siena Heights from 1984 to 1997 and the author of more than a dozen books, died March 10, 2006, at the age of 77 after battling Parkinson's disease for more than a decade. A renaissance man who could intelligently discuss politics, business, literature, the arts, world history, sports and future trends, he received Siena's Outstanding Teaching Award in 1987. He taught both in Southfield and on the main campus, and was named Professor Emeritus upon his retirement. In 2004, Siena Heights established the Jack Bologna Innovation in Teaching Award. The son of Sicilian immigrants who operated a fruit and vegetable wholesale business at Detroit's Eastern Market, Jack said he learned the most important lessons of life – hard work, integrity and respect for others – while working with his father at the market. After earning an accounting degree at the Detroit Institute of Technology and a law degree at the University of Detroit, he began a career marked throughout by fighting corruption and promoting ethics and integrity. He worked first in criminal intelligence for the IRS and then as an investigator for the U.S. Department of Labor. He was a member of the Kennedy administration's so-called "get Hoffa squad," a team of attorneys and accountants from various branches of government who investigated mob infiltration and racketeering in the teamsters union. Jack went on to become assistant counsel to the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee's Anti-trust and Monopoly Subcommittee, and an executive with International Intelligence, Inc., before entering private management and security consulting. He also began a research and writing career that marked him as a national authority on the subjects of white-collar crime, forensic accounting and information technology. Jack is survived by his wife, Jean, six children and 20 grandchildren.



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