

REFLECTIONS

**SIENA GRAD
IN THE SPOTLIGHT!**



Actor Michael Lackey '77 Takes
Center Stage in Las Vegas Spectacular



from the president



A Whirlwind Year!

As I complete my first year as President of Siena Heights, I have had a chance to reflect on what has been a whirlwind of activity on campus.

From the time I arrived last July, there has been nonstop action at Siena Heights. Of course, some of that was self-inflicted, including the fabulous Inauguration Ceremony last November. However, I am not complaining one bit. It was quite an experience having the privilege of overseeing a vibrant learning community. And the learning was a two-way street. Despite spending many years in the environment of southern Florida, having a year under my belt at Siena now qualifies me as a full-fledged “Michigander.”

I am also much more comfortable wearing the shoes of a university president, and believe the leadership team I have assembled is ready to move forward with the bold initiatives I outlined in my Inaugural Address several months ago.

I realize many of you do not have the opportunity to view the day-to-day activity at Siena Heights University, so let me offer you a brief rundown of the “Points of Pride” accomplished over the past academic year:

- Soon into my tenure at Siena Heights, a process was started to create a master plan and overhaul an outdated strategic plan. Thanks to a generous donation from the Adrian Dominican Sisters, both plans are in the process of being finalized. This is a big step towards realizing the bright future I believe Siena Heights is destined to accomplish.
- Remaining true to my inauguration promise of building the University on quality academics, several new programs were announced this year. Starting with the pronouncement that Siena will begin a nursing program, the list of new programs also includes special education, homeland security/emergency preparedness, English as a second language and Middle Eastern Studies. And I assure you, this is only the start.
- On September 7, 2006, a new tradition began at Siena Heights University. During the annual fall convocation on campus, students signed a paper committing themselves to the mission of this University. They received a candle, lit by faculty and staff members, symbolizing light and truth. It is my hope that this solemn, but uplifting event, will both invigorate and reaffirm the Dominican values and principles that built Siena Heights University.
- After having the displeasure of presenting a deficit budget to our Board of Trustees last fall, I announce with great joy that we have erased that \$1.1 million deficit in just one year—a year ahead of schedule. This accomplishment was achieved by a combination of fundraising, frugal use of resources and a sacrifice by our faculty and staff.
- Our students continue to be a source of pride—both in and out of the classroom. Joanne Golden and Ricardo Valdez were named our Outstanding Undergraduate Students of the Year. They embody the type of student we want here at Siena—academically talented, socially conscious and ethically guided.
- A record-setting commencement put an appropriate exclamation point on a successful academic year. Approximately 3,500 people attended our Adrian campus ceremony, where they watched a record number of students receive their diplomas. It was an awe-inspiring day indeed.
- Giving is WAY up at Siena Heights. As I write this, we have more than doubled our fundraising efforts from the previous year. And we have many of you to thank. God bless you!

Though it is fun to reflect on past accomplishments, make no mistake, we have no plans to rest on our laurels. In fact, as *Reflections* is being printed I am back on the road again raising funds and making friends, as well as readying for another school year to begin.

And I can't wait to see what the next year brings.

God's Blessings, and Think Higher!

Sister Peg Albert, OP

Sister Peg Albert, OP, PhD
President



on the inside . . .

SUMMER 2007

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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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REFLECTIONS

On the Cover

Michael Lackey '77 has taken his acting career to a higher level as a member of the production of Phantom: The Las Vegas Spectacular. Lackey usually plays the role of the Auctioneer (right), but also serves as an understudy to the main role of the Phantom of the Opera. Cover photo by Joan Marcus.



from the editor



The Best Time is Now.

I recently had a chance to do some catching up around the house.

You know those “project lists” everyone seems to have? Yep. I have one, too. But as time passes that list seems to grow instead of shrink. Most of you probably know what I’m talking about. I believe the proper term is procrastination.

As someone who worked in the newspaper business before arriving at Siena Heights, I rarely could afford the luxury of procrastinating in my professional life. Everything in that business is deadline driven. Miss a deadline, and . . . well, thankfully, I never had to find out.

However, as soon as I walk in the door of my house, it’s another matter. Personally, if I can put it off, I will. For example, I had a patio room installed a few years back, and the wood door that served as my entrance needed staining. I bought some of that blue painter’s tape that protects the window and other areas from the staining process and carefully affixed it around the edges. I began staining the door, but for some reason, I thought it better to wait and finish the project for a more convenient and appropriate time.

That time (probably six or seven years later) came just a few weeks ago. I found the extra can of stain I purchased way back when, and was so proud of myself as I put the finishing touches on the project. There was just one problem: the tape was still there, too. And I remember the suggested instructions on the package: Do not leave on for more than three weeks. Oops. What should have been a couple minutes of easy cleanup took more than three hours using a heat gun and the sharp end of a razor blade. Oh, and there was also the sticky residue to deal with after the tape was removed.

Why is this relevant to you, alumni and friends of Siena Heights University? I’m glad you asked. In late September, Siena will host its annual Alumni Weekend (all the details are included in this issue). This is the prime opportunity every year for alumni and friends of Siena to return to campus and catch up on the past and present. Jennifer, our alumni director, puts her heart and soul into this weekend to provide something for everyone. Some of you, if you are like me, may get initially excited about something, but then decide to “put it off” for a more convenient or opportune time.

Honestly, the best time is now. If you don’t believe me, believe Ping Dong. Earlier this spring, I found Ping, a 1986 Siena Heights alum who lives in Beijing, China, wandering the hallways of Siena. I had the pleasure of reintroducing him to campus (you can read more about Ping’s story in this issue). He visits the United States a couple of times a year and decided to finally return to Siena after more than a 20-year hiatus. Even after all that time, he quickly reacquainted himself with Siena Heights, and said later he was glad he made the trip.

And he came from China.

So don’t delay your return to Siena Heights, because you may end up like me and my project list—you’ll regret you didn’t get it done much, much sooner.

Doug Goodnough

Editor



from the heights

Commencement 2007!

An estimated 3,500 people attended record-setting commencement ceremonies in the Siena Heights University Fieldhouse May 6.

The official celebration for students on the Adrian campus and for students in Siena's Southfield, Monroe, Port Huron, Rochester, Ann Arbor, Jackson, Lansing and Distance Learning programs had approximately 375 students participate, a record for the institution founded in 1919.

President Sister Peg Albert, OP, PhD, conferred degrees on the graduates after delivering a short welcome and address. This was her first commencement as President of Siena Heights.

A high point of the ceremony was the awarding of an honorary degree to a distinguished Siena Heights alum. Nancyann Turner, OP '63, received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree during the ceremony. The Adrian Dominican Sister is a renowned artist who uses her talent and art therapy skills to help others. Besides having worked in Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C., she also works with the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit, where she established and has continued to coordinate a children's project, the Rosa Parks Children and Youth Program. This project provides after-school and summer opportunities for children in the heart of Detroit to experience art, music, gardening and the development of conflict resolution skills. In 2005, the Siena Heights Alumni Association honored her with the Saint Dominic Award for her contributions to the world.



Other commencement highlights included:

- Amanda Dowdy (photo above), DeAngelo Boone and Terese Cracchiolo were the student speakers for the event.
- In its 14th year, the Kente Ceremony was conducted on Sunday before commencement ceremonies. African-American alumni presented Kente stoles to bachelor's and master's degree candidates of color.
- A Baccalaureate Mass for graduates and families of all faiths was conducted Sunday morning in Lumen Ecclesiae Chapel.
- A longstanding Siena Heights tradition, Torch Night, was conducted Saturday evening on the main campus. This cherished tradition involved a symbolic exchange between a graduate and another Siena student who is not yet ready to graduate.
- Receptions for graduates and their guests were conducted immediately following commencement ceremonies on the Fieldhouse lawn.

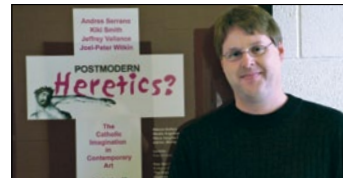
Siena Heights also held commencement ceremonies at two of its degree completion centers—in Battle Creek on the campus of Kellogg Community College, and in Benton Harbor on the Lake Michigan College campus. Seen at left is recent Benton Harbor community services program graduate Donyal Lewis '07.



Rice Outstanding Teaching Award

Siena Heights University Professor of Art History Dr. Peter Barr was this year's recipient of the Eileen K. Rice Award for Outstanding Teaching.

His students speak of his interactive and engaging lectures which make learning "incredibly fun and interesting" as he exposes them to a great variety of styles and media. Barr's personal passion for art history has influenced many to pursue careers in this or related fields of art.



Dr. Barr (photo above) is also the director of the Klemm Gallery. Among his many activities, he developed a website and a self-guided walking tour brochure that features the 19th century vernacular architecture of Adrian. This project gained recognition from Imagining Michigan and earned Siena's 2006 Stimson-Tsuji Research Award.

He has mentored many Siena Heights students and cares deeply about how they learn as well as how they apply what they have learned to their futures. Barr has also brought national and international artists to the Siena galleries.

A committee comprised of students and faculty members who have recently won the award receive nominations and chose the recipient from among the nominees.

Live Training Exercise On SHU Campus

Siena Heights University and local emergency response agencies conducted a live training exercise in Dominican Hall August 9. The Adrian Police and Fire departments, and the Lenawee County Sheriff Department worked in conjunction with Siena Heights University Public Safety.

In lieu of the tragedy at Virginia Tech University earlier this year, the live training exercise focused on SHU's Department of Public Safety and local emergency agencies' response to an

"active shooter" and hostage scenario. Law enforcement officers applied their advanced training for response to an active shooter, while the fire department applied on-scene triage and transportation. The exercise was closely supervised and controlled, and no live ammunition was allowed in the building during training.

"There was a sense of excitement but also an underlying sense of sadness," said SHU President Sister Peg Albert, who witnessed the exercise. "It's better to be prepared than not prepared. And we want to take a proactive approach to safety at Siena Heights."



President Peg Albert Published In University Business Magazine

President Sister Peg Albert, OP, PhD, recently had a column published (above) in a national magazine. President Albert, a licensed social worker, was featured in the June edition of University Business Magazine. Her article, titled "Administrators Are Human Beings, Too," offered advice to higher education administrators about dealing with a tragedy such as the one that occurred at Virginia Tech University. Her column also appeared on the magazine's web site, and can be accessed at the following address: <http://www.universitybusiness.com/viewarticle.aspx?articleid=759>.

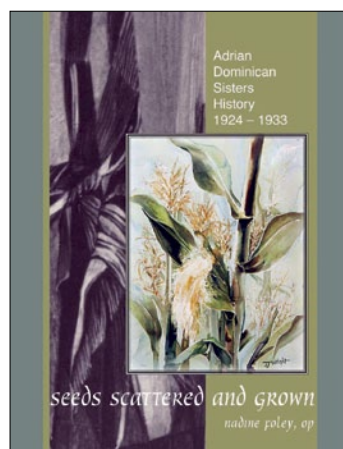
The Literary Corner:

Seeds Scattered and Grown

The second volume of Adrian Dominican history, written by SHU alum Sister Nadine Foley, OP, was recently published.

The book, titled *Seeds Scattered and Grown*, chronicles the Adrian Dominican history from 1924-1933, the Mother Augustine Walsh years. The second volume follows the first, *Amid the Alien Corn*, by Mary Philip Ryan, OP.

"What was once a field of alien corn was tilled and furrowed to become a friendly ground, rich with the promise of new seed. Acting upon that promise, the followers of Mother Camilla Madden, OP, zealously built upon the foundation she had laid. They were able to bring the new congregation from its obscurity in a rural cornfield to recognition as a foremost contributor to the rise of Catholic education in the United States. The 10 years chronicled here were indeed a period of Seeds Scattered and Grown." [Excerpt from *Seeds Scattered and Grown*].

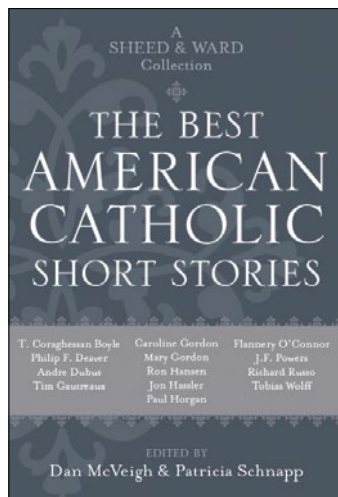


The cost of *Seeds Scattered and Grown* is \$12, plus \$3 for shipping, if applicable. To order, send shipping information along with a check or money order for the correct amount (made payable to the Adrian Dominican Sisters) to Sister Nadine Foley, 1257 East Siena Heights Drive, Adrian, Michigan, 49221-1793.

The Best American Catholic Short Stories

Believed to be the first anthology of its kind, *The Best American Catholic Short Stories* features 20 stories from 13 American Catholic authors over the past 75 years.

Co-editors Patricia Schnapp, RSM, and Dan McVeigh, (photo right: at their book signing) both SHU English professors, spent more than four years assembling the extraordinary collection that is unique in subject and scope. Major contributors to the 376-page anthology published by Sheed and Ward include Flannery O'Connor, Mary Gordon, Ron Hansen, T. Coraghessan Boyle and Richard Russo.



With the most important selection criterion being literary quality, all the short stories have a religious dimension of some sort and focus directly on Catholic spiritual life. The anthology is evenly divided between political and religious liberals and conservatives, which reflects the background of the editors.

"Dan tends to be a conservative Catholic and I tend to be more liberal," said Schnapp, a member of the Sisters of Mercy congregation who regularly teaches a course on American Catholic writers at Siena Heights. "I think there's a kind of yin and a yang there. Quite honestly, I think it worked to make the collection non-ideological and very balanced."

"I think it's a better book than either one of us would have done separately," said McVeigh. "We agreed on these 20 stories, and they came fairly quickly."

The anthology also includes a balance of pre- and post-Vatican II writers, which is also by design. According to the editors, what ties the writers together is far from being a mere literary "school" or even ethnicity. The stories in this anthology mark out some of the broad territory claimed by the American Catholic imagination up to present day. A primary goal of the editors is to have readers explore, discover – and sometimes rediscover – the older major writers and (along with such familiar names as Russo and Mary Gordon) some lesser-known contemporary ones.

"I think that some Catholic writers have been beneath the radar," Schnapp said. "Some of them are names that even people who enjoy reading for pleasure will say 'I've never heard of them.' I think this anthology is sort of an introduction to many authors who have written a number of fine novels who are represented in the book through their short stories."

McVeigh said this anthology will hopefully appeal not only to readers interested in pre- and post-Vatican II thought and artistic expression, but to a larger audience as well. The fact that it is in short story format means the reader can complete a story or two in one sitting.

"I think there's a possibility there of a larger readership like parish groups and book clubs," McVeigh said.

My Dear Helen

A book detailing an epistolary love affair and a fascinating social history over a 73-year period was recently released by Siena Heights faculty member Nancy Seligmann (Schumann). The book, titled *My Dear Helen*, was authored by Seligmann, an associate professor of English and chair of SHU's English Department.

The twin saga is told by two ordinary cousins, Joe and Helen, who keep each other informed of the changes in their daily lives. It also tells the story of Europe descending into the darkness of World War II, as well as America ascending to global, political, military and economic dominance.

"The book is about two unknown people who participated in history, as we all do," Seligmann said. "The book is formatted through Joe's letters and the interpretation of the narration I took from Helen. The chapters go back and forth from letters, to Helen's first-person voice. I found it easier to write in her voice and only use myself as a minor character."

Though the second cousins only met twice in person during their lifetimes, the letters span from 1923-1996. Helen, who lived in America, kept all the letters. She said Joe, a German, traveled to interesting places, and she was interested in reading about his travels. Joe died at age 88 in Nauheim, Germany, in 1996, while Helen died at age 90 in Saginaw, Mich., in 1997.

Seligmann said she and her publisher, Linus Publications, decided to come out with two versions, a textbook version and the public version. The textbook version has study questions that explore the book through the lives of real people and their placement in history.

Seligmann said SHU colleague Christine Reising, chair of the Art Department, designed the cover and the back of the book from family photos. She also credited SHU Library Director Dr. Robert Gordon for his help with the textbook questions.



Seligmann was also a contributing editor of the newly released book *Imperial Japan's World War II: 1931-1945*, by author Werner Gruhl. Seligmann "contributed significantly to a more understandable and readable book," according to the author's acknowledgements. According to the publisher, the book documents why Japan's aggression in World War II still touches deep emotions with East Asians and Western ex-prisoners of war, and why there is justifiable sensitivity to the way modern Japan has dealt with this legacy. Gruhl takes the view that World War II started in 1931 when Japan, crowded and poor in raw materials but with a sense of military invincibility, saw the empire as her salvation and invaded China.

Advancements

The Office of Institutional Advancement shattered its total giving goal by more than \$700,000, raising nearly \$2.4 million for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2007. With a total giving goal of \$1.63 million – more than doubling the total giving from the previous year – Advancement finished the fiscal year with a total of \$2.36 million. Siena Heights also had a total of 1,585 donors, a 12 percent increase from the previous year.

"It's always good news when you reach a goal, but to surpass by such a large margin is quite an achievement," said Vice President for Advancement Jere Righter. "I'm really proud of what this group has accomplished. It is an exciting time



to be a part of Siena. Thanks to the generous support of our alumni, friends, faculty and staff, we're making a real difference."

Several factors have helped make this year so successful, one of which was a \$500,000 matching grant challenge from the Adrian Dominican Sisters to current and former SHU board members. Thanks to the generosity of past and present board members, that challenge was met. The Phone-A-Thon is another point of pride. Student callers generated just under \$95,000 in pledges this year. Two years ago, that total was around \$18,000. In the area of planned giving, Siena Heights University received \$371,000 from the estate of former SHU board member Margaret Rueckert.

The memory of Chelsea, Mich., firefighter and SHU graduate Matthew Tuttle ('06) will be honored with the establishment of a memorial scholarship at SHU. Tuttle, a captain in the Chelsea Fire Department who died in a helicopter accident in April 2006 while searching for a fugitive, was Siena's first graduate of the distance learning program in public safety studies. Further details about the scholarship will be available in coming weeks, including information on how to make a gift to the fund. The Matthew J. Tuttle Memorial Scholarship will assist students at SHU's degree completion centers who are pursuing careers in public safety.



Sara Bingham was hired for the position of development officer. Bingham, who served as director of Communications and Publications at Siena Heights from 2004-05, began her new position June 11. Spending the past two years exploring religious life with the Adrian Dominican Sisters, she first came to Lenawee County in 2003 as news director for WLEN Radio in Adrian. In her new position, Bingham will be responsible for organizing and making personal visits and cultivating donor prospects. She will also be a vital member of the Advancement team that will implement fundraising strategies for the University.



Sue Gerhard '03 started September 1 as director of Stewardship and Advancement Services. Gerhard most recently served as the interim administrative assistant to the president

before accepting this new position. Her new responsibilities will include designing, implementing and coordinating a comprehensive donor relations and stewardship system that promotes interaction with and recognition of donors at all levels. She will also be responsible for maintaining and managing all alumni and friend data systems at SHU. Gerhard had also previously worked in the Advancement Office from 1998-2002 as coordinator of

Advancement Records and Research and 2002-05 as Manager of Advancement Office Operations, Records and Research.

Thanks to a \$16,041 grant from the Dorothy & Maurice Stubnitz Foundation, Siena Heights University will purchase a portable dance floor that can be used in various locations on campus. The 20-by-30-foot floor will be installed in the Stubnitz Lab Theatre on a semi-permanent basis. However, the dance floor could also be used in Francoeur Theatre, allowing students to stage a full dance recital – never before an option at Siena. Siena Heights would be able to invite in professional dance troupes, thereby expanding the artistic offerings Siena could provide to its students and the community. Additionally, the floor could be transported to the Fieldhouse for use at university events where dancing is desired. This space can be fully utilized by Siena Heights' dance instructors without limiting flexibility of the teaching environment. When the room usage dictates full carpeting, the dance floor is easily removed and either stored on a movable cart, or placed in use in a different classroom. In addition, having the portable floor provides the Siena community with much greater flexibility in terms of space utilization. Nearly any space on campus could be transformed into a room appropriate to serve students in dance classes.



Construction of the Sister Miriam Michael Stimson, OP, Science Lecture Hall began in May and continued over the summer. The \$100,000 renovation (photos above and right) will feature new seating and carpeting, updated lighting, up-graded technology and will serve as loving tribute to one of Siena Heights University's greatest professors. The project will be completed in time for fall classes, and was spearheaded by Advancement staff.

Lowé Receives Adult Student Award



Kasha Lowé was Siena Heights University's recipient of this year's Capitol Area Higher Education Network Outstanding Adult Student Award.

Lowé is a December 2006 graduate of Siena Heights University's Lansing center, receiving a bachelor of arts degree in multidisciplinary studies.

CAHEN is a consortium of area educational institutions whose mission is to create awareness of educational programs for non-traditional students in the Lansing area. Member schools have a physical facility locally, and degree programs designed for working adults. CAHEN comprises eight colleges and universities offering programs in the Lansing area.

At the Lansing Police Department, Lowé mentors new recruits by counseling them when needed and assisting in their professional development. She is also a member of the Awards Ceremony Board at the Lansing Police Department. This board recognizes citizens who have assisted the police department in regards to crime prevention and reporting.

Lowé also frequently speaks at elementary, middle and high schools about the importance of education, saying no to drugs and preventing violence.

"When I became an officer, I swore an oath to protect and serve the people of my community," Lowé said. "I know that in order for me to succeed in doing so, I must further my education so that I can educate these people on the streets. Maybe then they will be encouraged to make better life choices and steer away from living a life of crime. I plan to take my education to the next level and hope that by helping others understand the importance of higher education, I may be able to impact their lives the way that education has impacted me."

Lowé received her award April 11 at a ceremony at Cooley Law School.

Outstanding Students



Seniors Joanne Golden and Ricardo Valdez were named the Outstanding Undergraduate Students by Siena Heights University. Both received their awards during the university's Academic Honors Convocation April 20.

The awards are presented annually to two senior students who exhibit a combination of outstanding academics and extracurricular involvement. A committee composed of Siena Heights faculty, staff and students decided from those nominated.

Golden, from Taylor, Mich., graduated in just three years with a history major and political science minor. The Presidential Scholar completed the pre-law program and carried a perfect 4.0 grade-point average. She was on the dean's list each semester at Siena. Golden was a member of the Mu Lambda History Honor Society as well as the Missing Link History Club. A member of the Student Senate during her junior year, Golden volunteered at the Lenawee Humane Society, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Boys and Girls Club of Adrian. Her future plans include continuing her studies in International Relations at Pepperdine University this fall.

Valdez, a native of Tecumseh, Mich., majored in religious studies and minored in business administration and Spanish. He served as president of the Student Senate for the past two years and was this year's recipient of the Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award. A member of the McNair Scholars program, he was involved in numerous groups and organizations around the Lenawee community, and has plans of attending graduate school.



Scholarship Established to Honor Bud Leonard

For many, he was simply known as “Bud.” However, for those who truly knew Ralph Leonard (below), he was so much more. The hall of fame umpire, World War II naval pilot, elementary teacher, award-winning trap shooter, prison instructor and dog trainer may have been most proud of this title: college graduate.

At Siena Heights University, he was a 45-year-old freshman who decided to pursue a college degree. Never mind he barely finished high school and was juggling a full-time job, umpiring and a home life at the time. When he was turned down for a job he really wanted because he did not have a college diploma, that was all the motivation he needed.



“It was quite devastating,” Hazel Leonard said of her husband’s job rejection. “It just inspired Bud enough. He said, ‘I’ve never got beat by anything in my life, and I’m not going to get beat by a degree.’”

Siena Heights had just started to accept male students when he enrolled in classes as a non-traditional student in 1970.

“He took his grades and showed them to the admitting sister,” Hazel said. “He was going to take just two courses to get started. She said, ‘Just a minute, Mr. Leonard.’ Then she came back out and says, ‘Mr. Leonard, did you think about taking just one class?’”

Undaunted, Bud not only took the two courses, he graduated in four years, completing his teaching degree in 1974—at the age of 50. He went on to earn a master’s degree from Siena Heights as well. With degree in hand, he began his career in education, teaching at McKinley Elementary School more than 15 years before retiring at age 65.

“I think one of the biggest thrills a teacher can get is to see the face of a child light up when you explain something in a way they can understand,” Leonard said in an earlier newspaper interview.

However, his teaching career was far from finished. He soon took a job teaching inmates at the Gus Harrison Correctional Facility in Adrian.

“He was kind of restless, and then he heard about a job teaching at the prison,” Hazel said. “He would teach inmates how to read and would try to teach the younger prisoners something about life.”

Bud taught at the prison until he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer at the age of 80. He passed away in 2004.

He was also a State Champion Trap Shooter and an award-winning dog trainer and handler in his “spare” time. The former Naval Air Corps pilot in World War II also owned and operated an Adrian service station for 19 years.

According to Siena Heights University Athletic Director Fred Smith, a longtime friend of Bud’s, he was one of the most recognizable faces in Lenawee County athletic circles. For 52 years, he umpired baseball and softball games on most weekday nights and weekends during the spring and summer months. As an umpire, Leonard was inducted into the Michigan Amateur Softball Hall of Fame.

“Bud was a legend in Lenawee County, not only as an umpire, but as a teacher and educator,” Smith said. “He was more than an umpire. He tutored a lot of the guys (he umpired). Bud was their man. He had a way about him. It was like Bud was part of the family. You felt good when he was there.”

To honor his memory, Hazel helped create a new Siena Heights University scholarship in Bud’s name. The memorial scholarship will be awarded annually to a high school baseball player who displays leadership on and off the field, with preference to Lenawee County student-athletes, according to Siena Heights Athletic Director Fred Smith.

“Siena Heights is privileged to honor Bud’s memory in this way,” Smith said. “There are going to be many people who are going to have joy when they see this (scholarship), because they will remember Bud.”

For more information on the Ralph “Bud” Leonard Memorial Scholarship, please contact the Siena Heights University Athletic Department at (517) 264-7870.

Faculty Emeriti

Six members of the Siena Heights University faculty were recently awarded the rank of Professor Emeritus or Emerita by the Board of Trustees. This rank is recommended by the division chairs, deans, the faculty Rank and Promotion Committee, the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board and the Board of Trustees.

This year’s class includes Joseph Bergman, Sister Marilee Ewing, OP, Sister Magdalena Ezoë, OP, Susan Matych-Hager, Lana Taylor and Susan Conley Weeks.

Joseph Bergman



Bergman, a professor of Art, has taught in the art department at Siena Heights since 1972. His initial focus at Siena was in the areas of printmaking and design. However, he shifted his focus to digital graphic design and the computer applications necessary to teach that discipline in today’s world. Bergman also helped establish the Mac laboratory and has consistently worked with the Computer Services and Systems Division.

Sister Marilee Ewing, OP ‘65



Sister Marilee began teaching as an assistant professor in Teacher Education at Siena in 1997. The culmination of her dedication to her students came in 2003 when she was awarded the Sister Eileen K. Rice Award for Outstanding Teaching. She has served on numerous committees, most notably the Committee on Liberal Arts, commonly known as COLA. While on COLA she revised the learning outcomes and the methods of assessing the accomplishment of the outcomes which are currently in use at Siena. Sister Marilee also served as interim director of the Teacher Education Program.

Sister Magdalena Ezoë, OP ‘55



The associate professor of Music began as an instructor of music at Siena in 1968. During her tenure, she has received many awards, including the Sister Eileen K. Rice Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2005 and the Fred Smith Champion Award in 2006. Sister Magdalena has also served on the board of the Adrian Symphony Orchestra and the board of advisors for the Siena Heights University Youth Symphony. She is an accomplished pianist, recognized composer and an outstanding accompanist and performance coach. She coached and directed the SHU Chamber Ensemble and served as instrumental music director for 25 years of Madrigal Dinner concerts.

Susan Matych-Hager ‘68



The associate professor of Music joined the music department during the 1973–74 academic year. Over the years, Matych-Hager has taught a variety of courses within the music program, with a focus on choral music. Under her direction, Siena Heights students have sung with the Toledo Symphony (1994), at Carnegie Hall (1993) and at the Masonic Temple in

Detroit. Matych-Hager initiated, coordinated, costumed and directed the Madrigal Dinners, which were a high point of Siena’s Christmas season for more than 20 years. She also established the Children’s Chorus and was also a motivator behind the Youth Symphony. Matych-Hager served as coordinator of the music program and as chairperson of the Performing Arts and Education Division from 1990–95.

Lana Taylor



The associate professor of Mathematics began her work at Siena Heights in the mathematics skills laboratory in 1985, becoming its coordinator as a faculty member in 1987.

She helped develop the visual mathematics class aimed at art majors at SHU. Taylor received the Eileen K. Rice Award for Outstanding Teaching in the 2000–01 academic year. She was an active member of the new building task force that planned for Dominican Hall. Taylor chaired the Division of Computing, Mathematics and the Sciences from 2001–05, and co-chaired the Self Study Steering Committee for the 2002 North Central review process.

Susan Conley Weeks ‘67



The professor of Religious Studies completed her 23rd year of teaching at Siena Heights. During this time, Susan has served as coordinator of the Religious Studies Program, assistant

dean for Faculty and Curriculum Development and chair of the Faculty Development and General Education committees. As coordinator of the Religious Studies Program, she was responsible for curriculum development. Most notable, Conley Weeks coordinated the development of the Pastoral Ministry Program which has served the Diocese of Lansing for more than 10 years. Recently this program has expanded to the Saginaw Diocese.

The six faculty members honored represent nearly 160 years of service to Siena Heights University and its students.



Upward Bound Program Receives Grant



The United States Department of Education recently awarded Siena Heights University with a \$339,722 grant to fund the Upward Bound program.

Annita Aranda, director of Siena's Upward Bound program since 1987, said individual programs are usually funded for four years. However, Siena Heights was awarded a five-year grant, a first since the Upward Bound program was started at Siena Heights in 1973.

"We've never had five years," said Aranda, who has been with Siena's program since its inception. "It's exciting news. For it to be funded for five years is just incredible."

Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families, high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree and low-income, first-generation military veterans preparing to enter post-secondary education. Besides providing support to participants for their college preparation, the program's goal is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in—and graduate from—institutions of post-secondary education.

"This grant will provide Siena Heights with more resources to help students from low-income families learn mathematics, laboratory sciences and composition," U.S. Representative Timothy Walberg (R-Tipton, Mich.) said in a release.

Upward Bound projects provide academic instruction in mathematics, laboratory sciences, composition, literature and foreign languages. Tutoring, counseling, mentoring, cultural enrichment and work-study programs also are supported.

The application process is competitive and detailed, Aranda said. More than 1,000 colleges and universities nationwide applied for funding. Aranda said Siena's grant proposal was submitted in November 2006, and she learned the news that her program will be funded May 4.

"We were just waiting to hear," Aranda said.

Upward Bound is part of the federal TRIO programs at Siena Heights, which include Student Support Services and the Ronald McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program.

Bologna Innovative Teaching Award

Mike Winstrom, assistant professor of Philosophy at Siena Heights University, was named this year's recipient of the Jack Bologna Innovative Teaching Award.

In 2004, Siena Heights University received an anonymous donation to establish an award for five years honoring the late Jack Bologna, an innovative professor of business.



Winstrom has taught for Siena Heights University since 1995, and is a founding member of the Distance Learning Core Committee, which developed and oversees distance learning at Siena. He teaches a variety of philosophy courses in both a face-to-face as well as an online format. However, it is his "Technology and the Human Condition" course that particularly touches the minds and hearts of his students as they explore the impact of technology on their lives.

Career Center Sponsors "Mocktail" Event

The third event in the Siena Heights Career Center Extreme Makeover series was March 13 in the Adrian Room of the Adrian Dominican Sisters Motherhouse (photo below). Titled, "Part III: Etiquette and Mocktail Reception," SHU students were invited to learn and practice the fine art of mixing and mingling.

Business professionals were on hand, and a reception followed the presentation. Topics discussed included: making introductions and the handshake, business conversation, small talk, how to be a "good" guest, and how alcohol and business don't mix.

Idczak Hired As Director to Build Nursing Program at Siena Heights



Following an extensive nationwide search, Dr. Sue Idczak assumed the role of Director of the Nursing Program at Siena Heights University August 1.

SHU Vice President for Academic Affairs Sister Sharon Weber, OP, PhD '69, said Dr. Idczak's hiring will allow the formation of a new nursing program to move forward. "We are delighted to have Dr. Idczak join the Siena Heights community and undertake the challenge of building a nursing program to serve the needs of our region, the state of Michigan and the future of health care," said Weber.

Most recently, Dr. Idczak served as director of the Master of Science Nursing Program at Lourdes College in Sylvania, Ohio, shepherding that program through various steps related to accreditation. She received Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing degrees from Indiana University, and her PhD is from the University of Toledo. Dr. Idczak has taught at the Medical College of Ohio School of Nursing, the University of Toledo and Lourdes College. She also brings considerable clinical experience to her new position.

"I am very excited and honored to be the director of the Siena Heights Nursing program and to be joining the Siena community," Idczak said.

In the spring, SHU President Sister Peg Albert, OP, PhD, announced Siena Heights would begin a nursing program (see full story on next page). Siena Heights is considering a degree completion program from registered nurse to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, as well as a more traditional four-year BSN program. The first RN to BSN nursing students could be enrolled as early as the 2008-09 academic year.

Now that a director has been hired, one of her first tasks will be to develop a curriculum following guidelines and standards established by accrediting agencies, Weber said. Dr. Idczak will also help develop clinical sites for the program as well as hire nursing faculty and pursue funding opportunities.

She said she is ready for the challenge.

"I think it's one of the biggest and one of the most exciting challenges I envision," she said. "It's a gift."

Because she said health care is becoming more impersonal, she said she will try to develop a human element to Siena's program. "The philosophy we're going to build the program on is that nursing is both an art and a science," Dr. Idczak said. "Health care has moved us to the impersonal. You're a number. You're a diagnosis. We're not. We're still people. I think one of the most important aspects of the (Siena Heights) program we will create is to look at what nursing truly is within the health care system."

Dr. Idczak said the rural environment of Siena Heights reminds her of her native southern Indiana. She also said Siena's Catholic heritage was another draw.

"I like the fact that it's a Catholic institution, which I personally have come to believe is a wonderful way to offer an educational perspective. You can incorporate spirituality, you can incorporate ethics, from a completely different perspective," she said. "My Catholic faith is very important to me. It's a large part of who I am."

She and her husband, Mike, are parents of three grown children. The avid sports fan is also looking forward to learning the "Dominican" way.

"I sense there's an openness, a genuine warmth of the individuals who are there," Dr. Idczak said. "I am looking forward to learning and exploring about the Dominicans."



By Doug Goodnough

SIENA HEIGHTS UNVEILS

New Academic
PROGRAMS

T rue to her inauguration promise of creating new academic programs, President Sister Peg Albert, OP, PhD, announced Siena Heights will venture into several new fields in the future. Some of those areas include nursing, special education, homeland security, emergency preparedness, and the University is exploring several other programs.

Nursing

Responding to what has been called a nationwide crisis, President Albert announced that Siena Heights will begin a nursing program. Siena is considering a degree completion program from registered nurse to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, as well as a more traditional four-year BSN program. The first RN to BSN nursing students could be enrolled as early as the 2008-09 school year. The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth predicts a shortfall of 7,000 nurses by 2010, and that number will increase to 18,000 by 2015. According to a survey by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the nation is in the



midst of a health care crisis. Currently 30 states, including Michigan, have nursing shortages.

“We identified nursing as a primary need not only in the local community, but in the entire state of Michigan,” President Albert said. “After exploring the feasibility of adding a degree program in nursing, we believe establishing nursing is consistent with the mission and philosophy of Siena Heights. We believe this is the right move at the right time in our history.”

Sister Sharon Weber, OP '69, SHU's Vice President for Academic Affairs, said the first step is hiring a nursing director. After conducting a national search, Dr. Sue Idczak was hired for the position.

Dr. Idczak was the director of the Master of Science Nursing Program at Lourdes College in Sylvania, Ohio, before arriving at Siena Heights Aug. 1. She earned a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Toledo and has a long and distinguished career in the nursing field. Dr. Idczak's first task will be to develop a curriculum following guidelines and standards established by accrediting agencies. She will also help develop clinical sites for the program as well as hire nursing faculty and pursue funding opportunities.

Weber said partnerships with area hospitals and other health care organizations will be important to the success of Siena's program. The Adrian Dominican Sisters, who founded and sponsor Siena Heights, also sponsor two hospitals, St. Rose Dominican Hospital in Henderson, Nev., and Dominican Hospital CHW in Santa Cruz, Calif. The Adrian Dominican Sisters congregation originally came to Adrian in the 19th century to begin a hospital for injured railroad workers and the poor. President Albert said the prospect of being able to help meet a vital community need excites her.

“We have heard the many stories of local people traveling great distances to complete their nursing education,” she said. “Siena Heights is eager to offer the area a local nursing program. This is just the first step in what we hope is a long and productive relationship with the health care community.”

Special Education

With the encouragement of the local educational community, Siena Heights University will offer a special education bachelor's degree program



beginning this fall. Sally Rae, Director of Teacher Education at Siena Heights, said the decision was made to add special

education for the 2007-08 academic year after extensive discussion with numerous local educational experts, including those from the Lenawee Intermediate School District.

"We talked with special education experts and found out how many students there are in Lenawee County who have been diagnosed with a disability of some kind," Rae said. "We looked at the numbers, put a matrix together and found where the holes were. We concluded the area of biggest need in special education was in the field dealing with students having learning disabilities."

The 2006 LISD audit numbers showed 18,600 total students in the Lenawee County K-12 population, with 3,379 students identified as needing special education. Those with learning disabilities were the largest group in the population report, with approximately 1,400 students. The State of Michigan's Office of Labor Market Information indicates special education teaching positions in Michigan will increase by nearly 20 percent over the next year. Rae said Siena Heights will begin with a bachelor's degree level program, with a learning disabilities concentration. While other area universities offer special education programs, some programs are only offered at the master's degree level. Also, the decision to offer a LD endorsement will allow students more career flexibility.

"Special education is one of those 'employable majors' Siena wants to build its academic reputation around," said Siena Heights President Albert. "Siena Heights is continually looking at new ways to serve the community. We know of the demand for more special education teachers, and we believe our program can help meet that demand."

Siena Heights has contracted Martha Carroll, former chair of the special education program at the University of Toledo, to design the program. Rae cited two elements of the program that will make it unique. First, a parent partnership course will help student-teachers manage and communicate with parents. The other is a collaboration piece that will have student-teachers learn about working with those in the community, schools and other services.

"We started from what the students needed, then we developed courses around those needs," Rae said. "We then went to the state standards and matched our courses up to the standards. Then, if we were still missing something, we created a course that met a standard. It would have been very easy to look at programs already out there that have state approval and say 'Why reinvent the wheel?' But that makes it a cookie-cutter program that is not unique. Our program is distinctive and fits the needs of our local community and our students."

"Students spend a lot of money for us to work with them for four-and-a-half or five years throughout their education program," Rae said. "And if we don't help them graduate with the pieces it takes to teach, then we haven't done our job. We are excited to get going, and the feedback from the local educational community has been outstanding."

Homeland Security / Emergency Preparedness / Nuclear Power

Siena Heights University is partnering with federal, state and local officials to offer a trio of new graduate programs focusing on making our country safer and more secure. Siena Heights will begin graduate leadership programs in Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness and Nuclear Power Administration starting in the fall. According to Dean of the Graduate College C. Patrick Palmer, the programs fit Siena Heights' mission to make the world more competent, purposeful and ethical.

"There is a very strong ethical component to the programs," said Palmer, a former consultant with state and federal agencies, including the FBI. "Homeland security is working to keep our country safe from outside threats. Emergency preparedness is dealing with those disasters, both manmade and natural, that come our way. And nuclear power is the most environmentally friendly energy provider we can have."

The Homeland Security program will be run under the certification of the prestigious Naval Postgraduate School. Siena Heights is one of approximately 20 institutions nationwide—and the only one in Michigan—



to be accepted into the program, which is targeted to individuals who have five or more years of professional work experience in law enforcement or criminal justice. Those pursuing careers in the

FBI, CIA, Homeland Security, immigration and customs—even private security—are strong candidates for the Homeland Security concentration, Palmer said. The program consists of 36 hours—18 in Siena's leadership core, and 18 hours of technical courses that are the same as the Naval Postgraduate School offers.

"Siena Heights has full access to their curriculum and their virtual library," Palmer said of the Naval Postgraduate School affiliation. "I plan on hiring the same professionals (as the Naval Postgraduate School) to come in and teach (at Siena Heights)."

Emergency Preparedness was designed and developed with the assistance of state and local emergency management professionals, who indicated



there was a need for such a program, Palmer said. EP will provide education in a specialized area for emergency, environ-

mental, safety and security managers in industry and the public sector. It is intended for corporate emergency managers, corporate employees who interact with state and local agencies during an emergency, security and safety managers and those serving as members of a threat management or crisis management team.

Nuclear Power Administration is proposed for individuals who are employed by nuclear power

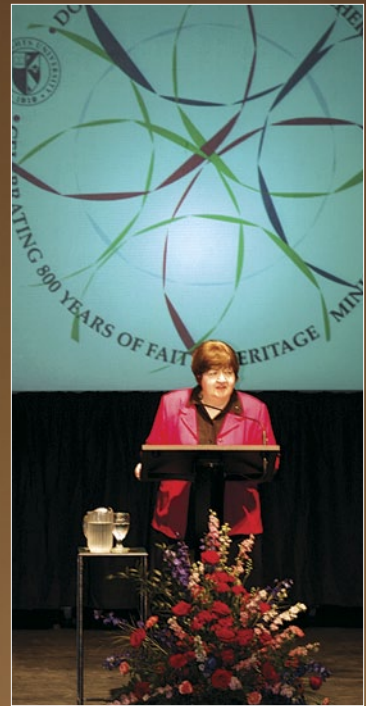


plants. The concentration focuses on the personal and professional development of the individual as a facilitator, supervi-

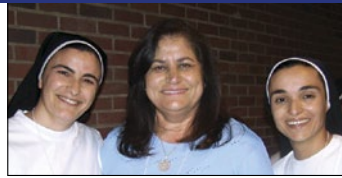
sor, director, training instructor, project manager or upper level executive.

All three programs will be offered in 10-week increments, with three sessions offered over the course of the calendar year.

"We believe Siena Heights is uniquely positioned to respond to a growing need, not only in our community, but in our nation," Palmer said. "With all that's happening in our world today, these programs will provide the training to prepare our future law enforcement and emergency management leaders." ♦



The Dominican Symposium May 13-16 had a full schedule of events. Prominent theologians Father Timothy Radcliffe, OP, (above top) and Patricia Walter, OP '66, (above bottom) were two of the featured speakers. There were many activities scheduled around the Symposium, including the "Art of the Dominicans" exhibit in Klemm Gallery. Some of the top Dominican art in the world was on display.



Celebrating 800 Years



Marking the 800th anniversary of the foundation of the Order of Preachers by St. Dominic de Guzman, Siena Heights University and the Adrian Dominican Sisters co-hosted a Dominican Symposium May 13–16, 2007.

Following nearly two years of planning by the Symposium Committee consisting of representatives from Siena Heights and the Adrian Dominican Sisters, the event had an overflow crowd, with approximately 500 people attending from around the world. Prominent Dominican theologians Timothy Radcliffe, OP, Liam Walsh, OP, Patricia Walter, OP '66, and Ann Willits, OP, participated in the campus event.

Radcliffe, a member of the community of Blackfriars, Oxford, and Master of the Order of Preachers from 1992 to 2001, was presented with an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Siena Heights during the symposium. The symposium explored topics such as: how the Dominican charism calls people to be involved in today's society and its issues; where and how Dominicans preach in the midst of contradictions; and what contemplating and sharing the fruits of contemplation means in a world fraught with controversies.

In fact, the symposium garnered national media attention, making the cover of the June 8 edition of *National Catholic Reporter* magazine. Led by SHU Dean for Students Trudy McSorley '70, a host of student volunteers made sure the guests were well-served. Here is a cross-section of some of the responses from those who attended:

"Indescribable! The service so graciously giving! At every beck and call! Stimulating! Enough to take home as meditation food for weeks! Really grateful!" – *Lucy Edelbeck*

"This has been a tremendous experience. I so appreciated the research of our Dominican speakers and their fine manner of delivery. I am so proud and grateful to be a Dominican. The SHU students were gracious and welcoming. Thank you to all!" – *Beverly Bobola, OP '65*

"Wow! I don't even know where to begin! This symposium was exceptional. Every aspect from the speakers to the staff, to the food, to the topics, to the artists, to the performers, mass, prayer, participants, etc. Perfectly executed, wonderfully inspiring! Thank you so much." – *Diane M. Shook, Tempe, Ariz.*

"What a rich experience these days have provided. I'm so grateful to the Adrian Sisters and Siena Heights University for imagining this event and then pulling it together. The hospitality has been legendary. The young people who served us everywhere in every imaginable way were so impressive. They were gracious and unselfconscious and seemed genuinely happy to be with us. Also the cafeteria folks were wonderful to us. Thank you so much for everything." – *Erica Jordan, OP (Sinsinawa)*



saints highlights

Winter Sports

Men's Basketball

The Siena Heights men's basketball team ended its season with a loss to Concordia in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament. The Saints finished with a record of 7-24. Junior forward Victor Hamilton (Detroit, Mich.) earned a spot on the third team all-league squad. The 6-foot-6 forward also was



named to the league's all-newcomer team. Senior guard Justin Norlock (Warren, Mich.) was a first team WHAC all-defensive team member, while senior guard Dante Perkins (left,

Toledo, Ohio), was Siena's Champions of Character honoree.

Women's Basketball

Led by the record-setting performance of senior forward Laura Panozzo (read more on Panozzo's accomplishments and career in this issue), the Siena Heights women's basketball team finished the season 17-13. The 17 wins is only the second time in the program's history a team has accomplished that total. Panozzo (Berkley, Mich.) became the program's all-time scorer and rebounder while earning honorable mention NAIA All-American honors. She was also chosen to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first team for the second straight season. Junior forward Holly Meier (Sterling Heights, Mich.) was selected third team all-conference, while senior guard Jen Hoffman led



the team with 60 3-point shots made, only six shy of the single-season record. Senior guard Desiree Spivey (left, Detroit, Mich.) was named Siena's Champion of Character, while junior guard Niesha Lowe (Grand Rapids, Mich.) earned WHAC all-academic squad honors.

Indoor Track and Field

At Johnson City, Tenn., senior LeeAnn Fleming broke her school record in the weight throw to lead the Siena Heights track team at the NAIA National Indoor Meet. Fleming (Coopersville, Mich.) earned All-American status by finishing second in the weight throw with a toss of 57

feet, 1 inch. The Saints' 4x800 men's relay team of Jon Kleinow (Adrian, Mich.), Robert Banks (Toledo, Ohio), Luke Pawlaczyk (Bay City, Mich.) and Terry Fisk (Union City, Mich.) set a school record by finishing the event in 7:43.49. Their finish was good for fifth place, also earning All-American status. Erving Warren (Benton Harbor, Mich.) was the other All-American for the Saints, finishing fifth in the men's high jump.

Spring Sports

Outdoor Track and Field



Siena Heights competed this spring in the NAIA National Outdoor Track & Field Meet in California. Senior LeeAnn Fleming (left, Coopersville, Mich.) led the way for the Saints, finishing in seventh

place in the women's hammer throw. Senior Amanda Haines (Adrian, Mich.) placed eighth in the women's pole vault as well as 17th place in the long jump. On the men's side, the 4x800 men's relay team of Jon Kleinow (Adrian, Mich.), Robert Banks (Toledo, Ohio), Luke Pawlaczyk (Bay City, Mich.) and Terry Fisk (Union City, Mich.) finished seventh in the preliminaries.

Softball



The Saints softball team finished 22-25 overall and 7-13 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference —just one place shy of earning a berth in the conference tournament.

Seniors Julie Thomas (above, Bowling Green, Ohio) and Koral Herzog (Rossford, Ohio) were selected first team All-WHAC. Thomas, an outfielder, finished out her record-setting career with her second straight all-conference berth. She led the Saints in several offensive categories, including batting average (.366), hits (56) and slugging percentage (.497). She was also chosen to the NAIA All-Region team for the second consecutive year. Herzog, a second baseman, picked up her first all-conference selection after recording a .324 batting average and 17 stolen bases. Jess Barney (Whitehouse, Ohio), Dani Bailey (Blissfield, Mich.), Natalie Waelchli (St. Clair Shores, Mich.) and Kina Williams (Camden, Mich.) were named to the honorable mention All-WHAC squad. Mariah

Welke (Coldwater, Mich.) and Head Coach Laura Klutsarits picked up the Champions of Character Award, while Thomas, Sarah Beaubien (Ida, Mich.), Amber Daweritz (Manitou Beach, Mich.) and Liz Harrison (Clinton, Mich.) made the WHAC all-academic team. Beaubien, Daweritz and Julie Thomas were also named to the 2007 NAIA Scholar Athlete softball team.

Baseball



For the second time in his career, senior catcher Chris Hudson (left, Blissfield, Mich.) was named to the first team All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference team. Hudson hit .349 with

two home runs and 33 RBI for the Saints, who finished the year 12-34 overall. Mike Sepesy (Ida, Mich.), Josh Miranda (Toledo, Ohio), Cory Bergfeld (Waterville, Ohio) and Nate Pepper (Michigan Center, Mich.) all received honorable mention All-WHAC honors. Colin Fricke (Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich.) was named to the WHAC all-academic team, while Steve Campbell (Phoenix, Ariz.) was the Saints' representative on the Champions of Character team.

Men's Golf



Josh Dixon (left, Onsted, Mich.) placed 22nd overall at the NAIA Region VIII Championships this spring in Vicksburg, Mich. The junior missed the all-region team by six strokes, however, Dixon recorded the second lowest round of the tournament. His 70 in the first round tied a Siena Heights school record. The Saints shot 644 as a team.

Women's Golf



The Siena Heights women's golf team finished its first season with a fourth-place finish at the NAIA Region VIII Tournament this spring. The Saints shot a two-day team score of 731. Kelli Sawyer (above, Munnith, Mich.) led the Saints with a ninth place finish. Kaendall McVicker (Temperance, Mich.) also finished in 19th place. The Saints were the highest placing WHAC team in the tournament.

Stoutenberg and Tucker Receive Scholarships



Two Siena Heights University women's soccer players each received a \$2,000 scholarship as part of a cooperative pilot program involving the NAIA and the American Red Cross.

Siena Heights University was selected to participate from the Great Lakes Region. Kim Stoutenberg and Kati Tucker, both juniors, were chosen to represent Siena in the program. Student-athletes were selected for exuding initiative and displaying the five core values of the "Champions of Character" program. The criteria also includes the ability to lead others, maturity and strong oral and written communication skills.

"They are two of my hardest-working players, both on and off the field," said SHU women's soccer coach Scott Oliver '97. "Both carry perfect 4.0 grade-point averages. Obviously, they are very deserving of the honor."

Stoutenberg (above left), from Roscommon, Mich., is a sport management major and Spanish minor. She is vice president of the Sport Management Association at Siena.

Tucker (above right), from Royal Oak, Mich., is a psychology major who is a member of Student Senate at Siena Heights.

The American Red Cross/NAIA collaboration also provides participating student-athletes valuable networking opportunities, resume building and the ability to champion a philanthropic cause.

As participants in this effort, Stoutenberg and Tucker will become ARC Blood Services region board members. They will attend board meetings and training, provide subject matter expertise with respect to youth and young adults, promote ARC blood drives on campus and mentor their successor in the program.

By Doug Goodnough



How Siena Heights' All-Time Leading Scorer May Take Her Game to the Next Level

Laura Panozzo '07 amazed a lot of people during her career with the Siena Heights University women's basketball program—including herself.

Siena's all-time leading scorer and rebounder wasn't even sure basketball was her sport of choice while prepping at Berkley (Mich.) High School.

"I aspired to be a college and pro soccer player," Panozzo said of her early high school aspirations. "However, my freshman year of high school I realized I sort of outgrew my love for soccer, and it didn't mean the same to me anymore . . . I realized I ended up enjoying basketball much more."

And Siena Heights reaped the rewards of that decision. The 5-foot-10 forward finished her college career scoring 1,812 points and snaring 1,099 rebounds—both career school records. In fact, she is the only Saint—male or female—to score more than 1,700 points and grab 1,000 rebounds for a career. The two-time first team All-Wolverine Hoosier Athletic Conference and NAIA honorable mention All-American selection guided the Saints to a 17-win season as a senior, only the second Siena women's team to achieve that mark.

Panozzo said while she was a good high school player, she never realized she could be that good.

"My career in high school was good," Panozzo said. "I never considered myself a great player, but I knew I had potential."

That potential was realized early on at Siena. During her freshman season, she was content to contribute as a reserve, but then one of the starters quit the team, and Panozzo was thrust into the starting lineup.

"I will admit to being nervous, and frankly, scared, at the beginning," Panozzo said. "That year was one of my biggest growing years, because I had to do it so fast."



She finished that season averaging 10.5 points a game to earn a spot on the WHAC's Newcomer Team, as well as making third team all-conference. And it only got better from there. Panozzo averaged 15.7 points per contest as a sophomore on the way to second team all-conference honors, then scored 18.5 and 16.3 points per game, respectively, during her junior and senior seasons. As a senior, she was named the conference Player of the Week four times, and was also chosen to the Women's Basketball Coaches Association all-regional team.

While she is satisfied with her scoring accomplishments, she is most proud of her rebounding records. As a junior, she grabbed 11.93 caroms a game, including a single-game record of 27. As a senior, she averaged 10.2 boards per contest.

"I never really tracked rebounds, and they were never expressed as being the most important aspect of the game," Panozzo said. "Now, though, I feel like it is one of the most underrated skills in the game because it doesn't take much skill. It just takes passion and the feeling of urgency that the ball is yours and you have to get it. . . . The best part is people realizing that a forward who is not tall holds the record. When they realize that I hold the (rebounding) record, they are amazed."

Panozzo combined a desire to improve with an uncanny on-court awareness. She also possessed good footwork and coordination, crediting her soccer background and dance lessons. She also said her ability to "turn off her brain" during games and just let her talent and hard work take over was another key to her success.

"So much of players' problems come from when they think too much about situations and they end up missing an opportunity because they get so confused with so much," Panozzo said. "I let my body take over and all the practice and all the repetition of moves and plays come down to muscle memory and relying on my body."



Of course, goal-setting is another trait of an outstanding athlete.

"I set small goals for myself every year, and once I conquered that, I would set another," Panozzo said. "I avoided setting really big ones, because sometimes when you reach for something so huge, you lose steam on your way, and you end up giving up. So I set small goals, not knowing where they could eventually lead me, and it turned out to be bigger than I had imagined."

With her college career completed, Panozzo is now setting new goals. This summer, she is finishing up her degree in business management. She would like to remain in sports, possibly writing or even coaching. And there is still the option of a professional basketball career.

"I am not ruling out the option of playing overseas," Panozzo said of the possibility of a professional career. "I do have a contact for an agent, so when I feel ready for the challenge, I have someone I can talk to about starting the process. For now, I am working on my internship and getting that college degree, because that is most important to me."

"The Siena experience was more than I could ask for," she said. "I came here knowing no one, and (ended up) meeting everyone. Because we are small, it gave me the chance to meet people I might never have somewhere else. . . . I don't have it all figured out now, but Siena has helped me come into my own and given me the confidence I need to pursue what I want." ♦

By Doug Goodnough


Backstage At PHANTOM

The Las Vegas Spectacular



Some may say Michael Lackey's life is all an act.

After all, for six nights and eight performances almost every week, Lackey '77 plays a well-known character in the largest grossing entertainment event of all time. As a cast member in the Las Vegas production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical, *The Phantom of the Opera*, Lackey has ascended to one of acting's highest stages.



This Page: The custom-built \$40 million Venetian Theatre was created by David Rockwell, one of the most renowned and celebrated theatrical designers working today. The theatre itself will transport you to the Paris Opera House—with detail, design and action surrounding the audience—creating a Phantom experience like no other. Photo by Joan Marcus.

Facing Page: Backstage before a Phantom performance, Siena alum Michael Lackey '77 undergoes the detailed transformation into The Phantom. This summer, Lackey is getting several opportunities to play the lead role as the “man behind the mask.”

Most of the time, Lackey plays the role of the Auctioneer, who opens the macabre musical by setting the stage for the main story. However, Lackey is also the understudy for the Phantom. This summer, he is getting several opportunities to play the lead role as the “man behind the mask.” And when he does take the stage in the \$40 million Venetian Resort theater as the Phantom, all eyes are on him.

“When the drum roll begins,” Lackey said, describing the emotions playing the Phantom, “your heart is pounding out of your chest. When you’re ready to sing your first note, the Phantom is behind this one-way mirror. The audience can’t see you but you can see them. . . . They just hear the voice coming out from all around but they can’t see you until the mirror comes up. It’s very, very exciting.”

But for the former art student-turned-theatre major-turned-pizzeria owner, forging an acting career is not all about excitement. In fact, except for the exhilarating 95 minutes or so he has on stage during each performance, Lackey approaches his career in workmanlike fashion.

Before each performance, whether as the Auctioneer or the Phantom, there’s an extensive process of makeup and costumes to undergo. As the Phantom, it may mean having a dressing assistant or two shove a skull cap over his matted down hair and then begin the detailed process of putting on the makeup and prosthetics to complete the transformation. Once he is in costume, then comes the preparation to get in character. Even though Lackey is approaching 500 Vegas performances, he has to perform as if it’s his very first time in the role.

“It honestly doesn’t get tired,” Lackey said of his role. “On one hand, yes, some days you go to work and it’s a job. But once the music starts and you put on your costumes and see the audience there . . .”

In other words, he enjoys what he’s doing.

It’s not what he envisioned as a boy raised on a farm outside of Hillsdale, Mich. After graduating from high school, Lackey enrolled at Eastern Michigan University, where he said he felt out of place from the start. A friend introduced him to Siena Heights, and he enrolled there the next fall as a sophomore art major. He used his art and woodworking skills to help build sets in the theater department. But that’s not what eventually attracted him to performing.

“What attracted me to theater, first of all, was the fact that I loved to sing,” Lackey said. “I was rather introverted (as a college student), but then I took a speech class at Siena. I didn’t realize I had a penchant for speaking in front of a crowd. Suddenly, I was one of the teacher’s favorite students.”

His very first show at Siena Heights was playing the role of Woody Mahoney in the musical *Finian’s Rainbow*. From there, Lackey’s interest in acting grew so much, he soon couldn’t imagine himself doing anything else.

“Some people say if you’re going into something like theater or the arts, you need a backup,” Lackey said of his career aspirations. “To be perfectly honest, I went on to my acting career because I didn’t have a backup.”

Typically Michael opens the show as the Auctioneer, seen above. But he also serves as the Phantom understudy to Brent Barrett, seen at right. The *Phantom of the Opera* has grossed more than \$3 billion worldwide since its London premiere in 1986. Photos by Joan Marcus.





Soon after graduating from Siena Heights, Lackey traveled to audition at the prestigious St. Louis Municipal Theatre. He was successfully cast in the chorus of *The Music Man*, starring Tony Randall. However, he had to pull out of the show, returning to Michigan to care for his ailing father. Once home, he gained valuable experience locally, taking part in several productions at Adrian's Croswell Opera House—even managing to run a pizzeria for a time. Crediting longtime Croswell fixture Robert Soller for “teaching me the business,” Lackey eventually returned to St. Louis, and was cast in the Tony Award-winning musical *Kiss Me, Kate*, with Robert Goulet.

From there, Lackey worked in several regional productions, including a dozen or more performances at the Croswell. After working two national tours with *Hello, Dolly!* starring Carol Channing, Lackey landed a job in his first company of *The Phantom of the Opera* in 1993. He became an understudy for the role of the Phantom in 1995, and has been in that role ever since for several production companies.



Michael Lackey poses with fellow Phantom co-workers Brianne Kelly Morgan (left), who plays Meg in the show, and crew electrician Amanda Sanchez (right).

“The pay is good. The hours are great. It’s a hard job to beat,” Lackey said.

However, working six days a week for 50 weeks a year also has its sacrifices. He rarely gets a chance to return to his Adrian home, putting a strain on family life. That means his wife, Betsy, travels to Las Vegas almost every weekend to see him.

“I have the most wonderful, understanding and patient wife,” he said. “I don’t know how she does it. She’s finally at the point where it’s getting to be routine. But it’s been tough.”

However, he said he is fortunate to have found the job stability his profession rarely provides. *Phantom: The Las Vegas Spectacular*, is staged in a custom-built theater designed to resemble the famed Opera Garnier in Paris. It also features an impressive one-ton chandelier that comes “crashing” down on the audience during each performance. In January 2006, it became the longest-running show in Broadway history, surpassing another of Lloyd Webber’s greatest hits, *Cats*.

“A show like *Phantom* is a rarity in terms of job longevity,” Lackey said. “Usually the hardest thing to do is a job interview. Imagine having to do a job interview every couple of months. New people breaking into this business have to learn to have real thick skin. Expect 10-20 rejections before you get your first job. I was very, very lucky.”

He credits Siena Heights’ theater department for preparing him well for his current career. Lackey said the small-school environment has its advantages in theater.

“There are opportunities that you would not get at a larger school because you get lost in the numbers,” Lackey said of Siena Heights, pointing to the university’s longstanding relationship with the nearby Croswell. “What I got at Siena Heights was serious one-on-one teaching. I was able to call my professors by their first names and get to know them.”

In fact, he is living proof that big dreams can start in small places.

“I’ve performed the title role in Broadway’s largest grossing musical,” Lackey said. “I did it, and so can you if you have the dream. If this is what you want more than anything else, go after your dream. Don’t give up. Keep fighting for it.” ♦

By Doug Goodnough

How a \$148 Loan

Turned into a Multimillion-Dollar Business Career



During his visit in March, Ping chats with Sister Magdalena Ezoe, OP.



Chang'an Street, downtown Beijing, China.



Tiananmen Square, downtown Beijing, China.



Great Hall of the People, downtown Beijing, China.

Ping Dong is living proof of the American Dream—even though he lives in China.

Armed with a \$1,000 scholarship to Siena Heights, a \$148 bus ticket and a driving will to succeed, Dong '86 traveled from China to the United States to study in America. In 1981, that was no easy task. However, using his Siena Heights degree as a springboard to success, today Dong is a flourishing international businessman involved in multimillion dollar ventures.

He credits his Siena Heights education for helping him reach his potential. But he had to get to Siena first.

“At that time I was in one of the good universities (in China),” Dong said of his initial interest in studying in America. “A couple of American professors were teaching there and they were good friends with Dr. (Lou) Vaccaro (Siena Heights’ president at the time). Dr. Vaccaro asked if they could find some (Chinese) students (to attend) Siena Heights. That’s how I came to Siena.”

With that \$1,000 scholarship to Siena Heights, Dong made his way from China to Los Angeles, briefly staying with one of his American professors from Jilin University before arriving at Siena.

“I read some about America and listened almost every night to the Voice of America on the radio,” Dong said of his preparations to visit America. “But even knowing more than most ordinary (Chinese) people, I was still shocked. At that time China had very little supply of anything. If you had a pencil, it was one kind. Here, you have potato chips, and there’s 10 different brands. I didn’t even know what a hamburger was. It was an ultimate first impression.”

In fact, he wasn’t sure how he would make it to Siena Heights’ campus. Fortunately, his professor friend loaned him the \$148 bus fare to travel from Los Angeles to Toledo, Ohio, where a couple of Siena students picked him up at the bus station and drove him the 30 or so miles to Adrian.

Once on campus, he had even a bigger adjustment to make – understanding English-speaking professors and classmates. Dong, who dropped out of school in China after the eighth grade to pursue a career as a professional musician, showed he had the determination to persevere.

“I had a hard time following speech,” Dong said. “People talked too fast for me. (In America), nobody assumes that your English isn’t good. The first time I walked out of the back door of the dorm, a guy came up to me and said, ‘How are you doing?’ What did he say? I never learned that phrase. I learned, ‘How do you do?’ and ‘How are you?’ After about 10 minutes I realized what he was saying.”



Ping poses with classmates at his 2006 MBA graduation from Tsinghua University.

And reading and writing in the English language was not much easier.

“Just finishing the homework was very challenging,” said Dong, recalling the many nights he ended up sleeping in the college library. “Every single line (in the book) had a new word. I don’t want any new word I don’t know to pass without checking the dictionary. Plus, I was two weeks late when school already started . . . I read day and night. I spent a whole week finishing the introduction and chapter one – and they were already in chapter four!”

Dong planned to major in business administration at Siena. Then he switched to accounting, before finally settling on computer information systems.

“After a year (at Siena), I learned that all the free market economy rules (in America) do not apply to a planned economy (of China),” Dong said. “So what I learned here would not work. Then I learned accounting rules go with business rules . . . that won’t work, either. During this process I took some computer classes and really did well. OK, I think computers would be safe enough.”

The 51-year-old single father of two sons has vivid memories of his time at Siena Heights. Some include working as a dish washer in Benincasa Dining Hall, learning to drive a car in the school parking lot and borrowing Sister Magdalena Ezoë’s Toyota Tercel to travel to viola classes at the University of Michigan. And then there were his memories of former Siena business faculty member Chuck Milliken.

“My first class was his,” Dong recalled. “He talked very fast. It was the first time sitting in an American class, and I was kind of late. When I sat down, he said, ‘Ahh, you’re from China.’ Suddenly he was very interested in knowing about China. He kept asking me questions, and I didn’t know what he was saying.”

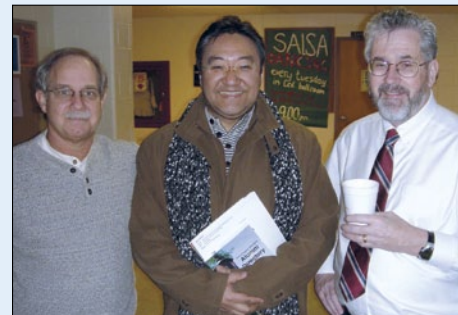
He also credited Dr. Robert Gordon for helping to hand pick his classes so he could stay on course to graduation.

While at Siena, Dong remained intrigued in international business, especially the fledgling economy of China. He saw the products Americans used every day and thought, “I could sell those products (in China).”

When he graduated in 1986, he now had a Siena Heights degree – and the freedom to use it.

“After graduation, I said, ‘Hey, now nobody can stop me. Nobody can force me to do anything,’” Dong said.

In 1987, he and four friends founded AArbor International Corp. in Ann Arbor, Mich. AArbor made pigments for paint and printing and had worldwide revenues of nearly \$20 million before he left the day-to-day operations in 2000. He also founded Investeck Corp., which focused on international trading and investment. Investeck supplied the design, technical support, equipment and materials for the first privately owned power plant in Hyderabad, India. Currently, he is working with his brother to try and open a concrete vibration factory in China, where construction is booming.



Ping travels to Ann Arbor several times a year to visit his mother. In March he came to Siena for the first time in many years and spoke with faculty members Tim Husband (left) and Bob Gordon (right).

“They are building every single day,” Dong said. “Every day the place changes. The whole country changes every day.”

In fact, Dong considers himself a kind of pioneer of the modern-day Chinese economy.

“When we did business in China and the U.S., we had to overcome many difficulties,” he said. “The rules over there, and the rules over here. And the quality of the (Chinese) products was terrible. We brought quality up to international standards.”

Currently living in China’s capital of Beijing, Dong returns to the U.S. two or three times a year to visit his mother, who resides in Ann Arbor. Last year, he received his MBA from Tsinghua University, the most prestigious university in China. He said there are many more educational opportunities today for Chinese students – and believes they would love Siena Heights.

“A lot of students would love to come here,” Dong said. “And most of them weren’t like me, who had no means to support myself. Now a lot of the people do have the means. Siena Heights was a very, very good experience.” ♦

Alternative Spring Break

By Doug Goodnough



Giving Up Sun & Fun for a Mississippi Mission



Bitting gnats, demanding physical work and cramped sleeping quarters in the bowels of a church—sound like an ideal vacation?

For more than a dozen Siena Heights University students and six chaperones, the chance to make a difference in the world outweighed the creature comforts of a traditional spring break. A Siena Heights contingent spent their spring break in Mississippi helping to rebuild an area still devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

“This year students were expressing a lot of interest and wanting to do something for the Gulf Coast because of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita,” said April Gutierrez, SHU campus minister who helped organize the trip. “It was an area that offered a lot of support for our students.”

The Siena team, which was sponsored by the SHU chapter of Habitat for Humanity, first traveled to Jackson, Miss., then on to Bay St. Louis, Miss. Participating in what are called “blitz builds,” students and chaperones spent the next four days completing construction on a house for a displaced family who lost their home during the hurricanes.

“When we got there, the cement was laid and there was a frame,” Gutierrez said. “And when we left, we were painting and finishing the shingles. It looked like a house. It was pretty exciting to be a part of that process.”

Most of the students who volunteered were ambitious—but had no skills—including freshman Derrick Owens.

“I never hammered before this,” said Owens, a native of Detroit, Mich., who also is a member of the SHU men’s basketball team. “I kind of hit my thumb a couple of times. It was fun, though. I had great help beside me. By the end of the trip, I could handle it.”

“When I first heard about Katrina, I sent money and it didn’t seem like enough,” said fifth-year senior Nicole Hoida, of Waldron, Mich., another member of the team. “I wanted to actually do something about it. And I didn’t want to waste spring break doing nothing.”

Gutierrez said students got a chance to install siding, drywall and help construct other parts of the house – all under the supervision of Habitat volunteers. The days were long and hot. But that did not deter or discourage team members.

“Even on the build, people were smiling all the time and sharing stories,” Hoida said.

“You get tired, but when you see the satisfaction on their faces, it made it all worth it at the end,” Owens said.

Gutierrez said the woman who received house was able to meet and talk with team members throughout the week.

“The gratitude was overwhelming,” she said.

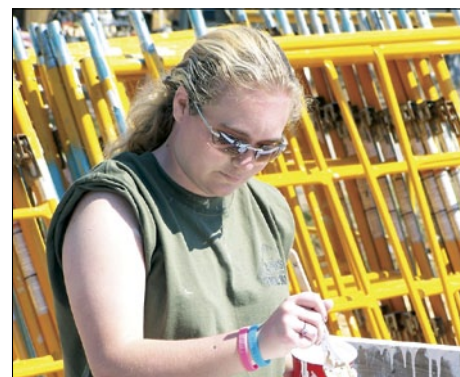
Once work was finished for the day, team members spent their evenings at nearby Lagniappe Presbyterian Church, where they shared bunk beds and overcrowded living conditions with nearly 300 other people. One day, the group was able to visit nearby New Orleans, where they witnessed a city still trying to recover from the damage.

“Outside of the downtown area, it was devastation,” Owens said of New Orleans. “It’s a long way from where it was before.”

Spray-painted street signs, trailers serving as banks and churches meeting in half-open buildings were some of the sights witnessed by team members. For students, it was a lesson learned outside the traditional classroom.

“I bring back accomplishment. I feel like I actually did something,” said Hoida, who graduated from SHU this spring with a degree in art therapy. “They kept telling us that without us, it wouldn’t have been done.”

“It’s sad because we live here in Michigan. We can watch it on TV. We can just turn the channel. Down there, there’s no remote control,” Owens said. “It was an eye-opening experience. You go down there and you know you are doing good for somebody. But once you see the person, it all changes. It motivates you.” ♦



visit our new alumni website at www.sienaheights.edu

from the alumni office



On the Road and Back Again: Share the Pride!

In my travels, I am privileged to meet alumni all across the country. Sitting in coffee shops and cafés, cozy kitchens and lovely living rooms, I share news from Siena Heights and hear wonderful stories from our graduates. This is invariably a rewarding exchange!

Sometimes I meet with people I've previously gotten to know at Alumni Weekend or other events; but often I am meeting alumni for the first time and bringing Siena to people who've not seen campus in many years. My mid-winter trip to Florida (my first to that state) was typical: I rendezvoused with many "old" friends but equally enjoyed introducing myself to "new" ones. Also typical was the realization, yet again, that Siena's mission and values are alive and well in the lives and careers of our alumni.

Returning to SHU energized by pride in the University and our graduates, I found myself immersed in events that only intensified those feelings: Alumni Awards Day when John Detro '85, Pat McDonald, OP '69 and Sister Mary Alan Stuart, OP '63 impressed the campus with their accomplishments, dedication and humility. Theater events, recitals and senior projects when our students showcased the gifts and talents honed in Siena's classrooms. And the multitude of year-end events—honors receptions, Kente ceremonies, commencements across the state—when faculty, staff, students, parents and alumni came together to celebrate successful conclusions and new horizons.

The end of the academic year leaves me wiped out, but high as a kite with enthusiasm for all that Siena Heights is and does.

For those of you—most of you—who aren't here to experience Siena every day, let me mention just a few reasons why you, too, can be enthusiastic about your alma mater:

- Our faculty teach more, advise more, and participate more fully in campus life than professors at any major research institution—and yet, they find time to create, investigate, and publish. We celebrated publication of five faculty books this year, applauded an original faculty play, enjoyed several new faculty compositions, and stood wide-eyed in appreciation of faculty art. We honored Sally Rae, director of undergraduate teaching education, as a Michigan university educator of the year; and saluted Peter Barr, art history, with Siena's Eileen K. Rice Outstanding Teaching Award.

- Our students in all areas share their energies and talents for good causes. The entire freshman class volunteered in the Lenawee community. Jeff Lindstrom's upper level psychology students collected food and money for The Daily Bread as well as assisting at the soup kitchen—just one of many possible examples of "service learning" at Siena. Siena students helped maintain Adrian's winter homeless shelter. Others spent spring break volunteering on Mississippi's Gulf Coast. Members of the Children's Theater Troupe reached out to elementary students at area schools. This list goes on and on.
- Our graduates willingly share time and talent with the University. The Alumni Board provides leadership and support for all the activities of the Alumni Office. Other alumni assist whenever called upon. Denise Washington '00, '05/MA is typical. "I am so proud to be a Siena Heights alumna," she told graduates at the SHU@KCC Kente ceremony. Education has made her "a rich woman," she said, describing such wealth as "a toolbox with the correct tool for solutions, no matter what environment you are in."

When you think of Siena Heights, I encourage you to be proud. Be very proud.

Best wishes and see you soon—on campus or on the road.

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



catching up

Alumni Association Board of Directors

Joseph J. Balusik III '90, *President*
 Deb Carrington Keller '74, '75, '02, *Vice President*
 Mary Fairweather '01, *Secretary*
 Keith J. Rusie '99, *Immediate Past President*

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 Shannon Bruley '04
 Katherine A. Cusick '84
 Paul Flowers '94
 Judy Hill '74
 Shirley (Tootie) Horn '68
 Karen A. Johnson '04
 Matthew Keller '03
 Michael K. Lane '05
 Claire Lubaway '73
 Christa Marsik, OP '59
 Montez McDonald '01
 Jeanne Whitlow Mosley '59
 Mary E. Phillips '71
 Dennis Reeder '78
 John Stoyka '04
 M. Annette Watson '05

Dr. Anthony J. Scioly, *Faculty Representative*
 Erin Mareel '07, *Student Representative*

Incoming Members for 2007–08:

Nadine Fish '03
 JoAnn Curtin Monaghan '65
 Daniel Pena '05
 Theresa Rahn '03



Save These 2007 dates!

Alumni Weekend—Sept. 28–30

Fun for ALL—don't miss it!

- 25th Reunion—Class of 1982
- 40th Reunion—Class of 1967
- Golden Opportunity Reunions!
 - 50th — Classes of '57 and '58
 - 55th — Class of '52
 - 60th — Class of '47

Metro Detroit 30th Anniversary—Oct. 13

Celebrating 30 years of service in Southfield!

SHU Goes to Las Vegas—TBA

A Night at the (Phantom of the) Opera!

Featuring Michael Lackey '77. Watch for details.

SHU@LMC Holiday Gathering—Dec. 5

Celebrating 25 Years in Benton Harbor!

Another great evening at Tosi's. Watch for details.

Siena Scenes: Here and Everywhere

Above: Graduates of diverse ages and experience enjoyed sunny graduations in May, first on campus (shown) and later in Battle Creek and Benton Harbor. Welcome, new alumni!

1—In her Naples, FL, home, art alumna Claire Forsthoefel Amsler '52 poses in front of one of her many original paintings during an afternoon visit with Siena Heights' alumni director in February.

2—March 15 was Alumni Awards Day 2007 at Siena Heights. Savoring the celebration are (from left) alumni director Jennifer Hamlin Church; Outstanding Alumni Award winner Captain John F. Detro '85; recipient of the Sister Ann Joachim Award, Sister Mary Alan Stuart, OP '63; and Patricia McDonald, OP '69, winner of the St. Dominic Award.

3—Mary Duker Barker '39 enjoys a February afternoon in Vero Beach, FL, and proudly displays her Siena Heights tote bag after lunch with Siena's alumni director.

4—Commencement is a family affair at Siena Heights; and each year, many of our graduates—our newest alumni—have children on hand to share the day's excitement. Pictured below with his two sons is recent graduate Kevin Sellers '07.



Remembering Marie Irene Miller, OP '36

1913–2007

Alumni Profile

Wasn't She Delightful?

By Bob Gordon
Director of the Siena Heights Library

Editor's note: The following is excerpted from Bob Gordon's remarks at Sister Marie Irene's wake in February.

For about 20 years, I worked with Sister Marie Irene at Siena Heights. When I met her in 1977, she was the assistant registrar at Siena. My friend, Bob Parker, was the registrar. Or, at least the name plate on his desk said he was. Everyone on campus knew Marie Irene really ran the shop. Bob knew it, too, and was smart enough to leave well enough alone.

When the time came for Marie Irene to slow down at Siena, Bob approached me to say that Sister was looking to retire from full-time employment and to inquire about the possibility of her working half-time with me in the advising office. By that time, I had been at Siena a number of years and had figured out that having a half-time Dominican on your staff was like having a full-time normal person working for you. So I jumped at the chance.

Marie Irene's assignment was to assist me with institutional research. At that time, she had almost no experience working with computers. For several years, she struggled to make the transition from paper to digital records. She was forever hand-tabulating data that had already been tabulated by the computer. She just could not believe a machine could be so fast and still be accurate. In time, though, she conceded.

In 1987, Marie Irene retired—again. That didn't last long, either. A few years later, she was back on campus functioning, along with Sister Helen Duggan, as the curator of Siena's archives. There she was, 80 years old, figuring out—mostly on her own—how to be an archivist. In just a few years, she organized tens of thousands of documents and interviewed almost a hundred faculty and staff about their experiences at and contributions to Siena. Those documents and audio interviews are now a vital part of the Siena archives.

Marie Irene was a Gospel Christian. To her, the things that really mattered about her faith were the Golden Rule and the Sermon on the Mount. She was completely without prejudice about those who were different in appearance, customs or ideas and was humble about her own status in life.



Marie Irene earned her bachelor's degree from Siena where she majored in Latin. For many years, she taught Latin and she was the Queen of Grammar. You did not want to be in Marie Irene's "Grammar Dog House."

Marie Irene had a wonderful sense of humor. Well into her 80s, she reveled in doing outrageous things for her annual Christmas card—things that for her were firsts. There was a photo of her on a horse. With a cowboy hat. In a hot air balloon.

Though frail of body in recent years, Marie Irene was mentally alert to the end. When I would stop in to visit, she would say, "Bob, how good to see you." Then, even before I settled in for conversation, she would tap her temple to signal that she was still with it.

Wasn't she delightful? And weren't we lucky? Weren't we lucky to have known someone to whom it is so hard to say goodbye. Good bye, Marie Irene. And thank you. Now, rest in peace.

Yes, She Was Delightful!

By Jennifer Hamlin Church
Associate VP for Advancement: Alumni Relations

Marie Irene Miller was the first Adrian Dominican (indeed the first Sister of any kind), and the first Siena Heights alumna, to become my friend.

When I came to Siena Heights in the summer of 1995, Marie Irene already was an official "Honorary Member" of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. I never knew how long, or even if, she had served in a "regular" capacity but she took her "honorary" status very seriously. No cushy membership-in-name-only service for her. She attended every Alumni Board meeting, read every meeting's minutes meticulously, participated in every activity she could attend, and stopped by my office to talk several times a month.

She became, almost immediately, my closest advisor, supporter, trouble-shooter and mentor. She was candid, creative, encouraging; and delivered her advice with a twinkling smile.

When she could no longer make it to Alumni Board meetings, Marie Irene insisted on resigning her honorary membership. If she couldn't participate, she said firmly, she couldn't accept that honor. She would still offer sage advice when asked, though, and I asked often. Her guidance—about Alumni Weekend parties, engaging the Adrian Dominicans, reaching out to younger alumni, maintaining the personal touch—was invaluable and always right on the mark.

But more than a colleague, Marie Irene was a friend. Over many long lunches, she told stories about her love of ice skating and basketball, her youth as a Catholic school girl, her father's tears when his only daughter joined the Congregation, her delight in teaching, her faith in God. She was energetic in the effort to remain active and healthy until just a few years ago—and shared the keen disappointment when her heart and lungs could no longer support such effort.

Ultimately, Marie Irene was a role model for living life to the fullest, to the end, with grace and good humor. Delighting in each day's gifts, she was a gift herself. She really was delightful. ♦



class notes

From The Sites

SHU—Battle Creek

Celebrating 15 Years! Congratulations to the faculty, staff, students and alumni of the Kellogg Community College Center.

Steve Marzolf '98 began work in February as director of emergency services for Battle Creek Health System (BCHS). Steve's 20-year health care career began as a staff nurse in cardiology and critical care at Borgess Health in Kalamazoo. He also has worked as director of inpatient cardiac and critical care services, director of the virtual intensive care unit, and interim director of the Borgess emergency department.

Rollin Mains '04 and **Kelly Mains '04** relocated to the Detroit area after Rollin was promoted to contract specialist with the Government Services Administration, a U.S. government agency. Kelly now works for the Department of Justice as a legal assistant in the Executive Office of Immigration Review. They live in Macomb and both work at the McNamara Federal Building in downtown Detroit.

Isaac Wyatt '05 lives in Santa Barbara, CA, where he is marketing operations analyst for Citrix Corporation. He plans to attend California State University at Channel Islands to earn an MBA degree.

SHU—Benton Harbor

Celebrating 25 Years! Alumni and friends are invited to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Siena Heights partnership with Lake Michigan College at our annual holiday gathering. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, Dec. 5, and join us at Tosi's Restaurant in Stevensville. Details: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

Arlene Tilly '91 went back to school and earned an associate degree in graphic design from Lake Michigan College. She recently moved to Grand Rapids where she is doing market surveys for Directions in Research while "trying to find a more creative position."

Renea Doughten Brunke '99/MA has been promoted to Vice President of Human Resources at Catholic Healthcare West/East Valley in Chandler, AZ. In the position, she oversees all human resources responsibilities at two hospitals in the area. (She was human resources director at the same two hospitals for the past year; and previously worked at a hospital in Phoenix.) "I'm so excited to have the opportunity to work at the VP level," Renea wrote. "I can't tell you enough how well the master's degree program at Siena Heights prepared me for this journey." Before Renea and her husband, Howard, moved to Arizona in 2001, they lived in Buchanan and Renea worked for the Lakeland Regional Healthcare System in St. Joseph.

Shana Calhoun Lista '04 is employed by Whirlpool Corporation in St. Joseph, where she lives with her husband Andrew.

Ronda Wise Kiser '04 lives in Chesterfield, VA, with her two children, Brittany and Brock. She is the Program Manager, Global Customer Solutions for the IBM Corporation in North Carolina's Research Triangle Park.

Harrison Mueyba Musonda '05 lives in Stevensville with his wife, Mercy, and their two children, daughter Luwi (11) and infant son Mwaba, who was born March 13. Harrison is an inventory control analyst for Wolverine Metal Stamping and hopes to enroll in graduate school for his MBA.

Brein Percy Summers '05 recently married Michael Summers. They reside in Niles.

Tracie Wright '06 is an administrative assistant at Benton Harbor's Community Church of God in Christ.

Tracy Zielke '06 is living in South Bend, IN.

SHU—Lansing

Denny Myers '01 recently became Athletics Director at Rand Lake College, where he already was coaching women's cross country and track-and-field. During his long coaching career, he previously spent three years as athletic director for Vincennes University and was a 10-time national title winner during 20 years coaching at Lansing Community College. He is a 12-time NJCAA National Coach of the Year in cross country and has been named National Coach of the Year in women's indoor track.

Kasha Lowe '06 received the 2007 Capitol Area Higher Education Network (CAHEN) Outstanding Adult Student Award. CAHEN is a consortium of area educational institutions whose mission is to create awareness of education programs for non-traditional students in the Lansing area. Kasha is a police officer with the Lansing Police Department and has been very active in the community through Shop With a Cop, the Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics, and the Leprechaun Leap for Autism. She hopes to continue her education with graduate study for a master's degree.

Stay In Touch!

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 June 22 will appear in the next issue of Reflections.

Send your news to: alumni@sienaheights.edu. Or snail mail to: Siena Heights Alumni Office, 1247 E. Siena Heights Dr., Adrian, MI 49221. Or call us anytime at: (517) 264-7143 or (800) 693-0506.

SHU—Monroe



Ignazio Cuccia '96 was named chair of the Monroe County Community College Alumni Association. In that position, he also serves on the Board of Directors of The Foundation at MCCC. He served on the Alumni Association Board

of Directors from 1996 to 2002, and returned to the board in 2004. He is owner-agent of the Cuccia Insurance Agency-Nationwide Insurance and is active in several professional insurance associations. A member of the Kiwanis Club of Monroe and the Moose Lodge, he also serves on the Frenchtown Zoning Board of Appeals. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Monroe with their three children.

Mark Durivage '98, dean of the industrial and engineering technologies division at Owens Community College, was prominently featured in The Blade (Toledo, OH) this spring for his involvement in historic parachute jumping. Mark is a member of the Liberty Jump Team which honors military veterans by re-enacting historic parachute endeavors. The group went to Normandy, France, in June to commemorate the 63rd anniversary of D-Day. They jumped out of a World War II original C-47 airplane into the original drop zones where soldiers parachuted in by night to mark the start of the Normandy invasion. Mark has been interested in WWII history, specifically paratrooper history, since high school. "I probably checked out every WWII book in the library," he told the Blade, adding that now he studies the war by seeking out and talking with the men who fought it. He shares what he's learned about World War II through the Owens Community College speakers bureau, talking to schools and groups about airborne activities and re-enacting history.

Sandy Gretzler '01 works for Conway Freight in Ann Arbor.

Victoria Dembinski '03 works for Monroe Bank and Trust as a deposit operations clerk.

Matthew Rogers '03 married Kristi Gildersleeve last summer. They live in Sunbury, OH, where Matthew is an inside wireman for Roehrenbeck Electric and owner of Cash4Motorcycles.com.

Jeremy Langton '03 and **Lorryn Reilly Langton '05** were married in September 2005. They lived in Monroe until Jeremy was promoted from station manager for Hertz in Detroit to his current position as senior city operations manager for Hertz in Indianapolis. They now live near Indy in Fishers, and Lorryn is an account executive for Mass Connections, a retail marketing firm. (Before moving to Indiana, Lorryn was marketing assistant at The Town Center at Levis Commons in Perrysburg, OH.) "We were thrilled for the opportunity to relocate

to this exciting city," Lorryn writes. "We are both applying our education to our current careers daily." Both hope to return to graduate school, Jeremy for an MBA and Lorryn for marketing certification.

Kellie Fogh Allison '04 and her husband, Timothy, were married in May 2006. They live in Temperance. Kellie is an accountant with Parker Hannifin in Metamora, OH.

Jason Leichty '04 of Luna Pier is finishing up his MBA at University of Findlay.

Katie Marshall '05 is employed by Campbell Inc., Ann Arbor.

Sarah Jones Skinner '05 married John Skinner Nov. 10, 2006. They live in St. Clair Shores. Sarah is account manager for Phoenix Personnel, Inc., in Southgate. John is a network administrator for Asterand, Inc., in Detroit.

Daniel Vuich '06 was married in November 2006. He and his wife, Ashleigh, live in Monroe. She works for Peg Harris Dance Studio; he works for Danny's Fine Foods.

SHU—Port Huron

We send our condolences to **Janet Thomas '03** of Port Huron whose husband, Steve, died in February as a result of complications from a tragic auto accident. Steve was 55.

SHU—Southfield

Celebrating 30 Years! Alumni and friends are invited to join us October 13 for a gala celebration of three decades serving adult students in metropolitan Detroit. Watch your mail or contact the Metro Detroit office for details: (248) 787-7784.

Antony Martin '83 is an information technology training consultant for TLM Technical Services in Plymouth, where he lives with his wife, Myrna. They have two grown children.

Fran Parker '88 of St. Clair Shores is CEO of Health Alliance Plan and senior vice president of insurance-purchaser relations for Henry Ford Health System. She was featured in the June 4 issue of Crain's Detroit Business as a member of the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents. Fran joined that board in January.

Michael Linton '03 is living in Saginaw.

We send our condolences to **Wayne Brown '05** of Dearborn Heights whose son, Pfc. Joshua Brown, died June 3 while serving in Iraq. His death came the day after an improvised bomb detonated near his vehicle.

Cassandra Long Wilarski '06 is a community events manager at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, IN, where she lives with husband, Paul.

Main Campus

1940s

1947: Valiant Women (and friends!) of the Class of '47 will celebrate their 60th Reunion during Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30. For details, contact **Rosemarie Van D'Elden Birman '47** or the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

Rosemarie Van D'Elden Birman '47 and her husband, Paul, spent a month in spring 2006 aboard the expedition vessel, National Geographic Endeavor, exploring islands and civilizations of the South Pacific including: "Isolated Polynesians on Easter Island who constructed huge statues (called Moai) and Bounty mutineers on remote Pitcairn Island who, against all odds, have a modern society with internet access and a lively ham radio group." Other ports of call included Bora Bora, Tahiti—and many other lesser-known and more remote islands. "Palmerston Atoll in the Cook Islands group was perhaps the most interesting," they report. Rosemarie and Paul look forward to visiting the not-so-remote location of Adrian this fall for the 60th reunion of the Class of '47!

1950s

1952: Alumnae of 1952 will celebrate their 55th Reunion Sept. 28-30 during Alumni Weekend '07. For details, contact **Liz Geyer '52**, **Rita Geiger Schwing '52**, or the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

1957 and 1958: Alumnae of '57 and '58 will celebrate a combined 50th Reunion during Alumni Weekend '07, Sept. 28-30. For details, contact **Valerie Apel Dryden '57**, **Barb Stein Pendolino '58**, **Nancy Mason Erhardt '58**, or the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.



Elizabeth (Betty) Dillenburg Ries '57 and her husband, Clyde, (photo above) live in Spokane, WA, and spend summers on beautiful Lake Coeur d'Alene in northern Idaho. They have enjoyed traveling and visiting with family since Clyde retired from the Spokane County Sheriff's Office in 1995. Betty's husband, her three daughters and a grandson have all attended Jesuit schools but, she says, "I can hold my own" as a product of the Dominicans!

Gail McDonald Baulch '57 plans to travel from her home in Fullerton, CA, to attend the 50th reunion this fall (photo below right). She and her husband, Mike, moved west in 1963 and have stayed in that warmer climate ever since. They have four daughters, one son and nine grandchildren. Gail worked at Sears for 23 years, retiring in 2000. Her spare time hobbies include reading, beading, puzzles and "going to the horse races!"



The late **Mary Alice Murnen '57/'63 MA** will be inducted posthumously into the Siena Heights Athletic Hall of Fame during Alumni Weekend this fall, in recognition of her work as a coach and administrator for the Saints. Mary Alice, then an Adrian Dominican Sister, was Siena's first women's basketball coach, starting in the 1974-75 season. She totaled 101 career wins in nine years, including a record 27-2 season in 1978-79. She also helped pioneer women's sports at Siena in the years before coeducation and prior to the establishment of a formal intercollegiate athletics program.

1960s

1962: Alumnae of '62 will mark the 45th anniversary of their Siena Heights graduation at Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30. For information, contact the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.



Sister Mary Alan Stuart, OP '62 was awarded the Siena Heights Alumni Association's Sister Ann Joachim Award at Alumni Awards Day, March 15, in recognition of her "professional vision, dedicated leadership and compassionate commitment to improving the nutrition, health and wellness of the rural poor in Appalachia." In mid-life, when she was an established educator and research scientist in the field of dietetics, Sister Mary Alan left a comfortable career in higher education to establish an outreach nutrition service in Kentucky, addressing the basic health care needs of isolated rural communities.

Mary Helen Martin Harrigan '63 lives in Waterloo, Ontario. Her Siena Heights roommate, **Judy Anderson Corcoran '63**, lives in La Mesa, CA. Last October, they met in San Diego having not seen each other in 43 years (photo below top). "Needless to say, we had many happy memories to share about our days at Siena," Mary writes. Both women had recently retired after long careers teaching elementary school. Mary reports that this first year of retirement has been very enjoyable. She completed the Hospice training program and has been volunteering with Hospice and with a children's literacy program.



Sister Nancyann Turner, OP '63, the 2005 recipient of the Alumni Association's St. Dominic Award, was further honored at Commencement this spring with the Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Siena Heights (photo below). As director of children's programs at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit, Nancyann helps "bring peace to a part of our world that knows too much violence," providing children in one of the poorest parts of Detroit with after-school and summer opportunities in art, music, gardening, and conflict resolution.



Barbara Cervenka, OP '64 of Ann Arbor, a member of the SHU art faculty, displayed her watercolor paintings at the Macomb College Art Gallery last fall in an exhibit titled "With a Distant Lens: Reflections on an Unfolding Universe."

Joyce Aarsen Cohen '66 is an advance practice nurse/psychologist for the Veterans Administration in New Jersey. She holds an M.A. in nursing from Columbia University and a doctorate in psychology from S. California University. Joyce lives in Morristown, NJ.

1967: Alumnae in the Class of '67 will mark the 40th anniversary of their graduation from Siena Heights during Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30. For information about the 40th reunion, contact **Ann Birmbryer McMillan Eichman '67** or the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

Pat Sleno Whalen '68 is a retired teacher living in Waterford with her husband Larry. Pat is the proud mother of a college English teacher (her daughter) and an emergency room doctor (her son). She has four grandchildren.



Patricia McDonald, OP '69 received the Siena Heights Alumni Association's Saint Dominic Award at Alumni Awards Day, March 15. A teacher, counselor, writer, consultant and director of graduate programs for Siena's

Metro Detroit Program, Pat was honored for sharing the Dominican commitment to community, study, prayer and preaching in all aspects of her life.

Sharon Weber, OP '69 was promoted last fall from Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Siena Heights to Vice President of Academic Affairs for the University. In the new position, she oversees academic programs for all three branches of Siena: the College of Arts & Sciences (main campus undergraduate programs), the College for Professional Studies (undergraduate programs at the degree-completion sites), and the Graduate College (graduate study at all SHU locations). Sharon is well known to alumni as a chemistry professor; she joined the Siena faculty in 1974.

1970s

Carol Ann Hrit Fox '70 is director of religious education at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church in Frankenthum where she lives with her husband, Frederick Fox '73. Carol is working on a graduate degree in religious education at Assumption University.

Mary Phillips '71 of Galesburg, IL, is busy painting, exhibiting work in several shows and working on several commissions. She is happy to be represented in Michigan by Zazen Gallery in Charlevoix.

1972: Alumni in the Class of '72, this is your 35th Reunion year! Plan to be here for Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30. For information, contact the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

John McGuire '73/MA retired this past spring after 35 years working for the Manchester (MI) Community Schools as an elementary teacher and principal. He looks forward to traveling with his wife, Karin.

Janet Stankowski, OP '74/MA gave the keynote speech—"What is God Saying?"—at the 2007 convention of the Diocese of Salt Lake City (UT) Council of Catholic Women. She is the founder of Voices for Earth Justice, an interfaith environmental non-profit organization.

Cheryl Uphoff-Moran '76 lives in Pittsboro, NC, with her husband, **Chris Moran '82**. Cheryl works for the Area Mental Health Center and Chris is executive director of the InterFaith Council for Social Service. They have three grown daughters.

1977: If you graduated in '77, this is your 30th Reunion year! Plan to be here for Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30. For information, contact the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

Dorothy Gonzales '78 is director of the Wayne County Department of Health and Community Services in Detroit. She was featured in the June 4 issue of Crain's Detroit Business as a member of the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. She has served on that board since 1993.

Connie Swander '78 of Grayling recently was appointed to the Board of Directors of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD), a non-profit society devoted to providing training in leadership and management techniques for crime laboratory directors and forensic science managers. Connie has worked for the Michigan State Police as a forensic scientist since 1985; since 2003, she has been director of the Grayling Forensic Laboratory. (From 2003 to 2005, she also oversaw the Marquette laboratory.) She and her husband have two grown sons and four grandchildren.

1980s

Mary Kipfer Hornic '80 is living in Delphos, OH, with husband Robert. She works as a family service worker with the Council on Rural Service Programs.

Sharron Stone Peters '80 resides in Houghton Lake where she owns a small business called Itty Bitty Birdie Bites.

Tyrone Richardson '81 will be inducted into the Siena Heights Athletic Hall of Fame during Alumni Weekend this fall, in recognition of his accomplishments on the basketball court. One of the Saints' first prolific scorers, he was the all-time scoring leader at 1,430 points when he finished his career in 1980.

1982: Members of the Class of '82 will celebrate their 25th Reunion at Alumni Weekend this fall, Sept. 28-30. For details, contact **Doug Small '82**, **Bruce Swart '82**, **Carolyn Welnick Donaldson '82** or the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

Georgene Grattan '82 lives in San Gabriel, CA, and is a financial consultant practicing in Los Angeles. Two of her five children work in the firm, Grattan Financial Strategies. Her husband retired from GM 15 years ago "and loves it" but Georgene owns two other California firms and plans "to work for some more years since I enjoy great health." Of California, she writes, "While the challenge of earthquakes is always present, the dangers in other states seem to be equal and then there is this great weather we enjoy most months of the year."

Beth Opfermann Lynch '82 and her husband, Paul, celebrated their September '06 wedding with a trip to Mackinac Island! Beth, who also graduated from Irene's Myomassology Institute in Southfield and the oncology massage program at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, is co-owner of Affordable Therapeutic Massage. Beth and Paul live in LaSalle.

Karen Marckel '82/AFA lives in Jenison with her husband, daughter Caitlin and son Jeremy. After earning her BFA from Kendall College of Art & Design, she worked in advertising for 11 years. She also worked several years as assistant to the city manager for the City of Wyoming. She is now marketing assistant for a third-party health care administrator. A veteran of the Saints track team, she still runs when she has time. "My family continues to be the most important thing in my life."

Chris Moran '82 is executive director of the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service, Pittsboro, NC, where he lives with wife **Cheryl Uphoff-Moran '76**.



Al Sandifer '82 (photo above) was named head men's basketball coach at Siena Heights this past spring. "Al's leadership is exemplary," said former head coach **Fred Smith '86/MA**, who stepped down after 21 years but continues as Saints athletic director. Al's long coaching career has included several seasons at Adrian High School, a few years as assistant coach with **Ben Braun '81/MA**, and 18 years as Smith's assistant. In addition, he coached the Saints softball team from 1985 to 1994, and was head golf coach from 1995 through this past season. He was interim head men's basketball coach for Saints during the last half of the 2006-07 season.

Jaclyn Betz Smith '82 (previous married name Baggett) lives in Blissfield and works as a registered nurse at Lenawee Medical Care Facility. After teaching until 1993, she began work as a certified nursing assistant and went on to earn an associate degree in nursing from Jackson Community College. She married Neil Smith in 2001. Jaclyn has a grown daughter and a 7-year-old granddaughter.

Bruce Swart '82 and his wife **Annette White Swart '83** have lived in a variety of locations in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana but currently live a short drive north of Siena Heights in the town of Saline with their children Vivianne (15) and Jacob (13). Annette runs the Village Inn Restaurant. Bruce just started a new job as Chief Financial Officer of Ann Arbor Machine Company, a \$50 million machine building company; previously, he was CFO of Hexabits, also in Ann Arbor. Bruce credits his Siena education for helping him "obtain my CPA certification, become the youngest Director in United Technologies history, and become part owner of my own company. But the most pride comes from our marriage of 23 years and the incredible family we have built."



John Detro '85 was promoted to Major in the U.S. Army this past spring (photo above), just as he received the Outstanding Alumni Award from the Siena Heights Alumni Association. Senior Physician Assistant with the Army's 75th Ranger Regiment and a veteran of multiple combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, he was honored at Alumni Awards Day, March 15, for "professional excellence, distinguished service and unwavering commitment to the safety and welfare of your country, your fellow soldiers and the sick and injured wherever you find them."

Bill Grady '86 and his wife Carol celebrated the birth of their third son, James Vincent, Sept. 12, 2006. "Older brothers Matthew (7) and John (5 1/2) think James is very cute!" Bill is an officer in the U.S. Navy. They live in Odenton, MD.

1987: This is the 20th Reunion year for the Class of '87. Plan to be here for Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30. **Jamie Richardson '87** will be on campus for the celebration, flipping burgers again and hosting the second Soccer "White Castle" Tailgate event. Special thanks to White Castle—last year's team grilled (and donated) 792 sliders! For reunion info, contact the Alumni Office, alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

Al Stobinski '89 will be inducted into the Siena Heights Athletic Hall of Fame during Alumni Weekend this fall in recognition of his achievements in baseball. A left-handed pitcher in 1985-89, he remains prominent on the Saints scoreboard, still second in career wins and single-season earned run average, tied for second in single-season wins, third in career earned run average, and tied for fifth in career strikeouts.

1990s

David Cooper '91 of Denton, TX, is a second level network support technician for a large financial company where he has worked for almost 10 years—"a great career with a great company," he reports. He says he owes a lot of his success to **Al Sandifer '82** and **Fred Smith '86/MA**, his basketball coaches and mentors at Siena.

Patricia Stapish Hill '91 is a nurse recruiter for Foote Hospital in Jackson.

Todd Taylor '91 works for the Lenawee Intermediate School District.

1992: This is your 15th Reunion year! Join us for Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30. For info, contact the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

Colleen Mikin DeVito '92 lives in Mayfield Village and works as a Project Manager at Progressive Insurance. She and her husband Sam have a daughter, Mia.

Catherine Yezak '92 of Gwinn recently completed her teaching certification for special education/emotional impairment for grades K-12 and English for grades 6-12 at Northern Michigan University. She is hoping for a job in special education.

Jennifer Bailey Strommer '93 lives in Grand Blanc with her husband, Eric, and their two sons, Samuel Eric (5) and Jack Edward (2).

Beth Pennington '94/MA of Morenci recently published her first book, "The Swamp Princess." The book aims to help women confront issues of self-abuse through a combination of Biblical teachings and standard counseling techniques. Beth is a former elementary school teacher with a successful counseling career.

Laura Spencer '94 is controller and accounting manager for Pennington Gas Service at the company's corporate offices in Morenci. She was finance and accounting director at Lenawee Christian School for the previous several years. She lives in Hudson with her husband and two children.

Brett Lawrence '95 of Mount Clemens is marketing coordinator for Sine Systems Corporation in Clinton. He has two sons: Noah (7) and Maximilian (6).



Jeremy Frew '95 works as regional director of the Siena Heights degree completion centers in Jackson and Lansing. He did some "degree completion" of his own this year, earning his MA in leadership from Siena Heights (photo above, middle). Jeremy and his wife, **Mary Dwyer Frew '99**, live in Jackson with their two children.

Tim Blackerby '96 has opened a podiatric practice in Adrian. Dr. Blackerby, who earned his degree at the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, completed a two-year residency in Cleveland followed by a foot surgery fellowship in Connecticut. He shares offices in Adrian and Livonia with a fellow podiatrist. Tim also was married earlier this year; he and his wife live in Adrian.

Seyed-Jalal Hosseini '96 has been accepted into Harvard University's Master of Public Health program in the Department of Population and International Health. He is enrolling part-time in order to continue his work as associate director of education programs



for the AIDS Prevention Initiative in Nigeria, a grant-funded program administered through the Harvard School of Public Health. Jalal already holds a master's degree in political science. He lives in Somerville, MA, just outside Boston.

Becky Martinez '96 will be inducted into the Siena Heights Athletic Hall of Fame during Alumni Weekend this fall in recognition of her impact on the Saints softball program. One of the best players in Siena softball history, she is in the top 10—in both single-season and career records—in batting average, home runs, runs batted in, doubles, put-outs and fielding percentage, and holds a handful of additional records.

Jim Plowman '96 is a utility program manager in Hollywood, FL. He writes: "It was great to visit Siena again during the 2006 Alumni Weekend. Many things on campus have changed for the better, and the good things from the past still remain."

1997: This is your 10th Reunion year! Be here for Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30. For info, contact the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

Kenon Goree '97 and **Don Jackson '97** will both be inducted into the Siena Heights Athletic Hall of Fame during Alumni Weekend this fall in recognition of their accomplishments in track and field. Kenon Goree still holds the SHU record in the indoor and outdoor 1600 meter relay; he held the 600 meter record from 1994 to 2004. Don Jackson, a 1995 All-American, was part of Siena's record-setting two-mile relay team.

The 1997 Women's Cross Country Team will be honored at the Siena Heights Athletic Hall of Fame Induction during Alumni Weekend this fall. The team finished 11th at nationals after being nationally ranked throughout the season. Members of the team included: Tina Richards, Amanda Tabb, Jamie Johnson, Ullly Dalton, Katrina King, Annie Stawasz, Kristy Davenport, Bridget Nesbit, Stephanie Sarles, Danielle Risner and Gina Watson.

Mark Haag '97/MA begins work this fall as superintendent of the Onsted Community Schools. He comes to the position from the Michigan Center school system, where he worked for 13 years as a teacher, coach, counselor, administrator, and, for the past three years, superintendent. He and his wife, Lisa, have a son, Collin, in middle school.

LaJoyce Jones Brown '98/MA lives in Southfield and works as associate director of recruitment and outreach at Wayne State University.

Heather Lasky '98 began work in December as human resources director for the city of Adrian. Previously she worked as a human resources supervisor at Enterprise Rent-A-Car in Ohio.

Stacey Sheats Lown '98 has been a teacher at Tecumseh Public Schools for nine years. Stacey and her husband, Scott, recently finished remodeling their home in Walled Lake. "Life couldn't be better," Stacy writes. "I wish all my old Siena Heights friends lots of love and happiness!"

Robert Camperlino '99 lives in Atlanta, GA, and works as an engineering technician for the ISES Corporation.

Chad Gregory '99 and **Jackie Page Gregory '02** welcomed a baby boy, Brodie Charles Gregory, Nov. 20, 2006. With big brother Cade (photo left), they are a family of four. Chad teaches and coaches at Columbia Central H.S. Jackie is a business education teacher at Hanover Horton H.S. They live in Jackson.

Kevin Haranczak '99 resides in Rochester Hills and has spent the last year working with the Archdiocese of Detroit as accounting manager at the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth—which Kevin reports is "one of the top places to hold seminars, retreats or meetings in the metro Detroit area."

Rev. Matthew Hartley '99 was ordained May 13, 2006, in the Archdiocese of Denver (CO) and was appointed Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Loreto Parish in Foxfield for a three-year period. After earning a mathematics and computer science degree at Siena Heights, he completed a bachelor's in philosophy and went on to receive a bachelor's in sacred theology and a master of divinity degree.

Donald Marcero, Jr. '99 is a self-employed real estate appraiser affiliated with American Real Estate Appraisal Co. in Monroe. He married Katherine Smith last summer; they reside in South Rockwood.

Matthew Paine '99 lives in Joppa, MD, working as an engineer for Philips.

Keith Rusie '99 received General Motors' All-Star Award last winter as 2006 Top District Manager in the North Central Region. He also was honored as the first manager to engage all GM dealers in his district in a new GM inventory management system. Keith and **Wendy Kirkbride Rusie '99** live near Cincinnati with their Boston Terrier, Tug.

Joyce Tiell Short '99 lives in Sterrett, AL, with her husband, Christian, and son, Jakob (2). She is a business consultant for SunGard EXP.

Alice Suchman Young '99 and her husband, Charles, live in Richmond VA, with their daughter, Amelia Josephine, born Oct. 28, 2006.

2000s

Caleb Cosmi '00 lives in Oklahoma City, OK, where he is an electronic signals analyst for the United States Air Force.

Erin Nimtz '00 married Jeremy Frye Sept. 26, 2006. After a honeymoon in the Smoky Mountains, they returned to Michigan where Erin teaches for Breckenridge Community Schools and is pursuing graduate study at Saginaw Valley State University. Jeremy works for Barnes & Noble.

Jamie Johnson Crane '01 moved to Irvine, CA, last fall with her husband James, an automotive engineer for Toyota. Jamie works as a graphic designer for Yellow Pages Media. "We are enjoying our new life in southern California," Jamie wrote in November, "especially the sunny warm weather."

Rebecca Dabrowiak '01 of Ann Arbor is pursuing a master's degree in social work at Eastern Michigan University.

Louann McNally Ditmeyer '01 writes: "In 2005, Jim and I accepted great jobs in God's country—the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. With the trees, ski mountains, clean air and being 'yoopers in training,' we thought that life couldn't get any better. Then, lo and behold, after 10 years of trying to conceive, Jim and I welcomed home our little angel, Cadence, in May 2005. She is so amazing and now we know that God has a plan for absolutely everyone. We feel so blessed and thankful." Louann is a music/band/choir teacher for the Wakefield-Marenisco Schools.

Molly Brasher Mason '01 works part-time as office manager for the family business, Armor Heating and Cooling. She and her husband, Jeremy, have two children and are in the process of obtaining a license to serve as foster parents to other youngsters.

2002: Can you believe it? This is your 5th Reunion year! Be here for Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28–30. For details contact the SHU Alumni Office: alumni@sienaheights.edu or (517) 264-7143.

Kris Stanton '02 and **Karla Pennington Stanton '00** live in Manitou Beach with their daughter, Jenna (4), and an energetic yellow lab named Maggie. This spring, Kris finished his fifth year at Concord Middle School teaching 7th grade language arts and social studies and coaching track and basketball. He is close to finishing his master's degree at Michigan State. Karla is a financial service representative at the Kemmer-lott Agency in Adrian.

Julie Anderer '02 lives in Brighton and works as activities director at the Highland Senior Center in Highland Township.

Amanda Gildea '02 lives in Kalamazoo and works as a project assistant for CSM Group in Galesburg.

Rachel Campbell Good '02 writes: "This past year, I sold my house, got married and my husband and I bought a house in Pinckney." After finding she did not care for law school, Rachel earned a master's degree in criminal justice from Michigan State. She now works with runaway and homeless youth and their families as a case worker for Connection Youth Services, a program of the Livingston Family Center in Howell.

Scott Whitehouse '02 is the recreation/program coordinator at the HOPE Community Center in Adrian.

Kristyn Hale '04 married Eric Nichelson Dec. 23, 2006, in Jonesville. She is a family support worker at Healthy Beginnings and is working on a master's degree in school counseling.

David Herriman '03 is employed by Kapnick Insurance Group in Adrian.

Melissa Pietrzyk '03 is an elementary school teacher in Ohio.

Marcus Trammell '03 graduated last December from Vanderbilt University Divinity School in Tennessee with a master of theological studies degree. Currently working in the music business, he hopes to pursue a career in public service in Michigan.

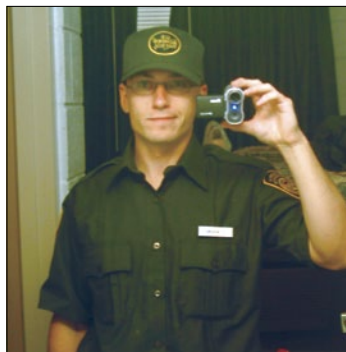
Mark Davis '04 owns Davis Carpet Cleaning in Manchester.

Jennifer Sprow '04 married Matthew Eichorn Nov. 18, 2006. After honeymooning in Riviera Maya, Mexico, they settled in Hudson. Jennifer teaches elementary art in Sand Creek; Matthew is an agent for Farm Bureau Insurance in Adrian.

Catherine Nacy '04 lives in Springfield, MO.

Leslie Phillips '04 is manager and receptionist at Intec Engineering, Inc. in Samaria.

Craig Wiggins '04 (photo below) works for the Federal Border Patrol.



Natasha Smith '04 teaches elementary school in Adrian and is a member of the service staff at the YMCA of Lenawee County.

Rich Brown '05 lives in Monroe and is assistant manager for Wells Fargo Financial.

Seth Borton '05 and his wife, Lyndrea, live in Adrian.

Nicole Coffey '05 lives in Columbus, OH, and works as a sleep lab technician for Ohio Health Sleep Services. She and her husband, Tyler Shugarts, have a son, Tyler, Jr., born in February 2006.

Meghan Hartwig '05 is at Louisiana State University pursuing her art studies. Recently, she has been exploring how to create public work for a broader audience, and creating large-scale mixed media drawings on wood. She is also a decorative artist for Burts Cason in Baton Rouge.

Emile Ondrus '05 of Greenlawn, NY, is a benefits specialist for Dealertrack, Inc.

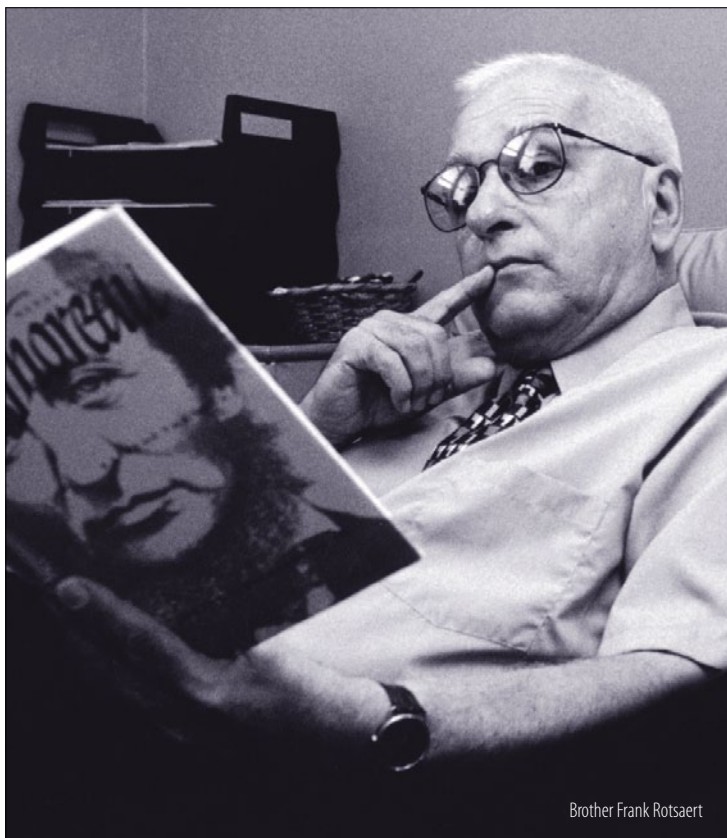
Tiffany Cook Snyder '05 is a pharmacy technician for Wheelock Pharmacy in Adrian where she lives with her husband, Scott, and two daughters, Madisyn (almost 4) and Sienna (1).

Ashley Garrow '06 married Justin Joughin May 12 in what was described as a "fairytale wedding" (photo above). Ashley teaches high school math in Waldron during the school year and is teaching summer school math in Morenci, where she and Justin now live. He works at a plastics plant in Jonesville.

Kerri Ann Gillenwater '06 of Sand Creek is a substitute teacher in Lenawee County.

Adam Hartle '06 of Adrian is an investment representative for Edward Jones in Blissfield.

Jennifer Ott '06 is an assistant preschool teacher for Napoleon Community Schools.



Brother Frank Rotsaert

Deaths

Grace Loretto Allison, OP '33 (formerly Sister Mary Lois) died Nov. 28, 2006, at the age of 95. She ministered in education for 42 years in Michigan, Illinois and Ohio, including teaching at Dominican H.S. in Detroit, Bishop Muldoon H.S. in Rockford, IL, and Aquinas H.S. in Chicago. She was pastoral minister for 18 years (with her sister, the late **Jane Allison, OP '40**) at Chicago's St. Margaret Mary and Queen of All Saints parishes. She retired in 1988 and came to the Dominican Life Center in 1996.

Marion Connor Jubb '34 of Three Rivers died March 22 at the age of 92. In addition to working several years at First National Bank of Three Rivers, she had been a Girl Scout leader, a member of the Order of Eastern Star and choir director at Trinity Episcopal Church. She also was a soloist at the Christian Science Church. Survivors include two children, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Marie Irene Miller, OP '36 died Feb. 20 at the Dominican Life Center where she had lived since 1995. She was 94 years old. She worked in education for 53 years, teaching in Michigan, West Palm Beach, FL, and Chicago, IL, and serving as principal at St. Jude School in Detroit from 1948 to 1954. She worked at Siena Heights in the Registrar's Office from 1971 to 1987, and then volunteered in Siena's Archives from 1992 to 1995. Recipient of Siena's 1986 Outstanding Alumni Award, Marie Irene was a longtime member of the Alumni Board of Directors, and continued serving as an honorary advisor to the Board and the alumni office well into her 90s. See the full story on page 26.

Daniel Marie Malane, OP '40 died Nov. 25, 2006, at the age of 92. She worked in education for 53 years in Illinois and Michigan. She was principal at St. Anthony School in Harbor Beach in the 1960s and assistant librarian at Beahan Junior High in Farmington from 1976 to 1985. She had lived at the Dominican Life Center since 1987.

Madonna Therese Conway, OP '43 died Oct. 30, 2006, at the age of 92. She ministered in education for 51 years in Michigan and Illinois and was principal of Ascension School in Harvey, IL (1947-53). She also worked in health care administration at St. Clement Infirmary (Dominican Life Center) in the 1960s and St. Henry in Lincoln Park in the 1970s. She became a resident of the Dominican Life Center in 1994.

Elaine Scanlon, OP '43 died March 12 at the age of 91. She taught in Illinois, Michigan and Florida; and spent 24 years at Barry College (University), first on the faculty and then in alumni and research. She also ministered in social work at South Florida State Hospital, Boystown of Florida and Catholic Charities in Toledo, OH. She retired to the Dominican Life Center in 1995.

Mary Roche, OP '44 (formerly Sister Michael Agnes) died Nov. 7, 2006, in Adrian at the age of 89. She spent 54 years in education in Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, California, and Iowa, including 10 years at Regina Dominican H.S. in Wilmette, IL. She retired in 1992 and became a resident of the Dominican Life Center in 2001.

Madeline Lefere Fleck '45 died May 5 at her home in Port Orange, FL. She is survived by her two sons, three daughters and five grandchildren. Her children report that "Madeline enjoyed the sunny beaches of Florida, cycling, traveling and shopping,

but what was most important to her was her faith and family." Several years ago, when the Siena Heights men's basketball team played Embury-Riddle in Florida, Madeline earned the Saints' affection by being their only fan in the stands. In her memory, Madeline's family is establishing the Madeline Lefere Fleck Memorial Scholarship at Siena Heights.

Agnes Michael Ondik, OP '48 died in October 2006 at the Dominican Life Center. She was 87. She worked in education for three decades in Illinois, Ohio, New Mexico, and California; and ministered in health care at Maria Health Care Center (Dominican Life Center), Providence Hospital in Southfield, and All Saints Parish in Mesa, AZ.

Joan Marie Sullivan, OP '49 (formerly known as Sister Edmund Marie) died Oct. 10, 2006, at the Dominican Life Center at the age of 84. She spent 44 years ministering in education in several states, including serving as principal at Queen of Angels in Chicago (1956-1959). Sister was a Driver for two years for St. Margaret Penafort House in St. Clair Shores and the Dominican Motherhouse; and served as secretary at the SEAC Chapter Office in St. Clair Shores and Warren for eight years.

Eileen Byrne, OP '50 (formerly Sister Ann Peter) died Nov. 16, 2006 at the age of 84. She worked in education around the United States for 47 years; and also worked as a receptionist at Holy Family Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. She retired in Illinois in 1989 and came to the Dominican Life Center in 1995.

Georgina Marie Bowers, OP '51 died April 4 at the Dominican Life Center at the age of 88. She spent 31 years in education working in Michigan, Ohio, Arizona and Illinois. She was coordinator of Maria Hall at the Dominican Life Center in the early 1970s and volunteered at St. Rose Dominican Hospital in Nevada for 14 years.

Mary Carey, OP '52 (formerly Sister James Philip) died Oct. 26, 2006 at the age of 85 at the Dominican Life Center. Her 28 years in education in Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and New Mexico included serving as principal of St. Mary Star of the Sea in Chicago (1962-1968) and Santa Maria Del Popolo in Mundelein (1968-1969). She then worked in counseling and spent 23 years as a social rehab therapist at Ravenswood Hospital Medical Center in Chicago.

We recently received word that **Anne Horvath '52** of Gilman, WI, died at her home Dec. 2, 2005. She was 76 and is survived by a niece.

Rita Vermander Geisler '55 of Clinton Township died Jan. 6 at the age of 70. She worked for Petschke Manufacturing in Mount Clemens for 36 years; and in her spare time enjoyed crossword puzzles, shopping, yard work, flower gardening and crafts. She is survived by her husband of 43 years, Donald.

Genevieve Rodehaver '55 of Tecumseh died March 19. She was 90 years old. She taught school in Lenawee County for 43 years (including 26 years at Madison Schools) and was a life member of the Michigan and National Education Associations. She was active at Tecumseh United Methodist Church where she was a member of the United Methodist Women.

Mary Johanne Keevers, OP '56 (formerly Sister Ruth Patrick) was 74 years of age when she died Nov. 14, 2006. She ministered in education for 32 years, including teaching at Regina Dominican H.S. in Wilmette and Aquinas H.S. in Chicago. She also worked in campus ministry and hospital chaplaincy. She served on the hospitality staff at the Weber Center in Adrian for several years before becoming a resident of the Dominican Life Center in 2002.

Elizabeth Williams, OP '56 (formerly Sister John Richard) died Oct. 31, 2006, at the Dominican Life Center at the age of 75. She ministered in education for 38 years in Illinois and Michigan, and was a child caregiver at St. Scholastica School in Detroit from 1989 to 1997.

Marion Michalak, OP '58 (formerly Sister Mary Thomasella) died April 4 in Adrian at the age of 74. Her ministries in education and parish ministry took her to all corners of Michigan and to California, New Mexico, and Alaska. She retired in Santa Cruz, CA, in 2000 and came to the Dominican Life Center last year.

Barbara Hauser '59 (formerly Sister Mary Aquin), 74, of Sandusky, OH, died Sept. 12, 2006. She spent twenty years as a Dominican Sister in the field of education serving many parishes in the west. She spent her remaining teaching years as a middle school teacher of language arts. After her retirement, she enjoyed traveling in several European countries, Canada, Mexico and China. She loved the outdoors especially walking and snow skiing. Her most enjoyable years were in the classroom teaching children.

Sophia Fisher '62 of Petersburg died Jan. 4 at the age of 87. She taught two years in Britton and 28 years at Summerfield Elementary School in Petersburg, before retiring in 1962. She was a member of the Michigan and National Education Associations and St. Peters Lutheran Church. Survivors include her four children, 16 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

Julianne Harris Cohoon '70 of Riverview died unexpectedly Dec. 4, 2006 as a result of a brain aneurysm. Julie was a kindergarten teacher at Huntington Elementary School in Riverview. Following her death, every class in the school made a poster with pictures and each student made his or her own special card to be given to Julie's husband, Bill, and her son, William.

Word has been received of the death several years ago of **Janet Tenorio '75/MA**. She was living in the Northern Mariana Islands with her husband, Antonio, who survives.

Gladys Rorick '88 (Metro Detroit) of Clinton Township died January 10 after a struggle related to a stroke. She was 70 years old. Gladys retired from Chrysler Corp. after 20 years of employment; then worked 15 years in the warranty management department of Volkswagen. She was an active member and former vice president of the Metro Carvers Association. She was involved in adult education at Chippewa Valley and L'Anse Creuse schools, and was a school volunteer in Mount Clemens and Fraser. She is survived by four daughters, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Roger Keith Lewis '90 (Metro Detroit) of Howell died March 12 at the age of 46. He had worked for IBM for 24 years, selling computer software products. He was an avid sportsman and a member of Howell Church of Christ. His wife, Deborah, and three children mourn his loss.

Nancy Reed '95 (Battle Creek) and her husband, Thomas Reed, died April 6, Good Friday, in a three-vehicle accident in Kentucky while traveling south to visit Nancy's parents. Nancy had worked 28 years as a legal assistant to the Battle Creek City Attorney; Tom had retired from the Battle Creek Police Department and worked part-time with the Prairieville Township Police. Their two daughters survive.

Joseph Faraone '01 (Benton Harbor) died Jan. 13 at Lakeland Hospital in St. Joseph at the age of 46. He worked for Auto Specialties and enjoyed hunting and fishing in his spare time. He is survived by his parents, siblings and extended family.

Ronald Mitchell '02 (Battle Creek) of Kalamazoo died May 21. He was 57 years old. For 32 years, he worked for General Motors as a WEMR, and for the last 10 years had worked in its safety department. A devoted family man, he is survived by three children, his mother, brothers and extended family.

Scott Wesley '05 (Lansing) died Dec. 5, 2006, at the age of 50. A skilled tradesman at General Motors in Lansing, Scott was devoted to his grandchildren and loved woodworking. Survivors include his wife, sons, grandchildren, and extended family.

Terrence Fleming (Lansing Diocese Lay Ministry) died Nov. 23, 2006, at the age of 71. After serving in the U.S. Navy, he worked for many years managing grain elevators and later selling real estate. He completed Siena's Theological Studies certificate program with the Lansing Diocese in preparation for the diaconate and was ordained as a deacon in the Catholic Church in May 2003 and was serving several parishes. He is survived by his wife and a large family.

Deaths of Friends



Dr. Hugh Thompson, 6th President of Siena Heights (1971-1977), died March 15 in Florida. He had lived in Cape Canaveral since 1997 and was a member of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Cocoa Beach. Dr. Thompson

was the first non-Adrian Dominican to serve as president of Siena. His long academic career also included serving as president of the Detroit Institute of Technology, chancellor of Indiana University Kokomo, president of Washburn University (Kansas), and academic vice president at both Clarke College (Iowa) and Meyers University (Ohio). Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Patricia, four daughters, 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Brother Frank Rotsaert, CSC, (photo, page 30) who taught English at Siena Heights for 13 years until suffering a debilitating stroke in October 2002, died July 9 at the age of 68. Early in his career, he taught high school English in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and in Cleveland, Ohio, his hometown. From 1970 to 1980, he served as assistant principal and then principal at St. Joseph's High School in South Bend, IN, where "he met every challenge that came his way" during a period of great change. After working as a rector at University of Notre Dame and teaching at Notre Dame and Holy Cross College, he joined the Siena Heights faculty. While at Siena, he published poems and stories (and helped his students to publish theirs), created a popular course on "Baseball in American Literature," authored "The Write Stuff, The Siena Heights University Writing Manual," and received the Sister Eileen K. Rice Award for Outstanding Teaching. Following his stroke, Brother Frank resided on the campus of Holy Cross Village in South Bend, IN, maintaining a warm and courageous attitude to the end. Several weeks before his death, he celebrated his 50th anniversary as a brother of the Holy Cross.



Come on Back!

Alumni Weekend at Siena Heights September 28–30, 2007

Gallery Reception with Artists Allan Rodewald '80, Shaun Bangert '96, and Joy Powell '02 • Savvy Seminars with Super Profs • Saints Athletics Picnic and Fun at Siena Fest! • Alumni Banquet • Hall of Fame Induction Octoberfest • Sunday Prayer Brunch • Saints Golf Outing

Alumni Weekend Mass: Saturday, 4:30 p.m.

Reunion Welcome!

- All Classes Ending in "2" and "7"
- 25th Reunion: Class of 1982
- 40th Reunion: Class of 1967

Golden Opportunities:

- 50th Reunion: Combined Classes of 1957 and 1958
- 55th Reunion: Class of 1952
- 60th Reunion: Class of 1947

Watch your mail and check the website for more on what's happening and who's coming.

We'll Be Waiting For You!

SHU Alumni Office: (517) 264-7143
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