

REFLECTIONS

Behind the Badge



Profiling Detroit Police
Chief and SHU Graduate
Ralph Godbee, Jr.



from the president



Fundraising Has Been a 'Spiritual Experience'

During the past year or so, I guess you could say I've been "on tour."

Part of my presidential duties at Siena Heights is fundraising. Asking for money is so much easier when you deeply believe in the mission of Siena. It is not just "asking for money," but presenting people like yourselves with the opportunity to change peoples' lives. I can honestly say that traveling around the country during our recent alumni tour has been and continues to be a spiritual experience for me.

I have been overwhelmed by the goodness and generosity of people. Every day I walk around with a grateful heart for each one of you I've met during my travels. It's been more than just about raising money. It's been about building relationships with those who care deeply about Siena Heights University.

And, I'm happy to report, there are plenty of people out there who strongly support our institution. We have a lot of positive energy surrounding Siena Heights. Obviously, we have new high-profile ventures such as nursing and football at which to point. However, it goes deeper than that. I've found the mission of Siena Heights is still relevant, still alive and well, in the alumni we meet. They are happy to hear that the mission is still the force driving Siena Heights. People, programs and facilities may change, but the spirit of Siena Heights remains the same as it was 20, 40 and 60 years ago.

Has that translated into increased fundraising dollars? Yes, it has. In fact, we have just launched the public part of our "On Higher Ground" campaign. This campaign addresses our new athletic facilities and University Center projects, as well as increasing the amount of endowed scholarship dollars we have available. I'm happy to report that we have already received the five largest single gifts in the history of the institution—all within the past year! And though we are extremely thankful for those gifts, the generosity of spirit goes beyond the money we seek. At Siena we often talk about giving of our time, treasure or talent—or a combination of the three. I am amazed at the willingness of our alumni and friends to support us any way they can.

The fundraising trail is often a very lonely and private trail to tread. However, I wanted to publicly share with you my experience of it all. To those I've already met "on the road," thank you for allowing me into your lives. You have truly made the experience more like "friendraising" than fundraising. And to those I've yet to meet, I look forward to the future, knowing that I will definitely be traveling among "Saints."

Enjoy the warmth of the summer months!

God bless!

Sister Peg Albert, OP

Sister Peg Albert, OP, PhD
President

REFLECTIONS

on the inside . . .

SPRING 2011

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

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On the Cover

Siena Heights double graduate Ralph Godbee Jr. '00, '06/MA was named the City of Detroit's Chief of Police last fall, becoming one of the youngest chiefs in the city's history at age 42.

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from the editor



My “Near-Death” Experience

My life recently flashed before my eyes.

I didn't have a near-death experience or anything like that. It was all due to the permeating presence of Facebook. For those who still haven't heard about Facebook, it's a social media website that connects people online with family, friends, colleagues and anyone else you may have had contact with over the course of your life. And it's pretty uncanny how accurate it is.

Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and the like are social media tools I was introduced to as part of my job. Like them or not, they are now a vital part of a marketing strategy in higher education. If used correctly, I happen to like most of them. Over the past two years my office has embraced most of these social media outlets, and currently our “official” Siena Heights Facebook page recently surpassed the 1,500 “friend/fan” mark. We now can communicate instantly with multiple audiences all at once—and they can communicate with us.

Now, back to my “near-death” experience.

While sifting through the “Find a Friend” option on Facebook, the names and faces of the people I have encountered over the 42-plus years of my life came flooding back. I've already reconnected with many friends from my childhood, high school and college days, but this was like a memory overload. Facebook kept bringing up familiar face after familiar face. The computer monitor screen kept on scrolling down as it pulled up all the potential connections based on mutual friends. And it kept scrolling. And scrolling. Believe it not, over the course of about 30 minutes it must have dredged up thousands of people even vaguely connected to me. In fact, it brought up so many people it eventually locked up my browser window.

During my virtual “This is My Life” trip, I could not help thinking about all the people I have affected—and who have affected me. As each new person popped up on the screen, I instantly could put them into the context of my life. One friend I hadn't seen since eighth grade, another since graduating from high school. Others were people I met along the way as a newspaper editor, or during my time here at Siena. It was humbling, to say the least.

Every so often I ask myself if I am really making a difference in peoples' lives. Is my life relevant? We talk about “changing lives” so much in higher education circles, but on a personal level, sometimes you feel like you are in your own isolated part of the world. I don't have a large “posse” of friends I socialize with on a regular basis. And at Siena Heights, I interact with most people on a professional level, although it is hard to separate personal from professional in such a tight-knit community. There is an inevitable overlap.

As someone who promotes the university, a constant challenge is finding Siena's voice in the deafening shouts of higher education. There are so many larger institutions with thousands more students and alumni who have seemingly limitless resources. In fact, Siena Heights' entire alumni base wouldn't even fill 20 percent of Michigan Stadium's capacity. How can Siena Heights make an impact against that kind of competition?

Then I thought about my personal experience. If just one person has affected thousands of people—hopefully for the better—over a relatively short time period, what affect has Siena Heights had on the world over its 90-plus years? It is exponential. Maybe I'll try a “Find a Friend” search on our main SHU Facebook page and see what happens. I may have to take a sabbatical for a few months to see the results.

It was reassuring to see all those people whose lives I've touched over the years—and equally reassuring that Siena Heights is also impacting so many lives. It certainly reinforces the “purposeful” part of Siena's mission statement for me.

And all it took was a simple Facebook friend search to remind me of that.

Doug Goodnough
Editor

from the heights

Josiah Kaseman Chosen for National Academy



SHU's Josiah Kaseman was one of 25 students nationwide chosen to attend the 2011 Sigma Beta Delta Leadership Academy, which was conducted in January in San Diego, Calif. Kaseman, a senior business administration major, was nominated for the honor by SHU's Business and Management Division faculty. He and fellow attendees explored and designed models that supported the conference theme of "Developing and Using the Sigma Beta Delta Network to Serve Humanity." Sigma Beta Delta is an international honor society for business, management and administration.

Dr. Jun Tsuji Publishes Research Article



Professor of Biology Dr. Jun Tsuji recently published a research article entitled, "The frequencies of amino acids encoded by genomes that utilize standard and nonstandard genetic codes"

in the scientific journal BIOS. Twenty-two different genomes were examined, and the results support the hypothesis that the standard genetic code formed early in the development of modern life and evolved in different lineages to form several nonstandard genetic codes. He also presented March 4 as part of *The Year of the Liberal Arts celebration* at St. Catherine University (St. Paul, Minn.). The presentation described the life and DNA research of Sister Miriam Stimson, OP, (**below**) pioneer of the KB disk method of preparing samples for analysis by infrared spectroscopy. Dr. Tsuji's talk was one of 30 events in the humanities, arts, and sciences in celebration of the significance of a liberal arts education in today's global society.



Donna Baker Appointed to IRS Advisory Council



Associate Professor of Accounting Donna Baker '84, CPA, is one of 10 new members of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Advisory Council. The IRSAC provides an organized public forum for IRS officials and the public to discuss key tax administration issues. Members are selected to represent the taxpaying public, tax professionals, small and large businesses and the payroll community. The council provides the IRS leadership with important feedback, observations and suggestions. IRSAC meets periodically and will submit a report to the agency in November 2011 at a public meeting. IRSAC members generally serve a three-year term with a possible one-year extension. The 10 new participants will join 19 returning members in 2011. Baker, who also owns Donna Baker & Associates and Tax Pro Filers, is a member of AICPA, NATP, the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants and the Lenawee County VITA Coalition.



State Representative Visits Lansing Class

Michigan State Representative Joan Bauer visited Christopher Hodshire's and Marjorie Terry's Community Service Practice classes at SHU's Lansing Center (**above**). Bauer spoke to the two classes on how government works, especially in relation to bill proposals. Hodshire said Bauer taught students how to advocate for themselves as well as for their clients. Students spent several weeks learning how to access bills in Congress, how to develop bills and/or block them, as well as other related issues.

Dr. Jeff Lindstrom Honored by Adrian Morning Rotary Club

Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. Jeffrey Lindstrom was one of four people honored with the Adrian Morning Rotary Club's Service Above Self Award. Club members nominated people whose volunteer service makes our community a better place in which to live. Lindstrom was honored for his annual efforts organizing the Siena Heights Food Drive which benefits the Daily Bread of Lenawee. Pictured are from left (**below**) Don Taylor (former SHU vice president of Advancement), Brad Watson, Licia Willnow, Gary Dawes and Jeff Lindstrom.



DeQorrie Whitman Wins MLK Award

By John Koser—Student Writer



DeQorrie Whitman tries to practice what he preaches. So when he speaks about solving problems without using violence, he tries to lead by example. "If I tell you how you should handle something," Whitman said, "I would have to do the same thing if I was in your situation."

Because of his leadership in this area, the junior theater major was this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Service Award winner.

Each year, the Lenawee County MLK Celebration Committee recognizes a student from both Siena Heights University and Adrian College for their outstanding service. He was nominated for the award for being involved in both on-and off-campus activities, raising awareness of issues concerning or affecting students of color and participating in activities that promote cultural awareness.

Whitman, also a member of the Saints' men's volleyball team, is well-known for volunteering at several soup kitchens in his native Detroit and at the Daily Bread and Share the Warmth programs in Adrian. He also volunteers to help SHU's child drama program and is active in other areas on campus.

"Many times people don't realize how much small things mean to other people," he said of his volunteer efforts. "The things I did, the volunteering, were small to me because I wanted to and found it satisfying. Now I feel like I need to do more and make a bigger difference."

Whitman said he was pleased to win the award, however, "now I feel as though I need to do more to make it really work," he said. "Being awarded was a huge honor for me, but I feel like I need to do more to live up to an award named after Martin Luther King Jr. . . . I really think I can do a lot."

Michael Orlando Named New Dean for Students

Michael Orlando has recently been named the new Dean for Students at Siena Heights. He will begin his new duties on July 1. Orlando, who previously served as the Director of Residence Life and Assistant Dean for Students, replaces Trudy McSorley who is taking a new role at SHU.



Orlando (**above**) served as the director of Residence Life at Bowling Green State University before arriving at Siena in 2009. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and marketing from Bowling Green in 2003 and a master's degree in higher education and student affairs administration from The Ohio State University in 2005. Orlando will oversee the Student Life Division, which includes areas like residence life, athletics, campus ministry, student activities, counseling, health services and the newly established restorative justice and multicultural affairs offices.

Siena Art Students on Display in Exhibition

By Austin Harper—Student Writer

Siena Heights University participated in the first Christian Colleges Art Exhibition at Spring Arbor University's Ganton Art Gallery earlier this year. Nineteen students from Siena exhibited their artwork along with students from Spring Arbor and Taylor universities.

Of the 200 or so entries of differing artistic styles, only 72 were selected to be exhibited. SHU students had 21 entries make the cut.

Nick Hullibarger, an art major, was the only SHU student to win an award. He received an honorable mention and \$50 for his triptych.



"It is a small 8x5 inch piece of paper with three black and white graphite drawings on it," Hullibarger said. "The inspiration for my piece came from an artist and movement I have been studying

for a little over six months. The artist's name is George Maciunas, and he was the founder of a movement in the 1960s called Fluxus."

Currently studying to earn his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a concentration in drawing and a minor in art history, Hullibarger said winning the award motivated him. "I plan on going to graduate school to earn my MFA in studio art," he said. "This will allow me to teach at the college level and provide me the facilities and time to continue my own art to exhibit."

J.D. Garn, the director of the Ganton Gallery, said each semester Spring Arbor has a show that highlights the best work of its students. "It is a great show, but I want our students see what is happening at similar schools," he said.

"All Siena art students were invited to submit digital images of two original works," said SHU Professor of Art History and Art Department chair Peter Barr, PhD. "Once all of the art was submitted by the students, the digital images were compiled onto a CD and sent to Garn."

Because of the initial success of the event, Barr said there are plans for an exhibit every other year, perhaps hosted on a rotating basis by participating institutions.

SHU's Bob Conlon Releases New Music CD



Assistant Professor of Art Robert Conlon recently released his new music CD "Love Unsought is Better."

For more information on his compact disc, visit www.robertconlon.com.

Heckman Named Fulbright Scholar

Siena Heights University Associate Professor of English Davin Heckman was named a Fulbright Scholar and will spend 10 months teaching and researching at the University of Bergen in Norway.

Heckman, who also chairs SHU's English Department, becomes the first Siena Heights faculty member in several years to be chosen for the Fulbright Scholars Program, which sends approximately 800 U.S. faculty and professionals abroad each year. Heckman, his wife, Carrie, and their three sons, Jonah, Oscar Romero and Sergio, will head to Norway in early August and return at the end of June 2012.

"It means the opportunity to push into new territory intellectually," said the 35-year-old Heckman, who has taught at SHU since 2004 and received the 2008 Sister Eileen Rice Award for Outstanding Teaching. "I will have the opportunity to experience another part of the world with my family. We like meeting new people and trying new things. It will be good to make friends in another country."

"We are delighted that Davin has the opportunity for the Fulbright award," said SHU Vice President of Academic Affairs Sister Sharon Weber, OP, PhD. "The award recognizes his talents in scholarly activity and teaching. We are grateful that he has shared this talent so generously with the Siena community, and especially his students."

While at Siena, Heckman has completed groundbreaking work in the area of electronic literature, and is currently the managing editor of the Electronic Literature Directory, which builds a bibliographic resource for electronic literature scholars. He said Bergen is also working in the area of electronic literature, and is looking forward to learning new concepts he could bring back to the U.S.—and Siena Heights.

"It's a good place to go if you want to study Electronic Literature," Heckman said of the University of Bergen, an institution of approximately 17,000 students. "I hope to bring back fresh research, some good stories, and, if I am lucky, a broader perspective. I'd also like to explore the kind of connections that will help get Siena out into the world and bring the world to Siena."



"I have been working for a while with a number of faculty members on developing a program in Digital Media (at SHU). This experience would naturally improve my ability to contribute to that program."

Heckman said he will also work on the research paper "Grasping at Loose Bindings: The Humanistic Study of Emerging Literary Forms," while at Bergen. He said he hopes to use his experience at Bergen to "make a broad and lasting contribution to the field of literary criticism by way of digital media."

Heckman completed his PhD at Bowling Green State University, his master's degree at the University of Minnesota-Duluth and his bachelor of arts degree at the University of San Diego. He is looking forward to not only teaching and presenting at Bergen, but experiencing a new culture with his family.

"My teaching and lecturing will be in English, but I am very excited to learn as much Norwegian as I can while we are there," said Heckman, a California native. "Beyond my research, I am very interested in exploring the cultural and social aspects of life in Norway. ... For Carrie and me, it means a great deal for our children to have the experience of living in another culture."

The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The U.S. government's flagship program in international educational exchange was proposed to the U.S. Congress in 1945 by then freshman Sen. J. William Fulbright and approved in 1946.

Serving Those Who Serve

Event Connected Veterans to Employers and Resources

Serving those who have served our country—that was the intent of the inaugural Operation SERVE Veterans Day Opportunity Expo on Nov. 11, 2010, at Siena Heights University.

SHU, in partnership with South Central Michigan Works, Michigan Institute of Aviation and Technology and the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, conducted the job and resource event that invited our veterans—and those in the community looking for jobs—to talk with employers and learn about available programs and resources.

Major General Robert W. Smith III, USAR (retired, **above right**) was the keynote speaker at the noon ceremony of Thanks and Remembrance honoring those veterans who have served our country. General Smith recently accepted the appointment as director of the Veterans' Services Division, Bureau of Workforce Transformation, Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth.

During his keynote speech, he talked about making sure our veterans—some who have paid the ultimate sacrifice—have a chance to succeed in society once they return from serving our country. He said events like Operation SERVE are a big help in the process.



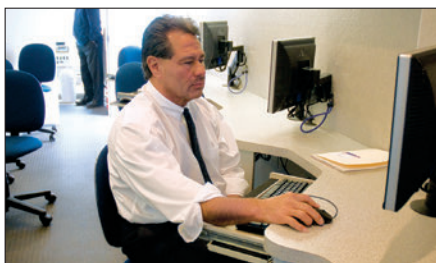
"It was very well-organized," General Smith said of Operation SERVE, which had nearly 60 employers, education and service providers attend. "There was a lot of energy from the employers saying they are glad to be here and it was worth their time being here. My employees are in charge of helping put these types of events together. This was an outstanding event, and I was honored to be here."

Participants were offered an opportunity to attend one of the Boot Camp workshops offered around the region prior to the job fair. Topics that were discussed included first impressions, basic interview skills, attire, navigating the job fair and resume critiques.

More than 200 people, including many veterans, attended the inaugural event, according to Melissa Growden '90, director of Siena Heights Career Services and Operation SERVE chairperson.

"The event was an outstanding example of being part of something larger than yourself," Growden said. "We were pleased to honor and serve our veterans in this way. And this event also benefited those in our community as well as our students. Being able to give back to the community is just very rewarding. I couldn't be more pleased with how it turned out." ♦

Right: The inaugural Operation SERVE Veterans Day Expo at SHU allowed local veterans and job seekers to meet with potential employers, and learn about available programs and resources.



Adult Students Discover Online Learning is a Friendly Format

Angela Woods considers herself to be a pretty shy person.

So when she considered taking her first online class at Siena Heights University last July, the 30-year-old St. Clair Shores resident didn't know if distance learning was right for her.

"I wasn't sure how the whole format was going to work," Woods said of taking online classes. "How do I have a discussion with my classmates and instructor and not go to class? How will I submit my assignments?"

Those questions and more were very quickly answered, thanks to innovative and responsive instructors and all the tools technology can provide. That combination has been an award-winning one for Siena Heights. Its Distance Learning programs have been one of the University's fastest-growing enrollment areas over the past decade, especially for adult, working students. In fact, many of the students who were initially reluctant to take a class online now can't imagine learning any other way.

"If it were not for online classes, I would not be able to further my education," said Jodi Neuman, a 30-year-old clinical instructor in dental assisting at Washtenaw Community College. "I think (online learning) is better than in a traditional class. I think people that wouldn't speak up are able to because of the online format."

Woods agrees.

"I am surprised at how easy it is to have online discussions with my classmates and teachers," she said. "The format is set up so that it is easy to follow discussions and add my own comments."

Both recently completed the online Advanced Expository Writing class taught by SHU Assistant Professor of Humanities Gail Ryder. Several years ago, Ryder had her own transition to make as a teacher. For years, Ryder taught writing classes using the traditional face-to-face, eye-to-eye chalkboard method of learning. When she was approached several years ago to teach similar courses online, she had her doubts.

"I've taught writing for all my life," Ryder said at the time. "How do I continue to do what I'm doing in an online class?"

However, her classroom has certainly changed. Now, a typical day for her consists of checking email first thing in the morning, then logging in to her course to make sure her assignments are posted correctly. She then takes a mid-morning break to exercise, then returns to log in and read through the student postings called "threaded discussions" that are similar to online blogs or text messages, responding as she goes. All of this happens at her Ann Arbor home.

"Some days, I post a summary response and a question that's meant to pull the discussion forward," Ryder said. "Mostly, I ask questions and request more concrete specifics from students who tend to write in generalities."

By Doug Goodnough

Keeping Their Distance

For 46-year-old Jim Riggs of Blissfield, Mich., it has been 25 years since he was in a classroom.

“The thought of stepping foot in a classroom again was overwhelming,” he said. “I figured that online (classes) made the most sense for me. My job entails me to do a lot of data entry and hardly any typing. So going into this, I was a little challenged. I wasn’t sure how the entire online concept worked but it was just a matter of getting used to the style, the threaded discussions, the deadlines and managing everyday life around those things.”

Because the course runs just eight weeks long, each week is broken down into “units.” These units consist of a combination of audio and Powerpoint presentations, even videos and links to web articles, whatever Ryder believes will work best. She then includes writing assignments based on the reading material, and students have a deadline to complete their assignments, submitting them via a virtual “drop box.” At times Ryder even allows students to choose their own topics to write about.

“The writing courses have journal entries which are very interesting as they are responses to the course,” Ryder said. “I communicate there with the students as well as in the discussion threads. Students also email me with questions, concerns or problems. I don’t often get phone calls.”

Ryder (**above right**) said a key to being a successful online instructor is availability.

“I field emails all day long, some days more than others,” she said. “I often check emails before I go to bed, just in case someone out there has a question. ... Students log in when they can because many of our students work 24-hour shifts as firefighters, EMTs or nurse’s aides. They can log in any time of the day, seven days a week. ... I also have students in different time zones.”

“She gives clear directions in what she expects and gives great feedback,” Neuman said of Ryder. “She is also available when you need her.”

Ryder is constantly researching new technologies and course delivery methods, a process she calls “fun.” When not teaching her multiple classes, she is designing and redesigning courses as well as training part-time online instructors and preparing presentations. “It’s not for everyone, but it works well for me and most of my students,” she said.



“Students log in when they can because many of our students work 24-hour shifts ... any time of the day, seven days a week. I also have students in different time zones.”

Online students are required to participate in threaded discussions as part of their overall grade. Woods said student interaction online is different than a grounded class, but she thinks in some ways it’s better.

“I like to put my thoughts together before I express them, and the online format really helps me with that,” Woods said. “I think there is an element of embarrassment removed from being in class together in person. I can confidently say what I want, and if it’s stupid, I don’t have to see the eyes rolling or hear sighs from others.”

“I’m really surprised at the friendships you can build in an online community,” Riggs said. “You still get to know your classmates, just not face-to-face. ... Now that I’m into my fourth online class, some of the same people are still with me who I started with. Just as in the classroom setting, you are building relationships with people. You get to know about them, their families, their hobbies and their goals.”

Ryder said the grading process is pretty straightforward. Once she receives the assignments, which are submitted in Microsoft Word, she can easily make edits as comments in the margins. She then returns them to the students to “review, revise and resubmit” when necessary.

She also utilizes peer review, a process where students read and critique their classmates’ work.

At the end of the course, students are then required to write a self-evaluation letter detailing what they liked—or perhaps didn’t like—about the class and what they’ve learned. Ryder said reading those student evaluations is often one of the most rewarding parts of her job.

“It was beneficial to hear what others interpreted from reading my essays,” said student Lorraine Frey in her course self-evaluation letter. “And it gave me the opportunity to view my work from another perspective.”

For Neuman, the ability to complete her degree online means she will be able to keep her job.

“I am required to obtain my bachelor’s degree to keep my position,” she said. “However, I work full-time during the day and do all my grading and correspondence with my students in the evenings. This leaves me no time to take a traditional class. That is why the online program was the best option for me.”

Woods said she enjoys working with computers, and those who are not very familiar with the Internet and technology may not adapt to online learning right away.

“Overall, I think most people have enough understanding about (computers and technology) to take the online course,” she said. “I really didn’t experience any difficulties learning the online way. So far I am enjoying the online format.” ♦

saints highlights

Women's Volleyball



Senior Brianna Chrenko (**left**) and juniors Nikki Hughes and Kaitlin Ludwig were each named NAIA Scholar-Athletes, the NAIA equivalent of academic all-Americans. It was the second straight year Chrenko was honored, and the first time for Hughes and Ludwig. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be a junior or senior academically and maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher. The Saints also had four players earn spots on the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference All-Academic Team: Chrenko, Nikki Hughes, Lauren Kurtz and Ludwig. Abby Norris was named the team's Champions of Character representative. The Saints finished 5-25 on the season.

Men's Soccer



The Saints (10-8-1) ended their season with a 4-1 loss to host and top seed Aquinas in the semifinals of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference tournament. The 10-win season is the program's first since 2005. Senior Doug Dawson (**above**) was named to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first team. The defenseman scored four goals for the Saints this season. Joe Deneweth and Lindon Ivezick were each honored on the second team, while John Faraj and Josh Pasarella were each named to the honorable mention squad. Faraj was chosen as the team's Champions of Character representative, while Dawson, Faraj, Darrell Gudenau and George Suidan each earned a spot on the conference all-academic team. Dawson and Gudenau were each named NAIA Scholar-Athletes, the NAIA equivalent of academic all-Americans. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be a junior or senior academically and maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher.

Women's Soccer

After playing more than 100 minutes of soccer, a penalty kick shootout decided the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference championship. Host Cornerstone won the shootout 4-3 to defeat

the Saints and advance to the NAIA national tournament. The Saints (11-6-4) did claim the regular season conference co-championship, however. Haley and Lindsey Mancini, Carla Cutino, Mikaela Malaczewski, Julie McCarthy, Ashley Poirier and Bridgette Scott played their final game for the Saints after compiling a 48-21-12 record and two conference championships over their four-year careers. Haley and



Lindsey Mancini, senior twin sister, were each named to the All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first team. Haley (**left**) became the third SHU player to earn three consecutive

first team honors by the WHAC, was also named the Goalkeeper of the Year. Lindsey, a defender, earned her second straight first team honor. Haley Mancini was also selected as a third team NAIA All-American. The goalkeeper becomes the sixth player in program history to earn All-American honors. She is the school record holder in wins (47) and saves (371) and was an honorable mention honoree the two previous years. Lindsey and junior Katelyn Hawarny were each named honorable mention All-Americans, anchoring a defense that allowed just 15 goals the entire season. Hawarny and Alessia Vagnini were the other two Saints named first team all-conference. Earning a spot on the second team was Mackenzy Hickner, while Hannah Ulrich was tabbed to the honorable mention squad. Cutino was selected the Champions of Character representative, while Malaczewski earned a spot on the conference all-academic team.

Cross Country



Men: The Saints dominated sixth-ranked Aquinas on its home course to win the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference title. It was SHU's first conference title since 2001. Jesiah Rodriguez (**above**) led three Saints in the top seven, running to a second-place finish. Justin Bateson was fourth and David Weeks seventh. All three earned all-conference honors. Kyle Smith was 10th and Zach Phillips 12th. Smith was also SHU's Champions of Character recipient, with Tim Bauer named the WHAC Coach of the Year. The men went on to place 24th at the NAIA National Championships in Portland, Ore.



Women: The Saints finished in third place in the WHAC, led by all-conference honoree Lyndsay Payne (**left**). She finished second overall, while Beth Heldmeyer was eighth. Karen Judd was the team's Champions of Character representative and also earned a spot on the WHAC all-academic team along with Payne. Payne finished 41st and Heldmeyer 195th at the national meet.

Men's Basketball



Senior Logan Mathews (**left**) was named second team All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. The 6-5 forward led SHU in scoring this season. Senior guard Mark Snipes was tabbed to the third team and was also a member of the all-defensive team. He finished his SHU career with more than 1,000 career points. Zack Craig earned a spot on the academic all-conference squad, while Brent Reynolds was chosen as the team's Champions of Character representative. The Saints finished 15-16 on the season.

Women's Basketball



Senior Shalaha Hubbard (**left**) became only the seventh player in the program's history to eclipse 1,000 career points for the Saints. Brianna Chrenko, Nikki Hughes, Lauren Kurtz and Sam Wolford each earned a spot on the WHAC all-academic team, while Chrenko was the team's Champions of Character representative. The Saints finished 11-19 on the season.

Indoor Track & Field

Men: Erving Warren was second in the nation in the high jump while the men's 4x400 relay team placed fifth to earn All-American honors at the NAIA indoor nationals. Warren cleared a height of 6 feet, 10.75 inches. The 4x400 foursome of Ryan McElyea, Anton Darby, Logan Moore and Doug Dawson also earned All-American recognition by running a time of 3 minutes, 15.86 seconds in the finals. McElyea was also seventh in the 600 and the 4x800 relay team of Chase Every, Jesiah Rodriguez, Chance Lauer and Kyle Smith was also seventh.

The men also won their fourth consecutive Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference indoor title (**photo above**). Doug Dawson was named the MVP of the meet after winning the 200 and 400 dashes and was a member of the winning 4x400 relay. Warren captured the Performer of the Meet award after winning the high jump. Tim Bauer was named Coach of the Year after guiding the Saints to only the second program in school history to win four consecutive WHAC athletic titles. The other was the men's basketball team from 2000-04.

Women: The Saints placed second in the conference meet. Lyndsay Payne won three events, including the mile, 1000 and 3000 runs. At the NAIA nationals, Morgan McNeil finished eighth in the pole vault and Lyndsay Payne 10th in the mile run.

Men's Golf



Andy Myers won Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference medalist honors after winning a playoff against Madonna's Austin Stillman last fall. Myers won with a par on the second playoff hole. His victory earned him an automatic bid to the 59th annual NAIA Men's Golf National Championships May 18-21 at TPC Deere Run course in Silvis, Ill.

Women's Golf

Sara Porter was honored as a member of the academic All-WHAC team. Ashley Everett was selected as the Champions of Character representative. The Saints finished the fall sixth in conference play.



Chris Pomy (**left**) was named the new women's golf coach. Pomy, the assistant club professional at the Tecumseh Country Club, is currently the SHU men's golf coach. He assumed

the duties of the women's program in January 2011. Pomy has worked at several different golf schools and is testing to become a PGA Class A professional. He has a bachelor's of arts degree in sport management from the University of Michigan's School of Kinesiology.

Saints Complete First Season of Bowling

Charles Cain has got things rolling at SHU.

The first-year bowling coach fielded the first intercollegiate men's and women's teams in school history this winter, and is looking forward to building the Saints into a formidable sporting program for SHU.

"It's been a long process," said Cain, who was hired in March 2010 after Siena Heights announced it would add bowling as an intercollegiate sport. "When I was hired, they weren't even expecting a team this year, let alone two teams (men and women). It's been a large learning curve. The good news, by the end of the season here, is that there has been improvement. As a coach, that's what you look for."

Cain has six men and six women in his new program, which competed in several tournaments around the Midwest earlier this year. Because bowling is considered an "emerging" sport by the NAIA, meaning it does not yet have championship status, the Saints were a member of the American Heartland Intercollegiate Bowling Conference.

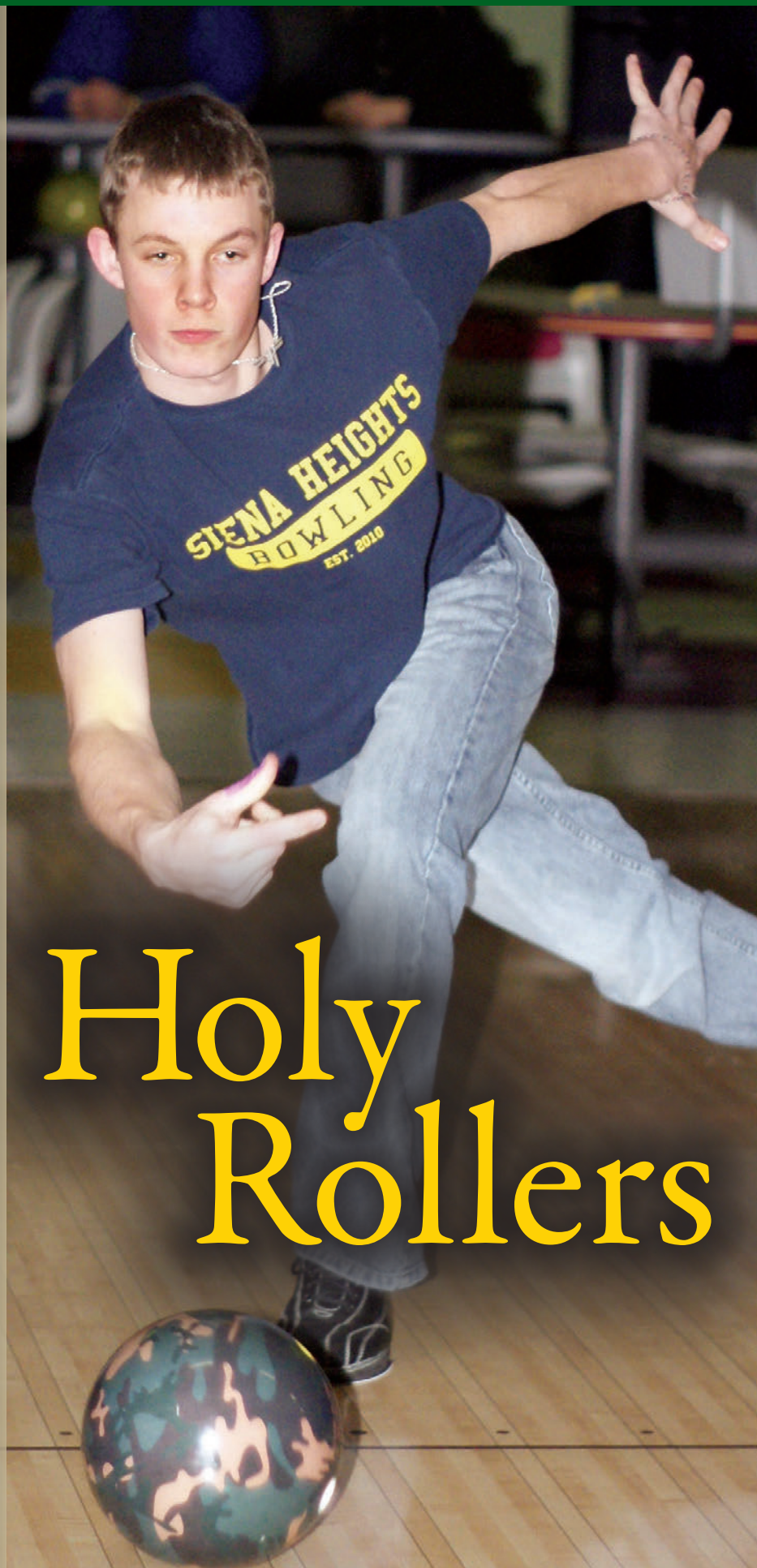
Cain brought impressive coaching credentials to Siena Heights. He is a USBC Silver Level Certified Instructor. Before arriving at SHU, he coached the University of Michigan's men's bowling club team to their first intercollegiate team sectionals appearance in school history. He also has extensive experience coaching youth bowlers in metro Detroit, and was selected as the Metro Detroit Coach of the Year in 2008-09.

"I eat and drink this sport," he said. "I love it. Seeing these bowlers get better and improve and learn things that they didn't know before, that's the biggest thing for me."

Sophomore Michael Burman of Britton, Mich., who bowled in recreational leagues before coming to Siena Heights, said collegiate competition is literally a whole different type of game.

"It's a whole new learning process," said Burman, who wants to study nursing. "The tournaments are very tough. We're a first-year program, so it's hard to think you can come in here and dominate. ... A lot of my friends say 'Bowling is not that hard. I bowl all the time.' But a lot of my friends don't understand how difficult it really is. It's very complex. You're not bowling for fun. It's a competition, so you want to do the best you possibly can."

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Holy Rollers

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Burman said the main difference has been the mental approach to the game. Cain said his bowlers had to learn that for themselves when the season started.

"The 8-12-year-olds are a lot easier to coach because they listen and want to get better," Cain said of coaching college-age bowlers. "By the time they get up to this age, most of them have already figured out they know everything there is to know. ... I wind up having to pick up the pieces and start from scratch."

Cain videotapes his bowlers to hone their technique, and he said there is physical training such as weightlifting and cardiovascular work. "Just like many other sports, it lies in the mechanics," Cain said. "It's a very physical and mechanical sport. And our playing field, which is the lane, changes on a tournament-to-tournament basis."



Burman said he and his teammates now know what is expected. "You've got to stay ahead of the movements, the oil patterns (of the lanes)," he said. "It's intimidating seeing how good (the competition) is. Coach Cain is great. He always helps me. At tournaments, I'll come and ask him, 'Where do I need to move?' And he's right on it."

Freshman Hillary Weiss, who commutes from Clayton, Mich., says that being on the team has helped her socially adjust to college life. "It's kind of hard to meet people, and me being on the bowling team has been very beneficial," said Weiss, who was a member of the Onsted High School bowling team. "I've really learned a lot. I was really thankful (Siena Heights) was going to have bowling. It's been a lot of fun."

Cain said he will hit the recruiting trail hard this year—even looking internationally—and plans to double his team's roster by next season.

"Every tournament has been a new experience. It's been an eye-opener," Cain said. "Now they realize the talent that's there, and the talent that's needed to get to the next level. ... My vision is for us to be competitive as quickly as possible. My goal is to have a year-in and year-out competitive program on both sides (men and women) that will compete with the top programs (not only) in the state, but in the country. I can't see any reason why we can't." ♦

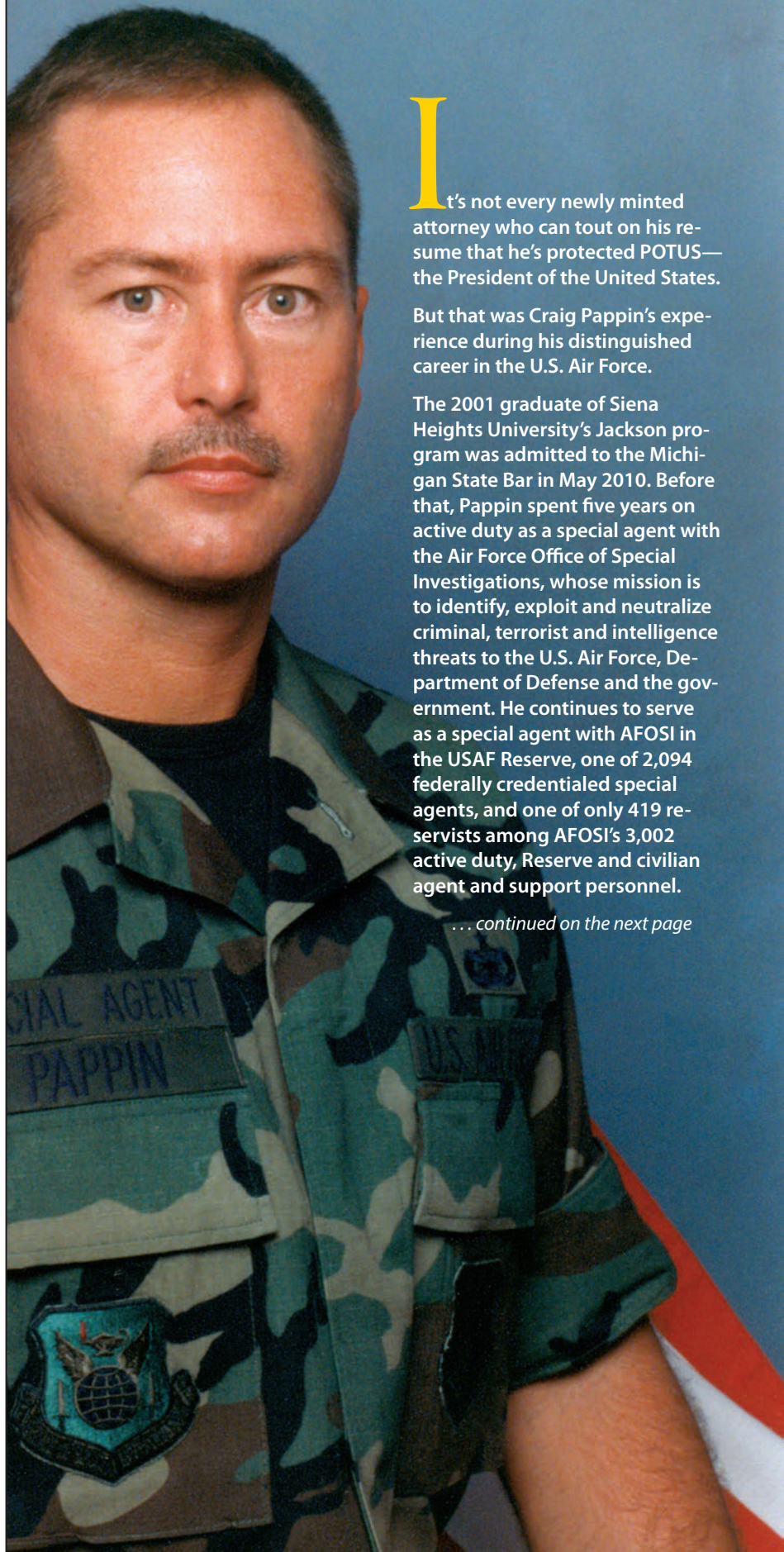
Undercover Attorney...

It's not every newly minted attorney who can tout on his resume that he's protected POTUS—the President of the United States.

But that was Craig Pappin's experience during his distinguished career in the U.S. Air Force.

The 2001 graduate of Siena Heights University's Jackson program was admitted to the Michigan State Bar in May 2010. Before that, Pappin spent five years on active duty as a special agent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, whose mission is to identify, exploit and neutralize criminal, terrorist and intelligence threats to the U.S. Air Force, Department of Defense and the government. He continues to serve as a special agent with AFOSI in the USAF Reserve, one of 2,094 federally credentialed special agents, and one of only 419 reservists among AFOSI's 3,002 active duty, Reserve and civilian agent and support personnel.

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Craig Pappin '01 Practices Law and Works as Undercover Agent with U.S. Air Force

By Sheila Pursglove—Detroit Legal News

Editor's Note: The following is an edited version of a story that was published July 12, 2010, in the Detroit Legal News. This story is reprinted with permission.

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Pappin helped protect President Ronald Reagan, Vice President George H.W. Bush, and many foreign dignitaries, including British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, King Juan Carlos of Spain, Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, the Shah of Iran, the President of Zambia and the Crown Prince of Japan.

"Special agents assigned to protective details are literally up close and personal, roving around the principals," he said. "When Gorbachev arrived in the U.S., there was extensive television coverage—and I could be seen standing under the wing of the Soviet Aeroflot jet. When King Juan Carlos unexpectedly had to spend a night in the United States, we had to quickly arrange appropriate security, transportation, and lodging for the king and staff—and juggling the various telephone calls between two ends of the VIP suite, I almost bumped into the king as I rounded a corner."

His early duties were as a law enforcement specialist in Grand Forks, N.D., and Athens, Greece. He also conducted felony criminal investigations, and while stationed in Athens, he worked the aftermath of a bombing on the American base—displaying skills that eventually led to his recruitment to AFOSI. Courses at Bolling AFB trained him in firearms and other weapons, defensive tactics, forensics, surveillance and surveillance detection, antiterrorism techniques, crime scene processing, interrogations and interviews, court testimony, and military and federal law.

After graduating, he spent a one-year probationary period out in the field, followed by specialized training in antiterrorism and counterintelligence, computer crimes and other sophisticated investigative capabilities.

Pappin could paper the walls of his house with his umpteen USAF awards and decorations—he has received several Air Force Commendation medals and Air Force Achievement medals for his skills. He's done everything from helping nab narcotics dealers and thieves to reviewing hundreds of highly classified intelligence messages and counterintelligence products, scrutinizing vast amounts of data and mining out critical information for senior Air Force leaders, and directing crucial follow up and real-time critical threat reporting.



His skills have helped to keep thousands of military and civilian employees safe from attacks. He also performed deep-cover undercover operations as the Air Force's only full-time undercover agent at several locations—including Arizona, Illinois, Texas, the Dakotas and New England. And there were times his own mother wouldn't have recognized him.

"When I was undercover with a biker gang out west, I really looked the part—long hair and a beard," he said.



Above: Craig Pappin '01 is seen protecting Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev as he arrives at the Washington, DC summit on Dec. 7, 1987 to sign the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate and Shorter Range Missiles with President Ronald Reagan. Gorbachev (hat) is up and to the right disembarking aircraft.

After leaving active duty with the U.S. Air Force, Pappin returned to Michigan and founded a retail business that he and his wife, Debbie, operated in Alpena before moving to Jackson. Pappin said the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, brought him back to serve in the Air Force Reserve.

"I was at the Pentagon within days after the 9-11 attack and observed the damage in person," he said.

He also served in a six-month active mobilization in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. "It was all very hush-hush," Pappin said of the activation. "Debbie could not tell anyone what I was doing or where I was. And she had to cope on her own again."

As a member of the Reserve, Pappin has conducted counterintelligence investigations and provided support for anti-terrorist operations; and conducted felony criminal investigations at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio, Dyess AFB near Abilene, Texas, and was assigned as the superintendent at Davis-Monthan AFB in Tucson, Ariz.

Pappin graduated summa cum laude from SHU in criminal justice and earned his law degree from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing. After clerking for Chief Circuit Court Judge John McBain, in August 2010 he was hired as an associate with the Brown, Raduazo and Hilderley law firm in Jackson. He is focusing on criminal law, family law and landlord tenant matters.

"It may be a different kind of challenge, since I'm older than most new lawyers," said the 49-year-old Pappin. "But I bring a lot of experience to any position. I'm also not limiting myself to any one area of law. Law school exposed me to many areas. I thought I'd only be interested in criminal law, but other areas have caught my interest. What made me so effective as an undercover agent was the ability to quickly adapt and blend into my surroundings. I'll bring those same skills to the practice of law." ♦

By Doug Goodnough

Photography by Jeff Masse

Detroit's

Ralph Godbee Jr. '00, '06/MA is Embracing His Role as Detroit City's Chief of Police

Cop Top

"Chief Godbee, come over here!" the woman screamed, her eyes straining to locate him in a football-like huddle of uniformed and plain clothes police officers down the street. It was less than an hour after police had entered the two-story house in the shadow of the Michigan State Fairgrounds in northwest Detroit. They were executing a search warrant to look for a violent wanted suspect. The suspect was not there, but what they did find in the home was another man wielding a gun who reportedly did not respond to the officers' instructions to put down his weapon. The man, an 84-year-old retired auto worker, was then shot and wounded by officers.

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OPPORTUNITY **U**

SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY
Mission Accomplished Series

This series of articles highlights individual examples of the Siena Heights brand, "Opportunity U," and how the university's mission is transforming the lives of our students as well as the world around us.





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The woman trying to get Detroit Police Chief Ralph Godbee Jr.'s attention was the daughter of the shooting victim, according to media reports. Waiting behind the police barricade at the end of the block, separating her, a few other citizens and a couple of television news crews from the crime scene, she wanted answers.

A few minutes later, the chief arrived and then met with the woman (**photo left**) and a couple of others to explain what happened out of earshot of reporters. After several minutes of what appeared to be a very subdued Godbee-led conversation, all parties calmly walked away. In a similar fashion, he then stepped in front of cameras and microphones to clarify the situation to the media (**photo left**) before getting back into his unmarked navy blue Chevy Impala to head to his next appointment.

The shooting investigation and impromptu press conference wasn't a part of Godbee's original daily schedule, but as chief, the Siena Heights University graduate realizes he is now the face of a major city police department.



"It's a lot different than I thought," said Godbee, who was named permanent chief by City of Detroit Mayor Dave Bing in September 2010. "I'm a fairly simple person. I don't like a lot of fanfare about myself. I just really appreciate coming to work and doing my job. But what I've found is I'm a public official. Things I say are quotable. ... I have become recognizable in the city."

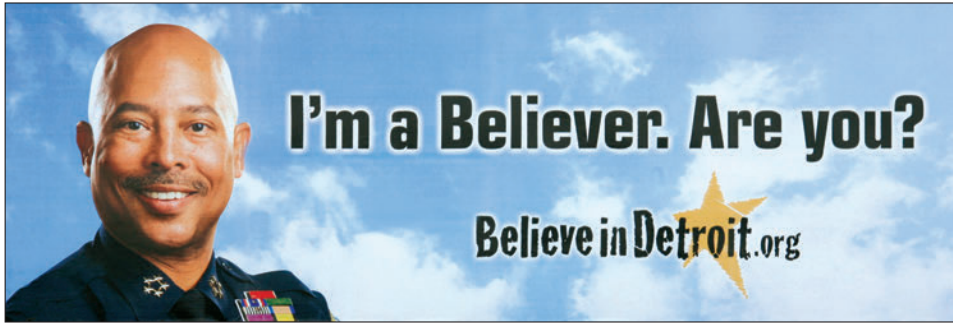
In fact, when entering the city from the west on Michigan Avenue, a large billboard with Godbee's face (**above right**) can be seen marketing the City of Detroit and declares "I'm a Believer."

And he is. In several ways. He believes in the city he was born and raised in, and has served for the past 24 years. He believes in Jesus Christ, and is still an associate pastor at his father's local church. He also believes in the people he leads—more than 3,000 officers and full-time department employees—and has built his leadership strategy around them.

And he believes in his education, using what he learned at Siena Heights to shape his crime-fighting and management philosophies.

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I Dare You ...

When Godbee graduated from Detroit Cass Technical High School in 1986, he and a friend were enrolled at nearby Wayne State University.

“(One day) He mentioned the fact, ‘did you ever think about becoming a police officer?’” Godbee recalled. “Miami Vice (TV show) was pretty big at the time, and we were waxing whimsically about being cops. It was not a real serious conversation, but he mentioned in Detroit you can be a cop at 18 years old. I did not really believe him. ... And lo and behold, 18 was the age. We kind of made a challenge between the two of us. And I went and applied, and he didn’t. Twenty-four years later, I’m the chief of police.”

Godbee graduated at the top of his police academy class, and was also named the top shooter and class president. However, his parents were originally not too thrilled with his decision to forego college for fighting crime.

“Quite frankly, when I first told my parents about it, they were like, ‘Oh my God, no. We want you to finish high school and be a lawyer or doctor,’” he said. “It turned out to be one of the greatest decisions of my life.”

He joined the department as an officer at age 19. In 1995, after serving several years as a patrol officer, Godbee was promoted to sergeant and was the commanding officer of the Executive Protection Unit. He was again promoted to lieutenant and commanded the recruiting unit in 1999. Then after earning the rank of inspector, he ran the 1st and 9th precincts before being promoted to deputy chief in 2005 and assistant chief in 2007. After being named interim chief last summer by the mayor, Godbee’s post was finalized just last fall. He is one of the youngest police chiefs in the city’s history.

However, after bypassing college to join the force, he realized what he was missing when he was laid off by the department in 1990.

“To get my career path and get serious about it, my layoff was probably the best thing that ever happened to me,” Godbee said. “It was a stark reminder of how important education is.”

He returned to school to earn his associate’s degree, then completed his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice/law enforcement from SHU’s Southfield center in 2000. Godbee returned to SHU, earning a master’s degree in educational leadership with a concentration in human resource development in 2006.

“I just had a wonderful learning experience,” he said of Siena Heights. “Without that support, I wouldn’t be sitting here today as chief of police.”

The Business of Law Enforcement

While commanding the 9th Precinct, Godbee was on the front lines of fighting crime—and was more than happy to remain there. However, former Chief Ella Bully-Cummings had another assignment for him.

“She asked me to come and be the commander of the Risk and Policy Management Division,” he said. “If the chief asks you to do something, the way I have been raised in the organization, you go where you feel the chief can best utilize your talents. I wanted to stay at the 9th Precinct and lead the crime-fighting piece. But the chief saw something. She wanted me to understand the business side of the police department.”

So he accepted the new assignment, learning about things like labor issues, risk management policies, legal affairs and budgeting. He said that experience is invaluable now that he manages a departmental annual budget of approximately \$400 million and thousands of employees.

“There are corporate entities that don’t approach budgets like that in 10 years,” he said. “Most of my career had been in different areas, but none to the extent to where I understood the business side of the police department as I did in that assignment. That experience definitely prepared me for this position.”

He said his leadership education at SHU also helped him take on more of a CEO mindset.

“You look at an organization like the Detroit Police Department, some of the cultural history and some of the challenges we face, and you have to have a clear understanding of how to develop a culture that’s a winning culture,” he said. “A lot of the lessons I’ve learned and am applying now to my command staff and ... meetings and presentations to the community (are) things I had to demonstrate programmatically through my (bachelor’s) degree and master’s degree programs at Siena Heights.”

“When I got the nod and the opportunity from Mayor Bing to become chief of police, I felt immensely qualified and prepared. I understood the business side of the police department.”

Servant Leader

Godbee, a fit 43-year-old African American man who sports a shaved head, well-groomed mustache and an engaging smile, doesn’t cast an imposing shadow. That’s just not his style.

In fact, during a couple of afternoon meetings with community leaders from various youth organizations, he is more focused on listening than talking. And when he responds, his deep, soft-spoken tone usually begins with “Yes, sir” or “Yes, ma’am.”

“I try to display a servant leadership mentality,” Godbee said of his approach as chief. “I really believe it’s important you set a tone for the folks in your organization that number one, you are approachable, and number two, that I’m here as a facilitator to make sure that from a leadership standpoint, they have the tools necessary in their toolbox to maximize their talents. I don’t look at it as I’m a general or anything. I really look at it as it’s my opportunity to provide a work environment for our folks to thrive.”

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Left: Detroit Police Chief Ralph Godbee Jr. (far right) has made a concerted effort to involve the community in helping fight crime. Pictured with him are two members of The Peace Project, an inner-city organization that promotes peacemaking through a variety of efforts, including art, music, dance and poetry. At far left is the organization's founder, Virgil "Al" Taylor.

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He is a fan of leadership books from authors such as Jim Collins and Jack Welch, and has tried to impart a philosophy of mutual respect within the department.

"You put accountability measures in place, you set the expectations and you respect people as adults and leaders in their own right," Godbee said. "And you try to develop them to be leaders also. I'm of the opinion that if everything falls apart when you walk out the door, you really didn't do a good job of being a leader. ... The real art is tapping into that and motivating people to do what they are supposed to do, because it's the right thing to do."

He said Mayor Bing has taken that approach with him. "He's been a tremendous boss from the standpoint that it is atypical for a big-city politician like a mayor to really step back and allow a major city police chief to run their police department," Godbee said. "Mayor Bing has allowed me to do that. It's been a delight to work for him, because there are no political strings attached."

A Multi-Faceted Approach

Godbee said the best crime fighting can be preventing a crime before it happens.

"It really takes a look at root causes of major crime issues and starts to tackle root causes," he said of the strategy called problem-oriented policing. "If every application is an enforcement solution, if you think about it, that means the crime has already happened. But from a problem-oriented policing philosophy, you start to pick apart some root causes."

For example, Godbee said an abandoned house that is the site of repeated drug dealing could be torn down, thus changing the environment.

Godbee also uses a data-driven approach to enforcement, looking at crime patterns and allocating resources accordingly. And he also is promoting a community policing approach, developing better relationships between the department and its citizens.

"We've talked about community policing as a department for a lot of years, but it really, in my experience, has devolved down to a few officers who have had a responsibility for fielding complaints from the community," he said. "To me, that's not community policing. Community policing is really a philosophy where the community really feels a part and partners with the police department."

Godbee said in the last quarter, "part one" (violent) crime has decreased about 15 percent from the same period a year ago.

"We have had some great successes early in my tenure as chief with community involvement that has led to some significant case closures," he said. "The feedback we have been getting consistently is that it is better now than it has been in a long time. I'm very proud of that."

Another philosophy his department utilizes is one called "procedural justice." "It's really a concept that if the community feels there's been fairness and equity in how we administer law enforcement services, they may or may not be as concerned about some success metrics we as law enforcement look at," he said. "They are much more interested in how the officers treat them on a traffic stop. What level of service we give.

Some people feel it's 'soft policing.' I think it's anything but that."

He views law enforcement as a four-legged stool: prevention, intervention, enforcement and then reentry. Although the first three often receive most of the attention, Godbee is taking a special interest in reentry because of the disproportionate incarceration rate of African American men in Detroit.

"To just see that level of destruction in the community, it really weighs on your psyche," he said. "They are not going to be incarcerated forever. They are coming back, and at some point they have to come out. If we don't figure out a reentry strategy and work with the reentry community to help those individuals return to become successful, then I'm hurting my own cause."

Chief concerns

Godbee recently returned from a meeting with U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, who wanted the chief's input on officer safety. He said that experience helped him realize the position he holds. "It really brought it home to me what level of responsibility comes with being a major city chief," he said. "It's changed my profile. And I've changed my life somewhat."

However, he still preaches Sundays at his father's Inner Court Christian Center on Detroit's west side. And he leans on his wife and daughter for support. "It allows me not to let the highs get too high and the lows not get too low," he said of his faith and family.

An avid hometown sports fan in his spare time, Godbee said he is embracing the chance to be Detroit's "top cop." And he credits Siena Heights for preparing him for his new role.

"My dad has a saying, 'God anoints and God appoints, but it's up to you to be prepared,'" he said. "As opportunities started to present themselves for leadership in the department, it was very nice to present a resume that says I have a bachelor's degree. ... Thank God I had an institution that helped bring out in me what others saw." ♦

visit our alumni website at www.sienaheights.edu

from the alumni office



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Spring Fever: New Life, New Alumni, New Reflections on Old Lessons

When you read this, summer will be near. But as I write it, more than a week into “official” spring, the forecast calls for “possible snow.” Again.

Still, at my desk, I see spring everywhere: Graduating students stop in daily requesting extra Commencement tickets. Alumni call for details about our spring dinner-theater event or the summer Mud Hens outing. Professors rush by, anxious to squeeze as much teaching as possible into the next few weeks.

But the surest signs of spring are the senior presentations announced each morning in Siena’s Daily Bulletin. Main-campus students I met as freshmen (just last month it seems) now speak professionally about their in-depth studies: A biology major discusses “Using the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to identify the Effectiveness of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Cases in the U.S.” A psychology major reports on “Poverty and Obesity: A Hunger-Obesity Paradox.” A theater major examines “Stanislavski’s Influence on Modern Acting” while a religious studies major explores “All Male Priesthood: Jesus’ Intent?” Similar things are happening in senior seminars across the state. Wow! Our seniors are certainly ready to become alumni!

Just as the crocuses and daffodils are ready to burst into new life at any moment, another class of Siena Heights learners—undergrads and grad students; main campus, off-campus and on-line students; young, old and in-between students—is about to bring new energy and potential to their communities and careers. We look forward to watching them bloom and grow.

As seasons pass, these 2011 graduates may look back on their Siena Heights experiences, reflecting on something like this question which I once posed to the Alumni Board:

“Which professor had the greatest impact on your Siena Heights experience—and what lesson has stayed with you most powerfully since then?”

Riffling through old files recently, I came upon some of the answers to that question, scribbled anonymously onto slips of paper during a long-ago Alumni Board retreat:

- “Toni Carroll. She encouraged my love of mathematics and provided the proper support during those ultra-difficult junior and senior level courses. I try to provide such encouragement with my co-workers today.”
- “Sister Carmelia. She taught us to have a smile on your face, work at all hours of the day and night, always keep busy, and help people whenever you have the opportunity.”
- “Sister Beth Butler. No matter what problem or situation you were facing, she would say, ‘Listen to your heart.’”

How would *you* answer the question? Who had the greatest impact on *your* Siena experience and what enduring lessons did *you* learn? I look forward to hearing from you!

Jennifer A. Hamlin Church
Associate VP for Advancement &
Director of Alumni Relations
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Innovative Educators



Jason Finley '03



T.C. Roekle '68



Jason Sanderson '92



Glen Taylor '95

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”

— Henry Brooks Adams, American Historian, Journalist and Novelist

Siena Heights University goes back to its earliest origins as an institution that educates teachers. From its founding in 1919 as St. Joseph College until present day, Siena Heights has carved out a distinguished reputation as a place future teachers go to learn and prepare for their chosen vocations. The proof of that legacy is in our graduates, a few of whom are profiled in this issue of Reflections as being innovators who have made a lasting impact on their students.

Finding His Place

Career Change Has Jason Finley '03 Teaching Award-Winning Program

By Doug Goodnough

Jason Finley '03 doesn't consider himself to be a great educator. “I mumble often, go off topic when I speak to groups, I don't write well and hate PowerPoint,” said the 39-year-old teacher at Otter Valley Union High School in Rutland, Vt.

However, what Finley does do well is provide his students opportunities for self-discovery and finding their own place and purpose in life. As a “place-based” educator, Finley helps students connect subjects like reading, science and math to actual events and places. Using a program he created called External Learning Opportunities, he designs students' action research projects, helps facilitate exploration of an area of interest, aligns those interests to content standards and then designs a summative assessment through a service-learning project.

In fact, Finley was a finalist for the ING Unsung Heroes Award in 2008 for his innovative “place-based” approach. His “In the Company of Trout” project had students use fly fishing as a means of studying the interconnectedness between several areas, including watersheds, land management policy, environmental ethics—even politics, algebra and art.

“In education there is constantly talk about ensuring relevance and rigor,” Finley said. “These have been the cornerstones of a number of school change initiatives that I have helped to design and implement. Place-based education, my roots as a teacher, is largely based on providing education in a relevant context for students.”

After graduating with a degree in art as a nontraditional student from Siena Heights, Finley first pursued career interests other than teaching.

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“Some of my earliest memories of my grandfather are of him telling me that one day I’d be either a teacher or a preacher,” he said. “For years he would tell me this. Not only did I not have any interest in either at the time, but I thought that I would be the last person that would do either. My guess is that those who knew me when I was at Siena Heights would also agree.”

Ironically, it was a “place” that led to Finley’s career in teaching. In 2004, he was working as a construction manager when a tsunami devastated Thailand. He volunteered to assist in rebuilding, and spent four months living on squid, fish and rice while helping with reconstruction.

“It was an amazing and life-changing experience,” he said. “The work I had done in the past had that relevance and rigor that I talk about, but it didn’t have that essential piece. This work had meaning and purpose. When I came back to the States, I knew I needed to do something that would allow me to have an impact on the world. What better way to do that than teaching?”

As an educator, Finley uses a blended model of grounded and virtual classrooms in his programs. “It isn’t something that is ‘different’ than traditional education,” he said. “It is education delivered in a way that (students) are familiar and comfortable with. The research is out there that all students, at-risk, mainstream and gifted and talented students learn extremely well.”

“Plus,” he continued, “in small schools like we have here in Vermont, virtual classes open up the world. For instance, a high school of 400 students can afford a language program where a student can take Spanish, Mandarin, French, German, Japanese. You name it, it is available. Virtual classrooms also allow these schools to offer students the gamut of AP courses. And, many of our districts are not large enough to have their own high school, so the funds follow those students to the schools they choose.”

For Finley, Siena Heights was more about the people, not the programs.

“I remember well my first year at Siena,” he said. “The nuns had the Coca-Cola vending machines pulled from the dorms to demonstrate their support for the elimination of apartheid in South Africa, and to send a message to American companies doing business there while the country was still segregated.”



“Where Siena stood apart for me was not in its academic rigor, but in the education that it gave me about myself, about the world and my sense of place in it.” — Jason Finley '03

“It took me years to realize just how big of an impact that gesture had on me. They unabashedly made a statement of belief and took action on that belief. No matter how small that statement or action is, it is a brave thing to do; it is the right thing to do.”

In fact, maybe his place-based approach had its origins at Siena Heights. “Where Siena stood apart for me was not in its academic rigor, but in the education it gave me about myself, about the world and my sense of place in it,” he said.

His External Learning Opportunities program currently has a student earning a credit in science by looking at the impact nutrition can have on perinatal mood disorders. Another student is putting together a mock medical ethics panel to present an end-of-life case study to in her exploration of sociology and psychology.

“I believe that I have been fortunate in being able to provide opportunities for innovation to happen around me,” Finley said. “So, I don’t know if I am an innovator at all. Maybe I have just been blessed with luck, amazing students who continue to make me look good, fellow educators with shared visions and supportive administrators. Innovation happens in classrooms every day, and it just goes unnoticed. Some of us just have bigger mouths than others.” ♦

Principal Change

T.C. Roekle '68 Preaches Visionary Approach as Educational Consultant

The initials “T.C.” are short for the name Therese Catherine, but they could also stand for Terrific Communicator.

T.C. (Luke) Roekle Daniels '68 has turned her ability to communicate her ideas, strategies and passion for education into her own consulting business. The former classroom teacher and administrator who turned motivational speaker, strategic planner and author believes that education needs to not only accept change, but also embrace it. She embraced change herself when she left education to form T.C. Roekle and Associates a decade ago.

“Most of my role is with administrators,” said Roekle, whose educational consulting company is based in Rochester Hills, Mich., but helps clients throughout the country. “I do strategic thinking, school improvement plans, ... synchronizing technology instruction and staff development. ... It is truly putting together technology, people and strategy. That’s a big piece of it.”

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And Roekle has 30-plus years at all levels of education as reference. After graduating from Siena Heights with a sociology degree, her first job was teaching elementary students at Madison Heights Lamphere Schools in metro Detroit. At Lamphere, they taught in “pods,” meaning there were no grade levels and learning was done by age and ability. She said that initial experience has stayed with her.

“Personally, that helped me become a teacher who recognized that kids are different and learned at a different rate,” Roekle said. “I have such respect for knowing how to move students through their personal (learning) level.”

Roekle then taught at Tecumseh Schools for a number of years before becoming an elementary principal at Imlay City. She then returned to Lamphere, where she eventually served as an assistant superintendent of instruction. It was in that position where Roekle was introduced to the idea of educational strategic planning.

“I wanted to stand up and help other people organize their thoughts,” she said. “Strategic planning was just becoming an important piece of what we were doing. . . . It was a natural fit for me.”

As a teacher and administrator, Roekle was known for her personal touches. Each of her former students would receive a hand-made card for their graduation—even if she had them as a first-grader. And in Imlay City, she helped organize community parades, enlisting the school band and cheerleaders to promote programs like reading. She also helped her district become the first public school to offer bingo, and organized Friday night dances for the students. “It changes the community,” Roekle said.

Roekle said the key to improving public education in the U.S. is focusing on the principals and assistant principals. “They don’t need to be master teachers,” she said of principals. “They need to be visionaries, people who can evaluate and support and provide initiative and direction for their teachers. . . . Visionaries who know how to evaluate, support and can initiate change . . . that’s where education needs to be.”



“I can say that my experience could not have been better (at Siena Heights) . . . Not only did they support me when I was there, they supported me when I left.” — **T.C. Roekle '68**

Roekle co-authored the book “Designing Thriving Schools” with New York Times bestselling author Daniel Burrus that provides educators at all levels with the tools to succeed.

And she was a keynote speaker at recent educational conferences in Chicago and Singapore, where she was exposed to effective educational strategies. “They get it,” said Roekle, referring to Singapore’s educational system. “They are using the model that we (the U.S.) used 30 years ago. . . . I’m most impressed with their education system.”

Roekle said her Siena Heights education continues to influence her life. “I can say that my experience could not have been better (at Siena Heights) because of the individual attention,” said Roekle, who received the Alumni Association’s St. Dominic Award in 1988. “Not only did they support me when I was there, they supported me when I left.”

Roekle, whose husband, Cecil Daniels, graduated from Siena Heights’ Southfield campus in 1985, said she enjoys helping teachers realize the roles they play in students’ lives.

“Everyone makes an impact whether they want to or not. It has to be positive,” she said. “The word ‘impact’ is important because I want every teacher to know they impact every day. . . . I want to impact as many people as I can. I want it to be a ripple effect.” ♦

All in for Art

Jason Sanderson '92 Leads a High School Art Renaissance

Jason Sanderson '92 has taught high school art for 17 years. But what the Siena Heights graduate really teaches is passion.

“It’s just about passion, and that’s why I really feel like I need to be engaged with (my students) as much as possible,” he said. “It’s just so rewarding because the kids know that I’m passionate about what I’m doing. And if I’m passionate about what I’m doing, it’s going to transfer.”

That passion has transferred not only to his students, but to the entire Temperance Bedford High School district, where he began his full-time teaching career in 1994. In a time where public education is cutting programs like art and music, Bedford’s has actually expanded. There were originally six art classes and 1 ½ teaching positions when he started. Now, there are 30 art classes and 4 ½ teaching positions, and Sanderson has been one of the catalysts of that growth.

“You’ve got to make it viable,” Sanderson of art. “You’ve got to make it important and mean something. . . . It’s about choices. This is a kid’s baseball (scholarship).

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“This is a kid’s 32 on his ACT test. This is their chance. I’m all about choices, and I don’t ever want my kids to put their eggs in one basket.”

Over the past five years, Sanderson has helped his students earn more than \$2 million in college art scholarships. One of his former students, Nick Hullibarger, is currently an art major at Siena Heights, and recently won an award at the Christian Colleges Art Exhibition last winter.

“I’m out there promoting. I’m looking for opportunities for kids because I don’t even think a lot of kids know how truly viable (a career in art) is,” Sanderson said. “It’s not just about being a starving artist. But at the same time, whatever art role that kids want to do, it’s all about being happy. Whatever you do, you’ve just got to be happy.”

Serving as part guidance counselor, part career coach, he takes an active role with his students and their families in finding the “best fit” in a college or university.

“The kids who leave my art program are just so much better prepared to make that next step in their education,” Sanderson said. “And most important, they know that the next step is the right one for them.”

Sanderson doesn’t stop teaching once the school day ends. On Wednesday afternoons for the past 10 years, he drives a group of his students to a professional studio in downtown Toledo, Ohio, to participate in a life drawing class.

“Going down there makes me a better art teacher because I learn new ways of drawing,” Sanderson said of the after-school activity. “For the students, it sets them apart. It’s saying to a prospective school like Siena, ‘I’m serious. I’m doing these things on my own.’”

He calls life drawing a “mature” experience because the subjects are nude models.

“They’re sitting there with a bunch of adult artists drawing and interacting and talking,” Sanderson said of his students. “They are interacting with established artists.”

Students also get a chance to work with other professional artists, including Sanderson, at his Summit Street Studios in downtown Toledo. He said he often takes students to his studio to work on their drawing.



“I’d be taking an English class. . . and something at Studio Angelico, and there would be an undercurrent, I could see a connectedness. That’s the (Siena) advantage.” — **Jason Sanderson ’92**

“What’s neat about it is I take kids down there and you can draw and paint at a much more intense and relaxed level,” Sanderson said. “They can do a drawing of a person sitting in a chair uninterrupted. I give them their own studio experience. It gives them a chance to say, ‘Yeah, I work in a studio.’ It’s a shared experience.”

Sanderson, who has also served as an assistant principal and assistant athletic director during his time at Bedford, still considers himself a teacher first.

“I’ve gotten a taste of a lot of things,” Sanderson said of his many roles, which also include racing director at Toledo Speedway during the summer months. “I found a lot of things I can do but I don’t want to do. At the very core of who I am is an art teacher. After 17 years, I still wake up every morning wanting to go to school.”

He said his Siena Heights education has influenced—and continues to inspire—his teaching.

“One of the things that was so cool about my experience (at Siena), was it seemed like a lot of things are interconnected,” said Sanderson, referring to Siena’s liberal arts core. “I’d be taking an English class and an education course and something at Studio Angelico, and there would be an undercurrent, I could see a connectedness. That’s the (Siena) advantage.”

In fact, he brings prospective students to SHU’s Promising Artists Day every chance he gets, and credits Siena’s mission as one of his “pillars.”

“The things we’re doing in my class (are) an inspiration from more of what I did at Siena,” he said. “I’m taking things at the level I was doing them in college and bringing them to the high school. . . I know my purpose. I know I’m competent at what I’m doing and how I impart that to kids.

“The classroom is a fountain of youth. There’s never a dull moment. I’m all in.” ♦

Leading the WAY

Glen Taylor ’95 Forms Organization That Helps Educate At-Risk Teens

For Glen Taylor ’95, where there was a will, there is WAY.

The Siena Heights graduate and longtime educator co-founded Widening Advancements for Youth, a unique, innovative, Michigan-based organization aimed at helping at-risk teen-agers earn their high school diplomas.

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Using a blended personalized learning model of online and face-to-face techniques, Taylor said WAY's learning community is built on the interests of students age 15-19 who have been successful in traditional schools. WAY students earn credits with a project-based learning focus. WAY currently has more than 700 students enrolled statewide.

"We are taking a totally different approach to learning," said Taylor, a former elementary school teacher and principal before becoming the executive director of the non-profit organization last July. "When we created the system and created the process, it was all about the students. There were two factors: learning and putting the student at the center."

Taylor said when he was a principal at Westwood Community Schools in Dearborn Heights, Mich., the high school dropout rate was about 40 percent. It wasn't much different statewide.

"It's just a staggering number," said Taylor, who is nationally recognized for his leadership in servicing at-risk teens, and currently is a member of the Michigan-based Consensus for Change think tank comprised of legislative, educational and business leaders. "I was frustrated as an administrator that it wasn't working and people were leaving the district. ... Without that (high school) diploma, it's just a huge economic drain on everybody. ... And one out of every five of those (dropouts) is a straight-A student. They were just tired of the system."

While still a principal at Westwood, he began Westwood Cyber High School to help the district stop student attrition. Westwood, a district of approximately 1,900 students, increased its enrollment 33 percent in its first year. In fact, the program had a waiting list of 200 students. In 2009, Taylor and Beth Baker co-founded WAY, modeling the pilot program after the established Notschool.net program in the United Kingdom. WAY currently is working more than 50 school districts and has six locations in Michigan.

Under the WAY model, students are able to learn 24 hours, 7 days a week. Each district collaborating with WAY provides the student with an iMac workstation, digital camera and Internet connection. Students are required to sign in daily to the online community, and must attend a learning lab twice a week at designated sites.



"We're not guessing what they are interested in. We partner with students to create collaboration. Our program is extremely popular with kids because they are driving." — **Glen Taylor '95**

Team leaders visit students at their homes when necessary. Taylor said his program employs certified teachers part-time to act as mentors.

"It's a great way for a traditional teacher working in the traditional setting to try something new," Taylor said.

Using a fee-for-service approach with the school districts, Taylor said WAY provides the learning environment and reporting system they need, and the districts provide the expertise. When students complete their required credits to graduate, they receive their diploma through their particular district.

Taylor said the typical WAY student is 16 years old who has completed five credits or less of high school, and probably not many core credits. All projects are cross-curricular, giving students opportunities to work and earn credit in more than one subject area simultaneously. Credits are earned through completing the content standards. Taylor said involving the students in the curriculum process is a key to engaging them.

"They have to really engage in that entire process," he said. "We're not guessing what they are interested in. ... We partner with students to create collaboration and projects. Our program is extremely popular with kids because they are driving, and we are working hard on our side so it's high-quality work."

Because of that student buy-in, he said WAY has few behavioral issues. In fact, it has a remarkable 93 percent student retention rate.

"They want to be there," he said of the students. "And they are in control of the process."

Taylor said his organization is in talks with former Florida Governor Jeb Bush about expanding the program beyond Michigan to other states. And he sees WAY doubling its student population over the next year.

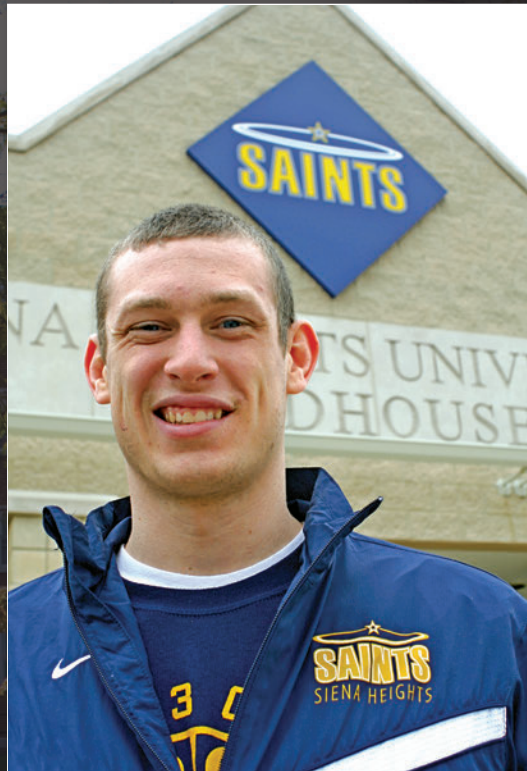
"Kids are going to school every day of the week, but it's more flexible and all about their schedule," Taylor said of the WAY program. "It really becomes a different process. We see massive gains with a lot of students."

Taylor, a resident of Saline, Mich., said he hopes his program's success can provide a new "way" of looking at education in the U.S.

"Education just really needs to change," he said. "Where we see it going is a blended model. ... There's a lot of opportunities, and we are looking to create opportunities to change education."

For more information about the WAY program, visit www.wayprogram.net. ♦

Change A Life . . .



Doug Dawson

Junior, Roseville, Mich.— Criminal Justice Major
Two-sport Athlete, NAIA Track All-American

Dawson, the school record holder in the indoor 400 meter dash, is also a standout on the Saints' soccer team. However, as a senior at Roseville High School north of Detroit, he was originally headed to community college before a scholarship allowed him to attend Siena Heights.

"Without the scholarship, I don't think I would have come here or anywhere else at first," said Dawson. "I probably would have ended up working and going to school to save up money. The scholarship allowed me to jump right in and stay in school. I have a chance to do something I like, get a scholarship for it and go to school on top of it. Thank you for the opportunity to allow me to experience all this and have a chance."

. . . through an endowed scholarship



Call the Advancement Office

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Please Consider Naming Siena Heights as a Beneficiary in Your Will or Trust.



class notes

From The Sites

SHU—Battle Creek



Carolyn Fryer Alford '08 received the Humanitarian of the Year Award in November 2010 from the Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch of the NAACP. According to the Kalamazoo Gazette, her dedication to the Kalamazoo community and its citizens was the main reason she was nominated for the award. Alford first started working at the Kalamazoo County Community Action Program, where she helped connect families with available resources. She also helped begin the Family Health Center and has worked with nearly a dozen community organizations, including Loaves and Fishes, and the YWCA Domestic Assault Program. From 1989-2005, she was a member of the Kalamazoo Public Schools Board of Education, including serving as president. Alford was elected to the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners in 2007, where she is currently serving her third term. She and her husband, Melvin, have one son, Duane.

SHU—Benton Harbor

Lynn Coursey '95 is the executive director of the St. Joseph County Commission on Aging. The former award-winning gourmet chef who once prepared a meal for former President Ronald Reagan now oversees thousands of meals that are prepared and delivered to St. Joseph County area senior citizens.

Gina Huebner '01 is a Registered Nurse and case manager for Hospice of at Home in St. Joseph, Mich.

SHU—Jackson

Brian Russell '06, an 11-year veteran of the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, was recently promoted to sergeant. Before his promotion he was working in the detective bureau.

Evan Stuart '07 was named head coach of the Jackson Community College club hockey team last fall. He was assistant coach at JCC for two seasons.

SHU—Port Huron

Adam Busuttill '07 was recently one of five nominated as "Outstanding Live Sound Technician" as part of the 2011 Detroit Music Awards. According to the Motor City Music Foundation, the DMA awards are similar to the Grammy Awards. Award winners are determined by local musicians and music industry professionals in southeast Michigan, and presented in 10 music genres. The DMAs are the only local music awards in the nation to be presented by a non-profit organization. Voting is accomplished entirely via the internet.

SHU—Southfield

Ray Williams '01 is employed as a senior program manager with IBM. He and wife, Gayla, reside in Pontiac, Mich.



William Hahn '02 and wife Julie announce the birth of their son, Evan William, on Feb. 12, 2011. He weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches long. The family resides in Halethorpe, Md.

SHU—Online

Elizabeth Nutting '09 married Zachary McGinnis Aug. 21, 2010, at Hope Church in Niles, Mich.

Tom Polera '09 recently retired as fire/EMS captain from the Arlington County (Va.) Fire Department. He was recently named the chief fire marshal/deputy emergency manager for the City of Falls Church, Va.

Trever Slater '10 currently works as a trooper with the Michigan State Police. He and his wife, Kari, reside in Three Rivers.

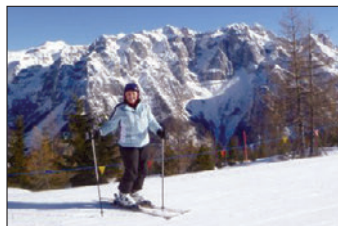
Main Campus

1950s

Elizabeth "Betty" Youngblood Kennedy '50 is a retired high school math teacher currently residing in West Palm Beach, Fla. She said she has many fond memories of Siena.

1960s

Angela O'Neill Bidlack '64 recently returned from a ski trip (**below**) in Madonna di Campiglio, Italy. She said, "It was sunny every day and the Dolomites are spectacular. Very few English speaking people were there and even fewer Americans." She and husband, Earl Benner, live in Wexford, Pa.



SHU Professor Emerita **Susan Matych-Hager '68** received the 2010 Maynard Klein Award at Central Michigan University for her commitment and outstanding expertise in choral music and her 10 years of dedication and fine work as editor of the ACDA-Michigan newsletter, "Bella Voce."

1970s

Sister Corinne Florek, OP '72 received the Ned Gramlich Lifetime Achievement Award in November 2010 from Opportunity Finance Network in recognition of her long-time dedication to community investment. Sister Corinne (**right, middle**) received her award from Opportunity Finance Network President and CEO Mark Pinsky and Director of the CDFI Fund Donna Gambrell.

She is the director of Mercy Partnership Fund and the Religious Communities Investment Fund (RCIF). She accepted the award on behalf of U.S. Catholic women, who were among the first to invest their money in non-profit community organizations.

Sister Corinne began working for community investment funds in 1980 after earning her MBA from the University of Notre Dame. She started in the hills of Appalachia with a commitment to fostering cooperatives and creating economic opportunity.

She said managing the investments of the Adrian Dominican Sisters' Portfolio Advisory Board gave her "the broader perspective of all the economic issues facing the poorest communities, as well as their systemic causes." Sister Corinne has also directed economic development programs for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD); managed the microenterprise loan fund and then served as the interim executive director for Women's Initiative for Self-Employment; managed Kentucky Hills Industries, a craft cooperative; and coordinated Justice Organizers, Leadership and Treasurers (JOLT), a coalition of faith-based organizations.



Lisa Binkowski '75, '77/MA was named associate athletic director and director of Recreation Programs at Lourdes College in Sylvania, Ohio. Binkowski previously was the college's director of Campus and Residential Life. She joined Lourdes in 2005 when she was named director of Student Activities and Recreation. She took over campus and residential life duties earlier in 2010 when the college added student housing. Her duties will include serving as the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) compliance officer, assisting the vice president/athletic director with the day-to-day operations of the athletic department, serving as an advocate and resource for gender equity in the college's athletic programs, and supervising the recreation and fitness programs. Prior to joining Lourdes, Binkowski was director of Athletics and Activities for nine years at Owens Community College. During her tenure at Owens, the men's basketball team won two junior college national championships and women's basketball was reinstated after previously being dropped for budgetary reasons. She also coached basketball, volleyball and tennis at Owens.



1980s



John Detro '85 has moved from teaching at the Inter-service Physician Assistant Program to the Center for Predeployment Medicine. The U.S. Army major is the deputy director of a division that runs four different predeployment

courses: one for medics, one for providers, one for Combat Support Hospitals and one for military transition teams. The center has a budget of \$13.5 million and trains 10,000 deploying medical military personnel annually. Recently, the Bronze Star and Purple Heart recipient was selected to command the 240th Forward Surgical Team at Fort Bragg, N.C. He will command a 20-person unit that does far forward surgery. He said the goal is to be within an hour of any wounded service member to increase their chances of survival. The team includes medics, nurses, physicians and surgeons. He will move to Fort Bragg this spring and is awaiting deployment.

Lisa Tinkham Petersen, RN, MSN, '85, recently accepted the position of nurse educator for the Medical Surgical Unit at Bartlett Regional Hospital in Juneau, Alaska. She has worked there for the last three years as a nursing supervisor. Previously, she was a pediatric nurse for more than 15 years and taught pediatric nursing at Ivy Tech State College in Indiana. Petersen earned her master's degree in nursing education from Ball State University in 2005. She and her husband, Robert, have five children.



Maura Cady-Rye '86 is employed as a sales representative at Whole Foods Market in Ann Arbor, Mich. She photographs the remaining grandeur of Detroit's historic buildings in her spare time, and has been chosen to exhibit her photos at

an exhibition entitled "Detroit's Windows & Doors" from June 14 to Oct. 4 at Whole Foods. She and her husband are transforming their historic home from apartments back into a classic home, circa 1916.

Anita Ricks Bates '88 is teaching art at the Henry Ford Academy School for Creative Studies, a new school in Detroit.



Mike Vollmar '88, the University of Alabama's associate athletic director for football since 2008, was hired for the same job at the University of Michigan in January 2011. Vollmar's job at Alabama was to oversee the administration

and operation of the football program, and he is doing the same at Michigan. He reports to U-M Athletic Director David Brandon. Vollmar was previously an assistant athletic director at Michigan State University for 12 years. He was also an assistant recruiting coordinator at Michigan from 1988-90. He and his wife, Tami, have one daughter, Bailey.

1990s

Robert Gordon '92 is employed as an advising coordinator in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts at the University of Michigan. He has previously served as an academic advisor and the coordinator of First Year Programs at Michigan, and also teaches history at Wayne State University. Gordon specializes in 20th century U.S. history, labor history and U.S. environmental history. He currently resides in Dearborn, Mich.

Jerry Jones '92 earned a doctorate in ministry last fall from the California Graduate School of Theology in La Habra, Calif. Jones is currently the pastor at the Greenville (Mich.) First Congregational Church, a position he has had since 1995.



Laura Negron Terrones '92 was recently elected to a two-year term as secretary on the Hispanics of Lenawee Alliance Board. She is a certified foreclosure counselor at the Community Action Agency in Jackson, Mich. HOLA is a

nonprofit firm dedicated to providing resources to the Hispanic community in Lenawee County.

Donald Dziuk '94 was recently named the St. Clair county Teacher of the Year. He has taught English his entire 15-year career at Anchor Bay (Mich.) Schools, where he also is the coach of the varsity soccer team. He specializes in classic literature and also enjoys power lifting and fishing. He and his wife, Gloria, have two children, Donny Jr. and Lillian.

Brendan Welsh '94 works as a senior strategy and change consultant with IBM Global Business Services. He is working in relationship management, risk analysis and contract development with the hopes of one day becoming a partner at IBM. He and his wife, Michelle, were wed last summer in Mexico. They currently reside in Farmington Hills, Mich.

Michael Dennis '95 is the director of Business and Finance at the University of Michigan. He and his wife, **Kristina (Francoeur) '00/MA**, reside in Tecumseh, Mich., with their three daughters, Megan, Kylee and Emily.

Marlene Millet '95 married Michael Diederich on Dec. 30, 2010, in Maui, Hawaii. The bride is employed as the logistics manager at Wacker Chemical Corp. The couple resides in Tecumseh, Mich.

Erin Jorgensen Dress '97 works as a human resources generalist with the Adrian Dominican Sisters. She and her husband, Phillip, and their two children, David and Deanna, reside in Toledo, Ohio.

Christina Kerr Bates '97 works as a corrections program coordinator with the Michigan Department of Corrections in Adrian, Mich. She and husband, Brian, and their daughter, Makenna, reside in Adrian.

Michael Hawkins '99 has been employed since 2001 as an officer with the City of Trenton Police Department. He was named Officer of the Year in 2003, and currently is union president of the Trenton Police Officers Association and chairs the Trenton Police Charities. He also serves as vice president on the Trenton Public Schools board. He and his wife, Stacey, have two boys, Andrew, 5, and Anthony 2.

2000s

Kristen Schmitt-Clyne '00 founded PetCare AuPair, a pet care company in Oakland County. Her business has been featured in the Detroit Free Press, C&G Newspapers and Ferndale Friends.

Lisa Myers '02 married Jason Smoker June 5, 2010, at St. Mary's of Assumption Church, Bronson, Mich. The bride is employed as a controller at Acrisure. The couple resides in Byron Center, Mich.

Army National Guard Spec. **Kevin Schultz '02** recently completed basic training at Fort Benning in Columbus, Ga. He is a native of Clawson, Mich.

Paul Van Sickle '02 is in his ninth year teaching and coaching at Jonesville (Mich.) Community Schools. Van Sickle teaches at the middle school.



Andy Donovan '03 is the new boys basketball coach at Frankenmuth (Mich.) High School. Donovan served as the junior varsity coach five years. He and his wife, Tessa, have two daughters, Mya and Macy. They reside in Frankenmuth.

Kristen Propst '03 married Gilbert Palmer Jr. Oct. 2, 2010, at St. Andrew the Apostle Church, Chandler, Ariz. The bride is teaching at a school in Arizona.

Andy Francis '04 married Lindsey Davis July 12, 2010, on the oceanfront of The Isles Restaurant in Ocean Isle Beach, N.C. The bridegroom is a sixth grade English teacher at Oceanway Junior High School, Jacksonville, Fla. The couple resides in Fernandino Beach, Fla.

Orion Martinez '04 was promoted in October 2010 to vice president and branch manager at JP Morgan Chase Bank in Sacramento, Calif. He was selected to open the first built in-store banking branch in Sacramento. He also lives in Sacramento.

Reyna Werling Ham '04 works as a financial aid representative at Ivy Bridge College of Tiffin Univ. in Toledo, Ohio. She and her husband, **Andy Ham '08/MA**, moved to northwest Ohio last fall because Andy is the new baseball coach at Lourdes College in Sylvania, Ohio. The couple resides in Sylvania.

Richard Brown '05 is employed in a development position at the University of Tennessee's College of Business. Before that, he worked five years at Wells Fargo in Michigan and Tennessee. He and his wife, **Jennifer (Mandock) '06**, live in Knoxville, Tenn.

Angela Biniecki Goble '05 is a constituent services staff member for State Rep. Dale Zorn (R-Ilda).



Dan Lannen '05 was ordained a deacon in the Roman Catholic Church Nov. 19, 2010, in Toronto, Canada. He is studying to become an Oblate of St. Francis De Sales.

Courtney Dwyer '06 is teaching ceramics at Niles High School last fall. She is midway through her master of arts degree in educational leadership.

Anthony Satterelli '06 is employed as a federal corrections officer at Department of Justice/Bureau of Prisons in West Virginia. He and his wife, Tammy, currently reside in Morgantown, W.Va.

Patrick Kaplan '06 and **Anthony Khedaywi '07** recently started an internet-based dog toy business called Indestructible Dog. The company is online at www.indestructibleddog.com, and sells dog toys like balls, chew toys and flying discs that are much tougher than the average dog toy. The company also sells dog beds, collars and leashes. Kaplan resides in Blissfield, Mich., and Khedaywi in Onsted, Mich.

Edward Elkins '07 opened his own law office in downtown Orlando, Fla., in October 2010. The firm serves entertainment clients throughout the state.

Lacey Spieth '07 is teaching art at Camden-Frontier (Mich.) Schools. She lives in Reading, Mich.

Charity Burbridge '08 is a freelance artist who is working on two commissioned paintings. She married in December 2010 and lives in Miami, Fla.

Jeff Fisher '09 is in his first year of teaching social studies, U.S. history, economics and political science at Camden-Frontier (Mich.) High School.

2010s

Joel Parrish '10 is attending the New York Institute of Technology to earn a master's degree in computer science. Last summer he worked on development for a research company in Texas, programming a mobile application and database system. A Bluetooth library he developed as his senior project at SHU will be used by a multi-touch display system in Sweden. He is also writing Android programs for face recognition, data mining and public services. He resides in Kings Park, N.Y.

Deaths

Alumni

Louise McKibben Jacobson '40
Sister Marie Bentz, OP '42
Agnes Finn Dombrowski '43
Sister Wilfred Marie Dusek, OP '44
Jacqueline Egan '47
Sister Nancy Flumerfelt, OP '47
Mary "Pari" Solem '49
Sister Georgiann Novak, OP '50
Barbara Furlong Bruce '53
Yvonne Crane Graybiel Brown '55
Margaret DeLoach '55
Mabel LaVoy '57
Madelyn Kennedy Thornton '57
Sister Helen Mantovani, OP '59
F. Jane Vogel Tibbits '60
Sally Burke O'Connor '66
Kathleen Feight '66/MA
Sona Eppenstein '71
Mary Bernard Marquez, OLVM '71
Donna Cubberly '79
Vaughn Johnson '80
Claudette McFadden Grabowski '83
Sheri Tuckerman Jeffords '94
Rachel Taylor Jessup '96
Ronald Vincent '96
Gail Weede '96

Friends

Elwood Fletcher (former head of maintenance)
Robert Kuhnert (former trustee)
Dr. Ruth Ann Mowrer (former instructor)
Rev. William McGoldrick (former SHU chaplain)
Mackie "Mac" Scroggins (former employee)

Alumni News

SHU Alumni Verification Project Is in the Works

Siena Heights has contracted with Publishing Concepts, Inc. (PCI) for a comprehensive updating of our alumni database, followed by publication of a new Siena Heights Alumni Directory. It's been 11 years since SHU published its last directory—and our alumni records are overdue for an overhaul. Over the next few months, PCI will be contacting SHU alumni via mail, phone and email to request that you check—and update—the information in our database. Your first contact from PCI likely will be a postcard inviting you to call them; this is the best and quickest way to verify your records. Plus, if you call them, they won't be calling you! (We know some of you prefer not to receive phone calls.) Your information will be well-protected and will not be shared with anyone except Siena Heights.

NOTE: Even if you do not want your information included in the directory, please take time to verify your information with PCI. Verifying your information does not mean you must be included in the directory; you may still opt out of inclusion in the directory. But updating and verifying your information will help Siena Heights to be more sensitive to your personal situation, more accurate in our alumni communications, and more helpful when you seek career or outreach assistance. If you have any questions, contact the alumni office at (517) 264-7143 or alumni@sienahighs.edu.



On the Road: Siena Heights in Southern California!

Alumni and friends in San Diego and surrounding areas met each other (above), and leaders from SHU, at an April gathering in Del Mar, Cal. Enjoying food, fellowship and news from Siena Heights were: Mike and Gail McDonald Baulch '57, Elizabeth Kuszlejko '67, Linda Hardenberg-Diaz '93 (Benton Harbor) and her good friend Ed Thomson, Don Herip '75 and his wife Pat, Mark and Anne Birnbryer Eichman '67, and Thom Miller '74.

Your Year for a Reunion? Make It a Great One!

Alumni with a grad year ending in 1 or 6—2011 is a reunion year for you. Want to make Homecoming something special? Contact the alumni office today to help make YOUR reunion a hit! Volunteers make the difference between a ho-hum gathering and a celebration to remember. October will be here before you know it. Reach out today.

... continued on the next page

continued from page 27 . . .



Above: Winterfest on the Heights brought fans of all ages to the Adrian campus in February. Seen here are future SHU alums posing with Halo the Husky.

Make a Difference with SHU in Your Community

The Siena Heights Alumni Board invites SHU graduates, anywhere and everywhere, to join them in an all-alumni Siena Heights service project this fall. Gather a few friends in your area and make a difference for your community—because that's what it means to be competent, purposeful and ethical. Last year, alumni in southeast Michigan, northwest Indiana, and Lake Bluff, IL, served local needs in our first-ever Make A Difference Day effort. This year, we could go nationwide! Join us. Put your Siena Heights spirit to work for the betterment of your community. For details, contact Alumni Association President Dennis Reeder at dennis.reeder3839@gmail.com, or any member of the Alumni Board.

Stay in Touch with Siena!

Send us your notes, photos, emails and calls. We welcome updates from all SHU graduates!

Contact the Alumni Office with news:

Call (517) 264-7143 or (800) 693-0506, email alumni@sienaheights.edu, or snail mail to:

Siena Heights University Alumni Office
1247 E. Siena Heights Dr., Adrian, MI 49221

Alumni Events: Mark Your Calendar!

Siena Heights in Adrian:

- **Siena Summer Spectacular**
 - Friday, June 24, 2011
 - Golf, Dinner, Celebrity Auction
 - Benefiting SHU students

Siena Heights in Toledo:

- **Take SHU Out to the Ball Game!**
 - Thursday, July 28, 2011
 - 8th Annual Toledo Mud Hens Event

Siena Heights in Chicago:

- **Historic First SHU Football Game!**
 - Saturday, September 10, 2011
 - Siena Heights Saints v. Robert Morris College

Siena Heights... on the Heights!

- **Homecoming 2011**
Friday–Sunday, October 7–9
 - Reunions, Alumni Awards
 - Art, Theatre, Learning
 - Dedication of O'Laughlin Stadium
 - Dedication of Dawson Field
 - Soccer, Volleyball and Football
 - Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner
 - And Much More!

Homecoming on the Heights!

Siena Heights University—October 7–9, 2011

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2011

Afternoon Campus Heritage Tour—Trudy McSorley '70 gets rave reviews for this walking tour exploring our Adrian Dominican roots.

Welcome Reception in Studio Angelico—Meet your pals and kick off your Homecoming over drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Catch the art show (see below), then head to dinner and the theatre.

Klemm Gallery Exhibition—Meet the Artists Robin Wagner '87, Brooke Hine '00, Nick Ford '02.

Friday Night Lights with the Saints—Women's Volleyball v. Madonna, Women's Soccer v. Davenport.

Theatre Siena—Production TBA. Francoeur Theatre.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2011

Alumni Homecoming Brunch—Start your reunion here!

2011 Alumni Awards Ceremony—Prepare to be inspired by the outcomes that are possible with a SHU education!

Football: The Tradition Begins—Dedication of O'Laughlin Stadium and Dawson Field followed by SHU v. UM-Flint. Wear your blue and gold.

Hall of Fame Banquet—Celebrate athletic achievements and the legacy of the 2011 Hall of Fame inductees.

Alumni Banquet & Reunion Dinners—An elegant buffet, complimentary beer and wine, and fellowship of friends.

Reunions!—1961: 50th Reunion, 1986: 25th Reunion. Plus all classes ending in "1" and "6".

Octoberfest!—End your day with music and good cheer.

Also on Saturday—Admissions Open House, Alumni 5K Run, Men's Soccer v. Davenport, Art and Theatre, and More!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2011

Food for the Soul—Homecoming Mass in St. Dominic Chapel.

Food for Mind and Body—Finish your weekend at the Celebration Brunch: music, an elegant buffet, and "food for thought."

Tee Time—Saints Golf Outing. 18 holes for the hearty!

The complete schedule is still in the works. Have ideas or suggestions?

Contact the Alumni Office: (517) 264-7143 or alumni@sienaheights.edu.

find us on facebook—search for shu alumni

from the alumni association



On Holy Ground. . . On Higher Ground

When I arrived in September of 1970 to begin my journey on this holy ground of Siena Heights University (then College), I had no idea what impact this institution would have on my life—even 35 years later.

I was a kid from New Jersey who never visited Siena before that first day on campus when my mom dropped me off to begin my college career. I chose Siena because it was affordable and I wanted a teacher education program. In addition, my grandparents lived two hours away, so I could visit on weekends if I wanted to go off campus (home was 12 hours away).

What a difference my time at Siena made for me! I got involved right away. I was elected to student government my freshman year and was involved in student senate all four years. I was excited to receive a graduate assistantship my fifth year and graduated in 1974 with my bachelor's degree and with my master's degree a year later.

Another highlight was in 2002 when I received my Educational Specialist degree – the same day my eldest son Matthew walked across the stage and earned his bachelor's degree.

These years were filled with friendships, activities, studies and athletics, too. Much of college life is still the same today at Siena; yet much is different. You still find small class sizes, faculty members who care, quality athletic programs and many activities on campus, including Mass on Sunday nights. I remember Sister Carmelia walking around Ledwidge Hall on Sunday nights and reminding the students that “Mass starts in 15 minutes!”

At Siena Heights, several words were used back in the 1970s, '80s and '90s to describe this University. They were “family” and “relationships.” Relationships are so important in life, and the friendships I made during my undergraduate years are still important to me today. I met my husband David here, and many of my best friends today are alumni. Ask the students attending these days to describe Siena and “family” is still a word they choose.

Siena prepared me well for a teaching career at Saint Joseph Academy where I was in the classroom for 18 years, and then principal for 15 more. I was fortunate that three years ago when I was ready to close the door on my teaching career, there was an opening at SHU. In my current position as executive assistant to the president and adjunct instructor in the education program, I am excited to have come home and continue to walk on this holy ground every day.

I have been part of the Alumni Association Board of Directors for 10 years and will rotate off the board this fall. I have watched this organization become a vibrant group on this campus, and at our off-campus sites, too. To be purposeful, competent and ethical are certainly the guiding principles of those associated with Siena Heights University.

As an alumna, staff person and someone who loves SHU, I am thrilled with the new growth at Siena Heights. Our president, Sister Peg Albert, and her team are creating wonderful opportunities for many students. There are dynamic things happening in the classrooms with new academic programs, on the athletic fields and with the outreach programs Siena Heights is still a part of, on and off campus. There are truly amazing opportunities here at SHU!

I encourage all of you to come back and visit soon. Walk on this holy ground ... walk on this higher ground. Join the fun at the inaugural Siena Summer Spectacular on June 24 or at Homecoming Weekend Oct. 7-9. These events and more are sure to go down in history, along with the Oct. 8 dedication of Sister Jeanne O’Laughlin Stadium and Dr. Mike and Lynne Dawson Field.

As alumni, we have much to be proud of—and many things to be grateful for. We are truly walking on holy—and higher—ground. Won’t you come walk with us too?

Go Saints!

Deb Keller

Deb Keller '74, '75, '02
Past President of the Alumni Association
dkeller@sienaheights.edu

Siena Heights University officially launched the public phase of its \$13 million 'On Higher Ground' Campaign during a press conference and donor recognition event April 29, 2011, on the Adrian campus.



Above: Stephanie Hickman Boyse, the chair of the On Higher Ground Campaign, addresses the crowd during a press conference announcing the launch of the public phase of the campaign. The Hickman family was one of several donors recognized with the newly established St. Catherine's Circle for providing lead gifts for the campaign.

On Higher Ground

This is the most ambitious fundraising initiative Siena Heights has ever undertaken," said SHU President Sister Peg Albert, OP, PhD. "We are pleased with the initial response to this campaign. In fact, over the past year we have secured some of the largest individual gifts in the history of this institution, which has allowed us to move forward with the public phase of the On Higher Ground Campaign."

The On Higher Ground Campaign is addressing three primary priorities:

University Center

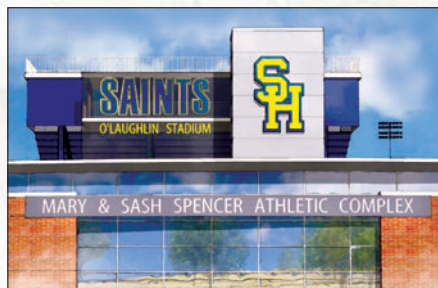
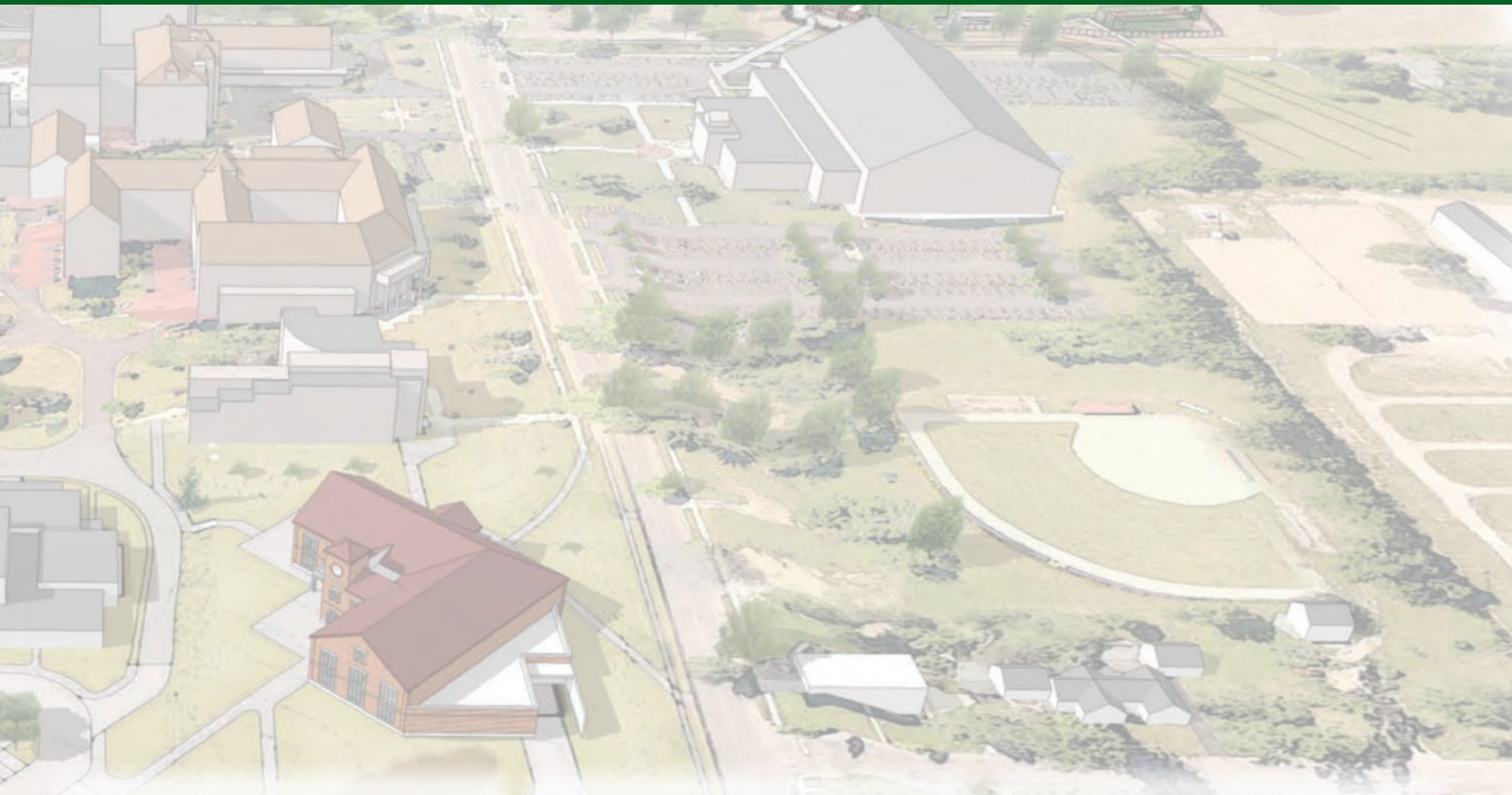
The University Center will be a functional gathering space and will benefit all segments of the university community. It will enhance the quality of student life for resident and non-resident students alike, and will include a dining service, bookstore, community rooms and recreational space. The \$7 million investment will also support more community events.



Athletic Facilities

Athletic resources will be enhanced by the addition of O'Laughlin Stadium and Dr. Mike and Lynne Dawson Field. This \$3 million outdoor performance stadium will support SHU's current sports offerings, including football, soccer, track and field and lacrosse. There are also plans for the Mary and Sash Spencer Athletic Complex, an on-site building to accommodate locker rooms and office/storage needs. A new on-campus baseball field will also be constructed. These facilities will be built with community events in mind, creating a magnet for local and state high school tournaments.

Left: Don Bardo, general manager of Chartwells, accepts the St. Catherine's Circle honor on behalf of his company from SHU President Sister Peg Albert during the campaign launch event. Chartwells, the university's current food service, is investing in the new University Center project and will provide a new dining service in the facility.



Endowed Growth

The University will raise \$3 million in endowed scholarship funds, primarily through planned giving, to help provide long-term financial health to the institution. Endowments allow a donor to create a permanent legacy at Siena Heights University, providing funding for scholarships, faculty, and programs. This funding will help Siena attract the best faculty, continue to offer access and opportunities to deserving students and provide improvements to existing programs.

“We would like acknowledge the generosity of our donors, some of whom have created a lasting footprint and legacy at our university,” President Albert said. “Once these priorities are realized, Siena Heights will certainly be ‘On Higher Ground’ from a facility and student standpoint.”

In fact, President Albert recognized several campaign donors at the event with a new designation called the St. Catherine’s Circle. Reserved for those individuals or organizations displaying extraordinary support for the mission of Siena Heights University, the St. Catherine’s Circle is named for St. Catherine of Siena, the patroness of Siena Heights. This is considered one of the University’s highest honors.

Those recognized were:

- Adrian Dominican Sisters
- Chartwells
- Betty Cummings
- Dr. Mike Dawson
- The Hickman family
- Ruth LaFontaine
- Mary Spencer
- David Stevens

“And it is appropriate that we introduce the St. Catherine’s Circle on the feast day of St. Catherine,” President Albert said.

Over the next year, Siena Heights will work to realize and exceed its \$13 million goal by June 30, 2012. SHU currently has gifts and pledges totaling more than \$12 million. ♦

To contribute to the On Higher Ground Campaign, please call (800) 693-0506 or visit www.sienaheights.edu/campaign.



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Friday, June 24, 2011

Siena Heights University is proud to present the inaugural

Siena Summer Spectacular for Scholarships



Featuring a Golf Scramble and Dinner Auction

Siena Heights University will host the inaugural Siena Summer Spectacular golf scramble and dinner auction event on Friday, June 24, 2011. The scramble will take place at the prestigious Lenawee Country Club in Adrian, Mich., with the dinner auction happening later that evening on the Siena Heights campus.

For more information see the special invitation and registration card inside Reflections.