

# St. Norbert

College Magazine | Spring 2015





# Contents

ST. NORBERT COLLEGE MAGAZINE

## In Print

Vol. 47, No. 1, Spring 2015



### Page 13

“I first met Henry Sink in census data as a resident of De Pere in 1895. Born into slavery in Arkansas, he was in Wisconsin by the early 1860s and may have arrived as ‘contraband of war.’ ”  
– **Victoria Tashjian** (History)



### Page 16

A trio of young women with their sights set on grad school are already deep in original research – and their findings are proving of personal as well as scholarly significance.



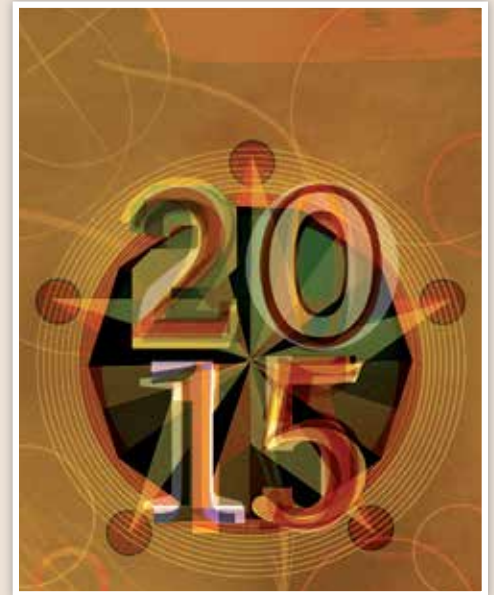
### Page 31

**Bobby Maher '06** and his team at Leav have been capitalizing on new technologies to deliver art the way it was once enjoyed: as a transient experience, appreciated in situ.

## Departments

- 6 President's Message
- 7 News of St. Norbert
- 27 Alumni of St. Norbert
- 34 Connection

## Cover Story



### Page 22

## 2015: A Landmark Year

Not since its founding in 1898 has St. Norbert College seen such a year. Any one of the five big initiatives coming to fruition over the next few months would be enough to see 2015 written up in the history books; together they make for a game-changing experience.

**On our cover:** To illustrate a banner year for the college, who better than **Brian Pirman** (Art)! Pirman is the graphic design specialist among the art faculty. His five-pointed star captures the energy, excitement and increasing visibility of this stellar institution.

## Page 20

### All Power to Her

The clatter of free weights hitting the floor and athletes pushing their limits are sweet sounds for **Paige Bayer '15**, likely St. Norbert College's first competitive powerlifter.



## Page 18

Through examining the themes and structure of superhero narratives, the year-long series "Kapow! Who's Your Hero?" has provided insight into pressing real-world social issues.

## Online

A sampling of related content available at [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine).



**In good cheer:** They may be in enemy territory but the Bears fans on the St. Norbert cheerleading squad (**page 8**) are able to set all differences aside when they head to Lambeau Field.



**In vita brevis:** Faculty art shows give the artists among our professors the chance to share their latest work (**page 9**).



**In hymnody:** The **Rev. Andrew Ciferni, O.Praem., '64 (page 14)** speaks about his work on the official hymn of the World Meeting of Families. The event marks the first visit of Pope Francis to the United States.



**In contention:** We spoke with **Paige Bayer '15**, the college's first competitive power-lifter (**page 21**), about her solo journey to national competition.



**In the right circles:** It wasn't designed for that purpose, but the atrium of the Gehl-Mulva Science Center (**page 24**) provides the perfect laboratory for an experiment in momentum.



**In anticipation:** **Dana Bald '08** shares her excitement about the new MBA program (**page 25**).



**In the news:** Listen in as the Medical College of Wisconsin (**page 26**) launches its MCW-Green Bay brand via news conference and tour of its facility.



**In time:** A time capsule concealed in the cornerstone of St. Joseph Hall almost 100 years ago gave up its secrets in December (**page 34**).

Keep an eye open throughout this edition for more links to content on the web. Follow us on your favorite social media channel, too. Just search for **St. Norbert College**.







### **Day is done**

Glories stream from heaven afar: an evening benison for a campus whose perennial beauty is reflected in the passing waters of the Fox River.

*This image is available for download at [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine).*

## Growing talent in the new north



**Tom Kunkel considers the college in the context of its wider community – as a good neighbor that brings talent into the area, but also as one that depends on the region’s ability to attract and retain that talent.**



**New North** is a marketing and economic development organization fostering collaboration among private and public sector leaders throughout the 18 counties of northeast Wisconsin. Its mission is to harness and promote the region’s resources, talents and creativity for the purposes of sustaining and growing the regional economy.

A college is many things. Most obviously, it’s an institution of higher learning. But it’s also a cultural center. A research generator. A restaurateur and hotelier. An athletics hub. A faith community.

And it’s a business – a big business, in fact. With some 600 employees, St. Norbert College is one of the largest employers in Brown County, and as we steward our 2,100 students we have a substantial economic impact on our region. A few years ago, two of our most respected faculty, Sandra Odorzynski and David Wegge, calculated that the college annually generates approximately \$122 million for Brown County.

A high percentage of St. Norbert’s employees would be classified as professionals – many of those being faculty, as you’d expect, but more yet being administrators and staff whose jobs require a bachelor’s degree at minimum, and often an advanced degree. They are accountants and psychologists, ministers and computer programmers, admission counselors and catering managers.

Thus we face the same personnel pressures that any other business confronts to survive and thrive. And one of the biggest is, how do you recruit and keep top talent?

Not long ago that was a focus of the New North Summit, and I was invited to be part of the conversation.

Most of our job searches at St. Norbert College – certainly all faculty and key management positions – are national in scope. And as our job candidates consider whether to join us, they are weighing the same factors they do at your organization, be it a Fortune 500 or a regional nonprofit.

Perhaps the most crucial factor is our reputation in the industry. Talent draws talent, and we know that people in the academy want to work at engaged colleges they feel are on the move. (It turns out that construction cranes are great recruiting billboards for employees as well as for prospective students!) And this is a

synergistic dynamic. In hiring strong faculty and staff, we better serve our students, which draws stronger students, who in turn help us lure top faculty and staff.

Competitive pay and attractive benefits are important, naturally, but so, too, are SNC’s mission and values. We look for people who want to join us for the right reasons, and we are assertive about that in our recruiting. And once you do hire these talented people, you have to keep them challenged, with opportunities for professional development and personal growth.

Still, at the end of the day, there’s only so much any employer can do itself to attract and keep talent. The rest of the formula is up to the wider community – which is why this must be a true regional priority.

Fortunately, when we think of De Pere, greater Green Bay and all of northeast Wisconsin, many of these “intangibles” are highly positive.

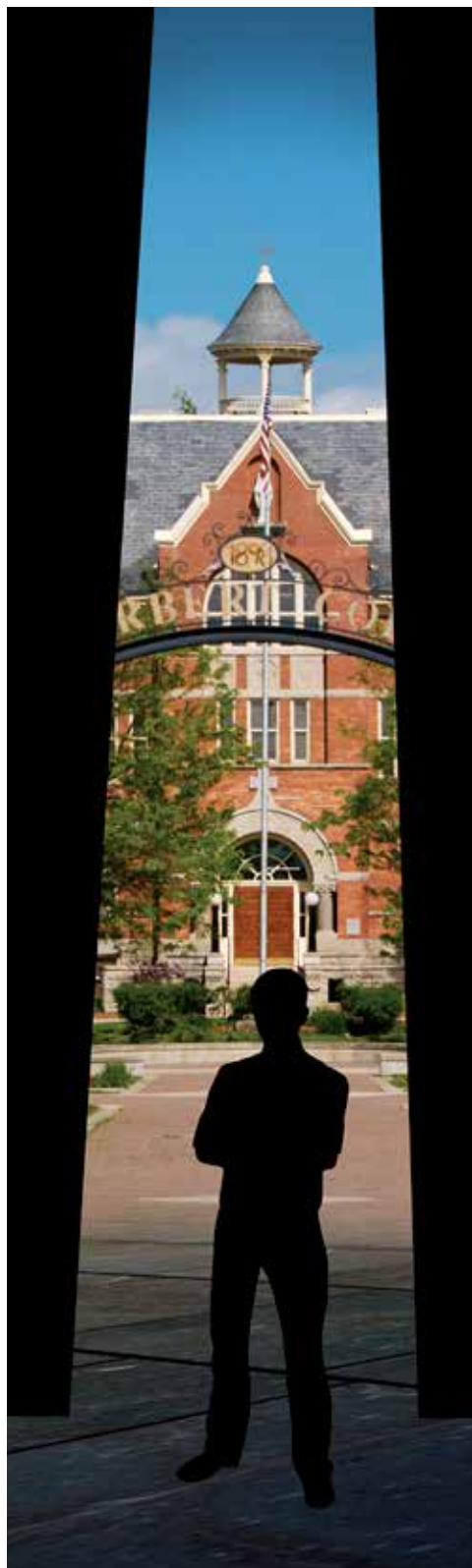
Consider our overall quality of life, our fine schools, the affordable housing and attractive cost of living, a family-friendly environment, relatively low crime rates, and a bounteous playground for outdoors enthusiasts. Nor does it hurt that Wisconsin is simply beautiful.

Having said that, we still have much work to do to make our home a genuine magnet for creative people.

We lack too much of what young professionals require to work and live. We need more entertainment and cultural options, from theaters that actually show movies without explosions to more restaurants venturing beyond great burgers and fish fries. We must cultivate the kinds of tech-oriented business clusters that are just starting to form in Green Bay and Oshkosh, as well as more urban-style residential options. And we must be far more intentional in making this area a truly comfortable environment for non-whites and those in the LGBT community.

Whatever the challenges, we all have our parts to play in ensuring the long-term vitality of the New North region. Here at SNC, we are trying to step up in a variety of ways, from a revitalized STEM commitment to our partnership with the Medical College of Wisconsin, from the new MBA program to our Big Ideas initiative.

After all, we don’t just work here. We live here. ♣



## Initiative opens doors

St. Norbert students living on the autism spectrum will benefit from new and key supports through a pilot program launched this year.

The initiative, unusual at an undergraduate institution, is a combination of individual counseling, social skills training and peer mentoring, says program leader **Bruce Robertson**, a licensed clinical psychologist and senior director of St. Norbert's counseling and career programs.

The program is being supported with a \$5,000 gift over the next four years from **Camille (Coppens) Nicklaus '87** and her husband, **Todd**. If the program grows over the next four years, the Nicklauses intend to endow it with a gift of \$100,000.

One of the Nicklaus' sons was diagnosed with Asperger's – one of the autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) – at age 4, and now at age 20 attends college in North Dakota. "When we were looking at colleges, it ran through our mind quite a bit 'how would he do on his own?' He is very high-functioning and is managing well, but it made us think about other parents and how stressful it is for them to leave their child at college," says Camille.

Navigating college – dealing with social and academic pressures while living away from your parents, likely for the first time – can be tough. A disability that makes social interactions more challenging compounds any difficulties.

Todd says St. Norbert is an ideal fit for an ASD student-support program. "It's a comfortable place to be and the students – I think because it's a Catholic college – are more understanding of differences," he says. "St. Norbert's is a welcoming campus and this program will help these students feel more at ease during their college experience, especially for those students who suffer from social issues."

In the St. Norbert program, seniors majoring in sociology and focused on human services will serve as student mentors. Robertson says they'll meet with students weekly to not only provide regular conversation – some people on the spectrum can become socially isolated – but to also answer questions and provide guidance. For the student mentors in the program, participation fulfills their internship requirement. It also affords them an opportunity typically only available to graduate students at larger research institutions.

"For some of these students [with autism], it would never occur to them to question a grade or if there's something in the syllabus they're uncomfortable with. We want them to advocate for themselves and their needs," Robertson says. "We really want to help and be there for students before any kind of major crisis arises. We want them to be successful."

### AUTISM

One in 68 children have been diagnosed with autism, according to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. People with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) communicate, interact, learn and behave differently from the general population. People on the autism spectrum vary widely in their abilities. Many who have proven themselves good candidates for a college education still experience social and organizational difficulties.

### Ongoing support

**Bruce Robertson:** "For many of these students, this is the first time they are away from their parents and they need help with self-advocacy, emotional regulation, social functioning and getting involved on campus. We're seeing a wave of students coming through now that were diagnosed when they were younger and had the benefit of resources and help in elementary and high schools. They need some support since their parents aren't here to advocate for them."


Behind enemy lines



When the Green Knight cheerleaders headed to Lambeau Field last season, few knew they were taking six Bears fans into the very heart of Packerland.

The St. Norbert squad (pictured is **Rachel Lee '15**) cheers for the Green Bay Packers along with the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay's cheerleaders. But as it turns out, almost half of the current St. Norbert team is made up of students from Illinois who have grown up supporting the Chicago Bears.

Education major **Lexy Kaminski '17** hails from Wauconda, Ill. She says, "It's kind of mind-blowing. We walk through the tunnel, and you have butterflies. I really have a newfound respect for the town of Green Bay after walking through and just seeing how much they really love their team. ... Being able to cheer both for St. Norbert and for the Packers, you kind of get the whole feel of what this town has to offer. It's definitely a wow factor for me."

 They may be in enemy territory, but the Bears fans on the St. Norbert cheerleading squad are able to set all differences aside when they head to Lambeau Field. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

**Twin City**

A St. Norbert presence in Lille, France, was ensured throughout this academic year as **Alesia '16** and **Alexandria '16 Staskiewicz** took the northern French city in shifts. Alesia (right), a French and Spanish double-major pursuing a secondary education certification, took part in St. Norbert's exchange program at Université Catholique de Lille this past fall. She then rounded out her school year in Europe with a spring semester in Toledo, Spain. As Alesia bid au revoir to Lille, Alex, an international studies and French double-major, took her turn at the university to close out the year – all this to the likely confusion of the French, as the twin sisters look remarkably alike.



**Joint honors**

Recognition for the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at St. Norbert comes with the Fox Valley Battalion's ranking at the head of 43 other regional programs. It's the first time that a Wisconsin Army program has achieved top honors. Evaluations were based on cadet performance and administration, training management, logistics, marketing/recruiting, and command inspections.

The distinction, announced at the 3rd Army ROTC Leadership Conference, comes at a time when the battalion – a partnership between St. Norbert, UW Oshkosh, UW-Green Bay, Ripon and Marian – is managing with half its usual instructor strength.

**Affiliated**

St. Norbert College initiated its first members into the new Phi Kappa Phi chapter on campus this March. The nation's oldest and most

selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines accepts members by invitation only. **Jeff Frick**, dean of the college and academic vice president, who is himself a Phi Kappa Phi member, spoke at the ceremony that initiated the new members into this 327th chapter. Phi Kappa Phi exists to "recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others." Members receive academic prestige, access to scholarships and grants, and discounts from partner companies.

**Mutual esteem**

A gallery at Silver Lake College now bears the name of **Donald Taylor '67**, St. Norbert director of art galleries and curator emeritus. The artist, known as a good friend to the Manitowoc school's art department over the years, was attending a reception for a retrospective of

his own work in the new gallery when Silver Lake surprised him with the honor.

**Time-tested**

A paper co-authored by **James Hodgson** (Biology, Emeritus) in 1985 has received the John Martin Award for outstanding contributions to aquatic sciences. This award, bestowed by the American Society of Limnology & Oceanography, honors a paper published more than 10 years ago that is judged to have had a high impact on the field. Only one paper per year, is recognized with this award, reserved for papers "leading to fundamental shifts in research."

Hodgson partnered with Stephen Carpenter (University of Notre Dame) and James Kitchell (University of Wisconsin) on "Cascading Trophic Interactions and Lake Productivity: Fish Predation and Herbivory Can Regulate Lake Ecosystems," which

discussed how altering food webs by altering consumer populations might be a promising management tool in aquatic systems.

**Co-presenters**

**Jessi Nelson '16** and **Katelyn Landerman '16** were the only undergraduates to attend November's Mid-Western Educational Research Association annual meeting in Evanston, Ill. The students are research partners of **Christopher Meidl** (Education). With Meidl, Nelson presented on "Three Cultural Examples of Ethics and Morality Explored Through Folklore Characters" and Landerman presented on "Technology Integration in Elementary Classrooms." Meidl, says, "Our students get recognized for their ability to perform and present original research and, for them, it is a big step in regards to developing an identity as a professional educator."



**Art Matters**

1 Every two years the Baer Gallery exhibits work by professors from our own art discipline in a much-appreciated show of their recent work.

2 This spring, the Godschalx Gallery mounted a concurrent exhibit of new work by **April Beiswenger** (Theatre Studies).

3 "Open," oil on canvas, is the work of **Shan Bryan-Hanson**, curator of the galleries and of the college collections.

4 Installations by the **Rev. Jim Neilson, O.Praem., '88** used teaching media from the collection of his late colleague **Bill Bohné**. This piece, made from slides, is titled "Art 110: Stalactite."

5 **Debbie Kupinsky** works in sculpture and found objects. This wall installation in porcelain is titled "Tapestry."

6 This piece is from "Euromissile Crisis," a mixed-media portfolio by **Brandon Bauer**.

 Our online gallery offers a chance to enjoy more of the latest work by our own faculty members. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



## Why do we do it?

A few days before the school year began, I heard one of my colleagues remark: “A new semester is just about here. After that, I have a different project to complete or event to plan every single week until Christmas. Do you ever wonder why we do it?” It’s a good question, a telling one. It took root in my mind as the year continued on its way and the campus-wide stress level began to creep higher.

Why do we do it? Why do we choose to teach? Why do we dare to learn? For three reasons, I believe: We do it for ourselves. We do it for each other. And we do it to change the world.

We do it for ourselves, first, frankly.

That’s not always a good reason. If we lecture merely to attract attention, to elicit interest from our students, or to exalt ourselves, then we’re operating from mighty childish motives. If it’s only about us, or having more publications than someone else, then our egos have become bigger than the subjects we teach. When that happens, sooner or later the material will wither and die inside us.

But there are other ways in which we do it for ourselves that can be honest, if not entirely unselfish.

Submerging ourselves in a new subject sets us on a collision course with beauty, truth and meaning. It integrates mind and spirit, and has the potential to make us whole. It cuts across the boundaries of intellect and emotion and restores a degree of internal unity that enhances our mental health. We teach and we learn because it makes us happy when we do. We challenge ourselves because it makes us feel good, and there’s nothing bad about that.

That’s one reason we do it. We do it for ourselves. But that isn’t the only reason we teach and learn. We do it for each other, too.

We do it because “it is not good for the human-creature to be alone,” as the oldest story of all tells us. We do it because there is a hole in the human heart that is permanently “other-shaped.” We do it because we deeply long to be truly known and

wanted, and deeply desire to matter and belong to one another. As we seek out the “other” in the great abyss of wisdom that surrounds us, the hole in our heart begins to heal.

When I watch one student help another with a problem, I know that we do it for each other. When I watch a small group come early to class to go over notes from yesterday’s meeting and make sure they understand the material we covered, I know we do it for each other. When I see my faculty colleagues listen louder than they speak, I know we do it for each other. It’s real, and it’s utterly impossible to miss.

With all my heart I believe that we were made for this exchange of teaching and learning. The ancients called it *communio*, by which they meant a deep, interpenetrating union of hearts and minds and souls. The conductor Robert Shaw put it another way: “There is no communication without community, and no community without communication.”

That’s why we do it. We do it for ourselves, and we do it for each other.

But there’s one more powerful reason we do it. We do it because it can change the world. Anyone who’s breathing and awake knows that we live in a broken world full of broken people. They drive past us on the highways. They stand in front of us at the checkout line. They walk past us in the hallway at work. They sit in our classrooms. They’re all around us. If we dare to be honest about it, we know they stare back at us in the mirror each morning. But that’s really not as bad as it sounds for, as the poet and singer Leonard Cohen reminds us, “There is a crack in everything. That’s how the light gets in.”

And who is it that creates the light? Who brings it to the cracks to heal the broken spaces?

We do. Every time we share something we have learned with one another, we do.

When we share the stories we’re given as truly as we can, we release energy that can heal the broken spaces. When we use those lessons to interact with the world in front of us with as much love and honesty as we possibly can, we literally can change the world, one act of sharing – of teaching and learning – at a time.

We know this is true. That’s why we do it.

**Gramophone Magazine says Blake Henson’s music moves “from soothing sentiments to more exultant territory with exceptional harmonic vibrancy; it casts a spell that must be even more thrilling when heard in live performance.” He joined the St. Norbert faculty in 2010 as an assistant professor of music.**



WITH THE BAND



Phil Oswald's working vacation puts him in touch with some significant talent, including Texas singer-songwriter Carrie Rodriguez (with Oswald, above). Oswald has had the opportunity to see a number of acts on the rise, including Nashville artist Sturgill Simpson and other singer-songwriters like Josh Ritter and Jakob Dylan. And he gets to work with backstage stars like Bernd Knemoeller, too. "He's the sound engineer, one of the best in Texas. We met in 2010 and he and I are the original team there. He travels the country with national productions but always comes back to St. David's for our evenings at SXSW." Oswald says, "For me, the best moments are a combination of making the crowd happy and the artist happy. All I need to hear is that somebody enjoyed their time there and that it was cool for the artist."



## Music man takes his leave

Nobody was concerned that **Phil Oswald** was away from his Main Hall office during spring break. For the ninth straight year, St. Norbert College's vice president of college advancement was busy fretting over frets, amps, sound, lights and musicians as a volunteer stage manager at the South by Southwest (SXSW) Music Festival in Austin, Texas.

"This is how I take my vacation," Oswald says. "I work during my vacation, but it's something totally different than what I'm used to doing. It's cool because it's out of my normal day-to-day routine." South by Southwest – or simply "South By," as the regulars call it – is the world's leading music industry event. In addition to panel discussions, trade show, music gear expo and other conference activities, the event features six nights of musical performances at more than 100 official stages.

This year's 29th annual event took place March 17-22. Oswald worked four days from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m., in addition to the hundreds of hours of advance work he logged in the months leading up to the festival. He made sure the bands had their equipment in place or arranged to share equipment, especially in the case of international acts. He also communicated logistics such as arrival and performance times for at least six different acts each night. Each act gets a 40-minute set.

"I get to work with some of the best

people year after year," Oswald says. "It's almost like going to summer camp."

St. David's Historic Sanctuary in Austin has been the home venue for Oswald and his team the past six years. Alcohol is not allowed in the church sanctuary, meaning the 350 people who can fill the room typically are well behaved. "It can get full and then it can get rowdy," Oswald says. "Sometimes I'm the one to let people in and out because of the fire marshal restrictions."

A late bloomer in terms of his association with the music business, Oswald served as music director at KMSC Radio at Morehead State College in Minnesota during his college days, but didn't become a musician until learning to play bass guitar at the age of 49. He played his first gig on his 50th birthday.

Oswald played in a rock band called Largemouth during his years on staff at the University of Missouri, and enjoyed a handful of gigs in Austin after he moved south to serve as the associate vice president at the University of Texas.

"They would put out a call for volunteers for various things around Austin, and one year I volunteered at the Austin City Limits Music Festival," Oswald recalls. "Then I decided to volunteer for South by Southwest. I was just going to do stage crew, but they needed stage managers. Little did I know I'd be working the whole conference."



The vice president's blue-jeans-plus-credentials volunteer path takes him into a world that's significantly different in many ways from his life as a suit-and-tie-wearing senior administrator. But, just as in his official life as vice president of college advancement, he's in the business of tapping into others' passions in service of the common good; so, in private life, and recognizing the great enjoyment he has derived from his passion for music, he has found a meaningful way to share his time. Oswald is charged with the steering of Campaign St. Norbert: Full Ahead to its successful conclusion later this year. The campaign is securing funds for student financial aid; enriching the student experience; strengthening faculty and academic programs; enhancing and improving facilities; and completing the new Gehl-Mulva Science Center.

For more about the campaign, visit [giving.snc.edu](http://giving.snc.edu).

STREAK



The 2014-15 St. Norbert men's basketball team broke a record that dates back to 1947. The Green Knights home victory over Cornell College on Feb. 21 marked the program's 42nd consecutive Midwest Conference win. The team went on to two more victories, emerging triumphant from the conference tournament. (Beloit held the previous mark with 41 victories 1947-51.)

"I mentioned the [winning streak] in passing," says Coach Gary Grzesk. "It's not something we talk about. The players were aware of it. That's something we can look back on and really appreciate."

A second consecutive undefeated conference season was necessary to achieve the milestone.

"You think about all the things you have to overcome to put together an undefeated season," says Grzesk. "You deal with injuries, the other team has a hot night, not being ready to play or having an off night. This group has overcome all those things. I'm really happy for our seniors and what they have accomplished."



## Remarkable twin seasons for hoops

A sixth Midwest Conference championship and fifth NCAA Division III Tournament appearance in the last eight seasons posted by the women; a fifth Midwest Conference championship and fifth NCAA Division III Tournament appearance in the last six seasons – rounding out a second undefeated season – registered by the men; the run of excellence continues for St. Norbert basketball.

"We are not a dynasty by any means, but we are solid," says women's coach **Connie Tilley**. "I hate losing ... but I never talk about winning or losing. I talk about preparing the kids to play the next team on our schedule. The score will take care of itself. We just need to do our part." The calling card for the Green Knights under Tilley is defense. This season, the team held opponents to 50 points per game and 33 percent shooting from the field. "Defense is my forte," she says. "Defense is something that everyone can play."

Tilley's team lost three players to season-ending injuries. The squad was also one of her youngest, featuring one senior, forward **Tasha Giese '15**. "I cannot tell you how proud I am for what they have done and what they have accomplished," Tilley says. "We've become a very mentally strong team. I don't know if we would have had that toughness without the adversity we faced."

That toughness was on display during the Green Knights only conference loss, 60-58 in overtime at Monmouth when multiple players were ill. "They hung in there and fought," says Tilley. "We don't want bad things to happen, but when they do, how do you

handle them? This team has done that very well. They are overachievers. They listen, they work hard; they do everything we ask them to do and more."

Expectations will remain high with so many returning players for next season.

The St. Norbert men posted a second consecutive undefeated conference season despite losing five starters – including two first-team all-conference selections.

"I think the players sometimes take winning for granted, but there is a lot that goes into it," says men's head coach **Gary Grzesk**. "You have to pay the price each and every day. These guys wanted to write their own chapter to this season and their careers. They have done that."

The defensive prowess of the Green Knights – allowing fewer than 60 points per game – was matched by a highly efficient offense. St. Norbert led all of college basketball, shooting at a 55 percent clip from the floor. "We have unselfish kids willing to make the extra pass and hit the open man," Grzesk says.

"We try to take good shots," says guard **Austin Elliott '16**. "It helps when you have both Andrew [**Schwoerer '15**] and Steve [**Hofacker '15**] shooting 60 percent. Our guards are also high-percentage shooters. Teams have to respect everyone we put on the floor. We have a lot of confidence that guys will knock down shots." The trio finished with the most wins – 85 – in program history.

The St. Norbert men and women have both been nationally ranked throughout the season.

## Treasure / Henry Sink

### Victoria Tashjian

#### Professor of History

I first met Henry Sink in census data as a resident of De Pere in 1895. Born into slavery in Arkansas, he was in Wisconsin by the early 1860s and may have arrived as “contraband of war.”

I have records of his military service, and of two marriages. In 1900, he purchased a De Pere home for \$250 less than a half-mile away from where, by the 1940s, restrictive covenants barred African-American home-ownership. There are tax records, and newspaper articles. I’m looking at slave schedules, and at records of the white Sink family.

He was shot through the elbow during the Siege of Petersburg. In his Civil War pension file, he initially signs by making his mark. Further on, he has the signature of somebody who is just learning to write. Seven years later, he’s got the fluid signature of an experienced writer.

Having his portrait (taken for the local Grand Army of the Republic post) is fabulous! It is wonderful to be able to look at his face.

People sometimes think of historical research as dry. It’s certainly not.

**Victoria Tashjian is researching the history of African-American settlement in 19th-century northeast Wisconsin.**



WOW FACTOR



The abbey church of Grimbergen dates from 1660 and the interior is richly decorated in the Baroque style of the time. Alex Gruber says, "We have impressive churches in the United States, but we don't have authentic Baroque architecture with all the gold filigree, and all the huge paintings that just hang on the walls as if they've been there forever, and massive statues and columns everywhere."

"It is kind of overwhelming," Luke Manderle adds. "It almost seems a little excessive the first time going through it because, just coming from here and the kind of plain churches, to going over there – just all of the, everything, it's kind of crazy, but a good distraction during the Mass in a language I couldn't understand!"



## Belgian abbey visit aids research

When **Luke Manderle '18** and **Alex Gruber '18** applied for research fellowships at the Center for Norbertine Studies (CNS), they knew the opportunity would require two things: the study of Norbertine heritage, and foreign travel.

They enjoyed both of those Jan. 3-17, visiting four Norbertine abbeys in Belgium in company with the **Rev. Andrew Ciferni, O.Praem., '64**, director of the CNS. The threesome also stopped at Daylesford Abbey in Paoli, Pa., and Archmere Academy, the Norbertine prep school in Claymont, Del.

The trip was part of the center's effort to digitize archives pertaining to the missionary activity of all Norbertine abbeys and make them available online. The students helped digitize correspondence between early-20th-century Grimbergen missionaries on a failed mission in Canada – letters to their parents, and to the abbot and prior of the Belgian abbey.

"Probably the most important part for me was the people we met," says Manderle, who plans to teach high school history. "They were all amazing, really nice people. All of them were really interesting, too."

Gruber, who plans to be an archivist, says, "I really found interesting the richness of spirituality and history, and how much people appreciated it over in Belgium, and I think in Europe in general." He cites governments working with orders to maintain abbeys and their heritage.

Gruber says "wow!" was his first thought when entering the church of Grimbergen Abbey. It was built in the 1600s. The Baroque experience was almost overwhelming to the student visitors at first, he added, but noticed that local residents were "so used to it that it's easy for them to walk in and sit down."

Although Ciferni has often visited Grimbergen,

the experience was a treat for him, too. "In addition to the experience of the three of us working together on the same level playing field as amateur archivists, the great gift to me was once again experiencing these wonderful Norbertine places and communities through Luke and Alex's first-time experience of wonder and surprise."

The priest, who knows both Dutch and French, began going to Grimbergen in 1965 as a student in the Rome, but only learned last July about its doomed mission in Canada.

At Grimbergen, Ciferni and a former abbot of the Belgian foundation worked with Gruber and Manderle to record into a spreadsheet basic information about some 2,000 letters documenting the mission's history. They then scanned the letters.

The visitors joined in abbey life, attending prayers in Dutch and eating with the Norbertines, who were more than ready to converse in English for the sake of their guests.

The trio also visited Averbode, Park and Tongerlo abbeys. And they were able to call on Frans Debonne, a Norbertine associate living in Belgium and longtime collector of Norbertine-related items. (*We introduced readers to Debonne and his collection in our Spring 2013 issue.*)

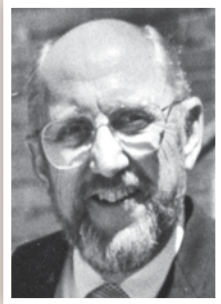
Ciferni hopes that, by semester's end, Manderle and Gruber will be able to finish the technical portion of their project and that they will introduce their findings to the broader community at the college's Undergraduate Research Forum at the end of March.



Ciferni speaks about his work on the official hymn of the World Meeting of Families, planned for next September in Philadelphia. The event marks the first visit of Pope Francis to the United States. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

In a season of loss, the college mourns the passing of four members of the community whose remarkable legacies endure.

**Robert F. Kramer, 1925-2015**, died Jan. 3. He joined the St. Norbert faculty in 1963, going on to chair the business administration discipline for 11 years, and receiving the Leonard Ledvina



Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1983. He retired as professor emeritus in 1991. Reflecting on a tenure that provided a “vision for integrating a business major

into the liberal arts curriculum that has guided the college to its current status,” **Eliot Elfner** (Business Administration, Emeritus) laments the passing of his former colleague: “His legacy will remain as the foundation for the program as we continue to serve our students in the Norbertine tradition.” As **Ken Zahorski** (English, Emeritus) remembers, “Our dear friend possessed remarkable patience and organization as a teacher, dedication as a colleague, and loyalty and warmth as a trusted and treasured lifelong friend.” St. Norbert still recognizes a senior with the Robert F. Kramer Award for Excellence in Accounting. Kramer is survived by his wife, Marylou, and two daughters.

**George McCallum, 1931-2015**, died Feb. 10. Elfner remembers his colleague: “He hated morning classes – you often saw him loping across campus to get to his noon class. And he generally held office hours in the middle of the night!” McCallum, whose interest in trains earned him the nickname Chooch, served on the economics faculty 1967-1991, moving on to a professorship at Gannon University. In addition to his work as teacher and scholar, McCallum was also an avid musician and active member of his church community. He is survived by his cousins and friends.

**Phil Cochran, 1955-2015**, died March 6. Cochran, a member of the biology faculty 1984-2000, left St. Norbert to return to his alma mater, St. Mary’s University, where he chaired the biology department. “Phil was a lifelong student of natural history,” remembers **Nelson Ham** (Geology). “And he lived, worked, taught and played in the field – in my mind one of the last great field naturalists. Most importantly he was a great mentor, friend and fishing partner. I’ll never have another like him.” **Jim Hodgson** (Biology, Emeritus) recalls, “No one was more dedicated to his science than Phil, and as a result, he made us all better scientists.” Cochran is survived by his wife, Michelle, and five children.

**Don La Violette ’54, 1931-2015**, who spent 11 seasons as head football coach and guided the Green Knights into the Midwest Conference, died Feb. 16. La Violette took the team to three league championships as well as to their first NCAA Division III Playoff appearance, in 1989. He did double duty as the



men’s basketball coach 1987-1989, one of only two college coaches in the country to simultaneously serve his institution as head football and basketball

coach. He also coached men’s tennis for one year. **Dan Lukes** (Athletics) recalls that La Violette was well known for his low-key coaching style and wry sense of humor. **Russ Schmelzer ’82** (Athletics) remembers, “Whenever you came in contact with him, you’d always walk away with a smile on your face. And as much as football and sports in general meant to him, they were always put in the proper perspective with regard to the bigger picture of life. He taught thousands of men he coached every day in the St. Norbert tradition – by word and example.” La Violette is survived by his wife, Anne, and four children.

## Inherited office



**Anna Herrman ’07** has no difficulty calling to mind the words of her undergraduate mentor, **Kevin Hutchinson** (Communication & Media Studies, Emeritus). Herrman now occupies her former adviser’s office.

Herrman returned to the college as visiting professor in 2013 and accepted a permanent position on the faculty beginning this year. From her desk in Boyle 216, she now finds herself conducting office hours in the same room in which she herself used to meet with her mentor.

“My office space is really valuable,” she says. “[We] had many significant and impactful conversations about education, the future, and my personal life. It was in Boyle 216 when I recognized my full potential as a student and saw my future in communication. I often find myself engaged in similar conversations with my students and consider how powerful communication and mentorship can be in shaping the lives of others.”

In Herrman’s junior year as an undergraduate, Hutchinson told her that she was the ideal candidate for graduate school and that she should consider pursuing a Ph.D. in communication: “The thought of graduate school, which I had not considered until that point, was unnerving. This moment, however, redefined my career aspiration and shaped who I have become. What I heard was ‘I believe in you.’”

# Background research

Student researchers turn scholarly lens on topics from their own heritages

By MaryBeth Matzek



Chantre' Smith '15 with Maria Jimenez '15 (left) and Gabriella Zewdu-Habte '15 (right).



**M**aria Jimenez '15 wasn't sure what she would discover. Majoring in business administration with a concentration in finance at St. Norbert College, Jimenez knew from U.S. census figures that the number of Hispanic entrepreneurs in the Green Bay area grew dramatically from 2000 to 2010, but she was surprised where that growth came from. It came from women.

"More Latina women are owning businesses and being entrepreneurs, which is so very different from what you find in Mexico and other parts of Latin America," Jimenez says. "It was amazing to uncover that information and talk with business owners about their experiences."

Jimenez' survey was the first of its kind in Green Bay, furnishing valuable information on commerce in the city.

Her discoveries came through her participation in the McNair Scholars program, a federally funded program designed to encourage students from populations often under-represented in graduate programs to pursue doctoral degrees. Students participate in summer research projects and also receive information and assistance to help them get into graduate school. St. Norbert partners with Ripon College and Lawrence University on its McNair program.

Jimenez is one of three St. Norbert students in the program who considered their own experiences when choosing topics for their academic research. Jimenez, who is Hispanic, wanted to know more about Latina women in business; while **Gabriella Zewdu-Habte '15**, who is Ethiopian-American, explored biracial issues; and **Chantre' Smith '15**, a member

of the Oneida Tribe, looked at the role played by Native Americans in the civil rights movement.

"I've been impacted by my culture and have answered questions about my race and wanted to explore that same theme in literature," says Zewdu-Habte, who is majoring in English with a minor in women's and gender studies.

For her project, she analyzed the novel "Caucasia" by Danzy Senna and the problems the main character has when she's labeled by others as white, even though she is biracial and self-identifies as black. Zewdu-Habte focused on what she calls "visual racism."

"That's when you're discriminated against and defining someone else's race using simplistic visual notions," she says. "Some people say we're in a post-racial society, but that's not the case. It was great to find this in a literary setting and then bridging out from there."

Smith, who is majoring in communication with a media concentration, had always been curious about the lives of Native Americans during the civil rights movement of the 1960s, as well as how they were affected by Jim Crow laws. During her research, she talked with tribal elders about their experiences.

"When you read about the civil rights movement, it was mainly focused on African-Americans, but I wanted to learn more about what Native Americans were doing and what they were thinking at that time," she says.

"That era is rarely talked about and I wanted to bring awareness to it. Everyone knows about the struggles of African-Americans during that time, but what

about Native Americans? Did they endure the same poor treatment?"

Smith discovered differences in discrimination between the northern and southern United States, and that Native Americans faced mistreatment similar to that of African-Americans.

"I was shocked by what I found out. It opened my eyes," she explains, adding that she hopes other eyes will be opened, too, as she shares what she found out during the research process.

In her research, Jimenez learned that cultural differences in the United States and Latin America make it easier for women to venture out on their own and launch their own businesses in the States. "There's more support here for people, especially women, who are starting out," she says. "There's also more acceptance."

Beyond providing students with the tools and support needed for their research project, the McNair program also helps students prepare for graduate school admission, including getting ready for the GRE exam and getting support as they fill out application forms.

"Without McNair, I would not have known where to start regarding graduate school," says Jimenez, who hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in business administration with a concentration in international business or finance. "The help has been invaluable."

Zewdu-Habte echoed those statements, particularly noting the GRE preparation.

"Applying for grad schools is daunting," she says. "McNair has been a huge help in preparing me for the kind of research grad school requires. It also increased my confidence and helped me find focus on what I want to research in grad school."

## From McNair to faculty post

Working toward her bachelor's degree in psychology at Westminster College, **Raquel Cowell** (Psychology) admits she didn't know much about research or grad school.

The McNair Scholars program changed that. Cowell, who went on to earn her master's and Ph.D. in developmental psychology from the University of Minnesota, joined the St. Norbert faculty as an assistant psychology professor last fall.

"I was fortunate; I had an instructor mention the program to me. As a first-generation college student, I wasn't sure what

to do after college and they helped me through the grad school application process," she says. "I also came away with a better understanding of the rigors of the research process."

Cowell worked on a team research project looking at self-esteem in college students. "I had the wonderful experience to present at an academic conference and to be around other people who are researching. It was amazing," she says. "This program is something instructors definitely need to share with their students. Its main focus is student growth." ♣



*THROUGH EXAMINING THE THEMES AND STRUCTURE OF SUPERHERO NARRATIVES, A YEAR-LONG SERIES TITLED "KAPOW! WHO'S YOUR HERO?" HAS PROVIDED INSIGHT INTO A VARIETY OF REAL-WORLD SOCIAL ISSUES.*

By Melanie Radzicki McManus '83

It's not often you hear college students squeal with delight. But then again, it's not often the editor-in-chief of comics giant Marvel Entertainment – *shazam!* – pops in for a surprise chat. Marvel's Axel Alonso did just that earlier this year, thrilling not only St. Norbert students, but staff and community members as well.

Alonso's unexpected entrance was witnessed by about 200 people who had gathered on campus to hear the Skype talk "SkypeTacular! Ms. Marvel and the League of Marvel Women Speak," the second of a three-part Skype series developed by the Cassandra Voss Center (CVC). The series highlighted several of the major scholars and creators of color in the comics industry, and was part of a broader CVC program, spanning the school year, studying

gender, race, sexuality and class through the identity narratives found in the comics and superhero industry. Marvel Entertainment editor Sana Amanat was Skyping with the audience when Alonso suddenly joined her. The Skype chat by the dynamic duo marked Marvel's first-ever college appearance.

"Some of the audience members literally gasped when we had the two on Skype," says **Anna Czarnik-Neimeyer '11** (CVC). "But Marvel agreed to appear at St. Norbert specifically because we're a college, and because we're engaging with comics in a different way."

What can college students learn by studying comics and superheroes with names like Spider-Man, Storm, Blade and the Hulk? Plenty, especially when considered

through the prism of gender, race, sexuality and class. These issues are complex and can be intimidating to dissect with one's peers and instructors. Discussing them through comics makes it a little easier, says **Elizabeth Schmitt '15**, a CVC intern who assisted with the programming.

Lest you think comics have nothing to do with these topics, think again. The world of comics and superheroes is actually filled with an increasingly diverse array of characters, many of whom are being created specifically to show people of every gender, color and creed that they, too, are powerful. They, too, are special. They, too, can be a superhero. To wit: Ms. Marvel's Kamala Khan, a Pakistani-American and Muslim superhero co-created by Amanat; the black Blade, a superhero and vampire hunter; and Dr. Light, a Japanese female superhero who's an astronomer and divorced mother of two when she's not using her powers to control and absorb light energy for the greater good. *Holy light saber, Batman!* – not a white male in sight.

The Marvel Skype chat, as innocuous as it may have seemed on the surface, really made a lot of people stop and think, says Schmitt. Including her. Amanat told the audience that, while growing up in New Jersey, she loved comics and devoured them, but was dismayed at never seeing a character in them who looked like her. When she landed at Marvel, creating such characters became one of her missions.

"That really stuck out to me," recalls Schmitt, "because when I went to see movies like 'The Fantastic Four' or 'Captain America,' I never really thought about the fact that all but one of the main characters was a white man. And when you look at the women [in comics or superhero movies], they're typically in bathing-suit-type costumes or cast as insignificant side characters. That sends a lot of messages about who's powerful and privileged in society." And who's not.

The issue of societal portrayals in comics was such an intriguing topic, three St. Norbert professors decided to collaborate on an assignment for their students. **Kelsy Burke** (Sociology), **Karlyn Crowley** (Women's & Gender Studies) and **John Pennington** (English) all had one of their classes create a six-panel (or more) comic

strip with a storyline critiquing inequality as it relates to race, gender, sexuality and/or class. Adding to the fun, all of the assignments would be judged by **Brad Ellis** (Spanish), an avid comics consumer and collector since childhood. The winning comic would receive a piece of Marvel comics memorabilia. *Tzamm!*

Despite Ellis' expertise, the task was challenging. Think about it – the students had to tackle serious, un-fun issues such as gender inequality and racism, while incorporating comic and/or thought-provoking aspects. *Oof!* Plus, while Ellis is a lifelong comics consumer, he long ago made the decision not to analyze them academically. Now, he had to do so. Ellis came away a bit of a changed man.

"Comics for me have always been a way to relax and unwind," he says. "They've been an alternative to the research I do in my teaching. But [judging the contest] gave me more of an awareness of the subtext and gender issues that are being played around with, especially in the newer comics."

Why are rather revolutionary roles and serious issues being explored in comics today? Readership demographics are changing, says Czarnik-Neimeyer. Comics are no longer just a quirky piece of the nerd culture; an increasingly diverse slice of humanity is reading them. And those readers are clamoring for change. *Pow!* For inclusion. *Zap!* For recognition. *Bam!*

"Marvel made it clear," says Czarnik-Neimeyer. "If companies receive feedback that consumers really want something, they'll likely produce it. And that's a major takeaway for students: If there's something missing or wrong with how people are represented, then advocate for it to be better." *We are the future, Charles.*

For now, things seem to be headed in the right direction. Comic books are being created that represent all of us, penned by talented writers who are crafting increasingly sophisticated material. "You can read them on different levels, much like we read great literary works," says Ellis. And if this trend continues, then over time our collective consciousness will know everyone is strong. Everyone is powerful. Everyone is equal. ♣

**"MARVEL AGREED TO APPEAR AT ST. NORBERT SPECIFICALLY ... BECAUSE WE'RE ENGAGING WITH COMICS IN A DIFFERENT WAY."**

A close-up, profile view of a young woman with brown hair tied back, lifting a barbell. She has a determined and slightly pained expression, with her mouth open as if exerting effort. She is wearing black lifting gloves with white stripes and the word 'ROGUE' printed on them. The background is a blurred gym setting with yellow and green elements.

# All **POWER** to her

By Mike Dauplaise '84

## Clink ... Grunt ... Slam.

The clatter of free weights hitting the floor and athletes pushing their limits are sweet sounds for **Paige Bayer '15**, likely St. Norbert College's first competitive powerlifter.

"As far as anyone knows, I'm the first competitive powerlifter at St. Norbert, male or female," says Bayer, a business major who works for the Green Bay Packers as a marketing intern staffing the stadium tour desk. "I have a good time with it. It keeps my head on straight. It demands commitment and it's humbling."

Bayer qualified for the USA Powerlifting Raw Nationals in the junior division with her performance at the Wisconsin State Open in Milwaukee in January. She registered 250 pounds in the deadlift (a personal best), 175 in the squat and 105 in the bench press. (The raw version of powerlifting features the use of a belt and knee wraps for support.)

At 5-foot-4, 144 pounds, Bayer packs a lot of muscle into a small frame. She competes in the 72-kilogram weight class, which includes athletes up to 158.4 pounds. The junior division encompasses ages 20-23.

Powerlifting is neither a varsity nor club sport at St. Norbert College. Bayer competes as an individual out of the CrossFit 920 gym in Green Bay, with occasional workouts at the college's Schuldes Sports Center. CrossFit is a fitness regimen that involves varied functional movements performed at relatively high intensity.

Bayer, who played softball at St. Mary Central High School in Neenah, Wis., took up the CrossFit strength and conditioning program a year ago for personal reasons.

"Last year, I was treated by a boy in a way that I probably shouldn't have been," Bayer says. "I remember how small and weak it made me feel. I decided I didn't want to feel that way again."

Bayer found herself drawn to the challenge of powerlifting as her strength and fitness improved. She continues to pursue CrossFit as well as powerlifting,

and now has participated in competitions in both disciplines.

"I have the convenience of training for CrossFit and powerlifting at the same place with the same people," Bayer says. "Your specialty becomes whatever you put an emphasis on. It's satisfying to get your workout done before other people even get up."

As Bayer got more into CrossFit, she took notice at the impressive amounts of weight moved by other female competitors.

"The State Open was my first powerlifting meet;

I had watched one, but never competed in one," she says. "I learned a ton even though I didn't quite hit the numbers I hoped to hit.

The experience made it fun to get back in the gym and keep working at it."

Bayer comes from a military family, including her father and two younger brothers. One of her brothers was a competitive powerlifter in high school, and reaching his performance levels is one of her goals.

"Quantitatively, there are some numbers I want to hit. My brother's numbers are a target," Bayer admits. "I have both of my brothers' initials on the insides of my shoes. When I'm pushing through a workout, I know whatever they're doing is a lot harder than what I'm going through."

Bayer is unsure if she will travel to Pennsylvania in October to compete in the national meet. Whether she does or not, her primary goals are closer to the heart.

"If I can just get the word out about girls moving weight, that would be fulfilling," Bayer says. "I have a strong work ethic and I hope people see me working hard. If it pushes them to work hard, that's great. I'll keep doing it as long as I'm having fun." ♣



 Bayer takes time out from a training session to share her regimen. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

# A Landmark Year in College History

Paul Nicolaus '05 and Susan Allen



It's not hard to make a case for 2015 as the most significant year in the history of St. Norbert College – most significant, that is, since its founding in 1898. That's a large claim to be sure, but just mark your calendars, if you will, with these five dates to start with:

**MAY  
15**

sees the formal opening of the Gehl-Mulva Science Center, a state-of-the-art facility designed to anticipate the needs in science education for the next 50 years or more.

**JULY  
1**

medical students will walk this campus for the first time as they begin their studies at the newly launched MCW-Green Bay facility.

**AUG  
17**

St. Norbert's first MBA students take their seats in the first classes of this much-anticipated post-graduate offering.

**SEPT  
26**

will see the celebration of Campaign St. Norbert: Full Ahead, a successful fundraising initiative that rode out the challenging years following the economic downturn and looks set to surpass all hopes.

**Fall  
2015**

begins the launch of the Donald J. Schneider School of Business & Economics – the first dedicated school on campus, operating under its own dean and making its place as a difference-maker throughout the business community.

Any one of 2015's game-changing initiatives would be enough to see the year written up in the history books as a turning point in college history. Together they will reach far into our communities – communities of campus home, of region, of knowledge, of opportunity.

Before the year is out, our science faculty members will be enjoying labs and other amenities that are the envy of colleagues at much larger institutions; some of them will be facilitating courses for medical students; and there'll be more

of them – to meet the burgeoning interest in the sciences among incoming classes.

In the social sciences, more professors will be teaching graduate as well as undergraduate classes; the school of business and economics will open up connections and opportunities in and for the larger community, too.

Our graduate students will have interesting company, and more of it. It's not hard to imagine that, for our undergraduates – always and by far the largest population on this residential

campus – this synergy will be heady. The college air they breathe will still be Catholic, still be Norbertine, still be liberal arts. Still be cherished. And it will, dating from the events of the year 2015, be somewhat more charged.

In the spring of this watershed year, we searched among our own community for a few prophetic voices, well-placed to anticipate such a future.

## Business

The Donald J. Schneider School of Business & Economics will become the first dedicated school, with its own dean, on the St. Norbert campus, thanks to a \$7 million donation from **Pat Schneider**, wife of the late **Donald Schneider '57** – former president, CEO and chairman of Schneider National.

**When:** Launches in fall 2015.

**Who:** Economics major **Quinlan Hillesheim '17** will have the opportunity to experience the benefits of the new school first-hand, and as a student employee in the office of admission he shares his excitement with others during tours provided to prospective students and their families.

**How:** "It's a matter of knowing that you are getting a quality education. Someone with that magnitude and that kind of power, that has their name on a corporation that large, wouldn't put their name on something that they don't believe in and don't know is the best of the best. Coming from St. Norbert now that they have a business school like this, I know that I'm getting one of the best educations in the Midwest."

**Why:** "You can start to see the ripple effect already, and I'm excited for it. What's the limit? The sky, honestly."

"As the MBA program gets up and running, and there's more and more interest, it will start to shed more light on our other graduate programs. With an advanced degree you get advanced thinking. As you start bringing business professionals, medical professionals to campus, I really like the feel it brings to the area – more cosmopolitan, more professional. I'm thinking big,



honestly. Twenty, thirty, forty, fifty years down the road, I hope the Schneider School does a lot of good for the area – and I think it will.

"I think that, no matter how big St. Norbert gets in terms of reputation, influence, I think that we will always maintain the things we pride ourselves on: small learning environments; small classrooms. But I do think we will get bigger in terms of influence. I think that, as we get bigger, we will always remember to look back at where we began, and I think we will use that as a guideline to where we want to go."



# Philanthropy

Campaign St. Norbert: Full Ahead is a successful fundraising initiative that has managed to buck economic trends on its way toward a \$90 million goal, with plans of allocating that capital to five critical areas of need: financial aid, faculty support, student experience, new science center and the enhancement of existing facilities.

**When:** Celebration Sept. 26.

**Who:** Dr. John Phillips '98, a cardiologist, and his wife, Carolyn, made a five-year pledge of \$25,000 in order to name The John A. Phillips '66 Family Study Room within the Gehl-Mulva Science Center after

John's father and his family, many members of which have graduated from St. Norbert College.

**How:** "When you're in the giving state of mind you want to find something that touches you, and this all just kind of fell together for us and made sense. I specifically sought out a study room that was near a window because that was one of the pieces of advice that he [his father] gave me when I took off for college: 'Make sure you're in a quiet place. I always liked to be able to look out of a window; see how that works for you.'

"As you become older, you become appreciative for what you've been blessed with. There comes a time when you need to reflect and move away from being so egocentric and look towards the greater good,

It wasn't designed for that purpose, but the atrium of the Gehl-Mulva Science Center with its floor design of concentric circles provides the perfect laboratory space for an experiment in conservation of momentum.

[snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

# Science

The new 150,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art Gehl-Mulva Science Center will offer students and faculty the opportunity to teach, learn and conduct research on the leading edge of science, thanks in part to lead donors Paul O. and Carol H. Gehl, and James J. and Miriam B. Mulva '69. The Gehl-Mulva will also house the Medical College of Wisconsin's Green Bay campus.

**When:** Dedication May 15.

**Who:** Zachary Pratt (Biology), whose primary teaching focus is molecular biology, virology and microbiology, has already taken note of the facility's intelligent design, which includes added technology to enhance classroom learning, small group workrooms and laboratories. Study rooms and informal collaborative spaces located near faculty offices encourage added student/faculty interaction.

**How:** "What it allows us to do is to take some of those discussions out of our offices and now open them up and make them more inviting. I think it kind of reinforces that *communio* aspect of the college mission, bringing together the students and faculty to learn. It enhances that group work that is incredibly essential now for science. Nobody does work in isolation anymore; everything is group work. It allows us to reinforce that concept early on."

**Why:** "I think the relationship with the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) is going to be an important one to the college in the long run and may also allow us to start building collaborations with other local hospitals or health clinics around the area with some of the resources that MCW is bringing. I could even see some collaboration with local businesses that use science in their everyday lives.

"In 50 years' time, the Gehl-Mulva will be a Midwest leader in undergraduate-led research. What these kinds of resources are going to allow for our students is the chance to succeed here, so that they can then springboard to the next step in their life."





and this was an opportunity for us to be a small part in that. It's because of the personal touch we received that we felt comfortable making a contribution, and I think that's what hopefully sets St. Norbert and its giving campaign apart from others."

**Why:** "St. Norbert is a small, liberal arts school with a fantastic reputation in the Midwest and abroad. Because it's small, and I think because of the heritage and the religious history, it breeds community, and it breeds the notion that one is put on this Earth for the greater good and that one can always do better. If you're going to build something that you believe in, you need to get all your pillars together to raise the roof, so to speak. It's a unified front to grow resources, and this [fundraising campaign] is a perfect example of that."



## MBA

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) program, made possible through the donation from Pat Schneider, has its sights set on becoming the new hub of business intelligence within the northeast Wisconsin region and beyond.

**When:** Classes begin Aug. 17.

**Who:** Local bank manager **Dana Bald '08** declared her intention to be the first applicant for the MBA program several years ago when she caught wind that the concept might reach fruition. The wife of St. Norbert athletics director **Tim Bald** hopes to be a member of the first cohort of students come fall semester.

**How:** "St. Norbert has always tried to be proactive and see what is needed in the community, what people are asking for, what their students are asking for, and how they can participate in that. I think that an MBA program is just a natural progression.

"The experience that I had at St. Norbert as an undergrad makes me all the more excited to come back for this MBA program because I know that the professors and the instructors and the speakers that are coming in are going to open up new ways of looking at things."

**Why:** "It is going to really be huge for our community to have people graduate from the program and have all these connections within the community, and hopefully be able to bring that back and make the Greater Green Bay area more productive and



exciting and innovative. In 50 years' time, the SNC MBA program will have developed into a beacon that attracts motivated, talented, forward-thinking leaders in northeast Wisconsin and beyond. I expect that SNC will rightly earn a place at the top of the list when people think of exciting, respected MBA programs."



**Dana Bald '08** shares her excitement about the new MBA program. She is looking forward to exploring her field further, alongside people from different industries. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

# Medicine

The arrival of the Medical College of Wisconsin-Green Bay (MCW-Green Bay) will allow students to complete their medical school experience in one community and in just three years, by reducing the number of electives and the length of traditional breaks. The program will also help address the projections of physician shortages in the state over the course of the next 20 years through its partnerships forged with several area educational institutions and health care organizations. MCW-Green Bay's administration offices and classrooms will be housed within St. Norbert College's Gehl-Mulva Science Center.

**When:** Classes begin July 2015.

**Who:** Retired pediatrician **Dr. Karen Camilli '68** is an alum of both St. Norbert College and the Medical College of Wisconsin who practiced at Beaumont Clinic (which merged into what has now become Prevea) and Bellin Health during her career. Her ties to four of the entities involved in the new partnership offer her a unique vantage point.

**How:** "The science building itself is a great boon to St. Norbert College and would draw students in and of itself if it wasn't for the Medical College. But having the Medical College and St. Norbert together will also draw students interested in science who may



become interested in medicine and eventually in servicing our local community."

**Why:** "As the Medical College grows on St. Norbert's campus, St. Norbert will gain the reputation of being more of a national college with access to students throughout the country. I think the more resources we have available locally, the more likely we will be to attract doctors to come to our local communities. I think having a medical college here is going to not only increase the number of doctors but also increase the number of doctors who will stay."



Listen in as the Medical College launches its MCW-Green Bay brand via news conference and tour of its facility on the St. Norbert campus. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

## And still more to come ...

**While we're making history, life continues as usual on the St. Norbert campus. And "life as usual" at 100 Grant Street means continually breaking new ground.**

**Closing the gap.** The first Gap Experience students arrived on campus this winter. Their J-term and spring semester classes followed a semester of adventure, travel, study and service. The program's second cohort begins its journey this fall.

**Fine dining.** As the year turned, the dining experience at St. Norbert College was ranked high in two separate listings that compare various features of colleges across the nation. Niche placed it in its Best Campus Food category along with others in the top 5 percent of its listings. Cappex placed the college 15th in its "Best College Food" ranking.

**A human approach.** This semester, the college hosted the first Human Library event to be held

in Wisconsin. (Subscribers to @St. Norbert read about this event in their March issue, available at [snc.edu/news/enews](http://snc.edu/news/enews).)

**Top-listed.** Even our younger alums are making headlines: among them **Ian Klein '10**, who made the Forbes 30 Under 30 list; and **Dr. Oluyemisi Fowode-Adeyemi '04** – likely the youngest student ever to graduate from St. Norbert – who as part of a Texas Children's Hospital team successfully separated conjoined twins in a surgery that drew national attention.

**Well-seeded.** All four winter sports teams were nationally ranked this year.

**Well-churched.** Old St. Joe's came in at No. 18 in a list of the 50 Most Amazing College Chapels and Churches published by TheologyDegrees.com.

**Moving in the finest society.** The newly founded St. Norbert chapter of Phi Kappa Phi – the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate

honor society for all academic disciplines – initiated its first inductees March 25.

**Dry shod.** The Green Knights play their first baseball and softball games at the newly renovated Mel Nicks Field this spring. The new facility includes the installation of a synthetic infield and better drainage in the outfield.

**By the water.** As construction on the Gehl-Mulva Science Center is completed, attention will turn to the new quad that the project has opened up, and the river walk onto which it gives.

**Musically inclined.** The Green Bay Youth Symphony Orchestra makes its new home at St. Norbert when it moves its base to campus on June 1.

**Ready for visitors.** St. Norbert College prepares to welcome the national Association for Student Affairs at Catholic Colleges & Universities conference, which will be hosted on campus in July 2016. ♣



The house at 306 Third Street in the late 1970s.

## A living history to welcome you home

It's been home to student, professor and past president. The house at 306 Third Street that now serves as home base for visiting alumni saw more than a little college life even before its present use.

But the building now known formally as The Rev. Ignatius Francis Van Dyke, O.Praem., Alumni House, home to the office of alumni and parent relations, began life with a quite different purpose. It was built in 1916 as the rectory for St. John's Church, next door.

Once the college purchased the house in 1961, it would provide lodging to a faculty member and then, from 1968 to 1977, to the **Rev. Dennis Burke, O.Praem., '26** following his presidency of the college. In 1978, the Third Street building became the International Culture House. Students specializing in foreign language and foreign culture courses would call it home for a couple of decades.

Alumni director **Todd Danen '77** grew up in the neighborhood on the east side of campus, and he remembers Burke living in the house. "It was before I was a student here. I knew him and my dad knew him well. I was a seventh-grader at the time.

"Then it became the International Culture House in 1978. Because it was after my time as a student, I was never in the building at all then, but I heard there was a heck of a party around 1980 and it was 'come as your favorite dead person.' I think it was down in the basement. I suspect that the basement was the social

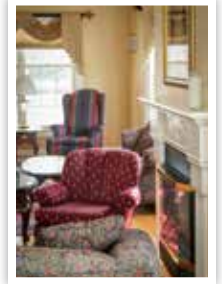
space. A lot of people thought the building was the home of international students, but it wasn't; students who were studying in the international programs or were studying a foreign language lived there."

Since 1999, following a year of renovations sparked by the 100-year anniversary of the college, it has been your alumni house – the building you see on campus today. That transition was particularly memorable to **Dianne Wagner '65**, the alumni director at that time, who was instrumental in the modifications. For her, creating a space for alumni to gather on campus was a labor of love: "I wanted to include as many alumni as I possibly could for the renovations. As I walk through the house now, I know the names of each alum who donated the different elements of the house – the furniture, the fireplace, the mantel, the French doors, the porch, the swing, Father Burke's old desk. It's wonderful to walk in there and connect it to the alumni who made it happen.

"The Van Dyke gym had just been replaced by the Campus Center," Wagner recalls, "and it seemed only fitting that, because Father Van Dyke was the first alum of the college, the alumni house be named after him."

*We're certain there are many stories attached to this historic building. Did you live there? Study there? Attend parties there? We'd love to hear your memories.*

### YOUR HOUSE



Over the years, your alumni house has played host to many small alumni get-togethers: book clubs, baby showers, social gatherings and more. The parlor provides a warm, homey area with a fireplace; or the basement offers a bit more space that would make a great setting for your group. Kitchens on the upper and lower levels offer great flexibility.

Keep it in mind next time you're looking for a place to gather with fellow alumni. Perhaps you want to gather with your SNC classmates; those you shared a residence hall with; or your fraternity, sorority or social group. A quick call to the alumni house can reserve it for you in no time. Call **920-403-3022** or email us at [alumni@snc.edu](mailto:alumni@snc.edu).

Births/  
Adoptions

**1997 Mary (McGlynn) and Chad Groholski '97**, Brookfield, Wis., a daughter, Lyka Caroline, Sept. 13, 2014. Lyka joins brother Sully, 7, and sister Kelly, 4.

**2001 Tricia (Borkovec) and Matt Yarbrow**, Green Bay, a daughter, Chloe Sophia, May 9, 2014. Chloe joins brother Quinn, 3.

**2002 Kelly (Boerboom) and Dan Rowe**, Green Bay, a son, Colin Thomas, Oct. 27, 2013. Colin joins brother Landon, 3, and sister Lydia, 6.

**2003 Tracy (Shaw) and Andrew Tomczyk**, Hartland, Wis., a son, Alexander James, May 17, 2014.

**2004 Kristin (Kapfhammer) and Travis Koske**, De Pere, a daughter, Charlotte Paige, March 7, 2014.

**2004 Bridget (O'Hern) and Andrew Duffrin '02**, Marinette, Wis., a son, Patrick Charles, June 9, 2014.

**2004 Meghan (Busateri) and Jesse Augustine '04**, Milwaukee, a daughter, Ella Katherine, July 2, 2014. Ella joins sister Layla, 4.

**2004 Jessica (Leigl) and Ryan Toellner**, Iron Ridge, Wis., a daughter, Charlotte Lorraine, Nov. 6, 2014.

**2005 Rebecca (Thieme) and Zachary Baeseman '05**, Waupaca, Wis., a daughter, Rainier Joan, Oct. 8, 2014.

**2006 Mallory (Kroon) and Michael Martin**, Cottage Grove, Minn., a son, Lucas Michael, Sept. 26, 2013. Lucas joins brother Jacob, 3.

**2007 Emily (Leis) and Aaron Hammen '08**, Oconomowoc, Wis., a daughter, Harper Kate, March 8, 2014.

**2007 Nina (Nolan) and Shane Rouse**, Bonduel, Wis., a son, Finley William, Dec. 18, 2014.

**2007 Beau and Casey Becker**, Menomonee Falls, Wis., a daughter, Lucy Elizabeth, born Dec. 29, 2014. Lucy joins brother Leo.

**2008 Katie (Steinhardt) and Mark Evans**, West Bend, Wis., a daughter, Mae Frances, May 3, 2014. Mae joins sister Nina, 3.

Marriages

**2001 Mary Steffel and Jeon Hyung Geun** celebrated a Korean wedding ceremony at King Saejong Memorial Park in Seoul on April 19, 2014, then celebrated an American wedding in Green Bay on Aug. 8, 2014. The couple lives in Gwangyang in the Jeollanamdo Province of South Korea. Mary met Jeon while teaching English in Korea.

**2002 Kara Owens and Charlie Leiterman '98**, Sept. 13, 2014. They live in De Pere.

**2005 Mark and Jessica Beller**, May 17, 2014. They live in Wauwatosa, Wis.

**2005 Andrew and Ingrid Davis**, July 5, 2014. They live in Milwaukee.

**2005 Melissa Ranieri and Matt Russell**, Sept. 20, 2014. They reside in Santa Monica, Calif.

**2005 Molly Peterson and Jason Vander Velde**, Sept. 27, 2014. They reside in Madison.

**2006 Portia Kohl and Christopher Giangreco**, Aug. 22, 2014. They live

in Boulder, Colo.

**2006 Kathryn Deluhery and Dave Hankamp**, Aug. 30, 2014. They live in Chicago.

**2006 Dani Young and Phill Voss '01**, Sept. 12, 2014. They live in Green Bay.

**2006 Christopher and Valbona Dean**, Oct. 11, 2014. They live in Minneapolis.

**2008 Sara Podein and David Lemon '08**, Oct. 11, 2014. They live in Minneapolis.

**2009 Aimee D'Amour and Nathan Connell '10**, Aug. 31, 2013. They live in Verona, Wis.

**2009 Angie Currie and Mike Biancalana**, Sept. 20, 2014. They live in Palatine, Ill.

**2009 Laura Damon and Ryan Hanson**, Sept. 27, 2014. They live in Wauwatosa, Wis.

**2009 Brenda Johnson and Bradly Schmidt**, Oct. 10, 2014. They live in Green Bay.

**2009 Lindsay Koeppel and Ben Konrad**, Oct. 25, 2014. They live in Waterloo, Ill.

**2010 Paul and Allison Kannenberg**, Aug. 3, 2014. They live in Madison, Wis.

**2010 Gina Smith and Zach Wollner '10**, Aug. 16, 2014. They live in Milwaukee.

**2010 Kallie Lundberg and Blake Bashor '11**, Oct. 25, 2014. They live in Milwaukee.

**2011 Tom Fioritto and Jacqueline Thornton '12**, July 26, 2014. They live in De Pere.

**2011 Sam and Marcy Eccles**, Sept. 5, 2014. They live in St. Paul, Minn.

**2013 Stephanie Diedrich and Jon DesChane '12**, Feb. 22, 2014. They live in Wauwatosa, Wis.

**2013 Jordan Zeni and Dan Sjoquist '12**, July 5, 2014. They live in Wauwatosa, Wis.

Deaths

**1941 Bernard Gigot**, of De Pere, died Sept. 30, 2014, at the age of 95. He served in the United States Navy during World War II, ranking as a captain. He then became a pharmaceutical representative for the Upjohn Company for 36 years. He is preceded in death by his wife, Joan, and survived by four children.

**1950 Raymond Kiefer Jr.**, of Green Bay, died Oct. 6, 2014, at the age of 85. He was commissioned a lieutenant in the United States Army and served in the Korean War, later joining his family business, Schauer & Schumacher Inc. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and three children.

**1950 Donald DuChateau**, of Appleton, Wis., died Oct. 26, 2014, at the age of 93. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1941, studied at Purdue University, and later served in the North Atlantic during World War II. He is survived by four children.

**1950 Merlin Watermolen**, of Green Bay, died Nov. 26, 2014, at the age of 89. Watermolen retired from Green Bay Packaging as technical director following a 39-year career there. He is survived by his wife, Ely, and four daughters.

**1950 Francis "Mac" McDougall**, of Green



Photo courtesy Mark Eaglen

Starting strong

You can take the boy out of football, but you can't take football out of the boy. So lives the saying in **Nic Bongers '02** as he fosters one of the top-ranked football clubs in the country at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich. — all while working and pursuing his Ph.D.

In 2013, Bongers teamed up with OU undergrad David Brosky to make football a reality on campus. The pair saw the right climate for the undertaking. Its 20,000-plus enrollment holds plenty of students like themselves — past high school and college-level players who regret not having a continuing chance to play.

In their first season, the Golden Grizzlies went 5-2, earning a No. 8 national ranking. The team achieved an undefeated 9-0 second season that included nabbing the national club championship on the very same field that hosts the NCAA DIII Football Championship. To add poetry to perfection, the big game was played on Bongers' 35th birthday. He even led the national anthem on his guitar (above).

"My experience at St. Norbert was the first chance in my life to prove to myself I could really play football," recalls Bongers. "Proving to yourself you're good enough brings an incredible sense of peace and confidence to life." Though Bongers admits getting out of bed in the morning during peak season can sometimes be a struggle, it's one well worth the aches and pains. "I realize not everyone gets the opportunity I have enjoyed and worked tirelessly over. It's extremely hard to walk away from this game."

## Raejean Kanter '68



## Gives, gives, gives

*Raejean (Kasprzak) Kanter was the only woman in her class to graduate with a business degree, and she has made giving her business ever since. Now senior vice president and director of community relations at the Falk Group PR in Milwaukee, she recommends philanthropy as both a career and a lifestyle.*

**The family business** During the Depression, when my grandfather got his paycheck he would buy a bag of groceries, which always included a chicken, for everybody on the block who wasn't working. I'm lucky to come from a family that is giving, warm, loving and open.

**Best gift I've received ...** was a second life. I had cancer 31 years ago. It helped me really know how important it is to be able to share and give, and not to hold back.

**Naming opportunities** "The doyenne of the local charitable events circuit" – Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel. "Mrs. Claus" – my Christmas alter ego at many local events. "Grandma Book" – my grandchildren. "A Polish Southside girl from Milwaukee to whom God has given many opportunities" – my version!

**Clean living** We dedicated the laundry facility at Repairers of the Breach in memory of my husband, Jim. Who sees a laundry room as a memorial opportunity? But, actually, it was my husband who did the laundry in our house. He was all about the practical need!

**Work/life balance** It's my one life. These things fall right into who I am, and what I've become.

Bay, died Nov. 30, 2014, at the age of 88. McDougal served in the United States Navy during World War II, stationed in the Philippines. He later worked for Northern Radio and TV for 35 years in sales, and then as an independent commissions salesman in the electronics business for another 10 years. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, and their daughter.

**1951 Walter Zelten**, of Plainfield, Ill., died Oct. 16, 2014, at the age of 87. He worked for the State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections and at Montgomery Ward as the corporate catalog accounting manager. He is survived by eight children.

**1951 Sister Madonna Schmelzle**, of Manitowoc, Wis., died Dec. 16, 2014, at the age of 97. Schmelzle was a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity and dedicated her life as an education apostolate. She is survived by one sister and her Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity.

**1951 Arthur Freix**, of Green Bay, died Dec. 18, 2014, at the age of 92. Freix served in World War II on the European front, returning to spend more than 30 years in a

career at H.C. Prange Company. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Pearl, and survived by his second wife, Ruth, and two daughters.

**1952 Frank Pirman**, of Green Bay, died Dec. 26, 2014, at the age of 85. Pirman managed, then played on the St. Norbert football and basketball teams, leading to induction into the Athletics Hall of Fame in 1991. He served in the United States Marines and was stationed in Korea and Japan, attaining the rank of major. He continued his involvement with the college while making his career as a teacher of biology and a coach at Preble High School in Green Bay. Pirman is survived by his wife, Gerrie, a daughter and four sons.

**1953 Ramon Bisque**, of Golden, Colo., died June 9, 2014, at the age of 82. As a professor at Colorado School of Mines and fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he was known as an entrepreneur, innovator and writer. A trustee emeritus of St. Norbert College, he also served his alma mater as a visiting professor. He was recognized with the college's Alumni Award for Natural Sciences in 1983. He is survived by his wife,

Marie, and six children.

**1954 John Edelman Sr.**, of Lake Forest, Ill., died Aug. 3, 2014, at the age of 81. His sales career spanned several industries, and he was a long-time parishioner of the Church of St. Mary in Lake Forest, Ill., as well as the Holy Family Catholic Parish in Minocqua, Wis. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, and three children.

**1954 Richard Hess**, of New Holstein, Wis., died Nov. 16, 2014, at the age of 84. Hess served in the United States Army and was stationed in Korea, later dedicating a career at Tecumseh Engine Products and at Ariens Co. until retirement. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and three children.

**1955 John Braun**, of Marathon, Wis., died Dec. 5, 2014, at the age of 81. After being called upon to serve in the Korean War, Braun completed a 42-year career with Braun Bros. & Co. in retail sales and service in the lumber and hardware business. He is survived by his wife, Marion, and four children.

**1956 William Fischer**, of Appleton, Wis., died Aug. 23, 2014, at the age of 80. He began his own business, Fischers Boysewear, and later helped organize the downtown Appleton

Christmas parade. He is survived by his wife, Janet, and two children.

**1956 The Rev. Ralph Gillis**, of Green Bay, died Oct. 18, 2014, at the age of 81. He served as an assistant pastor at Holy Martyrs of Gorcum Church in Green Bay, and later as pastor in many different parishes. In addition to his parish assignments, he served as chaplain of the University Newman Club at UW-Manitowoc and at Manitowoc County Teachers College. He is survived by his two siblings.

**1958 Jerome Steffel**, of Green Bay, died Oct. 7, 2014, at the age of 83. Steffel served in the United States Army during the Korean War, earning the rank of sergeant, and was a specialist in the 45th Infantry Division. He began his professional career with the IRS, working with various CPA firms in the Green Bay area before establishing his own business, Steffel Accounting & Tax Service Inc. He is survived by his wife, Mary Anne, and five children.

**1958 Daniel Carmody**, of Sturgeon Bay, Wis., died Nov. 11, 2014, at the age of 77. Carmody served in the United States Army as a biologist, testing the



### Baby knight

Meet Sofia Nadine, who at three months was already getting serious about that Green Knight pride. Sofia, born Oct. 9, 2014, is the daughter of **Andrea (Gouin) '07** and David **Johnson**, of Milwaukee. Andrea writes, "We received this 'Wish I was a Green Knight' onesie as a baby shower gift and it finally fits her. In this picture, she is just waking up from a nap, but it looks like she is cheering!" Here's hoping that Sofia will one day enroll at St. Norbert! In all, 92 members of this year's first-year class came from legacy families.

effect of various climates on military equipment. He continued traveling throughout his entire life, joining the Peace Corps and teaching English in Ghana. Upon returning to the United States, Carmody taught in New York and Philadelphia and was a pipefitter in Door County. He is survived by his wife, Doreen, and his children.

**1959 Thomas Kauth**, of Port Washington, Wis., died Nov. 11, 2014, at the age of 78. With a lifelong passion for learning, Kauth continued graduate education at UW-Whitewater, Berkeley and Texas A&M, returning to Port Washington High School to teach biology for 20 years. He was an avid musician with an affinity for the saxophone. Kauth was preceded in death by his wife, Cornelia, and is survived by two daughters.

**1960 Mark Lukes Sr.**, of Manitowoc, Wis., died Dec. 6, 2014, at the age of 75. Lukes served in the United States Air Force for 20 years before embarking on a successful data-services career at the Pentagon. He is survived by his wife, Diane, and three children.

**1961 John Rothman**, of Milwaukee, died Aug. 1, 2014, at the age of 75. Rothman led a 30-year career as a funeral director after graduating from mortuary school. He is survived by his brother, James, and his sister, Jane.

**1961 Donald Cherovsky**, of Redding, Calif., died Oct. 5, 2014, at the age of 75. Cherovsky was an avid golfer, hunter and fisherman, holding a membership of the Riverview Country Club for 37 years. He worked in sales with Wisconsin-California Forest

Products. He is survived by his wife, Arlene, and two sons.

**1961 William Fritschel**, of Sun City Center, Fla., died Nov. 14, 2014, at the age of 75. Fritschel achieved the rank of colonel in the United States Army Reserve, heading medical units in North Carolina and Tennessee. In addition to his family practice with Dousman Clinic, he was affiliated with St. Mary's, St. Vincent and Bellin Hospitals until his retirement. Fritschel is survived by his wife, Carol, and his daughter, Jenni.

**1962 Richard Burg**, of Wauwatosa, Wis., died March 9, 2014, at the age of 75. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, horseshoes and darts and was a Hartford, Wis., resident most of his life. He is survived by his wife, Sandra.

**1962 Diane Araus**, of Whitelaw, Wis., died Sept. 8, 2014, at the age of 74. She taught high-school Spanish and retired from the University of Wisconsin-Manitowoc. She is survived by two children.

**1964 John Pierce**, of Fremont, Wis., died July 16, 2014, at the age of 73. He served in the United States Army with the 50th Medical Clearing Company, attached to the 93rd Evacuation Hospital in Vietnam, and then spent nearly 40 years in sales and marketing for the packaging industry, retiring in 2003 from the Curwood/Bemis company. He is survived by his wife, Patti, and three children.

**1968 John Cornette**, of De Pere, died Dec. 7, 2014, at the age of 68. After earning his master's degree, Cornette dedicated a 28-year career to Brown County Human Services. He

is survived by his wife, Karen, and two sons.

**1969 Daniel Grassl**, of De Pere, died Nov. 18, 2014, at the age of 67. Grassl was a creative spirit, with artistic interests from photography to goldsmithing. He is survived by his wife, Cathy, and three children.

**1971 Terrlyn Brunmeier**, of Green Bay, died Nov. 12, 2014, at the age of 66. Brunmeier received her master's degree in education and spent more than 30 years teaching mainly in the Ashwaubenon (Wis.) School District. She is survived by her husband, Dan, and their three children.

**1975 The Rev. Robert Konkol**, of Green Bay, died Nov. 10, 2014, at the age of 68. Konkol entered the Franciscan Friars of the Assumption B.V.M. Province and was ordained into the priesthood in 1994. He ministered at numerous parishes across Wisconsin and northeast Illinois, in addition to serving his brother friars at Guardian of Queen of Peace Friary in Burlington and as a member of the Provincial Council. Konkol is survived by four brothers, three sisters and his brother friars.

**1981 Ann Menzner-Towne**, of Dousman, Wis., died Nov. 2, 2014, at the age of 55. Menzner-Towne was recognized by Elite American Nurses for her dedication, achievements and leadership in nursing over a 20-year health care career. She is survived by her husband, Dan, and two children.

**1984 Paul Meier**, of Chilton, Wis., died Aug. 25, 2014, at the age of 52. He was an active

member of the Chilton Chamber of Commerce, and served 15 years on the Chilton Public School District board of education, as well as working at a number of banks and coaching grade school sports. He is survived by his wife, Laura, and two children.

**1987 Stephen Seymour**, of Sheboygan, Wis., died Aug. 3, 2014, at the age of 49. He worked at Halverson Law Offices until he opened his own law office in 1999, Seymour Attorney at Law. Seymour was also involved with the Rainbow Kids Program in Sheboygan. He is survived by his wife, Laurie, and four children.

**2004 (M.S.E.) Barbara Kroll**, of Darboy, Wis., died Oct. 20, 2014, at the age of 58. She was a teacher, traveling to many different schools around the state. She is survived by her husband, Doug, and two daughters.

## Class Notes

**1960 John Biese** and his involvement in the "Christmas Stars" fundraiser for the St. Francis Xavier School System in Appleton, Wis., were the subject of a profile in *The Compass*. The Green Bay diocesan newspaper selected Biese, who has been involved in the popular show since it began in 1993, for its "Your Catholic Neighbor" feature. "There's never a doubt that he'll sign on when they start casting for the show each year," *The Compass* reported. Biese told the paper, "There's so many good people. It's good to see a lot of them. Some of them you form good friendships with."

The profile also highlighted Biese's

volunteer service, including his parish work and the six-session course on dairy farming that he teaches to fourth-graders in the Xavier school system.

**1969 Susan Faust** has joined the senior leadership team at Diplomat Pharmacy as vice president/specialty infusion and market development. She's responsible for developing strategies and tactics for the expansion of specialty infusion pharmacy products and services.

**1972 Tom Durkin** has been honored with the Eclipse Award of Merit for a lifetime of outstanding achievement in the thoroughbred industry and for his

memorable race-calling throughout the years.

He has also received the prestigious Big Sport of Turfdom Award, bestowed upon those who enhance coverage of thoroughbred racing through cooperation with media and thoroughbred-racing publicists. Durkin is the first track announcer to receive the award.

Durkin earned fame as the voice of New York horse-racing and for calling the United States Triple Crown and Breeders Cup races. Pre-eminent in his career, he retired in 2014.

**1978 Ralph Tease Jr.** was named among 2015's Best Lawyers in America.

## St. Norbert College Magazine loses an alumnus contributor

We mourn the untimely loss of our contributing writer **Gerrard Diaz '04**, who died suddenly on Jan. 10, 2015. He was 35.

In addition to his passion for writing, Gerry was known for his love of music, film and politics. As an undergraduate, he was a member of BIG; he graduated with a degree in communication and political science. We first knew Gerry when he interned in our office and, as he continued the relationship into professional life, he made us all proud.

He began his career at the Green Bay Press-Gazette. More recently, he was sports editor at the *Shawano Leader*. His compelling sports writing fueled, too, his coverage of the Packers for NFL.com and CBS Sports. He also contributed to the National Geographic series "My Life is a Zoo." Gerry was the consummate professional, 100 percent reliable and a notably fine writer. We will miss him so much; the magazine is the poorer for his loss, and so are we.

Gerry, who lived in Green Bay, was laid to rest after services held on campus. He is survived by his mother, Kim, and girlfriend **Kelsey Kubale '11**.



## SWIFT EXAMPLE

A Leav project in partnership with the Audubon Society can only be enjoyed within sight of the Twin Cities rooftops where chimney swifts congregate – and only at sunset, because that's when the birds come in and out of the chimneys. The audience can tap into video and narrative collage elements that transpose chimney swifts and chimney sweeps. "You're seeing this on your phone while also being able to observe the chimney swifts at the same time," says Bobby Maher.

"Technology for the sake of technology is awful," he adds. "It's terrible and it's a horrible idea. Working with Kate [artist Kate Casanova] on this, it was about the experience you want someone to have. One of the important elements was that someone moved throughout this space to see this from different angles, much the same way as we would compose and mix audio. We could split the different audio collages into different little spaces all throughout this zone, that would encourage movement as the observer realized that, if you moved around, you get more content than if you stayed still."



Photo courtesy Stacy Schwartz

## A Leav out of his own book

For most of human history, art was space-specific. Music could be heard only where musicians were assembled; stories were passed on by oral tradition; the visual arts were experienced only in the setting they were made for. The technological and educational advances of the last 150 years have democratized the artistic experience. Meanwhile, though, **Bobby Maher '06** and his team at Leav have been capitalizing on new technologies to deliver art the way it was once enjoyed: as a transient experience, appreciated in situ.

"Leav is a mobile app that allows you to experience different artworks or content in a specific location," explains Maher. "Maybe it's a poem that's only available at sunrise on a Tuesday down by the river, because that's the environment that the artist wants you to experience it in."

When Maher visited St. Norbert last fall to speak to art majors, he was able to take them to the Shakespeare Garden on campus to share an audio installation commissioned for the garden and its surroundings. Visit the garden with iPhone in hand, download the free app and you can hear the haunting music, too. "Depending where you are in the radius, different parts would come in and out, so it's sort of an exploratory composition in that way," says Maher. "It's your piece, that will live here for the rest of the year."

Maher says location has always been a factor that informs our artistic experience.

A musician playing in a dingy bar elicits a different response from one heard at Carnegie Hall; street art feels different from a gallery show. "As great as it is that, with digital things, we can get anything anywhere, it removes that element [of place]. We wanted to find a way to put that back into the experience."

Leav has worked with PBS for pop-up concerts in the Minneapolis skywalks. Other partners include the Audubon Society, the Minneapolis airport, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra – organizations that see the value of being able to connect with new audiences by creating a digital footprint for themselves offsite.

Leav is by no means Maher's only undertaking. "Primarily what I do is a lot of creative consulting: working with artists and organizations, helping to bring about projects that I feel strongly about."

St. Norbert connections are among those that have benefited from Maher's creative energy. His move to Minneapolis was made along with the band The Wars of 1812 – **Peter Pisano '06** was another member. More recently, as managing director of Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater, Maher wrote a proposal for the grant that would bring the company to campus for a residency last year. It was through that event that he met **Katie Ries** (Art) and he has since worked with her on an installation at the Hungry Turtle Institute.



Leav is a mobile platform for placing, viewing and sharing digital art that is both shaped by and linked to specific variables like location, time and other environmental factors.

It's a new way of creating art and Bobby Maher's role at Leav is chiefly in identifying, commissioning and developing artists to produce new work for the undertaking.

Leav for iPhone is available free at [leav.co](http://leav.co).



The Leav team picks up the story of their app. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

**1979 Bernard Sanders** has been commissioned to compose a new work to celebrate the completed restoration of the historic E.M. Skinner organ from 1928 at the First Congregational Church in Saginaw, Mich. Further commissions include a Mass setting for choir, soloists, organ and strings to celebrate Christ the King Church's 50th anniversary in Göppingen, Germany, and a multi-movement work for a house organ.

**1983 Patricia McCarver**, has been elected member of the Yavapai College District Governing Board.

**1984 Jeanne Bjork** presented two sessions – Digital Gets Dirty: Experimental Printmaking Processes and Digital Photography – at the Wisconsin Art Education Association Conference (WAEA) in Milwaukee. She is an active member of WAEA and serves as the department head at Pewaukee (Wis.) High School and leader of the K12 Visual Art Curricular Team.

**1984 Rick Hearden Jr.** has joined FirstMerit Corporation as senior vice president and manager of commercial banking.

**1985 Bill Van Ess** graduated from the Leadership in Life Institute, which is sponsored by the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors.

**1986 Jacqui (Kraft) Engebos** has been named senior vice president and CFO of Denmark State Bank.

**1986 Terrence Jack**, chief investment officer at Baylake Bank, has earned the chartered financial analyst designation (CFA).

**1990 Marybeth Gasman** has received the 2014 H.S. Warwick Research Award for her book "Engaging Diverse College Alumni: The Essential Guide to Fundraising."

**1990 Frank Pasternak**, managing partner at Pasternak & Zirgibel S.C. in Brookfield, was named among Wisconsin's Top 50 Super Lawyers.

**1990 Chris Moss** has been promoted to wealth advisory principal by CliftonLarsonAllen in Oshkosh, Wis.

**1990 Bill Walsh** won three Webby and four Web Marketing Association Awards for his work on the Walgreens Mobile App back in 2011. He has since built mobile application platforms for Discover Card and served as innovation lead for Discover Network. Bill currently oversees mobile platforms for Paylocity, a cloud-based human resource/payroll software company.

**1991 Barb (Millot) Gromacki** was named vice president/human resources for Marcus Theatres in Milwaukee.

**1993 (B.A.), 2013 (M.L.S.) Brenda Busch** has joined St. Norbert College as associate director of graduate recruitment.

**1993 Doug Lynott** has been profiled by Michigan State University's Master of Public Policy program's blog.

**1994 Anjana (Jain) Hansen** has been elected as judge of Cook County's 9th Judicial Sub-Circuit.

**1995 Cari Renlund** has been elected to serve on DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C.'s executive committee, assisting

with governance and strategic direction.

**1998 Joshua Jameson** has been named executive director of Forest County Economic Development Partnership. His responsibilities include working with municipalities, organizations, businesses and individuals on business planning, grants/funding and community development.

**1998 Bethani Thibodeau-Sobieski** has been promoted to manager/field claims at Acuity, headquartered in Sheboygan, Wis.

**1998 Nick Nesvacil**, who founded Sting Cancer at Preble High School in Green Bay, recently published an account of his own battle, titled "I Got Cancer, but Cancer Didn't Get Me." Nesvacil completed the book with the help of his publisher, M&B Global Solutions Inc. (**Mike Dauplaise '84** is president and lead editor of M&B.)

**2000 Chris Kimball**, who enters his 15th season with the Brewers organization, has been promoted to director of group ticket sales.

**2001 Jeremiah Janssen** has been hired as assistant vice president for business development at First Business Bank.

**2001 Jason Muenster** has joined Patina Solutions as managing director.

**2003 Jill Boyle** has been promoted to manager at Schenck SC in Milwaukee.

**2004 Steve Peterson**, who previously worked for SRF Consulting Group, recently accepted a position with the Metropolitan Council

as a transportation planning analyst in St. Paul, Minn.

**2005 Zachary Baeseman** has joined Thedacare Physicians-Waupaca, as a family medicine physician who is fellowship-trained in advanced operative obstetrics.

**2005 Andrew Davis**, who previously worked in the Wisconsin governor's office, accepted a position at the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce as their legislative director.

**2005 Ashley Prange** has been featured by Estetica Magazine for her work on the safety of cosmetics. Ashley, founder of the cosmetics company Au Naturale, has been working with the Center for Food Safety to lobby members of Congress for stricter regulation of the cosmetics industry in the United States.

**2006 Mallory (Kroon) Martin** earned a master's degree in music education with a concentration in choral conducting from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn. She is in her ninth year of teaching music.

**2007 Ben Baker** has been promoted to supervisor at Schenck SC in Appleton, Wis.

**2007 Molly Wolk** has accepted an adjunct faculty position in the life sciences department at the College of Western Idaho (Nampa).

**2010 Ian Klein** was named to this year's Forbes 30 Under 30 list of outstanding young researchers. Klein is part of a team at Purdue University that developed a commercial enterprise called Spero Energy. Their primary project focuses on converting

renewable, woody biomass into high-value chemicals. (Readers of @St. Norbert were able to read more about Klein's work in their February issue.)

**2010 Kallie (Lundberg) Bashor** is working as a physician assistant (PA-C) after graduating from Des Moines University with a master's degree in physician assistant studies.

**2011 Keytelynne Gribben-Radde** graduated with a master's degree in sociology: global migration and cultural differences from University College in Dublin in December.

**2011 Alicia Schram** has joined the Greater Wisconsin Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association as special events coordinator after completing a community outreach internship with the Green Bay Packers.

**2011 Nicole Seidel** has accepted a position as financial aid counselor at St. Norbert College.

**2012 Austin McGuine**, first lieutenant, is attending the Armor Basic Officer Leaders Course at Fort Benning, Ga. Upon completion, he will be stationed at Fort Knox, Ky.

**2012 Dave Schneider** has been promoted to senior accountant at Schenck SC in Green Bay.

**2012 Jordan Schwanke** has been promoted to manager of regulatory affairs by Acuity.

**2014 Rachel Gintner** is serving with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest 2014-15.

**2014 Joe Perry**, professional hockey player for the Mallards, has been profiled by the

Quad-City Times. Perry joined the Mallards after his senior season at St. Norbert, but his debut was cut short by injury, reported the paper:

"With the continued support of [SNC Coach Tim] Coghlin, who came down to the Quad-Cities to drive Perry back following the injury, the Nanaimo, B.C., native didn't get too down on himself and instead used the experience he gained to start working in the offseason, knowing the key things he needed to improve on to be successful at the next level.

"[Mallards Coach Terry] Ruskowski noticed Perry's physical skating ability, a quick-fire wristshot and, most importantly, a willingness to work hard. All of that was enough to warrant re-signing him in the offseason ... Perry leads the team with 11 goals, a mark that is tied for ninth in the league and is third-best among rookies."

**CORRECTION:** Our sincere apologies for a spelling error in the obituary for **Denise (McMahon) Egan '67** that ran in our last issue. The notice should have run as follows:

**1967 Denise (McMahon) Egan**, of Fairfax, Va., died July 16, 2014, at the age of 69. A dedicated military wife for 26 years, she subsequently owned and managed two retail home décor and gift stores in northern Virginia. She is survived by her husband, retired **Col. Donald Egan '66** (Army), and three children.

**Share your news!**  
Submit your item at  
[snc.edu/go/keepintouch](http://snc.edu/go/keepintouch)

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# April 29, 2015: A day we can all pull together

As Campaign St. Norbert:  
Full Ahead concludes, we  
are seeking to cap it off with  
a record-setting year for the  
St. Norbert Fund.

## **April 29 is All Hands on Deck Day.**

Everyone in the college family – alumni,  
parents, friends, faculty, staff and students –  
is challenged to make a gift on that day to the  
St. Norbert Fund. We'll show the strength of our  
community in a powerful and meaningful way.



**Rally to the cause:  
Circle your calendar for  
All Hands On Deck Day!**



CAMPAIGN ST. NORBERT:  
**FULL AHEAD**  
giving.snc.edu

The St. Norbert Fund is the primary source of the financial aid on which some 98 percent of our students depend. When you give to the St. Norbert Fund, you give the gift of opportunity.

## Connection / Continuing the Conversation

### Enlarging the view

You might have noticed you hold a bit more magazine in your hands this time around. We're delighted that, going forward, we will be able to deliver 36-page issues to you – that's four pages up from our typical count of the past 14 years. And it's a real pleasure to have room to launch a regular "big picture" feature with the gorgeous sunset over our riverfront that may have caught your eye on pages 4-5. Watch for more photography celebrating the beauty of our campus, to come in future issues. (We'll make the images available to you at [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine), too.)

We've also made room for more Alumni Notes – keep 'em coming, we love reading them and when we survey our readership, we hear that you do, too. And, speaking of surveys, we'd like to conduct our every-other-year reader survey this spring. It's high time we checked in with you to find out what's working for you and what's not. We are committed to bringing you the magazine you want of your alma mater so if, in due course, you receive the survey as part of our representative sample, please do consider participating. We thank you!

*Susan Allen*

### WORDS & PICTURES

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### TALK TO US!

We love to hear from you, and rely on you to keep us posted. You can find us at [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine), on Facebook, via [magazine@snc.edu](mailto:magazine@snc.edu) or 920-403-3048, or at:

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### Their two cents' worth

When friends of the college **Arthur** and **Carolee Beutler** decided to support Campaign St. Norbert to the tune of \$75,000, they did not realize that a second, much smaller gift would follow in due course – and that it would be that gift, totaling exactly two cents, that would make history.

The Beutlers made good on their pledge to the college through a transfer of stock. When the transaction completed it came in close enough – at \$74,999.98, to be precise. But that was not good enough for the couple, who felt it was important that they honor their commitment to the last penny. Or the last two pennies, to be exact: the two cents that they mailed in on Jan. 9 to complete their gift. Honor was satisfied. The gift was duly – and gratefully – processed, and it now stands as, officially, the very smallest gift the college has ever received.



### Big company

Goalie **David Jacobson '15** is finding himself in some pretty good company these days. He made the January/February edition of Sports Illustrated for Kids – right alongside some guy named LeBron.

### Recommended viewing

A time capsule concealed in the cornerstone of St. Joseph Hall almost 100 years ago gave up its secrets in December, and our videographer was there when the building was taken down to capture its unpacking: documents, photographs and a newsletter, all underscoring the De Pere Norbertines' early commitment to education. The hall, built 1916-17, housed the college's art and education disciplines for many years and, most recently, the facilities department. Materials from its demolition are already being repurposed for other campus projects. Find out more at [youtube.com/stnorbertcollege](http://youtube.com/stnorbertcollege).



# Calendar

## April

- 17-18** Alumni College
- 18** The Wedding Party
- 21** bell hooks in conversation with Gloria Steinem
- 29** Giving Day

## May

- 2** Spring Choral Concert
- 11** Lake Geneva Golf Outing
- 11** Golden Knight Mass & Luncheon
- 17** Commencement

## June

- 17-25** Summer Music Theatre presents "A Chorus Line"

## July

- 4** Firecracker Walk/Run
- 7** Knights on the Fox concert series begins
- 6-10** GLAD camp session one
- 13-17** GLAD camp session two
- 20-24** BOLD Camp session one
- 27-31** BOLD Camp session two



**Knights on the Fox, in its 12th season, features live music from Daddy D Productions, Talk of the Town, Piano Fondue and more.**

**For details of these events and more, visit [snc.edu/calendar](http://snc.edu/calendar).**

## Speaking volumes



**Clarence Darrow (left) and William Jennings Bryan chat in court during the Scopes Trial.**

When a local theatre troupe presented "Inherit the Wind" on campus, they asked props manager **Rochelle Van Erem** to see if she could dig up some materials about the play's subject – the notorious Scopes Monkey Trial of the 1920s – to help publicize the show. Van Erem's day job sees her working as the serials management specialist in the Mulva Library, so she dove into the stacks to see what she could find. She resurfaced with something no one knew was there – a book signed by Clarence Darrow, defense attorney in *The State of Tennessee v. John Thomas Scopes*. Darrow had signed the book when he visited Green Bay in 1927, just two years after the trial in which substitute high school teacher John Scopes challenged the Tennessee act that made it unlawful to teach human evolution in any state-funded school.

Van Erem's search kept her looking and, in due course, she also unearthed Mulva-held papers of William Jennings Bryan, the three-time presidential candidate who argued for the prosecution at the same trial.

The twin finds went on display in the library ahead of the Evergreen Theatre production in February.

## College smart

Among the college-bound hopefuls who filed their application with St. Norbert College in the first two months of this year, 370 chose to do so via smartphone. That figure easily passes last year's: All told, 2014 saw only 74 such apps. Nor should this exponential upswing in phone applications affect prospects' chances: The mobile app features a phone-friendly format and the data shows that applications-by-phone yield college acceptances at about the same rate as those submitted online or via snail mail.



## Parting Shot / Everyone's a Winner

The main ingredient of stardom is the rest of the team. – *John Wooden*

