Editor's note: Br. Dennis Beach, CSB/SJU assistant professor of philosophy, describes in the following account his experience with his students during the earthquake in El Salvador.

Our January Term class, “Building Peace in El Salvador,” discussed ahead of time what to do to protect our health from unsafe water and foods, from diseases, and how to prevent becoming victims of robbery or other crime, which has succeeded the 12-year civil war as the chief scourge of the country. We brought sunscreen and mosquito repellant and safety wallets for passports and valuables. What we didn’t practice for was earthquakes.

At 11:35 on Saturday morning, Jan. 13, as our group of 12 students and myself as instructor sat listening to a Carmelite nun tell us the story of Archbishop Oscar Romero’s life and death in the very chapel where he was assassinated, we heard what most of us took to be a strong wind. Almost immediately, however, things around us and the ground beneath began to shake, and we discovered that what we had taken to be the wind was the sound of the earth itself, as well as the pews and the walls and ceiling and the hanging lamps, shaking, creaking and groaning as an earthquake of magnitude 7.6 shook all of El Salvador and much of the rest of Central America.

As frightened as we were when we realized what was happening, we did not immediately run out of the building as we probably should have. Since none of us had experienced an earthquake before, we didn’t realize how serious this one was, and the calmness of Sister Rosa, who stood quietly praying for the earthquake’s victims, perhaps calmed us a little, although our hearts were in our throats. And, while the lack of damage in the church and its surrounding delayed a little longer our awareness of just how huge a tragedy we had been a part of, soon reports began to come in over our van radio that made us realize that we had survived no strong tremor, but a destructive and deadly earthquake.

As soon as we could get a call through the jammed phone lines we notified the schools, who relayed word to parents by mid-afternoon on Saturday. The remainder of our trip was an object lesson about how a poor and vulnerable nation faces monumental loss and tragedy. We assisted the SHARE Foundation on some fact-finding missions to ascertain the extent of damage in communities with which they worked closely, and we heard how much people feared that the lack of any government aid more than a week after the disaster betrayed a persistence of prejudice against the rural areas that had been the conflicted, guerilla-held zones only 10 years ago. We even spent half-a-day loading trucks and doing data entry for the American Red Cross, to which we donated one of the recycled CSB/SJU computers we had brought down for a poor rural high school.

The experience pulled our group together as nothing else might have, although there was clearly good will and a desire to form friendships before this. While aftershocks kept us guessing the whole two weeks, by the time we were in the plane heading home we all admitted that we knew that we had been part of a very extraordinary event, one that we’d never forget.
Accounting Wasn’t Her First Choice

Editor’s note: Community presents the first of its Profile articles, featuring some of the interesting people who work at CSB/SJU.

prepared by Glenda Isaacs Burgeson, Community editor

Joni Becker, CPA, took the road less traveled on her way to the accounting profession. She wouldn’t have it any other way. For someone who regards curves in the road as an opportunity to joyride on her Harley, the zigzags in her life journey only make it more interesting.

“Life’s an adventure,” she said between the laughter in a recent interview. And she uses that adventurous, laughter-inclined spirit in the classroom to unsettle unsuspecting students.

“I love to tell my students that originally I wanted to be a veterinarian.” The assistant professor of accounting at CSB/SJU took her undergraduate degree in animal science. Along the way, however, she said she discovered that science probably was not the best place for her.

“I took a course in accounting and loved it,” she said. “Then I took a course in calculus and loved it.” She wound up with a master’s degree in accounting, specializing in business taxation. “I went into taxes for job security,” she deadpanned.

Becker said she uses her life experiences to let her students know that they don’t necessarily have to lock themselves into a profession. She wants them to know that the degree they pursue does not dictate their choices.

For example, Becker also is pursuing an extra career as an author. While living in Tennessee, her home for 10 years before returning with husband Dale to their native Minnesota, she wrote a book aimed at potential investors in the overnight rental industry. Overnight rentals refer to houses, usually owned by absentee owners and managed locally, that are rented to tourists. Becker said she wrote and self published a book called “Before You Buy,” to alert the unwary to business realities even amid the grandeur of the Great Smokey Mountains.

The book was a hit among prospective property buyers, but real estate agents weren’t too happy with it, she said.

Becker also is outlining plans for a series of books on tax liabilities geared to specific industries. She said there is a market among home office entrepreneurs for a book that explains tax laws in clear and specific language, something she believes the IRS fails to do. And Becker cannot bear the thought...
of a hard-working businessperson over-paying a tax.

“I look at filling out taxes as an exercise in creative writing,” she said.

In her view, the IRS uses intimidation to take advantage of taxpayers. There’s more than one way to fill out a tax form, she explained, but too often taxpayers don’t exercise their best interest out of fear of the IRS.

Becker laughs off the suggestion of herself as a social justice-wielding accountant. “Accounting can be very dry,” she said. “I like to spice it up.”

Becker also applies her creative writing talents to a book, now in progress, aimed at young people who are confused by life’s choices and may feel unworthy of God’s love, she explained.

“I want them to realize that, no matter what they’ve done, God still loves them.”

Whatever her disparate causes — whether it’s protecting taxpayers from the IRS, warning Tennessee tourists, classroom teaching or reaching out to wayward youth — Becker’s sense of social justice steers her toward the powerless. Armed with information, and a sense of humor, she makes a formidable advocate.

Relief Needed in India for Earthquake Aftermath

Relief efforts are under way by Setu to provide emergency materials, supplies and food to the villages of Kutch and northern Saurashtra. Setu is a charitable organization registered under the government of India and permitted to receive foreign contributions without prior permission. Setu will be working directly with local communities and local community-based organizations. Long-term rehabilitation also is planned as part of this coordinated effort.

Manju Parikh, associate professor of political science, is the CSB/SJU contact person designated to collect contributions locally. For those who wish to contribute, Parikh can accept a check or cash and issue a receipt. She plans to mail the total amount raised to SETU by a cashier’s check. She can be reached at x5767 or by e-mail at mparikh.

Please remember that $1 = 40 Indian Rupees and it will buy a blanket. In other words any amount, however small, will go a long way.

Faculty Member Nominated for Minnesota Book Award

The book The Winter Keeper by Eva Hooker, CSB/SJU professor of English, has been nominated for a 2001 Minnesota Book Award, sponsored by the Minnesota Center for the Book. It is one of five works nominated in the poetry category of the 13th annual awards program.

The Winter Keeper is one of more than 250 books submitted statewide. All entries must have been published in 2000. Also, the primary creator(s) of the work, including the author, illustrator or editor, must be a Minnesota resident or former resident commonly thought of as a Minnesotan. Publishers, authors or members of the general public can submit entries.

Selection panels of 48 volunteers from Minnesota’s literary community evaluate each entry based upon the book’s literary merit, originality and broad appeal. Each panel then identifies three to five final nominees in each award category.

Winners will be announced in each of the 10 categories at the Minnesota Book Awards ceremony at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 20, at the Fitzgerald Theater in St. Paul. It is free and open to the public. The program will also air live on the Twin Cities Public Television beginning at 8 p.m.

The Minnesota Center for the Book, an affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, is a program at the Minnesota Humanities Commission, a statewide agency dedicated to ensuring that the humanities are an integral part of lifelong education and public life for all Minnesotans. The Minnesota Center for the Book provides programs and services that promote reading, books and a literate culture.

For more information on the Minnesota Center for the Book or the Minnesota Book Awards, visit the web site at http://www.mnbooks.org.

Social Work Announces Reaccreditation

The CSB/SJU social work department recently has received reaccreditation. The Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) found several strengths in our social work program. Specifically, the CSWE report stated that the site team found our program to have “a hard-working faculty that maintains excellent relationships with students and the administration of the colleges; an active and knowledgeable student body; a supportive administration; solid connection between the missions of the program and the colleges; a sound program footing for practicing nondiscrimination and promoting diversity; and good relationships with the social work practice community.”

The department has 58 majors. Its mission is to provide students with an education grounded in the values of the social work profession and the Benedictine traditions of respect, service and justice. The purpose of the program is to develop students’ abilities to become competent, ethical lead-
Wind Ensemble Completes Tour
The CSB/SJU Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dale White, went on tour in the Bahamas in January. The tour included four school concerts, with clinics for all music students, one outdoor performance, and a formal evening concert. The ensemble of 40 some musicians performs original and transcribed literature for winds and percussion, ranging from Bach and Handel to popular music of the 20th century.

It’s Time for the 2001 Annual Lenten Food Drive
The Annual Lenten Food Drive will occur from Feb. 28 (Ash Wednesday) to April 12 (Holy Thursday). Collection boxes will be located throughout campus buildings and residence halls. Cash and check donations will be collected at the CSB or SJU Student Accounts Offices. Food and proceeds will go to the Avon, St. Joseph, Cold Spring and St. Cloud food shelves.

Roll Up Your Sleeve
The Red Cross bloodmobile will be at CSB HCC Alumnae Hall on Feb. 26, noon until 5 p.m., and Feb. 27, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. To make an appointment, call Residence Life at x5580.

Allergies Lead to Ban on Latex Products

prepared by Ganard Orionzi,
CSB/SJU environmental health & safety officer

The CSB/SJU Academic Safety and Health Advisory Committee (ASHAC) has voted to eliminate latex products on both campuses. The decision, reached in December, comes amid growing concerns about allergic reactions to such products and was prompted by a recent exposure on campus that required hospitalization.

The incident occurred in November, when an employee was inadvertently exposed to airborne latex protein molecules originating from powdered gloves. The severity of the allergic reaction required emergency hospitalization, with cardiac monitoring for almost two days. The activities of the employee’s department were disrupted for three weeks while latex products were identified for removal. Cleanup of contaminated areas was completed by a team of seven custodians, using appropriate procedures including the use of micro-filter-equipped vacuums, wet wiping of surfaces and equipment, and laundering of linen.

Consequently, ASHAC has set the following schedule to accomplish a latex-free environment:

- All departments are urged to immediately discontinue using powdered latex gloves/products.
- Departments that have stocked powder-free latex gloves/products may continue to use up the products but should provide extra warning/caution in addition to manufacturer’s label, for the end user.
- Departments should discontinue purchases or acquisition of latex products.
- While maintaining their budgets for such expendable items, departments should consider coordinating purchases via central order on each campus. This will help defray some additional costs that may be associated with providing alternate products.
- Medical Emergency Response Kits and Bloodborne Pathogen Spill Kits should contain latex-free items. (CSB/SJU academic departments and CSB non-academic departments should contact Ganard Orionzi for updating the kit at their location. OSB/non-academic departments, please contact Br. Walter Kieffer. Security/Life safety/EMT will evaluate their kits.)
- Use of any expendable natural rubber latex product should be discontinued on CSB/SJU campuses.

Please note: not all-surface reactions are the result of latex sensitivity. Glove users may continue to experience some irritant dermatitis — “point of contact” reactions — to chemical accelerators used in glove manufacturing, but the severity should be considerably less than that caused by natural rubber latex protein. These reactions, if noted, should still be reported for assessment.

More information is available at the following web sites:

- American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN) <www.aaohn.org>
- American Hospital Association (AHA) <www.aha.org>
- Centers for Disease Control/National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh>
- Education for Latin Allergy Support Team & Information Coalition <www.latin-allergy.org>
- Glove Shippers Association (GSA) <www.glove-shippers.org>
- SB Latex Council <www.regnet.com>

Top High School Scholars to Visit Campus

prepared by Thomas Voller, associate director of marketing/admissions

The Admission Office will host more than 150 high-achieving high school seniors during the annual Regents’/Trustees’ Scholarship Programs on Feb. 22-23 and 26. To be eligible for the renewable $8,500 scholarship, students must have maintained at least a 3.6 cumulative high school GPA and have scored a 30 or above on the ACT. As part of the scholarship competition, students come to campus for a day to complete an interview with a member of the faculty.

“Many of these students,” says Mary Milbert, dean of admissions, “are applying to the best colleges in America, which means that this program is more than just an opportunity for the students to try and impress us. It is also our opportunity to showcase the CSB/SJU campuses and community to them.”

Milbert credits the many faculty members and students who assist with the program for making it so successful. “The scholarship candidates have an opportunity to meet one-on-one with a professor, speak with current students, and learn more about many of our outstanding programs,” says Milbert.

First-year student R.J. Welsh, who applied to 14 colleges including a number of Ivy League schools, says the scholarship money was very important in his college decision. He also liked what he discovered when he visited for his interview. “I really liked hearing about the honors program, and was...
impressed to see that there were so many highly qualified students looking at CSB and SJU." The number of students vying for these scholarships has increased steadily since the program began in 1996. "In our first year we had 85 students apply for a Regents'/Trustees' Scholarship," reports Jane Haugen, CSB director of financial aid. "Last year we had 180 applicants."

Typically, CSB and SJU enroll approximately 50 Regents'/Trustees' Scholars each year. In addition to faculty interviews, test scores and GPAs, selection criteria also includes leadership and service.

It is obvious that the scholarship winners who choose to attend at CBS and SJU are very happy with their decision. More than 95 percent of the scholarship recipients who enrolled are either still at the colleges or are graduates of CSB and SJU. "The high retention rate of these students indicates that they are very satisfied with their experience," says Milbert.

For more information about scholarships at CSB and SJU, please contact Tom Voller at x5046 or by e-mail at tvoller@csbsju.edu.

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**Doxology Recording Available**

DOXOLOGY, a professional CD recording of the National Catholic Youth Choir from the 2000 summer program at St. John's Abbey and University, is available for $15.

Over 40 high schoolers from across the United States spent nearly two weeks in the pilot year of this youth program. This CD, under choral conductor Dr. Axel Theimer of the CSB/SJU music department, is the result of these talented youth. The founder and chaplain to the choir is Fr. Anthony Ruff, O.S.B.

To order, contact Fr. Anthony at x3233, or e-mail at awruff@csbsju.edu.

The CD includes:
- "Doxology" by Kevin Vogt of Omaha Cathedral (newly commissioned)
- "Ave Maria" (Hail Mary) by Louis Vierne
- "A Maiden Most Gentle" by Andrew Carter
- "Salve Regina" (Hail Holy Queen) by Franz Schubert
- "O Lieber Herre" (O Dear Lord) by Heinrich Schutz
- "Ave Verum Corpus" (Hail the Very Body) by Camille Saint-Saëns
- "Strength for Service" by Healy Willan
- "Panis Angelicus" (Angellic Bread) by Caesar Franck (sung by boy soloist from Kansas City)
- "Ego sum panis vivus" (I Am the Living Bread) by Palestrina
- "Tu Es Petrus" (Thou Art Peter) by Maurice Durufle
- "Give Praise and Thanks" by Jane Marshall
- "Holy God We Praise Thy Name," arr. Donald Bashow
- "Benedicta Sit Sancta Trinitas" (Blest by the Holy Trinity), Gregorian Chant

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**CSB Literary Arts Institute Featured in Publishers Weekly**

prepared by Mark Conway,
CSB director of special projects, Development


The article is about the unique relationship between CSB and the Graywolf Press in their creation of the Literary Arts Institute. The Inside Books program, an annual weeklong publishing seminar, and the Reader’s Theater, a program that adapts Graywolf books to the stage, are also mentioned in the article.

"We are gratified to see that Publishers Weekly sees the significance of Inside Books and the Literary Arts Institute," said Mark Conway, director of special projects in the Development Office at CSB. "We’re also pleased that these fine programs are brought to the attention of a national audience. We’ve already had a number of interested people get in touch with us because of the article."

For more information on the Literary Arts Institute, visit the web site at <http://www.csbsju.edu>.
IN THE MEDIA

Research by Janet Hope, CSB/SJU associate professor and chair, sociology, was detailed in a feature published on Jan. 4 by the Saint Paul Pioneer Press. The study, co-directed by Hope and a colleague, Linda Havir of St. Cloud State University, explores the behaviors and motivations of senior citizens who frequent casinos. Hope and Havir broke new ground with their study, by surveying seniors directly and asking them about their gambling habits. The survey results refute common stereotypes about the vulnerability of seniors with respect to gambling habits and found, instead, that seniors generally approach gambling as a social activity, appreciate the value of a dollar and budget their casino visits accordingly.

CAMPUS NEWS

Keep Current With Bulletin Board

Visit the Bulletin Board today at http://www.csbsju.edu/bulletin board/ and share your events or items of interest with the rest of the CSB/SJU community. And don’t forget, the Bulletin Board can be bookmarked for easy reference to ensure you receive the latest information about campus events and activities each day.

It is easy to submit information to the Bulletin Board. Faculty, staff, and student organizations can post information about events and activities to the Bulletin Board 24 hours a day. Submitted items are posted the next day. If you have an event or item of interest you would like to publicize, submissions can be made to the Bulletin Board located at: http://www.csbsju.edu/bulletin board/

edu/LiteraryArts>. To view the entire article, go to the on-line version of Publishers Weekly at http://www.publishersweekly.com/articles/20001211_93531.asp#land of Lakes and Indie Presses <http://www.publishersweekly.com/articles/20001211_93531.asp#land>. The Literary Arts Institute at CSB is a new initiative designed to give voice to emerging writers, poets and publishers through the contemporary writing, reading, theater and book arts.

Publishers Weekly is an international news-magazine on book publishing and bookselling. It features in-depth interviews with prominent authors, news from the publishing industry, best-seller lists, and reviews of both adult and children’s books.

Aquila Theatre Company Presents Cyrano de Bergerac and Much Ado About Nothing

prepared by Kristin Darnall, CSB/SJU director of audience development, fine arts programming

The CSB/SJU Fine Arts Programming will welcome the Aquila Theatre Company to the Benedicta Arts Center Auditorium for two performances on the weekend of Feb. 23-24. On Feb. 23, Aquila will present Rostand’s Cyrano de Bergerac at 7:30 p.m. and on, Feb. 24, they will perform Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing, again at 7:30 p.m.

Cyrano de Bergerac

Set in 17th century France, Cyrano de Bergerac is a romantic adventure that tells a beautifully funny, poignant and often heart-wrenching love story. Cyrano is an excellent swordsman from Gascony, a region of France famous for producing stubborn, courageous and grandiose soldiers. He is infatuated with the beautiful and alluring Roxanne, but because of his famously huge nose, the forlorn Cyrano feels that he can never truly win her heart and keeps his love as a personal and painful secret. In this classic story of unrequited love, Cyrano befriends the handsome Christian de Neuvillette, who delivers Cyrano’s elegant love letters to Roxanne in return for Cyrano’s agreement to teach him the arts of eloquence, courtship and poetry.

Much Ado About Nothing

Much Ado About Nothing, one of Shakespeare’s more mature romantic comedies, was written in 1598. The story depicts the cowardly Don John, who maliciously deceives young Count Claudio into believing that his wife-to-be, Hero, has taken a lover on the eve of their marriage. Claudio retaliates by rejecting Hero at the altar. The central themes of the play are misunderstandings and deception. The oft-told story of a maiden falsely slandered, the battle of the sexes, the nature of true love, and the emotional about-face of central characters collectively contribute to make Much Ado a time-honored delight.

Tickets for Aquila Theatre Company are $20 for adults, $16 for seniors and students, and $10 for CSB/SJU students. For more information call the Benedicta Arts Center at x5777 or the SJU box office at x3577.

Newly-Commissioned Dance Work Debuts at CSB

prepared by Kristin Darnall

CSB/SJU director of audience development, fine arts programming

The Midwestern premiere of a new dance piece co-commissioned by CSB comes to campus in March. Duke Ellington: In A Different Light, choreographed by Donald Byrd, will be performed by Donald Byrd/The Group at the Benedicta Arts Center Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 3.

The event marks an ongoing CSB commitment to create new works and continues Byrd's exploration of jazz that began with The Harlem Nutcracker and JazzTrain.

The work examines jazz as an American classical art form through the exploration of Ellington's lesser known, and, in some cases, unpublished works. In a Different Light captures the energy of Ellington's music, while Byrd's dancers tackle the daunting mix of popular dance, modern ballet and good old garden-variety hoofing with an intense physicality that grabs an audience and tells you you're in for something special.

Over the past two decades, the artistic works of Byrd, as performed by Donald Byrd/The Group, have won audiences worldwide with their exciting and original blend of dance and theater. Byrd's choreography examines contemporary issues and social concerns and is infused with a sharp, charged movement vocabulary. His work integrates Black
Feeding Your Body and Soul Month

prepared by the Healthy Learning Community Team

Editor's note: Each month the Healthy Learning Community and the Partners for Healthy Learning promote a monthly health theme to the CSB and SJU campuses. These groups are involved in the promotion of physical, intellectual, emotional, social, occupational and spiritual health. To learn more about the Healthy Learning Community and the Partners for Healthy Learning, please visit the website at http://www.csbsju.edu/extending/projects.htm

March offers many ways to feed the body and soul.

Enjoy what you eat
• Focus on flavors and texture
• Eat slowly
• Share food and conversation with others
• Find out more about the theme of the National Nutrition Month: “Food and Fitness: Build a Healthy Lifestyle” by visiting the American Dietetic Association home page: http://www.eatright.org

Make a difference
• Buy daffodils from the CSB Health Advocates on March 15 and 16 in the HCC Atrium to support cancer research
• Donate protein foods, for example, peanut butter, or money to buy meats to local food drives
• Volunteer time and talents

Learn something new
• Visit the CSB/SJU Wellness Fest on Tuesday, March 6, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
• Read a book
• Take a walk
• Visit the Healthy Learning Community web links to explore health information

Celebrate
• Friendships
• Spirituality
• Family
• Community

In March, take time to nourish your body and soul.

Enjoy the vernacular dance, classical ballet, and modern techniques with timeless, thought-provoking metaphors.

In A Different Light: Duke Ellington pays tribute to the great American music legend and continues the acclaimed choreographer's investigation of the African American intellectual experience manifested in jazz. Commenting on the composer, Byrd said, “Ellington is one of the great American composers. If you are able to talk about the African American experience, you have to talk about jazz. And you can't talk about jazz without talking about Duke Ellington.”

Prior to the premiere, Donald Byrd/The Group will be in residency for a week in the greater St. Cloud community, with the premiere on March 3 the culminating activity. Tickets for Donald Byrd/The Group are $20, $16 for seniors/students and $10 for CSB/SJU students with identification. For more information, call the Benedicta Arts Center at x5777.

In A Different Light: Duke Ellington was commissioned by: CSB Benedicta Arts Center; California State University Chico; Center for the Arts — El Camino College, Torrence Calif.; Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, New York, NY; North Carolina Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, Charlotte, NC; Society for the Performing Arts, Houston, Texas; Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Tampa, Fla.

This performance is sponsored by Bankers Systems Inc. and Bremer Bank, with additional funding from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Campus News

Men's Lives Speaker to Discuss Spirituality

The SJU Men's Lives Series will present a lecture on “Men and Spirituality,” by guest speaker Sam Femiano at 7:30 p.m. Sunday March 3, in Quad 264.

Femiano is a clinical psychologist from Massachusetts, specializing in treatment of men and particularly men who have suffered early trauma. He is the founding president of the American Men's Studies Association, an organization dedicated to research and teaching about men and gender. He was a member of the Congregation of St. Basil for 20 years and received his ThD from the Institut Catholique de Paris.

New Bookstore Manager Named

CSB/SJU has hired Don Forbes as bookstore director. He replaces Carol Marrin who resigned last September. Don was the director of the bookstore at the University of North Dakota for 15 years. During that time he managed through a flood in 1997 and a fire in 1998. During the past year, he worked for the University of Minnesota as the assistant director of operations. We welcome Don and wish him well.

A Star is Born:
Watch for Johnnie Bread on TV

A four-minute feature on Saint John’s Bread is scheduled to air on an episode of Food Network’s “The Best of…” at 8:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. central time on Monday, March 5. You can find more information about Food Network at http://www.foodtv.com/

Communication and Marketing Services will put a programming note on our News and Events page as we near the airdate to alert visitors to our website about this exciting news.

Thank You Note

prepared by Herb Trenz
director, Human Resources

A special thanks goes out to the fine arts department for donating 10 certificates for free admission to one fine arts event. This was done in collaboration with the 2001 United Way campaign. Names of employees who participated in the United Way campaign were randomly selected and awarded these certificates. Thanks again to all employees who participated in the campaign.
HMML Features Exhibit, Talk on Ethiopian Culture and History

In recognition of Black History Month, the Hill Monastic Manuscript Library at the SJU Bush Center is offering a public exhibit on Ethiopia through Feb. 27, and a public lecture. The exhibit, “Cultural Traditions and Religion in Ethiopia,” highlights art, artifacts and manuscripts from the HMML and other SJU collections, and is open during regular library hours: M-F 8-4:30, Sat. 10:30-4:30, Sun. 11:30-4:30.

In conjunction with the exhibit, Dr. Getatchew Haile, HMML Ethiopian cataloguer emeritus, will present “A Cultural Link to Africa: The Ethiopian Manuscript Collection at HMML,” on Thursday, Feb. 22 at 4 p.m. A reception at 3:30 p.m. will precede his presentation.

Many ethnic groups have shared the land of Ethiopia. Today, about 80 different groups are identified within Ethiopia’s borders, and about as many languages are spoken. Among the religions practiced in Ethiopia are Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity, Islam, and a number of Protestant faiths.

The Askum Empire originated in the third century BCE and flourished alongside Egypt and Meroe in the Sudan. Emperors ruled Ethiopia until 1974. Today, it is forming a new identity as a republic.

Sisters Publish History of Monastery

prepared by Laura Krueger, community on special ist.

“With Hearts Expanded,” a history of the sisters of the Order of Saint Benedict from 1957 to 2000, is available for $14.95 for paperback and $24.95 in hardcover. Written by Evin Rademacher, OSB; Emmanuel Renner, OSB; Olivia Forster, OSB; and Carol Berg, OSB, the book is a companion to an earlier volume, “With Lamps Burning,” marking the monastery's first 100 years.

According to the book's editor, Stefanie Weisgram, OSB, “In the past 43 years since our centennial, the world has changed, the Church has changed, and the sisters of Saint Benedict's Monastery have changed. In this book, the readers will find a more complete picture of the joys and sorrows, the graces and challenges that have expanded our hearts.”

Sets of With Hearts Expanded and With Lamps Burning can be purchased for $16.95 in paperback and $26.95 in hardcover. For more information about ordering, please call 363-7074. The books are available at Whitby Gift Shop & Gallery, Art & Heritage Place, Saint Benedict’s Monastery, 104 Chapel Lane, St. Joseph. In addition, the books can be purchased at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, St. Cloud; and at CSB and SJU campus bookstores.

Faculty/Staff News

Laura Rodgers, CSB/SJU associate professor of nursing, presented research findings from her Fulbright study at the 10th Annual Nursing Research Conference at the Mayo Clinic. Her presentation was entitled “Providing Culturally Competent Care to Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union: Living and Conducting Research in Russia.” In addition, she has recently been selected to serve as a board member of the Minnesota chapter of the Fulbright Association. She attended the Fulbright Association’s 23rd annual conference, “International Challenges and New Leadership” held in Washington, D.C., in December.

Larry Davis, CSB/SJU associate professor of geology/biology, co-authored a paper with Robert Eves and published in the November issue of the Journal of Geoscience Education. The title of the article was “Measuring and Describing a Stratigraphic Section in the Classroom”. Davis also co-authored a paper with several US Geological Survey geologists on “Cretaceous Stratigraphy and Paleontology of the Escalante-Grand Staircase National Monument” published in the Utah Geological Association’s Millenium volume — Geology of Utah’s Parks and Monuments.

S.G. Saupe, CSB/SJU chair and professor of biology, provided a recent tour of the SJU science facilities to the Minnesota House Higher Education Committee.