

Saint John's

MAGAZINE

WINTER 2007

The Scene

JOHNNIE ROCKERS AND MUSICIANS



Saint John's
UNIVERSITY



Hall of Fame Coach Gagliardi watches the action at the College Football Hall of Fame flag football game between inductees Tom Curtis (l) and Jerry Rice (r) on August 12, 2006, in South Bend, IN.

Photo courtesy of Kimm Anderson, *St. Cloud Times*

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A long-held dream of Saint John's Abbey is open for guests and visitors. The 30-room guesthouse overlooking Lake Sagatagan provides a variety of spaces for visitors, retreatants, conference participants and alumni.

Saint John's

The Magazine of
Saint John's University

WINTER 2007

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

This issue of *Saint John's* should be music to your ears. Our feature story, "The Scene: Johnnie Rockers and Musicians," is about the abundance of great alumni bands and musicians. I think you will be delighted by the variety of talent represented in this musical survey. And after you have read about the bands, singers and instrumentalists who have roots at Saint John's, you can go to many of their Web sites and treat yourself to a sample of their music.

As a partner to this tale of music and Saint John's, we include an article in the Arts and Culture section on the Saint John's Men's Chorus—a thriving musical institution founded over 60 years ago by Fr. James Kelly, OSB. We also feature alumni musicians in the Alumni Profiles section.

We formally mark the sesquicentennial year of the university with this edition of the magazine. The abbey was founded in 1856, and a year later Fr. Cornelius Wittman, OSB, one of the founders, became Saint John's first professor, presiding over a class of five students. Our university sesquicentennial story, "150 Years - Four Johnnies," gives you a chance to hear the stories of four men who attended Saint John's at 50-year intervals, beginning with that first class in 1857. It is fascinating to reflect on the themes that emerge from a "meeting" with these four, despite the eras that separate them.

Across the country, we are observing the university's sesquicentennial with *Saint John's at 150* events here and abroad, and have already hosted full houses in Winona, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. We hope you will all get a chance to join us at one of these celebrations when we visit your area.

The Saint John's Bible continues to inspire museum-goers as illuminations and folios have gone on display from Broadway to the Beltway. In an article on the exhibit at the Museum of Biblical Art in New York City, *The New York Times* referred to artistic director Donald Jackson as "the rock star of calligraphy," while the Library of Congress extended the exhibition two weeks due to popular demand. In the coming year, this magnificent work will be on display in Naples, FL, and Phoenix, AZ.

We passed an important milestone this fall when the Abbey Guesthouse was dedicated and opened to the public! (See page 24). We encourage you to make plans to stay at the Guesthouse during a future visit to Saint John's.

Finally, I would like to direct you to "Johnnies in the News," which you will find in Alumni News. In this section, you can read about the accomplishments of alumni across our nation.

God bless!



Br. Dietrich Reinhart '71, OSB
President





Wallis Keynotes Inaugural Heritage Day

Jim Wallis, bestselling author of *God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It*, was the keynote speaker during Heritage Day activities at SJU and CSB. Wallis spoke on his reflections about community and the common good—faith and politics in America.

Wallis' book was on *The New York Times* bestseller list for four months. He is also the president and executive director of Sojourners/Call to Renewal and the editor in chief of *Sojourners* magazine.

Heritage Day is a day set aside for the Saint John's and Saint Benedict's academic and monastic communities to celebrate their Benedictine values, roots and past, and look to the future.

Enrollment Reaches Record Levels

Ranked nationally among the top liberal arts colleges, Saint John's and Saint Benedict enrolled 3,913 undergraduate students this fall. This marks the first time total combined undergraduate enrollment

has exceeded 3,900 students. SJU has an enrollment of 1,886 while CSB's enrollment is 2,027, its third highest. With a combined enrollment, SJU and CSB have the largest enrollment of any national liberal arts college.

New-student enrollment totaled 506 at SJU and 540 at CSB for a combined class of 1,046.

The academic profile of the new class is nearly identical to last year's entering class but is more diverse geographically, racially and ethnically. In total, American students of color and international students make up more than 10 percent of the new entering class this fall, the highest percentage ever at CSB/SJU.

"We enrolled a tremendously talented class this fall. They expect a great educational experience at CSB/SJU and we expect they will go on to lead lives of meaning and purpose within their communities after graduating from the colleges," said Michael Thorp, associate vice president and dean of admission and financial aid.

Overall retention of returning students from spring 2006 to fall 2006 rose by one percent at SJU and by three percent at CSB. In total, overall spring-to-fall retention (the carryover from spring 10th day to fall 10th day, excluding graduating seniors) totaled 75 percent at CSB and SJU. Year-to-year retention rates at CSB/SJU are among the highest in the country. Both institutions exceeded their new student, diversity and retention goals.

Saint John's School of Theology•Seminary enrollment statistics also exceeded goal. This year's enrollment increased from 68 to 83, the highest in four years. The number of full-time students rose from 36 to 53, and the number of residential students from 15 to 30. The SOT maintained a strong

contingent of international students (12), and the number of non-degree seeking students decreased from 46 to 16.

Saint John's and Saint Ben's Ranked Among Top Colleges

SJU and CSB are ranked among the top 100 liberal arts colleges in the United States in two rankings by national publications.

Both *U.S. News & World Report* and *Washington Monthly* rank the colleges among the nation's top liberal arts institutions.

Saint John's was the highest rated Catholic liberal arts college in the country in the *Washington Monthly* poll.

Since 1994, no other college in the country has moved further or faster in the *U.S. News* national liberal arts rankings than CSB, which has moved from the fourth quartile to the top 100. The magazine ranks 213 liberal arts colleges. The national liberal arts category includes the nation's most prestigious and selective liberal arts colleges.

The second annual *Washington Monthly* College Rankings rate each institution on three primary criteria: how well it performs as an engine of social change ("ideally helping the poor to get rich rather than the very rich to get very, very rich"), how it does in fostering scientific and humanistic research, and how well it promotes an ethic of service to country.

The *U.S. News* rankings take into account the academic reputation of the school, admissions selectivity, retention and graduation rates, class size, financial resources and alumni giving, among other factors.



BEHIND THE PINES

***The Record* Wins National Award**

SJU and CSB's weekly student newspaper, *The Record*, was awarded an honorable mention for best of show for a weekly paper during the Associated Collegiate Press' national conference in Washington, D.C.

Each newspaper at the conference was judged by journalists from *The Washington Post*.



From left to right: Kelly Smith, managing editor; Matt Smith, editor-in-chief; and John Buethe, news editor.



Biology professor Bill Lambert conducts water tests in a northern Minnesota lake with Zhou Haiyun from Southwest University in Beibei and Caitlin Walsh '08 from the College of Saint Benedict.

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March 2007

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Students Partner with Chinese Peers on Research

This summer, 16 students from SJU, CSB and Southwest University (SWU) in Beibei, Chongqing, China, were the first participants in a unique Summer Science Research Exchange Program between the two Minnesota schools and Southwest University.

In May, eight SJU and CSB science students from the biology, chemistry and physics departments traveled to China where they partnered with eight undergraduate Chinese science students to conduct scientific research at SWU. They worked on projects as diverse as isolating bacteria with novel pesticide-degrading properties to computer modeling of the electronic properties of crystals. Six weeks later, all the students returned to SJU and CSB to start new projects, ranging from laser optics to genetic engineering.

It's the first time the schools—which have been partners for 20 years—have been part of a truly reciprocal exchange of students. Each fall semester, SJU and CSB send students and a faculty director to SWU, but until now, no groups of students from SWU have come to CSB/SJU to study.

Henry Jakubowski, professor of chemistry, who developed the new science exchange program, said he first thought about a possible exchange program in 1997, when he visited SWU (then known as Southwest China Normal University).

"Science majors have many required science courses with labs that cannot easily be completed abroad," Jakubowski said, noting that just 28 percent of science students are able to complete a study abroad experience. This compares to an average of 50 percent for other SJU and CSB students who participate in one of our 17 semester-long programs.

Abbot Primate Receives Pax Christi Award

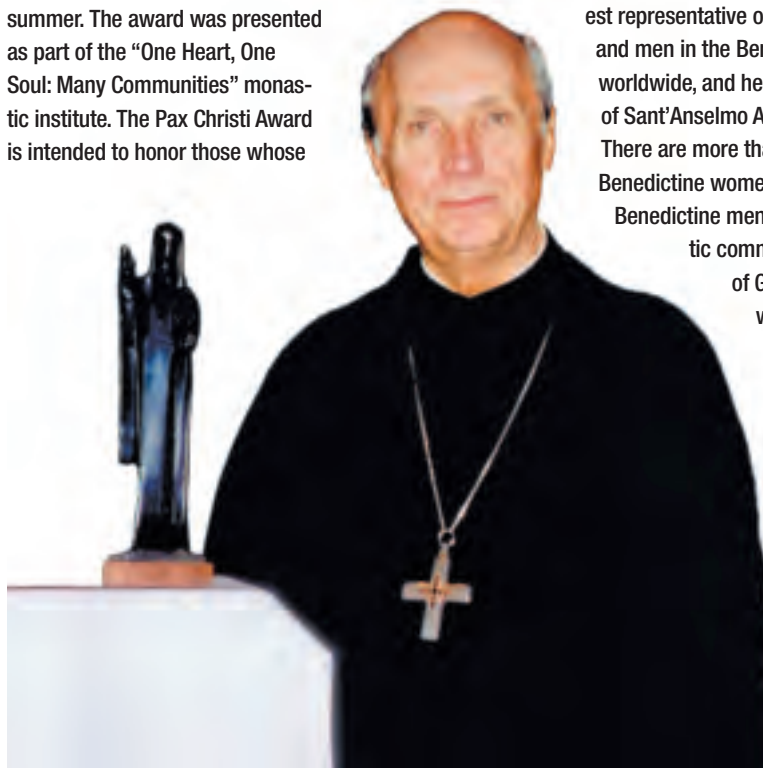
Saint John's Abbey and University gave their highest honor, the Pax Christi Award, to Abbot Primate Notker Wolf, OSB, this past summer. The award was presented as part of the "One Heart, One Soul: Many Communities" monastic institute. The Pax Christi Award is intended to honor those whose

lives exemplify such Benedictine ideals as serving humanity.

As abbot primate, Notker is the highest representative of the women and men in the Benedictine Order worldwide, and he serves as abbot of Sant'Anselmo Abbey, Rome.

There are more than 16,000 Benedictine women and 8,000

Benedictine men living in monastic communities. A native of Germany, Notker was elected abbot primate in September 2000.



Study Abroad Receives Top Ranking

Saint John's University and the College of Saint Benedict are ranked No. 2 nationally among baccalaureate institutions for total number of study abroad students in the annual report on international education, *Open Doors 2006*, published by the Institute of International Education (IIE).

The two schools had a total of 569 students study abroad during the 2004-05 academic year, according to data released by IIE. Highlights from the *Open Doors* publication are released each November.

For the past three years, Saint John's and Saint Benedict together have been among the top three undergraduate liberal arts colleges nationally in the number of students participating in international study programs.

Before graduating, half of all CSB/SJU students will participate in one of CSB/SJU's 17 semester-long programs. The programs, located in 13 countries on six continents, are led by faculty.

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Paul Schurke '77
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dog sledding experience. Between
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lakes of the spectacular Boundary
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CHALLENGE US
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Quietdrive
John McCutcheon
Tonic Sol-fa
George Maurer
Dan Chouinard
Drew Jansen
Kraig Windschitl
Matt Merten

Quietdrive (Photo by Joseph Cultice)



The Scene

JOHNNIE ROCKERS AND MUSICIANS

Saint John's helps students find themselves and their unique musical talent, whether it's sacred music or a screaming guitar.

BY DANA DRAZENOVICH

Crank up that amp. Heat up those licks. Strike up the band. ▶ It's all in a day's work for Johnnie alumni musicians as they sell out venues, load up iPods and entertain music fans across the country, from sacred spaces to the Sunset Strip, Carnegie Hall to the Basilica of Saint Mary, the pulpit to the mosh pit. ▶ Clapton, Comedy Central and Congress—they've all had close encounters with Johnnie talent in one form or another. ▶ Saint John's University has built a musical legacy that spans generations and genres. Johnnies provide the soundtrack for audiences in all walks of life, whether they're hitting a nightclub, firing up their PlayStation or tuning in to "A Prairie Home Companion." ▶ Johnnie musical talent, it seems, is everywhere. In a modern rock song on the soundtrack of *John Tucker Must Die*. On the sidelines of a University of Notre Dame football game, where the marching band plays for 80,000 fans. In the music and lyrics that had more than one million theatergoers screaming with laughter at *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. ▶ Listen, and you can hear a musical quality and inspiration that are uniquely Saint John's. ▶ "It's in the lake. It's in the buildings. It's in the liturgy. It's in the woods. It's in the air. It's a good place to create," said jazz pianist George Maurer '88. ▶ You can hear it in the driving rock of a band on the verge of breaking big on the national scene, the vagabond ways of an accordion-squeezing, piano-playing storyteller and the humorous antics of a nationally beloved a cappella group. ▶ Saint John's focuses on helping students find themselves and their own musical talent, whether it's sacred music or a screaming guitar. ▶ These are some of their stories.

"It's finding yourself, your talent, how you can best live to seek God. I try to do that with my students, help them to seek themselves."

Fr. Robert Koopmann, OSB
Fine Arts Division Head and Music Professor

Listen...

to the buzz surrounding modern rockers Quietdrive, and you will feel the momentum of an up-and-coming band making a name on the national music scene.

Things are happening fast for Quietdrive, a Minneapolis-based band featuring two Saint John's alumni, Matt Kirby '04 and Kevin Truckenmiller '04.

Epic Records signed Quietdrive in December 2004, and the band's first major-label release, "When All That's Left is You," hit the street May 30, 2006.

NHL 2007 for PlayStation and Xbox features the band's song "Rise from the Ashes," and its remake of Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time" appears on the 2006 *John Tucker Must Die* movie soundtrack. The band has been touring almost con-

stantly since June 2005, playing clubs from coast to coast.

One of the main contributors to the band's early success: "Saint John's was so supportive. We had friends who kept pushing us and coming to our shows and students willing to organize events. Then all of a sudden we came back a year after graduation, and it was one of our biggest shows. We were excited when it caught on to the classes behind us," Kirby said.

Quietdrive began taking shape while Kirby, a communication major, and Truckenmiller, computer science, were Saint John's freshmen playing poker in Mary Hall. A semester in London his junior year pushed Truckenmiller toward a career in music.

"I'd just been playing at open mic nights across the city with my acoustic guitar and writing songs in Hyde Park and around, and something kind of clicked," he said.

After Kirby returned from Australia the next semester, they started playing music seriously as Sneaker 2 Bombs, which generated a big campus following and released a successful CD.

"I think we sold 750 CDs of the Sneaker 2 Bombs at Saint John's in a week, and that was out of the trunks of our cars," Kirby recalled.

The summer after they graduated, Kirby and Truckenmiller formed Quietdrive with Justin Bonhiver, Droe Hastings and Brandon Lanier, whom Truckenmiller had been playing with in a Twin Cities band. They threw all of their energy into their music.

"I really believed in my dream and I really believed in what I was doing. I felt like nothing could stop me," Truckenmiller said.

Nothing has.

"Things started to progress to talking to a record label, and before you know it we were playing a showcase for a major label and they wanted to sign us," Kirby said.

The momentum continues to build as Quietdrive starts working on songs for a second CD, but they're not letting it go to their heads.

"Saint John's definitely provided that foundation to be respectful and to be thankful and to be humble," Kirby said. "And that's something we try to show as much as possible."

Quietdrive

Quietdrive: www.quietdrivemusic.com

Photo by Joseph Cultice



Listen...

to the folk music of six-time Grammy nominee John McCutcheon '74, and you will hear the result of one of the most unusual degrees Saint John's has ever awarded.

McCutcheon is an internationally acclaimed songwriter and folk musician with six Grammy nominations, nearly 30 CDs, two children's books and accolades from critics and fellow musicians alike for his dedication to phenomenal musicianship and human rights. McCutcheon is regarded as a hammer dulcimer virtuoso and master of traditional instruments including banjo, fiddle, autoharp and guitar. (Johnny Cash once called McCutcheon the most impressive instrumentalist he had ever heard.)

And folkies, prepare to swoon: He is one of few musicians with access to the archives of the late, great Woody Guthrie's unrecorded songs.

"I told one of my sons, 'That's better than getting a Grammy. That's better than getting a good review because it's an archive of a life's work.'"

McCutcheon's 2005 CD, *Mightier Than the Sword*, includes two tracks co-credited to Guthrie, songs that McCutcheon finished with permission from Guthrie's daughter, Nora, with more to follow. In 2003, the U.S. Postal Service chose McCutcheon's version of Guthrie's "Mail Myself to You" as its theme song in its Christmas television commercials.

Guthrie was about the only folk artist McCutcheon was familiar with in 1970 when he arrived at Saint John's University from Wausau, WI. Milwaukee was as far south as he had ever been, and guitar was the only string instrument he had ever played. His foray into folk music came via the experimental tutorial program Saint John's offered in the early 1970s.

Classmates were studying abroad, but McCutcheon didn't have the money, and besides, he wanted to learn how to play the banjo some students from Arkansas had introduced him to. He proposed a study



Photo by Steve Weit

John McCutcheon

John McCutcheon: www.folkmusic.com

program in the Appalachians.

"Much to Saint John's credit, they said, 'Yeah, you can do that.'"

The fall of his junior year he immersed himself in the rich musical heritage of the Appalachians and never came back.

"I guess I'm still on that semester abroad," he said.

His faculty supervisors, including Fr. Jerome Coller, OSB, and Fr. Hilary Thimmesch, OSB, encouraged him to continue his personal quest, a life-changing journey on which he sought the wisdom of elders and apprenticed to masters of traditional American music. McCutcheon earned the only American folk studies degree Saint John's has ever awarded.

In his unconventional classroom, he learned about a uniquely American genre of music, a rich cultural heritage and the

value of being able to really listen.

"One of the great gifts that you're given as a musician is that you have two ears and one mouth. If you use those organs in that basic proportion, you'll probably be OK."

These days McCutcheon lives in Georgia but returns to Saint John's regularly. He visited Collegeville in October to do a signing session for his Grammy-nominated children's book and CD package, *Christmas in the Trenches*.

"It was a remarkable thing to be here at Saint John's. I don't know that I would be doing what I'm doing without those people saying, 'Yeah, go for it. This is what education is about.'"

His next CD, due out in April, pays homage to another American tradition through songs, stories and poems about baseball.

Listen...

to a standing-room-only audience applauding the antics at one of Tonic Sol-fa's a cappella shows, and you will see that talent, humor and a do-it-yourself spirit create a winning combination.

A cappella performance isn't the easiest way to achieve success in the music industry, but if a string of sold-out shows, an appearance on the "Today" show and CD sales of more than one million are any indication, Tonic Sol-fa has found the secret.

Mark McGowan '93, a vocal performance student, and Shaun Johnson '94, a history and political science major, started performing together at Saint John's and formed Tonic Sol-fa in 1995 to see if they could make a go of their vocal musical performance.

Before long, Tonic Sol-fa was one of the top college entertainers on the market, and today the group has a devoted and growing national following thanks to its innovative use of the human voice combined with

humor and impromptu antics to perform highly entertaining, family-friendly shows.

"We've always had a show that everyone can enjoy," McGowan said. "Your parents can come. Your children can come. I think that's part of the Saint John's influence. We want people to feel comfortable and enjoy our show and be entertained."

McGowan, Johnson and fellow Tonic Sol-fa members Greg Bannwarth and Jared Dove do about 150 concerts a year, from corporate events to festivals and theater shows.

This holiday season, Tonic Sol-fa released its *Christmas* DVD, broadcast nationally on American Public Television affiliates. The group also entered a successful partnership with Minnesota company Tastefully Simple, which included Tonic Sol-fa's *Sugariie* CD in its Perfect Harmony gourmet holiday food pack.

Tonic Sol-fa is not just a performance group but also an independent business with a do-it-yourself spirit, and the guys believe that if they really want to achieve something, dedication and hard work can make it possible. They plan, they prepare and then, Johnson said, "We push."

They push beyond boundaries, beyond benchmarks and sometimes beyond even their own expectations.

Tonic Sol-fa's 2004 appearance on NBC's "Today" show put the singers in the company of Clint Black, Chris Isaak and Five for Fighting. The group landed a story in *Newsweek* by teaming with Bose and organizing listening parties across the country to celebrate the April 2005 release of its *Boston to Beijing* CD.

The group has had its scary moments, but Tonic Sol-fa continues to come out on top.

"We're risk takers. We really are," Johnson said. "At times we have gone into huge debt to do something we really believed in."

Successful? For sure. Sell-outs? Never.

Tonic Sol-fa has resisted the temptation to sacrifice personal beliefs, style or music to become more appealing to the masses. Johnson gives Saint John's credit for helping the group stay grounded.

"In some ways, it's a small school. It kind of encourages everyone to be themselves," Johnson said. "And that's the way we are. We're ourselves."

Tonic Sol-fa

► Tonic Sol-fa: www.tonicsolfa.com





George Maurer

www.pinecurtain.com and www.gmjazz.com

Listen...

to George Maurer's piano, and you'll hear just how jazzy a Johnnie can be.

The lakes, pines and prairie inspired Maurer's contemplative nature-based first works, and that Saint John's influence stayed with him once he got in touch with his jazzier side and started writing songs like "The Brother Willie Shuffle." How much does Saint John's mean to Maurer?

"My ashes will be scattered on the lake."

Maurer '88 even named his recording label Pine Curtain Productions in honor of his alma mater. Maurer, a music composition major, found his muse in the natural setting and flexible, open learning environment of Saint John's and spent many an hour writing music in the woods and on the shore of Lake Sagatagan.

"The monastic community has a lot to do with it," said Maurer, who now lives on Minneapolis' Nicollet Island. "They've

been there 150 years. It's a way of life that permeates the place."

It also permeates Maurer's work. Saint John's inspired the name of his first release, "Behind the Pine Curtain," a cassette Maurer, then a college sophomore, recorded on used voice tape from the Minnesota Public Radio studio and sold in the Saint John's Bookstore.

Two decades later, Maurer has released 20 CDs, including 14 solo piano CDs, four with his George Maurer Jazz Group—which includes Johnnie classmate, trumpet player Richard Witteman '89—and audio books with celebrated Minnesota authors Doug Wood and Saint John's own Jon Hassler '55. A recent commission, an original jazz work called "Enticed" that he created with the Saint Paul City Ballet, debuts in March.

He has collaborated with many different artists, performed for members of Con-

gress, the Clinton White House and the United Nations and shared the spotlight with some legendary names.

For example, in August 2004, Maurer found himself on stage at the House of Blues on the Sunset Strip with Eric Clapton. A group of artists influenced by Buddy Holly and the Crickets were putting together a CD and concert honoring Holly. Rock icon Bobby Vee, a fellow Central Minnesotan, called to see if Maurer could play keyboard with the Crickets.

Maurer scored out all the music, which came in handy when Clapton needed some assistance with his song.

"So I'm teaching Eric Clapton how to play a Buddy Holly song, and he's with his guitar, and he's singing with me," Maurer recalled. "What an honor. What a neat moment."

Listen...

to Dan Chouinard '85, and you will hear a unique performer who is part pianist, part accordionist, part storyteller and part vagabond.

St. Paul-based Chouinard is well known and respected in the Twin Cities and beyond for his insightful live performances and radio shows. His music is hard to classify because Chouinard is many things to many audiences.

"I guess if there's any unifying factor, it's that I'm drawn to the shared and participatory nature of music," he said.

Chouinard has made multiple appearances on Minnesota Public Radio's, "A Prairie Home Companion" and earned a credit in the 2006 *Prairie Home* movie by providing piano accompaniment for Lindsay Lohan, Meryl Streep and Lily Tomlin as they rehearsed their songs.

He plays weekly at Minneapolis' St. Joan of Arc Church and has performed shows at Minnesota Public Radio's Fitzgerald Theater, many of them for broadcast. He gained a big following as the pianist and creator behind "The Singer's Voice," a musical storytelling show he performed with some 200 vocalists over a six-year run

at the Dakota Jazz Club and Restaurant in the Twin Cities and broadcast on MPR.

Chouinard has been playing the piano as long as he can remember and studied with Fr. Jerome Coller, OSB, at Saint John's. But piano is only part of his story.

"I guess I have felt for a number of years like a piano player having an affair with the accordion, but the accordion is kind of winning me over," he said.

Take the accordion on a European bicycle tour, and the storyteller and vagabond come into the mix. Two of Chouinard's recent projects, "Café Europa," airing this winter on Twin Cities Public Television, and "Mambo Italiano," broadcast on MPR, were inspired by Chouinard's 2002 trip around Europe with a bike, a tent and an accordion.

"Café Europa" is an introspective piece of musical storytelling of Chouinard's experiences meeting people and standing in with street musicians. "Mambo Italiano" features Chouinard and a host of performers exploring the Italian roots of popular American music.

In addition to nurturing his talent as a pianist, Saint John's also contributed to these storytelling and vagabond aspects of Chouinard's multifaceted approach to music. Chouinard, a double major in music and French, spent a semester studying in France with Dr. Vera Theisen, who also brought the students to Italy.

"I became enthralled with the Italian language and knew that I had to go back," he said.

The trilingual Chouinard is planning another bicycle trip this summer.

"I'm really drawn to traveling more by bicycle with an accordion or some other musical instrument that allows me to be a musician and to meet other musicians as I travel."

Dan Chouinard www.danchouinard.com



Photo by Natasha D'Schomer

Listen...

and you will hear the echoes of more than one million theatergoers howling to songs like “Hotdish Hallelujah” and “Northwoods Woman,” courtesy of Drew Jansen ’83.

Jansen wrote the lyrics and music for *How to Talk Minnesotan The Musical*, billed as Minnesota’s longest-running homegrown musical. Based on Howard Mohr’s book *How to Talk Minnesotan* and performed by Troupe America, Inc., *How to Talk Minnesotan The Musical* had a highly successful five-year run at the Plymouth Playhouse, including a summer and holiday version.

Jansen, who lives in Golden Valley, MN, loves creating comedy.

“Just to walk into a theater and hear people laughing and knowing I had a small part of it, that makes me feel good. That makes me feel like a world-renowned heart surgeon.”

Jansen was also a staff writer for the Comedy Central show “Mystery Science Theater 3000,” played Ernie, the announcer and musical commentator, for two seasons of the quirky “Let’s Bowl” and does commercial voiceover work.

The world has Saint John’s to thank at least in part for the laughs. Jansen came to Collegeville from Little Rock, AR., and studied music composition with an emphasis in theory. A vocalist and pianist, he involved himself in theater and various choral ensembles and studied with Fr. Jerome Coller, OSB, Dr. Axel Theimer, Philip Welter and Fr. Robert Koopmann, OSB.

Even then, Jansen’s path took a comedic turn, which his instructors supported and encouraged.

“I felt very respected by the faculty there—that what I had to offer, even though it didn’t fit into the traditional scholastic mode, was still valued,” he said.



Photo courtesy Comedy Central

Drew Jansen

► Get your seats for *Church Basement Ladies* at www.PlymouthPlayhouse.com

He went on to study at the University of Minnesota and then became music director at Dudley Riggs’ Brave New Workshop.

Curt Wollan, president and executive producer/director for theatrical production company Troupe America, Inc., approached Jansen in the early 1990s to collaborate on a theater production that would be indigenous to Minnesota. The result, *How to Talk Minnesotan*, reigned as the most successful musical in Minnesota from January 1997 to January 2002.

Their newest collaboration, *Church Base-*

ment Ladies, embarks on a 50-city tour this month and is going strong at Plymouth Playhouse after more than a year.

Jansen remains connected to Saint John’s, returning to present workshops and take part in all-choir reunions. His instructors inspired Jansen’s career, he said, “By doing what they do well, day in and day out. If it’s making a fortune, do it. If it’s making musicals, do it.”

He is, and he couldn’t be happier.

“I get to do what I like and somehow people pay me for it. Is that not the most wonderful thing imaginable?”

Listen...

to the University of Notre Dame marching band rile up 80,000 fans at a Fighting Irish football game, and you will feel the enthusiasm of Matt Merten '01.

Merten is a Notre Dame assistant band director. This season, for the first time, the band played one of his arrangements.

"This has been an exciting year for me," he said.

"To hear something you wrote played by a 380-piece marching band in front of 80,000 people is really an exciting experience," he added.

Merten started working with Notre Dame's bands in 2003 as a graduate assistant. Once he finished his graduate degree in trombone in spring 2005, he made

his transition into a professional musical career.

In addition to his work with the football marching band, Merten also works with the brass and jazz ensembles and, naturally, serves as the main band director at the rink.

"Since I'm a Minnesota guy, I ended up with the hockey band," the Long Prairie, MN, native said with a laugh.

Merten's four years at Saint John's prepared him for his multiple roles at Notre Dame.

"There's a wonderful brass choir at Saint John's, so I had a great experience coming out of Saint John's to work with the brass ensemble here," he said. "And the same thing with jazz."

Merten credits his instructors in his music education and trombone performance programs with a big part in his current success.

"Dr. Bruce Thornton and his expertise

in the jazz field has helped me feel competent as a director in jazz," he said.

Dr. Dale White mentored him on the band side.

"One thing in particular both Bruce and Dale have done for me is made me realize that music is something you have to work hard doing, but at the same time you have to have fun doing it," he said.

A case in point: the Brother Willie Brass Band, which Merten started as an experiment at Saint John's for some of the brass players in the music department.

"We just would go out and use what we learned on our instruments and try to have as much fun as we could with playing lots of differing styles of music for lots of different people. We really tried to embrace the entertainment side of music rather than just the scholarly side," he said.

The experience has served Merten well at Notre Dame.

"We're putting on shows weekly for 80,000 people. That entertainment factor is a big part of it."

 www.mattmerten.com

Matt Merten

Photo by Heather Gollats



Listen...

as North America's largest Lutheran congregation gathers in song, and you will hear Kraig Windschitl '00 leading worship from the pipe organ.

Windschitl is living his dream as principal organist for Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, with more than 13,000 members and a famously strong musical tradition.

"I am reminded every time I go into this house of worship that I have been blessed in so many ways," he said. "Saint John's was one of those blessings. I was blessed by Saint John's before I even began there, while I was there, and I continue to be blessed each day."

Windschitl comes back to Saint John's this spring as an adjunct instructor of organ to fill in while his mentor, Dr. Kim Kasling, is on sabbatical.

Windschitl, a New Ulm, MN, native, started studying with Kasling in high school and continued to study with him as an organ performance student at Saint John's. He then went on to get his master of music in organ and church music at Indiana University's renowned School of Music.

The principal organist position at Mount Olivet was always Windschitl's ultimate goal.

"Mount Olivet has a long-time tradition of musical excellence," he said.

As the church's full-time, principal organist, Windschitl plays all of the weddings, all of the funerals and six services each Sunday on the new 59 rank Shantz pipe organ that was installed just before he started his position in August of 2005.

He credits his undergraduate experience with much of the success he enjoys today.

"I would never have been able to achieve my lifelong dream of playing at Mount Olivet without getting proper instruction as I did at Saint John's," he said.

It's an education that extended well beyond instruction.

"It's spiritual education, it's an emotional education. There's a sense of community, big time," he said.

Windschitl recalls the turning point of his life the summer after his freshman year, traveling with Kasling, choral director Dr. Axel Theimer and the CSB/SJU Concert Choir through Europe, including the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria and Belgium.

"It was at that time, at that place that I realized I was part of something I would never forget. It was a life-altering experience because we were able to offer such wonderful music for such appreciative audiences," he said.

"I would not be the person I am today without Saint John's University, without the monks, without the faculty and without the students there."



Photo by Leanne McAdam

Kraig Windschitl

Dana Drazenovich has written about the entertainment scene for several years, including for the St. Cloud Times.

She is an adjunct faculty member in the CSB/SJU communication department, and is an instructor in St. Cloud

State University's mass communications department. You will find more of Dana's stories about Johnnie rockers

and musicians beginning on page 35.



By Fr. Eric Hollas, OSB, Senior Associate for Arts & Cultural Affairs

It's a scene Dr. Axel Theimer has reenacted four times a week for nearly 38 years. As he calls for their attention, 45 men turn their minds from the cares of college life to focus their voices on the warm-up exercises that initiate every session. So begins another rehearsal of the Men's Chorus at Saint John's University. And so continues a tradition that stretches back into the 1940s.

For Theimer it's been quite a journey from his childhood home in the Austrian Tyrol to Collegeville, replete with unex-

pected turns. Theimer's acceptance into the Vienna Boys Choir resulted in the family's move to the Austrian capital. There he met his conductor, Gerhard Track, who later would precede him as director of the Men's Chorus at Saint John's. Sandwiched between were stints in the army and veterinary school, but nothing seemed to nudge aside the overwhelming urge to music.

Theimer came to Saint John's in 1969, with an assignment to teach voice, theory and piano, as well as to assume the direction of the Men's Chorus. Since then, his

responsibilities have included work with other choirs, but it is the unique sound of the Men's Chorus that has been a consistent thread through his tenure at Saint John's.

Theimer's goals with the Men's Chorus are simple and straightforward. First and foremost, the chorus provides the opportunity to sing in a high-standard ensemble and to introduce to the singers a varied range of music. Membership in the choir is not intended to prepare the singers to be professionals, though some graduates

do eventually pursue careers in the field of music. Equally important for Theimer is the extraordinary camaraderie that emerges from the experience of singing together. The practices and concerts are challenges, but his fondest hope is that the members will enjoy it so much that they will participate in choirs wherever they go.

Through the years, the mix of sacred and secular songs that comprise the repertoire of the Men's Chorus has remained fairly consistent. Members sing Gregorian chants from the Middle Ages, spirituals from the American South, as well as compositions from the late 20th century. There are clear favorites that have emerged, including Carl Maria von Weber's *Jägerchor* and *Gaudeamus Igitur*. And then there are signature pieces such as *My Lord, What a Morning!* performed annually at the opening convocation of the school year.

Theimer delights in the diversity of a choir that counts relatively few music majors sprinkled among a group whose primary bond is the love of music. "Most have heard men's choirs and been intrigued by the unique sound," he says. "Many come with high school choral experience, but most come to the auditions without extensive musical background." But that scarcely fazes him. He confesses that in the auditions his intent is to discover who is genuinely interested and what they are able to do. Beyond that, it's a matter of commitment to the schedule of rehearsals and concerts.

Today, the Men's Chorus counts among its alumni music teachers and performers, as well as physicians, attorneys and financial planners. All left Saint John's with a social experience enriched by a vibrant musical tradition, and periodic choir reunions bring together a cross-generational mix that still appreciates the joy of singing together. "At bottom I've always hoped to inspire them to continue to sing," says Theimer. Judging by the results of nearly 38 years, he is succeeding admirably in his ambition.



The Men's Chorus Concert Schedule

After a 13-concert schedule last winter and spring, the fifty-member Saint John's Men's Chorus will perform two concerts this spring.

March 28

A special program with the CSB/SJU Brass Choir, Great Hall

April 28

Featured guest choir at the American Male Chorus Association's "Big Sing," Abbey Church

The Men's Chorus has two concerts available on CD, including concerts in 1999-2000 and 2002-2003.


Both are available at the Saint John's University Bookstore or online at www.bookstore.csbsju.edu.

150 Years—Four Johnnies

Renewing the Fabric of Community

By Jean Scoon,
Director of Advancement
Publications & Communications





Meet four Johnnies from very different eras in our history. What do they tell us about Saint John's over the last 150 years?

Start with Anthony Edelbrock, one of the original five Johnnies in 1857, who went on to become Saint John's second abbot. Then travel forward in 50-year intervals to meet Nicholas Terhaar '09, an early football player who later became a prominent banker in the St. Cloud area; Dick Pope '58, a studious young man in his college days and now a highly successful business owner; and finally, Gabe Schlabach, a thoughtful political science major, who will graduate in 2007.

Every reader will find different themes throughout these stories, of course. But one common strand emerges clearly, from 1857 to 1909 to 1958 to 2007, that stamps these four indelibly as men of Saint John's: they are community builders.

Abbot Edelbrock presided over the building of physical, academic and mission communities. Terhaar, 50 years later, fueled the growth of the local economic community through his banking policies. Pope has built an organizational community at his company, WinCraft, that acknowledges the importance of every employee to the team. Finally, Schlabach's concern is to help people with very different opinions find their common ground.

Although two of these men are from the distant past, all four share a deep bond with Saint John's today. Br. Dietrich Reinhart, OSB, president, often reminds us that every single Johnnie leaves his fingerprints on this place, and in so doing, becomes both connected to its past and a fellow creator of its future. Although each of these stories reflects a different era and personal situation and personality, they will all tell you something about your own Saint John's story.

We first encounter Anthony Edelbrock as a “wide awake youth of 12 or 13,” nimbly ferrying Saint John’s founding monks across the Mississippi from Sauk Rapids to St. Cloud in a small boat. He navigated “at no small risk through the maze of floating logs,” according to Fr. Cornelius Wittman, OSB, one of his frequent passengers and Saint John’s first professor.

Young Edelbrock made such a good impression on Fr. Cornelius and his fellow



founders that they urged him to exchange his boat for books and study, and, in 1857, this son of one of St. Cloud’s first immigrant pioneer families joined Saint John’s pioneering class of five students.

It is to Edelbrock that we owe the vivid description of early student life, when, years later, he published an eloquent reminiscence in the student newspaper, *The Record*. It’s clear from his memoir that it wasn’t easy for the adolescent Edelbrock and his fellow classmates to trade their active outdoor life for the strict routine of prayer and study required by Fr. Cornelius.

He notes that they rose at 5 a.m. daily for prayer and mass and spent the rest of the day in classes, study or prayer, with only brief intervals of free time. Their subjects were history, English, German, Latin, Greek, astronomy, rhetoric and mathematics. Lights had to be out and silence

reigned after night prayers at 8:30 p.m.

His new life grew on Edelbrock, however, and after two years at Saint John’s, he studied to become a Benedictine himself, under the auspices of Saint John’s mother house, St. Vincent Abbey, in Latrobe, PA. In 1867, he returned to Collegeville to augment the teaching staff of the rapidly growing school. He devoted himself to his work with characteristic energy, becoming vice president of the college in 1870 and president in 1872.

Fr. Cornelius’s description of Edelbrock as a “wide awake youth,” safely shepherding his passengers across the river, was prophetic: he was elected Saint John’s second abbot in 1875. Edelbrock embarked on his duties with drive and vision, launching a period of expansive growth in the recently formed community that reverber-

ated by many monks, who identified primarily with German language, customs and educational systems. It was during Edelbrock’s abbacy that *The Record* was founded to give students, most of whom had grown up in German-speaking homes, practice writing English. It was also under his leadership that the alumni association was begun and the archives established. Music was promoted and an orchestra joined the already established brass band at the school.

Edelbrock was equally energetic in his enthusiasm for mission work. Under his direction, monks of Saint John’s went out to minister in many areas of North Dakota and northern Minnesota, especially Duluth, and among the Ojibwe in northern Minnesota. Mother Scholastica of the Sisters of Saint Benedict in St. Joseph, whose

ANTHONY EDELBROCK

ates throughout Saint John’s subsequent history. He threw himself into endeavors ranging from raising buildings to establishing missions to increasing Saint John’s academic stature.

He had an expansive vision for any project he undertook and proceeded to launch a building program that resulted, most notably, in the original Abbey Church with its lofty twin towers (now the Great Hall) and the Quadrangle (Quad). This complex served as church, monastery, college, prep school and living quarters for monks and students for over 70 years. It is in use to this day and stands as one of Saint John’s trademark buildings.

Abbot Alexius also poured his energies into the development of Saint John’s academic program to serve the needs of a frontier culture that required scientific, commercial, agricultural, professional and craft programs along with the original seminary and classical training instituted by the founders.

He emphasized the use of English in both monastery and school—an emphasis that, at the time, was strenuously

energy and vision matched Edelbrock’s, worked with him, founding noted hospitals in Bismarck and Duluth. According to Saint John’s historian and eighth president, Fr. Colman Barry, Edelbrock ultimately initiated 35 missions in his fourteen years as Abbot.

Abbot Alexius’s leadership of Saint John’s came to an abrupt halt in 1889, when he resigned under pressure from a disaffected group within the community, supported by Archbishop John Ireland of St. Paul.

After his resignation, Edelbrock went on to establish one of Saint John’s most unusual missions, the urban parish of St. Anselm’s in Bronx, NY, where he lived and ministered until his death in 1908. He was buried in the cemetery he established on the hill overlooking Lake Sagatagan.

Although sometimes a controversial figure, Abbot Alexius Edelbrock stands out as a frontier Abbot, ceaselessly working to build up Saint John’s and reach out to the population of the rapidly growing upper Midwest territories.

It is 1907 on the Gerhardt Terhaar farm in Pierz, MN. Gerhardt's second son, Nicholas, has walked in from the fields again, leaving behind yet another piece of broken farm equipment.

"I think my grandfather Gerhardt knew he'd better get Nicholas off the farm—for everyone's sake!" comments Gary Terhaar '67, Nicholas's grandson. So Gerhardt

nessman in the Holdingford community. He was a generous man, willing to make loans to community members without requiring much collateral. When the Great Depression hit, and the loans couldn't be repaid, "he literally lost everything," Gary reports.

Terhaar's older brother, Henry, who farmed the home farm in Pierz, took

NICHOLAS TERHAAR

sent his son to the Benedictines at Saint John's University to learn to make a living without tractor and plow.

Saint John's offered two options for lay students in 1907: a four-year course leading to a bachelor's degree as preparation for a career in the professions, or a two-year commercial course leading to a master of accounts as preparation for a career in business.

Most lay students, including Terhaar, opted for the two-year commercial course.

From mandatory rising at 5:30 a.m. to lights-out at 8:45 p.m., he and his classmates went to Mass daily and then applied themselves to bookkeeping, business math, grammar, spelling and penmanship as well as geography, government, history and religion.

Terhaar flourished at Saint John's. He played on the football team and began lifelong friendships with many of his monk-professors and others in the community. "My grandfather always spoke of this community with great love and respect. He treasured his ties here," says Gary.

Graduation launched Terhaar on a career in banking, beginning in Sauk Rapids, moving on to Avon and then to Holdingford in 1917. By this time, he had married Amanda Thull, an RN graduate of St. Rafael's nursing school in St. Cloud. Eventually the couple had ten children.

Terhaar established a reputation as a friendly, trustworthy and successful busi-

nessman in the Holdingford community. He was a generous man, willing to make loans to community members without requiring much collateral. When the Great Depression hit, and the loans couldn't be repaid, "he literally lost everything," Gary reports.

Terhaar eventually reestablished himself and went on to become a shareholder and officer of the First State Bank of Cold Spring, MN. He served in this position from 1934-1952 and lived out his years as a leading citizen of the Cold Spring community.

Despite his experience in the Depression, Terhaar didn't stop trusting in his fellow man. He floated the loan that made possible the Cold Spring Bakery, now one of the best known bakeries in central Minnesota, although Mel Schurman, the recipient of that first loan, didn't have any resources at the time. Terhaar made the loan because he knew Mel and had faith in him. "When my grandfather died, Cold Spring Bakery supplied all the rolls and bread for his wake, gratis. We never ran out. Those rolls just kept coming," Gary reminisces.

Terhaar's years at Saint John's laid the foundation for a relationship between Saint John's and the Terhaar family that spread throughout the family and down through the generations. The extended family is chock full of CSB and SJU graduates, including two of Terhaar's siblings, three of his children, 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren so



far from the Terhaar, Manthey, Mischke, Stock, Zimmerman and Kapsner families. Terhaar's son, Fred '47, and Gary are also part of the story of the buildings of Saint John's Abbey Church. Fred, the founder of Terhaar Stained Glass Studio, learned the art of stained glass from the monks during the initial installation of the Breuer stained glass windows. Decades later, Fred's sons Gary and Tom, current owners of the company, redid the south window above the altar.

"Saint John's has always been a big part of our lives. My grandfather visited the monks out here often, and my aunts and uncles remember being taken along as little ones, waiting in the 'big' chairs while my grandfather and his friends talked," said Gary.

"We were all football fans. My grandmother and aunt taught me the 'Johnnie Fight Song' when I was only six or seven."

Gary also remembers family gatherings where his grandparents, parents, uncles and aunts clustered around the dinner table, conversing enthusiastically on philosophical, religious and political issues. "The Saint John's community has had an amazing influence on the whole Terhaar extended family, educationally, culturally and artistically," Gary concludes.

“The solid foundation in the liberal arts I received at Saint John’s prepared me for a career that didn’t exist when I was in college,” says Dick Pope ’58, chairman and CEO of WinCraft, a Winona-based sports marketing firm that is one of the nation’s major sources of Olympic, NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL, NASCAR, college and NCAA collectibles. “But today, everyone wants my job,” he jokes.



If it had been up to his grandfather, however, Pope would never have come to Saint John’s. “He did his best to dissuade me from going to college at all. My family farmed down near Mankato. I was out cultivating corn, and Granddad got up on the tractor and rode around with me for hours trying to convince me not to go. He even offered to buy me a farm if I would stay.”

Pope points out that his grandfather had lived through the Great Depression and reasoned that “at least I’d always be able to eat if I had a farm.”

But Pope’s mother and his parish priest wanted him to go to Saint John’s, and mom prevailed. “In January of 1955, I packed a suitcase, went to SJU to meet with Fr. Gunther, and stayed. That’s all there was to it. I didn’t even apply.”

Pope majored in economics and minored in philosophy, cramming four years work into just three and a half. He was also president of the economics club and served on the student cabinet.

Students had classes Monday through

Saturday and many, including Pope, attended daily Mass. Participation in ROTC was mandatory. Lights-out was at 10 p.m., and monastic prefects patrolled the residence halls reading their evening prayers. Few cars were allowed on campus, and televisions were even scarcer.

“I spent most of my time studying,” Pope recalls.

After graduation and a stint in the army,

Pope went to work for Josten’s, Inc. At the time, Josten’s was a privately held \$15 million company. When Pope left 20 years later, sales had grown to \$300 million, and the company

had gone public and was one of 12 companies on the New York Stock Exchange with over 20 consecutive years of increases in sales, earnings and earnings per share. Pope had been a corporate officer for his last seven years there.

“But the fun part was the first \$100 million,” he says, explaining why he went on to invest in WinCraft in 1979.

At that time, WinCraft’s product line consisted mainly of pompons, pennants and buttons marketed to high schools. But at Josten’s, Pope had been in on the sale of four of the first five Super Bowl rings—including the first, to Vince Lombardi and the Green Bay Packers—and saw opportunity knocking in a related but new industry: sports marketing.

Under Pope’s leadership, WinCraft began acquiring the licenses necessary to market major league and other professional and Olympic sports paraphernalia. Sales have been climbing ever since—licensing is now 70 per cent of the business and keeps growing. What began in 1961 as a four-person company now employs 500-600, including seasonal employees who join on during major sports events.

Pope doesn’t shine the spotlight on himself, however.

“The individual who scores the most points or racks up the best personal statistics seldom plays on a championship team. It’s the ones who go about their business, giving their best to the organization, who create winning teams,” he points out.

“We have good people working here. We try to treat people right and take good care of them. By following this approach, things have worked out very well for our company and for me.

“My wife, Sandy, is also an important part of the story,” Pope emphasizes. “Plenty of people thought I was crazy to

DICK POPE

leave a comfortable position at Josten’s to move to Winona and take a chance on WinCraft. But Sandy and the family have always been 100 percent supportive.” Sandy and Dick have three grown daughters, Kathleen (CSB ’82), Lisa (CSB ’83) and Jody, and five grandchildren.

Pope is a past president of the Saint John’s Alumni Association Board and was an area chairman of a past Saint John’s capital campaign. In 2004, he was honored with a Saint John’s Alumni Achievement Award for his business success.

He currently serves on several bank boards but finds himself focusing more on WinCraft these days. “We employ a great many people, so we have a lot of families depending on this company. In order to keep good people, we have to keep growing so they have opportunities.”

One of Pope’s grandchildren will be heading for college in a few years and wants to go to Saint John’s. What advice will this grandfather be giving this grandson about his college decision? “Saint John’s was a good place for me. I’m a believer in the liberal arts as a preparation for life—I’d like to see him become a Johnnie.”

Controversial conversations don't intimidate Gabe Schlabach '07. He gets right in the middle of them.

When he served on a recent student panel on *Family Values, A Political Issue?* sponsored by CSB/SJU's Center for Public Policy and Civic Engagement, "I ended up moderating between the extremes of political right and left represented by the other panel members," he says. "I respect the ends of the political spectrum, but we all have common ground, too. We won't be effective unless we find it and work together from there."

Schlabach's religious tradition—he is Mennonite—makes him an unusual candidate for the political fray. Mennonites are pacifist, evangelical Christians, one of several Protestant groups persecuted for their religion during the Reformation. "As a result," he explains, "Mennonite theology has traditionally rejected politics as a means of pursuing the common good.

Mennonite" as a result of his experiences here.

"By exploring politics in this Catholic, Christian environment—having discussions on the morality of politics in theology classes, for example—I've come to understand more clearly my agreements and disagreements with the Mennonite faith. Catholic social teaching has given me a new framework in which to bridge politics and religion."

He's explored these issues beyond the classroom through experiences like the student panel discussion as well as a trip to the Iron Range in northern Minnesota, also sponsored by the Center for Public Policy.

"I was amazed by how different life is for people up there. The economy on the Iron Range is nothing like the rest of Minnesota. Their issues are different. Politics affects people in very different ways

and more open to manipulation by political groups. Evangelicals tend to identify more with the Christian Right, so they are more likely to respond positively to that rhetoric. But my evidence so far shows that they are being misled.

"As we go into the next election, I'm concerned that the Democratic Party may try the same approach—using the rhetoric of the Christian Progressive movement to get votes without a sincere commitment to the issues behind the rhetoric. Both parties may end up misusing religion for political purposes."



GABE SCHLABACH

Mennonites work actively to achieve social justice through mission outreach instead."

But by the time Schlabach, originally from St. Paul, entered Saint John's, he had embraced political action as a way to work for justice and was deeply interested in the relationship between religion and politics.

"I understand the Mennonite distrust of politics, but I wasn't comfortable turning away from politics myself. When I came to Saint John's, I was looking for a way to bridge politics and religion. Saint John's helped me find that bridge. I felt like I had been carrying around all the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle inside me, and when I came here, they fell into place," he said.

Schlabach, a political science major, describes himself now as a "Catholic-influenced Mennonite," and claims he has become both "more Catholic and a better

depending on their backgrounds," he said.

Schlabach continues to explore the nexus between religion and politics as he develops his senior honors thesis. His topic is the influence of the Christian Right on politics in the United States, which he is researching by comparing the rhetoric of the Republican Party to its policies. His research so far indicates that, while the rhetoric of the party has echoed the issues of the Christian Right, the party has not actually invested much political capital in these issues.

He hypothesizes that voters who respond to the rhetoric of the Christian Right are being used by the party simply to get votes. "In general, the evangelical tradition's aversion to politics has often caused evangelicals to be politically naïve

After graduation and a year of volunteer service, Schlabach is considering going to law school to prepare for a career in restorative justice. This is a program that works with convicted offenders and their victims following sentencing, providing them an optional mediated process to help reach understanding and forgiveness. "It's a way to rebuild community," Schlabach says.

Wherever he goes from here, it seems likely that this member of the Sesquicentennial class of Saint John's University will always be getting in the middle of things, helping us find our common ground.

CLOISTER WALK



"This facility is a dream come true for us," said Abbot John Klassen, OSB, at the Abbey Guesthouse Dedication on October 22. "It is our deep hope that this Abbey Guesthouse will be a place of spiritual renewal ... a place of rest and solitude for all who come." In addition to Abbot John's remarks, the ceremony included music, comments by architect Vincent James and remarks by benefactors.



Steve Slaggie '61 delivers remarks at the Abbey Guesthouse Dedication as his wife, Barbara, looks on. The Slaggies are lead benefactors of the Abbey Guesthouse. In announcing their gift in January 2003, he said: "A guesthouse fits so well with Saint John's and all that it represents. The Abbey Guesthouse expresses the Benedictine value of hospitality that is so much a part of this place."

To make a reservation or learn more about the Abbey Guesthouse, call (320) 363-2573 or visit www.saintjohnsabbey.org/guesthouse.



The Abbey Guesthouse is well suited for individual and group retreats or a place for personal reflection and renewal. All guest rooms, whether individual or family, and common areas like the dining area and lounge have beautiful views of Lake Sagatagan.



The meditation chapel is located on the ground level and is one of a variety of spaces to serve the building's program needs.



Br. David Klingeman, OSB, director of the Abbey Guesthouse (middle) visits with Br. Xavier Schermerhorn, OSB (left) and Br. Richard Oliver, OSB (right) in the main level hallway. The hallway is one of the most arresting architectural features with light from the Guesthouse courtyard shining through the channel glass.



The Ladner Principles: *A Blueprint for Success*

"I call on all alumni to support Saint John's in three specific ways: by making a gift each year to the Annual Fund, by contributing to each capital campaign, and by leaving a legacy to Saint John's through a will, a trust or some other type of planned gift."

Frank Ladner '48

Editors Note: In September 2006, Dan Whalen '70, chair of the Saint John's capital campaign, and Joe Mucha '66, vice-chair of the capital campaign, delivered a "state of the campaign" report to volunteers. As part of this update, they invited Frank Ladner '48 to share his reflections. What follows are excerpts from their remarks.

A Blueprint for Success

Dan Whalen '70

As Saint John's enters the public phase of the Saint John's capital campaign, **One Generation to the Next**, we draw motivation and direction from Frank Ladner. Frank is a household name in the Saint John's community. He graduated in 1948, he served on the Saint John's University Board of Regents from 1985 to 1999 and he was a member of the Board of Overseers of the School of Theology•Seminary.

When I joined the Board of Regents 10 years ago, I had the honor and good fortune to get to know Frank. At that time, he was the chair of the Resource Development Committee, and his report was always the most lively, entertaining and anticipated.

When Br. Dietrich asked me to chair the Saint John's capital campaign nearly five years ago, the first person I turned to was Frank. After all, he had successfully led the *Campaign for Saint John's in the 1990s*, and I was in need of a seasoned mentor.

In 1997, Saint John's expressed its gratitude to Frank by bestowing on him its highest alumni honor, the prestigious Walter Reger Award. Upon receiving this award, Frank spoke about his educational experience at Saint John's, and he used this opportunity, not to toot his own horn, but rather to challenge and inspire fellow alumni to support their alma mater.

We've asked Frank to deliver an encore of his Walter Reger Award recipient remarks, because we are thoroughly convinced that they serve as an inspiration and blueprint for the success of our capital campaign.

We have a Strong Obligation to Saint John's

Frank Ladner '48

Three weeks after I was born my father died, so I never knew my own dad. There were three of us and we moved to Fargo, North Dakota, and my mother raised us on her own. We were no strangers to poverty. When I was in high school, my mother married a wonderful man, and he helped put me through Saint John's. To save the family money, I cut a deal with Fr. Martin Schirber – I needed to graduate in three years, which I did. I enjoyed it very much. It was a tremendous experience.

As graduates we have a very strong obligation to Saint John's University and to the Benedictines. It is their influence that has made most of us what we are today. We have a duty to give back so others may benefit in a similar fashion.

And so, I call on fellow alumni to support Saint John's in three specific ways: by **making a gift each year to the Annual Fund**, by **contributing to each capital campaign** and by **leaving a legacy to Saint John's** through a will, a trust or some other type of planned gift.

The Ladner Principles

Joe Mucha '66

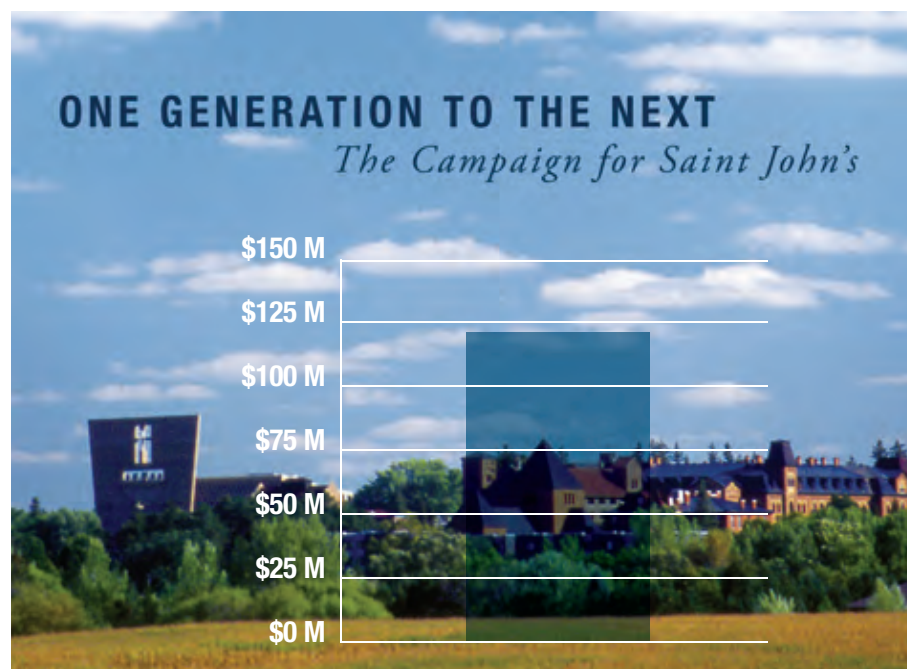
During the leadership phase of this campaign, Saint John's successfully raised \$100 million toward our \$150 million goal, and during the major gift phase of the campaign, which continues through June 2009, we seek to raise the remaining \$50 million by reaching out to a broad segment of alumni, parents and friends.

To achieve this ambitious goal, we turn no further for strategy than to Frank Ladner's heartfelt appeal—that every Johnnie support the annual fund, make a campaign pledge, and include Saint John's in their estate plans. We've coined this challenge "The Ladner Principles."

In this next phase of the campaign, we seek 500 alumni, parents and friends, to respond to Frank Ladner's challenge by making the following commitments:

- A Fellows gift to the Annual Fund. Fellows make an annual contribution of \$1,000 or more.
- A multi-year pledge to a capital campaign priority. A named endowed scholarship fund may be established with a commitment of \$25,000, which amounts to \$5,000 per year for five years.
- A planned gift commitment. We encourage all Johnnies to place Saint John's in their estate plans.

We're confident that with a well-trained network of volunteers, and the Ladner Principles as our guide, we will continue to experience great success in the campaign, and we'll reach, if not exceed, our \$150 million goal.



Fellows Level Honors Fr. Don Talafous, OSB



Fr. Don Talafous, OSB

In 1971, sixty-four generous benefactors stepped forward to support Saint John's with a significant annual gift, and the Fellows Society was born. Today, this giving community is comprised of nearly 600 alumni, parents and friends, and their philanthropy accounts for more than 60 percent of gifts to the Annual Fund.

The original Fellows made a commitment to donate \$1,000 or more to the Annual Fund each year. Over time, the Fellows Society has grown into four different giving levels, each named after a well-known monk from Saint John's: Fr. Walter Reger, Fr. Martin Schirber, Fr. Virgil Michel and Fr. Donald LeMay.

As Saint John's celebrates the 35th anniversary of the Fellows Society, we are pleased to announce that a new level has been added named after Fr. Don Talafous, OSB.

Fr. Don taught theology at Saint John's for many years and also served as student chaplain. In more recent years, he has served as alumni chaplain, and he helps keep thousands of alumni connected to Saint John's through his newsletter, personal correspondence and visits.

In the words of Dan Whalen '70, a charter member of the Don Talafous Fellows, "Fr. Don is a beloved member of the Saint John's community, and I can't think of a more fitting person to honor with this new Fellows level. Like Fr. Walter Reger, OSB, the namesake of the original Fellows

level, Fr. Don truly is 'Mr. Saint John's.' "

For more information about the Fellows Society, contact Glen Tautges at (320) 363-2703 or visit our Web site at www.saintjohnsalumni.com, and click on "Saint John's Fellows Society."

FELLOWS SOCIETY

WALTER REGER FELLOWS

Yearly Gifts of \$1,000 - \$2,499

MARTIN SCHIRBER FELLOWS

Yearly Gifts of \$2,500 - \$4,999

VIRGIL MICHEL FELLOWS

Yearly Gifts of \$5,000 - \$9,999

DONALD LEMAY FELLOW

Yearly Gifts of \$10,000 - \$24,999

DON TALAFOUS FELLOWS

Yearly Gifts of \$25,000 or more



Cindy and Steve Armstrong '73

Steve and Cindy Armstrong Establish Anderson Scholarship Fund

Steve and Cindy Armstrong have made a leadership gift to the Saint John's capital campaign, **One Generation to the Next** to establish the Rodney Anderson Endowed Scholarship at Saint John's in memory of Steve's classmate who died in 1988.

"I never in my wildest dreams thought I would be able to come to an institution like Saint John's, but a gentleman by the name of Fr. Donald LeMay called me one spring and invited me to come for a visit. I told him I could not afford to go to school there but he said 'I can help you financially.' Somewhere back in history someone helped pay for a third of my education. I know I've paid that back but I want to continue to give. I see this as part of my responsibility for some of the benefits I received from being a Johnnie," Armstrong said.

Steve graduated from Saint John's in 1973 with a bachelor of science in economics and accounting and a minor in business administration. He is currently executive vice president and CFO of Patterson Companies in St. Paul, a distributor of equipment, supplies and services to the dental, veterinary and rehabilitation markets. Prior to joining Patterson Companies, he was with Ernst & Young, LLP, where he worked with many national and multinational clients. He has been active in various United Way activities for over 30 years, including the Loaned Executive program. He is currently a member of the Saint John's Board of Regents.

Steve was born in Mankato, MN, grew up in Minnesota Lake and graduated from high school there. He and his wife, Cindy, have two daughters, Courtney and Chelsey, and reside in Bloomington, MN.

Paul and Anne Marie Krump Endowed Scholarship Fund

Paul Krump '82 and Anne Krump (CSB '82) have made a leadership gift to Saint John's capital campaign, **One Generation to the Next**, to establish an endowed scholarship in their family's name. They also made a leadership gift to the College of Saint Benedict's campaign.

"Anne Marie and I believe strongly in an education that incorporates Benedictine values tradition with educational excellence," said Paul. "In establishing our family scholarship, we hope to create opportunities for future generations to experience this exceptional education."

Paul received a bachelor of arts in business administration in 1982 from Saint John's and attended the IMD executive education program in Lausanne, Switzerland, and the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern



Paul Krump '82 and Anne Krump '82 at the opening reception for *The Saint John's Bible* at the Museum of Biblical Art in New York City in October.

University in Evanston, IL. He joined Chubb Insurance in 1982 as an underwriting trainee and has been with the company throughout his career. In 1986, he became Chubb's executive protection and international underwriter in Dusseldorf, Germany. Paul returned to the U.S. in 1989 and has been executive vice president, chief operating officer and managing director of Chubb Commercial Insurance since 2000.

Paul and Anne hosted the National Consultation Team in New York, and Paul is serving as the New York region

chair for the Saint John's capital campaign. Anne Marie Krump graduated from the College of Saint Benedict in 1982. She and Paul have three children: Emily (CSB '06), Heidi and Nathan.

Robert and Renee Hatlelid Endowed Scholarship Fund

Bob '72 and Renee Hatlelid made a leadership planned gift to establish the Robert and Renee Hatlelid Endowed Scholarship. "We are pleased to be in a position to establish this scholarship to help future generations of Johnnies who are interested in pursuing a career in medicine," Hatlelid said. "Professors like Norm Ford were instrumental in my decision to become a physician and I know that similar mentors will continue to inspire Johnnies for years to come."

Hatlelid graduated from Saint John's University with a bachelor of arts in biology. He went on to medical school at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, receiving his M.D. in 1976. Bob eventually established Joplin Nephrology Associates in Joplin, MO, where he served patients for over 25 years. In 2005,

Hatlelid retired from private practice, and he and Renee moved to St. Louis.

The couple met when Renee was in nurses training at Texas Woman's University in Dallas. They have two children, Seth and Chene. Chene graduated from William Jewell College and went on to veterinary school at the University of Missouri. Seth graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a Ph.D in behavioral psychology.

Rich Hall Memorial Scholarship

Saint John's is pleased to announce that family and close friends of Rich Hall have made a major gift commitment in his honor to establish the Rich Hall Memorial Endowed Scholarship. Rich is remembered for his enthusiasm for life and his unique charm, wit and sense of humor. He had a network of Johnnie and Bennie graduates, their families and friends that spanned

more than seven decades.

Rich was orphaned at age nine and grew up at Father Flanagan's Boys Town in Nebraska where he sang with the world renowned Boys Town Choir. He graduated from Saint John's University in 1963 with a degree in government. He remained a loyal Johnnie supporter and "held court" in the stands at the 50-yard line of virtually every Johnnie home football game for over 46 years! Rich was the CFO and controller for Pioneer Packaging and Printing.

He and his wife Mary are parents of four children: Patrick (SJU '89) and his wife Sue (CSB '89); Monica (CSB '92) and her husband Darin; Ellen (CSB '97) and her husband Darren (SJU '97) and Kathryn.

The purpose of the Rich Hall Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund is to provide scholarship awards for the benefit of young men from Girls and Boys Town in Boys Town, Nebraska.

JOHNNIE SPORTS

SJU Athletics Claim All Four MIAC Fall Championships

For the first time in MIAC history, one institution claimed all four fall conference championships. SJU won a share of the MIAC title in football and soccer, and the outright championship in cross country and golf.

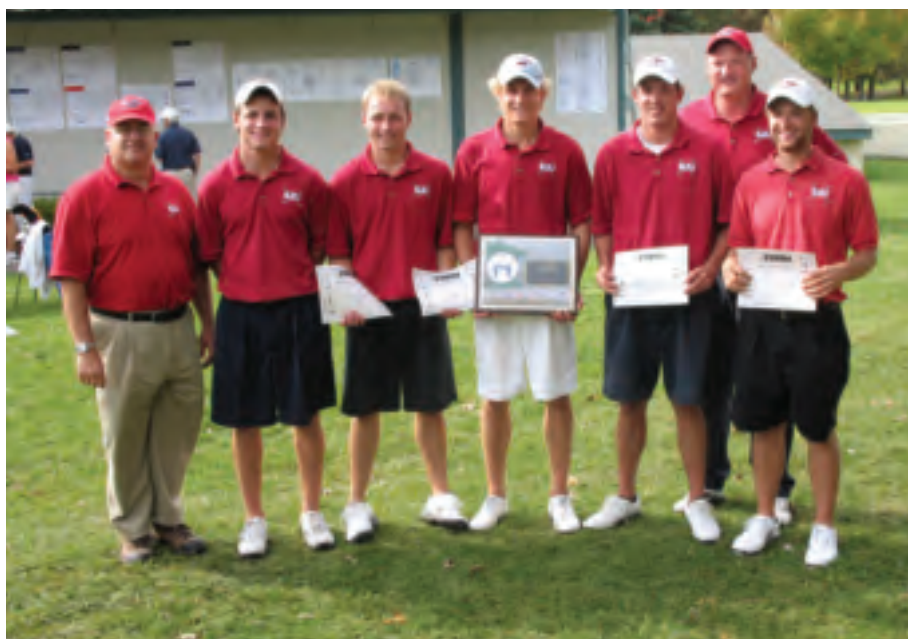
Passe, Steffensmeier Named Academic All-America

Two SJU athletes received Academic All-America honors this fall. Junior Ben Passe was named to the CoSIDA Academic All-America College Division Men's Soccer team, while senior Jamie Steffensmeier was named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America College Division football team.

Golf Wins MIAC Title

The SJU golf team won the MIAC team title last fall for the fifth time in the last seven seasons. SJU defeated Augsburg and Gustavus Adolphus by 24 strokes with a 54-hole score of 877 (294-289-294). Individually, sophomore Joe Schoolmeesters finished first with a 2-under par 214 (71-71-72) to win top individual honors, senior Andrew Longbella finished third with a 1-over par 217 (73-71-73), junior Clinton Dammann finished sixth with an 8-over par 224 (75-74-75) and junior Matt Bohlig tied for seventh with a 9-over par 225 (75-76-74) to earn All-MIAC honors.

The Johnnies finished first in three out of their six tournaments they competed in last fall, including team titles at the MIAC meet, Bemidji State Invitational and Saint John's Invitational. SJU is currently ranked seventh nationally after the fall season and looks forward to returning to the NCAA



Assistant Coach Mike Percuoco, Joe Daly, Clinton Dammann, Andrew Longbella, MIAC Individual Champion Joe Schoolmeesters, Head Coach Bob Alpers and Matt Bohlig after the MIAC Golf Championship at Bunker Hills Golf Course in Coon Rapids.

Championships for the eighth consecutive year during the spring 2007 season. SJU is coached by Bob Alpers '82, who is in his 14th season as SJU's head golf coach.

Football Claims MIAC, Advances to NCAA Quarterfinals

The SJU football team completed the 2006 season with a record of 11-2 overall and 7-1 in the MIAC. The Johnnies claimed a share of the conference title and made their 15th postseason appearance in the last 22 years, and 21st appearance overall (38-16 record). SJU fell to Wisconsin-Whitewater, 17-14 in the NCAA Division III playoff quarterfinals. Junior center Andrew Salvato, senior offensive tackle Chris Tift, senior running back Mike Lofboom, senior receiver Kyle Gearman, junior

quarterback Alex Kofoed, sophomore defensive end Nick Gunderson, senior defensive end Kevin McNamara, senior linebacker Jamie Steffensmeier and junior defensive back John Cloeter were named to the All-MIAC first team. Steffensmeier, a 2006 Draddy Trophy semifinalist, was named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America College Division football team. Steffensmeier and junior Kevin Boegel were named to the CoSIDA Academic All-District V College Division Football team for their excellence on the playing field and in the classroom.

Head coach John Gagliardi ended his 58th season overall, 54th season at SJU and improved his all-time win record to 443 career victories. The 2006 season marked SJU's 20th straight winning season and

gojohnnies.com



Members of the cross country team pose for a photo following their MIAC championship win at Como Park in Saint Paul.

Soccer Claims Share of First MIAC Regular Season Title Since 1989

The SJU soccer team ended its 2006 season with an overall record of 13-4-1 and 9-1-0 in the MIAC to claim its first regular season conference championship since 1989. SJU sophomore forward Tyler Kodet, junior defender Bryan Mills and junior midfielder Ben Passe earned first team All-MIAC honors. Mills was named to the D3kicks.com All-West Region Second team and to the 2006 NSCAA/adidas® NCAA Division III All-Far West Region Second team. Passe, a D3kicks.com All-West Region Third team selection,

was named to the CoSIDA Academic All-District V soccer team alongside teammate sophomore Joe Daly.

Pat Haws '72 completed his 29th season as head coach of the SJU soccer team with 318 career wins, the most in Minnesota collegiate soccer history.

Cross Country Wins MIAC, Finishes Fifth at Nationals

The SJU cross country team finished fifth at the MIAC Championship and fourth at the NCAA Central Regional meet during the 2006 season. Their fifth-place finish nationally was the team's best

since 1998, when they finished fourth. The Johnnies won the MIAC Championship meet with 35 points. Juniors Mitch VanBruggen (placing 2nd), Kelly Fermoyale (5th), Chris Erichsen (6th), freshman Andrew Stevens (10th) and junior Darren Larson (12th) all earned All-MIAC honors. Fermoyale was named All-America after placing 28th at the national meet with a time of 27:33. The Johnnies are coached by Tim Miles '76, the 2006 MIAC Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year, who completed his 28th season as head coach and now has 22 career top-two MIAC finishes.

gojohnnies.com

ALUMNI NEWS



A Message from the President of the Alumni Association

By Jamey Wojciechowski '96

As alumni and friends of Saint John's, we have turned yet another page in time as we look back to a successful and inspiring fall in Collegeville. It was filled with great sports, fall colors and people gathered in a special place that we have grown to love.

I had the honor to attend, along with my classmates, our 10th class reunion during Saint John's Homecoming and Reunion Weekend. The weather was gorgeous, and the campus was buzzing with activities and excitement as alumni and friends caught up on their Collegeville memories. Additionally, the Alumni Association Homecoming Banquet was noted as one of the best. At the banquet, the Alumni Association awarded Steve Slaggie '61 the Walter Reger Distinguished Alumnus Award for his years of service and generosity to Saint John's and his community.

Earlier this fall, I welcomed the incoming Johnnies at Freshmen Orientation—the class of 2010! It was inspiring to greet the next generation of Johnnies and reminisce about the days when I was excited and anxious about what lay ahead. I told them our eyes are upon them, watching them, pulling for them and supporting them.

The National Alumni Association Board conducted its fall board meeting and outlined goals that focused around the four cornerstones we have established; Student Recruitment, Student Preparation, Alumni

Connections and Resource Development. Each year, this planning process provides an opportunity for the board committees to work together to identify key priorities and initiatives.

There is a lot of activity with the Alumni Connections Committee, particularly with the establishment of new alumni chapters. Increasing the number of alumni chapters around the globe will be instrumental in connecting alumni in local communities and creating support of Saint John's.

The Student Preparation Committee has been addressing the availability, organization and processes around internships and experiential learning opportunities. The Alumni Board is partnering with Career Services and Academic Affairs to broaden learning opportunities. If you or your company are interested in learning more, please e-mail johnnemail@csbsju.edu.

The University depends on identifying and recruiting new and talented students. Alumni play a critical role in identifying and interacting with prospective students in their communities. The Student Recruitment Committee is working closely with the Admission Office to implement an alumni-driven student recruitment plan to encourage more students to apply to Saint John's and the College of Saint Benedict. As alumni, the easiest thing we can do is refer prospective students to our great institution.

Class volunteer activities will also reach a new milestone this year as Saint John's launches its new Class Committee Program in the spring of 2007. Class Committees will be organized not only during reunion years, but will remain connected every year using tools such as class Web pages, the CSB/SJU Online Community and class gatherings. These new enhancements, along with support from the Alumni Board, will enable alumni to stay connected to classmates and friends while offering opportunities to support our alma mater.

Last year, the CSB/SJU Online Community (a Web-based alumni/ae communication and information tool) was rolled out on saintjohnsalumni.com. Additionally, the alumni section of the university Web site has been redesigned to offer ease in navigation, more pictures and up-to-date information. New functionality has recently been added to the CSB/SJU Online Community, including career networking and Yellow Pages. These tools will help connect alumni and students to promote internships, career networking and employment opportunities.

Please continue to watch for further updates on ways to get involved and continue to visit the alum Web site at saintjohnsalumni.com. As I told the Johnnie class of 2010, as Johnnie alumni we will be here for them and for each other as we strive for excellence.

Johnnies in the News

Bernie Dan '83, CEO of the Chicago Board of Trade, served in a leadership position in the \$8 billion acquisition of the CBOT by the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Holdings Inc. This acquisition creates a global derivatives exchange with average trading volume approaching nine million contracts per day. Dan, who received his bachelor of science degree in accounting at SJU, will retain his current position in the combined company to oversee CBOT's activities, products and customers.



Bernie Dan '83

David Rehr '81, president of the National Association of Broadcasters, was a guest speaker in October at the

National Press Club. The National Press Club, an association of journalists, features international guest speakers, high-profile press conferences and other newsworthy events and is the largest and most prestigious press club in the world. Rehr has served as president of the National Association of Broadcasters since November 2005. You can hear a broadcast of Rehr's speech at www.npc.press.org/programs/xm.cfm.



Dave Rehr '81

Edward J. Driscoll '83 is the executive producer of the recently released film, *Sweet Land*, a LaSalle Holland production in association with Beautiful Motion Pictures. Driscoll founded and was chairman of WAM!NET. Currently he is a principal

of Watershed Entertainment. The movie, filmed in Montevideo, MN, has received wonderful reviews including a critic's pick in *The New York Times*. *Entertainment Weekly's* Owen Gleiberman gave the film an "A," saying, "I want to be absolutely clear about what an independent triumph this is. A visually indelible movie that's a grand dream of the American past." A review in *Variety* magazine by Ronnie Scheib said: "Tech credits are superlative, no strain or stretching of resources apparent in pic's extraordinary images of aurora borealis-lit skies over fields of grain at dawn." For more information on *Sweet Land*, visit www.sweetlandmovie.com.



Ed Driscoll '83

Future Events Mark Your Calendar!

January 26
The Saint John's Bible Exhibition Planning
Naples, FL

February 14
Saints Network Midwinter Luncheon
Minneapolis, MN

February 16
Saint John's at 150
Phoenix, AZ

February 28
Saint John's at 150
Seattle, WA

March 2
Saint John's at 150
Denver, CO

March 15
St. Patrick's Day Party
Naples, FL

March 19
Saint John's at 150
Johnnie Standup
Minneapolis, MN

April 11
Saint John's at 150
Mankato, MN

April 12
Saint John's at 150
Rochester, MN

April 20
Saint John's Day
St. Paul, MN

April 27
Saint John's at 150
St. Cloud, MN

May 2
Saint John's at 150
Duluth, MN

May 24
Saint John's at 150
Tokyo, Japan

May 25
Saint John's at 150
Hong Kong

June 22
SaintStock
St. Joseph, MN

July 16
SJU Alumni Association Golf Scramble
Bunker Hills, Coon Rapids, MN

October 5-October 7
CSB/SJU Homecoming Weekend
Collegeville, MN

For more information about these events and others, please visit saintjohnsalumni.com and click on "Events."

Sesquicentennial Homecoming October 5-7, 2007

Homecoming 2007 will be held on October 5-7. Homecoming 2007, celebrated during Saint John's Sesquicentennial, will be another Homecoming to remember.



Hong Kong Alumni Gather with Students from Hong Kong and China

Hong Kong alumni returned to Saint John's to attend this year's homecoming activities. Students attending Saint John's University and the College of Saint Benedict joined the special international guests and Br. Dietrich Reinhart '71, OSB, president of the university, for a luncheon before making the kick-off for the football game. Standing (from L to R): Tai Ping Lee '09, Sunny Wong '73, Roger Young '68, Philip Leung '73, Br. Dietrich Reinhart '71, OSB, Adrian Fung '74, Fr. Tom Thole '58, OSB, Patrick Leung '73, Paddie Lai '77, Joe Rogers '89, Shengmei Qiao '07, Paul Marsnik '81, Tiffany Ma '10. Kneeling (from L to R): Yi Yang '10, Henry Guo, Lisa Tsang '10, Christy Chan, Silu Ma '10, Ang Li '10.

Class Notes Have Moved to the CSB/SJU Online Community!

Since the launch of the CSB/SJU Online Community we've received an abundance of class notes! To make room for everyone, we packed up the class notes and moved them to the CSB/SJU Online Community where you can easily search for class notes by class year.

We will continue to feature a few class notes in the magazine—but you will now find the full listing of class notes online at alumniconnections.com/csbsju/. Eligible members can request their first-time registration number by e-mailing onlinecom@csbsju.edu or by calling (800) 635-7303.



John Ruelle '91 chief financial officer for Restaurant Technologies, Inc. was named as one of *Business Journal's* "40 under 40" for 2006. Each year the *Business Journal* highlights 40 young visionaries from the Twin Cities.

William Hoffman '70 was nominated for a Tekne Award in the leadership category. The leadership category recognizes an individual who has contributed significantly to Minnesota's technology expansion. The Tekne Awards are given annually by the Minnesota High Tech Association and Minnesota Technology Inc. in partnership with LifeScience Alley.

Charles Dowdle '52 recently published a memoir entitled *Remembering Crookston: A Minnesota Memoir*. Formerly from Crookston, he is a retired junior high English teacher from Santa Rosa, CA. The book is available www.redleadbooks.com.

Thomas O'Connell '69 was awarded the Metropolitan State Univ. 2005-2006 Outstanding Teacher Award at the university's Fall Faculty Conference. O'Connell, a political science professor, was nominated by his students for the award.



Pete Amann '90

New Staff Hired for Volunteer Engagement

Pete Amann '90

Pete Amann '90 has been hired as senior development officer in Institutional Advancement. Prior to serving as vice president of development for the Mankato Area Catholic Schools, he was a senior admissions representative for Saint John's.

Amann is responsible for coordinating all of our campaign volunteers in the Twin Cities, and he will also serve as a major gift officer in that region and in Colorado.



Jonathan Ruis '96

Jonathan Ruis '96

Jonathan Ruis '96 has been hired as the associate director of Fellows relations. In this new position, Ruis will be responsible for coordinating the Fellows volunteer program.

Ruis' most recent experience has been with the Peace Corps in Thailand. Prior to his Peace Corps experience, he was the director of Growth Firms and a development officer with the Twin Cities United Way. He also served as an admissions counselor for CSB/SJU from 1996-1998.



Alumni Board Past Presidents Meet

Five decades of Johnnie alumni were represented at a meeting of past presidents of the Alumni Association Board of Directors on December 6, 2006. The Past Presidents Council was established in 2003 as an advisory group for the Saint John's Alumni Board. The meeting, hosted by Greg Schumacher '91, provided an opportunity for the past presidents to be briefed on current Alumni Board activities, as well as an invitation for this important group to communicate more closely with one another and with current board members. "There is a wealth of knowledge and a profound loyalty to the Johnnie community represented by this group," said Schumacher, the 2005-2006 Alumni Board President. "As the newest past president, I would like to facilitate in whatever way I can the exchange of ideas for aiding both Saint John's and the alumni community." "There are tens of thousands of Johnnies, in all professions, all walks of life, and in all geographic areas that are a natural network to utilize, enjoy and build," said Bernard Tuohy '72, SJU Alumni Board president-elect.

Pictured left to right, Bob Foster '72, Len Mrachek '58, Mike Murphy '61, Jim Bassett '58, Glen Tautges '96, Roger Scherer '58, Fr. Bernie Kahlhamer '59, Tom Farnham '72, Brian Crevoiserat '81, Cary Musech '80, Tom Guetzke '80, Pat Maxwell '66, Troy Fritz '88, Greg Schumacher '91, Mike Dady '71, John Krueger '70.

MILESTONES

The deadline for milestones in the Autumn Saint John's Magazine is May 1, 2007. Send your news to Ruth Athmann at rathmann@csbsju.edu; PO Box 7222, Collegeville, MN 56321-7222; (320) 363-2598 or (800) 635-7303, or post your class note on the CSB/SJU online community by visiting www.saintjohnsalumni.com.

Births/Adoptions

- '79 Bernadette & **Mike McCormick** '79, boy, Sean, June '06
- '82 Sylvia & **Rob Habben** '82, boy, Nyrobie Nathan, Mar. '06
- '84 Mary & **Russ Rooney** '84, girl, Elizabeth, July '06
- '85 Michelle & **Gregory Larson** '85, girl, Catherine, Jan. '05
- '86 Kendall & **Fred Stein** '86, boy, Hayden, July '06
- '88 Shelly (Dandurand '88) & **Daniel Schoeller** '88, boy, Alexander, Mar. '06
- '88 Charlette & **Mike Vecellio** '88, boy, Dominic, Feb. '06

- '89 Molly & **David Heisler** '89, boy, Daniel, Aug. '06
- '90 Kathryn (Lawrence '97) & **Jeff Boyle** '90, girl, Angelica, Aug. '06
- '90 Susan & **Matthew Keeler** '90, boy, Mason, Apr. '06
- '91 Michelle (Miller '92) & **Ryan Heining** '91, boy, Nickolas, July '06
- '91 Jodi & **Jeffrey Kosel** '91, boy, Patrick, July '06
- '91 Sarah & **Todd Lundquist** '91, girl, Alexandra, June '06
- '91 Rebecca & **John Schaar** '91, girl, Hannah, June '06
- '91 Elizabeth (Farrell '94) & **Regan Smith** '91, girl, Delaney, Mar. '06
- '92 Nicole & **Peter Altfillisch** '92, girl, Lauren, Sept. '04
- '92 Nicole & **Peter Altfillisch** '92, girl, Elena, June '06
- '92 Dee Ann & **Robert Chan** '92, boy, Alexander, Apr. '06
- '92 Cynthia & **John Klick** '92, girl, Ava, Apr. '06

- '92 Kim & **Troy Lanoux** '92, boy, Jack, Jan. '06
- '92 Mary Beth & **Eric Schubert** '92, boy, Charles, Sept. '06
- '92 Mary & **Michael Witcher** '92, twins, Timothy & Madeline, Nov. '05
- '92 Shannon & **John Wolkerstorfer** '92, twin boys, David & Martin, May '06
- '93 Nancy & **Scott Bunkers** '93, boy, Nicholas, Sept. '06
- '93 Melissa & **Scot Doboszinski** '93, girl, Savana, Apr. '06
- '93 Nicole (Perry '94) & **Kurt Mareck** '93, girl, Sophia, May '06
- '93 Liz & **Mike McAndrews** '93, girl, Lilly, July '06
- '93 Michelle (Miller '92) & **Bradley Smith** '93, girl, Rachel, Feb. '05
- '93 Angela & **Will Steinke** '93, boy, William, May '06
- '94 Jill & **Aaron Anderson** '94, boy, Joseph, Jan. '06
- '94 Kelly & **Tim Haeg** '94, boy, Thomas, June '06
- '94 Lisa & **Dick Heydet** '94, boy, Parker, July '06
- '94 Kerry (Fierke '96) & **Gardner Lepp** '94, boy, Quinn, Aug. '05
- '94 Rita (Valencia '01) & **Ryan McDonald** '94, boy, Aidan, Sept. '05
- '94 Stacie & **John Reynolds** '94, girl, Marlo, July '06
- '94 Megann & **Todd Sauer** '94, twin boys, Michael & Andrew, May '06
- '94 Carolyn & **Eric Thomes** '94, twin boys, Weston & William, Apr. '06
- '95 Christine & **Will Buttell** '95, girl, Anna, May '06
- '95 Lynn (Schreiner '95) & **Matt Downs** '95, girl, Marissa, Jan. '06
- '95 Julie & **Paul Engleson** '95, boy, Abe, Oct '05
- '96 Faith & **Steven Bruce** '96, girl, Kate, July '06
- '96 Carrie & **Greg Jendro** '96, boy, Lukas, June '06
- '96 Tonia & **Andy Lillehaugen** '96, girl, Sydney, Aug. '06
- '96 Tonia & **Andy Lillehaugen** '96, boy, Christian, Aug. '04
- '96 Jessica & **Kelly O'Hara** '96, twin girls, Kate Lynn and Melanie Grace, May '06
- '96 Stephanie (Halverson '99) & **Michael Pazdernik** '96, girl, Maryn, Apr. '06



Photo by Paul Armstrong

 Fred Savage and the Unbeatables
www.isound.com

Graduate a Johnnie, replace him with another.

That formula seems to be working for Fred Savage and the Unbeatables, a horn-driven rock band of former and current Johnnies with a strong following in the St. Cloud area.

The band formed in 2002 at St. Cloud's Cathedral High School and played through its Saint John's days until original members started graduating and moving on to new adventures.

"We're getting younger and younger, basically," said drummer Steve Tacl '06.

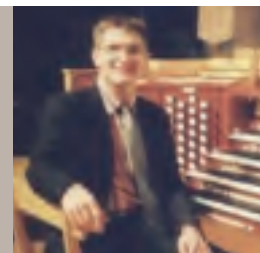
Among the Johnnies who have come and gone are Tom Kain '05, Ted Godbout '05 and Zach Oswald '06. Behind them came sophomore Tyler Tholl, junior Nick Syman and senior Bill Blatzheim. Tacl, Nick Hennen '06, Mitch Johnson '06 and senior Josh "Bubba" Hollenhorst are the remaining original members.

The band has released three CDs, including the April 2006 release *Avoiding the Cubicle*. It's hard to say where Fred Savage and the Unbeatables will go from here, but with its unique mix of trombone, trumpet and sax plus traditional rock drums, bass and guitar, the band has made its impact on the local music scene.

**Fred Savage
and the
Unbeatables**

'96 Elisa & **Greg Seibert** '96, boy, Frederick, May '06
 '96 Heather (Moen '97) & **John Vinje** '96, boy, Grant, May '06
 '97 Holly (Larson '97) & **Noah Brandenburger** '97, boy, Andrew, May '06
 '97 Stacy (Schmitz '98) & **Benjamin Jansky** '97, boy, Jace, May '06
 '97 Rachel & **Jason Johnson** '97, boy, Jack, May '06
 '97 Julie (Menden '97) & **Jacob Mercer** '97, boy, Owen, Aug. '06
 '97 Shasta (Hannan '98) & **David Rueckert** '97, twin boys, Sawyer & Sam, Mar. '06
 '97 Tania (Schaust '97) & **Daniel Tschudi** '97, girl, Kennedy, June '06
 '97 Alison (Beens '97) & **Ryan VanDeWiele** '97, girl, Brianna, May '06
 '98 Jennifer (White '98) & **Brett Baloun** '98, girl, Margaret, Nov. '05
 '98 Jenna & **Aaron Binsfeld** '98, boy, Samuel, July '06
 '98 Jennifer & **Benjamin Doom** '98, girl, Avery, May '06

'98 Michelle (Frith '98) & **Joseph Heiland** '98, girl, Evelyn, June '05
 '98 Angela (Broskoff '98) & **Cory Klemmensen** '98, boy, Mason, Apr. '05
 '98 Shannon (Erikson '99) & **George Martenson** '98, girl, Claire, May '06
 '98 Michele (Timp '98) & **Joseph Pilon** '98, boy, Shawn, June '06
 '98 Paula (Luzum '98) & **Tryg Sarsland** '98, boy, Logan, Mar. '06
 '98 Alison & **Jimmy Schneider** '98, boy, Ethan, Apr. '06
 '98 Molly (Murphy '98) & **Mike Setnick** '98, twin boys, Sam & Ben, Apr. '06
 '98 Angela & **Matthew Thompson** '98, boy, Dylan, May '06
 '99 Jody (Stueve '00) & **Michael Durand** '99, boy, Jacob, May '06
 '99 Amy & **Tom Gerads** '99, girl, Brynn, May '06
 '99 Melissa & **Nate Guetter** '99, girl, Jada, Aug. '06
 '99 Amy (Haupt '99) & **Saul McBroom** '99, girl, Cora, Feb. '06
 '99 Alanna & **Kevin Monn** '99, girl, Sofia, Aug. '06
 '99 Rebecca (Maly '99) & **Chris Schimming** '99, girl, Norah, June '06
 '99 Ali & **Jeremy Segale** '99, girl, Ava, Apr. '06
 '99 Brittany & **Joel Swenson** '99, boy, Matthew, May '06
 '99 Sally (Koering '99) & **Andrew Zimney** '99, girl, Maren, May '05
 '00 Carolyn & **Todd Dube** '00, boy, Alexander, June '06
 '00 Katherine (Dekarski '00) & **Nick La-mecker** '00, boy, Joseph, July '06
 '01 Suzanne (Kuboushek '01) & **Ben Britton** '01, girl, Anna, Sept. '06
 '01 Kelly (Hammer '01) & **Brian Johnson** '01, boy, Connor, Sept. '06
 '01 Kelli & **Matt McGovern** '01, boy, Riley, Mar. '06
 '01 Sara (Miller '01) & **Brian Theisen** '01, girl, Miranda, June '05
 '01 Katina (Wood '02) & **Kelly Wynn** '01, boy, Asher, Apr. '06
 '02 Jennifer & **Joshua Eager** '02, boy, Ethan, May '06
 '02 Joanna (Boyle '02) & **Nathan Eversman** '02, girl, Molly, Sept. '06
 '02 Nikki & **James Jones** '02, boy, Taylor, Jan. '06
 '02 Tera & **Ryan Nothnagel** '02, girl, Avery, Aug. '06



From instructor to student, the organist's chair at Minneapolis' landmark Basilica of Saint Mary has maintained its Saint John's connection.

Chris Stroh '04 in September 2006 became the Basilica's principal organist—a position his Saint John's instructor, Dr. Kim Kasling, had held since 1981.

"It's just a great thrill and a great privilege, and it's also sort of a very humbling thing," Stroh said.

Kasling remains organist emeritus at the Basilica, where he still plays once or twice a month, and continues to serve as a mentor to Stroh, who will earn his master's degree in liturgical music from Saint John's this May.


"Without his influence and guidance I just can't imagine where I'd be," Stroh said.

"In many ways I think the way fate has played out, I think it worked out to a great benefit to the Basilica and for Saint John's and Saint Ben's."

Stroh came to Saint John's from Bismarck, ND, to study organ performance and theology.

"It's hard to find such a synthesis of environment, resources and creative potential at any other place than Saint John's," he said.

"I would never trade these past six years for anything else."

 pipedreams.publicradio.org/listings/0527 and listings/0537

Chris Stroh


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MILESTONES



Thomas Griep's career is like a musical triumvirate.

"If I had to describe my life now it's probably wearing three different hats," said Griep '80, who studied piano performance at Saint John's from 1976-79 and now lives in Los Angeles.

His "music director" hat finds him writing arrangements and orchestrations for small bands or symphony orchestras, playing and conducting for artists such as Carol Channing, Dick Van Dyke or Olivia Newton-John.

His "musical theater" hat puts him in the pit for Los Angeles performances of shows like *Mamma Mia*, *Wicked* or *The American Girls Revue*.

His third hat as "producer" comes courtesy of his 96-channel, Macintosh-based recording studio, which finds him working with artists across the country.

Griep, from Pine River, MN, went to graduate school at the University of Southern California, co-directed its film scoring program, played in bands, and his musical career took off.

It didn't hurt that his wife, Evelyn Halus, is a vocal coach who works with stars like Cher and Michelle Pfeiffer. He started accompanying them, one job led to another, and pretty soon he found himself playing with celebrities and contributing to soundtracks like *Shrek* and *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.

It seems a world away from the quiet life at Saint John's.

"The setting was pretty influential, and the teachers were amazing," he said. "Without me knowing it, they did a pretty good job of preparing me for the music industry."

 www.enchantedmusic.com
www.audiontrax.com

Thomas Griep

- '02 Kara (Schultz '02) & **Tim Rysavy** '02, boy, Nathan, June '05
- '02 Martina & **Brian Willegalle** '02, boy, Palmer, Aug. '06
- '02 Meridth (Hagen '01) & **Bryan Wulf** '02, boy, Gavin, Aug. '06
- '03 Molly (Willson '03) & **Brian Lahr** '03, girl, Gracie, Aug. '06
- '05 Jennifer (Tarmann '05) & **Joshua Day** '05, boy, Donovan, May '06

Marriages

- '89 Ann (Skemp '86) to **Thomas Cook** '89, May '06
- '90 Dawn to **Tim Baustert** '90, Sept. '06
- '90 Christine to **Joseph Cleveland** '90, Summer '06
- '92 Jayne Sommers to **Matty O'Reilly** '92, June '06
- '93 Maureen Donovan to **Drew Regan** '93, Sept. '06
- '96 Traci Macke to **David Wulff** '96, July '06
- '97 Lisa Janssen to **Alan Christenson** '97, July '06
- '97 Stacy Picquet to **Paul Coufal** '97, June '06
- '97 Amy Shimanski to **Justyn Cowman** '97, Sept. '06
- '97 Molly McDonald to **Dan Haske** '97, Oct. '05
- '98 Jill Walberg to **Aaron Boatz** '98, Sept. '06
- '98 Amy to **Eric Fowler** '98, Sept. '06
- '99 Michaela to **Ryan Bromenschenkel** '99, Sept. '06
- '99 Carin Scherer to **Brian Kelly** '99, Sept. '06
- '99 Alison (Drietz '99) to **Daniel McKeon** '99, July '06
- '99 Jenell Hjelm to **Eric O'Brien** '99, Sept. '06
- '99 Velvet Tyree to **Christian Peterson** '99, May '06
- '00 Joan Walby to **Nicholas Olson** '00, Oct. '06
- '00 Sara (Pedersen '04) to **Adam Sagedahl** '00, July '06
- '00 Radhika (Lal '03) to **Seth Snyder** '00, June '06
- '00 Kelley (Connor '01) to **Jeffrey Stangler** '00, Aug. '06
- '01 Andrea Herges to **Jim Berg** '01, Aug. '06
- '01 Meghan Boerboom to **Mike Gander** '01, July '06
- '01 Janet Peterson to **Marc Jerzak** '01, Sept. '06
- '01 Melinda (Noll '01) to **Matthew Jungbauer** '01, May '06
- '01 Katie (Keeley '01) to **Kevin Kohnen** '01, July '06
- '01 Larissa (Omann '01) to **Kyle Mrozek** '01, Sept. '06
- '01 AnneMarie (Butler '01) to **Tom Rendulich** '01, Aug. '06
- '01 Kari Weinzierl to **Josh Sell** '01, Sept. '06
- '01 Sarah Sawicki to **Nick Thoemke** '01, July '06
- '02 Emily (Edelbrock '02) to **Jason Anderson** '02, July '06
- '02 Melissa (Barlau '02) to **Charlie Black** '02, July '05
- '02 Amanda (deChambeau '02) to **Jacob Eckerman** '02, Sept. '06
- '02 Julie Brendel to **Andrew Engelman** '02, Sept. '06
- '02 Lyndsay (Mettling '05) to **Chad Hemminger** '02, Aug. '06
- '02 Christin (Miller '02) to **Jed Kassulke** '02, July '06
- '02 Elizabeth (Kennedy '02) to **Damon Laliberte** '02, Aug. '06
- '02 Christina (Miller '02) to **Andrew McCarthy** '02, May '06
- '02 Amy (Boushek '02) to **Nicholas Schaffer** '02, May '06
- '02 Jana Strand to **Chris Schuver** '02, Sept. '06
- '02 Amanda (Blank '04) to **Shannon Smith** '02, May '06
- '03 Vanja (Sinanovic '05) to **Michael Absmaier** '03, Aug. '06
- '03 Katie (Ubl '03) to **Eric Bartell** '03, June '06
- '03 Sally (Schubert '03) to **Matt Bauer** '03, June '06
- '03 Kriste (Johnson '02) to **Nate Cheeley** '03, June '06
- '03 Noelle (Gunderson '03) to **Blake Elliott** '03, July '06
- '03 Stacy Hagen to **Joe Gregorich** '03, Aug. '06
- '03 Katie (Wilcox '05) to **Brady Jahnke** '03, June '06
- '03 Tamara Jorgensen to **Chris Kelash** '03, Aug. '06
- '03 Sadie (Vagher '02) to **Joel LaFrance** '03, Aug. '06
- '03 Jennie (Scott '03) to **Adam Lanz** '03, Aug. '06
- '03 Dina McMahon to **Adam Maertens** '03, Oct. '06
- '03 Kelly (Midbrod '04) to **Ryan Mathre** '03, July '06
- '03 Jennifer (Bruns '03) to **Tom Myers** '03, June '06
- '03 Stephanie (Frame '03) to **Michael Reier** '03, Aug. '06
- '03 Laura (Peterson '04) to **Andrew Stellmacher** '03, Aug. '05
- '04 Kate (Rasmussen '03) to **Bryan Blessing** '04, July '06
- '04 Annie (Zauhar '05) to **Cole Deibele** '04, Aug. '06
- '04 Joanna Sleeper to **Stephen Green** '04, Sept. '06

'04	Jaclyn (Bodeen '04) to Ryan Klinkner '04, June '06	'05	Melissa (Cottew '05) to Aaron Solberg '05, June '06
'04	Lisa (Wienhold '04) to Brandon Overman '04, Aug. '06	'05	Mary (Gloege '05) to Mark Zenzen '05, July '06
'04	Rebecca (Wolf '04) to Adam Pitz '04, July '06	'06	Andrea Blake to William Chew '06, Sept. '06
'04	Allison (Hansen '03) to Chad Schilplin '04, June '06	'06	Sarah (Domine '06) to Ryan Engdahl '06, Aug. '06
'04	Jennifer (Hitzemann '05) to Jerry Thamert '04, June '06	'06	Ashley (Blake '07) to Webster Ford '06, Aug. '06
'04	Kristin VanDrehle to Joseph Zimmer '04, July '06		
'05	Ashley (Fruth '06) to Chris Baldwin '05, June '06		
'05	Sarah Kluesner to Kyle Conway '05, June '06		
'05	Tessa Hodapp to Jacob Johnson '05, Sept. '06		
'05	Nicole (Lang '05) to Jeffrey Lang-Wieber '05, Aug. '06		
'05	Melissa (Holm '06) to Will Robbins '05, June '06		

Deaths

'32	Rev. Gregory Sebastian, OSB '32, July '06
'36	Carl Minette '36, father of Daniel '76 & twin brother of deceased Fr. James Minette '35, Aug. '06
'37	John Dale '37, Apr. '06
'37	Rev. Mark Schneider, OSB '37, June '06
'38	Janet Pattison, spouse of deceased Patrick '38, Mar. '06
'39	Al Hansen '39, Apr. '06



Photo by Mike Stromme

They sing for fun, and perhaps that is the secret to The Half Steps' longevity.

The St. Cloud-based a cappella group, featuring alumni Charlie Opatz '80 and Richard Witteman '89, plus area vocalists Gary Zwack and Paul Fedor, formed in 1995 and had good chemistry from the get-go. More than a decade later, they do eight to 12 shows a year, mostly private shows and corporate functions, perform a public show every year or two, and share a lot of laughs and a lot of fun.

Their repertoire includes everything from "Book of Love" to an ABBA medley that touches on 13 songs in seven minutes. They also sing classics like "That's Amoré" and "It's Now or Never," thanks to Witteman, who does a great Dean Martin and Elvis, Opatz says.

The Half Steps recently released their second CD, a Christmas/holiday compilation called *Halfy Holidays* that features some traditional Christmas classics and newer songs like "Blue Christmas" and the Harry Connick Jr. tune "(It Must've Been Ol') Santa Claus."

The Half Steps ▶ The Half Steps at www.thehalfsteps.com



James March '76

He started out leaning toward a chemistry major, but the piano drew Dr. James March '76 away from the sciences and into a life of performance and teaching.

March, who has a doctorate in musical arts from the University of Iowa, has taught piano and related courses at Morningside College in Sioux City, IA since 1986.

"I had played the piano since I was five years old, but I really developed a passion for it while I was at Saint John's," he said.

Dr. Wim (Willem) Ibes, March's piano instructor at Saint John's, was a tremendous influence on him, as was Fr. Robert Koopmann, OSB.

"There are certainly a lot of things that I learned from Wim that I do use in my own teaching. I think we all do that. We're all a composite of the different teachers we had," he said.

On the performance side of his career, March collaborates on performances and recordings with other artists as much as he can, including his wife, Kathryn, also a pianist.

"We had a chance to play a recital at Saint John's, and Stephanie, my daughter, was at a point where she played the recital with us, and that was really fun."

▶ www.amazon.com and search for James March

James March

MILESTONES



Photo by Darin Back Photography

Booking agents and bar managers have been known to call Panoramic Blue “the educated band.”

J.J. Towner '01, Matt Johnson '02 and Jeremy Sutton '01, along with non-Johnnie Mike Hughes, have made their name as a popular Twin Cities-based pop rock band with a lot on the ball.

“That’s something a lot of people really like about us because they know we have our stuff together and we’re responsible and well educated and well versed,” said Towner, vocalist and guitarist. “We definitely take the Saint John’s education with us.”

Panoramic Blue got its start at Saint John’s when Towner (communication), Johnson (marketing) and Sutton (marketing and Asian studies), inspired by the Minnesota musicians the Saint John’s and the College of Saint Benedict Joint Events Council brought to campus, pulled together a band just for fun.

They played their first gig at O’Connell’s and started making a name playing local and campus venues. None of them expected it to become their career, but half a decade later, they’re still making their living making music.

The band released its third CD, *Sessions*, in October 2006 and is working on another project that will have the four Panoramic Blue musicians playing a more alternative rock sound.

▶ Panoramic Blue: www.panoramicblue.com

Panoramic Blue

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|---|
| '39 | Lorry May '39, father of Scott '74 & brother of Tom '43, Aug. '06 | '56 | Renee Gretsche Hengels, mother of Russ '56, May '06 |
| '39 | John Schwab '39, father of Robert '69, Aug. '06 | '56 | Roland Schreiner '56, brother of Tony '61, July '06 |
| '40 | Rev. Arthur G. Dresen '40, July '06 | '57 | Stephen Kroll, brother of Clem '57 & Fr. Anthony '57, July '06 |
| '41 | Jim Fitzpatrick '41, Aug. '06 | '57 | Christopher Maus, son of Jack '57 & brother of Matthew '06, May '06 |
| '42 | Ray Calhoun '42, father of Donald '81, May '06 | '57 | John Muench '57, July '06 |
| '42 | Sev Rausch '42, brother of Herman '48 & Florentine '49, Aug. '06 | '57 | Raymond Zabel '57, Mar. '06 |
| '42 | Paul Willenbring, brother of Joe '42, May '06 | '58 | Louise Brudos, mother of Dick '58 & Tom '60, Sept. '06 |
| '43 | John Knapp '43, father of Dennis '69, Thomas '70 & Mark '84, May '06 | '58 | Judith Dwyer, spouse of Tom '58, July '06 |
| '43 | Francis Paul '48, brother of Ed '43, July '06 | '58 | Lorraine McDonnell, mother of Pat '67 & sister of Joe Peters '58, Sept. '06 |
| '43 | Bob Schnettler '43, Aug. '06 | '58 | Ed Miller '58, Sept. '06 |
| '44 | Thomas Berg '60, brother of Rev. Donald '44 & Norbert '55, Apr. '06 | '59 | David DeZurik, father of Don '59, July '06 |
| '44 | Jerry Fewel '44, Apr. '06 | '59 | Rev. Fred Kulovits '59, July '06 |
| '45 | Margaret Tembreull, spouse of deceased Roman '45, July '06 | '60 | Thomas Berg '60, brother of Rev. Donald '44 & Norbert '55, Apr. '06 |
| '47 | Donald Browne '47, Mar. '06 | '60 | Rev. Virgil Duellman '60, July '06 |
| '47 | Wayne Hackett '47, Sept. '05 | '61 | Kevin Griffin '61, Mar. '06 |
| '48 | Francis Paul '48, brother of Ed '43, July '06 | '61 | Teresa Schaak, sister of Bernie '61, Jan. '06 |
| '48 | Rev. Lelin Robling, OSB '48, Jan. '06 | '62 | S. Ernestine Johann '62, Aug. '06 |
| '48 | Rev. Bartholomew Sayles, OSB '48, Sept. '06 | '62 | Mary O'Rourke, mother of Jerry '62, May '06 |
| '49 | Louise Christopher, spouse of Mel '49, Mar. '05 | '62 | Helen Ziegler, mother of Frank '62, Aug. '06 |
| '49 | Delores Kennedy, spouse of deceased Pat '49, Aug. '06 | '63 | Rich Hall '63, father of Patrick '89, May '06 |
| '49 | Dennis McDarby, brother of Rev. Patrick, OSB '49, May '06 | '63 | Rachel Rothstein Veaser, mother of Terry '63 & Peter '75, June '06 |
| '49 | Francis Moudry, father of Ted '67, Dan '74 & Paul '74 & brother of George '49 & Rev. Richard '80, May '06 | '63 | Ethel Wirz, mother of Jim '63 & Jack '66, Sept. '06 |
| '49 | Moses Sowada '49, Sept. '06 | '64 | Ann Sunwall Een, sister of Arthur Haessig '64, Sept. '06 |
| '49 | Pauline Tinguely, mother of Stephen '74, Mark '84 & Joseph '89 & sister of Richard Bresnahan '49, July '06 | '64 | Arleen Hynes, mother of Denis '64, Sept. '06 |
| '50 | William Arimond, brother of Father Vincent Arimond '50, Aug. '06 | '64 | William J. Theis, brother of Bob '64, May '06 |
| '50 | Bob Brophy '50, May '06 | '65 | Bob Carricaburu '65, father of Robert '95, July '06 |
| '50 | Richard Fitzpatrick '50, July '06 | '65 | Petronella Lane, mother of Mike '65 & Timothy '68, Sept. '06 |
| '50 | Arthur Freund '50, Aug. '06 | '65 | Dan Patrick Murphy '65, May '06 |
| '51 | Rev. Francis Britz '51, Aug. '06 | '65 | George Thurnbeck, father of Darrell '65, July '06 |
| '51 | Doraine Manthey, sister of Jim Terhaar '51 & mother of Mark '69 & John '72, Aug. '06 | '66 | Michael M. Haider, Sr., father of Michael, Jr. '66, June '06 |
| '51 | Lee Theisen '51, Feb. '06 | '66 | John Hanlon '70, brother of Jim '66 & Robert '77, Aug. '96 |
| '53 | Gene Volk '53, Aug. '06 | '66 | Zoe Schifsky, mother of John '66, June '06 |
| '54 | Marjorie Schleppenbach, spouse of John '54 & mother of John, Jr. '94, Oct. '05 | '66 | Christine Taaffe, daughter of Rick '66, May '06 |
| '54 | John Schwob '54, father of Matthew '81 & Simon '89 & brother of Robert '62, June '06 | '66 | Jeames Wagner '66, June '06 |
| '55 | Martin Elser '55, Oct. '05 | '67 | Sylvia Kiffmeyer, mother of Eugene '67, July '06 |
| '55 | Roger Schmitt '55, July '06 | '68 | Theresa Meyer, mother of Bruce '68, Timothy '77 & Kurt '83, Aug. '06 |
| '56 | Carol Ann Foley, spouse of Ed '56, Aug. '06 | | |



Igor Chernyshev '98

Igor Chernyshev '98 was introduced to Saint John's University through a high school music camp. Now he is embarking on a teaching career of his own.

"I believe that teaching is something that's very helpful for a musician because it forces you to articulate your ideas, and that forces you to understand what you're doing and not take things for granted," he said.

Chernyshev, a classical pianist, has a master's degree from the Eastman School of Music and is finishing his doctor of musical arts at the University of North Texas. He lives in Denton, TX, where he is music director at the Holy Cross Catholic Church and has a private studio.

He comes from a family of musicians who immigrated from Petrozavodsk, Russia to Duluth, MN, when he was 17.

Chernyshev studied with Fr. Robert Koopmann, OSB, at Saint John's and went on to perform with the Lake Superior Symphony Orchestra and teach piano at the University of Minnesota-Duluth and Lake Superior College.

He found that Saint John's influence has extended well beyond his musical studies.

"I met many interesting people, both students and professors, who impacted me greatly and influenced my way of thinking for the rest of my life," he said.

Igor Chernyshev

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MILESTONES



The year 1974 produced a special vintage of Saint John's musicians, including all six members of Rocka-Rolla, a band that made its debut in Mary Commons in 1971 and continues to have fun playing to this day.

They're not career musicians. Only one was a music major. But musical glue and a Johnnie bond have held John Kennedy '74, Todd Mueller '74, Richard Schletty '74, Tom Johnson '74, Leon Schilmoeller '74 and Steven Kutcher '74 together.

Johnson and Kennedy have done some duet performances, but most of the Rocka-Rolla's post-college gigs have been street dances Johnson's family hosts and the occasional church festival.

The band covers 1950s and '60s rock like the Beatles and Beach Boys plus an old-time component of bunny hops, waltzes and polkas. More than three decades after college, they're reigniting their spark.

"As our kids are getting older, I think we're saying 'Let's do this. Let's play out more,'" said Schletty, a graphic designer by day.

They started inserting new songs into their lineup, some of them Schletty originals.

Schletty, meanwhile, has recently started taking music more seriously, collaborating online with other musicians and performing solo shows.

After 30 years, Rocka-Rolla is still rocking.

Richard Schletty: www.schletty.com/sonority

Rocka-Rolla

- '68 Irene Tomczik, mother of Dick '68, Aug. '06
- '69 Alice Berven, mother of Matthew '69, Sept. '06
- '69 Marian Hoeschen, mother of Wayne '69, Sept. '06
- '69 Mike McCormick '69, Oct. '05
- '69 Jean Rieder, spouse of deceased John '69, Apr. '06
- '69 Henry Speikers, father of John '69, May '06
- '69 Erwin Steinhoff, father of James '69 & Glen '79, May '06
- '70 Leo Feneis, father of Ralph '70, Tom '71 & Steve '76, June '06
- '70 John Hanlon '70, brother of Jim '66 & Robert '77, Aug. '96
- '70 Lloyd Holmgren, father of Ron '70, Sept. '06
- '70 Rev. Gene Sikkink '70, June '06
- '70 Mary Simons, mother of Jay '70, George '73 & Jim '78, June '06
- '71 Al Hechtman, III '71, July '06
- '71 William Norris, father of Daniel '71, Aug. '06
- '71 Eugene Ulland, father of Peter '71 & Anders '84, Mar. '06
- '72 John F. Faber, Sr., father of John, Jr. '72, June '06

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- '72 Lucille Miller, mother of John '72 & Damien '88, Aug. '06
- '72 Wendelyn Sellner, father of John '72 & Tim '77, Sept. '06
- '73 Erwin Culp, father of Kim '73, Aug. '06
- '73 Jeff Pyan '73, brother Steve '76, Mar. '06
- '74 Josephine Gohl, mother of Jerome '74, Sept. '06
- '74 Irene Mandile, mother of Patrick '74, Sept. '06
- '74 Anne Stachnik, mother of Martin '74 & Anthony '77, May '06
- '75 Edward Ciriacy, Sr., father of Edward, Jr. '75, June '06
- '75 Willard Schroetke, father of Mike '75, Feb. '06
- '76 James M. Brown, father of Michael '76 & Tom '83, June '06
- '76 Mildred Zachman, mother of Tim '76, John '93 & deceased Rob '77, Aug. '06
- '77 Robert Doyle, father of Paul '77 & Mark '79, May '06
- '77 Martin Novak, father of Gregory '77, May '06
- '78 Rosemary Goodrich, mother of John '78, Aug. '06
- '79 William Costello, father of James '79, June '06
- '79 Andrew Sullivan, father of Joe '79 & Dan '82, Aug. '06
- '79 William Weum, father of Peter '79 & Chuck '80, July '06
- '80 Helen Frederick, mother of Tim '80, Sept. '06
- '80 William Kelly, father of deceased Greg '80, May '06
- '80 Carl Swanson, father of Joseph '80, May '06
- '80 Wendelin Walz, father of Gregory '80, Robert '91 & Eric '95, July '06
- '81 Clement Foltz, father of Rev. Michael Foltz '81, July '06
- '81 Rita Klein, mother of Mike '81, May '06
- '81 Georgianna Sexton, spouse of Jim '81, June '06
- '82 Regina Athman, mother of Eric Ryan '82, June '06
- '82 Gregory Dumonceaux, father of Daniel '82, Aug. '06
- '82 Frank Silbernack, father of Brian '82, May '06
- '83 Allen Bjorklund, father of Jeffrey '83, Sept. '06
- '83 Robert Cron, father of Bob '83, Sept. '06
- '83 Walter Moynagh, father of Jerry '83 & Mike '89, Sept. '06
- '84 Margareta Loye, mother of Jim '84, Sept. '06
- '84 Marjorie Jean Thera, mother of Walt Mason '84, June '06
- '85 Joe Baker '85, July '06
- '85 Walter Butler, father of Andrew '85, May '06
- '85 Jermain Leavitt, mother of Sean '85, Sept. '06
- '86 Julieanne Euerle, sister of Kevin '86, Sept. '06
- '86 William Rosengren, father of John '86, July '06
- '87 Mary Wickner, mother of John '87, July '06
- '88 Robert Freeland '88, July '06
- '90 Jane Sullivan, sister of Bill '90, Sept. '06
- '91 Willis Rux, father of Joe '91, Aug. '06
- '91 John Sontag, father of Tom '91 & Brian '97, Sept. '06
- '92 Eugene Bergmann, father of Wayne '92, July '06
- '94 Mach Arom, brother of Dan '94, Aug. '06
- '94 Jason Rohr, brother of Jeremy '94, July '06
- '95 Robert Hankey, father of Bobby '95, Sept. '06
- '99 Larry Houg, father of Uriah '99, June '06
- '02 Albert Ahlers, Jr., father of Paul '02, June '06
- '03 Harold Flahave, Jr., father of Charles '03, Sept. '06
- '03 David Holth, father of Michael '03 & Daniel '05, July '06



Dr. James P. Callahan '64 Photo by Roger Rich

He was just a young boy when the Benedictines started teaching him piano.

Now Dr. James P. Callahan '64, University of Saint Thomas professor emeritus, is looking back at an impressive career that includes serving 38 years on faculty at Saint Thomas and composing more than 125 works for piano, organ, orchestra, band, opera and chamber ensembles.

He is a solo performer whose vast repertoire includes all five Beethoven concertos. His piano and organ performances have been broadcast on Minnesota Public Radio and the national program "Pipedreams," and the Minnesota Orchestra and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra have performed his works.

Saint John's played a role from his youth. "Early on, even before I was a student there, my family would go there for various reasons, and certainly, the singing of the monks has in some ways influenced the music that I write," he said.

Callahan practiced for years on the organ in the old church. As a music education major, he studied with Gerhard Track, Fr. Gerard Farrell, OSB and Dr. Wim (Willem) Ibes.

"All three of them were skilled in the nitty gritty of knowing what music is all about," he said.

After Saint John's, Callahan earned his master's in piano and doctorate in theory and composition from the University of Minnesota and also studied at the Salzburg Mozarteum and the Vienna Academy of Music.

Some of his pieces have been performed at Saint John's, and he has fond memories of his education here, with its excellent music program and rich intellectual life.

"It was a very stimulating time and place."

**Dr. James P.
Callahan**

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Vietnam: Land of the Ascending Dragon January 11-24, 2007	Early Christian World May 16-June 8, 2007
Boundary Waters Dog Sledding February 7-11, 2007	France: Spring 2007
Central Mexico February 17-25, 2007	Danube River - Habsburg Empire June 8-16, 2007
Benedictine Studies in Italy (Rome and Florence) March 10-18, 2007	Holy Land June 9-July 1, 2007

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Men Who Came Before Us.

One of the required classes for all first year students should be a walk through the Saint John's cemetery. The key lesson from that graveyard class would be the tall pines telling every Johnnie that many, many men have gone before them and many will go after. Alas, we are not that significant.

At times, while sitting at a SJU football game with men from different generations, I want to say to the current students on campus, "This is not only your school." Nor was it mine 25 years ago when I walked to the refectory for a quick breakfast or ran to the Quad for my philosophy class with Fr. Rene McGraw, OSB. Saint John's is a community of generations of men who walked the sacred grounds by Lake Sag. It is the school of alumni such as Charlie Schneider, '41, who now in his eighties shared that when he went to Saint John's he could afford only \$300 of the \$400 for tuition, room, and board. The monks told him to pay the rest when he could. Saint John's is Schneider's school. And Saint John's is the school of many generations before him.

We walk on the bones of 150 years of

men who tread before us. Many long gone, some soon to go. Most call themselves not "graduates of Saint John's," but instead, "Johnnies." And 150 years from now, young men will walk on our bones as they seek their path in the world—a path that will hopefully bring healing and hope to this world of ours.

I occasionally hear that disciplinary issues arise in the SJU dorms of current students. I suspect much is the same with any other college or university. I suspect they are much like the stories of reprimand I heard during my years on campus. Mischievous and roguish behavior was not born on the Saint John's campus within the last four years. Nevertheless, it is important for students who are loaned the label "current Saint John's student" to know that in fact they belong to a club of men called "Johnnies."

My not so humble advice: don't muck it up. When you wear the letters "SJU," you represent not just your dorm mates but also generations of men who came before you and generations of men who will come after. This is a great honor and yet

also a great responsibility. Out of profound respect for those that we have followed and those that will follow us, we need to remember that the maple tree outside Tommy Hall that lights up the campus each autumn with leaves of color has been admired by men for ages.

May every student enjoy his short four-year stay on campus, and may he also be worthy of the lifelong membership of being a Johnnie.

This reflection was written by Joe Cavanaugh '81 from a speech he gave as the featured speaker at last year's Senior Banquet. Cavanaugh is founder and CEO of Youth Frontiers, Inc, a nonprofit organization based out of Minneapolis, MN. For nearly two decades, Youth Frontiers has been delivering programs that improve school climate and strengthen student character in schools throughout the country. This year, Youth Frontiers will reach nearly 90,000 students and educators through daylong retreats that focus on the timeless values of kindness, courage, respect, wisdom and honor.

ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT

Herman Ratelle with son, Tom '74

Our family knows firsthand what a great education these schools provide—five of our children and one grandchild graduated from CSB/SJU. In addition, I had the privilege of serving as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the College of Saint Benedict for nine years.

My wife, Therese, and I decided we wanted to make a difference for future generations of students. Our children were supportive of this idea, and with the help of our son Tom '74, we were pleased to be able to arrange planned gifts from our trusts.

Our gifts help underprivileged students through scholarships targeted to encourage minority young people to attend Saint John's and Saint Benedict.

During my years of law practice, I had the opportunity to assist many clients with their financial and estate planning needs. I have long advocated charitable giving, particularly in the field of education, as a way to make great things happen for generations of young people to come. What could be a better legacy?

For more information on making a planned gift to Saint John's, contact Jim Dwyer '75, director of planned giving, toll free at (800) 635-7303 or jdwyer@csbsju.edu

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John's at 150: The Twin Cities Stand Up

March 19 at 6 p.m. – Hilton Hotel, Minneapolis

Each spring the Saint John's Alumni Association hosts the annual *Johnnie Standup* to celebrate Johnnie camaraderie. This year, the *Johnnie Standup* will also celebrate the sesquicentennial! Be sure to mark your calendars for this memorable *Saint John's at 150 Johnnie Standup* on March 19 at the Hilton Hotel in Minneapolis.

Also, if you live in the Central Minnesota area or if you are planning a trip to the area, mark April 27 on your calendar. The Central Minnesota *Saint John's at 150* celebration is truly going to be a special event!

Many alumni and friends have joined Br. Dietrich Reinhart, OSB, president of the Saint John's University, at the *Saint John's at 150* events held in San Francisco, Winona, Chicago, New York City, Washington D.C. and Los Angeles and had a great time. We invite you to be part of the celebration.



Upcoming *Saint John's at 150* Celebrations:

February 16 – Phoenix
February 28 – Seattle
March 2 – Denver
March 19 – Twin Cities
April 11 – Mankato
April 12 – Rochester
April 27 – St. Cloud
May 2 – Duluth
May 24 – Tokyo
May 25 – Hong Kong

For more information or to register, please visit saintjohnsalumni.com or call (800) 635-7303.

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