

E-SCHOLARS' DREAMS COME TRUE

NIGHT GAMES

More than 1,700 magic seeking students, faculty, staff and community members flooded Escher Auditorium Friday and Saturday night the third weekend in January, 2010 for an evening of magic, illusion and dance, called "Night Games". Jared Sherlock's dream was to create a 21st century version of a variety show and to share the proceeds of the shows as gifts to the Monastic retirement funds for Saint John's Abbey and Saint Benedict's Monastery.

Jared's show engaged over 15 dancers, jugglers and actors. He wrote, produced, directed and was the star of the show. He has been working as an illusionist since he was in elementary school. When he does a show he selects a local charity to donate any excess revenue. This time with the help of staff of SJU's Institutional Advancement Office, he was able to obtain donations to cover nearly all of the costs of the show. That allowed him to donate a total over \$13,000 to the monastic retirement funds.



The Magic of Jared Sherlock, 2010

THREE NEW E-SCHOLAR DESIGNED VENTURES GET TESTED

A core part of the E-Scholars program is experiencing entrepreneurship. One major way that happens is when a student takes their venture plan and tries it out. Three E-Scholar ventures designed by students in the fifth and sixth E-Scholar cohort moved to the testing stage during 2009-2010.

Brush and Floss: Megan Kack, a pre-medicine biology major, partnered with Lindsay Hansen, a management major, to create and test a way to help youngsters growing up in poverty learn oral hygiene. The two designed a program to be offered at local food shelves, homeless shelters and after school programs. They raised funds and contributed products to create 100 kits for children each with tooth paste, tooth brushes and dental floss to last for 6 months. Their tests of the program design went off well. They are considering how to continue the program now that they have graduated. Megan will be a student at the University of Minnesota Dental School and Lindsay is beginning her career in nonprofit management at the Multiple Sclerosis Society, Minnesota Chapter.

Financial Literacy for College

Students: Matt Mulligan read an article about the appalling level of debt that college students have and their lack of understanding of key concepts of personal finance. An accounting major, Matt felt he had to do something about that. He designed a training, offered it at CSB/SJU, wrote a column in the school newspaper, recruited alum volunteers to teach, found a self-assessment tool and other materials to give to students. Over 100 people attended his first session. Speakers on key topics continued the series over the winter with more than 125 students attending at least one event. Matt graduated in May 2010 and is now working at a major accounting firm. He left behind the materials and program design with SIFE, a student organization that will continue to offer the program to other students.

Campus2Canvas: Four students who will be seniors in fall 2010 from the sixth cohort of E-Scholars started this new venture while they were finalizing their venture plan. Ben Crist, Jingkun Li, Ben McDermott, and David Forster are the students leading this new venture. While on the tour of China the team visited a business neighborhood featuring oil painters. There they found a talented artist interested in creating individual oil paintings for them based on photographs. Today the team leaders are building an inventory of original oil paintings as well as managing commissioning of individual orders. They have presented at a number of gatherings of alums of Saint John's and Saint Ben's and are looking forward to an exciting senior year.

SCHOOLHOUSE SCOOP

In the summer of 2009, Josh Weinzettel launched Schoolhouse Scoop, an ice cream parlor in Hastings, Minn. Schoolhouse Scoop is located in the newly created Schoolhouse Square adjacent to a Green Mill restaurant and other business right on one of the main roads in Hastings.

Schoolhouse Scoop had a successful first year adjusting hours, offerings and specialty services to become a unique local place to be in the summer. Josh enjoys people and the energy they bring to his life. It is his curiosity about everyone who comes in to buy ice cream that helps to bring customers back. That and the very special, locally made ice creams he offers is making the venture a must for Hastings residents.



Josh Weinzettel 5th cohort E-Scholar, Owner, Schoolhouse Scoop

STUDENT STARTED-STUDENT OPERATED VENTURES THRIVE ON CAMPUS

COFFEE PLEASE!

Two coffee shops, one on each campus, were started by students linked to the McNeely Center. They are now operated by student management teams coached by staff and volunteers of the Center.

Clemens Perk is in the library on the campus of the College of Saint Benedict. It was started in 2005 by four of the first group of E-Scholars. It began with a large loan from Saint Ben's for equipment and space renovation needed for the coffee shop. Each year a new group of students step into leadership roles and run the venture successfully. At the end of this fiscal year the Controller of the College of Saint Benedict reported the coffee shop has successfully paid off its original loan. Per the recommendation of the founding students as well as other management teams, Clemens Perk is contributing and will be listed as a Sponsor of the E-Scholars program. Beginning next fiscal year they will contribute \$5,000 to become a full annual sponsor. This year's leadership team was: Danny Backes, Tracy Ness, Matthew Pickle, John Neitzke, Chloe Briggs and Robb Stubenvoll.

Johnnie Java completed its first full year of operations. It is located across from the SJU Bookstore near the Link Bus stop. As with any new business, they tested hours of operations, new menu offerings, and ways to promote themselves. They tried out being open in the summer 2009 and learned the hard way that there was not enough traffic to cover staffing costs. They tested being open for football games and were successful beyond their dreams. The team made great and fast decisions and ended their first year well. This year's leadership team included: Anthony Ryan, Jade Johnson, Matt Melsen, Brian Skluzacek and Todd Alle.

EXTENDING THE LINK: DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION VENTURE FINISHES THIRD YEAR

Extending the Link was conceived in 2007 by three students on a service learning project in Guatemala. The students saw firsthand the social and economic importance of fair-trade coffee as they volunteered with a fair-trade cooperative named Kuchaba'l. The students realized that not only had they become advocates of the fair-trade concept, but they needed to teach others about its

significance. Completing a documentary, *Somos de Café*, showing it on campus and getting others to change their behavior resulted from this passion.

In 2008-09 a new team completed *Del Micro Al Cambio*. Produced in Chile, the documentary focuses on the importance of micro loans to woman entrepreneurs in South America.

The 2009-2010 project completed by a new team of students focused on parentless children in Uganda living at Hope Academy run by the Uganda Rural Fund (URF). The *Extending the Link* team explored the lives of these orphans, examining the day-to-day challenges that they face and their inspiring resiliency. The resulting documentary is *Essubi: Growing Up With Hope*. This year the students raised funds at presentations of the documentary to send back to Hope Academy. A grant from Target Corporation helped support the documentary work of these students.

T-SPOT DOES T-SHIRTS GALORE

T-Spot is a screen printing business started by E-Scholars and now run by a new student management team every year. T-Spot has printed over 15,000 shirts since it began in the fall of 2007. It just finished its third full year of operations. T-Spot expanded its reach to campus-based student clubs, tested outreach to alumni/ae, significantly revised its customer service strategy and began to offer expanded product line. The result was a stronger business model with more customers, a stronger balance sheet and better staffing structure. The leadership team included: Abbey Brau, Martha Rathmanner, Aaron Doyle, Joe Thom, and Eric Glorvigen.



Extending The Link Team 2009-2010: Catherine Hansen, Breanna Auringer, Nathan Meyer, Keenan Brugh, Tom Hoffmann, Emily Bina and Tim Bungum



T-Spot 2009-1010 Leadership Team