THE MAJERUS ERA BEGINS PAGE 8

Inside: Campus up close PAGE 14 and An alum on Broadway PAGE 18 and Centers of Excellence PAGE 21
...
BERRA SHARES WIT AND WISDOM WITH CLASS OF 2007

A standing ovation greeted baseball legend and St. Louisan Yogi Berra during Saint Louis University’s 2007 commencement May 19 at Scottrade Center. More than 1,400 students graduated from SLU in May.

Berra was one of the greatest catchers and clutch hitters in the history of professional baseball. A 15-time All-Star for the New York Yankees, Berra won the American League MVP award three times.

Baseball’s unofficial ambassador started things off on a light note by talking about what he felt it to be back home in St. Louis (“Feels like déjà vu all over again!”) and about whether he’d had a chance to visit The Hill, the St. Louis neighborhood where he was born. (“Nobody goes there anymore. It’s too crowded.”)

Then Berra, who turned 82 on May 12, revealed the wisdom behind many of his most famous “Yogi-isms,” the classic quotes and quips that propelled him to pop culture icon status and made him one of the most quoted sports figures in history:

“Dear graduates, when you come to a fork in the road, take it,” Berra said. “In life, the only poor decisions are the ones you don’t follow through on. When you leave here today you will have more choices, make it because you believe in it. Then stick to your guns.”

“True. The world isn’t perfect. It can be better. And you can make it that way.”

In the end, Berra shared the words of another Hall-of-Famer, Joe DiMaggio, who said he looked forward to opening day like a child looks forward to a birthday party, expecting something wonderful to happen. “I say to you, class of 2007: Go out and live your life like every day is opening day,” Berra said.

During the commencement ceremony University President Law-rence Biondo, S.J., conferred honorary degrees upon Berra and four other individuals:

- Joseph and Rosemary Shaughnessy (A&S ’57) met at SLU 50 years ago. Joseph (’57) co-founded BSI Constructors, which has helped shape SLU’s campus and nearby Grand Center through major building and renovation projects. The Shaughnessy’s are noted for their commitment to the community and to the Catholic Church.
- Chang-Soo Huh (Grad Cook ’77) is chairman and chief executive officer of GS Holdings Group, one of the largest corporations in Korea. Concerned about the social responsibilities of corporations, he created a foundation that has contributed more than $20 million to support health care and educational efforts in Korea.
- Dr. Benjamin Carson, director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, was the first physician to successfully separate Siamese twins born joined at the back of the head. Carson also is dedicated to sharing the joy of reading with economically disadvantaged children, and he worked with SLU to establish special reading rooms in local public schools. — Clayton Berry

Stand what I’m saying, right?” he asked the estimated 10,000 graduates, family members and friends in the crowd. “I know you get a good education at SLU. And I’m sure it’s opened your eyes to the people in the world who need your help. But most important, your SLU education has prepared you to give that help.

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by the numbers
At SLU’s May 19 commencement

1,419 Degrees awarded to May graduates 593 Undergraduate graduates from Missouri; 167 undergraduates were from Illinois; 2 were from Hawaii 37 States represented by all graduates

PRAYER SERVICE AT COLLEGE CHURCH HONORS VIRGINIA TECH SHOOTING VICTIMS

Saint Louis University opened its doors April 18 to the St. Louis-area alumni of Virginia Tech for a special memorial service in St. Francis Xavier College Church. The prayer service aimed to give comfort to those mourning the loss of 32 students and faculty in an April 16 campus shooting rampage. About 600 people filled the church to listen to inspired prayers, reflections and music. It was clear by the sea of orange and maroon — Virginia Tech’s school colors — that many VT alumni were present. There also were many members of the SLU community, including students, on hand to show their support.

The president of the local Virginia Tech alumni association asked SLU to host a memorial service on campus. Saint Louis University quickly agreed, and SLU’s campus ministry department helped plan and coordinate the service.

NEW DEANS ARE FAMILIAR FACES

Dr. Mandal Patanar is the new dean of Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology. He had been serving as interim dean since August 2006.

Patanar first came to Parks as a student — he earned his bachelor’s degree in aeronautics in 1992. Ten years later he returned to SLU as coordinator of the aviation safety management graduate program. In 2004, he became chairman of the aviation science department.

During his tenure as interim dean, Patanar secured funding for additional faculty positions, launched new degree programs and garnered greater support from alumni and other stakeholders. The college also has embarked on an extensive marketing campaign to increase undergraduate enrollment and is working with the U.S. Army to provide students with additional internships and research opportunities.

Dr. Donald Brennan, dean of the Graduate School for the past 19 years, now also is dean of the College of Arts and Sciences — a position he held on an interim basis since July 2006.

Brennan (A&S ’67, Grad ’69) joined the faculty at SLU in 1975 with a joint appointment as an assistant professor in the department of communication disorders and as a staff speech-language pathologist at SLU’s Medical Center. In 1981 he became communication disorders’ departmental chairman and served in that role until 1998, when he became dean of the Graduate School.

In his dual capacity, Brennan will create partnerships between the two schools. For example, the Graduate School and the College of Arts and Sciences share many faculty, who now will be able to communicate needs and ideas to one dean.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ALUMNI HALL OF FAME DEBUTS

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Smith-Stone Center for Entrepreneurship, the John Cook School is launching a University-wide “Entrepreneurial Alumni Hall of Fame.”

The inaugural inductees have been chosen in five categories: corporate, high-tech, large enterprise, small business and social/civic venture. But voting is still open to choose the “Saint Louis University Entrepreneurial Alumni of the Year.” Go to eweb.slu.edu to view a list of inductees and cast your ballot for the overall winner.

The five inductees will be honored, and the Entrepreneurial Alumni of the Year will be announced, at an event during Homecoming weekend, 3:30-5 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 29. More details are available at eweb.slu.edu.

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The College of Public Service has reached a new milestone: the establishment of its first named professorship. Dr. Jim Gilsenan, professor of public policy studies, is the first E. Desmond Lee Professor in Collaborative Regional Education. Civic leader E. Desmond "Des" Lee provided funding to support the professorship.

The honor recognizes Gilsenan’s decades of service to St. Louis-area schools, local governments and nonprofit organizations. Because the professorship requires teaching, research and service, Gilsenan stepped down in December as dean of the College of Public Service to rejoin the faculty on a full-time basis. As a Des Lee Professor, Gilsenan will join scholars from Washington University in St. Louis and the University of Missouri-St. Louis researching ways to help schools and communities improve the lives of young people.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECEIVES FIRST NAMED PROFESSORSHIP: GILSEMAN TAKES POST

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**SLU PLATE SPECIAL**

In April, Dr. Thomas F. Madden, professor, former chairman of the department of history and director of SLU’s Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, received the Medieval Academy of America’s highest honor, the Charles Homer Haskins Medal. He is the first SLU medievalist to receive this honor.

**CHAIR IN PEDIATRIC MEDICINE ESTABLISHED**

Dr. Kenneth O. Schowengerdt Jr. (Med ’84) was installed as the Wieck-Professor of Pediatrics in SLU’s John Cook School of Business.

**DEVELOPER CHOSEN FOR GRAND AND LINDELL SITE; INPUT NEEDED**

Saint Louis University is pleased to announce a new development plan that will further enhance and revitalize the campus with the possibility of new residential, retail and commercial development. SLU recently requested proposals from development firms for a more than 4-acre site the University owns on the northeast corner of SLU’s campus at the intersection of Grand and Lindell boulevards. Near St. Francis Xavier College Church and with views of the campus, downtown and the Arch, this site is at the entrance of the Grand Center arts and entertainment district, which includes the Fox Theatre, Powell Symphony Hall and the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis. It is ideally located for new housing, office, entertainment and retail development. SLU has selected local developer McCormack Baron Salazar and its partner US Ventures to create a dynamic and interactive mixed-use center that will appeal to and attract students, staff, alumni and community residents alike.

**ONLINE ALUMNI COMMUNITY TO BE UNVEILED SOON**

The Saint Louis University online alumni community is coming, and all alumni are invited to be a part of it.

This site will be available exclusively to University alumni. The site’s features, which are specially tailored for the SLU audience, include:

- An online, searchable alumni directory — where alumni can choose how much or how little information they would like to share with other alumni.
- An online photo gallery that allows alumni to share their favorite photos with their fellow Billikens.
- The ability to update alumni contact information online and to send achievements and announcements to Universitas “Class Notes.”
- Searchable EBSCO research databases.
- Online event registration.
- And many other ways to stay connected to SLU and to fellow alumni.

**SLUMA shows ‘Elusive Light’ into December**

The Saint Louis University Museum of Art has extended its current exhibit, "Elusive Light: Michael Eastman Retrospective," through mid-December. The exhibition, which opened in February, is the first retrospective of renowned photographer Eastman and features photographs drawn from his archive. A self-taught artist and St. Louis native, Eastman’s work has been featured on the cover of Time magazine four times, and his work has graced the front cover of four New York Times best-sellers. SLUMA’s hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. For more information call (314) 977-1720 or visit sluma.slu.edu.
Under first-year head coach John Conway, the Saint Louis University softball team enjoyed the best season in program history in 2007. The Billikens established a school record in wins with a 29-33 slate and set team records in runs, hits, doubles and home runs. As the No. 9 seed in May’s Atlantic 10 Championship, the Billikens advanced through the tournament with a 2-1 victory over No. 8 Richmond in the first round and a 3-1 loss to No. 1 Dayton in the semifinals. The Billikens were defeated 7-0 by the Flyers in the championship game.

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One of the first things University President Lawrence Biondi, S.J., did when he brought new men’s head basketball coach Rick Majerus to campus was take him inside Chaifetz Arena — Majerus was able to see the new home for the Billikens himself. On that Friday afternoon, with construction work going on around them, Biondi and Majerus stood at what will be center court, looked upward at the risers that will hold the 10,600 seats, and Biondi described what the Arena will look like when completed next spring.

Much has taken place at Chaifetz Arena during the last few months. At the site, work on the structure for both the event and concourse levels is nearing completion. The suite level is beginning. Inside the building, crews are busy with electrical, plumbing and mechanical work. Structural work on the practice facility and athletic offices also has begun. Masons have started work on the basiion walls on the southwest and southeast corners of the building. Everything remains on target for a March 2008 opening.

Within the last few months, vendors have been chosen for the audio-video system and the scoreboards. Within the last few months, vendors have been chosen for the audio-video system and the scoreboards. Within the last few months, vendors have been chosen for the audio-video system and the scoreboards.
SLU HITS IT BIG: COACH RICK MAJERUS IS COMMITTED TO BASKETBALL AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

It’s been a Saint Louis University employee for only a few days, but you wouldn’t guess it from the reaction he’s receiving on this uncommonly hot day in May. Taking a break from the stifling air of his Bauman-Eberhardt Center office, Rick Majerus — who agreed to a six-year contract to be the Billikens men’s basketball coach on April 27 — smiles and acknowledges each student who walks past and gives him a surprised “Hi, Coach!” as he speaks with Universitas.

From his own Jesuit experiences to his expectations for his team next year, Majerus covered a wide range of topics. But maybe what offered the most insight on the famously verbose coach came toward the end of the interview, when a young female student walked by in a University of Missouri shirt, which caught the eye of Majerus.

“Mizzou?” he exclaimed as the student walked into Bauman-Eberhardt Center. “You’ve got to get a Saint Louis shirt. You don’t have one? I’ll give you one,” he said with a laugh.

It’s not really a surprising reaction from a man who joked about how much he looks like the Billiken and challenged SLU President Lawrence Biondi, S.J. to a sumo-wrestling match during his introductory press conference (a battle Biondi jokingly — and quickly — conceded to the new coach).

And though he may enjoy a quick quip, he’s very serious about the work at hand. During his first few weeks as a Billiken, Majerus said he’s as busy as he’s been in years, but he’s confident about the chances of success at SLU.

— By Nick Sargent
You mentioned how important your education was at Marquette High School (in Milwaukee) and Marquette University. What was it about the Jesuit experience that really spoke to you or formed you?

Well, probably the introspection as well as the explorer that we all are with our own lives. I’ve gone out of the box and done things a lot of people wouldn’t have done and been places a lot people haven’t been. I’ve been to the Great Barrier Reef and walked the Great Wall of China. And every time I think that there may not be something else to do, I run into a new experience. I have an education that has prepared me for that and one that has allowed me to enjoy it and feel as though I can complete or conquer the task at hand.

The educational experience of being a student-athlete is obviously very important to you. How do you balance that in today’s NCAA Division I athletics environment?

You don’t balance it — you put an emphasis on it. The needle points more toward the academics than it does toward basketball, and if it doesn’t, you have chosen the wrong university, or you have the wrong mission. I think you can do both, but you don’t want to put a kid’s academic growth or his ability to succeed and be happy at peril in expense of a basketball game.

I want to win, and I wouldn’t be sitting here with you if I didn’t want to. But I understand the prioritization of things, and I think that if you have a healthy outlook on it and look at it as an educational endeavor, then you don’t have the frustrations. I’ll be frustrated when I have a player miss a lay. But then I have sent a number of them on to become doctors. Ideally I would like a tutor for every student because of the rigors of travel and class. And yet you want to make it fun, you want to give a guy what he’s earned. It’s a competitive world, but it’s also a world in which I want them to have a good team spirit as well as some memorable nights as a team at a movie, or a barbecue or exploring New York on their own. During your introductory press conference you mentioned how excited you are to be back in this college environment and may even sit in on a couple of classes. Are there any that are at the top of list?

A friend of mine who came up from Milwaukee for the press conference met this professor. And he is an English teacher — he’s kind of a Mark Twain scholar, an aficionado, and I am very much interested in that.

I’ve always enjoyed great law professors, listening to them lecture. I enjoy the Socratic method. I asked Father Biondi about those classes. He says it’s a competitive world, but it’s also a world in which I want them to make it translate into wins. But eventually we’ll turn a corner and have a chance to remain consistently good. Whether that happens Day 1, Day 151 or Day 1,000, I don’t know. Everyone wants to get there, but each team, each program’s timetable is subject to the vagaries of things sometimes beyond your control.

What is your long-term goal for the program?

I want to make sure we have a program that’s in consort with the vision of the University, one where we provide a quality education, coaching, graduation and where we have a winning program, providing entertaining and wonderful nights in the new wonderful Chaifetz Arena that’s going up on campus. That’s what I would want going up on campus. Does the blueprint for success extend past the players, the coaches and those directly involved with the program? Does it include the fans? What’s the formula for success?

I am trying to meet as many as fans as I can. Today I am going to a SLU golf outing. I will meet every foursome that stays for dinner and meet them individually. I met a number of people on various parts of the community already. I want to engender good school spirit and get over to the students to the full. I want them to be part of our success, be responsible in part for our success, share in our success because the players are genuinely classmates. I want the students to provide a nice vibe for us here, and I want them to come over to the games on campus. Based on your experience at Utah, where there was an on-campus arena, what type of impact do you think Chaifetz Arena will have here?

It facilitates the student population enjoying and sharing as a team. It gives the alumni a reason to come back to campus, which they appreciate. It brings people to the campus who may be part of the community, and it generates revenues and allows me on board as well. It’s a tremendous gathering place. It’ll be a focal point for students — it’ll be where they graduate, it’ll be where they matriculate. It’ll be where they have had nice nights out where they come as a sorority or a fraternity or as a student group. And it’ll offer a shared experience between the athletic and academic communities that comprise the University.

When was the first time you started to take it with both hands?

In the fifth grade. We had a little team — they gave us uniforms, and we would wear the satin shorts. I only wish I would have been better at it. I tried hard. I practiced. I just wasn’t very good.
Having that experience, what made you want to stay a part of the game?
I would rather be a player. If I could play today on some team where I could have a modicum of success and make a living, I would play. But I can’t. I wasn’t good enough. So I took the next best route. There’s the adage that applies to all teachers, “Those who can, do. Those who can’t, teach.” There are terrific litigators, where other guys are able to teach litigation. Some guys may be wonderful surgeons, but they may not be able to convey those attributes to others, you know. I vicariously live my life through my players in many cases.

You had a close relationship with Al McGuire (coach at Marquette University from 1964 to 1977). Was there a particular piece of advice he gave you about coaching or life in general that has stuck with you?
Probably live the day, the moment. Try to smell the roses. He had a hard time doing it — all coaches do. Many great coaches like Norm Stewart at Mizzou, Jack Hartman at K-State, Gene Keady at Purdue — there’s a litany of guys who never made the Final Four who were great coaches.

And then conversely, when you lose... time and time again... you have to learn how to lose. How to accept that and move on. And then build on it.

What’s your favorite play in basketball? When you’re coaching, what is the thing you most like watching or get the most enjoyment out of?
The defensive rotation to a charge, probably. Defense is probably the most team-oriented aspect of the game. If you have better talent, you can obviously defend someone on a one-on-one basis, but it’s harder to do it that way. When you don’t have better talent, you can mitigate your weaknesses, your lack of athleticism, the fact you’re small or whatever it may be, by playing well together as a team defensively.

I enjoy the well-timed play. The preciseness of ball and player movement of a well-timed play. That would be No. 2.

Do you have a favorite game or a favorite moment in your coaching career?
Well my favorite moment came when we (Utah) beat Arizona in ’98 to go to the Final Four because that is a significant accomplishment. So many great coaches like Norm Stott at Mizzou, Jack Hartman at K-State, Gene Keady at Purdue — there’s a litany of guys who never made the Final Four who were great coaches.

It was such a team accomplishment. It was such a good group of guys. Everyone on that team graduated, three with honors. That team produced three Academic All-Americans — (Hanno) Motola, (Michael) Dukejic and (Drew) Hansen — and an All-American in Andre Miller. It was like everything came together. We lost the championship game to the University of Kentucky. We were beaten by the best team in the last five minutes and played extremely well.

Playing for you what does a player need to succeed?
Passion, effort, selflessness, commitment. The will to want to become better individually and collectively. Ultimately it’s all collective. That’s on the basketball side. On the academic side here’s the thing I expect out of all my players: I don’t expect an ‘A’; I expect an ‘A’ effort — in the classroom, on the court, in their conduct toward others. We just want an ‘A’ effort.

What are your first impressions of the guys on the team who are coming back for next season?
They’re high-character guys. They are student-athletes. They seem to want to really be better individually and as a team. They seem unselfish — Tommie Liddell seems like he might be a little too unselfish, which might be a good attribute to have. They seem like they have a genuine respect for each other’s space, game and lifestyle. That’s good.

There wasn’t an NIT or NCAA Tournament appearance for the Billikens last season, but the team did win 20 games. Does it help to have that kind of success to build on?
You always want to be building on the prior season. I’ve had 30-win seasons in my career, and you want to build on them. It’s hard to build on them. But you always want the arrow to be pointing upward.

Is there anything that you want to tell SLU alumni?
We together are lucky recipients of a great education. I know you’re appreciative of that opportunity, and I am as well.

Come on back and support the guys. Give us your support, and we’ll reciprocate in kind with effort. Let us know if you run into a young man you think would be a good prospect for us — gives us a call, drop us a line. Do it when he is a freshman or sophomore.

And buy a brick for the new building. I’m going to buy a couple, probably more than a couple. And I hope you will, too.

“Go ahead and dream as big as you want. If you want to fantasize about a string of endless Atlantic 10 titles flowing out of here, or serial trips deep into the March Madness postseason, go ahead and do it. Don’t hold back.”
— ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH COLUMNIST BRYAN BURWELL ON THE MAJERUS HIRE

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There is so much beauty on the Saint Louis University campus that it can be easy to miss some of the smaller details. In the next few pages we will quiz you on some of the little nooks, crannies and other gems that you might have missed during your stay on campus.

We’ll test your memory skills with an old-school matching quiz. Look at the pictures on the following pages and try to match them with their buildings. There are seven pictures, and seven possible buildings. You can find the answer key on page 17.

The pictures might leave you scratching your head. But there are no tricks. Every picture is from a University-owned building located on the St. Louis campus. There are no pictures from the Madrid campus, we promise.

We hope that the pictures bring back fond memories for you — and if they do, we would like to hear them. In an upcoming edition of Universitas, we are planning to run short summaries of our readers’ favorite places on campus. Is there a building where you finally felt like SLU was home? Will you always have warm memories of the place where you first laid eyes on your husband or wife? Or is there a statue on campus that reminds you of some hilarious things your roommate did?

Whatever the memory, we want to hear them. In 250 words or less, tell us your story and send it via e-mail to utas@slu.edu or via fax to 314-977-2249. Send mail submissions to Universitas, DuBourg Hall 39, 221 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis MO 63103.
The answer: how well do you know your campus?

Bauman-Eberhardt Center
Landscaping outside Busch Student Center
Samuel Cupples House

Humanities Building
Schwitters Hall
Queen’s Daughters Hall
St. Francis Xavier College Church

D. Dedicated in 1898, this building is an excellent example of 19th Century English Gothic architecture.
E. Completed in 1948, this building is named after a famous dean of the college housed here.
F. Built at the turn of the 20th century, this building originally housed young women who came to St. Louis to work in private homes.
G. The former home of the Salvation Army, this building is home to several College of Arts and Sciences departments.
Nineteen years ago Mike Isaacson was the assistant editor of this magazine. For the summer 1988 issue of Universitas, he wrote a story about Saint Louis University alumnus David Merrick (Law ’37), a legendary theater producer.

Back then, Isaacson described Merrick as “the man who owned Broadway.” Nearly 20 years later, the same thing might soon be said about Isaacson.

Broadway Bound. Mike Isaacson (A&S ’86, Grad Cook ’96) worked at Saint Louis University for eight years before making the leap to Broadway producer. During his SLU career, he wrote news releases, served as the president’s assistant and was the vice president for institutional advancement.

He’d always been interested in theater, but he didn’t necessarily plan a career in it. However, in fall 1996 Isaacson landed at the Fabulous Fox Theatre in St. Louis to book the season of touring shows and help bring a musical, Jekyll & Hyde, to Broadway.

Under the auspices of Fox Theatricals, he and his producing partner, Kristin Cadley, have produced several commercial and critical hits since then. They include Tony Award winners Thoroughly Modern Millie and the revivals of Death of a Salesman and One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, as well as Caroline, or Change, the 1999 production of You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown, and the brand new Legally Blonde: The Musical, among others.

Like Merrick before him, Isaacson’s journey to Broadway began at SLU. During his freshman orientation, he learned that the Fox Theatre was seeking volunteer ushers. Isaacson, who came to St. Louis from Milwaukee, promptly left his Oriflamme group and walked two blocks to the Fox to sign up. Later at SLU, he co-founded a theater company to bring popular musicals to campus. Isaacson never acted in the shows, but he loved putting all the pieces together.

“We literally built the sets, sold the tickets and got friends to sew the costumes,” Isaacson said. “We did Godspell in Xavier Hall, and we completely sold out. Then the next year we did Grease, and that was a whoppin’ smash hit.”

“It was also fun, genuinely fun, helping people express themselves.”

But after college, Isaacson entered the real world and relegated his interest in theater to hobby status. Still, perhaps even unbeknownst to him, he was preparing to be a Broadway producer. In particular, his job as assistant to University President Lawrence Biondi, S.J., taught him many lessons he uses today.

“Working with Father Biondi, I sometimes had the experience that he seems to be the one who knows all the answers, but you’d be surprised. He’d say, ‘Mike, I don’t have all the answers, but I sure have a few,’ and he’d be right. There’s so much that goes on in a university. And you have to have faith in the process.”

“Working for Father Biondi, I learned that just because nobody believes what you’re saying is no excuse not to keep going,” Isaacson said. “And also to build it right, and they’ll come. If you go back and read what Father was saying in his early speeches about what could happen to this institution, what could be, clearly articulating a vision, it’s almost all happened. And nobody would have believed it.”

“As a producer, the number one thing you have to have is faith in the show,” he continued. “Sometimes that leads you right into a brick wall. And you know what, you pick yourself up and keep going. You can’t be afraid of failure.”

“Working for Father Biondi, I sometimes had the experience that he was just walking by and showing me into the deep end. ‘I would say, ‘I can’t swim!’ He’d say, ‘Sure you can!’ And, boom, I learned. ‘Oh, OK, I can!’”

Biondi recalled that Isaacson taught him a few things as well.

“Mike has an eye for the big picture, for seeing how things work together,” Biondi said. “It helped me gain a broader perspective on many issues. Plus, as an alumnus, Mike knows what is special about SLU and worked hard to honor our history and our future. ‘I continue to trust Mike to rely on his good judgment. And I appreciate our friendship and mutual respect.”

“I’m not surprised he’s a big-time producer now,” Biondi continued. “In fact, I would be surprised if he hadn’t gone on to great things.”

Going Blonde. Isaacson is standing in the middle of Times Square posing for a photo. He’d prefer to be doing almost anything else. He is clearly attracting attention, which is not much fun for someone who makes his living behind the scenes.

(“His philosophy: ‘At the end of the day, no one knows and no one cares who produced a show, nor should they. I like that fact that producing is about how you serve the show, the artists and most importantly, the audience.’”)

Some passers-by wonder if he is a celebrity. Some people just stare, perhaps resentful of the space he is occupying. Some pedestrians actually seem determined to disrupt the shot.

Still, Isaacson is a trouper through it all, gamely posing as if hanging out at the world’s busiest intersection is part of his normal routine.

“It’s all in a day’s work for a Broadway producer with a new show to promote.”

For Isaacson, that show is Legally Blonde, a five-year labor of love that opened in April and garnered seven Tony nominations.

Isaacson’s role as a producer can vary. Sometimes he and partners from theaters across the country team up to invest in shows, like they did with Spamalot and The Color Purple. Sometimes Isaacson has been brought in when there is already a script, and he helps assemble the rest of the players and investors, like he did with Thoroughly Modern Millie.

And sometimes, he is there at the very beginning, when a show is just an idea. That was the case with Legally Blonde, the story of California sorority princess Elle Woods, who follows an ex-boyfriend to Harvard Law School.

Fellow producer Hal Luftig, who collaborated with Isaacson and Casey on Millie, originally believed the movie could make a good musical.


“I remembered the film as kind of pleasant, and funny, but I was not enthused.”

ALUMNUS MIKE ISAACSON MAKES A LIVING AND A LIFE IN THE THEATER.

By Laura Geiser
"But what I really look for in any material is: What is the big idea? Mike is one of the best things that has ever happened to the Fox," Isaacson said. "I've probably never been more wrong in my life. You're absolutely right. There's really something here.""

"Mike is the best of those things that has ever happened to the Fox," Isaacson said. "I called Hal and said, 'I've probably never been more wrong in my life. You're absolutely right. There's really something here.'" Isaacson knew that everyone who saw the show — whether on Broadway or the road — could see that "Elle of a show." He also remains committed to his role at the Fox, no matter how wrong he might be. "Sure, I can assume certain things, but I know that Legally Blonde: The Musical, if successfully done, has potentially a huge audience. But any bad musical has no audience. So, it really becomes about the work."

Luftig sent Isaacson a DVD of the movie and asked him to give it a chance. Isaacson said, "I called Hal and said, 'I've probably never been more wrong in my life. You're absolutely right. There's really something here.'"

"But what I really look for in any material is: What is the big idea? Mike is one of the best things that has ever happened to the Fox," Isaacson said. "I called Hal and said, 'I've probably never been more wrong in my life. You're absolutely right. There's really something here.'"

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In addition to the University’s investment, the new center also has received private funding, most notably a major gift from the Belt family to establish the Belt Laboratory for River Systems and Flood Hazards. The gift commemorates the pioneering contributions of the late SLU professor Dr. Charles Belt, who studied the hazards of constricting rivers by constructing levees.

“The center is a collaborative project among the SLU’s College of Arts and Sciences, School of Public Health, School of Law and College of Public Service. Principal investigators include Kusky and associate directors Mayden, Dr. Bill Dannevik (earth and atmospheric sciences), Dr. Steve Buckner (chemistry) and Dr. Wynne Muskopf (political science). The Center for Environmental Science also will work with SLU’s Institute for Biosecurity to prepare the United States for nuclear, chemical and bioterrorism attacks. In addition, the center will reach out to the public through educational programs, including informational kiosks at zoos, science centers and botanical gardens across the nation.”

“The founding of this new center is especially important considering Ong’s pioneering theories of change in language and human communication, which have become more relevant today than ever before,” said Dr. Dr. Steve van den Berg, chairmain of the department and director of the center. “Technology is changing the way we communicate and relate to each other, and the center will give scholars a place to study this rapid revolution.”

“Ong (Grad ’41) was a prominent scholar of Renaissance literature and rhetoric before expanding his own work — and the field of literary studies — to cover culture, literacy and the impact of technology on human consciousness. His widely circulated book *Orality and Literacy: The Technologizing of the Word* has been translated into more than a dozen languages, and his scholarship has been cited in more than 2,000 works, making him one of the most frequently referenced Jesuit scholars ever.

Located in Pius XII Memorial Library, the Ong Center is a collaborative project between the library’s department of special collections and the English department. The center will host a resident research scholar, an annual memorial lecture, fellowships, research seminars and conferences.

In partnership with the Ong Center, the special collections department and its director, Dr. Gregory Pass, will make available to researchers Ong’s unpublished papers, manuscripts, lectures, correspondences, audio recordings and other materials, both on site and through the Internet.

“The Ong Center is guided by a national advisory board of distinguished scholars and already has received support of $100,000 from the ICF Foundation.”

“Center for Aging Successfully will help them reach their goal of staying young,” said Dr. John Morley, SLU’s director of geriatric medicine and co-principal investigator of the new center. “We’re at the stage that the public through community programs, to SLU students at all degree levels, to health care providers working in local hospitals and to community health centers.

“Faculty could explore topics such as exercise and falls, Alzheimer’s disease; illness in certain population groups; nutrition; social problems; and emergency preparedness.”

WALTER J. ONG, S.J., CENTER FOR LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

**“These centers will produce research and scholarship that will be of great significance not only to the university, but also to the local and global communities that we serve.” — DR. MIKE DOCKET**
As a teenager growing up in Petersburg, Ill. — father and uncle are members of their respective college’s athletics halls of fame, and his siblings played sports at the collegiate level. But in his affable and friendly way, Sullivan talks about his injury in a fortunate sense.

Without that moment, he said he likely would not be heading to Oxford University on a scholarship earned through his accomplishments as a budding humanitarian.

**THE SEED PLANTED**

During the fall of 2005, while a premed student at Saint Louis University, Sullivan studied abroad in El Salvador. Assisting doctors, he learned firsthand the difficult decisions facing many people in the world’s poorest economies. What he witnessed was startling: The medical care was bare bones. Patients had little financial means to pay for treatment they needed, Sullivan said. If he wanted to use rubber gloves, Sullivan was expected to bring them in himself.

“There was a 14-year-old mom who brought in her 6-month-old little boy. He was emaciated and just covered in dirt. He was so skinny and looked about ready to die,” Sullivan said. “The doctor got really mad at the mom and yelled at her about taking care of her son. I thought, who is she? A little girl going to take care of a kid?”

He vividly recalls the difficult decisions facing patients like the mother of an epileptic baby boy. She couldn’t afford $12 a day for rubber gloves, he said. “To help that mom, she had to line of thinking will serve Sullivan well this fall when he enters the global governance and diplomacy program at the University of Oxford in England on a Rotary International Scholarship.”

The program will allow him to study with some of the brightest and most promising international political minds. He said he doesn’t know exactly what he will do when he finishes at Oxford. He has deferred his acceptance to SLU School of Medicine until next year and is considering pursuing a career with the United Nations.

Where his future takes him depends most on where he believes he can make the biggest difference in the world. He does know this: "You want to be able to save the world and to do something better and get involved with that. If we try to help out, we can."

**ONE WORLD CITIZEN**

The mission of OneWorld would be familiar to anyone who has spent more than an hour on SLU’s campus. Every article in the magazine evokes the Jesuit ideal of preparing men and women for others.

“We try to find things to bring to light the idea that while we live in different worlds, we’re all connected,” Sullivan said.

For example, while the most recent edition of the magazine includes articles by students reflecting on student mission trips and highlighting issues such as malaria, it also features stories on fair-trade fashion and the philanthropic works of St. Louis Cardinals slugger Albert Pujols.

As a teenager growing up in Petersburg, Ill. — Sullivan set his sights on sports and expected to succeed. After all, it was the family tradition. His grandfather played baseball as a St. Louis Brown, his father and uncle are members of their respective college’s athletics halls of fame, and his siblings played sports at the collegiate level.
Dr. James Armstrong (IT) is a retired geophysical chemist who worked for the U.S. Marines Corps and at the University of Texas in Dallas. He operates on a ranch in New Canaan, Conn.

Dr. Mary Sirna (Nurs) lives in Richmond, Va. She has volunteered at a pediatric clinic for migrant children.

Dr. Richard S. Comfort (Med) is a retired neurologist who practices at the Martha Jefferson Hospital in Charlottesville, Va. He lives in Richmond, Va.

Dr. Charles Potton (Med) is retired and lives in Otsego, Mich. He served his internship in his practice town.

Dr. Mary Sirna (Nurs) lives in Richmond, Va. She has volunteered at a pediatric clinic for migrant children.

Dr. James Kelly (Med) is a retired anesthesiologist who practiced for 34 years in Cincinnati. He fills his time with volunteer work and with his grandchildren.

Dr. Universitas (Nurs '75, Grad '82) lives in Riverview, Ga. She is a retired nurse practitioner and a counselor.

Dr. Donald Hildreth (IT) is a retired general manager of a company.

Dr. John E. Callin, S.J. (A&S '34, Grad '39) is president emeritus of the University of Scranton in Scranton, Pa. He is a retired Jesuit and a writer on violence issues for health and safety.

Dr. Robert Balen (Dent) is retired and lives in Palos Verdes, Calif. He received the Greater St. Louis Dental Society’s top honor in 2004.

Dr. Charles F. Motz (Med) is retired and has served as a consultant to the University of Utah Medical Center. He lives in Provo, Utah.

Dr. Robert Balen (Dent) is retired and lives in Palos Verdes, Calif. He has had his college textbooks published by Prentice Hall. He is a former dental examiner for the Army National Guard.

Dr. Marian R. Strobel (A&S) is a retired public administrator and an author of several books on public administration.

Dr. Lillian E. Marx (Med) is retired and lives in Virginia Beach, Va. She has been involved in medical research.

Dr. Mary Sirna (Nurs) lives in Richmond, Va. She has volunteered at a pediatric clinic for migrant children.

Dr. Philip W. (Wayne) Finley (Med) is retired and lives in Greensboro, N.C. He has been a visiting professor at several universities.

Dr. Joseph M. Muenz (Grad) is a retired professor of political science who has been a research fellow at the University of Colorado.

Dr. James F. Miller (Dent) received the Greater St. Louis Dental Society’s top honor in 2004.

Dr. Ursula Teixiera (A&S) is a retired professor of English and lives in Macon, Ga. She is a retired school administrator.

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Do you have some news to share with your fellow SLU alumni?

The Class Notes section is one of the first items we finish for each issue because it almost never runs over the page count for our feature stories. That means we often accept notes for an issue almost two months before you receive it. So if you don’t see your name in the next issue, don’t despair. We’re holding onto it and will run it next time.

We do not run information about upcoming marriages, births or other occasions. Because things don’t always work out as planned, we limit us to annual updates. Should you not see it in the very next issue, don’t worry. Notes for an issue almost two months before you receive it will appear almost immediately.

We accept Class Notes only in written form (via mail, fax or e-mail — see addresses on page 29). No items are accepted by phone. We can’t limit us to annual updates. Should you not see your news and don’t see it in the very next issue, don’t worry. Notes for an issue almost two months before you receive it will appear almost immediately.

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Matthew D. (Cook) is a manager of portfolio construction at Amer Asset Management. He also was a regional managing editor for the Financial Times.

Dr. Andrew Law is an attorney with the St. Louis Public Defender's Office.

Noel (Howard) Schiber (Doisy '98, Grad '00) lives in Des Peres, Mo., with her husband, Benjamin. They live in St. Louis.

Sara Landes (A&S) was accepted for a predoctoral internship position at the National Institute of Health in Washington, D.C. She received her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Kristina Kuehn (Parks) is a manager at the Seattle-King County Dental Foundation.

Tatiana Vaquero Escribano (A&S) works in the nuclear medicine technology department at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is a graduate of Ensica in nuclear medicine technology.

Evita Tolu (Cook) is an attorney with the Kline &カンツルフィルズ law firm in Los Angeles.

She has a master's degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Bologna, Italy.
This list of deceased alumni was compiled by SLU’s office of research and development services. If you have a question or would like more information about an deceased alumni, contact Mary Anne (Flynn) Auer at www.slu.edu.

**Surviving Twilight**

Surviving Twilight is the author's story of his deployment to Iraq as an Army Reserves soldier. This daily journal follows his journey from Fort Riley, Kan., to Log Base Sattil in Abu Ghraib, where he spent a year fighting the war on a heavily mortared base in Iraq. Facing death daily, Bemiscker shares his evolution of life in a culture of life in combat.

**Bio**

Dr. Barry Magid

In this medical thriller set in the South Pacific, a volunteer doctor faces off against not just a deadly virus, but also the radical terrorists who developed it. It is the debut novel by Magid, a surgeon who spent 15 years in the South Pacific. He has written numerous award-winning short stories and teaches writing in Fairhope, Ala.

**Words at the Wedding**

William I. Byron, SJ. (A&S '55, Grad '59) | Paulist Press

This book is based on the premise stronger the promise, the stronger will be the society in which the marriage promise is made.” It offers “paragraphs to ponder” about the time leading up to a wedding as well as what it takes to build a successful marriage. Words at the Wedding is intended for married couples, those on their way to the altar and ministers.

**Martial Law**

Michael Warshauer

The University of Tennessee Press

Warshauer offers details that show the ramifications of that decision. Orleans and the longterm political ramifications of that decision. Warshauer’s SLU doctoral dissertation, the author examines the circumstances surrounding Andrew Jackson’s declaration of martial law during the Battle of New Orleans and the longterm political ramifications of that decision. Warshauer offers details that show the impact of martial law during the Battle of New Orleans and the longterm political ramifications of that decision.

**Simple Mom**

Pamela Fullen Schulte | P. Fullen Publishing

Simple Mom: Advice from Someone Who Loves You is a collection of tips for living that author Schulte shares with her daughters over the years. Schulte, a longtime Chicago School of Law staff, offers stories and wisdom that aim to help readers enjoy life’s simplicities, weather the tough times and focus on the big picture. Advice ranges from “Travel abroad” to “Keep an umbrella in the car.”

**Off The Shelf**

LITERARY WORKS FROM THE SLU COMMUNITY

**Bernard Joseph “Joe” Kniest**

In 1958, he played a variety of roles in sports, including football and basketball, scoring for Billiken men’s basketball from 1959 to 1962. Joe Kniest was also the football and basketball equipment manager, scorer for Billiken men’s basketball from 1959 to 1962.

**The Sun Farmer**

Michael McCarthy (A&S ’94) | Ivan R. Dee

The Sun Farmer

When an explosion on his farm leaves Ted Fink with burns covering 53 percent of his body, his wife is forced to make difficult choices. While Ted is in a coma, she must decide whether to allow an experimental artificial skin to be used to save his life or to let him die. This nonfiction account, McCarthy shifts the story’s focus from the Finks to the transplant center, where the life-saving skin was developed.

**Andrew Jackson and the Politics of Martial Law**

Dr. Matthew Hanauer (Grad ’93, ’97) | The University of Tennessee Press

**This book, a revision of Hanauer’s SLU doctoral dissertation, the author examines the circumstances surrounding Andrew Jackson’s declaration of martial law during the Battle of New Orleans and the longterm political ramifications of that decision. Warshauer offers details that show the impact of martial law during the Battle of New Orleans and the longterm political ramifications of that decision.**
Alumni Associations

JOHN COOK SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
President: Todd Bus (’74, ’01)
• Cook Cup Classic Golf Tournament
  Wednesday, Sept. 5: Gateway National
  Golf Links in Madison, Ill.
• Join fellow business alumni for the
  seventh annual Cook Cup Classic golf
  tournament. The event includes a silent
  auction, plus golfing contests.
  alumni.slu.kintera.org/ccot07

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
President: Dr. Eugene Hayes
• Dental School Reunion Celebration Dinner
  Saturday, Sept. 6: 6 p.m. cocktail reception;
  7 p.m. dinner and award presentation;
  St. Francis Xavier College Church Ballrooms (lower level)
• Join fellow alumni for this special event
  celebrating all classes. The event includes the presentation
  of the Dental School Alumni Merit Award. The cost is $35 per person.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
President: Dr. Thomas J. Olson (’70)
• White Coat Ceremony and Reception
  Sunday, Aug. 5: 5:30 p.m. ceremony;
  St. Francis Xavier College Church;
  reception to follow in Busch Student Center; free admission
• Help celebrate this special clashing ceremony as first-year medical students
  embark on their medical careers.

2007 Tours

JAN. 31-51
Panama Canal Cruise
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Peru

FEB. 25-28
China and the Yangtze River Cruise
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Sicily

APR. 7-19
Treasures of China and the Yangtze River Cruise
Alumni Campus
Abroad: London

APR. 14-26
Essence of India
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Dubai

MAY 6-12
Jewels of the Danube
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Scotland

MAY 16-29
Treasures of Southern Africa
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Milan

JUNE 22-27
1 Alumni Campus
Abroad: Amsterdam

JULY 19-25
Passage of Peter the Great
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Tromso

SEP. 12-20
Spectacular Swiss Alps and Salzburg
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Vienna

SEP. 20-28
Enchanting Ireland
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Tuscany

OCT. 3-13
Best of Tuscany and the Italian Riviera
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Tuscany

OCT. 8-16
For more details on these trips and how to
reserve your space, visit the travel program. With site at www.
slu.edu/alumni/travel. Or call (314) 977-2250 and ask to be
placed on the travel mailing list.

TRAVEL NEWS

WASHINGTON, D.C.
CARDINALS VS. NATIONALS
Celebrate 80 years of aviation and innovation
with fellow SLU alumni at these events during Homecoming Weekend, Sept. 28-30:
• Kaye Miller speaker Gine Kranz
(Parks ’54) of Apollo 13 fame
• Private reception at National History Museum’s “Flight City” exhibit, featuring the restored Park P-51 plane
• History of Parks and History of Institute of Technology archives photo presentations
• Videotape your Parks IT stories and memories
• Parks Fly-In at Downtown St. Louis Airport
For more information, call Susan Bloomfield at (314) 977-8431 or visit parks.slu.edu/parks80.

PARKS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
AVIATION AND TECHNOLOGY
80-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
80 years of aviation and innovation with fellow alumni at these events during Homecoming Weekend, Sept. 28-30:
• Kaye Miller speaker Gine Kranz (Parks ’54) of Apollo 13 fame
• Private reception at National History Museum’s “Flight City” exhibit, featuring the restored Park P-51 plane
• History of Parks and History of Institute of Technology archives photo presentations
• Videotape your Parks IT stories and memories
• Parks Fly-In at Downtown St. Louis Airport
For more information, call Susan Bloomfield at (314) 977-8431 or visit parks.slu.edu/parks80.

2008 Tours

JAN. 25-31
Panama Canal Cruise
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Peru

FEB. 21-28
China and the Yangtze River Cruise
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Sicily

APR. 7-19
Treasures of China and the Yangtze River Cruise
Alumni Campus
Abroad: London

APR. 14-26
Essence of India
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Dubai

MAY 6-12
Jewels of the Danube
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Scotland

MAY 16-29
Treasures of Southern Africa
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Milan

JUNE 22-27
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Amsterdam

JULY 19-25
Passage of Peter the Great
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Tromso

SEP. 12-20
Spectacular Swiss Alps and Salzburg
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Vienna

SEP. 20-28
Enchanting Ireland
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Tuscany

OCT. 3-13
Best of Tuscany and the Italian Riviera
Alumni Campus
Abroad: Tuscany

PHILADELPHIA
CARDINALS VS. SIMONSTONES
Thursday, Sept. 6: 6 p.m. game party at
Philadelphia Pizza, 531 Market St.
The cost is $40 per person and includes the game and parking ticket.
alumni.slu.kintera.org/philadelphia07

PHILADELPHIA
CARDINALS VS. PHILLIES
Friday, July 13: 7:05 p.m. game party; 7:05
Alumni Union District Bank Park
The cost is $40 per person and includes the game and parking ticket.
alumni.slu.kintera.org/dback07

MIAMI
CARDINALS VS. MARLINS
Monday, Aug. 6: 7:05 p.m. game party;
7:05 p.m. first pitch; Dolphin Stadium
The cost is $30 per person and includes the
game party and ticket.
alumni.slu.kintera.org/marlin07

ATLANTA
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Joel Rapp (Cook ’60)
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JoeHavel@wattschicago.com
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MILWAUKEE
To be announced
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THAILAND
Joe Havel
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BILLENKIN TRAVEL PROGRAM 2007-08 TOURS

Being a Billiken traveler puts the world at your feet. This is your chance to see it all. Here is the schedule of trips for the remainder of 2007 and for all of 2008:

2008 Tours

JAN. 25-31
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Enchanting Ireland
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Abroad: Tuscany

WANT TO HEAR SLU NEWS FIRST?
Want first chance at hot tickets to alumni events?
Want to stay connected to SLU and your fellow alumni?
Be a Billiken in the know – subscribe to the Billiken e-Bulletin
Update your e-mail address with us – send your updated information
to alumni@slu.edu.
Mantsane doesn’t know that she’s different than other children I cared for when I completed my pediatric residency training in Houston — but she is. When I first met her six months ago after my arrival in Lesotho, a small country in sub-Saharan Africa, she wasn’t as happy as she looks in this picture. She was a very sick girl whose world was collapsing around her.

Her father died in hospital a few months before after leaving her mother to support Mantsane, her younger sister, teenage brother and 18-year-old pregnant sister on a factory job that pays the equivalent of about $125 a month. The first time I saw her at the clinic, she had just suffered a stroke — rare for normal children — that left her unable to swallow or speak. A few weeks later Mantsane became a double orphan when a neighbor found her mother dead on the floor of their tiny one-room house. Each of these circumstances makes Mantsane’s story uncommon in the United States, but what really makes her different is that she is HIV positive.

HIV-infected children are a rarity in the United States and most developed countries. Children with HIV almost always acquire it from their infected mothers, either during pregnancy, delivery or through breastfeeding. Adults often remain relatively healthy for years after being infected, but children’s immature immune systems often are overwhelmed by the virus.

Without treatment, 25 to 40 percent of HIV-infected children will die before they are 2 years old. The advent of antiretroviral medications and therapy that fight HIV improved those chances for survival. HIV-infected children who live in developed countries receive these life-saving medications, which almost instantly change their immune systems. In less than one and a half years children with HIV/AIDS are more likely to recover than those living in sub-Saharan Africa.

But this is not a story about sadness and suffering, it is a story of hope. To address the disparity between what was being done for HIV-infected children in the United States compared to children in the developing world, Dr. Mark Kline founded the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (BIPAI) in the late 1990s at the Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston. BIPAI built state-of-the-art pediatric clinics in several developing countries, including Lesotho. It lobbied for improved access to pediatric formulations of the life-saving antiretroviral medications, developed a pediatric HIV curriculum and began training health professionals.

One of the largest barriers to improving pediatric HIV/AIDS care and treatment was the lack of pediatric health professionals. Here in Lesotho, before BIPAI’s arrival, there were only two practicing pediatricians in the country, serving a population of just over 2 million. In response, BIPAI developed and implemented the Pediatric AIDS Corps, hiring 52 physicians to commit a minimum of one year to working in clinics.

After completing a pediatric residency and a chief residency year at Baylor, my wife, Heather, and I joined BIPAI — she as a biostatistician and me as one of the physicians in the first class of the Pediatric AIDS Corps. In August 2006 we moved to Maseru, Lesotho, along with 10 other doctors and began working in BIPAI’s pediatric HIV/AIDS clinic here. This is how I came to meet Mantsane.

In the last one and a half years that the clinic has been open, close to 1,000 HIV-exposed and HIV-infected children have been enrolled, and more than 300 are receiving antiretroviral medications.

Mantsane is just one example of the hope that medicines and physicians can bring. Soon after she came to the clinic, she was started on therapy and had a fantastic response. She has recovered almost all of the neurologic function damaged by her stroke.

Caring for children like Mantsane has been an incredible experience. There is nothing quite like watching children literally transform before your eyes from dearly ill to fully of life. It is a privilege to be a part of the global response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and even more rewarding to be a large part of the solution for Mantsane and other children. Amid the challenges Mantsane actually is the happy, smiling, healthy-looking child you see in the picture. Though she still faces a difficult future, orphaned and infected with HIV, she now has a future. And if her smile is any indication — it will be a bright one.

Dr. Tony Garcia-Prats lives in Maseru, Lesotho. "If I could access the library electronically, at any time of the day or night, it would be just great." — Kris Gerhard (A&S ’93), then a student discussing library upgrades in the story, “A Promised Renewed”
Come home to Saint Louis University!
Reconnect with your classmates and enjoy these events at Homecoming 2007:

- 25- and 50-year class reunions
- Campus tours
- Outdoor concert
- Billiken men’s soccer game
- Fireworks
- And much more

For more information or to register online, visit [www.slu.edu/alumni](http://www.slu.edu/alumni).