Twenty years ago, I had just begun to settle in for my first year here at Saint Louis University when I challenged our board of trustees and administration team to create new ways for us to fulfill our mission of forming women and men for others. We knew that the Saint Louis University educational experience was a unique opportunity, and we were striving to find a new way to attract students who not only were high-caliber academic scholars but also had the potential to become the type of leaders needed to improve our communities.

Due to the generosity of alumni and SLU supporters, we were able to establish the Presidential Scholars program, which back in 1988, awarded the first 10 recipients with full scholarships to Saint Louis University. In this issue of Universitas you will see how that investment continues to pay dividends for these 10 men and women and for the communities in which they live.

I am blessed to have been at SLU long enough not only to witness the growth of this first class of Presidential Scholars during their years at SLU, but also now to see how they have grown and fulfilled the promise we saw in them two decades ago. Starting on page 19, you can read about this “first-class” group — an emergency room physician, owner of a social service agency, corporate lawyer, business analyst, piano teacher, researcher, pediatrician, analyst, piano teacher, researcher, pediatrician, manager for a home health care company and two alumnae serving their families as full-time mothers.

Although they have settled on careers and homes that literally are all over the map, the members of the initial class of Presidential Scholars — much like the more than 300 Presidential Scholars who have followed them — show a commitment to service to others as well as an appreciation for the opportunities they received here at SLU. Their continued success is one of the best endorsements for the current and future generations of students who apply to Saint Louis University.

And that’s one of the most important ways our original scholar are returning the investment many SLU alumni and supporters made in them 20 years ago. We have great faculty, staff, researchers and alumni at Saint Louis University, but to keep SLU a great university, we need to continue to attract great students. All of you already are doing a wonderful job promoting Saint Louis University as you achieve success in your professional, personal and service lives. But I ask you to join your alma mater’s efforts to attract even more of tomorrow’s leaders to SLU.

During the last academic year, SLU’s total enrollment increased 3 percent, and our goal is to continue to provide more opportunities for students who are eager to study at SLU. Even outside of St. Louis, many of you will see in movie theaters and hear on the radio a new SLU recruitment campaign, that encourages students to “Be a Billiken.” Using our University’s unique mascot, the campaign highlights SLU’s equally unique attributes, which separate SLU from other top national schools.

But your help, whether setting up one-on-one meetings with prospective students in your city or joining SLU recruiters at a college fair in your area, can make the difference in whether a student seriously considers SLU. If you’re interested in letting some of your valuable time to the SLU recruitment cause, please contact our alumni relations office at alumni@slu.edu for more information.

I hope you enjoy reading about our 20th anniversary class of Presidential Scholars as much as I have enjoyed catching up with these 10 alumni.

Lawrence Biondi, S.J., President
T
to celebrate the Billiken’s 100th year, the University threw two birthday celebrations to coincide with Homecoming and Family Weekend, which drew thousands of graduates and parents to campus Sept. 26-28. In all, more than 2,500 alumni and friends and 1,200 parents and family members made their way to SLU’s campus. The schedule of events included class reunions, jazz socials, campus tours and a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game.

The birthday celebration kicked off in the Family Fun Area on Saturday, where alumni, parents and students turned out to make hats, enjoy birthday-themed activities and eat cupcakes. The Billiken had only one wish for his birthday party: that all of his friends bring new children’s books, later donated to a special program at SSDC Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center. Almost 200 books were collected. The birthday celebration continued that night, as the men’s soccer team won its game against in-state rival Missouri State University by a 5-0 margin, with almost 5,800 in attendance. It was the second largest crowd in Hermann Stadium history.

During halftime, the stadium lights dropped, and a three-tier cake was brought onto the field. The capacity crowd sang “Happy Birthday” to the Billiken. As soon as the song ended, a fireworks display erupted over the stadium.

The birthday celebration kicked off in the Family Fun Area on Saturday, where alumni, parents and students turned out to make hats, enjoy birthday-themed activities and eat cupcakes. The Billiken had only one wish for his birthday party: that all of his friends bring new children’s books, later donated to a special program at SSDC Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center. Almost 200 books were collected. The birthday celebration continued that night, as the men’s soccer team won its game against in-state rival Missouri State University by a 5-0 margin, with almost 5,800 in attendance. It was the second largest crowd in Hermann Stadium history.

During halftime, the stadium lights dropped, and a three-tier cake was brought onto the field. The capacity crowd sang “Happy Birthday” to the Billiken. As soon as the song ended, a fireworks display erupted over the stadium. Homecoming Weekend also featured tours of the new Chaifetz Arena, the annual golf cart parade, a barbecue, Mass, brunch and a concert. With wonderful events and spectacular weather, we ended, a fireworks display erupted over the stadium.

Above, the office of alumni relations at (314) 977-2250 to help with reunion planning.

“In all, more than 2,500 alumni and friends and 1,200 parents and family members made their way to SLU’s campus. The schedule of events included class reunions, jazz socials, campus tours and a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game. The birthday celebration kicked off in the Family Fun Area on Saturday, where alumni, parents and students turned out to make hats, enjoy birthday-themed activities and eat cupcakes. The Billiken had only one wish for his birthday party: that all of his friends bring new children’s books, later donated to a special program at SSDC Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center. Almost 200 books were collected. The birthday celebration continued that night, as the men’s soccer team won its game against in-state rival Missouri State University by a 5-0 margin, with almost 5,800 in attendance. It was the second largest crowd in Hermann Stadium history.

During halftime, the stadium lights dropped, and a three-tier cake was brought onto the field. The capacity crowd sang “Happy Birthday” to the Billiken. As soon as the song ended, a fireworks display erupted over the stadium. Homecoming Weekend also featured tours of the new Chaifetz Arena, the annual golf cart parade, a barbecue, Mass, brunch and a concert. With wonderful events and spectacular weather, we ended, a fireworks display erupted over the stadium. Homecoming Weekend also featured tours of the new Chaifetz Arena, the annual golf cart parade, a barbecue, Mass, brunch and a concert. With wonderful events and spectacular weather, we ended, a fireworks display erupted over the stadium. Homecoming Weekend also featured tours of the new Chaifetz Arena, the annual golf cart parade, a barbecue, Mass, brunch and a concert.
Nursing contributed to the historical remembrance. Nursing’s milestones. It was dedicated Sept. 27.

Million, five-year contract to the School of Public Health to follow the health of children across the nation whom researchers will follow from before birth to age 21 to learn about the National Children’s Study, the largest study ever conducted to learn about the health and development of children, has selected SLU’s School of Public Health to exhibit “Pursuit of the Spirit,” which draws on artists and artworks selected from the museum’s first 35 exhibitions. As the museum celebrates its 50th anniversary, the selections are dedicated to the ongoing dialogue between contemporary artists and the world’s faith traditions. The museum is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. For more information, visit mcrca.slu.edu.

The Saint Louis University Museum of Art is present - ranging from the historic and whimsical. SLUMA’s collections, with the help of the Corrigan family, celebrate and reveal explorations into the world’s faith traditions. The SLUMA’s temporary artists and the permanent collections are showcased in the collection: “George Washington Carver, an 1862-1863 cigarette pack and an 1860 Abraham Lincoln campaign coin are among the more than 700 campaign items, ranging from the historic and stodic to the contemporary and whimsical. SLUMA’s hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. For more information, visit sluma.slu.edu.
The 2008 Saint Louis softball team’s cumulative grade point average of 3.428 for the 2007-08 academic year helped the Billikens earn recognition as a National Fastpitch Coaches Association/girls got game Top 10 All-Academic Team. SLU had the sixth-highest GPA in the nation.

Interim cross country coach Jon Bell has been promoted to take over coaching duties for cross country and track programs on a full-time basis. Last season, Bell directed the squads to arguably their best seasons in school history, with the women’s cross country team posting its best finish since joining the Atlantic 10 Conference.

Historic win:

The Saint Louis University volleyball team scored one of the biggest wins in program history on Sept. 6, when it upset No. 3 Stanford 27-25, 28-25, 25-22, 25-22 in front of a record crowd of 2,552 fans in Chaifetz Arena. With the win, the Billikens defended a ranked opponent for only the second time. “What can I say about this match?” SLU head coach Anne Kordes said. “It was just an incredible performance by a group of players who believe in each other.”

How does a gift of art further benefit the Jesuit mission of the University?

There is a long Jesuit tradition of finding God in all things, especially in art. In 1845, Pierre-Jean De Smet, S.J., brought a gift of 51 old master paintings to the University from Belgium, creating the first art collection at SLU and in St. Louis. Gifts of art offer other gifts usually offered to our university. Using these works, our professors can teach about movements and styles, and our students can cement these ideas by a personal examination of the work. At their core, our museums and galleries help further the University’s goals of supporting, preserving and promoting learning.

What do you have to consider when accepting a piece to the collection?

We consider how the proposed donation contributes to our mission and fits with our collections. For example, we have permanent collections of Jesuit artifacts, Asian decorative art, modern and contemporary paintings, prints and sculpture. You’ll find old master paintings in the Marquette Gallery and the historic Samuel Cupples House as well as historic furniture, glass and ceramics. The University stewards great things for our community, and we are always looking to deepen the collections. However, we are always ready to accept unique works that contribute to the intellectual life of the University community.

What are the benefits of donating a piece of art to SLU?

Most importantly, for people who are passionate about their collections, we can ensure that their gift will be held in trust for others to share. For example, our Eleanor Turshin glass collection, a recent addition includes an infamous punch-card voting machine from Florida’s West Palm County, used—or misused—in the 2000 election between George W. Bush and Al Gore.

For additional information about making a gift of art to Saint Louis University, please contact David Suwalsky, S.J., (314) 977-3022 or by e-mail at suwalsky@slu.edu. If you have questions concerning estate planning or tax implication issues pertaining to a gift of art, please contact Kent Lehan (Cook ’87, Grad Cook ’97), executive director of planned giving, at (314) 977-2357 or at planguising@slu.edu. For other types of gifts or donations, please call (314) 977-2849 or visit giving.slu.edu.

{ SQLI news }

TROST WINS SPOT ON ALL-NCAA SOCCER TEAM

Saint Louis University Billiken standout and National Soccer Hall of Fame Alum Tom (AACS ’71) was one of 11 former collegiate players named to the NCAA College Cup 50th Anniversary Team in October. The squad, which will be recognized at the 50th Men’s Soccer College Cup this December in Frisco, Texas, was chosen in a public vote via NCAA.com.

Trost compiled 61 career points and won the Hermann Trophy in 1969 and 1970. He also led the Billikens to the NCAA championship in both of those seasons.

{ advancement news }
The Billiken: From Fad to Icon

Saint Louis University's beloved mascot celebrates his 100th birthday this year.

By Nick Sagen

Saint Louis University’s beloved mascot celebrates his 100th birthday this year.

At the celebration of its 36th birthday, the Billiken remained omnipresent on the SLU campus and continues to have an undeniable impact on the University.

Walk though SLU’s picturesque campus and you can’t miss the wry smile of the Billiken. From the bronze statue whose round belly has been rubbed millions of times for good luck to the swarm of Billikens winking from the backs of the SLU-blue T-shirts worn by virtually every student, he’s everywhere.

It’s not surprising that the SLU community has such affection for the symbol representing “things as they ought to be.” Saint Louis University is the only institution of higher education that claims the venerable SLU icon and gets tempted to catch up with the guy who can bring a packed arena to its feet.

In honor of his 100th birthday, the Billiken remains omnipresent on the SLU campus and continues to have an undeniable impact on the University.

The Billiken's origins may be a bit murky, and how he came to Saint Louis University literally can document the true origins of the Billiken — the University displays a copy of the original U.S. government patent with its Billiken collection at Chaifetz Arena (the original is stored for preservation) — there are many tales of where and how he came into existence.

The Billiken's Wikipedia page says that the icon was named after President William Howard Taft. In the northwest portion of the country, many believe the Billiken came from Eskimo culture. "There’s a lot of stuff floating around," said SLU archivist John Waite (ARCH 73), who has studied the history of the Billiken. He said the University was able to trace the Billiken’s origins in large part because his creator left SLU a number of article clippings and letters expressing from the heights of the Billiken’s popularity.

"He was skeptical himself, with all his worldliness, you see," Pretz told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in November 1909. "So I concluded if there is chance that we shape our own lives, and my clay was made to fashion as I would, I might as well make an image, which embodied hope and happiness to sort of live up to. And this piece of impudence was evolved."

She took the verse that inspired her, wrote it on a piece of paper, folded it up and placed it in the belly of the first clay statue she created. She took one of the fanciful names from another popular poem of the day, "Mr. Moon: A Song of The Little People," to come up with the title for her impish creation: Billiken.

Her friends and acquaintances loved the elfin statue, and it soon became a nationwide sensation — comparable to the fervor the United States has had for pet rocks or Cabbage Patch Dolls.

The collected newspaper clippings in the University archives don’t make the history of the Billiken’s ascent to fame completely clear, but they do set the foundation of the lore of the Billiken. Along with the original patent, Pretz’s daughter, Jane Smalley, donated to SLU a volume of articles, drawings and some Billiken artifacts before her own death about seven years ago.

The first mass-manufactured Billikens — made by the Billiken Co. of Chicago — were cast as iron banks and quickly grew into many incarnations, including a doll with a plaster head and a plush body. But the Billiken really began to take hold of the country’s imagination when he was cast in plastic sitting atop a throne. The smoking Billiken was dubbed “the god of things as they ought to be” and was an icon of the mind-cure era — a period of American pop-medicine history that extolled the virtues of positive thinking.

Within months of its mass production, the Billiken quickly became a ubiquitous cultural force. Soon the character would be found on jewelry, saltshakers, china plates, postcards, pillows and even on an amulet hung in cars for safe driving. But it wasn’t just consumer goods that were part of the revolution: Blanche Ring, a singing comedienne, introduced “The Billiken Man Song,” and Ed Wynn performed a one-man Vaudeville show inspired by the character.

But like many fads that exploded on the scene, the popularity of the Billiken didn’t last for long. His time quickly passed and was replaced by other crazes like the Kewpie doll, which debuted a few months after the Billiken but has had a more enduring cultural impact.

During his run, the Billiken was a very profitable venture — not for his creator. Although Pretz filed the original patent for the Billiken, she saw little compensation from the Billiken Co. of Chicago. In an article from the Nov. 7, 1909, Post-Dispatch she said she made a meager $50 a month on the royalties due to a poorly worded contract she signed with the firm.

Media accounts of the day vary on Pretz’s reaction to the Billiken craze. Some have her saying that she would walk miles out of the way to avoid store windows that had her little figure on display, and others stated that the town officials in Spokane, Wash., which adopted the Billiken as a mascot, offered to pay for Pretz’s art school education. She declined the city’s offer, choosing to pay her own way.

She seemed ready to move past the whole fiasco when quoted in a Kansas City Post article in November 1909: "He’s all right," Pretz told the paper. "He just happened, though. I never did feel any sentiment about him. I’m glad folks like him."

But like many fads that exploded on the scene, the popularity of the Billiken didn’t last for long. His time quickly passed and was replaced by other crazes like the Kewpie doll, which debuted a few months after the Billiken but has had a more enduring cultural impact.

During his run, the Billiken was a very profitable venture — not for his creator. Although Pretz filed the original patent for the Billiken, she saw little compensation from the Billiken Co. of Chicago. In an article from the Nov. 7, 1909, Post-Dispatch she said she made a meager $50 a month on the royalties due to a poorly worded contract she signed with the firm.

Another undated and unattributed newspaper account in the SLU archives quoted Pretz in this exchange:

"I’m out of patience with the whole subject," Miss Pretz said. "You’d smash one if you had a chance?" [asked the reporter].

"I certainly would," [Pretz said].

Although Saint Louis University literally can document the true origins of the Billiken — the University displays a copy of the original U.S. government patent with its Billiken collection at Chaifetz Arena (the original is stored for preservation) — there are many tales of where and how he came into existence.

The Billiken's Wikipedia page says that the icon was named after President William Howard Taft. In the northwest portion of the country, many believe the Billiken came from Eskimo culture. "There’s a lot of stuff floating around," said SLU archivist John Waite (ARCH 73), who has studied the history of the Billiken. He said the University was able to trace the Billiken’s origins in large part because his creator left SLU a number of article clippings and letters expressing from the heights of the Billiken’s popularity.

"He was skeptical himself, with all his worldliness, you see," Pretz told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in November 1909. "So I concluded if there is chance that we shape our own lives, and my clay was made to fashion as I would, I might as well make an image, which embodied hope and happiness to sort of live up to. And this piece of impudence was evolved."

She took the verse that inspired her, wrote it on a piece of paper, folded it up and placed it in the belly of the first clay statue she created. She took one of the fanciful names from another popular poem of the day, "Mr. Moon: A Song of The Little People," to come up with the title for her impish creation: Billiken.

Her friends and acquaintances loved the elfin statue, and it soon became a nationwide sensation — comparable to the fervor the United States has had for pet rocks or Cabbage Patch Dolls.

The collected newspaper clippings in the University archives don’t make the history of the Billiken’s ascent to fame completely clear, but they do set the foundation of the lore of the Billiken. Along with the original patent, Pretz’s daughter, Jane Smalley, donated to SLU a volume of articles, drawings and some Billiken artifacts before her own death about seven years ago.

The first mass-manufactured Billikens — made by the Billiken Co. of Chicago — were cast as iron banks and quickly grew into many incarnations, including a doll with a plaster head and a plush body. But the Billiken really began to take hold of the country’s imagination when he was cast in plastic sitting atop a throne. The smoking Billiken was dubbed “the god of things as they ought to be” and was an icon of the mind-cure era — a period of American pop-medicine history that extolled the virtues of positive thinking.

Within months of its mass production, the Billiken quickly became a ubiquitous cultural force. Soon the character would be found on jewelry, saltshakers, china plates, postcards, pillows and even on an amulet hung in cars for safe driving. But it wasn’t just consumer goods that were part of the revolution: Blanche Ring, a singing comedienne, introduced “The Billiken Man Song,” and Ed Wynn performed a one-man Vaudeville show inspired by the character.

But like many fads that exploded on the scene, the popularity of the Billiken didn’t last for long. His time quickly passed and was replaced by other crazes like the Kewpie doll, which debuted a few months after the Billiken but has had a more enduring cultural impact.

During his run, the Billiken was a very profitable venture — not for his creator. Although Pretz filed the original patent for the Billiken, she saw little compensation from the Billiken Co. of Chicago. In an article from the Nov. 7, 1909, Post-Dispatch she said she made a meager $50 a month on the royalties due to a poorly worded contract she signed with the firm.

Another undated and unattributed newspaper account in the SLU archives quoted Pretz in this exchange:

"I’m out of patience with the whole subject," Miss Pretz said. "You’d smash one if you had a chance?" [asked the reporter].

"I certainly would," [Pretz said].
F or all his popularity at Saint Louis University, the Billiken is an icon who has meant more to the SLU community than he has to the outside world. Sure, he gets quite a bit of attention from the national sports media come NCAA tournament time. But when it comes to what it means to be a Billiken, for the last 108 years it’s something only Billikens could understand.

In his 108th year that’s about to change. This fall, Saint Louis University rolled out a nationwide marketing campaign that emphasizes the unique qualities of a Saint Louis University educational experience by inviting prospective students to “Be a Billiken.”

The campaign is running in areas that draw many students to SLU, including St. Louis, central Illinois, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. The campaign can be found on billikenbrand.com, with a Breaking News section where fans can follow along with stories about the campaign.

The campaign’s main headline encourages students to “Be inspired. Be outstanding. Be unique. Be a Billiken.” It also demonstrates to prospective students that being a Billiken means more than simply emulating SLU’s popular, unique mascot. It is about the Jesuit tradition of “educating the whole person.”

After 100 years the Billiken remains fresh and meaningful to our students,” Fowler said. “We are so fortunate to have a mascot as strong as the Billiken,” said Jeff Fowler, associate vice president for University marketing and communications. “He is truly exclusive to Saint Louis University and represents what every member of the SLU community loves about their experience here.”

The campaign is running in areas that draw many students to SLU, including St. Louis, central Illinois, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. The campaign can be found on billikenbrand.com, with a Breaking News section where fans can follow along with stories about the campaign.

The campaign’s main headline encourages students to “Be inspired. Be outstanding. Be unique. Be a Billiken.” It also demonstrates to prospective students that being a Billiken means more than simply emulating SLU’s popular, unique mascot. It is about the Jesuit tradition of “educating the whole person.”

After 100 years the Billiken remains fresh and meaningful to our students,” Fowler said. “We are so fortunate to have a mascot as strong as the Billiken,” said Jeff Fowler, associate vice president for University marketing and communications. “He is truly exclusive to Saint Louis University and represents what every member of the SLU community loves about their experience here.”

The campaign is running in areas that draw many students to SLU, including St. Louis, central Illinois, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. The campaign can be found on billikenbrand.com, with a Breaking News section where fans can follow along with stories about the campaign.

The campaign’s main headline encourages students to “Be inspired. Be outstanding. Be unique. Be a Billiken.” It also demonstrates to prospective students that being a Billiken means more than simply emulating SLU’s popular, unique mascot. It is about the Jesuit tradition of “educating the whole person.”

After 100 years the Billiken remains fresh and meaningful to our students,” Fowler said. “We are so fortunate to have a mascot as strong as the Billiken,” said Jeff Fowler, associate vice president for University marketing and communications. “He is truly exclusive to Saint Louis University and represents what every member of the SLU community loves about their experience here.”

The campaign is running in areas that draw many students to SLU, including St. Louis, central Illinois, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. The campaign can be found on billikenbrand.com, with a Breaking News section where fans can follow along with stories about the campaign.

The campaign’s main headline encourages students to “Be inspired. Be outstanding. Be unique. Be a Billiken.” It also demonstrates to prospective students that being a Billiken means more than simply emulating SLU’s popular, unique mascot. It is about the Jesuit tradition of “educating the whole person.”

After 100 years the Billiken remains fresh and meaningful to our students,” Fowler said. “We are so fortunate to have a mascot as strong as the Billiken,” said Jeff Fowler, associate vice president for University marketing and communications. “He is truly exclusive to Saint Louis University and represents what every member of the SLU community loves about their experience here.”
He literally has taught generations of Saint Louis University students. His classes fill up during the first week of registration. His books are required reading at schools across the country. His monthly column in *America* is routinely among the magazine’s most-read articles. He’s received numerous awards for his writings, his preaching and his teaching.

In a word, John Kavanaugh, S.J., is legendary. Even if you never took his class, if you’ve been around SLU since 1974 you probably know his name. For those who don’t, Kavanaugh (A&S ’65, Grad ’66, ’71) is a professor of philosophy and founder of SLU’s Ethics Across the Curriculum program and author of several books, including *Following Christ in a Consumer Society* and *Who Count as Persons: Human Identity and the Ethics of Killing*.

His homilies, lectures and class presentations cover everything from consumerism to medical ethics to the meaning of life. This interview is no different.

**UNIVERSITAS:** To what do you attribute your decades of popularity among students?

**KAVANAUGH:** Well, you know it’s lucky if you’re able to teach something that you love. That helps. And then if you also care about students, that helps. That doesn’t mean you’re going to be effective with all of them, but a lot of them will respond to that. If you’re in love with the topic and if you really care about the people you’re dealing with, it makes it very easy.

My take on philosophy has always involved the primary questions of human identity and the meaning of human life. Human behavior and ethics really engage me, and I think they engage many of the students. They’re trying to figure out what the arc of their life is all about. Why are they here? What’s going to make a meaningful, fulfilled, flourishing life? Those questions are very close to some philosophical issues.

**UNIVERSITAS:** Do you have a personal philosophy?

**K:** Well, it’s a hybrid. I’d say the foundation is the philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas and Aristotle. That’s what I got studying at Saint Louis U.

While working on my doctorate at Washington University, I studied social and political philosophy. So that’s a big component — applying the classical foundation of Aquinas and Aristotle to the social, political and cultural world.

In many ways I think philosophy, and all education if it’s authentic, has to somehow deprogram a lot of things that are going on in our culture, in terms of what’s real, what’s important, what lasts, what’s worth loving, what’s true. I would give my philosophy a general term of “Thomistic personalism” — that’d be Thomas Aquinas combined with personalism. There are a lot of forces at work in the world and in our culture that are depersonalizing. So, philosophically, you have to engage that.

I’ve spent a lot of time looking at advertising and how it can lead to a depersonalized way of life — where things are more...
K: So part of the philosophy program, as I see it, is to help them understand of what is important in life and lose that vision entirely. But if you have an notion of forming men and women for others that are developed every year. So you might probe the reasons why, it's easy for you to apply that, we study ethics, to see how one can take a moral stance in the world.

K: Each year loses a little bit more of history that change the quality of the argument. Once animal rights, for example, became very big, this became a huge philosophical issue. You’ve got to deal with the difference between a human animal and other animals. You can see this in the words calling a country the “Great Satan” or an “Axis of Evil.” Of course if you’re the “Great Satan,” you can be killed. It comes from both sides. And if we do this continually, we’re not going to be able to resolve this problem of international violence.

K: What do you hope that alumni who are Saint Louis U., my students are more inclined to be people of hope. And they’ll pass that on, that inclination to hope. They’re not only going to have better lives, they’re going to influence the lives of other people for the better. And that’s what makes them more inclined to be men and women for others.

K: Do you think the students themselves make every class a little different?

K: Yes. Oh, yes. What really changes is their reference points. And this is a challenging thing. Each year loses a little bit more of history because of the knowledge explosion that we have. We’ve got very, very intelligent students — in fact, among the most gifted we’ve ever had here — and yet their historical grasp and allusions to literature are not strong. So that’s always a challenge. For example, in the “70s, if I would mention the evacuation of Dunkirk, where the medical procedure of triage first took place, the students knew it because they had studied the history of World War II. This past semester I’d bring up Dunkirk, and one person would know what it was about. Which does not mean that they’re not smart in a lot of other ways, but Dunkirk is ancient history. You can’t make allusions to it unless you explain it. You can’t even make allusions to the first Gulf War. So the range of your allusions has to shift. That’s why it’s important to keep up with the culture.

K: Why is philosophy so important to the lives of other people for the better. And that’s what makes them more inclined to be men and women for others.

K: Do you think the students themselves make every class a little different?

K: Yes. The book is about the tendency to treat persons as things, rather than inherently dignified, irreplaceable persons. Capital punishment is literally turning a living human person into a dead object. It’s depersonalizing. All murder is. And we do this to classes of people; we literally treat them as things. How do we treat the poor? How do we treat the enemy? How do we treat ourselves? Are we things?

K: What do you hope that alumni who took your class years ago still remember?

K: The greatest achievement for my teaching would be if, because of their stay here at Saint Louis U., my students are more inclined to be people of hope. And by the time I was ready to be ordained a priest, it became much clearer for me that a vocation allows you to flourish in a way that you could not have flourished if you were just working at something. And then there are matters of future. When you’re a Jesuit, you’re part of the personal in a human being, then you cannot reduce persons to just mere matter, objects or commodities.

The greatest achievement for my teaching would be if, because of their stay here at Saint Louis U., my students are more inclined to be people of hope.

The greatest achievement for my teaching would be if, because of their stay here at Saint Louis U., my students are more inclined to be people of hope.

The greatest achievement for my teaching would be if, because of their stay here at Saint Louis U., my students are more inclined to be people of hope.

The greatest achievement for my teaching would be if, because of their stay here at Saint Louis U., my students are more inclined to be people of hope.

The greatest achievement for my teaching would be if, because of their stay here at Saint Louis U., my students are more inclined to be people of hope.

The greatest achievement for my teaching would be if, because of their stay here at Saint Louis U., my students are more inclined to be people of hope.
For years, Saint Louis University had a tested emergency plan in place. And University officials had worked hard to ensure that the SLU campus was a safe place to live, learn and work. But like other colleges and universities across the country, the April 16, 2007, shootings at Virginia Tech came as a sobering wake up call for SLU.

“Virginia Tech frightened a lot of people,” said Connie Tillman (PS ’06), SLU’s emergency preparedness coordinator, who, at the time, was serving as a supervisor in the department public safety. “Everyone thought, ‘If it could happen there, it could happen here.’”

That sentiment echoed in the classrooms and across the quadrangles of college campuses everywhere. At SLU, University officials already were working to enhance emergency preparedness, but Virginia Tech underscored the need to move more quickly and to take those efforts to the next level.

Within a few months of the tragedy, the University had researched and secured an emergency communication system that could alert students, faculty and staff about campus violence or other critical situations on their cell phones.

But even more importantly, SLU officials made the strategic decision to create a new, high-ranking position to focus solely on emergency preparedness planning — a duty that before had been shared by others, all of whom already had other full-time obligations.
So last fall, the University hired Sam Simon, the former public safety director for the City of St. Louis, to coordinate all safety and preparedness planning. After arriving on campus, Simon soon saw the need to fundamentally change the way SLU approached emergency preparedness. By their very design, colleges and universities operate in silos. That approach just doesn’t cut it when it comes to emergency preparedness, Simon said.

“The very nature of preparedness transcends disciplines,” he said. “Communication, collaboration and integration are critical. You have to be able to work across and within all disciplines for a sense of preparedness. SLU has embraced that from the top down.”

Prior to Simon’s appointment, SLU had made significant inroads toward greater collaboration, establishing a special emergency preparedness taskforce drawing from departments all over campus. Simon pressed to take those partnerships even further and to formalize them by bringing all of SLU’s safety-related units — which reported to different areas — under one roof. Now as administrator for University safety and preparedness, Simon supervises public safety, which handles the day-to-day security of the campus; environmental safety, which oversees SLU’s many research labs; and risk management, a unit that identifies, mitigates and reduces on-campus risks.

“This really was a first for Saint Louis University, and it’s our intention to create a model for safety and preparedness for other colleges,” Simon said.

Few people at SLU understood the need to make these structural changes more than Dr. Greg Evans (Ph.D. ’82, Grad ’36), founder and director of SLU’s Institute for Biosecurity and a professor of public health. This nationally recognized disaster preparedness expert co-chairs SLU’s emergency preparedness taskforce.

“It’s extremely important this happened, and I think it’s unique,” Evans said. “When I look around the Office of Public Health, there are many city and state governments that still have not done this. They still have their own silos.”

Evans has worked at SLU for 32 years and said the University has never been better prepared to handle a campus shooting, tornado, power outage or other campus emergency. “Preparedness isn’t something where you can sit around the table after you have an event and discuss how you’re going to respond,” Evans added. “You can only be truly prepared when you have brought all of these groups under one central leadership. I’m very pleased with the direction the University is taking.”

With this new organizational structure in place, SLU’s preparedness plans kicked into high gear. Some changes are far-reaching. An online emergency response guide is being developed for students, faculty and staff to help them know what to do in the event of a fire, earthquake and other potential disasters. Emergency and evacuation information is being placed in classrooms and dorm rooms.

Some changes are small. For example, SLU’s public safety officers now carry bolt cutters in their vehicles. (The Northern Illinois University gunman chained shut the doors of the classroom building where he opened fire.)

In addition to enhancing its ability to respond to a crisis, SLU also is stepping up its efforts to prevent them. For several years, SLU staffs from residence life, public safety and other areas have met weekly to discuss student issues from the week before. They have looked for red-flag behaviors. Now they’ve strengthened those efforts and developed more of a formal structure to identify at-risk individuals and intervene as necessary.

Education and training also are playing essential roles. All of SLU’s public safety officers have received training for dealing with a shooter on campus. For the larger community, the University is developing educational programs about campus violence that will be delivered during new student, faculty and staff orientations and placed online for everyone to access. And on a smaller scale, key safety personnel and high-ranking administrators have completed sessions on homeland security command structures and protocols.

“Fundamentally, we’re changing the way we do things,” Simon said. “It’s about being proactive rather than reactive. We’re still concentrating on our ability to respond, but now we’re focusing on intervention and prevention just as much.”

SLU also is pushing its preparedness efforts into areas outside of campus violence. The University is finalizing new business recovery and continuity plans in the event of a disaster. It’s also honing up its IT systems, creating backup structures and eliminating any gaps that could expose the University to technological attacks.

SLU also is examining its readiness for a pandemic situation, such as avian flu, which could lead to a whole host of issues, including mass absenteeism.

Putting resources into planning for something that it is hoped will never happen may not seem like the best thing for the bottom line, but Simon said that’s simply not the case.

“When you’re preparing for an emergency or crisis, you can gain organizational efficiencies,” Simon said. “Preparedness is just good business practice. It can have a daily positive impact.”

Even if all of this work didn’t enhance the organization, Simon doesn’t like to imagine the alternative to not pursuing this mission of safety and preparedness.

“There’s no quick fix for this, but we’re taking steps to reduce our risks every day,” Simon said. “The consequences of not doing this are almost immeasurable.”

Twenty years ago, Tricia Scerba’s father was reading the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, and an article caught his eye. Lawrence Biondi, S.J., recently appointed president of Saint Louis University, announced three new scholarship programs designed to attract the nation’s most outstanding high school students.

Biondi said the scholarships would be awarded to those who have a passion for life and the energy and talent to help make the world a more just and peaceful place.

Of the new aid packages, Scerba’s father thought she should try for the Presidential Merit Scholarship — the University’s first full scholarship covering tuition and housing.

“I doubt I would have applied to SLU because it was way out of my price range, but I decided to take a chance,” Scerba said.

Her gamble paid off. Scerba, now an Illinois pediatrician, was chosen as one of SLU’s first Presidential Scholars. Because the scholarship was so new, and announced so close to application deadlines, fewer than 50 students — mostly from the St. Louis area — applied for the initial 10 spots. The finalists were brought to campus for a tour and a two-hour interview with a faculty member and a representative from the financial aid office.

Today, the vetting and the numbers are vastly different.
Of the 10,000 undergraduate students applying for admission to SLU, approximately 1,450 meet the academic criteria for a Presidential Scholarship (30 ACT or 1320 SAT score and a 3.85 grade point average), and 800 students apply for it. Of these 800 students, 400 are brought to campus over two weekends to compete for 20 scholarships. The students face two panel interviews with business leaders, faculty, staff, alumni, and current and former Presidential Scholars. Reflecting the University’s diverse student population, more than half of today’s applicants are from out of state, and their résumés go beyond impressive test scores. These students already have proven themselves as class presidents, community leaders, volunteers, writers, artists, athletes and more.

The scholarship also has evolved from a financial reward with few requirements to a program that mandates scholars serve as leaders in their community. Scholars also must work with a faculty mentor on a research, internship, service or study-abroad project.

The award has had on their lives. “Our Presidential Scholar alumni have gone on to have divergent careers, but they all have one thing in common — they are changing the world in which we live,” Biondi said. “Their successes are among my personal highlights in 21 years as president of Saint Louis University.” We caught up with the 10 inaugural scholars to see what impact the award has had on their lives.

PROFESSOR OF MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, Wash. D.C.

Dr. Peter McCarthy (A&S ’92, Mod ’96) Emergency room physician, vice chief of staff and EMS director St. John’s Mercy Hospital Washington, Mo.

Peter McCarthy is the third of nine children. He knew his parents couldn’t help with college, so he worked at Target to pay for his last two years of private high school. He thought he would need to work to get through SLU until he was named a Presidential Scholar.

“The scholarship had a tremendous impact on me and my family,” he said.

McCarthy said the scholarship allowed him to live on campus, focus on his studies and enjoy extracurricular activities such as rugby. It also allowed him, at the age of 18, to begin training as an emergency medical technician (EMT).

McCarthy worked as an EMT during his last three years of undergraduate studies and his first few years at SLU medical school. After completing his residency in pediatrics and internal medicine at SLU, McCarthy joined a health care group that provided physicians on a temporary basis to emergency departments throughout the nation. McCarthy worked in Missouri and Illinois for two years before joining St. John’s Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis.

“Researchers may test hundreds of thousands of drug molecules before coming up with the one that works,” he said. “That takes countless hours. Anything you can do to accelerate this process saves the company money and has the potential to save lives.”

Wahle was familiar with Tripos software even before he began working for the St. Louis-based firm. He was introduced to the software during an undergraduate biochemistry fellowship at SLU.

“Early on, I knew I wanted to pursue computational chemistry,” said Dr. Boyd A. Braddock (Grad ’05), vice president for enrollment management. “Now we think of the scholarship as more than just good grades. It’s an investment in the future success of Saint Louis University. We expect the scholars to give back to the University and the community with their time and talent, truly becoming men and women for others.”

In 2003, as part of the University’s commitment to spreading its resources as far as possible, the Presidential Scholarship began covering tuition only — still a sizeable award worth approximately $50,000 over four years. During the past 20 years SLU has invested more than $60 million in its Presidential Scholars.

“Our Presidential Scholar alumni have gone on to have divergent careers, but they all have one thing in common — they are changing the world in which we live,” Biondi said. “Their successes are among my personal highlights in 21 years as president of Saint Louis University.”

“We caught up with the 10 inaugural scholars to see what impact the award has had on their lives.

Dr. Peter McCarthy (A&S ’92, Mod ’96) Emergency room physician, vice chief of staff and EMS director St. John’s Mercy Hospital Washington, Mo.

Peter McCarthy is the third of nine children. He knew his parents couldn’t help with college, so he worked at Target to pay for his last two years of private high school. He thought he would need to work to get through SLU until he was named a Presidential Scholar.

“The scholarship had a tremendous impact on me and my family,” he said.

McCarthy said the scholarship allowed him to live on campus, focus on his studies and enjoy extracurricular activities such as rugby. It also allowed him, at the age of 18, to begin training as an emergency medical technician (EMT).

McCarthy worked as an EMT during his last three years of undergraduate studies and his first few years at SLU medical school. After completing his residency in pediatrics and internal medicine at SLU, McCarthy joined a health care group that provided physicians on a temporary basis to emergency departments throughout the nation. McCarthy worked in Missouri and Illinois for two years before joining St. John’s Mercy full time in 2003. In addition to being an E.R. physician, McCarthy is vice chief of staff and director of emergency medical services (EMS), providing medical direction for seven different ambulance services and all the services in the area.

“When you’re 18 years old, you don’t see how something shapes you. And now, here I am at 38, directing EMS services,” he said. “That never would have happened had I not received the Presidential Scholarship and the freedom that came with it.”


Mark Wahle is helping pharmaceutical companies get safer, more effective drugs to patients more quickly.

As a business analyst at Tripos International, Wahle serves as the bridge between researchers searching for compounds with the potential of becoming new drugs and computer programmers who can develop software to speed up the discovery process.

“Researchers may test hundreds of thousands of drug molecules before coming up with the one that works,” he said. “That takes countless hours. Anything you can do to accelerate this process saves the company money and has the potential to save lives.”

Wahle was familiar with Tripos software even before he began working for the St. Louis-based firm. He was introduced to the software during an undergraduate biochemistry fellowship at SLU.

Wahle earned his Ph.D. in medicinal chemistry from Purdue. Initially, he joined Tripos as a support scientist, teaching other scientists how to use Tripos software. Now a business analyst, Wahle assists clients worldwide, including such pharmaceutical giants as Pfizer and Wyeth.

“I’m happy to have found a way to use my love of chemistry to benefit people through medicine.”
"It's interesting, challenging work," she said. "I have to interpret not only what scientists are saying but what the law is saying. I use what I learned at SLU every single day."

He resumed his studies at Notre Dame and became a sociology researcher for GARA, a national, Catholic research center affiliated with Georgetown University. Through his surveys with Church leaders and lay Catholics, Peri explores such topics as the effects of Catholic schooling on children, public reaction to the sex abuse scandals and Catholic attitudes about poverty, politics and global issues.

"I'm happy to be serving the Church in a way that uses my skills as a social scientist," said Peri, who works from his home in Pittsburgh. "I hope what I do is helping Church leaders make informed decisions."

Christy (Rudroff) Belk
(A&S ’92)
Pediatrician, Rural Health Center at the Dr. John Warner Hospital, Clinton, Ill.

When Hurricane Katrina was bearing down on the Gulf Coast, one of the first things Christy Belk grabbed was a large Rubbenvair tub containing family photos, important legal documents, diplomas and a single-page letter. "My Presidential Scholarship acceptance letter means a lot to me," she said. "Because we live on the Gulf Coast, we've had to evacuate more than once, and it always goes with me."

Without the scholarship, Belk said it would have missed out on valuable life lessons. "The scholarship and my professors inspired me to work toward goals and helped shape the person I've become," she said.

After graduating, Belk moved to Ocean Springs, Miss., and worked as an occupational director for a large primary care center that provides services to patients along the Mississippi coast. "Home care is truly why I went into nursing," she said. "You develop relationships with your patients, and you allow them to stay in their home, which is what most patients want." Shambro specializes in gerontology and agrees with those who say today's elderly comprise the greatest generation.

"They have so much wisdom to give us, and they deserve to be well cared for," she said. "I don't want them to sing out of rations. I want the songs to have meaning and to help them realize God is active in their lives."

Karen (Spitzig) Sazdoff
(A&S ’92)
Full-time mom, Waconia, Minn.

When Hurricane Katrina was bearing down on the Gulf Coast, one of the first things Christy Belk grabbed was a large Rubbenvair tub containing family photos, important legal documents, diplomas and a single-page letter. "My Presidential Scholarship acceptance letter means a lot to me," she said. "Because we live on the Gulf Coast, we've had to evacuate more than once, and it always goes with me."

Without the scholarship, Belk said it would have missed out on valuable life lessons. "The scholarship and my professors inspired me to work toward goals and helped shape the person I've become," she said.

After graduating, Belk moved to Ocean Springs, Miss., and worked as an occupational director for a large primary care center that provides services to patients along the Mississippi coast. "Home care is truly why I went into nursing," she said. "You develop relationships with your patients, and you allow them to stay in their home, which is what most patients want." Shambro specializes in gerontology and agrees with those who say today's elderly comprise the greatest generation.

"They have so much wisdom to give us, and they deserve to be well cared for," she said. "I don't want them to sing out of rations. I want the songs to have meaning and to help them realize God is active in their lives."

Karen (Spitzig) Sazdoff was offered full rides by other universities but chose SLU "because I just fell in love with the school," she said. Sazdoff was heavily involved in campus activities and served on the worship team for the 10 p.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier College Church.

After SLU, Sazdoff earned a master's degree in German literature and culture from Indiana University. Still not ready for the real world, Sazdoff applied for and received a Fulbright Assistantship to teach English in Linc, Australia. She then moved to Minnesota and helped companies such as Prudential Life Insurance develop employee-training programs.

While taking time off to raise her three children, Sazdoff was approached by her church, Oakwood Community Church, to become worship director. For the past two years, she hired the musicians, picked songs for worship and led service on Sundays.

"I want to help people encounter God in a new way on a weekly basis," she said. "I don't want them to sing out of rations. I want the songs to have meaning and to help them realize God is active in their lives."

Sazdoff recently scaled back her responsibilities at the church to spend more time with her family. "I'm so glad I went to a liberal arts university because I didn't just learn a skill," she said. "I learned how to think and how to set my priorities, which are God, family and service."

Dr. Tricia Scerba
(A&S ’92)
Pediatrician, Rural Health Center at the Dr. John Warner Hospital, Clinton, Ill.

Dr. Tricia Scerba was the only French major in her medical school class, and she has the Presidential Scholarship to thank for that distinction. Since childhood Scerba knew she wanted to be a pediatrician, but she said the scholarship allowed her to explore other subjects.

"I had gone to another school I probably would have stayed entirely on the science track, but my professors at SLU encouraged me to broaden my scope," she said. "The scholarship took the pressure off me financially and let me take advantage of different opportunities."

Scerba spent her junior year in France, and during her medical education at the University of Illinois, she completed a maternal/child public health internship in Paris. After completing her pediatrics residency at the University of Tennessee, Scerba joined the Rural Health Center in Clinton, where she is the only pediatrician in a county of 14,000 people.

"I love working in a smaller setting," she said. "I know a lot about my patients and my community, so if a patient needs anything beyond my care, I know where to go."
Thomas Hirschak (AS) received a Fulbright Senior Specialist grant to teach and direct a theater production at the University of Patras in Greece in May. He is the author of 20 published plays and 16 books on theater and popular music, including his most recent, The Oxford Companion to the American Musical Theater, Film and Television, released in June. He lives in Cortland, N.Y.

Jeffrey Blevins (AS) received an honorary doctorate in May from Colby College in Waterville, Maine. He is the assistant manager for the public performance clinic of Children’s Medical Clinic and lives in Wheaton, Ill., with his husband and two daughters.

Matthew Freeman (Cook) was elected and installed as the president of the Missouri Society of Actuaries at the society’s 44th Annual Convention. His term runs until June. He lives in Union, Ill.

Dr. James M. Henderson (AS ’76, Grad ’78) heads the department of English at the University of Louisiana and has a textbook titled The Reader coming out in May. He lives in Lafayette, La.

Olivia Selinger (AS) is the director of governance for Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania. She lives in Ambler, Pa.

Suzanne Meller (Law) served as an administrative law judge representative at the University of Illinois Workplace Services. She lives in Lake City and is married to John K. Fife.

Robert Keefe (Law) was honored by the Boys and Girls Town of Missouri for outstanding service to the agency as a member of the state’s directorate of retired members. He lives in St. Louis.

Beth (Dilliboo) Dobby (Nurs) was nominated to receive the third annual Dr. Tom Williams Award for Leadership and Dedication at the University of Illinois in March. She is the assistant nurse manager of the pediatrics clinic affiliated with Children’s Medical Clinic and lives in Wheaton, Ill., with her husband and two daughters.

Kevin Galley (Law) is the president in the civil law Court of People, Tent judicial Circuit. He lives in Union, Ill.

Dr. Kevin H. Patton (AS) received the Human Anatomist and Physiology Society’s President’s Medal for his contributions to the medical profession. He is a professor of life science at St. Charles Community College and lives in Willow Springs, Mo.

Dr. Greg Markaway (AS) is chief of maternal health services for the Missouri Department of Corrections. He lives in Jefferson City with his wife, Barbara, and son.

John Cosney (Law) is a principal at Dinsmore & MacIntyre. He lives in Baltimore, Md.

Matthew Freeman (Law) was selected to receive the Legacy Award for his work in the medical profession. He lives in Glencoe, Mo.

Kevin Patton (AS) received the Human Anatomist and Physiology Society’s President’s Medal for his contributions to the medical profession. He is a professor of life science at St. Charles Community College and lives in Willow Springs, Mo.

Dr. Greg Markaway (AS) is chief of maternal health services for the Missouri Department of Corrections. He lives in Jefferson City with his wife, Barbara, and son.

John Cosney (Law) is a principal at Dinsmore & MacIntyre. He lives in Baltimore, Md.

Kevin Patton (AS) received the Human Anatomist and Physiology Society’s President’s Medal for his contributions to the medical profession. He is a professor of life science at St. Charles Community College and lives in Willow Springs, Mo.

Douglas K. Dolan (Cojer) is president and CEO of Dolan Commercial Inc. Realtors. The company is celebrating its 10th anniversary. He lives in Manchester, Mo.

Mary Ott (Law) was chosen by Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt to fill a vacancy on the St. Louis County Court of Appeals. She lives in Arnold, Mo.

Daniel L. Seiden (Law) is a partner in the law firm Thomas, Collins, Mohlg & Seiden, and is serving a two-year term as a city court judge in Bountiful, Utah. He was also nominated the 2007 “Law Guardian of the Year” by the Bountiful Community Bar Association.

Jim McNair (Parks) retired from the Air Force in June and is a B-52 pilot with Southern Bleacher in Graham, Texas.

Bill Prosser (AS) is celebrating 50 years with UPS, where he is a humani- tal engineer and manager in the U.S. Postal Service’s “Cares” in St. Louis is named in his honor.

Dr. William Godney (Med) was recognized by the Missouri Medical Associa- tion for 50 years of dedication to the medical profession. He lives in Desoto, Mo.

Laura (Heston) Ray (Doisy) volunteers for Rady Readies and Oates, running elementary school children. She lives in Ferguson, Mo.

Bill Prosser (AS) is celebrating 50 years with UPS, where he is a humani- tal engineer and manager in the U.S. Postal Service’s “Cares” in St. Louis is named in his honor.

Dr. William Godney (Med) was recognized by the Missouri Medical Associa- tion for 50 years of dedication to the medical profession. He lives in Desoto, Mo.

Daniel L. Seiden (Law) is a partner in the law firm Thomas, Collins, Mohlg & Seiden, and is serving a two-year term as a city court judge in Bountiful, Utah. He was also nominated the 2007 “Law Guardian of the Year” by the Bountiful Community Bar Association.

Jim McNair (Parks) retired from the Air Force in June and is a B-52 pilot with Southern Bleacher in Graham, Texas.

Bill Prosser (AS) is celebrating 50 years with UPS, where he is a humani- tal engineer and manager in the U.S. Postal Service’s “Cares” in St. Louis is named in his honor.

Dr. William Godney (Med) was recognized by the Missouri Medical Associa- tion for 50 years of dedication to the medical profession. He lives in Desoto, Mo.

Daniel L. Seiden (Law) is a partner in the law firm Thomas, Collins, Mohlg & Seiden, and is serving a two-year term as a city court judge in Bountiful, Utah. He was also nominated the 2007 “Law Guardian of the Year” by the Bountiful Community Bar Association.

Jim McNair (Parks) retired from the Air Force in June and is a B-52 pilot with Southern Bleacher in Graham, Texas.
Michael Moore (Cook) is professor of accounting and head of the accounting department at Webster University in St. Louis. He lives with his wife, Lisa, and their two children in Alton, Ill.

Cheryl Kline (A&S) was named the 2008 Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse of the Year by the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation. She is an oncology clinical nurse specialist at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington, Ky., and the author of numerous books, chapters, and articles in professional nursing and pharmacy journals.

Dr. Robert Buchanan (Med) is an endowed chair at Texas A&M and Scott and White Hospitals. He lives in Georgetown, Texas.

Kristi (Rodegeb) Mason (Cook) is a molecularly oriented academic affairs director and head of the graduate student programs at Webster University in St. Louis, and has received a Fulbright Scholar Grant to attend the International Education Administrators Conference in Bogota, Colombia.

Eugenie Goochie (Cook ’91, A&S ’93, Law ’96) and her son, Genes Goochie (Law ’12), live in Naperville, Ill. “It’s great to have Vince and Paul close here,” Goochie said.

Theodore Lucas (Law) is a partner at the firm in St. Louis. He lives in St. Louis. He has been with the firm since 2000.

Reid Kozier (Cook ’96) has joined Casey & Deveroux, concentrating in personal injury and commercial litigation. He lives in St. Louis.

Patricia Ramirez (A&S) is an attorney and married Christine Gonzales in 2007. They live in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.

Beatrice Emanuel-Sims (Cook ’99) manages the fund and alumna relations at Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. She also welcomed a son, Deonne Charles Frank, in September. She lives in Kenosha, Wis.

Charles Hunter (Nurs) is the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis’ representative in Japan. He lives in Ballwin, Mo.

John M. Allen (A&S ’61, Med ’65), of Cuba, from left is with his wife, Anna (Klockenkemper) Rose (A&S ’75) with their daughter, Amanda, in Houston, and his dad, Daniel Zwiesler (A&S) and his wife, Lisa, welcomed their first child, Noah Daniel Zwiesler, in July 2008. They live in Dayton, Ohio.

Shannon (Grad Cook) was named Nurse of the Year by the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation. She is an associate professor of professional nursing and pharmacy at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.

Daniel Neumayer (A&S) is an attorney and international contracts manager at Raytheon Co. in Dallas.

Kathryn Fowel (Law) is a partner in the firm in St. Louis. She also is a board member of the non-profit organization Children’s Clinical Center at St. Louis Children’s Hospital. She lives in St. Louis.

D. M. Allen (A&S) is assistant principal of Sandwich Community Preparatory School in St. Louis. He has been with the firm since 2008.

Terry Allen (A&S) lives in St. Louis. He has been with the firm since 1986.

Daniel Stout (A&S) is in graduate school for organizational communication at the Graduate School of Business Administration, New York University. He lives in St. Louis.

Ian Archer-Watkins (A&S) lives in New York City and is now a full-time father. He is a board member of the Campaign for Kids, an organization dedicated to the prevention of obesity in children.

Daniel Neumayer (A&S) is her husband, John, welcomed twins, Scarlett Olivia and Jack Henry, in February. They live in St. Louis.


Lawrence Neumayer (A&S) and his wife, Lisa, welcomed their first child, Noah Daniel Zwiesler, in July 2008.

Daniel Neumayer (A&S) is her husband, John, welcomed twins, Scarlett Olivia and Jack Henry, in February. They live in St. Louis. He has been with the firm since 1986.

Terry Allen (A&S) lives in St. Louis. He has been with the firm since 1986.
Jennifer S. Kehl (AKS) is a functional family therapist at North Range Behavioral Health in Wildwood, Mo. She has a private practice in clinical psychology. She lives in Ozarka, N.H., and is completing her academic supports in the Center for Health Research and Development at Washington University in St. Louis. They have a son, James Steven.

Kevin Powers (AKS) graduated from Southern Illinois University Carbondale with a Ph.D. in clinical psychology. He lives in Ozarka, N.H., and is completing his academic supports in the Center for Health Research and Development at Washington University in St. Louis. They have a son, James Steven.

Dr. Stephanie (Hebe) Webb (‘95, Grad ’95, Grad ’97) was selected for the St. Louis Business Journal’s “Top Under 30” for 2008, recognizing her career achievements. She lives in Wildwood, Mo.

Rachel Jepp (Law) last named Copeland Thompson for an anniversary she lives in Valley Park, Mo., with her husband, Michael, and daughter, Claire.

Matthew C. Sherman (Grad ’06) co-edited an anthology titled Political Terrorism in America: A Reader, which was released in May. He is a doctoral candidate at SLU.

Elizabeth Dielme-Lower (Grad ’08) earned her clinical licensing clinical social worker status in 2006 and is a therapist at Safe Connections. She lives in Valley Park, Mo., with her husband, Michael, and daughter, Claire.

Paul Bonne (Cook ’95, Grad ’96) is a senior in employee benefits service group at Anden Minkler & Diel. He lives in Valley Park, Mo.

Kristin Kelley (AKS ’95, Grad ’97) works for Northwestern Mutual and runs in the Chicago Marathon. She lives in Chicago, Mo., with her career achievements. She lives in Wildwood, Mo.

Dr. Riddle also received numerous awards for her career achievements. She lives in Valley Park, Mo., with her husband, Michael, and daughter, Claire.

Matthew Raque (A&S) is a member of the U.S. Military 3rd Marine Division and lives in Chicago, Mo.

Dr. Matthew C. Sherman (Grad ’06) co-edited an anthology titled Political Terrorism in America: A Reader, which was released in May. He is a doctoral candidate at SLU.

Matthew Raque (A&S) is a member of the U.S. Military 3rd Marine Division and lives in Chicago, Mo.
John Cook School of Business President: Jared Ijssel (’19)

TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday, Jan. 24, 6 p.m.; Shanahan Atrium, Cook Hall
Join fellow business alumni and friends for the annual trivia night.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/stbtrivia2009

Doisy College of Health Sciences

WINE TASTING
Friday, Jan. 16, 7-9 p.m.; Allied Health Building, third floor
billikenalumni.slu.edu/bahub09

School of Medicine President: Thomas J. Diaz (’79)

CHICAGO ‘MEET THE DEAN’ RECEPTION
Tuesday, Dec. 2; 6:30–8 p.m.; McCormick Place
This reception will be held in conjunction with the Radiological Society of North American Annual Meeting.

SAN FRANCISCO ALUMNI RECEPTION
This reception will be held in conjunction with the Society of Thoracic Surgeons annual meeting. Jan. 26–28.

Exact date, time and location will be announced. For reservations for either event, call the SLU Medical Center office of alumni relations at (314) 977-8339.

Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology President: Alpy Tehranian (’75)

SANTA FLY-IN
Saturday, Dec. 6; 6 a.m. refreshments; 10:30 a.m. Santa arrives; Parks College hangar, St. Louis Downtown Airport
Santa will arrive by helicopter at the Parks College hangar to listen to the wishes of the children. There will be Bloody Marys and refreshments for the kids, and Santa will visit with children until noon. Please bring your own camera to capture the moment. This is a free event.

billikenalumni.slu.edu/santaflyin08

School for Professional Studies President: Rosa Danas (’88)

SENIOR RECOGNITION RECEPTION
Thursday, Dec. 18; 5-7 p.m.; Busch Student Center, St. Louis Room
Join alumni, faculty and staff for a special reception honoring the December graduates of the class of 2008. The program will include senior portfolio presentations, graduate recognition and students’ induction into the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society. All alumni from the School for Professional Studies, Metropolitan College and Arts and Sciences Evening Division are invited.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/sporeception08

Young Alumni Association

THANKSGIVING DINNER ’101
Thursday, Nov. 26; 6-8 p.m.; Dierbergs School of Cooking, 11411 Olive Blvd.
Cost: $35 per person; includes dinner, instruction, copy of recipes, dinner and a glass of wine in a complimentary SLU wine glass.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/thanksgiving09

MIcro BEER Tasting
Wednesday, Dec. 3; 6:30–8 p.m.; Wm. D. Alandale Brewing Co., 105 E. Jefferson St.
Cost: $10 per person; includes a six-beer tasting and light appetizers.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/paevernt08

Alumni Volunteer Opportunities

ADMISSIONS
Volunteer your time and expertise to help current and future students find their way to SLU.

CAREER SERVICES
Volunteer to support current and future students in their career development. Register to become a career contact at CareerLink.

For more information or reservations for any of these events, contact the Office of Alumni Relations.
(314) 977-2250 | alumni@slu.edu | www.slu.edu/alumni

Billiken Travel Program Tours

Being a Billiken traveler puts the world at your feet. This is your chance to see it all.

2009 TRIP SCHEDULE

FEb. 10-21
Legends of the Nile
APRIL 28-MAy 1
Ukraine and Romania
JULY 10-18
France – Normandy
SEPT. 26-OCT. 4
Italy Riviera
OCT. 12-23
Cruise the Grand Canal
OCT. 26-NOV. 4
Sicily
DEc. 14-21
Hawaii
DEc. 27-2009
Rome, France, Spain, Morocco

details at billikenalumni.slu.edu/trib08

Billiken Travel

Billiken vs. Boston College
Saturday, Nov. 22; 11:30 a.m. pre-game reception, Busch Student Center; 1 p.m. tip-off, Chaifetz Arena
Cost: $30 per person; includes pre-game party and game ticket; $15 pregame party only.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/bostonticket10

Billiken vs. Saint Joseph’s
Wednesday, Feb. 15; 5:00 p.m. pre-game reception, Busch Student Center; 7 p.m. tip-off, Chaifetz Arena
Cost: $30 per person; includes pre-game party and game ticket; $15 pregame party only.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/saintjosephs08

Billiken vs. Temple
Saturday, Nov. 2; 11:30 a.m. pre-game reception, Busch Student Center; 1 p.m. tip-off, Chaifetz Arena
Cost: $30 per person; includes pre-game party and game ticket; $15 pregame party only.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/bscticket10

Billiken vs. Xavier
Saturday, Feb. 7; 11 a.m.; The Bridge
Cost: $25 per person; includes pre-game party and game ticket.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/bspticket10

Billiken vs. Nebraska
Saturday, Nov. 21-30
SEPT. 26-OCT. 4
DEC. 27-2009
Cruise the Rhine River
i talian Riviera
Cruise the Mediterranean
Sail the Greek Islands
Alumni Travel Information

http://billikenalumni.slu.edu/traveltours09

FOR RESERVATIONS: CALL (314) 977-8339 AFTER 4 p.m. OR VISIT THE TRAVEL WEBSITE.

ChristmaS at SLU

Billicken Travel

CHRISTMAS TRAVEL CHAUFFEURED SERVICE
Sunday, Dec. 14; 6:30 p.m.
Bus departs for Lincoln; 7 p.m., tip-off, Chaifetz Arena
Cost: $70 per person; includes transportation, dinner, game ticket; $30 for adults, $16 for children ages 5-12, free for children under 5.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/santacar08

CHRISTMAS TRAVEL AIRPLANE SERVICE
Friday, Dec. 26; 6:00 p.m.
Bus departs for St. Louis; 7 p.m., tip-off, Chaifetz Arena
Cost: $70 per person; includes transportation, game ticket.
billikenalumni.slu.edu/santaflight08
A s a newly hired employment specialist with the U.S. probation and parole office this summer, my job was to meet with ex-offenders and assist them in obtaining lawful employment. On my first day I was sitting on the edge of my chair, nervously awaiting my first consultation. I was completely terrified that the ex-convict I was about to meet would jump across the table and gape me by my three-day-old, blue-light-special suit and at any moment end my short-lived career. Five minutes before he was scheduled to arrive, I began to peruse through his criminal record. I opened the file, looked at the page and read, "Conviction: Possession with intent to distribute." I was expecting Tony Montana from the movie Scarface, a clean cut, well spoken and very polite young man. Dwayne could have been just like Dwayne, people who made poor choices along the way and now needed a second chance. It was this revelation at the U.S. probation office, along with the lessons taught by my undergraduate professors, that led me to my current path.

As a first-year law student, most of my time is spent in the library with my nose in large dusty books. However, instead of working a second job, I spend much of my free time working with the U.S. probation office on legislation to provide ex-offenders with an opportunity for change. The office has created specific initiatives that are designed to provide people like Dwayne with the second chance they need to step out of the revolving door of corrections. After working with ex-offenders, I am certain that we must continually challenge our stereotypes. If we approach men like Dwayne as I did, with ignorance and preconceptions, they will continue to live down to our expectations. But if we set the bar high and provide a helping hand, we can lift men like Dwayne up and help them become productive citizens.

Missouri Supreme Court Justice Michael Wolff said it best: "We should save prison for the individuals we are scared of, not the other way around."

Many of us don’t think a word is a real word until it is printed in a dictionary, where we can see it. We forget that words are not objects, stably anchored. They are happenings, events. (These scholars are doing today on pages 19-23 of this issue.) It also featured stories on the SLU athletic program, hospital emergency and the United Health Foundation.

**Quotable UTAS**

Many thanks for your recent Universitas feature introducing Chaifetz Arena (“At Last,” summer 2008). I loved the pictures and descriptions — from the 12 restrooms to the private suites. However, when I visit St. Louis, where do I go to see if I could find no address?

**Editor’s note:** Sorry to have left out that detail. The address of Chaifetz Arena is 1 S. Compton Ave. It’s at the corner of Compton and Laclede avenues at the easternmost edge of campus.

**ADDRESSING CHAIFETZ ARENA**

Gary Kress (Grad ’72) of Montery, Calif., sent in a postcard that shows a large collection of Billiken figures on display at the Alaska State Museum. The card notes that: "The original Billiken, ‘the god of things as they ought to be,’ was the patron saint of the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle. Soon after, Eskimo carvers produced walrus ivory Billikens for the tourist trade.”

**BILLIKEN SIGHTING: ALASKA**

In the late 1970’s I traveled extensively in Japan. I dealt with the trading companies (such as Mitsui and Mitsubishi) and the heavy industry companies (such as Fuji and Kawasaki). Every evening the Japanese felt it was their duty to entertain you, and each tried to outdo the other in this respect. Each Japanese had his own bar, which he frequented almost nightly. It was an honor to be taken to someone’s personal bar.

One evening I was taken to a bar in the Ginza District, a very expensive, upscale area of Tokyo. I should note that throughout Japan there are many shrines both large and small. Many establishments including bars may have several on their premises. So it was this evening, tucked away in the corner of the bar I noticed a little shrine with a Buddha-like statue as its centerpiece. I was dumbfounded to see that it was a Billiken and identified as such. No one seemed to know where it was made or how it got there.

The good news is that the Japanese recognized that I was very interested in this Billiken, and they returned to the bar and took a picture of it for me. The bad news is that they removed it from its shrine surroundings.

**Mika Faviot (’79) MESA, ARIZ.**

**BILLIKEN SIGHTING: JAPAN**

That fall 1989 issue of Universitas featured a new design and was the first to unveil the magazine’s signature typeface, still used on the cover today. The issue also featured a full-color cover and color photos inside to better “express the color and spirit of the University,” said the editors. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars.

The issuechon 1970 Presidential Scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars. The magazine announced the admittance of the University’s first 10 presidential scholars.

**TEN YEARS AGO IN UNIVERSITAS**

That October, the University gave its first Sword of Ignatius Loyola award to Dr. Robert C. Gallo, who co-discovered that HIV causes AIDS. The sword honor was created to command “significant achievement of benefit to all of humankind.”

The magazine announced the new position of assistant to the president for University mission, now known as the vice president for mission and ministry. The job was established to explore, explain and reinforce the Catholic, Jesuit identity of the University.

That summer, 123 construction and renovation projects took place around campus, including the construction of the 22-foot entrance monuments at both the northeast and northwest corners of Grand and Laclede avenues.

**WANT TO HEAR FROM US?**

Please send us your letters, ideas and address changes. There are three easy ways to reach us.

**BY PHONE**: (519) 977-2249

**BY MAIL**: The Editors Saint Louis University One Brookings Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63103

**BY FAX**: (519) 977-2249

**BY E-MAIL**: univ@slu.edu
The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 allows assets from an Individual Retirement Account to be directly transferred to a qualified charitable organization such as Saint Louis University. Some specifics and benefits of the legislation:

- Donors must be at least age 70½ at the time of transfer.
- Up to $100,000 in 2008 and 2009 may be excluded from taxable income by the donor.
- The rollover may be applied to the required minimum distribution from the retirement account.

Saint Louis University does not render tax, legal, accounting, insurance or investment advice. Please consult with your own professional advisers in these matters.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER, PLEASE CONTACT:

Kent LeVan
Executive Director of Planned Giving
Saint Louis University
One Grand Blvd., Room 304
St. Louis, MO 63103
Phone: (800) 758-3678 or (314) 977-2357
E-mail: plannedgiving@slu.edu
Internet: plannedgiving.slu.edu