Caring for Creation
A sustainable future rests in our hands
Caring for Creation

7 The Gospel of Greens
8 A Place in Creation: St. Norbert College has begun to color itself a deeper shade of green
12 Earth Watch/An Ocean of Change: alumni on the front lines of scientific endeavor
14 A Green Collaboration: research team works for an environmentally-friendly science facility
18 Adventures in Environmental Science: the risks and challenges of research in the field
19 Shadowed Ground, Sacred Place: reflections on violence, tragedy and commemoration
20 New Lines of Connection: the campus reflects cultural changes in the local community

College News

4 On Campus
5 Commencement 2009
24 Faculty/Staff Notes
26 Student Notes
28 Norbertine Notes
30 Athletics

Alumni News

20 Alumnus News
21 Alumna Notes
22 A Voice When They Couldn’t Speak

On the cover:
Whenever the Norbertine order has sent them, its members have looked for ways to meet the needs of the community around them. The charism of the order itself, consistent with Catholic social teaching, calls for a careful stewardship of the earth. No surprise, then, that environmental education and sustainability is such a natural concern for a college like St. Norbert.

Lew Pullen dropped by my office the other day. That’s not unusual, because Lew – our manager of mechanical systems – comes by a bit. And usually when he does, he has a new idea in mind.

This time, Lew reported on an exciting innovation he’d just seen: a state-of-the-art, clean incinerator that has the potential to dramatically reduce the waste we typically haul off to a landfill. It would be a major investment for us – the price tag Lew quoted made my heart skip, and not in the good way. But I’m intrigued, and in any case I’m delighted Lew is out there scouting the possibilities.

This issue of St. Norbert College Magazine highlights the many efforts the campus is making to be a responsible steward of our energy and environmental resources. A related story about Lew on page 11 describes him as a kind of “treasure hunter” of energy savings, and that is most apt. Certainly I’ve never met anyone who brings such infectious zeal to the cause of sustainability as Lew does.

Indeed, Lew generates so much energy himself it’s a shame we can’t figure how to get the excess onto the power grid.

With Lew and other like-minded campus citizens leading the way, St. Norbert has taken dozens of steps to reduce energy use and waste. These range from low-tech (eliminating trays from the cafeteria, which reduces water consumption and food waste) to high-tech (we participate in an innovative Integrys program in flexible power usage).

Lew personally has changed countless light bulbs around campus to energy-efficient varieties, and he’s even investigating wind-power options for us. Of course, such measures are practical – energy efficiency improves our bottom line. But “greening” the campus is also the right thing to do, an activity consistent with our Norbertine commitment to the larger community, and with the Catholic commitment to social justice for all. We also believe it’s imperative that higher education be in the sustainability forefront. As every parent knows, if you don’t practice what you preach, the lesson is lost.

That’s why I’m proud that St. Norbert College, thanks to my predecessor Bill Hynes, was an early signatory to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment. Under this nationwide effort, campuses measure their “carbon footprint” – the energy they traditionally have expended to function – and then commit to ways to significantly reduce that impact. The idea is to become, in time, carbon-neutral.

Our participation in the Climate Commitment is spearheaded by one of our most talented faculty members, geography professor and environmentalist Mark Bockenhauer. He has been ably assisted by such colleagues as Sr. Sally Ann Brickner, longtime director of our Peace and Justice Center, and recent graduate Stacy Szczepanski, who led our night-week Recyclemania program.

And needless to say, Lew Pullen is right there with them.

The challenge of weaning ourselves from energy addiction is daunting. But I have no doubt that, with Lew and his friends on the case, St. Norbert College will get there – and maybe, in the process, help show others the way.
Relocation does not halt photo tradition

This past January, the return from Christmas break left some student observers wondering where the Abbot Pennings statue—a focal point on campus—had gone. But four months later, and with some reason to celebrate, seniors found him safe as could be.

On Jan. 9, the statue of Abbot Pennings was moved from its historic position outside Todd Wehr to its new home inside the Mulva Library, then under construction. But what about the long-running tradition of graduating seniors posing alongside the abbot for a commemorative photo before departing the campus? The college, not about to stand in the way of its seniors and a beloved custom, arranged with the construction company for a pardon-sur-pass photo opportunity for seniors, along with a sneak preview of the new library, the Friday before Commencement.

With the opening of the new library this summer, the abbot will once again be a part of the comings and goings of St. Norbert campus life—he just won’t have to brave the elements anymore.

New master’s program to start this fall

A new Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree program that starts this year will be one of only a few such in the state of Wisconsin.

With a bachelor’s degree and intellectual curiosity its only prerequisites, the program will enable students to maintain their careers while pursuing their post-graduate studies. Classes will be scheduled on a part-time basis for an anticipated average completion time of three years. Instead of focusing on one or two specific fields, courses will provide students with an opportunity to improve their intellectual knowledge and analytical skills.

They will start out with introductory courses addressing current questions in liberal studies and intellectual history, and then choose courses from the following five areas of emphasis: classical perspectives; American perspectives; international perspectives; diverse perspectives; and ethics and liberal studies.

The M.L.S. will build on the core strengths of St. Norbert College, according to Howard Ebert, director of the new program. “St. Norbert is dedicated throughout its history to the liberal arts,” says Ebert. “We have outstanding faculty who are known nationally for their teaching and research in a vast array of areas. The program is in line with the Norbertine tradition and, like Abbot Pennings before us, we are trying to respond to the needs of the local community.”

St. Norbert is dedicated through its history to the liberal arts, says Ebert. “We have outstanding faculty who are known nationally for their teaching and research in a vast array of areas. The program in line with the Norbertine tradition and, like Abbot Pennings before us, we are trying to respond to the needs of the local community.”

Students auditioning to be included in the recital were required to perform their pieces and submit a finished score. Faculty members then based their final selections on the quality of the piece, the level of the performance and an effort to incorporate as wide a variety of composers and types of compositions as possible for the concert.

Graham Marlowe ’09, who collaborated on two featured compositions (one with Justin Wrzesinski ’10 and one with Chase Thysen ’10) feels that composition is an essential part of a musician’s development. “Writing music helps the music student to more deeply understand what they’ve learned in regards to theory, history and their own selves,” he says.

The six original scores selected were performed by student musicians at the April 28 concert. Marlowe says of his piece titled “A Fleeting Daydream”: “The sweet, summery key territory of the piece was chosen to most clearly convey the image of a fleeting daydream, one we must snap out of against our will—though not begrudgingly.”

Kevin McGillivray ’12 deems his piece, “Playgrounds,” “a musical celebration of play, creativity and imagination.”

Other pieces on the night’s program included Marlowe and Thysen’s “Hopeful for a Future,” “Maestro-Mehta” by Paul Malherseon ’10, “Rite of Passage” by Jackie Short ’11, Doug Cassel ’12, Danielle Schroth ’11, Melissa Patz ’11 and Jordan Khabat ’12, and “Dancing on the Water” by Aria Gelimis ’11.

New master’s program to start this fall

A new Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree program that starts this year will be one of only a few such in the state of Wisconsin.

With a bachelor’s degree and intellectual curiosity its only prerequisites, the program will enable students to maintain their careers while pursuing their post-graduate studies. Classes will be scheduled on a part-time basis for an anticipated average completion time of three years. Instead of focusing on one or two specific fields, courses will provide students with an opportunity to improve their intellectual knowledge and analytical skills.

They will start out with introductory courses addressing current questions in liberal studies and intellectual history, and then choose courses from the following five areas of emphasis: classical perspectives; American perspectives; international perspectives; diverse perspectives; and ethics and liberal studies.

The M.L.S. will build on the core strengths of St. Norbert College, according to Howard Ebert, director of the new program. “St. Norbert is dedicated throughout its history to the liberal arts,” says Ebert. “We have outstanding faculty who are known nationally for their teaching and research in a vast array of areas.

“The program is in line with the Norbertine tradition and, like Abbot Pennings before us, we are trying to respond to the needs of the local community.”
Students take up residence in Gries Hall

Next year’s juniors and seniors are already enjoying the apartment-style accommodations at the Schuldes Sports Center, is designed to meet the needs of seniors as they prepare to transition from campus housing into post-graduation life. It offers 144 single rooms in apartment-style units for four, and the building also has its own workout facilities and a reflection lounge. The residence hall has been named in honor of a lifelong friend and supporter of the College. The long affiliation the Rev. Gene Gries, O.Praem., ’52 has enjoyed with the college has included terms as dean of students, trustee and pastor of Old St. Joe’s. ‘This honor came out of the blue and I am deeply humbled,’ says Gries, whose 10-year service on the board of trustees ended last year. Gries, who now lives with the Santa Maria de la Vid Norbertine Community in New Mexico, returned to campus for the May 18 dedication.

A long, sweet love

Our warmest congratulations to Dr. Francis Vande Loo ’35 and his wife, Cecelia, who celebrated the 70th anniversary of their wedding this June.

The couple, who live in De Pere, welcomed home their seven children and spouses for the occasion and the whole family attended Mass together at Our Lady of Lourdes.

Among the 16–strong family group were six alumni of the college: Dr. Vande Loo, Pat (Vande Loo) Hogan ’64, Sue (Vande Loo) Pauly ’69, Chas Pauly ’69 and Jeff Vande Loo ’84.

Causes for celebration mark the start of the new academic year

Aug. 27 sees the dedication of the new Molva Library, timed to coincide with Convocation, the all-campus celebration that welcomes the student body back to St. Norbert at the start of the academic year.

The dedication takes place at 2 p.m., and all are welcome.

Just a few weeks later, Sept. 19 brings SNC Day, a new celebration in conjunction with the city of De Pere’s FallFest. The whole campus will be open to the public, with a diverse program of events designed to provide great entertainment as well as to showcase the best that St. Norbert has to offer.

The gospel of green

By Drew Van Fossen
Director of Communications and Design

What I knew as a young boy was that which I knew formed the boundaries of my existence. I knew that 10,500-foot Mount Haggin rose up and up and up from my back door, a granite sentinel along the Continental Divide. It presented the proverbial picture of the Rocky Mountains — inspiring, beautiful and stalwart. Nestled along each of its ridges lay crystalline alpine lakes, teeming with trout and surrounded by giant boulders and scrappy alpine fir. On the opposite side, out my front door, stood another sentinel, the Big Stack — the smokestack for the copper smelter. At 585 feet, it was the world’s tallest freestanding masonry structure. It was 60 feet in diameter at the top and its sole purpose was to carry three to four million cubic feet of exhaust gases from the smelter into the air each minute, every hour of every day.

I was born and raised in the small smelter town of Anaconda, Montana. Anaconda existed to refine the copper ore that was mined 25 miles away in Butte, also known as “the richest hill on earth.” In 1906, America was going electric. The mines in Butte were producing more than 40 percent of the world’s copper, and names like Hearst, Rothschild and Rockefeller were clambering to get their piece of the market. By the time I came along more than a half-century later, the prosperity of America’s greatest copper boomtown was pretty much history and the extent of their damage to the environment were yet to be discovered.

That balance, he says, imbues this particular work with “a little hope that even the pretty much history and the extent of their damage to the environment were yet to be discovered. The rule was to carry three to four million cubic feet of exhaust gases from the smelter into the air each minute, every hour of every day. I was born and raised in the small smelter town of Anaconda, Montana. Anaconda existed to refine the copper ore that was mined 25 miles away in Butte, also known as “the richest hill on earth.” In 1906, America was going electric. The mines in Butte were producing more than 40 percent of the world’s copper, and names like Hearst, Rothschild and Rockefeller were clambering to get their piece of the market. By the time I came along more than a half-century later, the prosperity of America’s greatest copper boomtown was pretty much history and the extent of their damage to the environment were yet to be discovered.

That balance, he says, imbues this particular work with “a little hope that even the pretty much history and the extent of their damage to the environment were yet to be discovered. The rule was to carry three to four million cubic feet of exhaust gases from the smelter into the air each minute, every hour of every day. I was born and raised in the small smelter town of Anaconda, Montana. Anaconda existed to refine the copper ore that was mined 25 miles away in Butte, also known as “the richest hill on earth.” In 1906, America was going electric. The mines in Butte were producing more than 40 percent of the world’s copper, and names like Hearst, Rothschild and Rockefeller were clambering to get their piece of the market. By the time I came along more than a half-century later, the prosperity of America’s greatest copper boomtown was pretty much history and the extent of their damage to the environment were yet to be discovered.

That balance, he says, imbues this particular work with “a little hope that even the pretty much history and the extent of their damage to the environment were yet to be discovered. The rule was to carry three to four million cubic feet of exhaust gases from the smelter into the air each minute, every hour of every day. I was born and raised in the small smelter town of Anaconda, Montana. Anaconda existed to refine the copper ore that was mined 25 miles away in Butte, also known as “the richest hill on earth.” In 1906, America was going electric. The mines in Butte were producing more than 40 percent of the world’s copper, and names like Hearst, Rothschild and Rockefeller were clambering to get their piece of the market. By the time I came along more than a half-century later, the prosperity of America’s greatest copper boomtown was pretty much history and the extent of their damage to the environment were yet to be discovered. The rule was to carry three to four million cubic feet of exhaust gases from the smelter into the air each minute, every hour of every day.
A place in creation

As its Catholic, Norbertine heritage implores, St. Norbert College has begun to color itself a deeper shade of green

By Lisa Strandberg

Bringing Catholic teaching to life

It’s not just the Norbertine influence that gives meaning to the green movement at St. Norbert College. Denominational actions and attitudes play their part as well.

“One of the tenets of Catholic social teaching is care of creation,” says Sister Sally Ann Brickner, O.S.F., ’67 (Peace and Justice).

During the 2006-07 academic year, the Peace and Justice Center elected to embrace that simple principle more fully. Under its influence, the center played a role in bringing to the attention of then president William Hynes the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, an effort to neutralize greenhouse gas emissions and equip society, through education, to stabilize the planet’s climate.

Hynes became one of the compact’s charter signatories and set St. Norbert College on the path to a lofty goal. The commitment calls for each institution to develop “a comprehensive plan to achieve climate neutrality as soon as possible.”

The commitment further implores presidents to put in place “institutional structures to guide the development and implementation of the plan.” Thus arose the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC), chaired by Bockenhauer, comprising a campus-spanning membership charged with crafting a climate-neutrality plan by the end of 2009.

Joining forces for change

The new committee connected for the first time those across campus who were already making environmentalism an individual priority. “Since there are students, faculty and staff on the committee, we’re able to connect different sectors of the campus,” says Environmental Club officer and ESAC member Stacy Szczepanski ’09.

She says, for example, that she has been heartened to learn that some behind-the-scenes campus staffers have long approached their jobs with sustainability in mind. “I didn’t realize how much work the facilities department has been doing for so many years.”

The main leading the charge to squeeze both cost and carbon emissions from the campus’s $1.6 million energy budget – mechanical systems manager Lew Pullen – likewise agrees that his ESAC interactions with faculty added tremendous value.

Now that the committee exists, Pullen says, faculty members “seem to be all of a sudden coming out and saying ‘What can we do to help?’ or ‘Here’s what we’re thinking about this,’ or ‘Have you thought about this for this next project?’”

Indeed, says Bockenhauer about the green front, “There are a lot of faculty on this campus who are ardently trying to teach and preach and to share ideas.”

Incorporation of sustainability concepts in curricular and co-curricular activities both upholds the college’s Norbertine tradition and comprises another element of the climate commitment’s reach – green education. To help drive that and other efforts, the ESAC’s climate-neutrality plan likely will recommend the creation of a full-time sustainability manager position. After all, says Brickner, “It’s a lot of work to continue to raise consciousness.”

In its inaugural year, the ESAC gathered data on purchased electricity, heating and cooling, and transportation to estimate the college’s present carbon footprint. The result: 6.8 metric tons of

N orbert of Xanten never drank bottled water. The citizens of his namesake campus do, though collectively draining more than 600 plastic bottles every three days – just one of the findings from this fall’s Recyclemania program.

Through Norbert might not have anticipated the relatively new problem of consumerism and climate change, he could offer an ancient solution in keeping with the charism of the order he founded: Look to the community around you and meet the needs you see there.

A growing body of students, faculty and staff – Norbertines, too – is applying that credo more broadly than ever before. Recognizing the whole of creation at their community, they have begun to collaborate on the grounds of the college and beyond, to meet the planet’s need for gentler living.

“The idea of community and community is that we take care of each other, and one way we can take care of each other is to walk more lightly,” says Wendy Scattergood (Political Science), who teaches an upper-level course in environmental policy. “It fits so well with the Norbertine philosophy of being good stewards.”

That philosophical fit doesn’t make fostering an environmental mindset on campus easy, however. “Big institutions are kind of like ships. It takes a while to get them to turn,” says Mark Bockenhauer (Geography).

Fortunately, those at the helm have begun to lean on the wheel. Recent developments on campus have brought environmental crusaders of all stripes together and their combined efforts are seeing a gain in momentum.

Bringing Catholic teaching to life

It’s not just the Norbertine influence that gives meaning to the green movement at St. Norbert College. Denominational actions and attitudes play their part as well.

“One of the tenets of Catholic social teaching is care of creation,” says Sister Sally Ann Brickner, O.S.F., ’67 (Peace and Justice).

During the 2006-07 academic year, the Peace and Justice Center elected to embrace that simple principle more fully. Under
greenhouse gas emissions per person per year – lands the institution well below the national average of 9.5 metric tons for four-year colleges, and squarely in the middle of its peer campuses.

“We were encouraged to see that the practices we are doing are working,” Brickner says.

Still, she admits that the college has a way to go. “There’s so much waste we generate, it’s crazy. We don’t feel responsible for it.”

Brickner agrees that instilling a sense of responsibility could have a positive impact. “We have to reach beyond the small circle that has been affected and really get other people animated and involved.”

Various initiatives across campus already contribute to that effort. For instance, arriving freshmen each receive a compact fluorescent light bulb from the facilities department, a gift intended to remind new arrivals of their role in reducing energy consumption.

This year’s elimination of trays in the cafeteria also heightened awareness of the need to conserve. According to Melissa DaPra (Dining Services), the move will save about 12,000 gallons of water and reduce food waste by more than 800 pounds each month.

By and large, students appreciate such measures. Of Dining Services’ initiatives, Tara Vanden Ehm ’09 says, “For a lot of the guys, it’s inconvenient because they have eight cups and 16 plates, but I think it’s worked just fine for everyone.”

It was just the first work of complaining, then realizing that it’s better for the environment and better for tuition costs, hopefully.”

Vanden Ehm and many of her peers realize, exclaiming convenience for the sake of the environment can yield personal benefits as well as communal ones. Such stewardship, spreading across the campus with increasing speed, seems set to change the college for the better – and would make Noebert of Xanten himself proud. ♦
An ocean of change

One call to Tim Boyer ‘89 and you know all you need to know about his work: “I’m an oceanographer,” his voice mail states. The message is there to differentiate him from a colleague of the same name, but it underlines that Boyer has moved on from his physics and math studies at St. Norbert to a new field of scientific endeavor.

Boyer conducts research on ocean heat changes at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Ocean Climate Laboratory in Silver Spring, Md. He is part of a team of scientists that contributes to the UN’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report. The IPCC and Al Gore were honored in 2007 with the Nobel Peace Prize for creating an ever-broader informed consensus on the connection between human activities and global warming. The IPCC publishes a report on the state of the climate, with forecasts, approximately every five years.

“Creativity is just as necessary in science as in other fields,” notes Boyer, who earned his graduate degree in oceanography from Old Dominion University. “There are so many surprises in the physical earth, and putting the pieces together is helped by having the flexibility of mind that comes from having a liberal arts education.”

Any change in the ocean’s heat content leads to thermal expansion and a rise in sea level. Even a fraction of an inch change in sea level is a huge deal. Since the world is not seeing uniform change, Boyer and his colleagues collect data and make observations from key areas around the world. For example, the ocean is rising in the equatorial Pacific region, but the north Indian Sea has decreased over the past half-dozen years.

One of the team’s primary initiatives, in addition to making its own observations, is the collection of oceanic and fisheries data from governments, navies and other entities around the world. Records from the former Soviet Union are proving invaluable. The Soviets collected a significant amount of data, but didn’t have the resources to conduct research. In some areas, such as the Arctic Ocean off the coast of Murmansk, the Russians had been collecting data since the 1990s.

“We work a lot with the Russians on joint research,” Boyer says. “Thousands of measurements were recovered before they were lost. Without them, we couldn’t make statements about change because we wouldn’t have enough historical data.”

The study of ocean measurements took Tim Boyer ‘89 to Antarctica where he looked at krill populations critical to the food chain.

By Mike Dauplaise ’84

H eather Bleick ’03 was all set to pursue a business degree and work at her parents’ world champion butter factory when her liberal arts education bore unexpected fruit during her sophomore year at St. Norbert.

Bleick took an introductory geology course as a science elective, which changed the way she would view the physical world forever. Today, she works as a member of the Alaska Volcano Observatory (AVO) team that’s studying and photographing Redoubt Volcano’s eruption in Alaska for the U.S. Geological Survey.

“I started seeing what Dr. Tim Flood was describing from our textbook all around me,” Bleick recalls of that first class. “I would drive home and see glacial features and I thought, ‘This is starting to get really interesting.’ ”

Her adjusted career track took her to Vandebilt University for graduate school and the study of ancient volcanoes, followed by jobs with the state of Virginia and the Friends of Acadia National Park in Maine, where she took photographs as a ridge runner.

Amused with this experience, Bleick became one of only a handful of people under the age of 40 hired for the AVO’s Anchorage office. She works with a team that monitors seismographs and webcams 24/7, and, more enjoyably, photographs Redoubt as it continues to spew steam and ash into the atmosphere.

“Given there aren’t many younger people here to fill the shoes of our veterans as they retire, we need to retain our daily duties pump around,” she says. “It’s great to be able to draw in a lot of knowledge from what they know of this area. Alaska’s geology is so much more complex than the lower 48. We have to get a helicopter for any field work we want to do, and we get gun training for the bears for our protection. It’s quite an experience doing field work in such a large area and being in the unknown.”

The team of 50 scientists tracks approximately 130 active volcanoes in Alaska, which account for more than three-quarters of all U.S. active volcanoes. Redoubt sits in the Aleutian Range, about 110 miles southwest of Anchorage. “A lot of people have been doing this for 20 or 30 years all over the world, so they’ve seen these patterns before,” Bleick says. “One good thing is, they don’t always agree. It’s good to have some disagreement to keep us on our toes in case things go a different way.”

Redoubt typically sends signals that it’s preparing to release another large ash plume through seismic activity referred to as drum beats. The repeating event is likely caused by fluid trying to push through cracks in the rock subsurface. “It’s similar to Old Faithful, only we’re seeing it here every 30 seconds,” Bleick explains. “It’s a signal to us that says, ‘Here it comes.’ ”

While Bleick and her camera equipment are regulars on observation flights, a mid-March flight may have resulted in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Redoubt had been emitting steam into the atmosphere for some time, but the first signs of an eruption featuring ash particles occurred right in front of her eyes.

“What I really like is going on the observation flights, and I feel pretty lucky to be up there for that event,” Bleick says. “Even for the people that had been working here twenty-some years, not everyone gets to see the start of an eruption.”

Bleick’s photos have appeared internationally on a variety of news agency web sites and other publications, including The Associated Press, Thomson Reuters and National Public Radio. Redoubt displayed an almost continuous eruption this spring that sent gas and ash emissions to the 15,000-foot level. One burst was powerful enough to send debris 65,000 feet into the atmosphere, which Bleick ranks as a 4 on an informal 10-point severity scale.

The AVO team has a list of places to call whenever a volcano in their region erupts, beginning with the Alaska Division of Homeland Security, the governor’s office and the local Air Force base. Redoubt caused major concerns with last big eruption cycle in 1989-90, when it caught a 747 airliner in its plume and caused all four engines to shut down. The pilot eventually was able to restart two engines and land the plane safely, but damage of $80 million to the airplane alone provided all the evidence anyone needed that even a moderate volcano eruption can be a big deal.

“This time,” she says, “everyone’s taking it very seriously.”

By Mike Dauplaise ’84

One keeps a careful eye on the volcano of the moment, Alaska’s Mount Redoubt; the other measures heat changes in the world’s oceans as part of an initiative behind the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Al Gore in 2007.

Read on for news of two alums who go to work every day at the front line of scientific endeavor, where they find themselves engaged in research that is making headlines around the world.
Faculty, students work together to formulate plans for a greener science facility

A green collaboration

By Lisa Strandberg

If the John Minahan Science Hall (JMS) currently sports a polyester lab coat, it seems poised to don an organic cotton one with its impending renovation. That’s the hope of Stacy Szczepanski ’09, Valerie Gray ’11, James Hodgson (Biology) and Michael Olson (Physics), who collaborated during the past academic year to research the feasibility and benefits of a green science facility.

“A year or so ago, Stacy came to me with an idea for an independent study she wanted to do,” Hodgson says of his student, an environmental policy major whom he had supported on similar projects in the past. “Then I got to thinking, ‘Why don’t we take this a step further?’”

Hodgson and Szczepanski involved Olson and Gray, a physics major, in the conversation, along with mechanical systems manager Lew Pullen (Facilities). Then the students dug in, pairing details on solar panel and residential wind turbine productivity with weather data from NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“Stacy did all the policy, and I got to do the science,” Gray says.

While the study will continue with the placement of a weather station atop JMS this spring to measure actual conditions, the students have estimated conservatively that, by placing solar panels and wind turbines on the JMS roof, the college could generate 43 percent of the building’s electricity needs. That’s significant since its numerous computers and laboratories make it one of the campus’s biggest energy hogs.

However, says Hodgson, making JMS green is “more than just an economic argument. It becomes the right thing to do in terms of what we say we are as an institution.”

Szczepanski and Gray shared their concepts and calculations with the board of trustees in May to persuade them that the renovation’s architects should be sustainability-focused up front.

“For this project to be most beneficial, we need it to be green from the design phase,” Szczepanski says.

The students assert that JMS is the perfect specimen for exploring renewable energy on campus. Says Gray, “It’s the science building. It’s weird things are sticking out of it, that’s OK. … You can experiment on it. That’s in the spirit of science.”

Indeed, the JMS study considered the innovative educational opportunities that a green science facility would offer. “I foresee alternative energy devices on the roof coming down to some sort of monitoring system in the lobby,” Hodgson says, indicating that it could display “what we’re generating ourselves, what we’re saving and what we’re not generating in terms of carbon emissions.”

“One of the things we want to do is to make it part of a learning thing both on campus and off campus,” Gray says.

Campus sustainability champions envision even more for this renovation and for those that will follow. “Our overall goal with this whole project is to develop a green building standard for the whole college,” Szczepanski says. “That would be the most beneficial way for us to improve the campus.”

Four professors share a major, a zest for field research - and a close call or two

By Doug McNiss

There is a feeling of being on edge that never quite goes away in grizzly country. A field trip that runs for weeks or months is a long time to be looking over your shoulder. Nelson Ham (Geology) first experienced that feeling of constant apprehension when his graduate work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison took him to Alaska’s Glacier Bay National Park.

When scientists like Ham take to the field, they aren’t looking for danger. They want to come home in one piece, and for the most part, they are successful. His work, like that of the three colleagues who teach with him in the interdisciplinary environmental science major, begins not in the clinical confines of the lab but out in the messy world, where they share space with grizzly bears, man- eating caimans and the forces of Nature.

These professors are united across their different fields by two things – a common passion for trying to unravel the mysteries of the natural world, and a certain taste for adventure.

Ham was in bear country to study how modern glaciers work, as a way to understand how long-ago glaciers shaped the landscape of places like the upper Midwest. But as he worked, one eye was usually alert for the larger fauna. His canister of bear mace was always attached to his shirt, and it is visible in every photograph of him taken while he was there. “The park didn’t allow us to carry firearm,” Ham says.

The level of anxiety escalated whenever the team needed to restock their food supplies. That entailed a trip back to a base camp, where the summer’s food stock was stored in bear-proof barrels. To get there, the team had to tunnel through a
A trip diverted

The risks of fieldwork often stem from Mother Nature. But in many parts of the world, the biggest danger comes from our own species — from bandits, kidnappers, revolutionaries and drug traffickers. In that case, the best course of action is often a change of plans — especially when students are along.

On a trip in the late 1990s, as a group traveling with James Hodgson (Biology) arrived in Panama City, word awaited them that drug traffickers had moved into the area they were to visit. The traffickers had killed villagers there.

Hodgson quickly reset the itinerary for a more secure area. “I’d love to go to that part of Panama again on my own,” says Hodgson. “But I’ve never been back with the students.”

Hodgson didn’t, however, give up on Panama, and he continues to take students to safe parts of the country. “Being exposed to the world is the greatest classroom,” says Hodgson. “I’ve had friends who’ve been confronted by bears.” While snorkeling in search of turtle habitat, one colleague came nose to nose with a caiman, a type of crocodile. Fortunately, the reptile raced in one direction, the researcher in the other.

Flash flood

“T here is always risk,” says Anindo Choudhury (Biology), who studies the relationships between hosts and parasites. “But you weigh the benefits against the risk. You say, ‘What are the chances of losing my life or being injured?’”

“I’ve had a colleague whose plane crashed in the Arctic,” he says. “I’ve had friends who’ve been confronted by bears.” While snorkeling in search of turtle habitat, one colleague came nose to nose with a caiman, a type of crocodile. Fortunately, the reptile was as startled as he was. The caiman raced in one direction, the researcher in the other.

Choudhury’s own brush with death came at the bottom of the Grand Canyon, as his research team slept on the banks of the Little Colorado River.

Early in the morning, he awoke to the sound of commotion. He looked down. The stillwasser river was running beneath his cot. A storm had struck upstream. With the walk of the canyon soaring nearly vertically just yards from the river’s edge, they were trapped in a bottleneck with the water rising fast.

The only way out was a helicopter rescue. However, “The helicopter is not going to fly at night unless they absolutely have to,” Choudhury says. The research team told the helicopter crew that they could probably hold out till early morning. While they waited, they perched atop a bower. “It was a race against time,” he recalls.

The water never reached the point where it would have flushed them downstream. “But there was no way to know that, at the time.”

Though he now knows the risks of field research, Choudhury has no regrets. “The rewards are amazing. All these harrowing events aside, I would not trade my experience in the Grand Canyon for anything. I’ve seen the awesome power of nature at its most extreme. And I’ve seen things animals do in the wild that I would never have seen in the armchair of my house. It’s been an amazing life.”

A day on the lake

There is no guarantee of safety, even if you confine your research to Wisconsin. David Poister (Chemistry) takes to the water for his ongoing study of how sediment builds on lake bottoms. “This always involves getting in a boat, and that’s usually when the trouble starts,” he says.

He focuses on diatoms, one-celled organisms that add to the lake sediment when they die. The diatoms come in colonies, the bigger the colonies, the more that end up on the bottom. “I’m trying to figure out what causes the size of the colony to change.”

His field research runs from May through late November, by which time the weather is turning wintry. Even so, the work still needs to be done. “There’s always this balance as to whether it’s smart to be out on the lake versus how bad I want the data. Whenever I’m out there, I always picture the graph that I’m going to make with the sediment samples I’m collecting. I can see what the graph would look like if I have a gap in the data. Then I really feel compelled to get the sample.”

In November 2006, Poister headed a mile out from the shoreline of Trout Lake and tied his boat, a 14-foot flat-bottomed craft with narrow sails, to a buoy at the lake’s deepest point. He took sediment samples for 45 minutes, largely oblivious to the rising wind-whipped waves — until it became apparent that the boat was filling with water. “It was losing altitude fast,” he recollects. Poister started the outboard motor and zig-zagged to shore, maneuvering the now low-riding craft nose-first into the waves to minimize water intake.

Later that day, as he prepared to go out again after draining the boat, he discovered just how close he had come to disaster. He pulled the motor’s starter cord. It ripped loose from the motor. It was the sort of break that couldn’t have been repaired out on the lake, and if it had happened earlier, he would have been stranded on a sinking boat in water just a few degrees above freezing.

Though he had worn his anti-hypothermia suit, he says it is a limited safeguard, too constructive to swim easily. “They are really made to keep you afloat until somebody comes for you. But I was out there all alone that day. The boat would either have taken on too much water and sunk, or it would have blown to shore. I don’t know which.”

A day on the lake

There is no guarantee of safety, even if you confine your research to Wisconsin. David Poister (Chemistry) takes to the water for his ongoing study of how sediment builds on lake bottoms. “This always involves getting in a boat, and that’s usually when the trouble starts,” he says.

He focuses on diatoms, one-celled organisms that add to the lake sediment when they die. The diatoms come in colonies, the bigger the colonies, the more that end up on the bottom. “I’m trying to figure out what causes the size of the colony to change.”

In one stretch, rain fell for three weeks straight. During that time, it was constantly foggy, he says, and that inspired still more fear. “You worried about running into a bear you couldn’t see.”

Two months passed without incident and they flew back to park headquarters on their final day. “We went out to the beach at park headquarters to read a book,” Ham remembers. “I heard grunting. Twenty yards away, a large bear and her cubs had wandered onto the beach.” Her cubs began to approach him out of curiosity. The mother reared up. It was the worst of situations; a mother bear is particularly likely to attack to protect her cubs.

“After two months in Alaska, I was going to get killed by a bear at park headquarters,” Ham says. “I was within a few seconds of her making the choice to charge — and you can’t outrun a charging bear.”

The bear backed off.

He field research runs from May through late November, by which time the weather is turning wintry. Even so, the work still needs to be done. “There’s always this balance as to whether it’s smart to be out on the lake versus how bad I want the data. Whenever I’m out there, I always picture the graph that I’m going to make with the sediment samples I’m collecting. I can see what the graph would look like if I have a gap in the data. Then I really feel compelled to get the sample.”

In November 2006, Poister headed a mile out from the shoreline of Trout Lake and tied his boat, a 14-foot flat-bottomed craft with narrow sails, to a buoy at the lake’s deepest point. He took sediment samples for 45 minutes, largely oblivious to the rising wind-whipped waves — until it became apparent that the boat was filling with water. “It was losing altitude fast,” he recollects. Poister started the outboard motor and zig-zagged to shore, maneuvering the now low-riding craft nose-first into the waves to minimize water intake.

Later that day, as he prepared to go out again after draining the boat, he discovered just how close he had come to disaster. He pulled the motor’s starter cord. It ripped loose from the motor. It was the sort of break that couldn’t have been repaired out on the lake, and if it had happened earlier, he would have been stranded on a sinking boat in water just a few degrees above freezing.

Though he had worn his anti-hypothermia suit, he says it is a limited safeguard, too constructive to swim easily. “They are really made to keep you afloat until somebody comes for you. But I was out there all alone that day. The boat would either have taken on too much water and sunk, or it would have blown to shore. I don’t know which.”

A day on the lake

There is no guarantee of safety, even if you confine your research to Wisconsin. David Poister (Chemistry) takes to the water for his ongoing study of how sediment builds on lake bottoms. “This always involves getting in a boat, and that’s usually when the trouble starts,” he says.

He focuses on diatoms, one-celled organisms that add to the lake sediment when they die. The diatoms come in colonies, the bigger the colonies, the more that end up on the bottom. “I’m trying to figure out what causes the size of the colony to change.”

In one stretch, rain fell for three weeks straight. During that time, it was constantly foggy, he says, and that inspired still more fear. “You worried about running into a bear you couldn’t see.”

Two months passed without incident and they flew back to park headquarters on their final day. “We went out to the beach at park headquarters to read a book,” Ham remembers. “I heard grunting. Twenty yards away, a large bear and her cubs had wandered onto the beach.” Her cubs began to approach him out of curiosity. The mother reared up. It was the worst of situations; a mother bear is particularly likely to attack to protect her cubs.

“After two months in Alaska, I was going to get killed by a bear at park headquarters,” Ham says. “I was within a few seconds of her making the choice to charge — and you can’t outrun a charging bear.”

The bear backed off.
Tragedy, violence and commemorative rituals

**Shadowed ground, sacred place**

By Michael Lukens
Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies

The designation of sacred places in the memory of tragic and violent events, the shocking and uncommonly terrible moments of suffering and loss, is a universal drive, a quest to understand who we are and what we most value. In recent decades, there has been a resurgence of interest in the interconnection of historical memory and social identity. The relation of memory and identity is inevitably common in personal introspection of the tragic event. The American quest for national identity, a shifting but seemingly constant endeavor, has long included a compelling impulse to concretize places of staggering suffering (like Gettysburg) in order to make holy the site of willing sacrifice. Our impulse is the same today in remembrance of unwilling victimization (the Sept. 11 attack), in memory of values sustained and valued lives lost. Such places may acquire near-instant sanctity or a slowly emerging importance but their rootage is the same: in a deep recognition of heroism and vicarious sacrifice. Other places are marked not by heroic stature but by a sense of shame. A place may become sacred by its obliterating senselessness (Gettysburg), where moral loss and distorted meaning prevails. In such places we stand on “shadowed,” haunted ground.

At the same time, there are so-called “designated” special places that become sacred through “rectification,” in a gradual evolution toward corrective action through education and reconciliation. (The Lorraine Motel in Memphis where Martin Luther King Jr. was executed, now committed to racial understanding. Or a training center for fire safety at the original site of the Great Chicago Fire.) Foote’s analysis raises questions that are useful in approaching any memorial or place of suffering (like Auschwitz) in order to make holy the site of unwilling victimization. Each of us has such special memorials deeply imprinted in our minds, reflecting sacred places permanently powerful in our own emotional experience. For those who find this interrelation of memory and meaning a procreative call, particularly in our own culture, a valuable resource is Foote’s most recent monograph, “Shadowed Ground: America’s Landscape of Tragedy and Violence” (2003). Foote reminds us well that there is both an inevitable and continually important asset here, in the collective arena where perseverance of memory helps us shape and clarify who we think we are and how we want it to convey to ourselves and to others what are our most important moments, for good or ill, because their meaning has become ours.

Foote’s reflections were replete with examples, especially from the Southwest (the Alamo, the Oklahoma City Federal Building), where much of his research and writing has taken place. Yet, I rather think that most of us listening had an alternative set of examples running through our minds, focused on our own experiences and memories. I had just returned some days before this lecture from Berlin, a city of which I have extensive experience. I began thinking of Foote’s analytic characteristics applied to that haunted city, where one cannot help but be reminded on every street, almost every block, of a past of sacrifice and tragedy.

The Grunewald Freight Station with its bronze plaques lining the rails for 100 yards, each denoting the exact number of Jews who boarded a train there, with an exact date and destination, deported to death. The quiet little park on Grosse Hamburger Strasse, with its wiry sculptures, that was a collection site for orphaned children and elderly people on their way to extinction. The sidewalk monument just outside Philharmonic Hall, a pinnacle of German culture and sophistication, that marks the now obliterated street site (Forganische Strasse 4) of the Third Reich headquarters for the infamous “T-4” program, the eugenic program for racial purity that led to the mass murder of more than 100,000 mentally ill or severely disabled persons.

Each of us has such special memorials deeply imprinted in our minds, reflecting sacred places permanently powerful in our own emotional experience. For those who find this interrelation of memory and meaning a procreative call, particularly in our own culture, a valuable resource is Foote’s most recent monograph, “Shadowed Ground: America’s Landscape of Tragedy and Violence” (2003). Foote reminds us well that there is both an inevitable and continually important asset here, in the collective arena where perseverance of memory helps us shape and clarify who we think we are and how we want it to convey to ourselves and to others what are our most important moments, for good or ill, because their meaning has become ours.

**New lines of connection**

The cultural environment in which the college flourishes is growing too and, as new communities engage, the campus itself reflects its changing surroundings

By Jeff Karowski

“Empowering”

That’s how Hy Xiong, a senior at Green Bay East High School, described a special art day for Hmong high school students at St. Norbert College.

Students from Wausau, Sheboygan, Brown County and the Fox Valley gathered for the free event, focused on the theme “Core Values, Prayer, Community and Service to Others.”

“Hmong people are very much about community,” said Xiong, “so we like being able to network and interact with new people.”

The March event centered on the creation of a community art mural for the gathering space of Madeleine and Lorraine residence halls. The project was facilitated by Hoaong artist Seexeng Lee of Minneapolis.

Each student painted a tile for the mural. Lee had previously drawn connecting lines on the 216 tiles that together created “Confidence,” the 20-by-5-foot mural.

“We could paint whatever we wanted to,” said May See Yang of Green Bay. “I wanted to show what my values are through my painting.”

Following the art project, Lee presented “Evolution of Hmong Art” to the students, their parents and representatives of the college.

The day’s activities also offered the visitors campus tours, a financial aid information session and a leadership workshop.

“One of the goals is for the students to identify that being a leader is in your own hands,” said Eric Wagner ’06 (Alumnus). “If they have a goal, they have to reach for it. We hope they learn something about their own leadership traits and the value in branching out to others.”

The students were asked to define leadership through words, symbols or drawings before participating in a task to test their teamwork skills. Small groups, supplied with 25 balloons and a roll of tape, were challenged to build the tallest balloon tower.

“That was pretty creative,” said Jeffrey Lee of Wausau. “They made us really think about the best way to build it. It was fun.”

Lee, a graduate of Wausau West, is exploring colleges after a year out of school. “I wanted to come and learn about St. Norbert and experience the college,” he said. “This was a good opportunity, and I really enjoyed it.”

“We are trying to encourage more Hmong students to consider higher education,” said Wagner. “I’m pretty confident we will offer this again next year, but for a different cultural group, possibly African-American or Hispanic students. We would like to do one a year. It appears to be a success, and the mural came together beautifully.”

By Eric Wagner ‘06

Tragedy, violence and commemorative rituals Shadowed ground, sacred place

**Web Extra**

Artist Seexeng Lee created a mural in the lobby of Mad/Lor. The piece, created from 216 hand-painted tiles, is a vibrant symbol of the growing diversity of the Green Bay area and of the campus itself. For more images of its creation, go to snc.snc.edu/go/magazine
The Golden Knight Society: 50 Years and Counting

Listen to their stories and you will know they are dear old friends. For them, the words “Do you remember...” open the yearbook to a random page. Current time stops and memory takes over. These are St. Norbert College’s Golden Knights. Membership in the Golden Knight Society depends on only one qualification: a St. Norbert College graduate of at least 50 years ago. This fall, members of the class of 1959 will celebrate their 50-year class reunion and be inducted as the newest Golden Knights, cementing the honor of 218 Paul “Beta” Koehler ’59, Maggie (Hess) Rauzer ’59 and Paul Sinkler ’59. The trio meets regularly to plan for their 50-year class reunion, scheduled for this fall. Members of the class of 1959, from left, Paul “Beta” Koehler ’59, Maggie (Hess) Rauzer ’59 and Paul Sinkler ’59. The trio meets regularly to plan for their 50-year class reunion, scheduled for this fall.

Reunion Weekend

The trio meets regularly to plan for their 50-year class reunion, scheduled for this fall.

For updates on all class reunions, check in at www.snc.edu/alumni

Births/Adoptions


2004 Jennifer (Rosen) and Nelson Martell ’82. Whitfish Bay, Wis., a daughter, Natalie, July, 2007.


2008 Eric (Maurice) and Paul Rosey. Sun Prairie, Wis., a son, Kevin Mark, Jan. 17, 2008.

2009 Maureen (Kellerher) and Mark Warchol. De Pere, a son, Benjamin Evan, Jan. 29, 2009. Benjamin joins siblings Zachary, 4, and Isabelle, 2.


2011 Lori (Josten) and Scott Warrall. Red Deer, Alberta, a son, Andrew Thomas, Oct. 21, 2011.

2012 Katie (McConnell) and Nick LaFame. Appleton, Wis., a daughter, Grace Lynn, June 25, 2012.

2013 Katherine (March) and Mathew Collin ’95. Montgomeryville, Pa., a daughter, Madison Grace, Jan. 20, 2013.

2014 Ashley (Roberts) and Chris Wadendorf. cover your office, a daughter, Lucy Alexandria, May 14, 2014.

2015 Kelly (Brauback) and Nick Perco ’97. Three Lakes, Wis., a son, Owen Patrick, May 1, 2015.

2016 Michelle (Kundran) and Janel Lowenthein ’95. Green Bay, a daughter, Morgan Michelle, Feb. 2, 2016.

Marriages

1994 Eric (Riddle) and Emily Ritter. Oct. 11, 2008. They live in Grapeland, Ill.


2006 Maggie (Koehler) and Nick O’Reilly. June 28, 2008. They live in Milwaukee.

Deaths

1942 Wallace Beauchamp, of Green Bay, died March 29, 2008, at the age of 82. He served as a captain in the U.S. Navy during World War II and later was appointed assistant naval attaché to the Moscow embassy. After his retirement, he returned to Green Bay, where he was very involved in many community organizations. He is survived by his wife, Betty, and three sons.

1959 Albert (Beta) Koehler. of Glen Ridge, N.J., died March 29, 2008, at the age of 82. He was the president of Mallars and Company, a wholesale grocery and import company, and the co-founder of M.C.A.C Athletic Club in Chicago. He is survived by his wife, Betty, and three sons.

1962 Gerold Vonderhaar, of Green Bay, died Jan. 23, 2009, at the age of 77. He was employed by Northwestern Engineering and later worked with the Green Bay Public School District. He is survived by his mother, Eleanor. His son.

1963 Gary Bernat, of Green Bay, died Jan. 17, 2009, at the age of 70. He worked at Morgan Biersch and, alongside his wife, Anne, owned and operated Taylor and Dono’s Bar. He is survived by his wife, Betty, and two sons.

1966 Edna North, of Franklin, Wis., died Jan. 15, 2009, at the age of 70. She taught in the Milwaukee area for many years. She is survived by three sisters.

1968 Thomas Eldorado, of La Grange, Ill., died Jan. 16, 2009, at the age of 66. He worked as a financial director in the Chicago area for many years. He is survived by his wife, Rita, and three children.

1972 Mary Immer, of De Pere, died Jan. 15, 2009, at the age of 59. Mary worked for the oil industry in Alaska, where she lived for 25 years. She is survived by three sisters and nieces and nephews.

1975 Ann Kelley, of Waukesha, Wis., died June 20, 2009, at the age of 51. A long-time resident and mother, she is survived by her husband Gary and her two children.

1981 Diane (Van) White, of Stafford, Va., died Feb. 8, 2009. Diane loved working with children, being with family, camping, playing cards and volunteering at her local library. White is survived by her husband, Rob, Jan. 7, 1987, a retired lieutenant colonel, and her son, Tyler.

2008 Robert Knopp, of Milwaukee, died March 25, 2009. Robert worked at Boelter Brothers until he attended his 50-year class function before he attended his 50-year class reunion, scheduled for this fall. Members of the class of 1959, from left, Paul “Beta” Koehler ’59, Maggie (Hess) Rauzer ’59 and Paul Sinkler ’59. The trio meets regularly to plan for their 50-year class reunion, scheduled for this fall.

Whether 1959, New social media networks are helping with new presidents or new programs, pages or PACER coaches, the regular “Ask the Abbot” feature gets more hits than any other column.

Fielding questions from alumni with old-world courtesy, college founder Abbot Bernard Pennings, O.Praem. (through his amanuensis in the alumni office) has weighed in on topics ranging from campus ghosts to the broccoli-cheese casserole served in the Caf.

His presence in the award-winning e-newsletter, which goes out to some 6,000 alumni readers every month, has even increased mail to the current abbot’s postbag – Abbot Gary Neville, O.Praem., ‘73 says he gets letters himself in return to the columns. Abbot Pennings may draft his remarks with a fountain pen but he does not balk at new communication tools, alluding to innovations like webcams and online directories and sometimes venturing to include internet links in his carefully researched replies.

To check out the feature or subscribe to QST, Norbert, e-mail the first Tuesday every month, go to www.snc.edu/go/pnews.

@St. Norbert feature clicks with readers

He’s 147 years old and his narrative style has a definite 19th-century ring to it, but he tops the news every month. Whether 1959, New social media networks are helping with new presidents or new programs, pages or PACER coaches, the regular “Ask the Abbot” feature gets more hits than any other column.
A voice when they couldn’t speak

Three parents have developed unsought advocacy skills out of a need to speak up on behalf of their children and others facing similar challenges.

By Jeff Kanurski

A
merican author and educational reformer Dorothy Canfield Fisher once said, “A mother is not a person to lean on, but a person to make leaning unnecessary.” Her words ring true for these alumns who have come to serve as advocates not only for their own children, but for others facing similar challenges.

Christine Schlegel Brown ’93 will never forget the moment her second child, Connor, was diagnosed with phenylketonuria (PKU), a genetic disorder where the body is missing an enzyme that produces protein. “For my husband, Kevin, and I, it was just devastating,” she says. “You hold this baby in your hands, and then he starts treatment within 10 days of life. Luckily, there is a treatment for PKU.”

Two years later, a newborn screening revealed that the Brown’s third son, Kellen, now 1, also has the metabolic disease. Eldest son Reagan is PKU-free. Keeping Connor, now 3, and Kellen healthy requires a low-protein diet and, as an essential supplement, a synthetic formula. “It’s very expensive,” says Schlegel Brown. “The formula is approximately $40,000 a year. It’s also more costly buying food for the boys. For example, a package of low-protein spaghetti is $11.24.”

PKU is diagnosed in one of every 14,000 births in the United States. If treatment is not started within the first few weeks of life, a child may develop mental retardation or neurological problems. Schlegel Brown is thankful to be living in the state of Wisconsin, which has insurance mandates for PKU treatment.

“I was leaving Wisconsin after I graduated and never coming back,” she says. “I had developed my own major, global peace and justice studies with an emphasis in Africa. I was working out of Washington, D.C., and traveling to Africa to do field research, conflict resolution, and work with human rights development and fundraising. St. Norbert taught me well. I knew I wanted to do something involving social justice.”

Schlegel Brown is now active in assisting other families dealing with the disease. She serves on the board of directors for PKU and Allied Disorders of Wisconsin and was recently appointed the first executive director of the National PKU Alliance.

“We raise money through walks and fundraisers for research,” she says. “We offer cooking classes and hold a conference each year with breakout sessions.”

Progress has been made through organized efforts. “The first drug for PKU has been approved by the FDA. The only way you create change is when you get together and push for it.”

Parenting children with autism can be challenging, but Chelsea (Buchman) Budde ’95 says it has also been a “wonderful blessing.” Her son, Justus, 9, was diagnosed close to the birth of her daughter, Noelle, 6, who also has autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Budde, her husband, Pete, and their two children live in Waukesha, Wis. Following several years working in public relations, motherhood changed Budde’s path in life.

“It’s not in the best interest of my children to do a 9-to-5 job,” she says, “but I am definitely doing what I love. I think I have some knowledge, some calling in my life to work for kids with special needs, autism in particular. I feel selfish. I wanted to share what I’ve learned to help other children.”

Budde joined another mother, Denise Schamens of Brookfield, to form Good Friend Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering awareness, acceptance and empathy toward children with autism.

“We started out by deciding that we really need to make a video about how to be friends with kids with autism,” says Budde. “It’s not fair to expect an 8-year-old second-grader to understand how to be friends with this unique child. We then thought, ‘Let’s really maximize this by developing a curriculum and a board of directors.’ It snowballed into the organization.”

Budde serves as president and, along with Schamens, facilitates Good Friend’s training programs. The organization offers peer sensitivity workshops at schools featuring grade-appropriate exercises and a screening of the 17-minute video. Each participant receives a certificate and an “I Am a Good Friend” bracelet. It also offers general assemblies for schools and in-services for staff.

conflict resolution, and work with human rights development and fundraising. St. Norbert taught me well. I knew I wanted to do something involving social justice.”

Schlegel Brown is now active in assisting other families dealing with the disease. She serves on the board of directors for PKU and Allied Disorders of Wisconsin and was recently appointed the first executive director of the National PKU Alliance.

“We raise money through walks and fundraisers for research,” she says. “We offer cooking classes and hold a conference each year with breakout sessions.”

Progress has been made through organized efforts. “The first drug for PKU has been approved by the FDA. The only way you create change is when you get together and push for it.”

Parenting children with autism can be challenging, but Chelsea (Buchman) Budde ’95 says it has also been a “wonderful blessing.” Her son, Justus, 9, was diagnosed close to the birth of her daughter, Noelle, 6, who also has autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Budde, her husband, Pete, and their two children live in Waukesha, Wis. Following several years working in public relations, motherhood changed Budde’s path in life.

“It’s not in the best interest of my children to do a 9-to-5 job,” she says, “but I am definitely doing what I love. I think I have some knowledge, some calling in my life to work for kids with special needs, autism in particular. I feel selfish. I wanted to share what I’ve learned to help other children.”

Budde joined another mother, Denise Schamens of Brookfield, to form Good Friend Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering awareness, acceptance and empathy toward children with autism.

“We started out by deciding that we really need to make a video about how to be friends with kids with autism,” says Budde. “It’s not fair to expect an 8-year-old second-grader to understand how to be friends with this unique child. We then thought, ‘Let’s really maximize this by developing a curriculum and a board of directors.’ It snowballed into the organization.”

Budde serves as president and, along with Schamens, facilitates Good Friend’s training programs. The organization offers peer sensitivity workshops at schools featuring grade-appropriate exercises and a screening of the 17-minute video. Each participant receives a certificate and an “I Am a Good Friend” bracelet. It also offers general assemblies for schools and in-services for staff.

Budde serves as president and, along with Schamens, facilitates Good Friend’s training programs. The organization offers peer sensitivity workshops at schools featuring grade-appropriate exercises and a screening of the 17-minute video. Each participant receives a certificate and an “I Am a Good Friend” bracelet. It also offers general assemblies for schools and in-services for staff. This summer, the team will present at the Autism Society of America’s annual conference.

“Our focus is to reach elementary school kids before the social stigma are developed,” says Budde. “We want them to be accepting and to make that a part of their environmental culture. We try to explain that the child with autism has a brain that works differently, so they understand certain behaviors. We also try to find kids with common interests. The child’s special interest may be dinosaurs, so who else likes dinosaurs?”

Good Friend, officially launched in 2007, is funded through donations and is looking for more supporters, says Budde. Information on the organization, its programs, on ordering the DVD and providing support is available online at www.goodfriendinc.com.

“I call it a God thing, how it all came together like it was supposed to,” says Budde. “We are living and breathing this in our lives and we would be negligent if we didn’t share this. We know in our hearts we are building a better world for our kids and others.”

Michelle (Hartmann) Puryear ’89 has sung the national anthem at Lambeau Field and performed with such artists as Reba McEntire and Brenda Lee, but her favorite audience is her daughter, Claire.

Puryear’s vocal and dance talents led her to make her home in “Music City,” Nashville, Tenn., where she and her husband, Matt, welcomed Claire into the world with a clean bill of health on June 14, 2006. Matt suspected early on that his daughter suffered from deafness. At 4½ months, she was diagnosed with nonsensory bilateral hearing loss.

“I wanted to find out what we can do for our daughter,” says Puryear. “When I began investigating, I discovered that babies born in Tennessee are not required by law to receive a hearing screening. Forty-three other states require screenings. Early intervention is the key to success.”

A month after diagnosis, Claire was fitted for hearing aids to keep her hearing pathways healthy. She received her first cochlear implant in June 2007 and a second implant four months later. The implants allow Claire to “hear in her own way,” says Puryear.

“People can’t pick out certain sounds because everything is the same volume,” she says. “It’s difficult for her in loud environments. “Hearing loss is the No. 1 birth defect in our country,” she adds. “Thirty-three babies with hearing loss are born each day. There had to be a way to make newborn hearing screenings mandatory.”

Puryear started a grassroots effort, contacting state representatives to sponsor a bill in the state legislature. The first bill was defeated, but her work continued. She scheduled more meetings and shared Claire’s story with as many legislators as possible. On July 1, 2008, the bill was signed. A later amendment named it “Claire’s Law.”

Puryear continues to serve as an advocate for the deaf and hard of hearing. She has started an awareness campaign and shares Claire’s story at www.ourclairebear.com.

“A thing happens to people in life and what you do is what makes a difference,” she says. “I could have been upset and not done anything, but I didn’t want anyone else to go through what we went through.”
A musical legacy

Piano pedagogy students who never knew Thomas Hurley will benefit from a new scholarship in memory of the professor of piano. Hurley taught at St. Norbert for almost 30 years and his memory was honored 11 years ago at a benefit recital. The abbey community supported the event generously and the scholarship fund endowed through the proceeds has now matured.

Gayle Westfall ’88 says Hurley, who died in 1997, is remembered fondly for his personality and his gifts and generosity in teaching by many generations of college and area students. She herself appreciated Hurley’s warm manner, dedication to his students and sense of humor. He was a lover of Serengeti’s chocolates and Westfall says she still buys a Serengeti’s bar every year at the music educators’ convention in his memory.

Mary Ellinger ’76, who knew the professor as teacher, fellow student (in graduate school at Louisiana State University) and friend, says, “Thanks to Tom’s mentoring I found the courage to follow a path in piano.

“I never could have imagined how instrumental it would be in creating and sustaining a career in music. He guided me through JNC, LSU and my move to NYC. Through all these years, with each opportunity, I am reminded that Tom, my friend, is part of it.”

Mary Oling-Sisay (Student Affairs) has been named an ACE Fellow for the coming academic year. The ACE Fellows Program, established in 1965 by the American Council for Education, is designed to strengthen leadership in higher education. Thirty-eight fellows, nominated by the presidents or chancellors of their institutions, were selected this year in a national competition.

“This is a tremendous opportunity and a great honor for Mary and for St. Norbert College,” said President Tom Kunkel. “Mary’s inclusion in ACE is another example of the excellent quality of administrators we have at St. Norbert.”

Rosemary Sands (International Education) has been named to the advisory board for the SQUOLA Center for Contemporary Italian Studies, at Florence University of the Arts in Italy. At the 2009 NAFSA Association for International Educators conference, Sands co-presented on “Education Abroad Advising” with colleagues from Acadia, Enzy, the University of Florida, the University of Hartford and the University of Virginia.

Edward Riden (English) and Nickolas Haydock co-edited “Hollywood in the Holy Land: Essays on Film Depictions of the Crusades and Christian-Muslim Clashes,” published by McFarland Publishers this spring.

A lifelong commitment to the greater good marks two outstanding careers of service

Sister Sally Ann Brickner, D.S.F., ’67 has stepped down from the directorship of the Peace and Justice Center following her election as first vice president of her religious community, the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross. Brickner, whose name has been most closely associated with the development of the center through its first 10 years, will continue to teach in the peace and justice minor as she transitions into her new role.

Brother Steve Herro, O.Prezum., ’85 says, “She leaves a phenomenal legacy. She staunchly connected Catholic social teaching to the work of the center; she led by example, organizing and attending trips to School of the Americas, Consume Center for Inter-cultural Dialogue on Development, St. John the Evangelist Homeless Shelter.”

For a number of years, Herro served on the Peace and Justice Center advisory committee with Brickner. “She had a wonderful knack for pushing her students to achieve ‘at the real level’ in state academic conferences and always made me feel a welcome collaborator in the college’s peace and justice ministry. I am forever grateful for what she has meant for me, the college, and the wider Church.”

Brickner has been a faculty member at St. Norbert College since 1970. Appointed initially to the education discipline, she served as its director from 1982 to 1984. She chaired the social science division from 1984 to 1989, and then was the first person to serve as associate academic dean at St. Norbert, from 1989 to 1995. In 2001, she began her tenure at the Peace and Justice Center, established to help prepare and engage students to serve as ethical and dynamic agents of change in their local, regional, national and global communities. Brickner has empowered the center’s student interns to champion the social issues about which they feel most passionate.

Her own service has taken her to Canada, Nicaragua, Great Britain, Germany, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Peoples’ Republic of China, Japan, Haiti and most recently to Colombia, where she worked with Christian Peacemaker Teams.

Bonnie Berken (Mathematics) retires this year after 57 years at the college. Widely published, Berken has been an active member of the Mathematical Association of America. Among her notable achievements, she drove on her expertise in ethnomathematics to develop the Multicultural Mathematics ideas course, in which students study how different cultures have approached mathematical topics. John Frohlig (Mathematics) calls her dedication “extraordinary,” adding, “Her teaching demonstrated innovation and the concern for students that distinguishes JNC.”

Berken co-chaired the state’s high school mathematics competition with Kathy Muhs (Mathematics). The two women will continue to work with the Green Bay Public School District and the Wausau School District on a U.S. Department of Education Mathematics/Science Partnership grant. Under the auspices of this grant, Berken and Muhs create and teach graduate courses focusing on the content and pedagogy of mathematics education.

“For 27 years, Bonnie has been a highly esteemed colleague and a wonderful friend,” says Muhs. “She has touched so many lives through her teaching and mentoring here at St. Norbert through the Native American math camps she directed, through the extensive mathematics exhibit she arranged at the Neville Museum, through her years of work with the Einstein Program, and most recently, through the math and science partnerships with area school districts.”

“She has particularly touched my life in uncountable ways, with the most important being her friendship. We have collaborated on so many projects together through the years that it is difficult to imagine Bonnie not being on campus. I will miss her.”

David Hummick (Biology) and his student Sam Spencer ’09 have been working together on research that may aid understanding of colibacillary disease, an infection of fish. The duo have been studying modifying in different strains of flavobacterium columnar, a gram negative bacterium that causes the disease in many freshwater fish species, to determine which are most pathogenic.

Mark Selin (Admissions) has been appointed to the governing and nominating committee of the National Association for College Admission Counseling as a three-year term. Selin has served the Wisconsin Association for College Admission Counseling as delegete and past president. This spring he was named Admissions Professor of the Year at the group’s annual conference.

James Harris (Business Administration) and Michael Audette ’09 worked together this year on an exploratory consumer group study influences. Their concern was with sensitivity and perception among opinion leaders as they see trends they have adopted move into the mainstream.

Recognized at this year’s Faculty Awards reception were Kari Cunningham (Chemistry) and Michael Lovano (History), who received the Leonard Ledwina Award for Excellence in Teaching; Tim Flood (Geology) and Kevin Quinn (Economics), who received the Donald K. King Distinguished Scholar Award; and Mark Bockenhauer (Geography), who received the Bishop Robert F. Monme Community Service Award.

The entire campus was saddened by the death March 13 of Chris Sarkis (Registrar’s Office).

Sarkis was a good friend and co-worker to many during his 30-year career at St. Norbert. Most recently, she worked as technical support specialist in the office of the registrar.

But she touched countless lives in other roles, too – in the office of John Sutton (Academic Affairs) and the Office of Support Services, and through her valued contributions to programs like Ocean Voyagers, Kids’ College and the Young Artists’ Workshop.

Co-workers in the office of admission, Dustin Thill (left) and Eric Wagner ’06 were able to collaborate in a whole new way on a trip to Kenya this year.

The two men went to work alongside local volunteers to build simple houses and facilities for members of the Kikuyu tribe living south of Nairobi.

Thill says, “You can arrive at the site with all this stuff lying about and by the end of the day you can almost have the structure of a 10 by 10 home that will house six people. Some of these people have never had a home before.”

With their group were Wagner’s parents, Romer and Lisa, making a return visit with Helping Hands, a non-profit out of Wausau founded by Tom Rovers ’66.

One of the jobs on the group’s to-do list was to file a church; an organization on a previous trip. Two members of the group built 95 beds while they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.

By the end of the day they were in Kenya, Thill says.
deliver many-needed supplies to the Zambia Open Community Schools.

- Matt Schmitz ’12 shared the stage with Garrison Keillor when his four-piece pop-rock group, Dance Billy Dance, played on NPR’s “Prairie Home Companion” this spring. The show broadcast live from the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center in Appleton, Wis.

- Ryan Pavlik ’09 graduated this May with not one, not two, but three majors: Spanish, computer science and math. During his four years at St. Norbert, Pavlik studied abroad in Spain, worked with Google’s Summer of Code and maintained his own technical consulting company. Ryan’s senior project was the development of software that enables multi-touch interaction with computers. He now begins a Ph.D. program in human-computer interaction at Iowa State.

- Her semester at St. Norbert earned Australian exchange student Danielle Tracy some ink when she made the Global Opportunities newsletter in Queensland. Tracy decided to study in the United States after meeting American exchange students at her alma mater, the University of the Sunshine Coast. “I saw how much fun they had,” she said. “I wanted to experience that for myself.”

- I traveled quite a bit around the U.S. and got to see the differences between people from the Midwest compared to people from California or Florida.” Danielle said she enjoyed waking up and looking out the first snow fall, and even living on campus in minus 20-degree weather.

- A paper by Kim Anderson ’09 was named Best Critical Paper for 2009 at the Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society national convention in March. Anderson’s essay, on “Charlotte Temple’s Fall from Grace: A Painful Lesson about Fundamentalism,” took first place out of over 200 other submissions. Other St. Norbert students who presented at the undergraduate convention were: Amie Odabasi ’09, Kathry Lynn Botsford ’10, Matt Brugge ’10, Sarah Cornelissen ’10, Megan Engberg ’09, Christine Garten ’09, Jody Kolter ’11, Anthony Malcore ’09, Suzan Odabasi ’09, Magdalynn O’Leary ’09, Jenna Prince ’09, Greg Stanley ’09, Kristen Susienka ’10 and Paul Utterback ’09.

- Samantha J. Kreutz ’10 and Josh Jones ’10 have each been awarded undergraduate fellowships from the Institute for Theological Education (ITE). The award includes a scholarship as well as a place at a national summer conference where undergraduates across the Christian denominations explore the possible call to ministry.

- The ITE’s mission is to encourage, caring and courageous young adults from diverse backgrounds on their journey to become pastors and scholars—the next generation of leaders for the church.

- Five students and two alumni took part in this year’s Spring Work Day at Camp U-Nah-Ly in Suring, Wis. The men helped by deconstructing docks for replacement at the YMCA camp. Not only did the experience connect them to the community but also to one another. “We really bonded during the service work,” says Jordan Neick ’10.

- Neick worked with Clyde Schneider ’10, Mike Cegeliski ’07 and Rodrigo Villalobos ’12. CIL students Julian Herrera and Luis Guibara, and Bill Van Es ’95.

- Justin Krueger ’09 and Justin Wrezinski ’10 were among delegates from only 10 schools invited to all-men’s vocational discernment conference at Georgia Tech this spring. The event was sponsored by the Fund for Theological Education.

- Working with other participants at the conference was nothing short of amazing,” says Krueger. A highlight was the event’s ecumenical focus. “It was not about one person out to prove that he was right in his beliefs, but rather, how can we use all of our traditions to teach and grow from one another, and to ultimately better the world. I left with a lot more insight about myself and my own vocation, but also with the knowledge that we are not in this alone.”

- It’s not just student teaching that is taking education students into local schools. Last semester, Lombardi Middle School invited 32 of St. Norbert’s science education students to judge their 10th annual science fair. And some 40 education students went to Washington Middle School to paint the halls, create murals and paint quotations around the school. The project was funded through a grant to the Student Wisconsin Education Association.

- At Recognized at this year’s Academic Awards Dinner for four years of excellence were these members of the class of 2009: Teresa Amman, Amy Bliver, Elynn Brabender, Jennifer Buresh, Tessa Caine, Daniell DeGroot, Michelle Deutsch, Theresa Bohlman, Susan Ernst, Caitlin Formening, Amanda King, Andrea Kika, Gina Lanser, Katie Maylow, Rebecca Melies, Katie Peterson, Sarah Schmidt, Catherine Smith and Molly Templeton (Education); Jesse Bair (Political Science), Rachelle Barina (Peace and Justice Studies and Religious Studies); Francis Beaumier (Computer Science and Spanish); Cullen Braun (Physics and Mathematics); John Gremmer (Business Administration and Mathematics). Emily Czarnik-Remoyn (Sociology and Women’s and Gender Studies), Aimee D’Amour, Steven Galie, Alyssa Kurth, Stephanie Miller, Seth Oberschlake, Erin Reiel, Megan Schmell and Benjamin Wisley (Biological). Michael Dowden and Patrick Lappach (Business), Megan Schmell and Jenna Prince, David Toftoel and Paul Utterback (English), Maria Fonterek, Amber Pamperin and Caitlin Zach (Music Education), Christine Garten and Catherine Welsey (French), Erin Gasparca (International Business and French), Melissa Grier (Business Administration and Economics); Sarah Goodman (Political Science and Sociology); Katie Raines (Natural Science); Jennifer Jacobsen (Mathematics and Economics); Matthew Kahlbushner, Keeley Meier and Daryl Wessen (Chemistry); Kate Kaminski (Business Administration and Mathematics); Jacob Kempowski (Political Science and History); Billy Kortide (Women’s and Gender Studies), Kathryn Krasin, Matthew Muenter, Ashley Sewell and Jordan Vater (Communication, Media and Theatre); Ryan Kroening (Computer Science and Economics); Justin Krueger (Religious Studies and Music Performance); Deziirn Larson, Audrey O’Hearn and Scott Werley (Art); Van Le (Computer Science and Business Administration); Gina Leonardelli (Psychology); Nicole Martin (Biological and Chemistry); Shannon McClune (Sociology); Emily McElhaney, Michael Sheske and Steven Sleep (Accounting); Wendy Morrison (Religious Studies and Spanish); Johanna Pantzer (German). Ryan Pavlik (Computer Science, Spanish and Mathematics); Andrew Rankin (Business Administration); Adi Redzic (International Studies); Heather Schulze (Mathematics and Spanish), and Katherine Trzaska (Political Science and Communication, Media and Theatre).
Called to political service

By Lisa Strandberg

The Rev. Robert John Cornell, O.Praem., ’41 (Political Science, Emunus) answered to many names in the course of his 85 years – Father Cornell during some 60 years teaching government and history, the Honorable Robert J. Cornell in the U.S. House of Representatives, and Bob among colleagues and friends. However they addressed him, those who knew the politically active Norbertine, who died May 10, recall his devotion to the underdog, his dedication to the priesthood and his unfailing sense of humor.

Cornell became only the second Roman Catholic priest in the nation’s history elected as a voting delegate to the U.S. Congress, noted his obituary in the New York Times. (The Rev. Robert F. Dinan, a Massachusetts Democrat and Jesuit priest, was Cornell’s contemporary in the House.) He represented Wisconsin’s Eighth Congressional District from 1975 to 1979 – the only Democrat to do so between 1945 and 1997 – before losing the seat to Republican Troy Roth in the 1997 contest.

Before running for Congress, Cornell was the Democratic Party chairman in his district. “It is my personal belief that serving in Congress is no more inconsistent with the priesthood than teaching government and history, as I have done for 35 years,” Father Cornell said.

Cornell considered politics his best means to serve the needs of his community, an integral principle of his ordination, said the Rev. Al McBride, O.Praem., ’50, a fellow Norbertine and former student of Cornell’s. Cornell was also known for promoting rock concerts to benefit charities.

Before, during and after his time in Congress, Cornell had “an instinctive compassion for poor people no matter what the cause might be,” McBride said.

“Bob was a Norbertine priest. It was very much a part of everything he said and did,” said former House representative Michael Blouin, a 23-year Catholic deacon who served in the House at the same time as Cornell. “The impact it’s had on the lives he’s touched is very much there, and it will ripple for decades to come.” As a legislator, Cornell sought educational benefits for Vietnam veterans and, said Blouin, “was very much committed to working people and civil rights.”

After a papal directive forbidding priests from occupying elective office, Cornell returned to teaching his career at St. Norbert. “It was a natural fit to hear his experiences running for Congress and serving in Congress,” said Cornell. “The impact it’s had on the lives he’s touched is very much there, and it will ripple for decades to come.”

As a legislator, Cornell sought educational benefits for Vietnam veterans and, said Blouin, “was very much committed to working people and civil rights.”

Before and after his time in Congress, Cornell had “an instinctive compassion for poor people no matter what the cause might be,” McBride said.

“Bob was a Norbertine priest. It was very much a part of everything he said and did,” said former House representative Michael Blouin, a 23-year Catholic deacon who served in the House at the same time as Cornell. “The impact it’s had on the lives he’s touched is very much there, and it will ripple for decades to come.” As a legislator, Cornell sought educational benefits for Vietnam veterans and, said Blouin, “was very much committed to working people and civil rights.”

As a legislator, Cornell sought educational benefits for Vietnam veterans and, said Blouin, “was very much committed to working people and civil rights.”

As a legislator, Cornell sought educational benefits for Vietnam veterans and, said Blouin, “was very much committed to working people and civil rights.”

As a legislator, Cornell sought educational benefits for Vietnam veterans and, said Blouin, “was very much committed to working people and civil rights.”
Senior half-miler sweeps 2009 indoor and outdoor national championships

M arch 14 at the Rose-Hulman Institute in Indiana. Ashley Graybill ’09 capped off the first women’s national title for St. Norbert since Laura Salm ’93 claimed indoor high jump titles in 1991 and 1993.

Barely two months later Graybill capped her indoor 800-meter title with a second national championship. Her win came in a strongly contested run at the NCAA Division III Outdoor Championships in Ohio, at Marietta College’s Don Drummond Stadium.

Graybill became the first St. Norbert track and field athlete to sweep the same event championships in the indoor and outdoor seasons in the same year. Her second championship brought the college in first place in the annual St. Norbert track and field.

At the indoor meet at Rose-Hulman Institute’s Hulbert Arena, Graybill ran a Division III season-best time of 2 minutes 9.95 seconds, exactly a second faster than runner-up Jessica Scott of UW-Platteville. Other than Scott, Graybill was the only two-second faster than the field.

Outdoors, Graybill’s school-record time of 2 minutes 9.18 seconds clipped The College of New Jersey’s Janna Spadiccini at the finish line, with Spadiccini finishing in 2:09.37. UW-Platteville’s Jessica Scott, the runner-up to Graybill at this year’s indoor meet and top seed at the outdoor event, was third in 2:09.83.

St. Norbert track and field coach Don Augustine said Graybill was fifth with about 200 meters to go before an impressive finishing kick gave the impetus to her win.

“She was about three wide on the outside with about 100 meters to go and she took off,” Augustine said. “She passed the pack with about 80 meters to go and held on from there.”

Graybill was the final qualifier into the eight-person finals after a time of 2:12.84 during the trials the day before.

Jenny Scherer ’10, St. Norbert’s second athlete to qualify for nationals this year, entered the 5,000-meter run as the 11th seed out of 18 entrants and finished fourth for her second All-America honor of the outdoor championships. Scherer also placed fourth in the 10,000-meter run on Thursday.

St. Norbert recorded a top-10 team finish, placing as a tie for 10th with 20 points.

The Green Knights, who finished eighth at the NCAA Indoor Meet, swept the men’s 3,000-meter steeplechase for the third consecutive year – a milestone win in the process. The Green Knights visit the Acropolis, Athens’ best-known landmark.

Green Knights finish strong for another outstanding year

Two NCAA Division III track and field championships, three conference championships and the Midwest Conference women’s all-sports trophy – retained for the third consecutive year – made 2009-08 another outstanding year for Green Knight athletics.

Ashley Graybill ’09 won St. Norbert’s two national track and field titles, claiming the 800-meter titles at both the indoor and outdoor championships.

Jenny Scherer ’10 added three All-America finishes in distance running between the indoor and outdoor seasons, to team with Graybill to help the Green Knights to an eighth-place finish nationally at the NCAA Indoor Meet and a tie for 10th place at the NCAA Outdoor Meet.

The two finishes were the highest ever for St. Norbert’s track program and the indoor team finish was St. Norbert’s highest for a women’s team since the basketball team advanced to the NCAA Division III Final Four in 1985.

In January, St. Norbert College named the playing court in Schuldes Sports Center Connie Tilley Court after the long-time women’s basketball coach. Tilley then became the 15th women’s basketball coach in NCAA Division III history to win 500 games, with a 66-54 win over Carroll University on Jan. 28.

Men’s basketball opened the season 16-1 before finishing 18-6, but earned a milestone win in the process. The Green Knights defeated UW-Platteville 70-68 in the championship game of the Nicolet Bank Holiday Tournament on Dec. 30 at Schuldes Sports Center. UW-Platteville was ranked No. 1 in the D3hoops.com Top 25 at the time, marking the first time in any sport a St. Norbert team has defeated a top-ranked foe.

Women’s volleyball, women’s soccer and women’s softball all won Midwest Conference championships this year, and 18 of St. Norbert’s 20 teams finished in the top half of the conference.

Volleyball finished 30-4 and opened the season with a 19-0 record. The Green Knights swept through the Midwest Conference Tournament and advanced to the NCAA Tournament before losing a five-set thriller to Carthage College in the first round.

Softball closed the season strong, winning 14 of its last 22 games. The Green Knight team swept a tripleheader on the final day of the Midwest Conference Championships to claim their second league title in three years.

Baseball finished second in the Midwest Conference Championship, but swept six games in the last four days of the regular season just to qualify for the league’s championship tournament. St. Norbert, which heat three different Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference schools in the same season for the first time ever, received an at-large selection to the NCAA Division III Tournament.
A WARM WELCOME AWAITS

The summer months bring many opportunities for entertainment and education on campus. For more information on these and many other events, visit www.snc.edu/calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 14-11</td>
<td>Knights on the Fox outdoor concert series, Tuesday evenings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 30-Aug. 12</td>
<td>“West Side Story,” presented by Music Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Dedication of the Miriam B. and James J. Mulva Library and campus picnic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 19</td>
<td>SNC Day and Fall Fest: a day to showcase the St. Norbert College campus and celebrate with the city of De Pere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 26</td>
<td>Vocal recital by Yi-Lan Niu (Music)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 12-16</td>
<td>Heritage Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 16</td>
<td>Norman and Lois Miller Lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 23-25</td>
<td>Reunion/Homecoming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 6-14</td>
<td>“Twelfth Night,” presented by St. Norbert College Theatre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>