On the Edge of Discovery

Academic freedom protects the ongoing quest for understanding
Liberating a Lost Language: A Peruvian artifact may revolutionize study of the Incas

An Exercise in Hospitality: How we choose Commencement speakers

Toward a More Civil Discourse: A political scientist speaks out

Exploration Unleashed

The Conversation Continues: Academic freedom protects and fosters multiple perspectives

First of a Kind: The first graduate from our Masters of Arts in Liberal Studies program

Liberating a Lost Language: A Peruvian artifact may revolutionize study of the Incas

An Exercise in Hospitality: How we choose Commencement speakers

A Body in Motion: The laws of physics speed a professor on ice

Toward a More Civil Discourse: A political scientist speaks out

As a college president I’m certainly used to busy campuses. Yet wandering around our beautifully ground on a recent, unreasonably mild Saturday, I couldn’t help but be struck by the buzz of activity.

Over in Schudel’s league-leading women’s basketball team dispatched Grinnell, after which the men’s team rallied to defeat their Grinnell counterparts in a one-point thriller. At the same time, playwrights were streaming into the Webb Theatre for a performance of Knight Theatre’s “The Drowsy Chaperone,” produced and staged by the students themselves, to rave reviews. In the Campus Center, cord teams darted around the old gym in spirited broomball games, part of our revival of St. Norbert’s traditional Winter Carnival. At Dale’s Sports Lounge in the new Michels Commons, visiting alums stopped by for free hot chocolate and Chef Dan’s chili, while students watched a Wisconsin basketball game on TV. That evening, students returned to Michels for the Winter Carnival ball, while outside their friends skated around the new rink we put up just south of Main Hall.

These are the kinds of images that come readily to mind when people think about the college experience. One big reason to choose a residential campus is to immerse yourself in those pleasant, socializing activities that happen outside the classroom. Still, at heart a college is about academic and intellectual pursuits.

As I took in the bustle of that sunny Saturday, I knew perfectly well that somewhere out there faculty members were working on journal papers, researching impending conference presentations, poring over their latest lab results, redrafting book chapters, creating art in maker studios, designing stage sets and putting the finishing notes to new pieces of music. College is about the generation of new knowledge and the interpretation and conveyance of existing knowledge. Our faculty do these things very well – all the more so because, outside the classroom, they continue to learn themselves, through their research and creative work.

This issue of your college magazine provides an unusually good perspective on the intellectual pursuits happening on our campus. Howard Ebert, of our religious studies faculty, discusses the importance of academic freedom. Anthropologist Sabine Hyland takes you with her on her far-flung research travels. Physicist Michael Olson explains the science of one of his recreational passions, speedskating. And you’ll read about our former academic dean, Michael Masden, and his contributions in a relatively new academic field that he helped establish.

Even yours truly tries to keep a hand in original research. For some years now I have been working on a biography of one of America’s most significant writers of nonfiction, Joseph Mitchell. Mitchell warrants attention first because of his elegant prose, but also because his themes are the enduring ones we see in great fiction – life and death, hope and despair, disappointment and redemption. To know more about Mitchell’s life and work is to know more about humanity – and that understanding, I hope, makes me a better college president.

I recently attended a conference where the former president of Duke University and Wellesley College, Nan Keohane, offered a rousing affirmation of the liberal arts college in the 21st century. In so doing, she quoted an observation by another president of Wellesley, Alice Freeman Palmer, made more than a century earlier. Why college? she was often asked. Her response: “We go to college to know, assured that knowledge is sweet and powerful, that a good education emancipates the mind and makes us citizens of the world.”

And so it does.

Emancipating mind, heart and soul

College President Thomas Kunkel
Three leaders consider the Catholic context for higher education

The college community was able to explore Catholic higher education from different perspectives when abbot, bishop and college president convened in Fort Howard Theater for a panel discussion on campus.

Abbot Gary Neville '72 of St. Norbert Abbey, Bishop David Ricken of the Green Bay diocese and President Tom Kunkel took part in a conversation and Q&A session about Catholic higher education (and St. Norbert in particular), the Catholic intellectual tradition, and the relationship between the two traditions.

Neville opened the Jan. 31 event, the first for St. Norbert College, giving faculty, staff and students a unique chance to learn about what it means to be a Catholic college in relationship to the surrounding community.

Each participant was able to speak to their vision of Catholic higher education in the Church and in society, and on what the Catholic intellectual tradition meant to them.

Mobile website unveiled

The St. Norbert community can now access key campus information quickly and easily through the college’s mobile website, m.snc.edu. The smartphone-friendly site includes e-mail and phone directory, local weather and more.

The college’s office of communications and its information technology department collaborated to develop the mobile website and its abbreviated content. The format pairs quick entry into the site with faster loading times, for a better experience on the go.

Tilley nets 900th win

St. Norbert women’s basketball scored a 60-36 victory over Beloit College on Feb. 8 for a record-extending 11th Midwest Conference Title — an accomplishment that also put both a 900th collegiateg eventing event in the win column for head coach Connie Tilley.

Tilley has led Green Bay women’s basketball to a 571-162 overall record in her 35 years as coach. (Only two others have spent more time coaching women’s basketball at a single institution of higher education.) She also tallied a 193-122 record coaching softball from 1983 to 1995 and a 130-76 record coaching women’s volleyball from 1977 to 1985.

In 54 sports seasons, Tilley has finished only five with records below .500. The Screaming Ghosts Center playing court was named in her honor during the 2008-09 basketball season.

Japanese conference comes to De Pere

Four St. Norbert faculty members who brought their scholarship to Japan will soon bring Japan to St. Norbert. Thomas Conner (Modern Languages and Literatures), Wolfgang Gruss (Business Administration), Huko Tsurumato (Modern Languages and Literatures) and Joseph Tullbane (International Education) traveled to Nihon University for the international conference (U.S.-Japan: Special Relationships in a Changing World), presenting papers to an audience of 100. St. Norbert, in turn, will host a similar conference in October 2013.

Conner, who coordinated the initiative, presented “Feartful Symmetries. Representations of Metropolis in Japan and America.” Gruss’s paper was “To Them Still a Japanese Business Model?” Tsurumato offered “Practicing Faculty-Student Collaborative Research in Japan” and Tullbane presented “Partnering for Greater Internationalization: Opportunities and Challenges Using the Internet to Expand and Enhance Our Horizons.”

Schneider’s campus legacy lives on

The college lost a friend of long standing with the death of Don Schneider ’57. The former CEO of Schneider National died Jan. 13 at age 76, after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer’s disease.

Schneider and his wife, Pat, and his family, he was an incredibly generous benefactor. Over the years Don and the Schneider family have left their mark throughout northeast Wisconsin, in ways large and small. We are a better community for Don’s life and his dedication to the welfare of others.

Schneider is survived by his father’s modest athletics complex, opened in 2010, that bears their name. Schneider first worked at his father’s modest trucking company as a mechanic’s helper and truck driver during high school, a job he continued to hold while studying business at St. Norbert. After a military stint in South Korea and completion of a master’s degree at the University of Pittsburgh’s Wharton School of Business, he rejoined his father’s company as a manager in 1961 and became president in 1976. Since then, the company’s annual revenue has grown from $100 million to $3.4 billion.

President Tom Kunkel says, “We at SNC were fortunate to have a special relationship with Don. He was our graduate, he taught business and economics at St. Norbert and was a good man. He was a wonderful man who would take the time to talk to a student.”

Tullbane presented “Partnering for Greater Internationalization: Opportunities and Challenges Using the Internet to Expand and Enhance Our Horizons.”

Don Schneider ’57

Connie Tilley

Norbertines worldwide prepare to meet at St. Norbert College this summer

A distinguished and very welcome visitor this year has been the abbot general of the Norbertine order worldwide. The Most Rev. Thomas Handgrätinger, O.Praem., has been on campus several times as planning proceeds for the 2012 General Chapter of the order, hosted by St. Norbert Abbey.

The two-week convention brings some 130 delegates from Norbertine abbeys and houses around the world to De Pere. The visiting Norbertines will be housed at the abbey and at the college, and all sessions will take place on campus.

General Chapters are held once every six years and this one, convening July 22-Aug. 4, promises to be particularly historic. It will see the introduction of a new constitution for the order. Further, representatives from communities of the 150 Norbertine sisters worldwide are invited as guests, and will take time to discuss their constitution, preparatory to the possibility of convening their own, separate General Chapter.

“We have a very ambitious motto, ‘Day of Pentecost,’” says Handgrätinger, “and we hope to look to the future with a new dawn, a new impetus, after this meeting, and to bring this message out into the world.” Notably, this 2012 General Chapter will be the first to be held outside Europe. The first was in 1976 and that assembly, too, was hosted in De Pere. It was also the first General Chapter experience for Handgrätinger, who was then a delegate.

Handgrätinger, who was born in Germany and now lives in Rome, sees communication as a major issue for an organization that is dispersed in small communities across the globe. Assembling with confreres at General Chapter is a particular pleasure because it brings the chance to “meet together, stay together, play together. The General Chapter is the best place to communicate what is going on, to solve problems and also to look for solutions. Communication in our order is (intended) to build communion — to build communion as confreres, but also with the people around you. You know St. Augustine, whose Rule we follow, we say we are to ‘live together in harmony, being one mind and one heart on the way to God.’ In this sense we are to follow together to build communion — and, not for ourselves, but with the purpose, of God.

“I think about the specifics of our spirituality, community, contemplation, action. How can we combine these three points for each religious life, for each Christian life? How can we combine this in a small community life and go out from that life, to others?” Handgrätinger weighs these key elements of Norbertine spirituality in his mind when it comes to another item on the agenda for the General Chapter: vocations. “I’m convinced that this combination is a good model for the future, also. How to convince young people of this? You can only invite them, encourage them to think about this. It’s a little bit contrasted to our society, too, this life. Most vocations are to a relationship to a person. We have to go to a relationship with Jesus, to go deeper. We have to have the courage to speak, that maybe this will be a good way for you.”
Bert fosters student philanthropy

Bert, a piggy bank College Advancement is giving students as they begin their relationship with St. Norbert College, is helping instill the spirit of community, friendship and support. The Bert is marketed as a way for students to save money and contribute to the college in a meaningful way.

Founding spirit lives

Heritage Days celebrations on campus saw Bridget Burke Flavin (Religious Studies), Sarah Griffiths (International Education), Carol Smith (Health and Wellness Services), Jake DeMarais ’12 and Carrie Roberts ’12 honored as Founder’s Award recipients at the annual Founder’s Day Prayer Breakfast.

The awards are given to current employees and students at St. Norbert College who advance the Norbertine principles of community, spiritual commitment, service, collegiality and learning through their lives.

Let’s eat

Today’s special is served with radical hospitality in a delightfully transformed Commons experience

Kim (Lupac) Sullivan ’95

It is said that the kitchen is the heart of the home. It is where families gather to find comfort and sustenance. The same is true on a residential campus. And now, with the completion of Michel Commons, the heart of our home is as warm and welcoming as our people – a transformation of the former Sensenbrenner Union that invites students, faculty, staff and guests to linger over fresh food and great company.

The kitchen has long played a vital role at the college – all the way back to when Abbot Bernard Penning taught Latin to the first students in the priory kitchen. Though no longer doubling as a classroom, the “Caf” continues to be central to campus and its students. Knowing this well, the Michel family was intent on funding a marketplace-style food court offer international fare, pizza and pasta, grilled and home-style food, fresh fruits and vegetables and a deli bar. The food is “made to order,” which means it is cooked in small batches in front of students, allowing for even fresher dishes.

Dale’s Sports Lounge, named for the late Dale Michel, is cozy with carpet, wood chairs, booths and TVs. It serves as extra seating during meal plan hours and as a relaxing hangout with baskets of appetizers available for purchase after hours.

The dining area boasts a large windowed rotunda, giving the space an open and airy feel. Gone are the heavy curtains, mauve chairs and standard round tables. Now a variety of seating options exist: deuces, four-tops, rounds for six or eight, or tables. Now a variety of seating options exist: deuces, four-tops, rounds for six or eight, or spots at one of two large gathering tables. According to Mary Jo Morris (Dining and Conference Services), the gathering tables look like boats – wider in the middle and then tapered at each end – seating 18. The concept works well on other campuses, particularly in welcoming students who walk into the dining room alone.

Stacy Rehring ’14 agrees. “The big tables give you a sense, you could almost say, like a family dinner, where everybody feels welcome.”

Morris says the gathering tables echo the Norbertine tradition of eating together and give the students a new way to experience community. She says, “When the idea of the large gathering tables came up from the consultant, we were thinking how that would tie in with what the Norbertines talk about and prach. And the more we can do that, the more we feel like a family.”

The people who work in Dining Services are a large part of that family feel. Mary Zeiwer, who has worked in the kitchen since 2006, is devoted to the students. You can hear it in her voice and see it in her smile when she says, “I do know quite a few students, so I always pop my head out and see how they’re doing.”

Ruth Johnson (Auxiliary Services) wants students to feel like they are at home, grabbing a bowl of cereal from their own kitchen. And having conversations with dining staff, whom some students view as pseudo parents, is all part of that family feeling. "It brings in that whole radical hospitality, which the serving staff here really bring to life."

The experience of space has been transformed for diners and caterers alike. Campus has gained a light and lofty rotunda and Dining Services staff now enjoy a photo gallery of the day’s offerings, as well as availability of purchase and meal plan hours and as a relaxing hangout with baskets of appetizers available for purchase after hours.

Whatever diners fancy, they will find plenty to satisfy at Ruth’s Marketplace. They can choose from a selection of pizzas baked before their eyes at That’s Amoré, an international menu at the Fusion station; today’s offering from the Grill or the Third Street Deli; or just a simple PB & J sandwich with a glass of Sun Drop.

What’s more, those in the know will get to enjoy a little extra treat. St. Norbert College is home to the world’s largest pig in a raft. But you won’t see this aquatic animal unless your date is a dedicated Norbertine fan.

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South African peace-builder to speak

The last 30 years have taken Sean Callaghan from the battlefields of Africa to conflict resolution in Iraq. En route, he has worked for sustainable peace and justice not only in his native South Africa, but also across the world. April 11, he will give the spring semester Miller Lecture in Fort Howard Theater.

When just a teenager, Sean Callaghan was conscripted into the South African Defense Force. He served as a medic with Koestel, the brutal counter-insurgency unit operating in Namibia and Angola. In 1997, he testified before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission about the things he had witnessed as Koestel hunted down the armed opposition to South Africa’s apartheid government. As one of only a handful of conscripts to seek amnesty from the commission, Sean was the first to bring many military atrocities into the open.

Callaghan has handled special projects for several presidents – Mandela (South Africa), Obasanjo (Nigeria) and Chissano (Mozambique) – and has managed client communication at a number of global events. From his base in London, Callaghan is currently engaged in conflict resolution in Iraq, and he mentors local peace-building initiatives in Rwanda, Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka. At St. Norbert, he will speak to the Miller audience on “Unlearning Racism: Confronting Atrocities into the Open.”

Art alums broaden experience for students

The college’s art faculty launched ARTHURSDAY two years ago so art students could meet and chat with regional art professionals – photographers, floral arrangers, designers and art agency employees and more. This year, most of those professionals have more in common with their student visitors than a passion for art; six of them are also St. Norbert alumni.

Ryan Bloomer ’07 works as a digital video editor for LAUNCH Photography, Film and Video in Green Bay. The company creates imagery for commercial, editorial and narrative assignments. Josh Harnewski ’06 is a tattoo artist at Green Bay’s Skin Illustrations-Tattoos By Rick. The go-to-place for Packers who want some ink, Skin Illustrations hosts an annual international tattoo convention.

Painter Christie Donovan ’07 has works in many private collections locally. She also paints landscapes and portraits on commission. Designer Pam Wieseckel ’05 works for Wild Blue Technologies. She specializes in brand identity, collateral, advertising, packaging, signage and web design, and created the 50th anniversary logo for Lambeau Field.

Creative director Brad Krawczyk ’06 has responsibility for all print promotional content for Milwaukee music venue The Rave. Brian Danaher ’86 is an art director, designer and illustrator working in Minneapolis.

The conversation continues

An institution deeply rooted in its own core traditions enjoys a particular freedom to entertain, explore and engage with a multiplicity of perspectives.

By Howard Ebert ’76
Associate Professor of Religious Studies
Director, Master of Theological Studies
Director, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies

It was my first class as a student at St. Norbert and there we were, right out of the gate, identifying some key human questions – and one of them was “Is there a God?” I was shocked. Coming from seminary to a Catholic college, I think I had assumed we would be taught what the Magisterium said, and that it would be to that to which we would be held accountable.

But this was Intro to Philosophy, taught by Bob Vanden Burgt (Philosophy, Emeritus), where we talked about Plato but also about Jean-Paul Sartre and Albert Camus. It was a genuine, free discussion and there was no heavy-handedness about it. As a student in the 1970s, I learned that the classroom was a special haven. As I got to learn about academic freedom, I came to understand that this college, and other colleges, are special places where we have an unusual opportunity to talk freely together; where we can let our imaginations run, where we have the privilege of thinking out loud and testing out ideas. I felt almost like an eagle, soaring. It made me want to listen more, to try and understand.

I remember being surprised and impressed by how non-judgmental professors were in their presentations of perspectives that were often not considered “orthodox.” They wanted us to understand diverse views and appreciate both the strengths and limitations of them. They encouraged understanding before criticizing or dismissing ideas that were different. It was essentially an experience of Norbertine hospitality: not only of...
It was essentially Norbertine value and views were welcomed, presented and discussed. As a scholar, I have had the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the academic context of my own subject experience and, as a teacher, to this day, I continue to live in that tradition. I try to avoid caricature of positions and strive to have students understand the nuances of diverse perspectives. In my discipline of religious studies, that means welcome discussion of, for instance, fundamentalism, evangelicalism, main-line religious perspectives or atheism. As for my own faith, I think that, at one time, I found God more in the questions – in the probing and the challenging. Our best moments of asking the toughest questions are buoyed up by the spirit of God. I’ve really become aware of the mystery of a living God who surprises us – sometimes uncomfortably.

**Freedom and responsibility**

It should be noted that understanding positions does not mean accepting or approving them. As I tell my students, to be open-minded does not mean to be empty-minded. All the same, such academic freedom, critical as it is, is often misunderstood by many outside of higher education and, at times, by even those within the academy.

Too often, academic freedom is seen as a professor’s right to say whatever he or she wants in the classroom or other public venues – in other words, unrestricted and unconstrained free speech. Such an understanding of academic freedom is a serious misunderstanding of this necessary professional privilege, and not reflective of my own experience. The Statement on Academic Freedom published by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) makes clear that this privilege extends only to the area of a professor’s training and competence. It does not mean that, as a theology professor, I can say anything I want on any matter. Rather, it means that I can present material and probe areas that are in my area of academic expertise. In my case, that is Christian theology, specifically Catholic theology. Even in this specific area, I must represent the material accurately and be ready to explain defend claims to questioning students in the classroom, and to fellow theologians at conferences and in publications.

Additionally, the AAUP parameters remind professors to acknowledge the limited and partial nature of their disciplinary approach. In other words, I cannot enter the classroom and make sweeping statements in the area of politics or economics, or in the vast array of other disciplines in which I am not trained.

While it is important to recognize the constraints that are embedded in the principle of academic freedom, it is critical to also acknowledge the protection that it offers for critical inquiry. First, a teacher/scholar can follow his or her quest for greater knowledge unimpeded by external powers and influences. This is critical so that the pursuit of truth can proceed according to the internal dynamics and traditions of specific disciplines. It should be noted that this protection against external intervention is also critical for the well-being of today’s society, in which special interests and power – be they political, economical or ecclesiastical – too often drive the flow of “public information.”

Academic freedom seeks to carve out a space where these extrinsic forces are held to a minimum. Second, the AAUP definition implicitly recognizes that each area of knowledge and skill – each academic discipline – is a unique context. Each discipline needs to be seen as an ongoing conversation, a conversation with its own dynamic and rules of discourse.

**The St. Norbert context**

As a Catholic, Norbertine liberal arts college, St. Norbert offers a unique context in which the principle of academic freedom takes on a distinctive texture. The reality of academic freedom is a sensitive misunderstanding of this necessary professional privilege, and not reflective of my own experience.

The Norbertine tradition contextualizes and enriches the AAUP description of academic freedom. As for my own faith, I think that, at one time, I found God more in the questions – in the probing and the challenging. Our best moments of asking the toughest questions are buoyed up by the spirit of God. I’ve really become aware of the mystery of a living God who surprises us – sometimes uncomfortably.

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From the American Association of University Professors’ Statement on Academic Freedom

The AAUP’s Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom in the Classroom, first published in 1940, includes the following tenets. The full statement is available at aaup.org/AAUP/freedom/.

- Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties.
- Teachers are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject.
- College and university teachers are citizens, members of a learned profession, and officers of a learned institution. When they speak as citizens, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. Hence they should not only be as accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others.
As the first graduate of St. Norbert’s new Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program, Shane Kohl says his coursework hasn’t just made him a better employee — it’s made him a better person, too.

Why would someone who hadn’t written more than an e-mail or memo in the past decade, who hadn’t sat foot in a classroom in 14 years, and who already had a fulfilling job, return to school to earn a master’s degree that he did not think he needed, in a field that seemed far from his chosen profession? Ask Shane Kohl, the first candidate for St. Norbert’s Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree (MLS). Wondering these same things, he almost went home before he attended his first class.

“I pulled into the parking lot behind the admissions building. I thought to myself, ‘It’s not too late to change your mind.’” Kohl says. He had cold feet, thinking he could be out on the golf course or at home with his wife instead. Now, with diploma in hand, he’s glad he stayed.

An Appleton, Wis., native, Kohl graduated in 1996 with a bachelor’s in communications processes from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay — where he met his wife, Sheila. He started a career in fundraising for regional nonprofit organizations. From Green Bay’s CP Center, he went to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, then returned to UWGB to work in the development office. Most recently, he took a development position in his hometown, at the Trout Museum of Art.

Motivated by Sheila’s completion of her master’s in education, Kohl searched for an institution offering an advanced degree focused on what he enjoyed about his undergraduate experience — “the exchange of ideas, the concepts involving critical thinking, the strengthening of oral and written communication skills as well as the range of opportunities the major offered in terms of career paths.” The college’s MLS program, brand-new in 2009, fit the bill.

Kohl met with program director Howard Ebert (Religious Studies) and loved the idea that St. Norbert would choose to build a new graduate program based on its widely recognized undergraduate liberal arts curriculum.

He also appreciated that he would earn his master’s in a classroom setting. “I have nothing against online delivery,” he says, “but I’m a people person. I wanted to learn from and with others in a dynamic environment, not from a computer screen.”

The six students in his first class — Introduction to Liberal Studies, taught by Michael Marsden (English) — each came with a different background, life story and motivation. “We bonded quickly,” Kohl says. Often their classroom discussions “would spill out into the parking lot after class or continue via e-mail throughout the week.”

Brenda Busch, ‘93, who began the MLS journey with Kohl, valued her classmates’ inquisitive nature and sense of humor. She says she always “asked the tough questions gently.”

Another MLS cohort, Nancy Fecteau, says Kohl didn’t speak up about a subject unless he had a well-thought-out point to make.

Marsden says, “Shane sought to broaden his horizons by building upon his undergraduate degree and exploring the rich history and traditions of the liberal arts and sciences and their role in the contemporary world. Shane has proven to be a wonderful leader among the other students in the program, modeling for others the importance of living the examined life.”

For Kohl, the examined life is a changed life. He says the MLS program has equipped him to “think critically and to view situations from different perspectives” and made him a stronger communicator and a “better employee, husband and person.”

The program’s first graduate captures its essence by paraphrasing Don Abel (Philosophy). As Kohl’s ethics professor, Abel described his course as a class about problems, not solutions; likewise, Kohl says of the MLS, “This is a program about ideas and issues of lifetime learning.”

As anthropologist Sabine Hyland investigates a Peruvian artifact that could help to revolutionize the study of the Incas, she finds support from a freeform team of scholars connected by their common interest in unlocking the culture’s ancient secrets.

Hyland’s recent work has her fellow Andean scholars abuzz. Her rather breathless year and a half follows a discovery that one day may help unlock the language of the Incas – a discovery made in concert with a worldwide network of colleagues. The find that has excited scholars around the world is a 19th-century khipu board. For years, Hyland has studied these knotted cords of varied material, color and girth first used by the Incas in the 15th century to record information and send messages across their sizable South American empire.

Hundreds of khipus still exist, but scholars have yet to crack the code that would render meaningful the Incas’ only form of recorded language. That’s why Hyland’s recent work has her fellow Andean scholars abuzz.

In summer 2010, University of Wisconsin-Madison anthropologist Frank Salomon invited Hyland to a conference to present a paper on the Mercedarians. The priests and brothers of this religious order developed khipus in 16th-century Peru to track Mass attendance and the like with a combination of color and girth first used by the Incas in the 15th century to record information and send messages across their sizable South American empire.

Sabine Hyland (Sociology) has no shortage of frequent flyer miles these days. Her scholarship has taken her to three continents in the last 18 months, sometimes with impromptu travel companions.

The National Geographic Channel funded and filmed one of her three trips to Peru, and the Smithsonian arranged and paid for another, along with an October lecture tour in the Caribbean. Hyland presented her work at Germany’s Heidelberg University in June; she also delivered a guest lecture to Harvard’s anthropology department in December and will speak at Vanderbilt University this month.

Her rather breathless year and a half follows a discovery that one day may help unlock the language of the Incas — a discovery made in concert with a worldwide network of colleagues.

The find that has excited scholars around the world is a 19th-century khipu board. For years, Hyland has studied khipus — knotted cords of varied material, color and girth first used by the Incas in the 15th century to record information and send messages across their sizable South American empire.

Hundreds of khipus still exist, but scholars have yet to crack the code that would render meaningful the Incas’ only form of recorded language. That’s why Hyland’s recent work has her fellow Andean scholars abuzz.

In summer 2010, University of Wisconsin-Madison anthropologist Frank Salomon invited Hyland to a conference to present a paper on the Mercedarians. The priests and brothers of this religious order developed khipus boards in 16th-century Peru to track Mass attendance and the like with a combination of color and girth first used by the Incas in the 15th century to record information and send messages across their sizable South American empire.

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High tech in a very low-tech environment: in an adobe house in the Peruvian Andes, the khipu board is readied for scanning by multi-spectral imaging. On the previous page, Hyland is pictured in front of the only surviving temple of Andean religion left in the region.

Robles, who discovered the artifact in a remote Peruvian village high in the central Andes in the 1980s, when Robles returned to re-examine the board — the only one left in the region.

Hyland and Ware recovered more than 30 names from the khipu board. The show detailing their adventure will air later this year. So will “Manik,” a History Channel series filmed in South Africa and produced in London, for which Hyland provided anthropological consultation from her office in Boyle Hall.

“It’s just been like a dream to see how these things work,” Hyland says. Hyland did all this within only two weeks in the classroom. “I think that students are enriched when they have faculty who are involved in research. It makes them understand better why they’re learning these things in their classes, that it has a real-world application,” she says. It also inspires her students to explore their own academic interests. For instance, Hyland is collaborating with Sandra Payan ’14 in her ethnographic research on how “outsiders” can learn about a foreign culture.

Web Extra

Hyland talks about the Jesuits and the Incas, and refers to how “outsiders” can learn about a foreign culture.

snc.edu/go/inca

The board, one foot by two feet, bears 282 written names and 174 names and 174 lines. While the writing does not directly translate the khipu after the manner of the Rosetta Stone, which served scholars as a key to Egyptian hieroglyphics, it does hold promise to help decode the khipu system.

“Then we’ve never had before. It’s a new era. If you’re going to do a decipherment, you have to have a text like this,” Hyland says.

The study of the Maya has been completely revolutionized since we’ve been able to read their writing. Who knows what would happen if we could actually read the Inca, what they said themselves?” To study the khipu board, Hyland Geographic looking on, Hyland and Ware recovered more than 30 names from the khipu board. The show detailing their adventure will air later this year. So will “Manik,” a History Channel series filmed in South Africa and produced in London, for which Hyland provided anthropological consultation from her office in Boyle Hall.

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... remains in motion. The laws of physics speed a professor on ice – and, back in the classroom, his enthusiasm continues to boost his students’ experience.

By Jeff Kurczewski

S

tudents in classes taught by Michael Olson (Physics) know about his passion for speedskating. They don't have a choice, according to Olson.

"(Speedskating) is all applied physics, every bit of it," says Olson. "I use speedskating problems and examples all the time. It's all about force. It's about moments of inertia. In speedskating, you are trying to maximize the momentum with each step. You seek the greatest force over the longest time. You want to keep the blade in full contact with the ice for the longest time possible."

Olson is in his fourth season as a competitive speedskater. He discovered the sport during a quest to improve his physical fitness. "I was the school fat kid growing up," he says. "I struggled with my weight most of my life. I was able to get my nutrition under control through my diet, but I needed a physical activity. I got out my vintage 1991 roller blades and grabbed some ski poles."

Olson took up inline skating for the exercise, and his training would evolve into competing in marathons. An inline skating colleague suggested speedskating as a complementary sport.

"Speedskating is an extremely safe sport," says Olson. "It puts no significant stress on your joints. I'm in my mid-forties and there is no joint stress on my knees, hips or back. It's great cardiovascular fitness and it's a sport you can do year-round. I transition from the road to the ice. My inline racing season ends and the next week the ice season starts. I don't have an off-season."

The 1991 roller blades are long gone. "I wore them out," he says. "In the summer, I will grind through two or three sets of wheels because I'm training for competitive skating."

The sports are similar, but the surfaces create significant differences, he adds. "The ice is extremely unforgiving of sloppy technique where on the road, the wheels will skid, slide a little bit," he explains. "You can get away with certain things on the road that you can't get away with on the ice. The friction on the ice will slow you down or you will fall or catch the blade. Going down on the ice is a lot less painful than on the road."

Olson trains short-track at the Cornerstone Community Ice Center in De Pere and skates long-track at the Petit National Ice Center in Milwaukee. His first experience at Petit – an open skate in January of 2009 – was one he will never forget.

"I was just going to skate some easy laps, just to be there and to experience it," he says. "The ice at Petit is like glass. Two minutes into my workout, a tall, lanky fellow comes out of the tunnel, puts his staff down on the bench next to mine and peels off his hoodie to reveal the Olympic speed suit."

Olson was joined on the ice by Olympic gold medalist and world champion Shani Davis, whom he describes as one of the nicest people he has ever met. "I always joke that never in the history of long-track speedskating have the two absolute opposite ends of the spectrum been on the ice at the same time."

The moment brought back a memory from his childhood in Neenah. "It was 1976, I was nine years old and already overweight," he says. "I wasn't playing any sports. I remember watching television Peter Mueller [Olympic champion] skate in Innsbruck. I remember thinking to myself how much I would love to do that. This was literally a 35-year deferred dream of the school fat kid. I was out there skating with the world champion. I was skating next to the best."

Olson still considers himself a novice in the sport. He soaks up as much knowledge as possible from Shannon Holmes, coach of the Cornerstone program, and from other coaches and skaters.

"Sue Ellis [former Olympic speedskating coach], who does camps for us, calls the compromise of turnover speed and force 'push and patience.' It's all applied physics," says Olson. "Intellectually, the sport really appeals to me that way. There is also a certain aesthetic to it. Intellectually, as a physicist, I understand exactly what I need to do. When coaches speak of certain technical points, I'm translating that into physics terms. My mind knows what I need to do, but getting my body to go along is a different story."

Inline and speedskating are not equipment-intensive sports, which also makes both good fits for the study of matter and motion in the physics classroom, explains Olson. "We can talk about inline in terms of friction, the wheel bearings," he says. "There are certain things that hit me on the ice for use in the classroom. I suddenly find myself thinking, Oh that's perfect. I need to use that one. It's such a clean application of physics. There is no equipment except the blades. There is nothing between you and the ice except the blades. Hit the turn just right with the correct balance and all of a sudden you're off. You have to find that balance of turnover speed and push, and length and duration of the push. It relates directly to some of the things we talk about."

Holmes was not surprised to discover Olson's area of study when he first joined the Cornerstone program. "He had a lot
There are certain things that hit me on the ice for use in the classroom. I suddenly find myself thinking, “Oh that’s perfect. I need to use that one.” It’s such a direct application of physics.

– Michael Olson

Game plan
A business professor manages a little ice time

It’s not hard to understand why curling is the sport of choice for Joy Pahl (Business Administration). A specialist in strategic management and organizational behavior, our 2004 and 2006 Wisconsin Mixed Curling Champion says the sport she took up in 2002 is sometimes described as “chaos on ice.”

Business strategists need to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their company. They also need to accurately assess the opportunities and threats that exist in their business environment. In curling, this is exactly what we do.

As a skip [the anchor of the team], you need to know the strengths and weaknesses of each of your players so that you can plan the strategy of the game, and so that you can build the strategy of each end [section of play]. It is also best to learn the tendencies, weaknesses and tendencies of your opponent. If I know these tendencies, I will attempt to take advantage of this as I “call the game.”

The ice itself is a major external force in decision-making. Different parts of a sheet of ice may curl different amounts, so you need to pay attention to how much the ice is curling. Skips who recognize the ice conditions accurately and early in a game are at an advantage. As the game progresses, however, the condition of the ice changes, so players need to adjust.

Similarly, business strategists need to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their company. They also need to accurately assess their business environment, so that they can make decisions that leverage their firm’s strengths and shore up weaknesses, taking advantage of the opportunities that exist and mitigating the threats. Unlike in curling, however, business strategists face multiple competitors simultaneously and they face a great many more external forces. Nevertheless, there are numerous parallels.

Building a strong team through practice, communication, focus, and encouragement is crucial. Strong teams win games and tournaments. Communication is crucial, just like in management. I always tell my students that when they become managers, they may be tempted to think that they don’t have time to go meet with an employee, or to make that phone call, or to hold that meeting. This is when they should remember, “Wait a minute, Joy Pahl told me that whenever I think this, I should realize that I don’t have time to do anything EXCEPT communicate with that employee!”

Communication is always the most important thing that managers do. In curling, great teams don’t happen without it, and great shots cannot be made without it, because each shot requires all four members—one shooter, two sweepers and the skip—to act in concert.

Toward a more civil discourse

David Wegge (Political Science) speaks out for a more edifying and constructive approach in public life to debating our ideological differences.

Our political system has undergone substantial changes in the past two years. I am deeply concerned about how these changes are impacting the performance of our political system. I am concerned by the undue power of special interests in our system. I am concerned by some of the imbalanced priorities that seem to be prevalent. But most of all I am concerned about the nature and quality of our political discourse. Civility in our political discourse is at such a low point that it threatens the very functioning of our deliberative democratic process, and hence democracy itself.

Defining civil political discourse with precision may not be an easy task, but we all know it when we see or hear it. First, there is an emotive element in civil discourse as manifested through manners and norms of behavior; moderating – or failing to moderate – discourse through self-control. Second, there is what political scientist Virginia Shaprio refers to as “constructive confrontation” – civility manifested through argument, deliberation and discourse. This is the more rational and deliberative side of civility. It is how we would go about making decisions in a democratic system.

A culture of argument

I suspect if I took a poll and asked you to give me some examples of incivility in the political world, the responses would focus much more on the emotive. Joe Wilson’s “You lie!” interruption of President Barack Obama; the likening of Hillary Clinton; author David Maraniss; commentator Gwen Ifill; Bishop of Green Bay David Ricken; and first lady Michelle Obama.

In debating some of the critical issues of the day, we see both sides playing fast and loose with facts. We see them constructing word images that pander to our emotions, and we see them attempting to frame the issues in clever ways to shape or misshape the opinions of the public. What we don’t see much of is constructive confrontation.

What are the necessary ingredients for developing a “culture of argument”? First of all, you need to have issues that are contested. Then you need a healthy exchange of views and perspectives on those issues. This is when you begin to evaluate the logic and the evidence being presented. You need to acknowledge the other viewpoints and give them full evidence is used to make a case for why we should embark on a particular solution to a public problem. Susan Herbst, in her book “Rude Democracy,” argues that we need to create a more productive “culture of argument.”

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Deliberative civility in our political discourse — perhaps overshadowed by issues of self-control — has not received adequate consideration, and yet this is the linchpin in democratic decision-making.

As citizens we can:
- Recognize that in a multicultural society such as the U.S., individuals and groups are going to have different and hence competing visions of the future for our society.
- Show genuine respect for those whose ideas compete with our own.
- Pay attention and engage in thoughtful listening. Silence can be a marvelous activity for learning.
- Be inclusive. Listen to, and be open to, all points of view. In our multicultural world we can learn much from those with differing cultural backgrounds.
- Assert ourselves — but at the right time.
- Be accountable for what we say, and how we say it. And also hold our leaders accountable.
- Understand that our point of view may not prevail. Be prepared to not always have our way with policy decisions; accept that perhaps our solution may not be the best.
- And, as members of the St. Norbert College community, we can follow the Norbertine ideal of collegiality:
  - Recognize that in a multicultural society, trust, sincerity, faith and responsibility lie at the core of open dialogue, communication, consultation and collaboration.

This article is adapted from a speech David Wigger gave to faculty and students at the Ad Hominum Banquet, April 26, 2011. Wigger, professor of political science, is also director of the St. Norbert College Strategic Research Institute.
**Web Extra**

Mckean talks about the moment of discovery. snc.edu/go/magazine

**St. Norbert geologist uncovers, identifies new prehistoric species**

What started with a prospector discovering a few bones protruding from the Tropic Shale of Utah has ended seven years later with Rebecca (Schmesser) Mckean ’04 (Geology) identifying a new species of prehistoric marine reptile. A paper on her discovery appeared in Contemporary Research in November. The species, named Dolichorchyops tropicensis, swam the waters covering the western U.S. some 90 million years ago. “I lived at the same time the dinosaurs did,” McKeans says. McKean spent two weeks in Utah with a field crew during summer 2005 excavating one of the two specimens she used to identify the species. “Once we started digging, it was almost a complete skeleton, which was really exciting,” McKeans says. “You knew this was the first time anyone was seeing it since it fell to the bottom of the [Cretaceous] seaway.”

McKeans began describing and preparing that specimen as part of her masters research at Northern Arizona University. She continued her research while she earned her Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska and joined the faculty at St. Norbert. Piecing the fossils together in the lab took nine months. In the course of that process, McKeans made an even more exciting discovery. “There are a lot of characteristics on the bones that are different from anything we’ve seen before,” McKeans says. From there, she focused on proving that these characteristics called for the naming of a new species. “Its a bricky process, and it’s a long one,” McKeans says.

Two paleontologists who reviewed her findings initially disagreed with them. In the end, though, McKeans research convinced colleagues that Dolichorchyops tropicensis indeed stood apart from other species.

**At the Illinois Association of College Admission Counseling, Jim Stamatakos (Admissions) presented “The Role of Student Development Theory in College Admission,” in which he discussed how to use psychological, transactional, and personal preference/hypothesis theories to better understand the transition process of college-bound students.**

**The college remembers two members of the faculty for their contributions to St. Norbert and their long careers at the college.**

**Jack Cramer (Sociology, Emeritus), of Boulder, Colo., died Oct. 29, 2011, at the age of 92. He joined the faculty in 1967 after teaching at Seton Hill University and Mercy College in Pennsylvania. He taught at St. Norbert until his retirement in 1984. Cramer, a founding member of the committee on experimental studies, was named Teacher of the Year in 1977. In retirement, Cramer traveled in Europe and pursued his hobbies of woodworking, reading and amateur farming. He is survived by his wife, Kitty, and four of their children. Paul, Mary Grace, Mary Jo and Mark.**

Tom Davidson (English, Emeritus), of Pierian, Fla., died Nov. 26, 2011, at the age of 84. He joined the faculty in 1963 and spent 32 years at St. Norbert, playing instrumental roles in developing the faculty constitution, strengthening the English department and promoting the study-abroad program, which thrives today. He counted Shakespeare, Chaucer, Mark Twain and Kurt Vonnegut among his favorite authors both to study and teach. Davidson enjoyed the outdoors, Dixieland jazz, golf and foreign travel, as well as flying his single-engine airplane. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Dixie, with whom he had six children. He is survived by his second wife, Siv, his five sons and his daughter.

**Marsden marks 40 years as journal editor**

Most cash-strapped grad students spend any income they earn on tuition or rent. Not so for a young Michael Marsden (English) and fellow film lover Jack Nachbar. The pair, a Siskel and Ebert of sorts in Bowling Green State University’s department of popular culture, used the stipend they received co-teaching a course in the early 1990s to publish Vol. 1, No. 1, of the Journal of Popular Culture in winter 1972.

Fourty years, three academic institutions, two publishers and one title change later, Marsden, now dean emeritus at St. Norbert, still edits the publication, now called the Journal of Popular Film and Television. His current co-editor, Gary Edgerton, chair of the communication and theatre arts department at Old Dominion University, served on the faculty at Bowling Green during Marsden’s grad student days. Today, as its founding, the publication takes media productions as texts for the study of society. “We look at film and television as cultural artifacts,” Marsden says.

The journal was innovative in adding a focus on television in its seventh volume, a change that Marsden says put it on the cutting edge of scholarly film publications. Marsden underscores such analysis as serious scholarship. Just as in other academic fields, artifacts of popular culture speak and relate to each other through time. “The assumption that, because it’s popular, that it’s therefore transparent is ridiculous,” he says.

The book offers an economist’s perspective on art (Sports Economics, Management and Policy).”

The Economics of Association conference in Seattle.

The college was well represented at the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America in October. Presenters at the Minneapolis conference included Tim Flood, Nelson Ram, Rebecca (Schmesser) Mckean ’04 (Geology), Scott Kirt (Education), Deborah Anderson (Biology), Sarah Day ‘11 and Katherine Casy ‘12.

First and Flood present on integrating introductory geology and science education courses for K-8 pre-service teachers. Day, Mckean and Ham presented work on optically stimulated luminescence dating of stabilized sand dunes in northeastern Wisconsin; McKean also presented research student, Nelson Ham’s presentation on the preservation of marine vertebrates in the Late Cretaceous Tropic Shale of southern Utah. Anderson and Casey presented an improved technique for producing high-quality photographs of fossil ridden teeth.

John Froehlig (Mathematics) has been elected a national councilor for M. Fu epsilon, a mathematics honorary society. Froehlig, Terry Jo Leiferman and Nick Pess (Mathematics) also served as judges of student papers and presentations at the Mathematical Association of America’s MidFirst 2011 in Lexington, Ky.

An article by Wayne Patterson (History) on “Immigration and Imperialism: A New Look at the Japanese Takeover of Korea” has appeared in Acta Koreana. Patterson, an expert on the history of Korea, was recently quoted in a Time magazine article about whether the Koreans should really in the wake of Kim Jong Il’s sudden death.

The 2012 Distinguished Lecture Series brought five professors to Fish Creek, Wis., to deliver weekend guest lectures this winter. The series attracts a loyal and avid audience who this year heard from Charles Jacobs (Political Science) on “The Supreme Court and Its Emerging Agenda,” Tom Bolin (Religious Studies) on “Biblical Interpretations,” Robert Osgood (Teacher Education) on “U.S. Education and Its Status in the World,” Wendy Scattrogger (Political Science) on “Politics, Candidates and the Upcoming Presidential Election” and Gratzia Villarold (Political Science) on “The Turn to the Political Left in Latin American Politics.”

Dave Humucciti (Biology) has received $50,000 from the Wisconsin Sea Grant program to support his genetic analysis of virulence factors of the fish pathogen Flavibacterium columnare.

Ten years after giving a panel discussion at the Wisconsin Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers with fellow new admission professionals, Gabriin Jablon ’97 (Admissions) reunited the team to present “Young Professionals Come of Age.” The panel addressed the challenges of middle management, transitioning into supervisory roles, managing career progression, and mentoring new workers.

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The initiative honored Gedda and classmate Connolly Humann ’12 for their tireless efforts to create awareness of heart disease and stroke. Students were invited to submit four blog posts during their semesters abroad. Their posts reveal the individual nature of their experiences.

There is a phrase that Italians use often: ‘La dolce vita,’ meaning “the sweet life.” It is said that the Italians have mastered the art of working to provide for their pleasures and appreciating every moment that life offers them. Some may call this laziness, others overwhelms me. I prefer to think of it as a perfect equilibrium of what one is supposed to do, and what one wants to do. I believe that the French have mastered the art of living, and this is why I love Italy. I love the way they eat, the way they dress, the way they talk. It is a perfect balance between work and play.

The American GSP 2010 chapter has received a Leader of Hope award for service to the community. The chapter has awarded a $3,000 scholarship. Campbell, an international business major, received the award for her outstanding academic performance and community involvement. She plans to give back to the programs that shaped her appreciation for agriculture by preparing DNA samples for testing, and assisting with lab maintenance. Chesbro credits her FFA experience with a strong agricultural background, “Chesbro says.

During her senior year, she studied bovine and swine genetics for global company ABS. Chesbro submitted a résumé of her efforts at ABS to become one of only four qualifiers in the nation to become an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer. She spent the fall semester volunteering twice weekly with after-school programs at six elementary schools in the Green Bay Area Public School District. The program gives students a taste of teaching and offers many of their first experiences in the classroom.

New blog captures adventures abroad

While phrases like “on my tube ride home” and “how cold could little ol’ New Zealand be?” rarely come up in casual conversation on campus, they’re all over the Study Abroad department’s blog, “Global Knights, Local Daze.” The new blog features the experiences, cultural adjustments and adventures of study-abroad students. In exchange for a travel voucher to help defray the cost of airfare to their program site, students were invited to submit four blog posts during their semesters abroad. Their posts reveal the individual nature of their experiences.

Most high-school students find work at fast-food restaurants or retail stores. Not Shannon Chesbro ’15. During her senior year, she studied bovine and swine genetics for global company ABS, which earned her a berth at this fall’s national Future Farmers of America (FFA) competition.

Through the Village Project, first-year education students taking Psychology for Teaching spent the fall semester volunteering twice weekly with after-school programs at six elementary schools in the Green Bay Area Public School District. The program gives students a taste of teaching and offers many of their first experiences in the classroom.

Chesbro ’15 at work in the ABS lab.
A business relationship with roots in the chance pairing of two first-year roommates continues to bear fruit for two families.

By Mike Szapota ’94

It’s hard to argue against fate having a hand in this happy tale. Three members of the class of 1995—already close friends and spouses—now find themselves linked professionally on multiple levels. The common denominator is play.

Anna (Kotur) Kielme ’95 and Amy (Vrabal) MacLean ’95 grew up about 2,000 miles apart, in southern Wisconsin and western Washington. They shared a room in Senenhaller Hall their freshman year at St. Norbert, eventually pursuing vastly different courses of study. Little did they know how intertwined their lives would remain.

Add Amy’s husband, Matt MacLean ’95, and younger brother, Nate Vrabal ’01, to the mix, and this toy story becomes an illustration of how relationships can play major roles in business success.

Kielme has worked in the toy industry since graduation, traveling extensively for employers and gaining experience that touched on every aspect of the world of toys. However, when she opened her own specialty store, called Brickly, in the Logan Square neighborhood of northwest Chicago in the summer of 2010, she lacked the art expertise needed to market her new enterprise. There was one obvious choice for the logo and other graphics work she needed: her sister, Amy Vrabal. The two sisters, having a combined 20 years in businesses, were in the early stages of launching a toy business when they met.

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“The consulting business was a starter to the idea of owning a specialty toy store,” Kielme says. “It’s hard to argue against fate having a hand in this happy tale. Three members of the class of 1995—already close friends and spouses—now find themselves linked professionally on multiple levels. The common denominator is play.”

Kielme and the MacLeans have since founded Brickly, a boutique consulting firm specializing in the toy and gift industry. They are still pursuing vastly different courses of study.

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New Mexico community attains priory status

By Melanie Radzikowski McNeese

When five Norbertine priors headed south to a new foundation, they found difficult times awaiting their flocking community. Within three years, two of their number – neither very old – had died. “We had a very difficult beginning,” recalls the Rev. Joel Garner, O.Praem.,’62. “We were wondering. ‘What does God have planned?’”

They got their answers last December. Twenty years after they left De Pere, the Norbertine Community of New Mexico celebrated its elevation to an independent Norbertine community. “It’s a classic example of how God’s ways are not our ways,” chuckles Garner, superior of the community. “This happened a little later than we’d planned, but it’s still timely.”

When the priests originally traveled to the southwestern United States, they had a very difficult beginning,” recalls the Rev. Joel Garner, O.Praem.,’62. “We were wondering. ‘What does God have planned?’”

During their travels to the southwest in 1989, they were charged by the De Pere Abbey with establishing a new community. “This happened a little later than we’d planned, but it’s still timely.”

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Garner. “Even though the elders among us are approaching retirement, there’s an enthusiasm about doing this, and a gratitude for the gift of being able to give our tradition a fresh face and a new place.”

Santa Maria de la Vid is the second daughter house of St. Norbert Abbey in De Pere. Delfloyd Pines, in Philadelphia, became independent in 1963.
Andrew Schwoerer '15 got up to speed where we are able to learn on before we move on to the next thing. It was a learning process where we master one thing in practice a little bit. We've really gone to than with recent teams. "We've used the film has focused more on teaching with this group above .500 at the midseason point. Grzesk in the season, before posting a three-game account for their play."

"It's a different group of guys, but it's invigorating. It's a different challenge molding this group."

Starting fresh
By Jeff Kurowski

The team alternated wins and losses early over the previous four years. "There were just a lot of unknowns coming into the season," says head coach Gary Grzesk. "Anytime you lose a group of seniors like we had last year – five starters and your first sub off the bench – roles need to be defined. We had to figure out who was going to play and how we were going to use guys.

Earning a Midwest Conference Tournament berth, winning the tournament championship and advancing to the NCAA Tournament are still the goals, he adds. "You don't want to change your expectations just because those guys graduated last year," says Grzesk. "The expectations are the same. We are still holding these guys accountable for their play."

The team alternated wins and losses early in the season, before posting a three-game winning streak. The Knights stood two games above .500 at the midway point. Grzesk has focused more on trusting with this group than with recent teams. "We've used the film room as a learning tool much more than in the past," he says. "We've slowed things down in practice a little bit. We've really gone to starting at ground zero. It's really a master learning process where we master one thing before we move on to the next thing. It was slow a little bit at the beginning, but everyone got up to speed where we are able to lean on the floor and on the fly a little bit more."

Kyle Johnsen, the team’s lone senior, provides leadership for the young squad. The veteran guard from Greendale is in his fifth year with the program. He was a medical redshirt in 2009-10.

"The guys always look up to me to get practices going," says Johnsen. "Coach puts an emphasis on everyone talking. It’s kind of easy for me because I like to talk a lot and get crazy a little bit. I like to get everyone going; get practices upbeat so we make ourselves better."

The loss of six seniors created opportunities for the returners and newcomers. Competition is fierce on the practice floor, adds Johnsen. "We are always competing, always battling," he said. "This is a close-knot team, which is kind of surprising with how young we are and the age differences among some of the players. We have a lot of fun. We get after it in practice every day."

Among the players with expanded roles as starters this season are sophomores Andy Fox, Brandon Gries and Garrett Thom, and junior Paul Appleton. "We really didn’t play a ton of minutes, so our roles have changed," says Fox, a point guard from Hardard. "We’re trying to figure out those roles and how to help the team. On this team, everyone has each other’s backs. If we keep working hard, everything will work out fine. Coach Grzesk always puts us in good spots and gets us prepared for games."

Freshman forward Andrew Schwoerer has emerged as the fifth starter for the Knights. Grzesk acknowledged that the Midwest Conference has traditionally been won by teams with primarily junior and seniors in the lineup, but will not use inexperience as an excuse. "You just have to work through that," he says. "I think the good teams tend to get better as the season goes on and continue to learn. Ultimately, you are measured by wins and losses, the final score, but we also really want to concentrate on our quality of play."

"It’s a different group of guys, but it’s invigorating. It’s a different challenge molding this group."

Home at last
Track hosts its first outdoor meets in more than 30 years.
By Mike Souapit '14

The last time St. Norbert hosted an outdoor track and field meet at its own facility, Ronald Reagan hadn’t yet earned the Republican nomination for president. That 1980 meet against Ripon College featured the outdated cinder track at Minahan Stadium on the grounds of the De Pere High School. St. Norbert hosted meets at several area high schools in later years, but outdoor meets at the Schuldes Sports Center were the only true “home” competitions.

That is about to change this spring, as the Green Knights will host three outdoor meets – including the Midwest Conference Outdoor Championships on May 11-12 – at the new Donald J. Schneider Stadium. The first meet is set for April 5 against Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan, with the St. Norbert College Invitational scheduled for April 21.

"I’m really excited about it," says Emily Schudrowitz ’12, the 2010 national indoor 800-meter champion. "For my senior year, this means we get to finish the regular season at our own track. Our parents and fellow students will be able to watch, and I’ll be able to run competitive meets – including the Midwest Conference Outdoor Championships on May 11-12 – at the new Donald J. Schneider Stadium. The first meet is set for April 5 against Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan, with the St. Norbert College Invitational scheduled for April 21.

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Augustine says the stadium provides benefits on multiple levels, including training, competition and recruiting: “The ability to practice on our own schedule is the single biggest advantage for us so far,” Augustine says. “We’re able to go down to the stadium and be isolated, and do what we need to do. From a practice standpoint, it’s awesome. The advantage to recruiting is the ‘wow’ factor. It’s another thing on campus where kids’ eyes light up.”

New facilities to the Finnish
Smart to the Finnish
By Dennis Detrie

Carolyn Breyer ’14

Women’s soccer also received several Midwest Conference honors, including Coach of the Year award for Dennis Detrie, Katie Vannatta ’13 was named All-Defensive Player of the Year and Zoe Kurth ’14 was the Defensive Player of the Year.

Choice teammates

Green Knights volleyball boasts the recent Midwest Conference Player of the Year in Catherine Guld ’13. Guld finished third nationally during the regular season in digs, at 6.87 digs per set, to help the Green Knights to their 11th Midwest Conference title and fifth NCAA Division III Tournament appearance. Guld was a first team All-Midwest Conference selection for the second consecutive year. This year, Danielle Remy ’13 joined her on the MCC first team. Breanne Brucker ’15 was a second-team All-MMC choice in her first year on the team.

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Budding Opportunities

As the St. Norbert campus breaks into bloom, come be a part of the many activities that burgeon in the spring. For details of these events and more, visit [www.snc.edu/calendar](http://www.snc.edu/calendar).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>“Going to Life’s Dark Side: Spiritual Journeys in Literature”: a Women’s Enrichment Series event with John Neary (English)</td>
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<td>March 26</td>
<td>St. Norbert Community Band Concert</td>
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<td>March 28</td>
<td>“Real Healthcare Reform: What Is It Going to Take?”: a CEO Breakfast Series event with Dr. John Toussaint, CEO of the ThedaCare Center for Healthcare Value</td>
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<td>April 11</td>
<td>“Unlearning Racism: Confronting Apartheid in Our Hearts”: a Miller Lecture with international conflict resolution consultant Sean Callaghan</td>
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<td>April 13-15, 19-21</td>
<td>St. Norbert College Theatre presents “The Love of the Nightingale”</td>
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<td>April 14</td>
<td>Phenomenal Woman Conference</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>“Taking Control When Everything’s Out of Control”: a CEO Breakfast Series event with Phil Flynn, president and CEO of Associated Banc-Corp</td>
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<td>April 28</td>
<td>Spring Choral Concert</td>
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<td>Spring Band Concert</td>
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<td>May 11, 12</td>
<td>The Dudley Birder Chorale presents “America Sings”</td>
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<td>May 13</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<td>May 22-24</td>
<td>“A Mirror of Our Culture: Sport and Society in America”: a joint conference presented by St. Norbert College and the Green Bay Packers</td>
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<td>June 13</td>
<td>A Day at St. Norbert</td>
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