

CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS

ON THE COVER

A Second Century of Saints campaign comes to a close, breaking ground on the Student Center and surpassing overall fundraising goal. For more, see pg. 16.

- 2 A Living Classroom
- Living Out Our Benedictine Heritage
- The Sisters' Journey Home
- Undergraduate Research
- **12** Giving Back Since Day One
- **1** Reunion Recap
- 16 A Second Century of Saints: We Did It!
- **20** Briefs
- 24 Athletics
- Alumni Association President's Column
- **Class Notes**



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PRESIDENT'S Message

Dear Friends.

It's with great joy that The College of St. Scholastica begins its 112th year this fall! The vision and leadership of many over the years includes the dear Benedictine Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery who have laid the foundation for everything we do and everything we dream to accomplish. The rich heritage of this institution is a testament to the Benedictine values we each hold dear. As we celebrate and focus on the Benedictine value of Stewardship this academic year, I am struck by the many ways stewardship anchors us to the heritage of our beginnings while leading us toward the very future that our predecessors imagined.

There are many milestones to celebrate as we continue to steward our mission forward. We celebrate our successful reaccreditation through the Higher Learning Commission, a ten-year reaffirmation of our great work of academic excellence and student engagement.

We also continue to innovate forward, stewarding the incredible gifts and precious resources of our educational community. We start this academic year celebrating the restructuring of our schools into three powerhouse entities: The Stender School of Leadership, Business and Professional Studies; the School of Arts and Sciences; and the School of Health Professions. We look forward to capitalizing on the strengths of these mergers and the opportunities they bring for collaboration, best practices and new program options. Turn to page 8 to learn more!

And we were thrilled to wrap up our *A Second Century of Saints: Believe. Belong. Transform.* campaign on June 30, 2023, having surpassed our overall fundraising goal in February 2023. By focusing on making the Student Center a reality, increasing scholarship opportunities and anticipating emerging priorities, we continue to steward our commitment to support our learners and build a community that ensures

success. For more about the campaign, see page 16.

This campaign is an excellent example of how foundational our Saints family is to everything we do. We are honored to finish the work started by President Emeritus Larry Goodwin and the Board of Trustees who kicked off A Second Century of Saints in 2014, and we deeply appreciate the commitment of each donor who believed in our vision for this beloved institution. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for choosing to support this work through the years!

In this issue, we will also take a peek into our Ojibwe medicine garden, aptly named *Minwedamoog amoog mawadishiwewaad* ("the bees are happy visiting"). Planted and dedicated in 2022, the garden is flourishing thanks to the partnership of Sister Teri of St. Scholastica Monastery and the Native American Student Alliance (NASA). On page 2, you can read more about how this beautiful addition to the Duluth campus will continue to be an essential piece of our heritage.

As we reflect on and engage with all that stewardship means this year, I hope you are also inspired to journey alongside us to a deeper understanding and appreciation of this Benedictine value. We mean it when we say, "Once a Saint, always a Saint!" and it is an encouragement that we never do this work alone — we do it together with our wider group of alumni, friends and colleagues.

Thank you for your support in ways large and small. Many blessings to you and yours, and Vivat St. Scholastica!

With much gratitude,

Brugusan

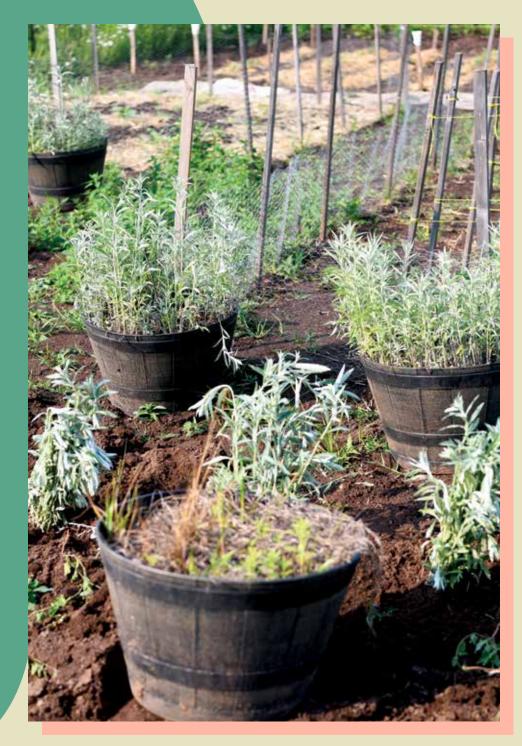
Barbara McDonald, Ed.D. President

Where "the bees are happy visiting:"

A living classroom

stablished in lush ground \checkmark on the Duluth campus, the recently established medicine garden - named *Minwedamoog amoog* mawadishiwewaad or "the bees are happy visiting" - is already a vital part of the College's commitment to inclusivity and diversity. Serving as a space where students can learn about the Ojibwe culture, traditional healing practices and the importance of environmental stewardship, this curricular and co-curricular place will provide many opportunities for the greater community to reflect on the culture and language of Indigenous people for many harvests to come. The project is deeply tied to the College's official land acknowledgement statement developed in partnership with the Monastery — planting and tending the garden is a tangible practice that is part of the College's commitment to honor and value the living people of today and of the past. "This project, in some ways, is coming full circle," reflected Dr. Amy Bergstrom, Chief Diversity Officer. "The garden is a way of healing between distinct communities. This is a way to honor the past and look to the future."





▲ The garden enjoys full sun throughout the growing season.

Planting the Seed

It started as general conversation between Dr. Bergstrom and Sister Theresa (Teri) Spinler of the St. Scholastica Monastery on ways to engage the broader community in Native Initiatives and has turned into much more than that. With the idea of a traditional medicine garden on campus, the pair consulted elder and Fond du Lac Band member, Dawn LaPrairie. LaPrairie and fellow members of the Band generously shared their cultural knowledge, approaches and ideas for the

garden, connecting Dr. Bergstrom and Sister Teri to an Indigenous gardener to make the idea a reality.

From there, Sister Teri helped to establish the initial space for the garden, eventually providing additional space for an open gazebo on behalf of the Monastery. Walkways have also been added to make the space accessible to those who need assistance and to those who use wheelchairs. "It was important that as we grew and designed the space, it was accessible for all who visit the space,"

recognized Jennifer Niemi (EdD expected '25), who provided significant support for the garden during her time as director of Native Studies and Initiatives at the College.

LaPrairie, who also serves as a Native Initiatives Advisory member, would go on to name the garden located to the right of the bridge of the main entrance to the Duluth campus *Minwedamoog amoog mawadishiwewaad* or "the bees are happy visiting." To say that LaPrairie and her fellow Fond du Lac Band members have been instrumental in the success of the project would be an understatement. "We really have to give credit to Sister Teri and Dawn LaPrairie for making this possible for us," concluded Niemi.

Credit is also due to the foundations who provided grant support for the garden. The College received funding from the Ordean Foundation's Special Initiatives grant, Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation's Anishinabe Fund, Enterprise Holdings Foundation, and The Big Ten Academic Alliance Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTL) and Indigenous Languages Partnership program at the University of Michigan in support of the garden. "These grants have been really instrumental in purchasing dirt, seeds and other supplies needed," stated Niemi Dr. Bergstrom and Amanda Abrahamson Roseth '13 (MBA, MAM '15), director of Foundation and Government Resources (FGR), were especially essential in these funding efforts.

Designing the Garden

As the garden develops, updates to the design will be community- and elder-driven to reflect traditional Ojibwe teachings. A variety of medicinal herbs, including tobacco, sweetgrass, sage and cedar are featured; these plants were carefully chosen for their healing properties and cultural significance.

- Tobacco (Asemaa): Used in prayer, ceremonies and giftings
- Sweetgrass (Wiingashk): Used for positive energy and in ceremonies and basketry
- Sage (Bashkodejiibik): Used in ceremony preparation and cleansing of mind, body and spirit
- Cedar (*Giizhik*): Used in protection, purification and rice harvesting

"The garden is a way of healing between distinct communities. This is a way to honor the past and look to the future."

- DR. AMY BERGSTROM

The garden is also home to a Three Sisters Garden, which includes corn, beans and squash as important staples of Ojibwe cuisine. In practice since the 1300s by the Iroquois, this single-planting method provides mutually beneficial growing conditions for the three plants. The combination of plants are designed to "all take care of each other," explained Niemi. "These plants are traditionally used in the community in many different ways."

Student Support of the Garden

There has been significant support from the College community and beyond for the project. "We have a really great group ofpeople who have been caring for the garden," reflected Niemi. Mikayla Eldredge (expected '24), a Nursing major from South St. Paul, has been especially involved as a lead student worker, running the garden during the summer months. Eldredge first became interested in the project after connecting with Niemi through the Native American Student Alliance (NASA) on campus.

Eldredge is involved in the planting, weeding and harvesting, and members of NASA further assist with the harvesting and drying of plants. To Eldredge, the garden has become a means of continuing her education on sacred medicines and agriculture. "Being a part of this project brings together my love of the outdoors with my appreciation of Indigenous culture," she shared. "It is important to keep Indigenous culture alive and continue the education of younger generations."

Now in its second harvest, Niemi and Eldredge share their excitement regarding the future of the garden, particularly in the opportunity to engage the greater community. Although last year's harvest was smaller than anticipated due to a late harvest, Eldredge's enthusiasm is undeniable. "Last year, we got a fantastic harvest," she shared. "This year we will harvest a little earlier and plant more sweet grass." Niemi shared the same optimism working through the learning curves of the garden: "The garden is a living entity that we can constantly build on."

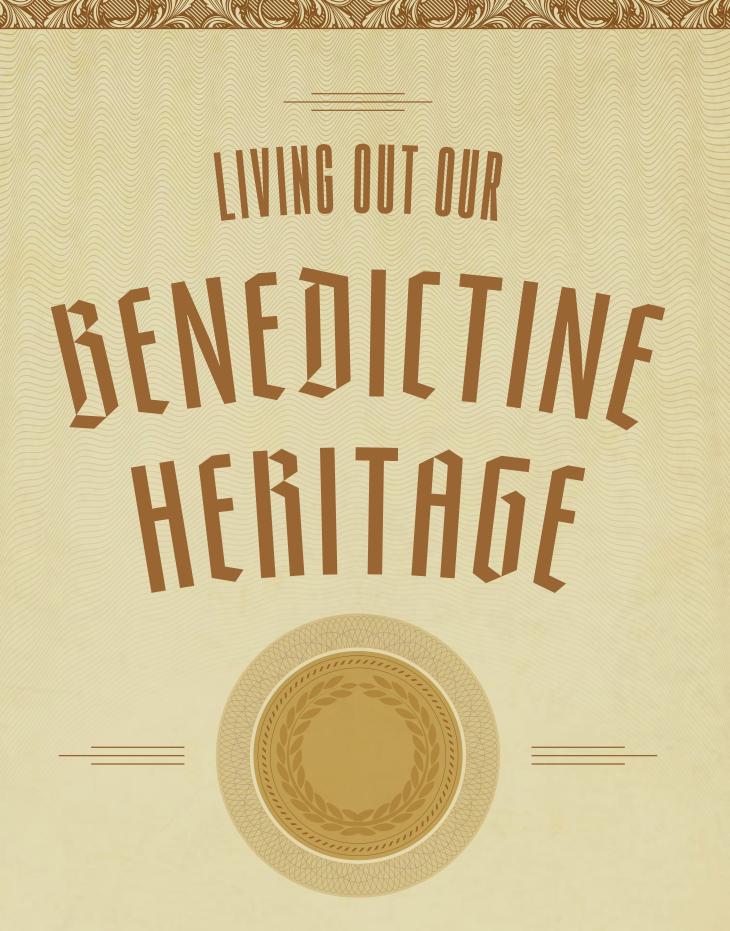
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Minwendamoog aamoog mawadishiwewaad is just one of the many ways that The College of St. Scholastica honors, respects and celebrates the experiences of Indigenous people. Please join the College in recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day on Monday, Oct. 9, as well as for the community feast in November to honor Native American Heritage Month.



▲ Mikayla Eldredge (expected '24) hard at work in the garden.





ACCREDIT OUR FUTURE The College of St. Scholastica s a well-established institution, The College of St. Scholastica continues to honor and embrace its history, mission, vision, and Benedictine values while welcoming innovation. Starting this new academic year with a ten-year accreditation reaffirmation is a testament to the strength of our past and an encouragement for a bright future. To better serve our students and our community, we also begin this academic year under a new school structure, which we believe will strengthen our mission. Read on for more on how these developments strengthen our core and prepare us for the future.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL ACCREDITATION REAFFIRMATION

Accreditation for higher education is a process through which educational institutions undergo evaluation by an external accrediting body to ensure that they meet certain predetermined standards of quality and effectiveness. The College of St. Scholastica has been consistently accredited since 1931 by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). The HLC focuses on advancing quality assurance through equitable, transformative and trusted accreditation in the service of students and its member institutions.

Why does accreditation matter?

Accreditation ensures the College offers the highest academic excellence and rigor, allows the ability for transfer credit acceptance, enables students to qualify for federal financial aid and ensures we're meeting the federal requirements set forth by the Department of Education. In addition, an accredited degree is required for acceptance into many graduate programs.

Part of the accreditation process includes a site visit once every ten years; the visit for this accreditation cycle occurred in February 2023. A team of five higher education professionals composed of faculty and staff from peer institutions around the country visited the cut Duluth campus. The visit allowed the College to share our story of preparing students to transform the world: Guided by our Catholic Benedictine values, we send forth thoughtful leaders who embody a sense of hospitality, community, respect, stewardship and a love of learning.

In June, St. Scholastica received a reaffirmation of accreditation for the next ten years, signifying HLC's endorsement of the College's commitment to uphold our mission, vision and values. This latest news reaffirms HLC's confidence in our mission, teaching quality, strategic priorities and future success in preparing thoughtful leaders in the workplace. Accreditation also ensures that CSS maintains quality standards, protects students' interests and promotes transparency, accountability and continuous improvement. Feedback from the peer review team included high praise for the strong commitment faculty and staff show for students and the College's mission, and the sense of hospitality they experienced while visiting the beautiful campus.

"We are honored to receive full reaffirmation from the Higher Learning Commission," President Barbara McDonald said. "The entire process highlighted our strengths as a community, and we are incredibly grateful to the students, faculty and staff who helped prepare for our comprehensive review. This decision confirms the thoughtful oversight of our Trustees, our Sisters, our leadership and the day-in and day-out efforts of our faculty and staff."

STRENGTHENING FROM WITHIN: SCHOOL RESTRUCTURE

Creativity and collaboration lead the way

Earlier this year, The College of St. Scholastica announced a restructuring of academic affairs effective July 1, 2023. The six former Schools — the School of Arts and Letters, the School of Sciences, the School of Nursing, the School of Health Sciences, the School of Education and Social Work, and the Stender School of Business and Technology — have become the Stender School of Leadership, Business and Professional Studies; the School of Arts and Sciences; and the School of Health Professions.

The new structure will increase internal and external partnership between the schools, faculty and students this fall and into the future. "The mergers will strengthen the College's position in the higher education market and provide incredible opportunities by reimagining existing programs and building new market-driven programs to serve Minnesota and beyond," President McDonald said. "We aim to be an institution rooted in a deep and rich history that also meets the future with a spirit of innovation. I am confident that our excellent faculty and staff will continue to create a uniquely Benedictine environment that will position the College for longterm success while providing exceptional educational experiences for our students."

Dr. Ryan Sandefer, vice president of Academic Affairs, echoed Dr. McDonald's sentiments: "Our Benedictine values of community and stewardship have guided this decision. The merger creates a new structure where creativity and collaboration can flourish. I have no doubt that this will result in increased vibrancy inside and outside St. Scholastica's classrooms for not only our students but the staff and faculty who work alongside them."



Dr. Brenda Fischer

Dr. Bret Amundson



Dr. Michael Wendinger

THE STENDER SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

The Stender School of Leadership, Business and Professional Studies combines the School of Education and Social Work and the Stender School of Business and Technology. The School, formed with the support of the Stender family, is led by Dr. Brenda Fischer. Dr. Fischer joined the College in 2011 and most recently served as the academic dean of the School of Education and Social Work.

"I am excited about the opportunities ahead for the newly formed Stender School of Leadership, Business and Professional Studies. Bringing together the talented faculty and staff in our numerous business, education and social work programs allows for increased collaboration and shared expertise across disciplines as we prepare our students to be thoughtful leaders in their professions. I am committed to providing inclusive leadership as we continue to advance the mission and vision of The College of St. Scholastica together."

Dr. Brenda Fischer

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dr. Bret Amundson leads the new School of Arts and Sciences, combining the School of Arts and Letters and the School of Sciences. Dr. Amundson joined St. Scholastica in 2010, serving as a music faculty member, the director of the first-year program, the director of the general education program and the dean of the School of Arts and Letters.

"We believe that innovative and interdisciplinary learning is the backbone of a liberal education. It prepares students to live and work in a diverse and changing world, and sustains us all in deep and meaningful scholarship and creative work. In this new structure, we will enhance our individual programmatic strengths by developing connections between programs and departments that allow for transformative synergies."

- Dr. Bret Amundson

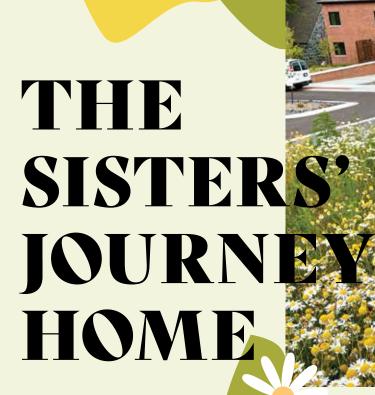
SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

The new School of Health Professions brings together the School of Nursing and the School of Health Sciences. Dr. Michael Wendinger will serve as the inaugural dean of the School. Dr. Wendinger joined the College as an adjunct instructor in the MS Athletic Training program in 2010 and most recently served as its program director.

"For more than 100 years, the College has been preparing students for successful careers in healthcare. Students will continue to benefit from our many partnerships with local healthcare providers, our interprofessional educational efforts, not to mention our state-of-the-art simulation centers in Duluth and St. Cloud. The increased collaboration and access to our shared knowledge will prepare students to live, work and thrive in our diverse world. The focus on interprofessional training and research will strengthen and advance healthcare delivery in our community and beyond."

- Dr. Michael Wendinger





n March 23, 2021, Sister Beverly

Raway publicly shared the plans

to move Monastery residents temporarily

former high school. The goal of this was

to catalyze a renovation project to create

needs of the Monastery community. This

temporary relocation would then allow

renovations to begin on Stanbrook West

to accommodate both the much-needed

additional offices and living spaces.

After Stanbrook West was completed,

Stanbrook Hall would then be available

for an expanded Center for Spirituality

Prior to this announcement in 2021, there

were years of discernment followed by

a year of working with architects before

the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery

could put their plans into action. The first

step, as they anticipated, was to vacate

spaces in Stanbrook Hall. Although the

two years, Sister Therese Carson noted

Sisters resided in Stanbrook Hall for

Stanbrook West and move into the quest

and Enrichment and for use by

ministry partners.

updated living quarters to better serve the

into guest quarters in Stanbrook Hall, their

that they were really "journeying in spirit towards what God had promised: a Monastery under one roof that contains living quarters, offices, kitchen, dining and meeting rooms — everything needed to carry us into our 'unknown and blessed future.' Thanks to the work of architects and builders, this vision is now a reality."

As of February 2023, the renovations to Stanbrook West were completed, and thus began the long moving process. The Sisters packed their belongings and loaded them onto every kind of cart, including wheeled canvas-sided baskets from the basement laundry, to begin the many phases of moving to their new home. For the months of moving, both College and Monastery employees, alongside a few hardy volunteers, moved furniture at a rate of three rooms per day. For the Sisters residing in Benet Hall and their caregivers, the move was completed in one exhausting day. Once the Sisters began settling into their new home, there was a steep learning curve to the many new infrastructure upgrades, such as how to turn on and off adjustable lights, raise and lower

motorized shades, and adjust the stateof-the-art thermostats. "We were relieved to find the stove and coffee makers are low-tech and easy to use," stated Sister Therese. Another change was orienting to a Monastery that faces west toward Kenny Harkins Field, and in true St. Scholastica fashion, they have created an indoor link from the Monastery to the chapel.

While moving isn't a fun ordeal for many, Sister Therese noted that, "The enjoyable aftermath of a move is making a new space your home." The timing of the move couldn't have happened in a better winter, as Duluth saw record-breaking snowfall totals that made for a long season, but according to Sister Therese, "The landscape of plowed and drifted snow in our new front garden was stunning, especially on clear evenings with Venus shining ... As we adjust after our journey home, may we continue to strengthen our shared life and become the people God knows us to be."

REPRESENTING ST. SCHOLASTICA IN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Completing undergraduate research has helped Meliyah Anderson-Tryon (expected '24) and Jack Branby '23 explore their educational paths and careers.



Meliyah Anderson-Tryon (expected '24) and Jack Branby '23 have accomplished much in their academic careers at The College of St. Scholastica, making significant contributions to their respective areas of research. These contributions gave the two the opportunity to represent the College in undergraduate research at the Scholars at the Capitol event earlier this year. Continue to read more about how this experience allowed Meliyah and Jack to explore their own educational paths and careers.

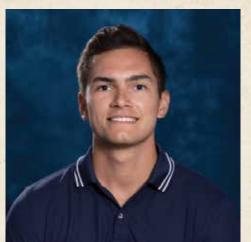


MELIYAH ANDERSON-TRYON (EXPECTED '24)

Hailing from Rochester, MN, Meliyah initially applied to three colleges and chose St. Scholastica for the timeliness of the admissions process, small class sizes and the rigor of the academic programs. Fast forward a few years: Meliya is a Psychology and Health Humanities double major with a Gerontology minor and has truly made the most of her St. Scholastica experience. In her time at the College, Meliyah has been a part of the Student Government Association, the Psychological Association and the Psi Chi Honor Society. She's also served as a TA for the Psychology Department and has worked in the Center for Teaching and Learning. And if that wasn't enough, she completed research through the TRIO McNair Scholars Program.

Meliyah worked with Dr. Nicole Nowak, associate professor of Psychology, as her research mentor on the project. The pair analyzed the effects of natural stimuli on mood, heart rate and aggression after watching a mixed martial arts video. Meliyah and Dr. Nowak prepared a hypothesis, subsequent hypothesis and questionnaires related to mood and aggression levels.

"I feel very grateful and appreciative to my research mentor, Dr. Nicole Nowak," reflected Meliyah. "I felt constant imposter syndrome, and Dr. Nowak did an amazing job of reassuring me of my capabilities and skills and ensuring I succeeded in this project."



JACK BRANBY '23

The College's academic rigor also attracted Jack Branby, a Biology major with a minor in Psychology in the Pre-Medicine program from St. Paul, MN. "I decided to attend because of the incredible science program and facilities, including the donor body lab." As a bonus, Jack was able to pursue his dream of playing collegiate hockey. In addition to playing on the St. Scholastica men's hockey team as a goaltender for four years, Jack participated in the Honors Program, Pre-Medicine Club and took part in biochemical research in Dr. Melanie Talaga's lab.

Outside of St. Scholastica, Jack also completed research at the Creighton University School of Medicine with Dr. Laura Hansen and Dr. James Grunkemeyer this past summer as part of the Summer Research Institute. Throughout the summer, Jack worked on important skin cancer research, exploring whether a mix of antioxidants in a lotion could protect pig

skin from UV-induced DNA damage within the epidermis with the end goal to increase the effectiveness of commercially available sunscreens.

"It was a great opportunity for me to learn more about medical school, make friends with professors and current medical students, and learn about different lab techniques I may be required to know in the future," concluded Jack. His research mentors, including Creighton University graduate student, Kevin Nguyen, "were very approachable and answered all of the questions I had throughout the summer." Additionally, Jack's research mentors helped him submit his work to the national Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists (ABRCMS). Jack attended the conference online due to his hockey commitment and commented that he was able to connect with a number of medical schools over the course of a couple of days.

SCHOLARS AT THE CAPITOL

Following their research, Meliyah and Jack were among 35 students from the 18 Minnesota Private College Council (MPCC) institutions selected for the annual Scholars at the Capitol event on Wednesday, Feb. 15, at the Minnesota State Capitol Rotunda. Organized by the MPCC, Scholars at the Capitol celebrates the scholarship of Minnesota private college students and the efforts of their research advisors. According to the MPCC, "The subject matter presented during Scholars at the Capitol represents the wide range of student learning that occurs every day at Minnesota Private Colleges.'

Meliyah was first introduced to the program through the TRIO McNair Scholars program. Although she was unable to attend the event due to a travel conflict, Meliyah was excited she was encouraged to apply and thrilled by ultimately being selected to present. "I enjoyed sharing my project and learning about other people's research."

Jack recalls receiving an email regarding the Scholars at the Capitol application last fall. "I thought that I might as well apply even though I wasn't sure I would get picked." He shared the same excitement as his St. Scholastica counterpart in being selected. "I could spread my message of awareness about the dangers of UV-induced DNA damage.

At the event, Jack even met with a member of the House of Representatives who shared their experience of being diagnosed with skin cancer. "We were able to exchange the knowledge we know about the subject," said Jack. "This has become another source of inspiration in my pursuit of attending medical school."

EXPLORING EDUCATIONAL PATHS AND CAREERS

MPCC recognizes that "Undergraduate research provides opportunities for students to explore the kinds of projects they will pursue later in their educational paths and careers." This summer, Meliyah spent eight weeks at the University of California, Irvine completing additional research. Even more, she has plans to complete a forensic psychology internship with the Kartta Group in Duluth in the fall before applying to doctorate programs in clinical psychology following graduation.

Upon graduating this spring, Jack joined Minnesota Retina Associates as a medical scribe. "I am excited to learn more about retina surgery through this opportunity, as well as make some helpful connections in my pursuit of a career in medicine." Additionally, Jack will be studying for the MCAT to eventually apply to medical school.

For those considering undergraduate research, Meliyah and Jack each offer their own advice. Meliyah encourages the use of resources available at the College. "TRIO McNair Scholars, the School of Arts and Sciences, and faculty members themselves are great resources and starting places to figure out your next steps" Meliyah emphasized, "Research is an amazing experience that will greatly bolster a resume."

"It was a fantastic learning experience for me and I feel five times more prepared for medical school than I did before this experience," Jack said. He also shared the importance of applying early and often to programs. "Make sure you do some research into the deadlines and details to find which program is right for you."

Meliyah and Jack were able to make the most of their St. Scholastica experience by completing undergraduate research. This experience ultimately helped them to explore educational paths and careers. "Looking back on the last four years, I am not sad that it's over but rather glad that it happened," reflected Jack. "I have learned a lot and met so many great people that will be my friends for years to come."

You can view the full abstracts of Meliyah and Jack's research at css.edu/abstracts.



GIVING BACK SINCE DAY ONE

From tour guiding at a Swedish museum in Scandia, MN, to being a part of the National Honor Society (NHS) during her high school years, Amy (Schreyer) Leopold '21 has been volunteering her whole life. After years of service in many capacities, she was honored in April 2023 with the American Red Cross's Navin Narayan Excellence Award in Youth Leadership. This award is given to one young volunteer in the nation each year. It honors the former American Red Cross National Youth Council chair, who began volunteering with the organization at age 14. Narayan became a national disaster relief volunteer and trainer, an international speaker on human rights and an advocate for youth involvement in the Red Cross. He died of cancer in 2000 at age 23. This award is given to just one volunteer each year out of the nearly 100,000 American Red Cross volunteers under age 24. Given Leopold's lifelong dedication to service, this couldn't have been awarded to a more fitting volunteer.

HOSPITALITY GOES A LONG WAY

Ultimately, a gut instinct and an at-home feeling convinced Leopold to pursue her education at The College of St. Scholastica. Although a Duluth native, Leopold recounted her first time at the Duluth main campus didn't happen until she began her college search. "I stepped out of the car in the parking lot of St. Scholastica after having toured a couple of other colleges. I thought, 'Oh, I see what people are talking about. This is home. I get it now.' And I just couldn't imagine going anywhere else. It was great

from the first day, and I just felt welcomed. Anyone we met on our tour didn't snub their nose at me; instead, they said, 'I love that you're touring here. What are you interested in?' And they showed genuine interest in me as a person."

COMMUNITY DRIVEN

While usually determined in her goals, Leopold found herself in a rocky place when choosing her path at the College. "I started out as a nursing major. During week two of my first year, I was sitting in nursing chem and thought, 'Oh no, this isn't for me. I already know this isn't for me.' Some of my friends were doing exercise physiology, pre-physical therapy, so I jumped on board and totally just threw a dart. I loved every moment of the program. It was a perfect Cinderella-shoefit moment."

After completing her undergraduate studies at the College, Leopold has chosen to continue as a student in St. Scholastica's physical therapy program. Although overwhelming at points, Leopold noted, "Okay, I did it. I made it through [year one]. It was good. Time to do it again, because we don't get summers off."

Leopold began volunteering for the Northern Chapter Red Cross in her first year at the College, and four and a half years later, she continues to do so. She said her favorite part is that, "You can do almost anything to fit into any schedule whatsoever. It's awesome. Many people think of blood drives when they think of the

Red Cross, which is great, but there are so many other things you can do outside of that, especially if you're not interested in healthcare. The list of things you can do is endless. I love writing thank you letters to our financial donors or Christmas cards for veterans and service members in the winter. Recently we've been going out and knocking on some doors and seeing if anyone needs smoke alarms over in Superior. We do that for free."

LIFELONG LOVE OF LEARNING

Additionally, through the Red Cross, Leopold has amassed many tools in her belt. "I am trained as a disaster action team member. So if someone is affected by disaster, I can help them figure out what they need. On the other side, I will also spend a few hours in the evening being the dispatcher, which includes coverage of our whole region of North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Douglas County, Wisconsin."

"I'm glad I was recognized, but I also point to all these people doing all these other amazing things, too."

- Amy Leopold





"If we get a call from anywhere in that region, whatever happens, I look to see who is on the volunteer on-call list that night and place someone in the area. We love our volunteers."

In case that wasn't enough, Leopold added, "Oh gosh, you can do just about anything. You can do sheltering – I have my sheltering associate's title as well – which means that you can set up shelter places if there's flooding, like what often happens in the Duluth region. I am considering getting my spiritual care title so I can be deployed on the spiritual care response team; that means that if a home fire event happens

and they're interested in some spiritual care counseling, I can go out and talk with them about that." Although that's in the future, Leopold mentioned how easy it is to advance learning with the courses through the Red Cross, as her love of learning extends beyond the classroom and into these additional opportunities.

RESPECT FOR THOSE AROUND HER

According to Leopold, receiving this award doesn't change how she volunteers. "What I've told everyone so far is that I feel personally undeserving because I'm really not anyone special without the rest of the team with me. I'm glad I was recognized, but I also point to all these people doing all these other amazing things, too."

In terms of what the future has in store for Leopold, she responded with her usual tenacity: "I know exactly what I want to do. I have known for a long time that I love the clients and crowd I work with now. I love them so much. I was a CNA for a long time because I originally planned to be a nurse, and I did a lot of work at a nursing home. I don't know how that works, but we get each other. I truly enjoy physical therapy!"

STEWARDSHIP IS FOR EVERYONE

In light of her extensive experience giving back to the community, Leopold does urge everyone, regardless of their age, to get out there. "Truly anyone can volunteer, regardless of your major or work. There's something for everyone. I said this before, but someone once told me you always have time for your priorities, and I don't think there could be a truer statement. If someone says, 'I just don't have time to,' it's not a priority. Clearly, that doesn't matter to you, or you would have made time for it. So if something really matters to you, you will make time for it. I think a good way to outline your priorities in life is to notice the things you do make time for versus the things you say, 'I don't have time for that,' whatever it is. The good news is a lot of the things we do are easy to fit into anyone's schedule at any time. You don't have to commit to a full day or anything. It can be a half hour, hour; anything works."

For those who may be interested in volunteering with the Red Cross, Leopold opens the doors to everyone: "We're always looking for more volunteers. I don't think you can ever have too many volunteers. The more, the merrier, especially with covering grounds for disaster action responses, especially up north."

We love celebra of 1973 joined up of having the fire

We love celebrating milestones with our alumni at Reunion Weekend! The Class of 1973 joined us in honor of their 50th reunion, and this class has the distinction of having the first male graduates from the College.







Do you have a Milestone Reunion — 1974, 1984, 1994, 2004, or 2014 — coming up in 2024? We would love you to join us in planning a reunion worthy of your class! Contact Alumni Engagement at alumni@css.edu or call (218) 723-6071 to join in the fun.



▲ Bukata Hayes, Brandi Mora on behalf of her aunt Margaret Mora, Kristin Rognerud, and Janelle Wapola at the Heritage Recognition Luncheon during Reunion Weekend.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS!

Each year the Alumni Association recognizes outstanding alumni for their commitment and contributions to their community, their profession, the College, and the Benedictine values that continue to guide the work of the Saints community.

Bukata Hayes '99Sister Ann Edward Scanlon Award

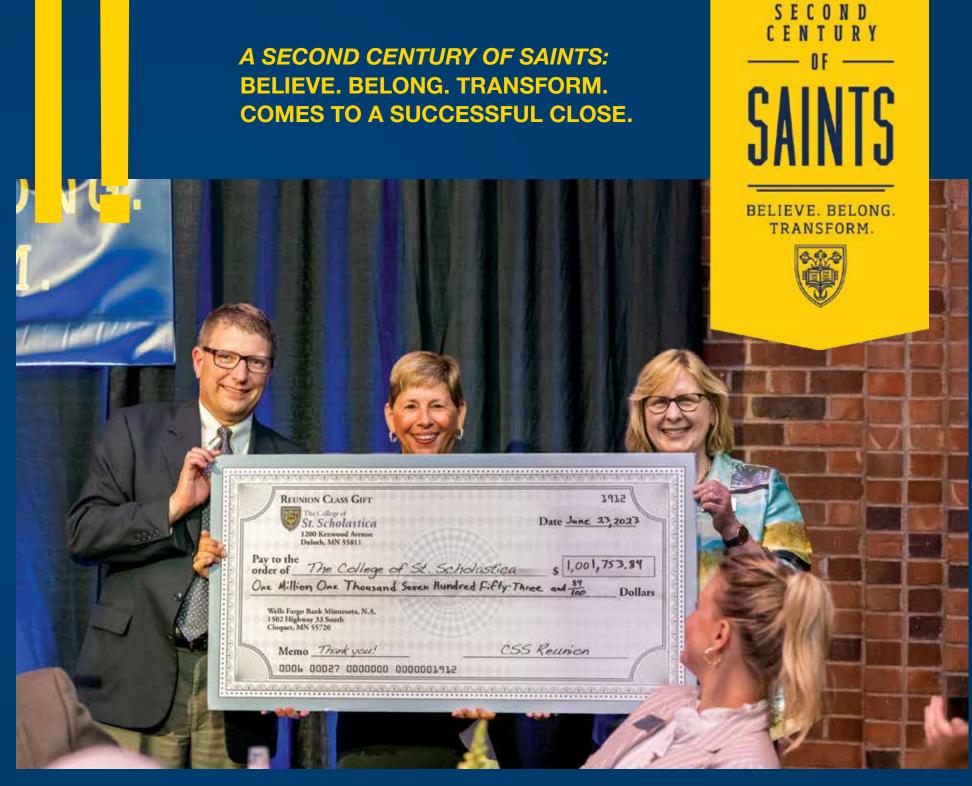
Margaret Mora, Posthumously Sister Alice Lamb Award

Kristin Rognerud '03 Sister Timothy Kirby Benedictine Spirit Award

Janelle Wapola '95 (MA '06) Scholastica Inspiration Award

Launched in 2014 during President Emeritus
Larry Goodwin's tenure, this nine-year
campaign has transformed the Saints
experience throughout the institution. Campus
improvements – such as building projects like
the Health Science Center at BlueStone and
the current Student Center construction and
key upgrades including the nursing simulation
and skills labs and ALLETE Board Room –
have added functional and beautiful learning
spaces for students. In addition to the brickand-mortar projects, the campaign garnered
significant support for scholarships and
emerging priorities.

Thank you to each of our donors and community members for joining us to meet and ultimately surpass this record-breaking goal in the College's history!



Advancement Chris Mueller '73 (center) presented the 50th Reunion Class Gift to Vice President of College Advancement Chris Mueller (left) and Dr. McDonald during the campaign celebration in June.

Total Raised

goal

Student Scholarships

Endowment Gifts and Commitments

Amount of

Donors

Funds Supported



Dan Seeler '82 and Kenny Harkins enjoyed their time at the newly dedicated field in June.

KENNY HARKINS FIELD DEDICATION

Kenny Harkins Field was dedicated on the stormy Friday of Reunion Weekend, but even the rain could not dampen the spirit of celebration! Family, friends, colleagues and athletes joined the party on campus. Congratulations, Kenny!



President Barbara **McDonald**

"The campaign was originally envisioned as a seven-year, \$50 million effort. In November 2021, we launched the public phase of this campaign, intending to increase that total to \$62.6 million by June 30 of this year. And we've exceeded our expectations in large part because all of us believe that creating a place of belonging and transforming our students to be the future leaders we need is a cause very much worth investing in. These students, our graduates and current students, are indeed the hope of the future and we believe this space and investment will serve them well."



Chris Mueller, vice president of College **Advancement**

"A campaign without impact is meaningless. It is just a set of numbers. This campaign has had real meaning and impact at the heart of our mission to provide intellectual and moral preparation for responsible living and meaningful work."



Dr. Randall Poole, professor of Intellectual **History**

"It is often said that liberal education is about the whole person. It's not just a cliché. Nothing is more important than understanding what it means to be human, especially for those whose work is the care of persons ... It turns out that in seeking to understand human nature, in plumbing the depths of human dignity, we can also understand more about the nature of reality itself. These big guestions are at the heart of the Catholic intellectual tradition and liberal learning. Our mission is centered on the Benedictine values."



Jaiden (Wentz) McCormick '12 (MS '17) "Working in the clinic

offered an extra edge and advancement compared to other OT programs. By having our committed citizens own individual clients. we were able to truly focus on providing individualized care that was meaningful and purposeful. I loved that we had the experience of interdisciplinary learning while providing a free service to the community. St. Scholastica has enhanced my creativity, collaboration skills and compassion for working and providing individualized and meaningful therapy."



Chris Dolan '01, campaign co-chair

"[As Margaret Mead famously said,] 'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.' We are changing the world through this campaign. With your help, we are transforming and sending forth thoughtful leaders - the second century of Saints who are prepared and committed to serve and transform the world again."

2023 SISTER AGNES SOMERS SOCIETY HONOREES

The Sister Agnes Somers Society was established to honor those alumni, friends, faculty and staff who have generously remembered The College of St. Scholastica in their estate plans. Sister Agnes shared Mother Scholastica's dream of a college that would grow and, as the first president of the College from 1924 – 1942, Sister Agnes possessed the daring vision to expand our Benedictine college during the Depression.

These donors were honored at the President's Dinner on June 23, 2023 as new members of the Sister Agnes Somers Society. We thank them for their future legacies that will support our students!



◆ Sister Agnes Somers Society members Karen Finseth '77, Jay Mitchell '78, Susan Koering '73, Ryan Romaneski, Marc Fredson '95, and Chris Mueller at the President's Dinner in June.

Anonymous (1)

Sylvia Bartes '58: Sylvia graduated in 1958 with a degree in Medical Technology. Her future gift will provide support for scholarships.

Roberta Baxter '78: In 1978, Roberta earned her Nursing degree. Her future gift will support the Nursing department.

Carl F. Bauer '77 and Pamela Bauer: Carl received a Physical Therapy degree in 1977. Their future gift will provide support for the College's general, unrestricted purposes.

Estate of Wesley G. Foster: Wes is the parent of two St. Scholastica graduates. His bequest will provide support for HIIM scholarships.

In 1995 Marc received his degree in Management. Their future gift will provide support for scholarships.

Susan M. Koering '73: In 1973 Susan received her degree in Medical Records (now Health Information Management). Her future gift will provide support for scholarships.

Jay Mitchell '78 and Beth Everett: Jay earned his Behavioral Arts and Sciences and Psychology degrees in 1978. Their future gift will provide support for scholarships.

Anita Janasky Pouchnik '69 and Donald Pouchnik: Anita received her Nursing degree in 1969. Their future gift will provide support for scholarships.

Marc Fredson '95 and Ryan Romaneski: Delores Anne Besemer Weikle '88 and Peter C. Weikle: Anne received her Physical Therapy degree in 1988. Their future gift will provide support for the College's general, unrestricted purposes.

> FOR THE COMPLETE LIST OF SISTER AGNES SOMERS SOCIETY MEMBERS. PLEASE VISIT CSS.GIFTLEGACY.COM.

BRIEFO



Student Center groundbreaking

One of the most important steps to the long-coming Student Center was on May 12, when The College of St. Scholastica held a groundbreaking ceremony to commemorate the start of construction for the highly anticipated Student Center building project. Leaders at the 111-year-old institution are committed to investing in future students while holding firm to the College's history. Both President Barbara McDonald and Student Trustee Emma Mischke spoke to those in attendance, where Mischke noted, "I'm ecstatic when thinking about the opportunities this center will provide for students to foster the community and hospitality that characterizes this beautiful institution."

Current, emeritus, and former Trustees at this spring's groundbreaking ceremony.

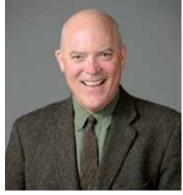
Faculty Emeritus status awarded

This spring, four faculty members were assigned faculty emeritus status, awarded to faculty members who retire from the College in good standing. It requires, among other things, "at least two important contributions the faculty member has made that constitute meritorious service to the College." The following individuals achieved faculty emeritus status:

- Nancy Gabres for her 28 years with the Occupational Therapy program
- Dr. William (Bill) Hodapp for his 29 years with the English and Medieval & Renaissance programs
- Dr. David Swenson for his 45 years in the Management program among many other contributions
- Dr. Merry Renn Vaughan for her 25 years in the Fine Arts department



Nancy Gabres



Dr. William Hodapp



A Dr. David Swenson

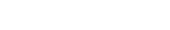


A Dr. Merry Renn Vaughai

Preston Gunderson

The College welcomed Preston Gunderson '12 back to campus as part of the Live from the Mitchell Concert Series. Reflecting on his visit to the College, Gunderson noted, "It was super meaningful for me to come back to St. Scholastica and play with my band. I hadn't performed on the Mitchell stage in 10+ years, and there was something so special about being back. I was flooded with nostalgia, and found myself reminiscing about all the fond memories from when I attended St. Scholastica. So grateful to the College, the alumni community and to all those who showed up. Can't wait to do it again!"





Br. Guy Consolmagno

In April, the College welcomed Br. Guy Consolmagno, S.J. — director of the Vatican Observatory and president of the Vatican Observatory Foundation - to the Duluth main campus for his presentation "Adventures of a Vatican Scientist." Br. Guy obtained his Bachelor of Science in 1974 and Master of Science in 1975 in Earth and Planetary Sciences from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his PhD in Planetary Science from the University of Arizona in 1978. He entered the Jesuit order in 1989, taking his vows as a Jesuit brother in 1991. He then studied philosophy and theology at Loyola University Chicago and physics at the University of Chicago before his assignment to the Vatican Observatory in 1993. He has authored more than 200 scientific publications and several books. In 2000, the International Astronomical Union named asteroid 4597 "Consolmagno" in recognition of his work. The College was excited to welcome him to share his knowledge with the community.





OT grant awarded

The Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program at The College of St. Scholastica has been awarded a \$3.9 million grant over the next five years through the U.S. Department of Education. St. Scholastica will partner with and expand services to five high-need school districts throughout northeastern Minnesota and northwestern Wisconsin, including Superior School District, Duluth Public School District, Paul Bunyan Cooperative, Northern Lights Cooperative and Duluth Public Schools Academy. This grant will enhance both didactic and experiential learning opportunities for St. Scholastica OT graduate students, and will support the development and implementation of a fellowship program focused on pediatric mental health through the American Occupational Therapy Association. "Occupational Therapy has its foundations in mental health. This opportunity closely aligns the St. Scholastica OT program to the profession's roots, and provides current and future students with direct opportunities to work with children with mental health needs, merging classroom teaching with community action," said Dr. Kaisa Syväoja, co-project director.





Students abroad

In the search for happiness, 18 students, accompanied by psychology professors Laurie Anderson and Angela Hauger, spent two weeks studying the effects of positivity in some of the world's happiest countries. Traveling to Denmark, Norway and the Netherlands, students were immersed in the culture of these happy places through museums and everyday activities that make them the "happiest" places to live. Students were also able to see the functional roles of these governments by meeting representatives from the United Nations building, World Health Organization (WHO), and United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), among other organizations. These students recorded their thoughts on the journey through an online blog, where many notes of "yummy food," "enriching educational experiences," and genuine excitement to be getting many steps in these locations. You can read more about their travels from students' perspectives at https://sites.google.com/css.edu/science-of-happiness.

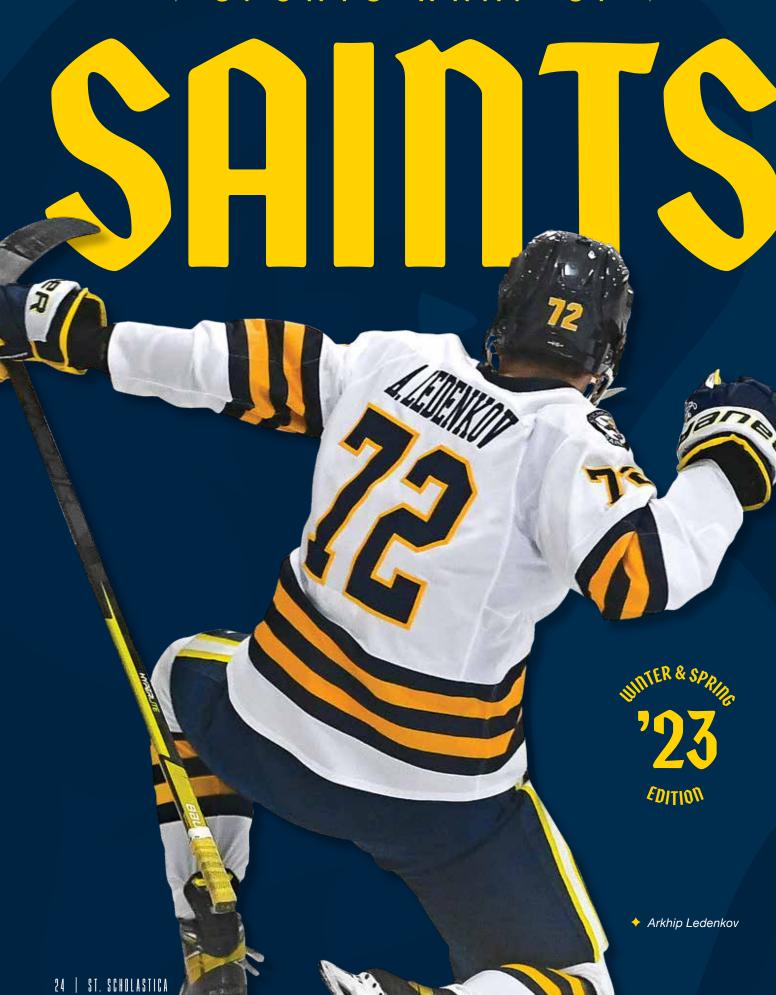
Also across the pond, a group of 17 students traveled with Dr. Stephanie Johnson and Dr. Merry Renn Vaughan for a 22-day study abroad trip to London as the final for the London Arts & Culture course. During this first post-pandemic trip, students were immersed in eight theater performances and over 20 various visits to museums, cemeteries and other cultural sites. In addition, students were asked to contribute their thoughts on the experience through a blog. In a weekend of free time, siblings Ada (expected '26) and Wilson Krueger '23 attended the French Open for tennis to watch some of the world's best. Another group of students took their time to visit the wellknown Abbey Road the Beatles named an album after. With over three weeks of travel time, their travel details can be better seen in their student-written blog found at csslondon2023.wordpress.com/.







◆ SPORTS WRAP-UP ◆





MEN'S HOCKEY HAS HISTORIC SEASON

The men's hockey program earned their first regular season conference championship since 1975, becoming the first program in school history to win this championship since joining the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) in 2022. The Saints were also the first team in school history to finish atop conference standings with a 13-1-2 record.

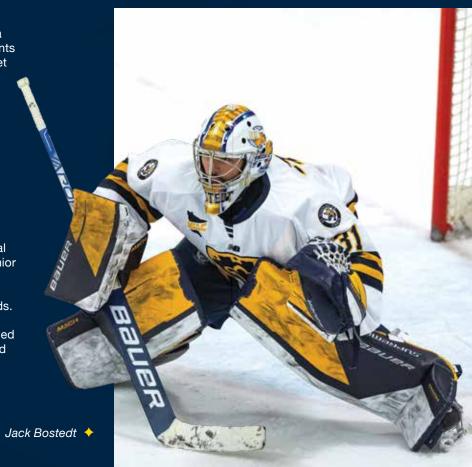
In the semifinals, the top-seeded Saints held off No. 5 St. Olaf, 3-2, to secure their first-ever berth in the MIAC Playoff Championship game at Mars Lakeview Arena, where they had a sellout crowd and a truly electric atmosphere. However, the Saints would see their season come to an end as No. 2 Augsburg upset CSS, 4-1.

MEN'S HOCKEY DOMINANT POSTSEASON MIAC AWARDS

The men's hockey program captured three out of the four annual conference awards with junior forward Arkhip Ledenkov and junior goaltender Jack Bostedt winning MIAC Offensive Player of the Year and MIAC Defensive Player of the Year, respectively. Both were the men's hockey program's first recipients for such awards. An additional four players were named to the All-Conference team, marking it the most since 2009. Dave Williams was awarded MIAC Coach of the Year, becoming the first St. Scholastica head coach of any sport to receive such honors in the MIAC.

THREE SAINTS ACHIEVE ALL-AMERICAN STATUS

Arkhip and Filimon Ledenkov, twins from Polotsk, Belarus, earned American Hockey Coaches Association (AHCA) First Team All-American honors, while Jack Bostedt of Janesville, WI, was selected to the Second Team. The trio became the 16-18th Saints to earn AHCA All-American accolades. The Saints hockey program now has a total of 20 All-American awards.





BENEKE EARNS ALL-AMERICAN AT NCAA OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Women's Track & Field junior Lily Beneke qualified for her second straight year in the women's hammer throw. Once again, Beneke was crowned a MIAC champion in the event with her throw setting a new MIAC championship record, as well as a new facility record. The following week, she broke the school record that was set in 2014 and recorded the fourth best mark in the nation at 58.26m (191' 2") to receive her second USTFCCCA All-Region honor.

At Nationals, Beneke advanced to the finals and finished third with her throw of 56.66m (185'10") to earn All-American for the first time in her career. She became the second woman in outdoor program history to earn All-American status, joining Becky Huberty in 2013 (3rd) and 2014 (4th).





MEN'S TENNIS HOSTED PROGRAM'S FIRST MIAC POSTSEASON COMPETITION

The St. Scholastica men's tennis program finished fourth in the MIAC this year and, in doing so, hosted their first MIAC postseason at the Duluth Indoor Sports Center at the end of April. The Saints faced No. 5 Saint John's who would upset the Saints in a 6-3 victory. Following the season, the team captured a total of eight MIAC postseason awards.



EBEN EBAI JR. HEADS BACK TO INDOOR TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

St. Scholastica senior sprinter Samuel Eben Ebai Jr. qualified for his second consecutive Indoor Track & Field Championship in Birmingham, AL, this March. Eban Ebai Jr. headed into the competition tied for the 17th-fastest 60-meter dash time in the nation. In his heat he crossed the line at 7.00 seconds, just short of the opportunity to advance to the finals and to repeat as an All-American.



IMDIEKE NAMED WOMEN'S BASKETBALL MIAC ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Lexi Imdieke was named MIAC Rookie of the Year after leading all first-year players with an average of 12.3 points per game this season. A starter in every game, Imdieke also led all MIAC first-year players in minutes played. Imdieke is the first St. Scholastica women's basketball player to earn this achievement since entering the MIAC, as well as the program's first Rookie of the Year since 2012. In addition to her individual awards, Imdieke was the only first-year to receive an MIAC honorable mention distinction.



T. LAWRENCE IN LAIRE PLACE

Zachary Jayne

SKIING PROGRAMS COMPETE AT NCAA SKIING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The St. Scholastica nordic ski program sent Victoria Dybwad, and for the first time in program history, a full men's team (Zachary Jayne, John Schwinghamer and Joseph Lynch) to the NCAA Ski Championships in Lake Placid, NY in March.

Dybwad would be the only Saint to race in her second straight year at the Championships. Dybwad and Jayne would lead the Saints in both races throughout the weekend, finishing just outside the top 30. This marked the fourth year in a row that St. Scholastica has sent multiple skiers to the NCAA Championships with at least one participant every year since 2012.

SAINTS SPORTS AWARDS

The Saints Sports Awards returned in April as the tenth iteration of an event to recognize all St. Scholastica student-athletes and their accomplishments throughout the year. For the second year, the event was held in the Mitchell Auditorium. Below is a list of this year's award winners.



MALE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR:

Zachary Jayne, Nordic Skiing

FEMALE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR:

Lexi Imdieke, Basketball

MALE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE RECIPIENT:

Collins Wachira, Soccer

FEMALE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE RECIPIENT:

Ali Ratzloff, Hockey

MALE PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR:

Samuel Eben Ebai Jr., Indoor Track & Field at NCAA Indoor Championships

FEMALE PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR:

Lily Beneke, Outdoor Track & Field at MIAC Outdoor Championship

MALE GAME OF THE YEAR: Hockey at Augsburg University

FEMALE GAME OF THE YEAR: Hockey vs. Hamline University

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR:

Arkhip Ledenkov, Hockey

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR:

Victoria Dybwad, Nordic Skiing

MALE TEAM OF THE YEAR:

Hockey

FEMALE TEAM OF THE YEAR:

Nordic Skiing

MALE CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:

Nick Carlson, Basketball

FEMALE CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:

Alcia Draper, Volleyball

JOHN BAGGS SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD:

Elise Lund, Women's Hockey

DEAR SAINTS.



As I write this letter, Reunion Weekend 2023 is approaching. It is sure to be a wonderful weekend of celebrating Saints!

I love the energy on campus as attendees revisit their favorite places and share memories, and see alumni from different decades sharing memories and hearing how many similarities there are, even though the lived experiences were so different. It truly speaks to the enduring quality of a St. Scholastica education and the strength of our Benedictine values.

This year's reunion represents a milestone for the Class of 1973, who celebrate their 50th reunion and the College, as we welcome male alums to the Saints Heritage Club for the first time.

We welcomed 571 new alumni to the Alumni Association on May 12, 2023. The campus was excited as graduates and their families celebrated huge accomplishments. Many thanks to everyone who worked hard to make this a successful event for our graduates.

I am excited that future graduation ceremonies will continue on our beautiful

campus. It truly is a fantastic way to celebrate the achievement of our newest alumni! Congratulations to the Class of 2023 and welcome to the Alumni Association. I wish you great success in all future endeavors.

Give to CSS Day was held on March 24, 2023. The Advancement Committee of the Alumni Association Board of Directors supported the efforts by soliciting fellow directors for a matching gift. For the first time, we had 100% participation by the Alumni Association Board, raising a matching gift of \$1,325 for the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, This year. we have raised \$20,795 for the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund! Thank you to everyone who donated to the scholarship fund that has a meaningful impact on the lives of Legacy Saints.

As the College comes to the close of the 2023 fiscal year, I would like to thank the 264 alumni volunteers who worked with the Alumni Engagement Team to support its efforts in keeping alumni engaged with the College and supporting its strategic plan. Such volunteers served as speakers in the classroom, hosted events, wrote

notes to admitted students and mentored students, just to name a few. These are tremendous opportunities for our alumni. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Lisa Roseth, director of Alumni Engagement, at (218) 723-6016, or visit css.edu/alumni.

I encourage you all to attend Homecoming 2023. Mark your calendars for Oct. 13-15, 2023. There will be a special gathering of Saints after the football game on Oct. 14. I look forward to seeing you there!

Until then, may you and your family enjoy good health and keep the Saints spirit in your heart.

Vivat St. Scholastica!

Jennifer Alaspa, '00 CLS (MBA '15) St. Scholastica Alumni Association Board

CLASS NOTES

1962

Peg Cruikshank and her partner, Donna, have moved into a life-care community in southern Maine.

Marlene Wisuri has launched a website "50 YEARS - A RETROSPECTIVE Exhibit." It is a sampling of her creative work that includes some photographic history and many links to resources. The project was done with a 2022 Creative Support for Individuals grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

1973

Susan Koering was inducted into the 2023 Brainerd Public Schools Legendary Women Hall of Fame. This honor recognizes extraordinary contributions to society and ongoing commitments to making the world a better place.



Lorraine (Washburn) Hover wrote an article based on her dissertation research that was published. Hover, L.A. & Williams, G.B. (2022). New nurses experience with lateral violence and their decision to remain in nursing. International Journal for Human Caring, 26(4), 199-208. https://doi.org/10.20467/ HumanCaring-D-20-00069.

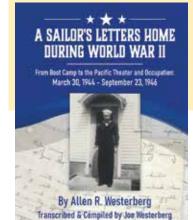
Ronnet (Pickents) Dossman '89 has been named president and CEO of the Neighborhood Development Center, a St. Paul-based community development nonprofit.

Amy Pearson (MA '93) (DPT '20) is a physical therapist at Park Nicollet Hospital in St. Louis Park, MN.

Callie (Bush) Miller (MA) is a Future of Learning Leader at the Hong Kong Academy in Sai Kung, New Territories in Hong Kong.

Melissa Holt (MA) retired in June 2022 from the human service field. She is caregiver for her older sister and her partner in her home. She writes that she seems to be busier now than when she was at work. Melissa continues to be affiliated as an oblate with the Benedictine Sisters at the Mt. Angel Monastery and is enjoying retirement.

Joseph Westerberg finished transcribing his father's letters home during World War II. In October 2022, they were published in a book. It is available on Amazon and all profits go to the National World War II Museum (New Orleans, LA) and the Museum of the Pacific War (Fredericksburg, TX). His father's letters will be donated to the National World War II Museum to become part of their permanent collection.



Jennifer Alaspa (MBA '15), Laboratory Director at St. Luke's Hospital Laboratory Services, reports that the lab earned national accreditation from the Accreditation Committee of American Pathologists on a recent site inspection.

2001

Christopher Dolan, a

Minneapolis partner at Faegre Drinker, has been appointed a deputy practice group leader of the firm's product liability and mass torts. Dolan represents clients in complex environmental litigation and helps clients reduce risk and operate successfully within environmental laws and regulations.



Stephanie Forslund is certified in both Perinatal Nursing and Electronic Fetal Monitoring. She is working as the Nurse Manager of the Maternal Child Health Department at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth.

Jennifer Ellis is Program Director & Instructor of the Gerontology - Aging Services Professional Program at Northwood Technical College in Superior, WI.



Kelly (Oppelt) Masberg joined Consolidated Telephone Company (CTC) as a Senior Account Manager, working closely with CTC's business members.

Connie Renda (MA) was elected to the office of president of the California Health Information Association (CHIA) for a three-year term.



CLASS NOTES CONTINUED >>>

2010

LaCora Bradford Kesti is the vice president of Community Impact at Women's Foundation of Minnesota.

7011

Josh Hawkins is a partner and vice president of financial planning of Leverty Financial Group.

Cassandra Whitney, APRN, CRNA, is working at Sanford Health on the anesthesiology team in Bemidji, MN.

2012

Eleanor (Magnuson) Bacso (MA '21) has joined the HR team at AudacityHR. AudacityHR provides human resource solutions and worksite well-being consultation and training.

Eric Bottolfsen (MA/MBA '12) was named a 2022 recipient of *Advisor Today* magazine's "4 Under 40 Award."

Diana (Kenutis) Brown (MS) is the principal at Como Park High School in St. Paul.

Nur Mood has been selected to receive the Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact Presidents' and Engaged Campus Award for Civic Engagement and Leadership.



Tonya Loken received the Leadership Award at the 6th Annual Rosie Awards held at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center in March. The Leadership Award recognizes a woman who demonstrates outstanding leadership by challenging, motivating and inspiring others in their field of endeavor.

2019

Brett Tester is a senior manager at Dark Horse CPA in Duluth.

2015

Jebeh Edmunds (MS) is working at the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce overseeing their Leadership Duluth program.

Marissa Engelson (MS '19) is a certified physician assistant specializing in elder care at Essentia Health-Duluth Clinic.

Alison Paulseth-Bautch (MBA) has joined Ascential Wealth Advisors as a Financial Advisor in Duluth.

2016

Anthony Anselmo has published a novel called "The Spirit of the North Wind." The book is available on Amazon and Barnes and Noble.



Jacob Naslund (MS '17, PAM '22) is a physician's assistant specializing in cardiology at Essentia Health-St.Mary's Medical Center in Duluth.

2017

Kelly Sweet is an advanced practice registered nurse and certified nurse practitioner specializing in family medicine at Essentia Health-St. Mary's Superior clinic.

2018

Heidi Blunt is the City Clerk for the City of Superior, WI.

Taylor Pilger is a physician's assistant at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center's Orthopaedics Clinic in Crosby, MN.

MARRIAGES

Ashley Schwantke '14 and David Gagliardi, Aug. 27, 2022.



Sarah (Symantietz) '19 and '20 and Brady Schafer '17, Sept. 10, 2022.



Amy (Schryer) '21 and August Leopold, Dec. 27, 2022.



BIRTH/ADOPTIONS

Berlin Sohn '13 and '20, and Ben Carlson '15, a boy, Casper, Jan. 13, 2023.



Catie Krause '14 and Ben Peters '12, a girl, Matilda, May 17, 2023.



Tracy (Simon) '15 and Sam Olson, a boy, Owen, Feb. 23, 2023



Christina (Wallner) (MA '17) and Steve Snaza, a girl, Amelia, Feb. 5, 2023.



DEATHS

Elaine (Bak) Curry '39 died on Dec. 24, 2022. She is survived by children, Phillip (Kitty) E. Mark, Mary (David) Fitzpatrick, Hummon, Steven (Marian Isaac) Mark, Odessa, and Russell (Pamela) Mark; seven grandchildren; and eight greatgrandchildren.

Betty (Nelson) Ursin '44 died on Dec. 18, 2022. She is survived by children, Patricia (Loren) Lund, Victor (Janet) Allen, Jack (Nancy), Martin, Daniel (Joyce); grandchildren, Mark (Tara), Jessica (Douglas), Rachel (Aaron Hawley), Miles (Sara), Thomas, Timothy, Anthony (Michelle), Jared (Natalie), Kendal, and Evan; great-grandchildren, Tyler, Morgan, Aidan, Emerson, Gage, Madeline, Gabriella, Lydia, Laurel, Lotus, Greyson, Gemma, Trygg, Nicholas, and Bo; as well as sister-in-law Sylvia Jamar; and many special nieces and nephews.

Emarine (Volk) Cashin '49 died on Nov. 16, 2022. She is survived by children, Norah Cashin, Ben (Stephanie); 12 grandchildren; and 9 greatgrandchildren.

Mary (Koehmstedt) Neigum '49 died on Feb. 28, 2023. She is survived by, Colleen (Ken) Bakkegard, Maureen Spangler, Colette Chase, Karen Harkness and John Harkness Jr.

Pauline (Johnson) Liston '50 died on Nov. 30, 2022. She is survived by children, Susan Doyle, Patricia (Ted) Frase, and James (Sandra) Liston Jr.; seven grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Betty (Campbell) Sink

'50 died on May 31, 2023. She is survived by children, Cathy Sink, Tom (Althea); grandchildren, Nathan (Hanna), Sarah (Chris), Rachel (Jordan), and Jordan (Dylan); 5 greatgrandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Virginia (Larson) Morris '51 died on Jan. 13, 2023. She is survived by husband, Mylon; daughters, Susan (Charles) Murphy and Linda (Eric) Sloan; grandchildren C. Ryan (Mara) Murphy, Laura (Ben) Tobias, Brittany (Ben) Wamberg, and Connor Sloan; greatgrandchildren, Patrick, Shea, Brynn, Elora, Kiah, Rilynn Wamberg; and sister-in-law Marion Larson.

Ruth (Niemela) Pass '51 died on Mar. 1, 2023. She is survived by her remaining children, relatives and friends.

Shirley (Kolowrat) Sartori '51 died on Feb. 23, 2023. She is survived by children, Greg, Tom, Mary, Carol (Thomas), Ed, Rose, Tim and Jim (Lori); five grandchildren, Wesley, Wayne,

Tom, Mary, Carol (Thomas), Ed, Rose, Tim and Jim (Lori); five grandchildren, Wesley, Wayne, Emerald, Patrick, and Charlie; one great-granddaughter, Riley; and her sister, Arline (Ron) Rowden.

Elizabeth (Gallinetti) Kilroy
'52 died on May 11, 2023. She
is survived by daughters, Mary
Beth Henderson and Patti
Kilroy; son Peter (Michelle)
Kilroy; grandsons, Marty, Jack,
Carter, and Cale; and many
nieces, nephews and friends.

Joan (Bellingham) Carlson '53 died on Feb. 13, 2023. She is survived by children, Steve (Kay), Ann (Dan) Mini, Dan (Pam), Greg (Michele), David, and Sue (Mark) Wasbotten; 14 grandchildren; 15 greatgrandchildren; brother, Herb (Mary Lou) Bellingham; sister, Jean Newton; and many nieces and nephews.

Patricia (Bugel) Fuller

'53 died on Feb. 28, 2023. She is survived by children, Mary Gainey, Annie (Mark) Johnson, and Patrick Gainey; grandchildren, Ian and Nicole Orth, Suana, Max, and Luke; sister, Mary Alice Piette; sisterin-law, Donna Bugel; and other relatives and friends.

Audrey (Nix) Hein '53 died on Apr. 6, 2023. She is survived by daughter, Maggie (Jayme) Johnson; sons, Nick (Jane Wolff), Matthew (Tracy), Frank (Terri Bassett), and John (Patti); grandchildren, Katie (Nick) Fox, Mitchell (Megan Lisburg) Johnson, Peter (Camilla) Hein, Tricia (Brandon) Brewster, Amy Hein, Reggie Hein, and Lindsay Hein; great-grandchildren, Lilly Hein, Rita and Cormac Fox; and many nieces and nephews and their families.

Helen (Anacker) Perry '53 died on Oct. 14, 2022. She is survived by children, Mark (Karen) Perry, Nancy (Steve) Heymann, and Michelle (Matt) Shapiro; grandchildren, Calvin, Allison, Jessica, Kristina, and Caitlin; sister-in-law, Carol Drolsum; and a host of neighbors and friends who will miss her dearly.

Genevieve Simanovich '53 died on Mar. 20, 2023. She is survived by nieces, Margaret Simanovich and Wendy Simanovich Moe; and other relatives and friends here and in Croatia.

Sister Sarah Smedman, OSB, '53 died on Mar. 19, 2023. She is survived by sister-in-law, Marlene Smedman; nieces, Susan (Mark) Byers and Diane (Bill) Teichman; the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery; and many friends.

Donna (Kelly) Andresen '54 died on Oct. 22, 2022. She is survived by her children, Ron, Marcia (Jim Reid), Stephen (Danielle), and Lori;

CLASS NOTES CONTINUED >>>

grandchildren, Corey, Madeline & Isabella; sister, Mary Anne "Puddy" Obluda; and brother, Thomas Kelly, Jr and many nieces and nephews.

Jane (Murray) Buzzelli '55 died on Dec.26, 2022. She is survived by husband, John; sister, Mary (Mike) Haverland; sisters-in-law, Beverly Buzzelli and Joan Murray; children, John Jr., Betsy McPhee, Alice (Terry) Gehring, Peter (Jennifer), Timothy (Rina), Christopher (Lori), and Mary (Chuck) Schaus; grandchildren, Matthew, Michelle, Kristen, Heather, Rachel, James (J.J.), Brittany, Christopher, Nicole, Alexandra, Alyssa, Rhett, Stephanie, Noah, Dominic, Grace, Savannah, and Sophia; and twenty greatgrandchildren.

Carm (Siekaniec) Lennon '56 died on Apr. 14, 2023. She is survived by husband, James; three children; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

LaVerne (Johnson) Sibley '56 died on May 5, 2023. She is survived by children, Mark (DeeAnn), Laurie (Michael) Boniarczyk, David (Rebecca), Susan (Mark) Dzieweczynski, and Matthew (Diane); 10 grandchildren; and 23 great grandchildren.

Yvonne (Stuer) Lindquist '57 died on Feb. 15, 2023. She is survived by sons, Joseph (Beatrix), Bryan (Kim); daughter, Joanna Lindquist; sister, Jean (Stuer) Woodward; 13 grandchildren; and four greatgrandchildren.

Carol (Bethune) Hahn '59 died on Mar. 15, 2023. She is survived by daughters, Linda (Harvey) McGrane, Sandra (Roger) Allen, Brenda Romig and Theresa (Marc) Cregan; son, Jeff Hahn; 26 grandchildren; 54 greatgrandchildren; brother, Jim (Joan) Forcie; step-brothers, Murray and Leroy Forcier; step-sister, Dianna Bergquist; several nieces and nephews; and special friend, David Meyer.

Kathleen (Pettit) LeVasseur
'59 died on Mar. 2, 2023.
She is survived by husband,
Robert; daughters, Lisa (Mark)
Ogren, Jeanne (Scott Dahlseid)
LeVasseur; son, Robert (Tresa)
LeVasseur; brothers, Dick
(Lynn) Pettit and John (Marian)
Pettit; and grandchildren, Will
Ogren, Derek (Cassie) Ogren,
David Ogren, Alex Dahlseid,
Daniel, Kathryn, and Leah
LeVasseur.

Barbara (Mescher) Spencer '60 died on Feb. 13, 2023. She is survived by husband, Thomas; son, Jack (Meg); daughters, Sharon (Kevin) Johnson, Mary (Jeff) Roerden, and Anita (Rob) Stofa Jr.; grandchildren, Phyllis, Leigh, and Marian Spencer, Robbie and Jacqueline Stofa; and many beloved nieces, nephews and step grandchildren.

Nancy (Heiber) Gottfried '61 died on Apr. 18, 2023. She is survived by children, Juli (James) Malcolm, Elizabeth Tilak, Mike (Lisa) Gottfried, Kathy (Steve) Randall, Drew (Connie) Gottfried, Ben (Deb) Gottfried, Nate (Dave Pittman), Sarah (Kaylynn Brown) Gottfried; and her 16 grandchildren.

Kathleen (Fessenden) Smith '61 died on Apr. 15, 2023. She is survived by husband, Vane; children, Patricia (John) Rash, George (Linda) Smith, Rebecca (Doug) Frye, and Roger (Caroline) Smith; grandchildren, Rebecca (William) McMasters, Kathleen (Dakota) Cruse, Jordan (Chelsea) Smith, Nathan (Kaitlin) Smith, Jarret Frye, Eric Smith, and Anna Kate Smith: great-grandchildren, Emily and William McMasters, Elainna, Ludell, and Raylee-Ann Smith, and Liam Smith; brother, Thomas (Toni) Fessenden; and

many nieces and nephews.

Diane (Franckwicz) Dallavia '63 died on Jan 25, 2023. She is survived by son, Paul.

Mary (Dotsch) Frueh '66 died on Jan. 2, 2023. She is survived by husband, Leo; sons, Matt (Faby), Ben (Celine), and Pete (Janette Leslie); daughter, Sara Frueh; grandchildren, Emmett, Declan, Jamie, Maria, Matias, and Lili; and many nieces and nephews.

Diane (Sterner) Gallagher '66 died on Apr. 25, 2023. She is survived by extended family in Ireland; and many nieces and nephews throughout the United States

Mary Beth Faimon '67 died on Feb. 18, 2023. She is survived by husband, Chris Mato Nunpa; step-daughter and step-son-in-law Audrey and Randall Fuller; step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren; Mary Beth's cat, Wetu; cousins, Jim Tomsky and Mary Staller; nephew Randy Danurahardja; niece Sheila Danurahardja; and many beloved friends and other relatives.

Sister Martha Bechtold, OSB, '69 died on May 1, 2023. She is survived by brothers, Leonard (Marcia), Roger (Nell), George (Marshia), and Eugene (Kathy) Bechtold; sisters Rita Reker, Mary Prom, Hilde (Kerry) Manuel, Rose Skudlarek, and Millie (Leonard) Brunn; many nieces and nephews; and her Benedictine Community.

Sister Carol Axtmann, OSB, '71 died on Feb. 26, 2023. She is survived by her Benedictine Sister family at Sacred Heart Monastery, Dickinson, ND.

Ellen (Sutch) Hilfer '75 died on Mar. 10, 2023. She is survived by husband, Jerry; son, William Nalley; sisters, Vivian Sutch, Marianne Trask; brothers Jim (Linda) Sutch, Bob Sutch, Tom Sutch; sisters-in-law Wendy Sutch, Charlotte (Rodney)
Marble; brothers-in-law Randy
(Robin) Hilfer, Calvin (Rita)
Hilfer, Doug (Kathi) Hilfer, Tom
Hilfer; and numerous nieces,
nephews, cousins and friends.

Lisa (Ramfjord) Elstun died Dec. 17, 2022. She is survived by husband, Bruce Elstun; son Raleigh (Kimberly) Elstun; sister, Kari (Peter); brothers, Jaime (Gale) Ramfjord, David (Denise) Ramfjord; four grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Steven Sertich '79 died on Jan 7, 2023. He is survived by wife, Carol; children, Andy (Katie), and Courtney (Dan) Mell; grandchildren, Eli, Murray, Danny, and James; siblings, Carole (Randy) Janke, Cynthia (Jim) Flood, Patty Sertich, Mark (Kelly) Sertich, Mick (Carol) Sertich, and Tim (Patty) Sertich; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Diane (Billberg) Lansing '81 died on Mar. 17, 2023. She is survived by children, Ryan Lansing, and Sarah Lansing; sister, Linda (Tim) Andersen; niece, Christy Andersen; nephews, Michael, Kyle, and Ben Andersen; sister-in-law, Lorrie Lansing; and Diane's best friend, John Nelson.

Laurelen Klimek '84 died on Jan. 29, 2023. She is survived by brothers, David (Ginny) Klimek, and Daniel (Judy) Klimek; very special nephew, Marty (Lauri Sanford) Bush; and many nephews, nieces, relatives and friends.

Danice Klimek '91 died on June 21, 2022. She is survived by uncles, David (Ginny) Klimek, Daniel (Judy) Klimek; very special cousin, Marty (Lauri Sanford) Bush; and many cousins, relatives and friends.

Pamela McDowell '91 died on Nov. 23, 2022. She is survived by daughter, Andrea McDowell; sisters, Karen Jaggers, Patricia Davis, and Linda (Dale) Ward; brother, Tim Hitch; and grandchildren, Taylor and Eli.

Stuart Clem '94 died on Nov. 30, 2022. He is survived by wife, Donna Clem; daughters, Georgy (Jay) Shanahan, and Jackie (Chris Whiting) Clem; grandchildren, Samuel, Sophia, Ellie Clem-Whiting, Isaac, William, Margaret, Helen, Colleen Shanahan; brothers/sisters-in-law Bob (Rita) Sivigny, Dan (Rita) Sivigny, Ron (Peg Skalicky) Sivigny, Sue Sivigny, Randy (Jessica) Sivigny; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, greatnephews; and other relatives and friends.

Phillip Hyry '96 died on May 4, 2023. He is survived by children, Jill (Jacob) Hintsala, Bob (Nicole) Hyry, and Kevin (Shylo) Hyry; sister, Bettie Ahola; brother, Will (Caryl) Hyry; grandchildren, Chelsee, Ryan, Ashley, Hadden and Zak Hyry, Asher, Olivia and Isaac Hintsala, Elaina (Jacob) Fronden; great-grandchildren; Brantley, Jameson, Jaxon, Eleanor and Dorothy; and a host of brothers and sisters in faith.

Dawn (Poehls) Maunu '08 died on Jan. 1, 2023. She is survived by husband, Eric; daughter, Hannah; mother, Siri; brother, Darold "DJ" Poehls; and sister, Cathy (Josh) Hall.

Tim Fiebiger '10 died on Jan. 19, 2023. He is survived by life partner, Jennifer Quam; son, Jacob; brothers, Adolph and Michael; sister, Nancy Fiebiger; three nieces, Kayla, Krystal, and Lindsay; nephew, Kyle; and his goddaughter, Kenzi Quam.

OUR SYMPATHY

Patricia (Hass) Radke '53 on the death of her husband, Robert.

Mary Ann (Kelly) Obluda '55 on the death of her sister, Donna.

Alice (Berklacich) Reinero '55 on the death of her husband, John.

Patricia Negro '56 on the death of her husband, Ron.

Mary (Murray) Haverland '59 on the death of her sister, Jane.

Marilyn (Tibor) Worthington '59 on the death of her Husband, Hal.

Carol (Novak) Kochendofer '66 on the death of her husband, David.

Dulcie (Henry) Thiel '68 on the death of her husband, William.

Gerald Hilfer '75 on the death of his wife, Jean.

Mary (Watson) Krieger '78, William Watson '79, and Anne Watson '86 on the death of their brother, James.

Charlene (Maki) Harkins '79 on the death of her son, Karl.

Sharon McDonnell-Guimont '79 on the death of her husband, Ronald.

Joan (Derungs) Watson '79 on the death of her husband, James.

Sheri (Haines) Peterson '80 on the death of her brother, Michael.

Correne (Tabery) Jenson '84 on the death of her mother, Anne.

Susan (Ziegler) Teske '85 on the death of her mother, Carol.

Karen (Foster) Fenelon '89 on the death of her father, Wesley.

Patricia Kilroy '89, Peter Kilroy '90, and Hollie Kilroy '02 on the death of their mother, Betty.

Jill (Hyry) Hintsala '91 on the death of her father, Phillip.

Kristen Fightlin-Miller '93 on the death of her father, Keith.

Amy Watters '96 on the death of her mother, Sandy.

Paul Dallavia '98 on the death of his mother. Diane.

Jeralynn (McDowell)
Theodore '99 on the death of her mother, Pamela.

Joseph Wicklund '00 on the death of his mother, Gitzy.

Jonathan Muckala '04 on the death of his mother, Patty.

Jennifer Backus '05 and Henry Backus '18 on the death of their father, Steve.

Mary Koszarek '06 on the death of her mother, Rose Mary.

Allison (Lambert) '13 and Aleksis Kincaid '11 on the death of their daughter, Margorie.

Amanda Abrahamson Roseth '13 on the death of her father, Dennis.

Sandy Davis '13 on the death of her sister, Kathy.



Due to space restrictions, please submit Class Notes of news occurring within the past 12 months. Class Notes items include weddings. graduations, new jobs, promotions, awards or honors, major life news, other achievements and death announcements. We reserve the right to exercise editorial discretion in the publication of alumni news and photos; submission does not guarantee publication. The items featured in this issue were submitted between Jan. 19, 2023 and June 23, 2023.

If you submitted a note that is not featured, please contact Alumni Engagement at alumni@ css.edu, 218-723-6071 or 866-935-3731.

We'll be **Seeing You!**

Our events and programming may have changed, but the mission of the Alumni Association remains the same: to meaningfully connect our alumni with one another and the College. We hope you will join us and our global community of Saints, as we continue to embark on a journey of virtual events together!

Yoga Two Times per Month

Check css.edu/alumni for dates and times Virtual

Sept. 16, 2023

Alumni Baseball Banquet **Duluth Campus**

Oct. 13-15, 2023

Homecoming Student Talent Show Young Alumni Award Presentation **Duluth Campus**

> Dec. 5, 2023 Lighting a Tradition **Duluth Campus**

For more information regarding the events noted above, please visit css.edu/alumni

If you are interested in hosting a virtual event with fellow Saints, please let us know! We will send out the invitations, help promote and facilitate setting up the technology. Email us at alumni@css.edu if you would like to plan a gathering of your own.

For more information, contact Lisa Roseth '04, Director of Alumni Engagement at Iroseth@css.edu

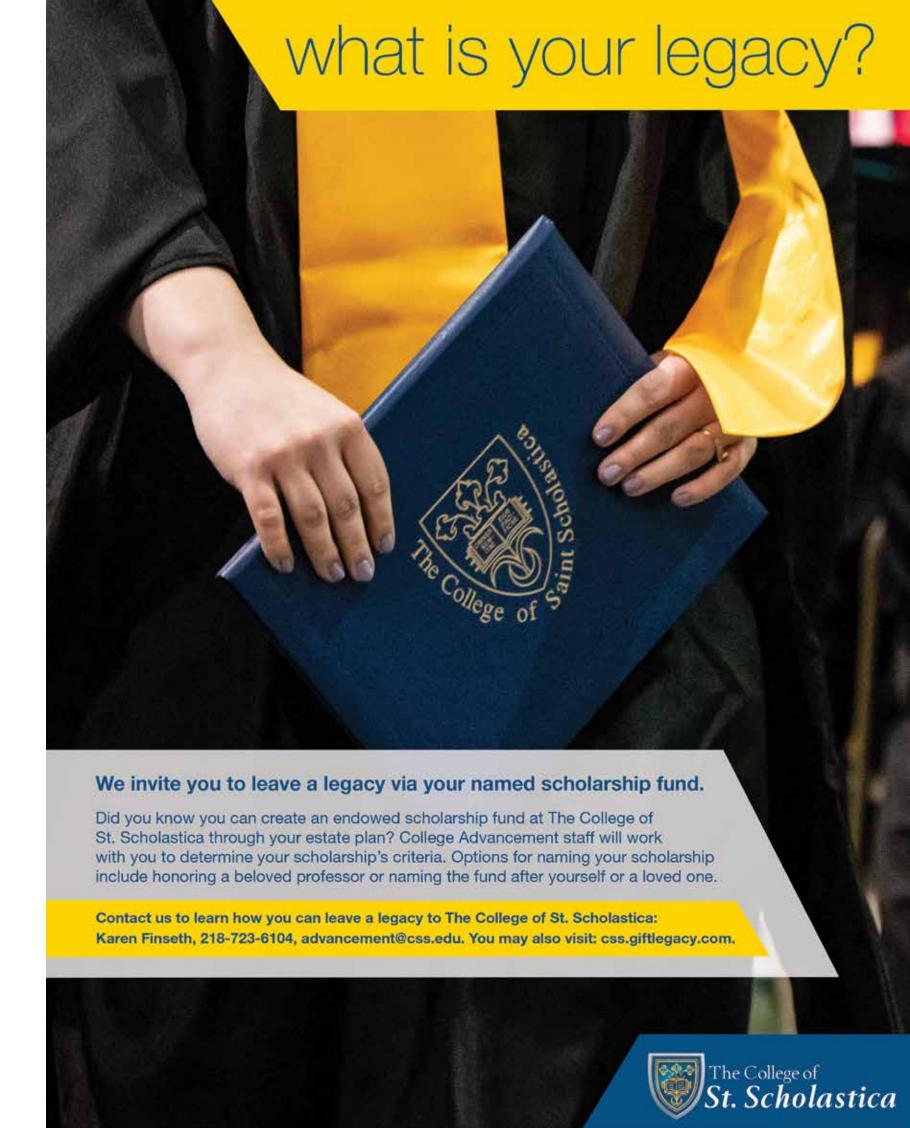
TELL YOUR FRIENDS WHAT YOU'RE UP TO

We need your personal and professional updates for Class Notes. Pictures also are welcome. (Please identify all subjects by name and by class year if applicable.) If your name has changed, please include your name while at St. Scholastica. You can send in your news via the Internet. It's easy! Go to: css.edu/update. You may also e-mail your news to alumni@css.edu

Class Notes, including pictures, are now available online.

Name (first name/maiden or birth/current last name)			Class yea
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News • Birth/Adoption • Marriage Announcement • Death Announcement		ent (attach additional sheets as necessary)	









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WHO ENHANCED YOUR ST. SCHOLASTICA FOUNDATION?

A Saints experience is more than the sum of its parts; our community foundation consists of more than our roommates and advisors. Who else—faculty, staff, coaches, tutors, mentors—supported you while you were here? We want to hear about it!

Send us a note at collegecomm@css.edu for an upcoming feature story.

