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Gold & Blue Gold and Blue

Spring 2012

## Gold & Blue, Spring 2012

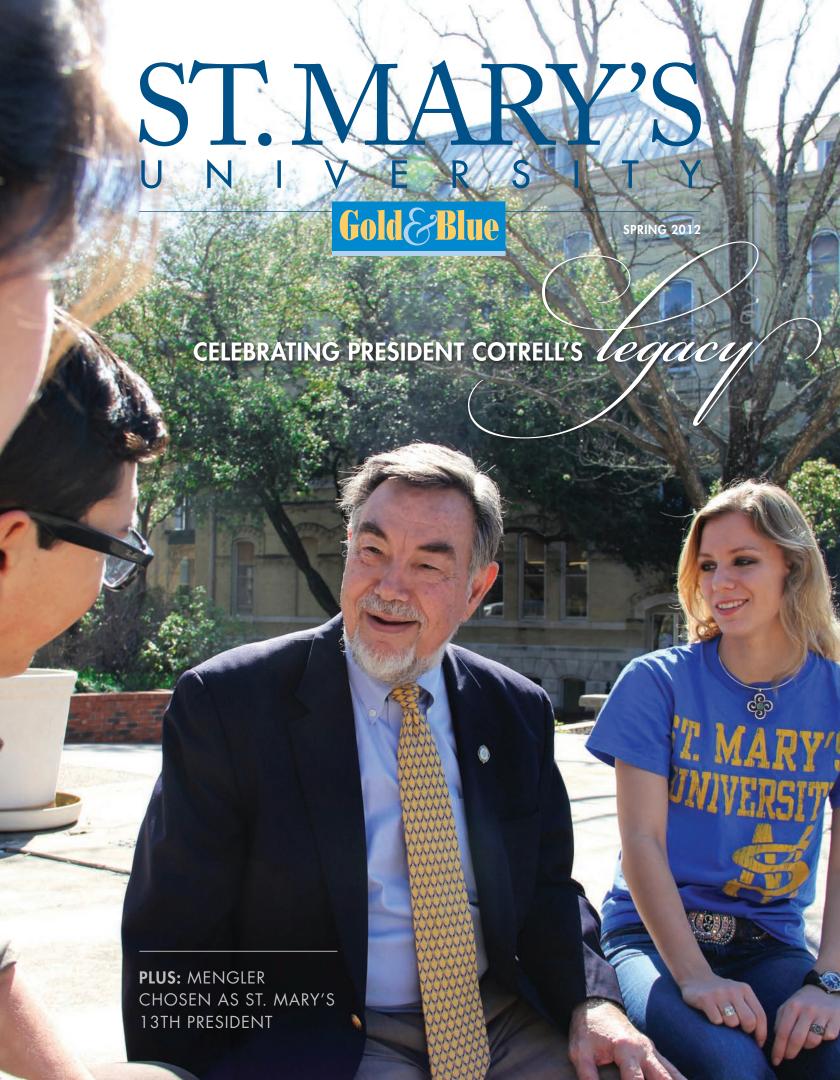
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(B.A. '62, M.A. '64)

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#### ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY



#### MISSION

St. Mary's University, as a Catholic Marianist University, fosters the formation of people in faith and educates leaders for the common good through community, integrated liberal arts and professional education, and academic excellence.





#### FROM THE EDITOR

About a year after I became executive editor of the Gold & Blue, Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D., became St. Mary's 12th president. An alumnus who had spent some 30 years in the classroom and administration at St. Mary's, he was the logical and popular choice to be the University's first lay president. That was nearly 13 years ago and, under his guidance, St. Mary's has experienced much success. While we will miss his leadership, we're happy knowing he'll remain at St. Mary's doing what he loves most ... teaching.

President Cotrell is a great leader and a great boss, but he's also my teacher, mentor and friend.

It was 1976, my sophomore year, and with mild trepidation I walked into my Texas Government and Politics class. Charlie was the professor and I'd heard a lot about him from friends. "He's brilliant." "He's tough." "He's cool." All true. But, most significant is that I came away with an awareness of what my college experience could and should be: challenging my assumptions; discussing contentious issues while respecting others' opinions, and thinking much more critically about those issues; and celebrating the differences of my classmates. That class changed me.

Later, when I was working in undergraduate admissions, Charlie was one of the University's leaders that traveled around the country to meet with prospective students. From him I learned to listen actively to their concerns and to address them with compassion and honesty. Those long trips weren't without some fun, so I also learned that it's imperative to be on Charlie's Trivial Pursuit team, liar's poker isn't my forte, and there wasn't much he didn't know about wherever we happened to be. Most importantly, he was good counsel to me.

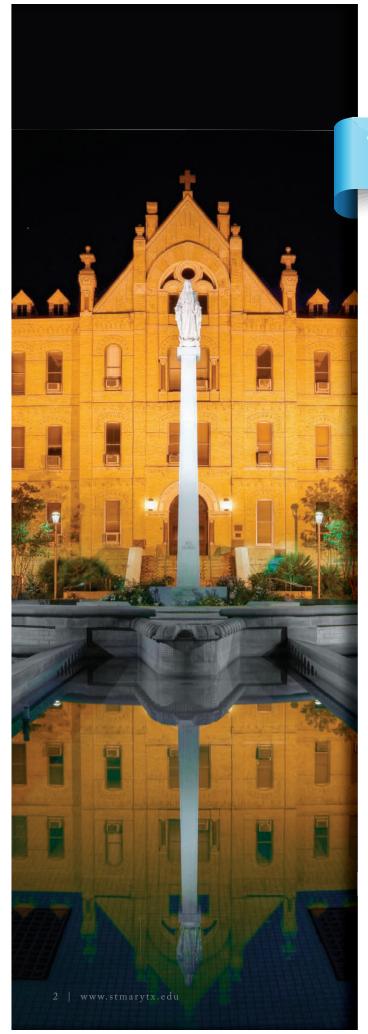
I'm proud to call Charlie my friend of 35 years, and Abbie, too. I've watched their sons grow up and, while there have been too many good times spent with the Cotrells to mention—camping, perfecting "the best" chili recipe, and gathering with friends and family among them—they are ones I'll always treasure.

Thank you, Charlie, for your decades of administrative leadership at St. Mary's. And, perhaps, you'll see me back in the classroom because, as you've taught me, it's never too late to learn something new!

— Candy Kuebker

P.S. This summer, we're expanding the magazine to 40 pages to provide you with even more terrific features and profiles such as the ones you'll find in this issue.

It's a bird ... it's a plane ... well, it's a plane with St. Mary's Dean of Science, Engineering and Technology Winston Erevelles, Ph.D., jumping out of it. Erevelles was one of a select group chosen nationally by the U.S. Army to participate in a variety of activities related to its All American Bowl, which is held in San Antonio each January. To read more stories like this one, check your e-mail inbox the first Tuesday of each month for E-Talk, St. Mary's electronic newsletter.



# president's MESSAGE

# WITH THE END OF ONE CHAPTER THERE COMES ANOTHER

This morning, I met with a half dozen or so of our students for a photo session. It's an activity that for most, and certainly for me, isn't particularly comfortable. But, the conversations we had during that session, in part to put us all at ease, only affirmed my decision to return to

teaching and scholarship after 13 years as president and more than 30 years in administration at St. Mary's. Teaching was and still is my passion and, while I've continued to teach one class almost every semester during my many years as an administrator, I miss it.

A chapter in my professional life is coming to a close, and I am eager for what comes next. The students of today may have many more technological tools at their disposal and may learn differently than my students of 40 years ago. But their intellectual curiosity, their drive to succeed and their desire to leave our world a better place are constants that I see in every



President Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D.

generation of students at St. Mary's. I find that exciting and fulfilling.

So, on June 1, I'll begin a year-long sabbatical during which Abbie and I will travel and do some of those "bucket list" things we've put off for so many years. And, in the fall of 2013, I'll be back in the classroom and doing whatever else I am asked to do, and returning to community and civic involvement. I can't wait!

## Successes emanate from University community's shared vision

As I've been reporting to you for more than five years, St. Mary's has used its *Vision 2012* strategic plan as a guide to move the University forward in every respect. But moving forward isn't possible at an institution like St. Mary's unless everyone shares the vision of what we want to—and can—become. University leadership does not and cannot operate in a vacuum. Everything that has been accomplished at St. Mary's during my presidency and before is because, as a University community, we

In the fall of 2013, I'll be back in the classroom and doing whatever else I am asked to do, and returning to community and civic involvement. I can't wait!

believe in, support and live our mission. As Vision 2012 nears completion of its final year, I am proud that, with the dedication and participation of all of its stakeholders, St. Mary's enjoys a vibrant Catholic and Marianist mission and identity, high student academic standards and achievements, a quality faculty, financial stability, and a robust building program that adds to and improves facilities.

There is much evidence that confirms the progress we have made.

The St. Mary's University Catholic Intellectual Tradition Lecture Series is completing its ninth year and in each of those years, interest and attendance has continued to grow. Participation in the Marianist Forum, University Ministry-sponsored retreats, the Marianist Leadership Program and other opportunities for faith formation is on the rise. The Marianist charism, rooted in community, thrives on our campus.

The academic standards of our incoming students continue to rise and the quality of education in the Marianist tradition attracts more and more students every year. Enrollment Management has just reported that applications for the freshman class of 2012 are nearing 5,000 in number, far surpassing last year's total which, at the time, was the best-ever. What we offer our students can't be limited to academic excellence alone; rather, we accomplish our mission when our graduates leave us with the expertise they need for their chosen careers and the desire and ability to contribute to the common good through professional expertise, service, civic engagement and compassion.

Achieving these results requires the intellect, commitment and support of outstanding teachers. Happily, St. Mary's possesses a faculty whose desire to impart an education that fuels the mind, body and soul is as apparent in the classroom as it is sharing in religious celebrations, attending games, recitals and presentations, or simply visiting with students over a cup of coffee. This legacy of the Marianist charism is evident and strong in our predominantly lay faculty today.

We've all been affected in some way by the economic turmoil of the past several years.

Throughout, St. Mary's leadership—with good counsel from our Board of Trustees—has adopted strategies that have provided financial security in extremely uncertain times to the benefit of our students. We have even managed to move forward with a healthy plan for building or renovating our facilities. Founders Hall, opened in 2009, the St. Louis Hall renovation that is nearing completion, and the imminent construction of the new outdoor sports complex exemplify the confidence that we have in our ability to grow and improve the University, even during the toughest of times.

Moreover, our benefactors have sustained their support, recognizing the importance of, and wanting to be involved in, moving the University forward. In fact, last month former Trustee David Dickson (B.B.A. '68) made a \$1 million gift to St. Mary's that will go towards the sports complex, specifically the new baseball stadium that will honor the Dickson family name. Along with his gift, there have literally been thousands more each year that, while perhaps not as large, have led to multiple endowed scholarships (more than 100 in the past decade alone), faculty support, capital improvements and more.

#### **Spring transitions**

As many of you know, during its Feb. 10, 2012 meeting, the St. Mary's Board of Trustees selected Thomas Mengler, J.D., as the next president of St. Mary's University. Please join me in extending to him congratulations and a warm St. Mary's welcome. Upon his selection, I invited Tom to return to campus to get to know our University community and San Antonio better before he assumes office. He already returned to spend a couple of days

with the faculty and administrators in late February. During the spring, I look forward to introducing him to community leaders and many of our alumni as he transitions into the presidency. I have confidence in Tom's abilities and in his understanding of, and commitment to, our Marianist legacy and mission.

Before I begin my next chapter transitioning back to faculty life again—I am excited to be traveling to several chapter cities during a "farewell tour" of sorts this semester. I hope to see many alumni and friends along the way. There are so many groups and individuals to thank for their support during my years as president. To my fellow members of the Board of Trustees, I thank you for your guidance and leadership over the years. I thank the faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends for your dedication to, and belief in, St. Mary's and its mission which, truly, is the reason the University has achieved so much. I am very thankful for the many benefactors in our University family whose support of our mission and aspirations is sincerely appreciated, especially by our students who will carry that mission out into the world. On a more personal note, thanks to all of the contributors to the Charlie and Abbie Cotrell Endowed Scholarship established by the Board of Trustees last fall. Your generosity touches both Abbie and me and will sustain future generations of students.

Finally, I am exceedingly appreciative to the Marianists who have shared their charism and friendship with me for more than 50 years, from my arrival at St. Mary's as a student in 1958 to the present. Your prayers have buoyed me, your counsel has guided me, and your example has inspired me. Thank you.



#### **New President Announced**

The St. Mary's University Board of Trustees unanimously appointed Thomas Mengler, J.D., as the University's 13th president, effective June 1, 2012.

Mengler is currently dean of the University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, where he also holds the Ryan Chair in Law. He worked previously at the University of Illinois, where he was dean of the College of Law. In addition, Mengler served as the University's interim provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs during which he oversaw all undergraduate and graduate programs and the University's \$1 billion operating budget.

"I am pleased to announce the appointment of Tom Mengler," said Robert Elizondo, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, "and I look forward to working with him as he joins our efforts to educate students in the Catholic and Marianist traditions, while continuing to move St. Mary's forward."

President Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D., announced last year that he would return to teaching at the end of his term in June 2012, after 13 years as the University's first lay president.

"I look forward to working with Tom as he transitions," Cotrell said, "introducing him to our vibrant city and to our outstanding alumni in San Antonio, the State of Texas and beyond."

"Under President Cotrell's outstanding leadership," Mengler said, "St. Mary's faculty and staff have helped prepare students to lead lives of significance, and St. Mary's has played a central role in building community both on campus and off. I am truly honored to follow in President Cotrell's footsteps and to serve this great Catholic and Marianist University."

St. Mary's Chancellor, the Rev. Martin Solma, S.M., said: "Tom is committed to Catholic higher education, social justice issues, academic quality and the formation of students as servant leaders—all facets integral to the Catholic and Marianist traditions of St. Mary's University."



THOMAS MENGLER, J.D.

At the University of St. Thomas, Mengler helped build the School of Law from the ground up, becoming dean in the School's second year in 2002. While there, he has developed the School's Catholic mission, increased enrollment, hired nationally recognized faculty and received full accreditation for the school. Mengler also raised more than \$30 million to establish endowments for faculty chairs and professorships, student scholarships, an institute for Catholic thought, and a center for ethical leadership.

Mengler served on university-wide academic and administrative leadership councils and important committees at both St. Thomas and the University of Illinois, including those for mission statement development, budget strategies, academic best practices, and teaching evaluations.

Mengler received his bachelor's in philosophy from Carleton College and a master's in philosophy from the University of Texas at Austin, where he also earned his law degree.

#### **Short Subjects**

#### Nelson Wolff Law Early Admission Program Announced

St. Mary's University will offer an early School of Law admission program starting in fall 2012 that will allow qualified undergraduate students to earn both a bachelor's degree and law degree in just six years. The program is named in honor



WOLFF

of Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff, who graduated in 1966 from St. Mary's with both bachelor's and law degrees.

The Honorable Nelson Wolff Law Early Admission Program at St. Mary's

University will allow St. Mary's students to enter law school after completing the third year of undergraduate study. Students' first year of law school will complete the final 30 hours of the undergraduate program, so that students complete both degrees in six years, instead of seven. Included undergraduate degree programs are English, speech communications, criminology, philosophy, political science, sociology or international relations. The program offers advantages to motivated, talented students who want to save money by graduating in less time.

St. Mary's also announced a related program, which grants guaranteed admission to the law school for St. Mary's graduates who meet certain conditions. Students must apply to the School of Law within three years of graduating from St. Mary's and are required to meet stated GPA and LSAT scores to be considered for guaranteed admission.

To learn more about both programs, go to www.stmarytx.edu/lawearlyadmit.

# Struggle for Democratic Equality to be Explored

With the Arab Spring and Wall Street protests, the March program of the President's Peace Commission (PPC),



## Lin Great **Speakers Series Features Jose Antonio Vargas**



Jose Antonio Vargas, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, founder of DefineAmerican.com and an undocumented immigrant, spoke at St. Mary's in February as part of the Lin Great

Vargas was part of a team that won a Pulitzer Prize for covering the Virginia Tech massacre in 2007. He made national headlines in June 2011 when he admitted that he'd been hiding his true identity as an undocumented immigrant to avoid deportation and to pursue the American Dream. Seeking a better life for her son, Vargas' mother sent Jose from the Philippines to California at the age of 12 to live with his grandparents. He only discovered that his green card was a fake when he applied for a driving permit at the age of 16. His presentation, My Life as an Undocumented Immigrant, followed his story of

> finding considerable professional success while he was striving to keep his immigration status a secret.

On April 3, Jessica Jackley, the second Lin speaker, will present Love, Money and Work: Social Entrepreneurship as a Career. Jackley is founder of Kiva, the world's first peer-to-peer micro-lending website and of ProFounder, a new platform providing innovative ways for start-ups and small business entrepreneurs in the U.S. to access startup capital through crowd-funding and community involvement.



**JACKLEY** 

The Struggle for Democratic Equality, is particularly fitting.

While nations across the Middle East and around the world are fighting for democracy, here in the United States we are struggling to understand our own democratic representation. The inequalities that exist between us are more than simply economic, but in the very way in which we are able to have a voice in problems of national importance. Our streets have been

filled with those clamoring to be heard and to draw attention to these gross inequalities. As members of a Catholic, Marianist community, we are called to be a voice for the oppressed and the ignored, and the spring PPC program explores what to do when it is the majority that is being ignored.

On March 27-29, the PPC will address the topic in a series of panels and presentations, such as, "From Tea Party to Occupy Wall Street: Today's

Social Movements," "Resistance at Home and Abroad: The Effect on Politics and Elections," and "The (Im)Morality of Inequality and Catholic Social Teaching." For the complete program, go to the PPC site at www.stmarytx.edu/presidents-peacecommission.

#### Learning Commons Stirs Excitement

Beginning this summer, construction to build a Learning Commons in the Louis J. Blume Library will begin. The Commons will occupy the lower floor of the library and is being created to enhance the student experience on the St. Mary's campus. Along with easy access to information technology services, extended hours and a "Starbucks Express," the Learning Commons will be easily accessible from the University Center, with a new entrance into the lower floor of the library from a courtyard that will be constructed between the two buildings.

#### Newsmakers

#### San Antonio Business Journal Lauds "Legacy Leaders"

In celebration of its 25th anniversary, the San Antonio Business Journal honored 10 "Legacy Leaders" from the San Antonio community at an awards reception in March, and two St. Mary's alumni were among those honored.

The Honorable Nelson Wolff (B.B.A., J.D.'66) and Bill Greehey (B.B.A.'60) are among the "Legacy Leaders." Wolff, the longtime Bexar County Judge, is a former St. Mary's Trustee and the University's 1976 Distinguished Alumnus. Greehey, also a former University Trustee and the St. Mary's 1986 Distinguished Alumnus, is Chairman of the Board of NuStar Energy LP and former Chairman of the Board and CEO of Valero Energy Corp. He endowed the St. Mary's Bill Greehey School of Business in 2005 with the University's largest-ever gift of \$25 million.



www.stmarytx.edu/winter\_extras

School Named in Honor of St. Mary's Alumnus

310 New Grads Join Alumni Rolls in December

Giardino to Lead AMU

Generosity Abounds at Year's End

Volleyball Team Returns to Winning Ways



According to the San Antonio Business Journal, the "Legacy Leaders" are " ... men and women who have made significant contributions to local business and the community in the last two-and-a-half decades" and have been instrumental in building San Antonio into "the dynamic and diverse city it is today."

#### Student Wins First-ever Ed Whitacre Leadership Scholarship

In December, Ed Whitacre, former Chairman and CEO of General Motors Co. and Chairman Emeritus of AT&T, announced Tanairi Ochoa, a junior at St. Mary's, as the winner of the first-ever Ed Whitacre Leadership Scholarship. Presented at the Annual San Antonio Greater Chamber of Commerce Gala, the award honors a student from a San Antonio university who demonstrates leadership with strong values and exhibits these traits in academic and campus activities.

Ochoa, an Honors Program student, is majoring in political science and international relations. She is an Entrepreneur Scholar, a McNair Scholar Fellow, a President's Ambassador, and was elected both her freshman and sophomore years to be class senator. Ochoa was selected for the Whitacre award not just for her strong academic abilities, but for her involvement and commitment to service and civic engagement.

#### **Good Deeds**

#### Scholarship Endowed in Cotrell's Honor

St. Mary's Trustee Ruben Escobedo (B.B.A.'60) announced in November during the Annual President's Dinner that a new endowed scholarship had been established to honor President Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D. The scholarship is made possible by generous support of many of the University's benefactors and the St. Mary's Board of Trustees. Cotrell will return to teaching and scholarship at the end of his 13th year as

By the end of December, the Charlie and Abbie Cotrell Endowed Scholarship fund had already topped more than \$70,000. (For information on this and other giving opportunities, go to www.stmarytx.edu/ giving.)

#### Trustee Connections Generate Scholarships

University Trustee Norma Martinez Lozano's assistance in shepherding a scholarship proposal through the AT&T Foundation's process will help to support and retain 10 talented science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students at St. Mary's. A scholarship gift of \$10,000 from the Foundation will help junior and senior undergraduate STEM students next year who are pursuing degrees in the School of Science, Engineering and Technology.

Norma Reyes, wife of Trustee Fernando Reyes, serves as current president of Lo Bello de San Antonio Women's Club, an organization founded in 1993 with the sole aim of raising money to assist others in



From left: Thomas Madison, Ph.D.; Charles Cantú, J.D.; Jacqueline Dansby, Ph.D.; Robert Elizondo; and Charles Cotrell, Ph.D. Not pictured: the Rev. Kip Standler, S.M.

#### **Record Five Receive Marianist Award**

Each year, the Marianist Heritage Award recognizes members of the University community who, by their professional lives and personal interactions on campus, devote themselves to St. Mary's Catholic and Marianist mission. Since first presented in 1981, more than 50 faculty and staff members have been recognized.

On Jan. 24, after a Mass of Celebration, a record five members of the St. Mary's family were presented with the auspicious award for bringing alive the Characteristics of a Marianist University at St. Mary's. Recipients for 2012 included Chairman of the Board of Trustees Robert Elizondo (B.S. '67); Charles Cantú (J.D. '64), Dean of the School of Law; Thomas Madison, Ph.D., Professor of Accounting in the Bill Greehey School of Business; Jacqueline Dansby, Ph.D., Director of the Upward Bound Program; and the Rev. Charles "Kip" Stander, S.M., former University Chaplain.

When first created, the Marianist Heritage Award focused on the experience of the laity and their growing understanding of the Marianist charism. During the past 30 years, as mutual responsibility has developed among professed members of the Society of Mary, the Daughters of Mary Immaculate and lay colleagues, the need to recognize the efforts of the entire community emerged.



obtaining an education. Since its founding, Lo Bello has raised more than \$800,000 that has been awarded in scholarships to numerous educational institutions, this year including St. Mary's University. The organization has made a gift of \$10,000 to provide scholarship assistance for two firstgeneration college students.

#### St. Mary's to Partner with San Antonio Museum of Art

This spring, St. Mary's and the San Antonio Museum of Art are partnering on an exhibit featuring Texas artists. The exhibit will include University-owned paintings of the five San Antonio missions—The Alamo-San Antonio de Valero, La Purisma Concepción de Acuña, San José de Aguayo, San Francisco de las Espada, and San Juan Capistrano—by artist Jean Louis Theodore Gentilz. Gentilz taught art from 1864 to 1894 at St. Mary's College, the forerunner of St. Mary's University.

The exhibit opened in early March. Gentilz's drawings and paintings are showcased in a book titled Gentilz, Artist of the Old Southwest that was published by two former St. Mary's librarians, Dorothy Steinbomer Kendall and Carmen Perry, in 1975.

#### NCAA Elite Eight Division II Women's Championship at St. Marv's

Once again, St. Mary's has been selected by the NCAA to host a national sports event. This time it is the NCAA Elite Eight Division II Women's Championship Tournament scheduled for Monday, March 20 through Thursday, March 23, 2012, in the Alumni Athletics & Convocation Center, Bill Greehey Arena.

St. Mary's was the site for the national tournament in 2009 and the NCAA will return again to the University to host the Elite Eight in 2013.

#### Women's Soccer Rakes in Awards

A senior defensive force and a freshman offensive threat helped make for a fun women's soccer season last fall.



### Women's **Basketball Coach** is No. 1

Coach Jason Martens became the all-time wins leader for the St. Mary's women's basketball program with a stunning December victory.

Trailing with under a minute left, freshman Morgan Pullins swiped the ball away from Central Oklahoma and dashed across the court for a breakaway layup with 25 seconds left, punctuating the 63-62 triumph.

It marked win No. 102 for Martens, who passed Tom Weaaks as the winningest coach in Lady Rattler women's basketball history.

Senior defender Ashley Condrin and freshman forward Kaitie Kasperitis were named to the Daktronics Women's Soccer South Central Region Second Team. Condrin helped the Rattlers pitch four shutouts and hold opponents to 1.52 goals per game, while Kasperitis emerged as the Lady Rattlers' top goal scorer, netting 11 goals and four assists.

The two were joined by teammates Leah Snelson, Ashlyn Leighton and Amanda Cardoza on the All-Heartland Conference team, while Carolyn Martin and Annia Olivares both were named to CoSIDA's Capital One Academic All-District team for their work in the classroom.

#### Prestigious Law Organization Elects Hu and Marks

School of Law Professors Robert H. Hu, Ph.D., and Colin P. Marks, J.D., have been elected to membership in the American Law Institute (ALI). Widely considered the most prestigious law reform organization in the United States, ALI generates scholarly work to clarify and modernize the law. Hu serves as Director of the St. Mary's Sarita Kenedy East Law Library and as Co-director of the Institute of Chinese Law and Business. Marks specializes in commercial and corporate law, teaching and writing on commercial law, contracts and business associations.

#### Hufford Honored with **Humanity Award**

Larry Hufford, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science and International Relations, has been honored with the 2012 Baha'i Unity of Humanity Award for his longtime efforts to promote understanding, peace and equality. The annual award was presented by the Martin Luther King Commission during San Antonio's annual King Commission Public Award Ceremony in January. The award recognizes members of the community whose lives embody the legacy of King. Hufford's nomination noted his efforts both in the local community and globally to promote cultural understanding and human dignity.

#### St. John Named San Antonio Artist-of-the-Year

The San Antonio Art League and Museum named Chair of the Art Department Brian St. John the 2012 Artist-of-the-Year. Since 1945, the organization has sponsored an exhibition to honor and showcase the work of the Artist-of-the-Year. St. John, who has taught at St. Mary's since 1989, has academic training in both abstraction and naturalism, and is currently interested in the works produced in the late 19th century and the mid-20th century.

# Charles Cotrell and St. Mary's University

# THE SINGER A

by Carol Baass Sowa, Contributing Writer, Today's Catholic

n May, Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D., will end his 13 years as St. Mary's University president, and the adage about "the singer and the song" comes to his mind often.

With almost 30 years in administration at the University, you could say that Cotrell has been the lead singer of the St. Mary's song. However, in the coming months, he will make way for a new president and return to his first love, teaching. But the song will live on.

"There are sound and good singers, but the enduring influence is the song," Cotrell said. Continuing the metaphor, he explained that it is the charism and principles of an institution that endures, not those who lead it. "It's about the song, not the singer."

Inaugurated as the University's first lay president in 2000, Cotrell's academic career began as a student at St. Mary's, where he received his bachelor's and master's in political science in 1962 and 1964 respectively. He began teaching as an assistant professor of political science at St. Mary's in 1966, receiving his doctorate from the University of Arizona in 1970.

#### A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE

Rising through the ranks at St. Mary's as department chairman, director of the graduate program, assistant to the president for planning and institutional research, dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, vice president for Academic Affairs, interim president and, ultimately, president, Cotrell continued to teach at the University for all but three semesters during his time as an administrator. While not the norm for a university president, it has given him a unique perspective of what it means to educate for formation in faith as Marianists. Excellence in education, with emphasis on the family spirit, is a hallmark of St. Mary's, and educating for service, justice and peace is expressly elevated to a part of its educational purposes.

Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, founder of the Society of Mary, was especially adept,

Cotrell noted, at educating for adaptation to change, having to go undercover during the French Revolution when Catholicism and religion were under attack.

"We must learn to adapt to the really cataclysmic and fast-paced changes that we live in," Cotrell said, noting this is especially true for Catholic institutions in modern times.

He also believes it is necessary to focus on the education and development of students holistically, educating for their entire lives rather than just in curricular disciplines.

"We must find ways, innovatively, to make the mission live in the curriculum and on the campus."

## FULFILLING THE MARIANIST PROMISE

Cotrell is proud of the fact that the University continues to fulfill the original mission of its Marianist founders—to educate in a Catholic and Marianist educational setting the people of San Antonio and South Texas. However, the school's reach has now extended far beyond that. While 88 percent of St. Mary's students at the undergraduate level are from Texas, not all are from San Antonio. The University draws a significant number of students from Central Texas, West Texas, Dallas/Fort Worth, Austin, El Paso, the Valley and Corpus Christi.

"A secret of our success is the strength of our Catholic liberal arts core as it intersects our pre-professional programs in sciences, business, teaching, law, etc."

For the last decade, St. Mary's graduation rate has been ranked among the best in the state for both public and private schools.

In 2010, Cotrell spearheaded a program called the Four-year Pledge, in which students are encouraged to graduate within four years if their degree permits.

"That translates obviously into some sense of retention, and retention then gets back to the quality of life that we hope to have here."







Volunteers at Continuing the Heritage in August logged over 3,500 service hours.

President Cotrell has overseen many notable accomplishments at the University during his presidency.



Six national titles in basketball, baseball, softball and golf

Recognition by The Carnegie Foundation with its Community Engagement classification for institutional focus on service and civic engagement



It's never too early to spread the word about the importance of education, as Cotrell did while visiting a third-grade class in the Harlandale Independent School District.

Selection by The Princeton Review and Campus Compact as one of the nation's Colleges with a Conscience

Recognition from the John Templeton Foundation as a College that Builds Character Charlie Cotrell has been a transformational leader who has carried on the Catholic and Marianist ideals in a way that has enabled St. Mary's to grow and thrive while meeting our mission of faith, educational excellence and service.

- ROBERT ELIZONDO Chairman, St. Mary's University Board of Trustees

This also translates into successful careers, with St. Mary's graduates making their mark in both the business community and in public service, not just in Texas, but nationally.

In the last decade, the University has been highly successful in producing a call to civic engagement among St. Mary's students. Research has shown that students who are deeply engaged in service activities and their campus graduate at higher rates.

"We feel that is very much an element in Catholic and Marianist education," Cotrell said.

He adds that a recent survey by the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities found that, five to 10 years after graduation, people who were the problem solvers in their communities, the ones who really worked to effectively bring about the common good and who had strong values of service and community, were graduates of Catholic schools. This, he says, is evident in a Catholic and Marianist education.

"Our society likes to take quick 'snapshots,' which we quickly forget," he said. "I don't think that a sound developmental education is simply a snapshot; I think it is something that we have to continue to observe, continue to live."

#### NATIONAL ACCOLADES

It is that kind of education, he said, that St. Mary's aims for. He notes that *Washington Monthly* magazine has ranked St. Mary's first and second in the nation in 2010 and 2011 respectively for promoting community service, fostering scientific and humanistic research, and encouraging social mobility. This recognition is on top of another national recognition: St. Mary's last year received the White House's highest award for service by higher education institutions as one of only six to win the Presidential Award from the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

Cotrell views these rankings and honors as validation that St. Mary's is achieving what it is called to do: producing graduates who are making a difference for the better in the world. He is also pleased with the University's growth rate. In 2011, St. Mary's had its first admission waiting list, with the application pool rising from around 1,400 in 2004-2005 to more than 4,000.

He points out that the University's student body itself is in line with the mission: nearly half of St. Mary's undergrads are eligible for Pell Grants, and he sees the school's capacity to meet the needs of students in a wide socioeconomic range as validating the mission as well. All the while, U.S. News & World Report continues to rank St. Mary's among the top 10 in its "Great Schools, Great Value" category, based on great programs when compared with costs. St. Mary's student-to-faculty ratio is 13-to-1 and a high proportion of the faculty is full-time, with 92 percent having terminal degrees, he points out.

Cotrell is proud as well of the University's financial stability and facilities. The AT&T Center for Information Technology, built in the past decade, serves both the campus and the University's Neighborhood Revitalization Project. The Barrett Memorial Bell Tower serves as a central and symbolic focal point for the campus, while Java City on the Quad promotes conversation and community. There is also the University's newest residence hall, Founders Hall, and the Alumni Athletics & Convocation Center.

In 2005, there was the gift from Bill Greehey (B.B.A.'60) of \$25 million, one of the largest gifts in San Antonio history. Of that, about \$10.5 million is dedicated to student access through scholarships, and it also allowed for construction of a hands-on trading room at the school, where students manage a \$1 million investment portfolio. Historic St. Louis Hall is being renovated, with a major updating of its mechanical systems, as well as cosmetic touches. Construction is also under way on new outdoor sports facilities, which will include a renovated baseball stadium, new softball facilities, expanded and improved soccer fields and new tennis courts.

Charlie has taken that Marianist sense of service to others so that it's actively practiced, just embedded. The students know it, the faculty and staff knows it. It is what makes St. Mary's unique, and Charlie has been a great leader in fostering that. St. Mary's is a very special place and Charlie has been a true visionary and focused leader. So, it's time for him to go back to his love—teaching—and we should let him do that. But I don't envy the job of the board. How do you follow John Wayne?

- LETICIA VAN DE PUTTE Texas State Senator

#### FOCUS ON STUDENTS

Scholarships—which Cotrell called "the life blood of a strong student body"will continue to be an important part of St. Mary's focus.

"As an independent private school in the Catholic and Marianist tradition, we must be especially concerned with keeping the doors open for those who are less able to pay," he said, noting the University offers a quality education to a student body diverse in ethnicity, gender and socioeconomic status. "And those students graduate."

While the focus on quality and opportunity for students in the region has remained steadfast, the international student body has been growing by leaps and bounds. Mexico supplies the largest number of undergraduates to St. Mary's; however, most international graduate students are from India, Saudi Arabia and China. Cotrell has learned St. Mary's is on the government's preferred schools list in Saudi Arabia and sees this as an opportunity for authentic interfaith

A critical factor in providing excellence in education is having a sound endowment to create financial stability, and Cotrell's focus on this area has paid dividends. A large part of the endowment is dedicated to academic purposes, with as much as nearly \$4 million going to scholarships each year.

The University's strong alumni network has benefited current students as well, with the St. Mary's Alumni Association providing about \$300,000 yearly in scholarships, which translates to as many as 85 individual scholarships a year. When the recession hit in 2008, affecting higher education in its wake, Cotrell turned to the Alumni Association for help, resulting in a program called Access St. Mary's. To fund the program, the Association provided an additional \$400,000 for two years.

"That really had a great impact on the way in which we were able to retain a diverse and quality student body during the recession," Cotrell noted.

#### VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Cotrell is pleased to have so much progress on the goals of the two strategic plans during his presidency, including a vibrant Catholic and Marianist mission, excellence in academics, a strong student body, extended boundaries, financial stability in both scholarships and endowments, and enhanced facilities. It is particularly satisfying, he said, because the Vision 2012 strategic plan was really a community document, with everyone from the housekeeping staff, to students, professors and professional staff helping formulate it.

I would say that Dr. Cotrell is a true servant leader who shares his family spirit with the community and with the Marianist community. It is for that reason that he has been able to lead with his heart and to be so successful.

- EDWARD YBARRA JR. Principal, Central Catholic High School

"Community and collaboration and collective voice make up the 'song," he said, noting it was a very effective method for people to share in the mission in a direct way.

A key to the process, Cotrell noted, was its methodology of "listening and hearing people and taking what they have said and putting it together ... to achieve a collective purpose that really resonates."

#### **NEXT STEPS**

A search committee is in place to find the next president, with the St. Mary's Board of Trustees granting him a year's sabbatical before returning to the classroom. During his sabbatical, he and his wife Abbie will travel and visit out-of-state grandchildren, and he will explore pursuits that he set aside during his years of focusing on St. Mary's administration.

After that, he will return to teach fulltime and work in the community doing "whatever needs to be done." Although Cotrell continued to teach part-time during his administrative years, it is not the same as being a full-time professor.

"It's a wonderful experience. You always want to be in contact with young people. They're adaptive; they're the change agents."

Cotrell is looking forward to his sabbatical and to a return to the classroom.

"God willing, there's good health and a lot of life, a lot of energy left," he said. And, one could add, very definitely another verse to be sung in St. Mary's song.

"Charlie, I want to thank you for inspiring me in the classroom, in the work that I do in administration, in my research, and in becoming the academic that I would like to be."

- CELINE JACQUEMIN, PH.D. Professor of Political Science Associate Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences

The campus, San Antonio and regional communities also have consistently recognized President Cotrell for his commitment to academics and access to education; service and civic engagement; and leadership in the Marianist tradition.



After completing his term in May, Cotrell will return to the classroom, pursuing his love of teaching and scholarship.

1985	Marianist	Heritage	<b>Award</b>
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<sup>1992</sup> Distinguished Alumnus Award

1994 Henry B. Gonzalez Hispanic Achievement Award from the St. Mary's Hispanic Law Alumni Association

1995 Career Achievement Award from the American Political Science Association

2005 Began two-year term as chair of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas (ICUT)

2006 Brotherhood Humanitarian Award from the National Conference for Community and Justice

2009 Albert Peña Lifetime Achievement Award

2010 Lifetime Achievement Award from the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

His involvement in education and community organizations is widespread, including president of the NCAA Division II Heartland Conference; current U.S. Department of Education/Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities Leadership Group; and a past member of the VIA Metropolitan Transit Board of Trustees.









# marianist manianist mentum mentum we all have a part olay St. Mary's University's expression

by Brother Brian C. Halderman, S.M., University Minister for Social Justice of its Catholic and Marianist identity is central to our mission and daily existence; however, the presence of professed Marianists on the St. Mary's campus has been in a steady decline in recent years. I am often asked how we will ensure that the Marianist charism remains alive, given that decline. The answer, I believe, is clear when you look closely at both the history of the Marianist movement and the reality of St. Mary's today. Marianist is more than a word, it is an expression of values and behavior, at the core of which is community the family spirit that is so palpable on our campus. Being Marianist is about inclusivity and welcoming all to the table of dialogue among equal partners. It is about being centered in our faith in Jesus Christ and seeking Mary's guidance and wisdom in all that we do. It is from this community that we are missioned to create a synthesis of faith and culture and to be agents of change in our world.

#### BEING MARIANIST

To understand St. Mary's and our mission takes understanding the history and foundation of the Marianists. While the brothers and sisters are fewer in number today, the Marianist family is stronger than ever with thousands of committed lay people carrying forth the vision of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade.

The Marianist family began with a lay movement in Bordeaux, France, following the French Revolution; in essence, our current reality is a return to the roots of our foundation. The faculty, housekeeping, administrators—we all have a part to play in advancing the mission. As Father Chaminade said, "We are all missionaries." In other words, the dedication to being Marianist goes beyond the religious, and it is required of all of us on campus.

I am always heartened to read the stories of our graduates who have understood that their St. Mary's education was about more than being prepared for the workforce; rather, it is about understanding the importance of community in our lives and embracing a mission for the common good.

#### THE CHALLENGE FOR TODAY

Implementing our Catholic and Marianist identity and living our mission means forming young men and women in their faith and helping them make connections between their lived faith and the world of work that they prepare for academically. It is our hope that they will see the world with new eyes after their time at St. Mary's. We want them to challenge and question and examine carefully how their work and lives will advance the common good. What will their contributions be to the betterment of humankind? How will they advance the kingdom of God on earth?

The work we do every day at St. Mary's advances justice and the common good through our commitment to social mobility of young people, especially those from ethnic minorities or lower socioeconomic status. Our commitment to providing scholarships and carefully guiding students through their academic careers is an example of us living out our mission. Our commitment to the broader San Antonio community through service and social action is also a very visible way of living out our mission. The many recognitions we have received in the past year are an affirmation of that work, and we must continue in that direction.

Do I worry about the future of our Catholic and Marianist identity on campus? No, because I have witnessed the strong commitment of students, faculty and staff in living our mission in innumerable ways over the past several years. The young people who embrace the Marianist charism and integrate it into their lives have impressed me. I have met many young alumni who

consider themselves "Marianist" and have a desire to live a faith life grounded in community and committed to the common good.

#### COMING FULL CIRCLE

There is no question that the Marianist presence on our campus will be different in the future, but it will remain faithful to the vision of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, founder of the Marianist family, in that it will be carried forth by committed laity. Father Chaminade began the Marianist movement with a group of lay people concerned about the future of the Church in France, and the story comes full circle to a time in our Church history when religious vocations are plateauing, and the role of the laity in continuing the mission becomes paramount.

I, and the other members of the Casa Maria Marianist Community located on the St. Mary's campus, recently hosted five young men for a "vocation live-in experience."

> In the past several years, through the efforts of our Office of Mission and Identity, we have worked to develop a cohort of Marianist Educational Associates (MEA) on our campus. These are faculty and staff members who commit themselves to sustaining and enriching our Catholic and Marianist ideals. They are asked to deepen their understanding of, and their commitment to, the Catholic and Marianist story of St. Mary's University. They study, read and reflect on the rich charism of the Marianists and our history. MEAs have the role of asking difficult questions, of challenging our University community and of affirming future directions that are mission-centered.

For more information about the St. Mary's Office of Mission and Identity, and University Ministry, go to www.stmarytx.edu/Marianist.

Over the course of a week, they experienced the rhythm of our prayer life, meals and recreation that we share. During an evening session on the topic of the Marianist charism, I was surprised at how well they articulated the pillars of our charism: faith, mission, community, inclusivity and Mary. They shared how the Marianist charism has been integrated into their academic and spiritual journeys. It was a great affirmation to the brothers gathered that the Marianist charism does indeed make a difference on this campus.

We are blessed to have alumni, students, faculty and staff who understand that they have an important role in continuing the legacy of Blessed Chaminade and the many holy Marianist religious and laity who have gone before us.

Brother Brian C. Halderman, S.M., serves as the University Minister for Social Justice in University Ministry and teaches as an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Sociology. This is his fourth year at St. Mary's University.



ARMY SURGEON INSTRUMENTAL IN OPENING OF THE CENTER FOR THE INTREPID

by Gina Farrell, Director of Media Relations and Social Media

WHEN MARK BAGG (B.A. '81) LOOKS BACK ON HIS 26-YEAR CAREER AS AN ORTHOPAEDIC HAND SURGEON IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY, HE HAS PLENTY TO BE PROUD OF.

Perhaps the most high profile of his accomplishments is the now-retired colonel's role in the development of the Center for the Intrepid, a world-class \$65 million facility built in San Antonio to rehabilitate wounded warriors dealing with burns and amputations. All eyes were on the Center for its grand opening in 2007, which was more like a movie premier than a medical facility unveiling, complete with a red carpet, movie stars and high-ranking government leaders celebrating this innovation in military medical care.

The path that led Bagg to his distinguished military career and that star-studded event in 2007 started many years before. His affiliation with the U.S. Armed Forces began as a child. The son of a military surgeon, Bagg's family moved around often before settling in El Paso where Mark graduated from high school. Although he considered other colleges, including the University of Notre Dame, a full ROTC scholarship sealed his decision to attend St. Mary's University.

After graduating summa cum laude from St. Mary's in 1981, Bagg attended medical school at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He was assigned to San Antonio in 1996 as Chief of Hand Surgery at Brooke Army Medical Center (B.A.M.C.), later becoming Chief of the Orthopaedic Surgery Service and Residency Program Director, and then the first Chair of the Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation, which he helped establish.

The development of that department—one of the first in the military to integrate orthopaedics and rehabilitation into a single line of care—is what became the de facto precursor to the Center for the Intrepid. When asked about how he came to be integrally involved in the Center, Bagg's response was a humble one: "It was just being in the right place at the right time. I have been fortunate to have been involved in something like this."

Being in the right place at the right time meant that he had already set up a center at B.A.M.C. very similar to what the Intrepid would become, but on a smaller scale. When pressed for more information, Bagg starts a story that at first

seems unrelated, beginning several years before he ever heard of plans for the Center.

#### FROM THE BEGINNING

The advent of advanced body armor for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has saved many lives, but also has meant that more service members returned from combat with extensive injuries to their extremities, including burns, shattered bones and lost limbs. During the Vietnam era, the survival rate for wounded warriors was about 75 percent; but in Iraq and Afghanistan, it was much closer to 90 percent. That shift in the type of medical care most needed by combat veterans—which happened to be timed near the welldocumented problems with wounded warrior care at the now-closed Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.—led the Department of Defense to start to think differently about how to care for warriors during complicated recoveries.

"When you have someone with these extreme injuries, you can either keep them close to their home for family support, or you can put them together in one place so that they can learn from each other," Bagg said. "What we have found is that there is strength in creating a program where the injured are able to support each other."



Above: Bagg, pictured here in the library of the Hand Center of San Antonio, discusses his role in the development of the Center for the Intrepid.

Left: Bagg made plaster casts of his three eldest daughters' hands when they were children, and fittingly keeps the casts on the shelf of his office.

#### THE RIGHT PLACE, THE RIGHT TIME

Bagg's work at B.A.M.C. integrating orthopaedics and rehabilitation, as well as his development of just the second Department of Defense Amputee Care Center, got the attention of military leaders in Washington. When philanthropist Arnold Fisher indicated that he wanted to spearhead the development of what would become the Center for the Intrepid, the U.S. Surgeon General asked for Bagg's counsel on where it should be built. Bagg suggested San Antonio. (The Fisher family is best known for the creation of the Fisher Houses, which are located near major military medical centers to give families of wounded warriors comfortable places to stay during rehabilitation.)

As he tells it, Fisher flew into San Antonio, took one look at the field in front of B.A.M.C. that Bagg was recommending and said that this was where facility should be built. From there, the project moved fast. The Center took \$65 million to build and equip, but cost the government nothing.

"There were so many donations, and not one penny of it came from U.S. tax dollars. It was 100 percent through private donations," Bagg said.

More than 600,000 individual donations went into raising money to build the Center.

Bagg's role was to develop plans for the rehabilitation section of the Center—a major undertaking that was done in a mere three months. The construction was rapid, going from idea to opening in just more than a year.

#### WAR EFFORT

Before his role in the Center, Bagg had numerous other high-profile assignments. From 2003 to 2006, he served as the Orthopaedic Surgery Consultant to the U.S. Army Surgeon General, and made several trips to Iraq and Afghanistan in that capacity, including one to Baghdad soon after the start of the Iraq war. Throughout his career, Bagg has made a significant impact on the care given to wounded service members.

He is most proud that he was able to volunteer for his final deployment to Afghanistan in 2006 with the 758th Forward Surgical Team, a deployment that put him much closer to the wounded

warriors he had been serving.

"In many ways, that was the most important for me. I could have retired then, but I stayed on active duty so that I could deploy," Bagg said.

When he returned from that deployment, Bagg began his final military assignment as Director of the Center for the Intrepid, before retiring and going into private practice at The Hand Center of San Antonio. While he loved his military career, Bagg said the transition to civilian life was a smooth one, and he is enjoying his practice and more time with his family, including his wife Karen and their five children.

#### A FOUNDATION IN **SERVICE**

As an Army officer and a physician, Bagg's professional life has been focused on serving others, something he attributed in no small part to St. Mary's. Last year, the St. Mary's University Alumni Association recognized Bagg's many contributions by honoring him with a 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award.

"St. Mary's is very much known for being a place where service is important. And in the ROTC, it was just a part of the education we received," he said. "It was a great education and I made a lot of wonderful friends."

# SHE DELIVERS

#### CEO KEEPS HER WORD TO SAVE TAXPAYER DOLLARS AND IMPROVE LIVES

by Rosemary Segura, Web and Print Communications Coordinator

Few people's to-do lists include training flight surgeons, setting up military computer networks, and responding to lifethreatening pandemics. But these are only a sampling of a routine day for Mary Ellen Londrie (B.B.A. '92), CEO of P3S Corporation—a San Antonio-based company that provides solutions for the government's day-to-day operations needs.

While she may consider this a "normal day," Londrie in no way takes her job lightly. She views each day as an opportunity to make life better for others. Agencies including the Center for Disease Control, the Department of Homeland Security and all branches of the United States Armed Forces, rely on P3S to help them accomplish their objectives on budget, and on time. By doing just that, Londrie and her team have made a name for themselves saving millions in federal funds.

#### A LEAP OF FAITH

Nine years ago, Londrie oversaw the procurement of contracted services for the federal government as the COO and Vice President for the United States Department of Treasury Franchise Fund. But she often observed that contractors would promise to deliver results, but would not follow through.

Time and again, vendors failed to fulfill the terms of their contracts, laying waste to astronomical amounts of taxpayer dollars. She decided she had seen enough: if contractors wouldn't shape up, she would become the competition.

Londrie paid off all of her debt, saved up \$1,000, and to the shock of friends and colleagues, left her GS-15 level position, the highest-paid position on the civil service pay

She then started P3S Corporation from her home—her kitchen table to be exact. And, what started in 2005 as a home-based, single-employee business, grew into a thriving, minority-female-owned company providing government support in the areas of information technology, financial management and healthcare services.

"Our team consists of professionals in a variety of areas," she says, describing P3S today. "We employ computer programmers, certified public accountants, biologists and epidemiologists."

With 25 offices located in the United States and in Puerto Rico, her company currently employs a team of more than 350, with estimated revenues surpassing \$25 million.

#### HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Londrie grew up in poverty along the Texas coast in Port Isabel, a small town in the Rio Grande Valley. There she caught the entrepreneurial spirit early.

As a child, she tagged along with her father who worked handyman jobs around town to provide for her family. Clients often bartered with her father rather than offering conventional payment, and she recalls how her parents' resourcefulness taught her valuable life lessons.

"As kids, we'd look at the pie or the chicken someone gave my dad as payment and wonder what we were supposed to do with it," she recalls. "But my dear mother would get so excited. She could make anything out of everything.'

A good student in school, Londrie always knew that she would attend college someday. It was the tight-knit faith community that drew her to St. Mary's University. As a corporate finance major, she met now-retired Professor of Languages Ruben Candia, Ph.D., who recommended her for the Outstanding Scholars Program. Competition was fierce in the federal government program created to help qualified but under-represented groups of college graduates earn upper entry-level civil service jobs. But unsurprisingly, Londrie was selected, thus beginning her 12-year federal career.

#### AWARD-WINNING SUCCESS

Following her rise to the top of the civil service arena, Londrie continued on a path of success. P<sup>3</sup>S grew nearly 5,900 percent from its inception in 2005 to 2008. In 2010, during a ceremony at the White House, the U.S. Small Business Administration recognized P3S as the Texas Hispanic Small Business of the Year.

That same year, the San Antonio Business Journal selected P<sup>3</sup>S for its list of Top 50 Private Companies. P<sup>3</sup>S was also ranked by Inc. 500 as the 17th Fastest Growing Company in the nation, first among Hispanic-owned small businesses and first among women-run firms.



Through unflagging dedication to her company's mission, vision and values, Mary Ellen Londrie has led P<sup>3</sup>S Corporation to become an award-winning, minorityowned business with a reputation for saving the federal government millions in taxpayer dollars.

#### MAKING GOOD ON HER WORD

"Do what you say you're going to do," she states matter-of-factly. "While I managed procurement for the government, I quickly learned how easy it is for a salesperson to say whatever's necessary to win when competing for a government contract, but many often fail to deliver. With the government turning its focus toward performance-based contracting, federal employees and government contractors are being held responsible for increased productivity. We [at P<sup>3</sup>S] do what we promise."

And it has worked. P3S (an acronym for performance, productivity and powerful solutions) has earned its reputation for saving millions of taxpayer dollars. In turn, the company wins greater numbers of contracts, which translates to increased revenue. Londrie shares the benefits of those revenues with the entire P3S team.

A commitment to improving the quality of life for each team member is written into the organization's mission, vision and values statement. It's evidenced, Londrie shares, by the fact that her employees are compensated well and never feel disconnected even though they're dispersed throughout the country.

Despite the geographical distance, she fosters a sense of community, something she picked up from her time as an undergraduate.

"Personal attention is something I learned while at St. Mary's. It was great to be at a university where every professor, and even many of the administrators, knew my name. It provided such a sense of belonging. I never felt like I was just a number."

#### COMPELLED TO GIVE BACK

Londrie understands that no person achieves success alone, and she doesn't count herself as an exception.

"God has always put the right people in my path, even people I never saw or knew."

Grateful for the generosity she received throughout her lifetime, she has an extensive list of charitable organizations with which P<sup>3</sup>S partners.

"I received the best education because of scholarships that were funded by generous people. I've had some great opportunities, which have helped me get to where I am today. And I never want to forget where I, and this company, have come from. It's what compels me to give back."

Whether it has been providing internship opportunities for St. Mary's students in the Greehey Scholars Program, mentoring other small business owners on how to successfully work with the federal government, or adopting a needy family for Christmas through a local church, Londrie urges her team at P3S to be active members in society.

"I hope it's making a difference by improving the quality of people's lives like other people did for me."



BLIND AMBITION

A Law Student's Quest for Equality

by Beth Barbee, Law News and Information Coordinator

Robert Dittman is in many ways a typical law student: a determined overachiever who strives to be the best and will not take "no" for an answer.



Above: Dittman at work as a Coast Guard Auxiliarist. Right: Justice Nathan L. Hecht and Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson, Supreme Court of Texas, and Sen. John Cornyn (J.D. '77) with Dittman and Snickers at a State Bar of Texas event.



In other ways there's nothing typical about him.

Born prematurely, the blood vessels to his eyes never had the chance to develop, and he was born blind.

If navigating through a legal education seems challenging for a blind student, it is par for the course for Dittman. To him, it is a necessity taking him one step closer to his goal of becoming a Judge Advocate General (JAG) in the United States Coast Guard.

'The U.S. military has never allowed someone with the pre-existing condition of blindness to become a JAG officer," said Dittman. "I want to change that."

#### Adding to his list of 'firsts'

Spend five minutes with Dittman, and you'll believe he will accomplish that goal. He talks passionately about reaching higher and dreaming bigger. He spouts facts and codes and explains that there are currently seven blind JAG officers across the U.S. military branches. They all lost sight during their service and were allowed to stay on. According to the Code of Federal Regulations, any physical defect may be waived. Dittman wants to break down that barrier and add it to his list of firsts.

"This is the last vestige of segregation," he said. "If I am qualified in all areas and ready to enthusiastically serve, why should I be relegated to civil service? I want to do that same job, but I want to do it in uniform."

A singer-songwriter and guitar player who has skydived, bungee-jumped and water-skiied, it seems not being sighted is merely a nuisance in his path. He earned an associate's degree in radio, TV and film production from San Antonio College and a bachelor's degree in mass communications from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

He was the first blind Eagle Scout in Bexar County, the first blind person to complete a basic indoctrination training course in the U.S. Coast Guard (it is believed he is the only blind person to complete basic training in any military branch), and he is the first and only blind person to serve on a boat in the Coast Guard. He served on the Coast Guard Cutter Dallas in May 2002.

#### Increasing diversity and empowering the disabled

Dittman will complete his legal education at the St. Mary's School of Law next fall and, upon graduation, plans on applying to all areas of the service if the

Coast Guard won't take him. He has already finished an externship with the United States Coast Guard District 8 Legal Office. He was sworn in as a Coast Guard Auxiliarist (their version of National Guard) on Sept. 11, 2001. Thanks to his communications background, extensive skills in ham radio and Morse code, and letters of recommendation from his Boy Scout leader, state senators, and Texas Gov. Rick Perry, he was accepted into the Texas State Guard.

His current assignment is as a member of the Commandant's Diversity Advisory Council which convenes at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C. In this role, he works to increase the diversity of the Coast Guard work force of active duty, reserve, civilian and auxiliary personnel. He also serves as an adviser concerning matters related to the disabled.

Along with serving on a ship and completing a reserve enlisted basic indoctrination course, Dittman is a graduate of the Coast Guard's Instructor Development School. He has been awarded three Commandant's Letters of Commendation, three Auxiliary Sustained Service Awards, a Presidential Unit Citation and seven other service awards.

#### Pushing life to the limits

At St. Mary's, Dittman has been making the most of his law school experience. He participated in the St. Mary's Institute on World Legal Problems where he and his seeing-eye dog, Snickers, lived in Innsbruck, Austria, for a month while studying and traveling around Europe. He was a research fellow for the St. Mary's Center for Terrorism Law, where he researched the area of threats and wrote a number of papers, including one on how the federal government could make full use of the volunteer Coast Guard Auxiliary if a terror threat were to enter through a port.

One of his favorite law school experiences is working as a student attorney in the Civil Justice Clinic.

"My plans are to finish law school and continue to push life to its limits," said Dittman. "To dare to dream, and give as good as I get. I hope to open doors for future disabled children so they can enjoy as much life as everyone else without the walls of prejudice, misunderstanding or fear blocking them from their goals."

# The Hall Calls

by Chad Peters, Sports Information Coordinator

Stan Bonewitz (B.A. '68) and Leticia Morales-Bissaro (B.A. '86)

join the San Antonio Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2012

If Stan Bonewitz had gotten his wish 40-some years ago, the longtime high school basketball coach might never have entered the San Antonio Hall of Fame on the merits of a decorated career on the hardwood.

"I would have liked a career in baseball," said Bonewitz (B.A. '68), who played both baseball and basketball for the Rattlers and was inducted into the St. Mary's Athletics Hall of Fame in 1985 as a basketball player.

"My first two years at St. Mary's, I was real good in baseball. The last two years," he said, chuckling, "I could have sworn I had a hole in my bat."

With his swing providing diminishing returns, Bonewitz switched gears and followed his other love, playing and coaching basketball. A coaching legend at East Central High School in San Antonio, he led the team to the 1995 Class 5A State Championship.

Leticia Morales-Bissaro (B.A.'86), though, never sought an alternative to the diamond.

A softball pitcher through and through, she proved a pioneer of sorts at St. Mary'sand for the sport. Leading the Rattlers to the 1986 NAIA national championship (the first national title in St. Mary's history) her senior year, Morales-Bissaro's All-American career helped pave the road for a Rattlers program that would go on to win the 2002 NCAA Division II national championship and remain in contention nationally long thereafter.

"I take a lot of pride in that, personally," Morales-Bissaro said. "I don't talk about it too much, but when I hear people tell me, 'You're the one who started it. You all did it!'-it just really means a lot."

Recently, both Morales-Bissaro and Bonewitz were honored on the grandest of stages for what they meant not only to St. Mary's, but to the Alamo City as a whole.

#### **Bonewitz, Morales-Bissaro** among San Antonio's elite

The two were among the San Antonio Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2012 inductees during the Feb. 10 ceremony at the Alamodome. Also inducted this year were former San Antonio Spurs great Bruce Bowen, former NFL Pro Bowl player David Hill and Lt. Col. John Russell, a noted U.S. equestrian leader.

"It still hasn't sunk in," said Morales-Bissaro, who now serves as the Associate Director of Undergraduate Admission at St. Mary's. "It's just a very prestigious award. When you win something like this, you can't help but look back at your younger years and really reminisce."

Some may call it happenstance that two Rattlers were among the San Antonio Sports Hall of Fame in the same year, but after recalling their remarkable careers, it was only a matter of time before both received the call.

A legend in every sense of the word, Morales-Bissaro was the first St. Mary's female athlete inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame and remains the only Lady Rattler to have her jersey number retired. She was also inducted into the National Hispanic Sports Hall of Fame in 2001.

Morales-Bissaro took St. Mary's to a national championship in 1986, winning the NAIA national crown with a record-setting performance that has stood the test of time. She still holds numerous national tournament records, including most strikeouts (65), most complete games (8), most appearances (8) and most wins (7).

A two-time NAIA All-American. Morales-Bissaro finished with 64 career wins and 677 career strikeouts from 1983 to 1986, and was the Rattlers' Most Valuable Player all

It was the kind of career that began to come into focus late in her junior season, but she would be challenged to overcome an unexpected hurdle.

#### St. Mary's first national title won despite obstacles

Before heading to Indianapolis for the national tournament in 1985, the Rattlers were practicing on Mother's Day when Morales-Bissaro took a hard-hit groundball off her right hand.

It left her with torn tendons in a finger, an injury that certainly made it a challenge to pitch at the national tournament.

"That was the year I made First Team All-American, and I went to a banquet where I'm receiving an honor with a swollen right finger," said Morales-Bissaro of an injury that continues to bother her to this day. "Then, in the games, I couldn't throw my rise ball or my drop. I only had my fastball and my changeup.'

But what she was able to do with just those two pitches made her realize what could be in store the next year.

"I wasn't healthy, but I was still able to strike out players," Morales-Bissaro said. "After that tournament, throughout the whole next year I thought, 'If I'm healthy, we're going to win this thing.'That's when I realized we had a chance."

Her daughter, Maricela Bissaro, is now a Rattler herself and wears her mother's temporarily unretired No. 24 for the softball team.

#### Local high school team earned statewide attention

Bonewitz, too, proved to be a winner throughout, even when facing obstacles.

A high school coaching legend in Texas, Bonewitz won 708 games over his 36 years as a high school basketball coach, including taking East Central to the state championship in 1995 with a perfect 35-0 record.

Despite entering the state tournament unbeaten, Bonewitz still recalls the skepticism his squad faced before beating Dallas Carter 108-86 in the state title game.

"The [Dallas] metroplex had a complete hold over basketball," Bonewitz said. "We had a lot of skeptics who looked at our schedule and felt like we played [weaker opponents]. Winning that title was good for San Antonio basketball."

#### Bonewitz's path to coaching serendipitous

Bonewitz was a four-year baseball and basketball player in the 1960s at St. Mary's, where he learned all about coaching under a pair of icons: Basketball Coach Ed Messbarger and Baseball Coach Elmer Kosub.

Incidentally, the career path of another Rattler great, Buddy Meyer—Bonewitz's teammate at St. Mary's for one seasonended up influencing Bonewitz's own coaching path.

"When I graduated, I went to coach at St. Gerard," said Bonewitz, who, like Morales-Bissaro, was a San Antonio native and a graduate of St. Gerard High School. "Buddy was coaching at Antonian but left for St. Mary's to be the assistant. The coach at St. Gerard then went to Antonian, opening up the basketball job there at St. Gerard.

"I got a head start. Instead of waiting, I was able to take over a program right away."

Best known for the creative style of play he instilled at East Central, where he coached for 24 seasons before retiring in 2005, Bonewitz's teams made a habit of running the opposition out of the gym by pressing on defense and running on offense.

"I really enjoyed playing baseball," said Bonewitz, an impact basketball player during his days at St. Mary's, which included averaging 9.3 points and 7.8 rebounds as a freshman. "But coaching, I always liked basketball. There's more constant activity, more creativity."

Both Bonewitz and Morales-Bissaro are living proof that, with a little creativity and determination, the St. Mary's Rattlers can push through even the most daunting detours and build famed careers.

After recalling their
remarkable careers, it was only a
matter of time before
both received the call.

St. Mary's legends Leticia Morales-Bissaro (left) and Stan Bonewitz were inducted this month into the San Antonio Sports Hall of Fame.



# Winning Hearts and Minds in War-torn **Communities** HOW A FORMER MARINE'S WEST-AFRICAN JOURNEY

SHAPED THE WAY HE EFFECTS POSITIVE CHANGE

by Nicolette Good, Associate Editor

There was no chow hall. Internet was not easily accessible on this mission supporting the United Nations. For Carlo Niño, a U.S. Marine at the time, this was a hazardous and unusual deployment in Liberia outside the comforts of a military base.

"We cobbled together a generator. I used a water filter to drink from a trashcan that we filled up daily from a local creek. It was sweltering hot at night, and in the distance you could hear the drums of people praying—a sort of mixture of Christianity and local tribal beliefs, something of a cousin to Santeria."

It was in 2005, there in West Africa, that Niño's beliefs about our nation's foreign policy and what it means to serve—forever changed.



A few years before working in Liberia, Niño (B.A. '96, M.A. '02) was serving in Afghanistan while simultaneously completing a master's in International Relations via correspondence, thanks to the support of Political Science Professor Larry Hufford, Ph.D.

As Hufford told the Gold & Blue in 2002, "Any student that determined and disciplined (to finish his degree), I'm going to go out of my way and help."

It was just after the September 11 attacks, and Niño's experience in the Afghan desert left him with a lot of questions about war and his role in it.

"I was very patriotic from one point of view, but only as an extension of imposing U.S. foreign policy," he recalls.

Niño left the Middle East and graduated in 2002, then studied at the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, Calif., before being sent to the Pentagon to analyze the Marine Corps budget.

"I wasn't completely happy sitting behind a desk at the Pentagon while my brothers and sisters were fighting in Iraq."

Confident he would get to return to the "tip of the spear" where he felt he was most needed, Niño volunteered whenever a mission came up. But when he was sent to Liberia to work with the United Nations (UN) as an observer in a noncombat environment, he was forced to reevaluate his idea of effecting positive change.

#### LIGHTNING IN A BOTTLE

Niño was admittedly impatient with the UN, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and other volunteer expatriates before his West African journey.

"When you come from a community of warfighters like the Marines, you have a very bold and stark approach to problem solving," says the San Antonio native who now calls California home.

Without a weapon slung across his back and the power that had once given him, Niño had to learn how to employ new and different skills in order to be effective in Liberia—an area that had been traumatized by physical violence, frequently by people in uniform.

This education was not an easy one for Niño. "Knowing how to keep my mouth shut and ears open has never been a key asset of mine, but I learned that you can discover a lot about people who are trying to accomplish the same things if you see the tools they work with, especially those that accomplish the winning of hearts and minds without coercion."

From building consensus among disparate groups to including disenfranchised people in projects and discussions, Niño observed expats outside the context of the military mastering these methods based in engagement and support.

"Over time I developed a respect for the many expats who entered troubled hotspots without the benefit of a gun, who had lived amongst war-torn communities, and often

who continued for years without seeing results. Liberia was the key turning point for me. I have kept trying to re-capture the lightning in a bottle from that deployment."

#### THE TIP OF A DIFFERENT SPEAR

As Niño's views on service shifted, so did his methods.

"I began to realize I had a stronger role to play in some key areas where I was limited with the military. I could still assist the goals and aims of U.S. foreign policy, but it didn't require me jumping out of an armored personnel carrier."

But Niño's experience on both sides of the military base gave him a distinct advantage when faced with difficult assignments.

"I could access the military's Provincial Reconstruction Teams and Civil Affairs Teams, and I could live on a base and know how to find things that it might take a civilian longer to locate. I was trained to live, work and operate in kinetic environments while many expats and NGO workers were used to working primarily in post-conflict locales."

Straddling this line seemed to be where Niño found himself most valuable. After leaving the Marines in 2009, he reconnected with several St. Mary's graduates from Hufford's classes who were working in international aid for the United States Agency for International Development

"Seeing how local sustainability projects worked, like the Red Cross Family Tracing program and the UN Refugee Agency, really expanded my world. It was something I wanted to belong to. I found that niche when a USAID contractor hired me to fill that role. I was a hybrid."

Today Niño works in Kabul, Afghanistan, forming and nurturing meetings (called jirgas) between local stakeholders on behalf of USAID.

Niño's team helps the community elect a council and seek recognition from the provincial governor. In the past year, they have formed more than 100 of these councils and empowered them to communicate with their provincial counterparts.

"It's a very fragile process filled with your average dangers of voting fraud, corruption, nepotism, etc. Democracy looks great on paper, but anything worth having requires sacrifice from everyone."

That is a sentiment he tries to share with the communities he works with in Afghanistan, but after both his military and civilian experiences abroad, it's a message he can take back home,

"The value of multilateralism is something my experiences in Liberia taught me. America can't just go it alone. It's cliché, but the international community is just that: a family of nations."

Carlo Niño plans to enroll in an International Relations doctoral program and eventually move to London with his fiancée, whom he met on a plane en route to one of his global missions.









Aside from a modest contingent of foreign troops from Bolivia, Ghana and Pakistan, Niño's only other companion while deployed on his UN mission in Liberia was Sir Wellington, a small sooty mangabey monkey.

Left: Niño is pictured here near Monterey, Calif., where he returns to relax, regroup, and spend time with his fiancé. "Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel, Big Sur ... they are all such beautiful locations. They are the only places that can serve as a counter-weight to a lot of experiences that sometimes I'd rather forget. Sunsets in Monterey will allow you to forget just about anything.

# class notes

#### 1950s

1958 Woodson A. Huggins, B.B.A., and his wife, Annette, San Antonio, were invested with the ranks of Knight and Lady into the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, a Catholic chivalric order dedicated to supporting the Church in the Holy Land.

1959 Maurice J. Fox III, B.S., San Antonio, has "finally retired" after an engineering career, most recently with Northrop Grumman.

#### 1960s

1960 Edward V. Dylla, B.A., L.L.B., San Antonio, finished the 2011 San Antonio Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon, his fourth consecutive, in 2:11:47.

1964 Dean Charles E. Cantú, L.L.B., San Antonio, a 1957 graduate of Marshall High School, was recognized by the Northside Independent School District (N.I.S.D.) as one of its 2011 Pillars of Character. The annual award recognizes N.I.S.D. graduates who represent the six character traits taught to N.I.S.D. students. Frank Herrera Jr., B.A., J.D. '67, and his wife, Cecilia Elizondo-Herrera, San Antonio, were invested with the ranks of Knight and Lady into the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, a Catholic chivalric order dedicated to supporting the Church in the Holy Land.

1965 Carlos R. Orozco, M.D., B.A., San Antonio, a medical director of Respiratory Care at Nix Memorial Hospital, was honored at the 2011 ICONS in Healthcare gala benefiting CentroMed, a healthcare nonprofit agency.

1967 Thomas M. Braniff, B.B.A., J.D. '70, Houston, has been appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to the Joint Interim Committee to Study Seacoast Territory Insurance. Ralph Yzaguirre, B.A., and his wife Laura, San Antonio, were promoted to the ranks of Knight Commander with Star and Lady Commander with Star in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, a Catholic chivalric order dedicated to supporting the Church in the Holy Land.

#### 1970s

1970 Edward M. Johnson, J.D., San Antonio, has been named chairman of the American Anti-Cancer Institute's Advisory Board.

1971 The Rev. David H. Garcia, B.A., San Antonio, who holds two graduate degrees from the University of Notre Dame, received the Rev. John J. Cavanaugh, C.S.C. Award from the Notre Dame Alumni Association.

1972 Deacon Patrick M. Clancey Jr., B.A., M.A. '79, and Deacon Gerardo A. Mechler, B.A., both of San Antonio, celebrated the 25th anniversary of their ordinations as Permanent Deacons for the Archdiocese of

San Antonio. W. Tom Howard, B.A., Houston, retired from Hewlett-Packard Co. where he was worldwide manager of marketing services for the company's notebook computer division. Richard G. Thomas, J.D., Richardson, a partner at Thomas, Feldman & Wilshusen LLP in Dallas, has been selected as a fellow of the American College of Construction Lawyers. Henry P. "Pete" Van de Putte Jr., B.A., San Antonio, president of Dixie Flag Manufacturing Co., was inducted into the International Festival & Events Association Hall of Fame and the Texas Association of Fairs and Events Hall of Fame.

1974 George B. Hernandez Jr., B.A., San Antonio, president and CEO of the University Health System, was honored at the 2011 ICONS in Healthcare gala benefiting CentroMed, a healthcare nonprofit agency.

1976 James I. Ducote, B.B.A., Houston, is a business development consultant with Joule Processing LLC.

1977 The Hon. Robert E. Corlew III. J.D., Milton. Tenn., has been elected to a two-year term as a director of the International Association of Lions Clubs. Col. Jamie P. Houston, B.A., D.M.D., Elgin, S.C., was awarded the Legion of Merit and named Commander, Dental Activity, at Fort Jackson, S.C.

1978 Ronald C. Bowman, B.A., M.S. '80, Boerne, city manager of Boerne, has been elected to the American Public Power Association's Board of Directors. Lawrence A. **Waks, J.D.,** Austin, a partner at Jackson Walker LLP, has been named to the *Best Lawyers in* America 2012 legal directory.

1979 Mary Etlinger DeLay, B.A., San Antonio, chief of staff to the president of the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, was a 2011 San Antonio Business Journal Women's Leadership Awards recipient. Peter E. Hosey, J.D., San Antonio, a partner with Jackson Walker LLP, has been named to the San Antonio Business Journal Outstanding Lawyers

#### 1980s

1981 Patrick B. Tobin, J.D., San Antonio, a partner at Jackson Walker LLP, has been named to the Best Lawyers in America 2012 legal

1982 Mary M. Thomas, J.D., San Antonio, was promoted to the rank of Lady Grand Cross in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, a Catholic chivalric order dedicated to supporting the Church in the Holy Land. Gerardo A. Vergara, D.C., B.A., Manhattan, Kan., is a staff chiropractor at the Irwin Army Community Hospital at Fort Riley.

1983 Laura Surovic, J.D., and her husband, Gregory, San Antonio, were promoted to

the ranks of Lady Commander and Knight Commander in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, a Catholic chivalric order dedicated to supporting the Church in the Holy Land.

1984 Patricia Hubert Booth, J.D., Corpus Christi, was invested with the rank of Lady into the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, a Catholic chivalric order dedicated to supporting the Church in the Holy Land. J. Matthew Dow, J.D., Austin, managing partner of the Austin Office of Jackson Walker LLP, has been named to the Best Lawyers in America 2012 legal directory. Anthony R. Jimenez, B.A.S., Great Falls, Va., founder of MicroTech LLC, was named to the Hispanic Business Magazine 2011 Most Influential Hispanics in America list. Katherine M. Sisoian, M.A., San Antonio, vice president for Student Development at St. Mary's University, was a 2011 San Antonio Business Journal Women's Leadership Awards recipient.

1986 Christopher M. Flood, J.D., Houston, and John T. Flood, J.D. '90, Corpus Christi, were selected for the 2011 Texas Super Lawyers list of the state's top attorneys. They are partners in Flood & Flood, along with their brother Charles. Mary T. Green, J.D., San Antonio, was named Prosecutor of the Year by the Texas District and County Attorneys Association. Green has been an assistant district attorney in the Bexar County District Attorney's Office for 25 years. Lama A. Kamal, B.A., Amman, Jordan, is a teacher in the English Programme at Amman Baccalaureate School. Mary R. Peters, B.B.A., La Coste, associate director of the University of Texas at San Antonio Small Business Development Center, was a 2011 San Antonio Business Journal Women's Leadership Awards recipient. Janelle M. Sykes, B.B.A., San Antonio, chief financial officer for C.H. Guenther & Son Inc., was honored at the 2011 San Antonio Business Journal Best CFO Awards

1987 The Hon. Carol Villarreal Bush, J.D., Waxahachie, County Judge of Ellis County, has been appointed by Texas Gov. Rick Perry to the Texas Juvenile Justice Board.

1988 Aracely (Palomares) Neeley, B.A., Houston, a licensed clinical social worker, has joined Univision affiliate KXLN-TV (Channel 45) as the "in house therapist" for weekly segments on its morning news show. Patrick V. Reinhart, B.A., M.S. '90, Austin, is assistant vice president of Texas External Affairs for El Paso Electric. Peggy E. Stover, B.B.A., Dubuque, Iowa, is vice president of marketing and sales for Pacific Sands Inc. Maj. Gen. John F. Thompson, M.S., Burke, Va., deputy program executive officer for the Joint Strike Fighter Program in Arlington, Va., was promoted to Major General in November 2011.

Note: Locations in Texas and all major U.S. cities do not have the state identified.

# CLASS notable



#### 1990s

1990 Grace G. Kunde, J.D., Seguin, has been re-elected as chair of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, which provides stewardship for water resources in 10 Central Texas counties. Lt. Col. Karen A. Pike, J.D., San Antonio, who recently graduated from the U.S. Army War College Correspondence Course, is a staff judge advocate with the Medical Readiness Training Command.

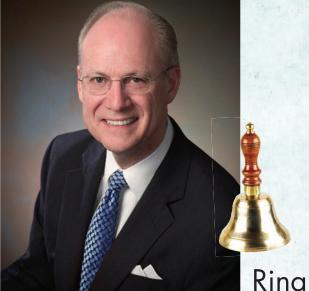
1991 Patricia E. Adams, D.Min, M.A., San Antonio, founder of Zeitgeist Wellness Group, was one of 10 women nationally to receive the Ernst & Young LLP 2011 Entrepreneurial Winning Women award. Gable Feng Gao, B.B.A., Shanghai, China, is assistant president with Fosun Capital. Kimberly M. Pankonin, J.D., Omaha, Neb., has been appointed by Gov. Dave Heineman as a judge in the 4th Judicial District of Nebraska.

1992 Moses V. Aguilar, B.B.A., M.S. '97, San Antonio, is a vice president and lending manager with Wells Fargo Bank. Patricia Jimenez, B.B.A., San Antonio, was Grand Marshal of the Paseo del Rio Association's 2011 Holiday River Parade. The Hon. Laura Lee Parker, J.D., San Antonio, judge of the Texas 386th District Court, has been appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to the Texas Juvenile Justice Board.

1993 Col. Tamra Rank, M.S., Colorado Springs, Colo., vice superintendent of the United States Air Force Academy, was a 2011 Colorado Springs Business Journal Women of Influence Award honoree.

1994 Wendy H. Kowalik, B.B.A., San Antonio, president of Predico Partners, is a 2011 San . Antonio Business Journal "40 Under 40' honoree. Alison J. Logan, J.D., Corpus Christi, is chief of the litigation division of the City of Corpus Christi City Attorney's Office. David S. Morales, J.D., Austin, is general counsel to the Texas Governor's Office.

1995 Margaret Bencomo-Rivera, Psy.D., B.A., San Antonio, and her husband Homer welcome twins Isabeau Diandra and Nera Amelie, born May 5, 2011. Myra J. Pérez, B.A., J.D. '01, Edinburg, and Miguel A. Navarro were married on Aug. 6, 2011.



Ringing the Bell for Passion and Service

MARTIN BEIRNE (J.D. '69)

Martin Beirne (J.D.'69) is first and foremost a trial lawyer. With a passion for the law and a heart for service, he has built a prosperous career using a triedand-true recipe for success.

"What it takes to be successful in this business is hard work, excellent lawyering, loyal clients and winning occasionally," said Beirne, founder of Beirne, Maynard & Parsons. His firm, with offices in Houston, Dallas, Austin, New Orleans and San Antonio, represents numerous Fortune 500 companies and is set to celebrate its 25th anniversary in February.

"Love what you do and be passionate about it," said Beirne. "People around you will see that, and you will gain the buy-in and trust from those you work for and with." He also stresses the importance of an atmosphere of teamwork.

"It is an absolute obligation, as members of the bar, that senior lawyers mentor and guide young lawyers," said Beirne. "It's not unusual in our firm for the lawyer fresh out of law school to be on trial and the senior lawyers researching behind the scenes for him or her. It is part of what this profession is about."

For instance, Beirne, Maynard & Parsons has a bell-ringing ceremony for each courtroom victory. Everyone gathers, and those who won the case discuss specifics, thank everyone involved and then ring the bell. Beirne says it demonstrates how much of a firm-wide

effort there is in litigation—a great trial lawyer must have a great team.

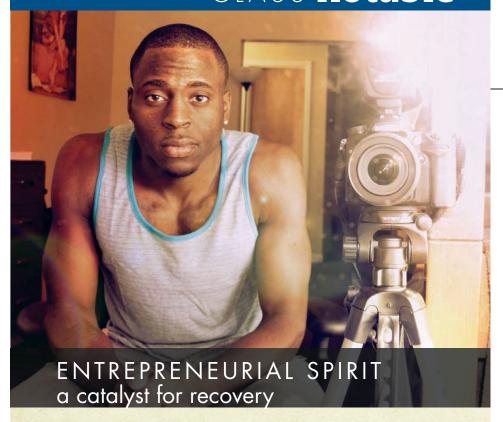
Beirne clearly has been a team leader in his life. While at the St. Mary's School of Law, he served as the inaugural editor-in-chief of the St. Mary's Law Journal. Currently, he serves as chair of the St. Mary's Law Foundation and on the St. Mary's Law Alumni Association Board of Directors. As a member of the University's Board of Trustees, Beirne enjoys being involved in the day-to-day life of the University.

"I am grateful to the law school for a foundation that has been instrumental in my success in life," he said. "In giving back to the University, I don't think I'm uncommon among St. Mary's graduates. Coming out of St. Mary's, you have an instilled orientation for service and the desire to give back."

Beirne's extensive trial experience in complex business litigation has earned him many accolades including being named a St. Mary's Law School Distinguished Law Graduate in 2004. He is a member of the esteemed American Law Institute, as well as a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, a trustee of the Texas Bar Foundation and a commissioner of the Texas Access to Justice Commission.

> by Beth Barbee, Law News and Information Coordinator

# CLASS notable



#### ISAIAH MATTHEWS

When St. Mary's basketball player Isaiah Matthews started cutting his own hair six years ago, it was less a show of entrepreneurship than it was a necessity.

"Money was getting low," Matthews explained. "I figured I might as well cut my own hair."

A high school freshman in Texas City at the time, Matthews' family had been devastated by Hurricane Katrina when it hit the coast in 2005. His mother lost her job at a hospital in the aftermath and with it the family's primary source of income.

"It was pretty bad," he says humbly, explaining that it has been difficult for his family to regain its footing.

But Matthews' entrepreneurial instinct helped him turn what was at first frugality into a lucrative business venture and a chance to help his family recover from the hardship caused by the hurricane.

"People started asking me who cut my hair," he says, and friends couldn't believe this basketball player was also a talented stylist.

As the word spread, Matthews' clientele grew, and so did requests for more difficult cuts and styles. True to his entrepreneurial spirit, he eagerly took on these new challenges.

"Someone asked if I did designs," Matthews says. "I had never done one before, but I said, 'What do you want?"

Now a redshirt freshman perimeter player at St. Mary's, the multi-talented Matthews is majoring in computer engineering, has launched his own photography business and even dabbles in video editing. He uses his technical savvy to benefit his business, leveraging social media as a virtual portfolio for his work—including hair styling.

Matthews estimates he books as many as 10 clients a week, and he sends his profits back to his parents.

"My mom has always told me that when bad stuff happens, the first thing is not to panic. I remember seeing everybody work together to bring the city back together," he says, reflecting on how Hurricane Katrina shaped the man he is today. "Everyone helped each other, which was really good for our community and our family."

by Chad Peters, Sports Information Coordinator

1996 Richard R. Cantu II, B.A., M.A. '99, Woodbridge, Va., is an accountable property officer for the White House Military Office in Washington, D.C. James S. Castro, M.A., Bergheim, executive director of the St. Peter-St. Joseph Children's Home, has been appointed by Texas Gov. Rick Perry to the Task Force to Reduce Child Abuse and Neglect and Improve Child Welfare. The Hon. Marina Garcia Marmolejo, M.A., J.D., Laredo, has been confirmed by the United States Senate as a judge for the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas. Luis A. Valdez, B.A., North Providence, R.I., received a Master of Science in Regulatory Affairs of Drugs, Biologics, and Medical Devices from Northeastern University.

1997 Maj. Woodrow J. Halstead III, J.D., San Antonio, a 1990 graduate of Marshall High School, was recognized by the Northside Independent School District (N.I.S.D.) as one of its 2011 Pillars of Character. The annual award recognizes N.I.S.D. graduates who represent the six character traits taught to N.I.S.D. students. Laura L. Infante, B.B.A., San Antonio, and Philip A. Perez were married on June 4, 2011.

1998 Esther Epiphane Alexander, B.S., San Diego, Calif., is a senior program manager with QualComm Inc. J. Omar Quintanilla, B.B.A., McAllen, is vice president of Corporate Banking at Frost Bank's McAllen North Financial Center.

1999 Christina Aranda, B.A., Cypress, is playing the role of Abuela Claudia in the 2011-2012 national tour of the award-winning musical *In the Heights*. Monica Jo (Garza) Hunter, B.A., Bigfoot, and husband Garret welcome son Garret Lem II and daughter Brielle Lucia, born April 13, 2011. Carl D. Michel, B.A., Harvey, La., is an assistant district attorney in the Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office.

#### 2000s

2000 Elizabeth C. Boddy, J.D., San Antonio, an attorney with Drought, Drought & Bobbit, is a 2011 San Antonio Business Journal "40 Under 40" honoree. Amy Hocking Jacobson, B.A., Phoenix, Ariz., and husband Russell welcome daughter Addyson Leigh, born Oct. 7, 2010. Victoria Moreno Herrera, B.A., San Antonio, is founder of BebyBesos, which sells baby products with a bilingual theme. Raquel Mungia, B.B.A., M.ACC. '02, San Antonio, is manager of the Financial Accounting Department at Security Service Federal Credit Union. Victor X. Perez, B.B.A., Brooklyn, N.Y., and wife Alicia welcome son Gale Xavier, born Aug. 8, 2011. Heath C. Poole, J.D., College Station, is a partner at Hoelscher, Lipsey, Elmore & Poole PC. Stephanie Bocanegra Suarez, B.A., San Antonio, former chief of staff at the San Antonio Water System, is a 2011 San Antonio Business Journal "40 Under 40" honoree.



2001 Priscilla D. Camacho, B.A., San Antonio, is an associate with Plunkett & Gibson Inc.

2002 Manuel V. Hinojosa III, B.A., Little Elm, and wife Melanie welcome son Jacob Robert, born Nov. 2, 2011. Nicole (Jordan) Mahaffey, B.A., Carrollton, and husband John welcome daughter Grace Catherine, born April 4, 2011. Sarah M. O'Connor, J.D., Skokie, Ill., an attorney with Health & Disability Advocates' Chicago Medical-Legal Partnership for Children, received a Chicago Bar Foundation Sun-Times Public Interest Law Fellowship.

2003 Ysabel D. Trinidad, M.B.A., Camarillo, Calif., is vice president for finance and administration at California State University-Channel Islands.

2004 Dominique Minjarez, Pharm.D., B.S., Denver, Colo., and wife Stacey welcome son Jude Alexander, born Feb. 23, 2011.

2005 Jessica Gonzales, B.A., Poteet, is head volleyball coach at Charlotte High School in Charlotte. Andrea N. Nocito, B.A., San Antonio, a business development specialist with the UTSA Institute for Economic Development, is a 2011 San Antonio Business Journal "40 Under 40" honoree. Michelle Gonzales Pierce, B.B.A., Fort Worth, and husband Alan welcome son Isaac James, born Sept. 20, 2011. Myra Salinas, B.A., M.P.A. '06, San Antonio, is a senior finance analyst with the San Antonio River Authority.

2006 Angel A. Cepeda, B.B.A., and Erica N. Estrada, B.B.A. '08, San Antonio, were married on Aug. 6, 2011. Preston J. Dugas III, J.D., Fort Worth, has been named by his peers as a "Fort Worth Top Attorney" in an annual survey conducted by Fort Worth, Texas magazine. Maria Carmen Garcia, J.D., Killeen, has opened a solo practice. Keith H. Holguin, Pharm.D., B.S., Hobbs, N.M., and his wife Anna, who both received their Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from Texas Tech University Health Science Center in 2011, welcome daughter Emma Marie, born Feb. 20, 2011. José M. Rocha, B.A., College Station, and Jennifer Lynn Pence were married on July 2, 1011.

2007 The Hon. Chris R. Marrou, J.D., San Antonio, a municipal judge for the City of Von Ormy, officiated at the wedding of his daughter Molly Marrou to Josh Hamilton on July 17, 2011. Katherine A. Tapley, J.D., San Antonio, an associate with Fulbright & Jaworski LLP, is a 2011 San Antonio Business Journal "40 Under 40" honoree. Vanessa M. Torres, B.A., M.P.A. '09, Moose, Wyo., diversity outreach and youth engagement coordinator at Grand Teton National Park, was recognized by the National Park Service at the 2011 Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Conference.

2008 Kenneth J. Shelly, B.A., M.B.A. '09, Plano, and Andrea Castillo were married on March 26, 2011.

2009 Natalie C. Gamez, B.A., San Antonio, the third-highest scorer in St. Mary's Women's Basketball history, was inducted into the National Hispanic Sports Hall of Fame. Lance S. Gossen, B.B.A., Cedar Park, is an auditor and manager with CVS/Pharmacy. Amber (Martin) Rogers, M.A., San Antonio, is assistant principal at Matthey Middle School in the Southside Independent School District.

#### **2010s**

2010 Lacey Ashworth, J.D., San Antonio, and Tomas Barriga were married on Nov. 5, 2011. Joseph B. Baucum, J.D., San Antonio, is an attorney with Upton, Mickits & Heymann LLP. Sarah B. Blackstone, J.D., San Antonio, is an attorney with Upton, Mickits & Heymann LLP. Joshua J. Caldwell, J.D., Brownsville, is a briefing attorney with the Texas Thirteenth Court of Appeals. Ryan V. Cox, J.D., San Antonio, is a law clerk for Judge Orlando Garcia of the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas. Juan M. Elizondo, B.B.A., San Antonio, is an SAP security administrator with Accenture. Shannon I. Lowry, B.B.A., San Antonio, is special events manager with Dave & Buster's of San Antonio. Ernest J. Martinez, B.B.A., Camas, Wash., is a relationship manager with Fisher Investments. Carolyn Rangel, J.D., San Antonio, is an associate counsel with Travelers Insurance.

2011 Rachel Alcocer, B.A., San Antonio, is an instructor at SeaWorld San Antonio. Samuel Esquivel, B.A., San Antonio, is a teller with Wells Fargo Bank. Lane Greer, J.D., Austin, is an associate in the Health Care Practice Group of Brown McCarroll LLP. Selena Marie Mendoza, B.A., Macdona, is a second grade teacher in the Southwest Independent School District. Neerja Sankalp Modi, M.S., Natick, Mass., is a software developer with MathWorks Inc. Robson W. Pritchett, B.S., Plano, is an independent insurance adjuster.

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## IN MEMORIAM

#### 1940s

1942 Arthur E. Gurgiolo, B.S., Lake Jackson, died Nov. 1, 2011.

1944 Lt. Col. Gus J. Kroschewsky Sr., CL, San Antonio, died Sept. 21, 2011

1945 Charles Hefner Jr., CL, Lafayette, La., died

**1949 Clyde McLeod, B.S.,** Houston, died Sept. 20, 2011. **August L. Moore, B.B.A.,** Spicewood, died Oct. 25, 2011. Mark X. Stark, B.B.A., San Antonio, died Nov. 5, 2011.

#### 1950s

1950 Edward Frazer, B.A., San Antonio, died Dec. 19, 2011. Charles M. Trub, B.B.A., South Padre Island, died Sept. 16, 2011. William A. Warner, **B.B.A.**, Bakersfield, Calif., died Dec. 2, 2011.

1953 Richard A. Larrumbide, CL, San Antonio, died Sept. 18, 2011. Edward J. Tarrillion, B.B.A., New Braunfels, died Aug. 29, 2011. Henry Valdespino, B.A., San Antonio, died Sept. 12,

1954 Policarpo S. "Paul" Escamilla Jr., CL, San Antonio, died Sept. 1, 2011. Ramiro P. Villanueva, B.S., M.S. '75, San Antonio, died Nov.

1955 William G. Thebus, B.A., Lostant, Ill., died Sept. 14, 2011.

1956 Lt. Col. Rudolph F. Klein III, B.A., San Antonio, died Oct. 8, 2011. Herbert L. Stappenbeck, Ph.D., B.A., Hokes Bluff, Ala., died Aug. 31, 2011. Lt. Col. Ernest J. Vogelgesang, B.A., San Antonio, died Dec. 14, 2011

1957 Louis U. Antu, B.A., San Antonio, died Oct. 22, 2011. James A. Bargfrede, LL.B., Houston, died Aug. 21, 2011. Cmdr. Gregory Wren, B.A., San Antonio, died Dec. 25, 2011.

1958 William R. Davis, LL.B., San Antonio, died Sept. 26, 2011.

1959 Andrew E. Marbach, B.B.A., Converse, died Oct. 5, 2011. Jacob Trujillo, CL, San Antonio, died Sept. 17, 2011.

#### 1960s

1960 Thomas P. Cerneka, B.A., Ballwin, Mo., died Aug. 15, 2011. Robert K. Wofford, CL, Houston, died Aug. 28, 2011.

1961 Edith P. Grisham, B.B.A., San Antonio, died Dec. 7, 2011. Arnold J. Kocurek Jr., B.B.A., San Antonio, died Dec. 1, 2011. Richard L. Murphree, B.S., San Antonio, died Dec. 31, 2011.

1962 Modesto Canales Jr., B.B.A., Kingwood, died

1963 Woodrow W. Curd, CL, Canyon Lake, died Dec. 3, 2011. **Sylvester Green, B.A.,** San Antonio, died Sept. 18, 2011.

1964 Raymundo A. Martinez, B.A., San Antonio, died Sept. 2, 2011.

1966 Stephen M. Henry, B.B.A, and his wife Marsha Bain Henry, Rockport, died Nov. 3, 2011. William J. Newcomb Jr., M.B.A., San Antonio, died Sept. 2, 2011.

1967 Deacon Edwin J. Bozek Jr., B.A., San Antonio, died Aug. 8, 2011. Ruth Yates, B.A., San Antonio, died Nov. 25, 2011.

1968 Deacon Robert E. Pride, B.A., Augusta, Ga., died Sept. 10, 2011.

1969 Stanley R. Baker, J.D., Dumas, died July 26, 2011. Alfonso J. Butcher, B.A., San Antonio, died Dec. 7, 2011. Victor Flores Jr., B.B.A., M.B.A. '70, Laredo, died Sept. 5, 2011. Anacleto C. Galvan, B.A., San Antonio, died Oct. 7, 2011. Col. Edward M. Kelly Jr., B.A., Mesquite, died Sept. 27, 2011. Jeffrey M. Morehouse, J.D., San Antonio, died Sept. 6, 2011. Juan Rocha Jr., J.D., McAllen, died Oct. 24, 2011. Vernon R. Shade, B.A., San Antonio, died Oct. 8, 2011.

#### 1970s

1970 Lt. Col. Eugene H. Bishop, M.A., San Antonio, died Nov. 6, 2011. Glen P. Collins, B.A., Morgan City, La., died Dec. 5, 2011. Armando E. Garcia, M.A., Laredo, died March 23, 2011. Margie Bohl Irwin, B.A., San Antonio, died Oct. 30, 2011. **Henry Travieso, B.A.,** San Antonio, died Dec. 15, 2011. **Robert D. Wieder, M.A.,** San Antonio, died Dec. 8, 2011.

1971 Lt. Col. John W. Hammett Sr., B.A., San Antonio, died Nov. 30, 2011. Sister Mary Walden, O.S.U, B.A., Alton, Ill., died Aug. 12,

1972 Thomas K. Robinson, J.D., Gonzales, died Aug. 27, 2011.

1973 Lynn E. Jeffers, B.B.A., Castroville, died Nov. 22, 2011. Paul S. Kendall, J.D., Arlington, died Dec. 14, 2011. James E. Marconi, B.A. Floresville, died Oct. 8, 2011. Elvis G. Schulze, J.D., Canton, died Sept. 23, 2011

1974 Alberto V. Gallegos Jr., B.A., M.S. '77, San Antonio, died Dec. 24, 2011. John F. Guerra, B.A., J.D. '77, Dallas, died May 10, 2011. Gonzalo O. Mendiola, B.A., San Antonio, died Oct. 22, 2011. Normalinda Salinas, B.A., Houston, died July 21, 2011

1975 Roger E. Henderson, J.D., Anchorage, Alaska, died Nov. 17, 2011. tt. Col. Nicholas E. Kass, M.B.A., Fort Walton Beach, Fla., died Oct. 27, 2011. Henry S. Meyer, J.D., Hondo, died April 1, 2011.

1976 James J. Davidson, M.A., Schertz, died Oct. 11, 2011. Harold B. Reeves, B.A., Apopka, Fla., died April 3, 2011.

1979 Linda Fay Jenkins, J.D., Dallas, died Oct. 15, 2011.

#### 1980s

1981 Donald F. Killingsworth, J.D., Tyler, died Dec. 13, 2011

1983 Joan Serié Birkmann, B.A., New Orleans, La., died Oct. 8, 2011

1984 Georgeanna B. Paddie, B.A.S., San Antonio,

1987 Graciela Clarke, M.A., San Antonio, died Aug. 30, 2011. Liliana Martinez Rushing, B.A., Oak Lawn, Ill., died Aug. 7, 2011.

#### 1990s

1994 David R. Herrera, B.A., San Antonio, died Nov. 7, 2011.

1995 Philip N. LaRochelle, M.A., M.B.A. '96, San Antonio, died Nov. 29, 2011.

1996 Ralph E. Williamson, J.D., San Antonio, died Sept. 21, 2011.

#### 2000s

2000 Elaine M. Ferguson, Ph.D., J.D., Abilene, died Sept. 21, 2011.

2006 Bernadette A. Estrada, B.B.A., Santa Monica, Calif., died Aug. 24, 2011.

# Fondest Farewell

#### BROTHER TERRENCE O'CONNOR, S.M.



St. Mary's revered "Reader of the Names" passed to eternal life on Nov. 6, 2011 at the age of 77. A "military brat" while growing up, Brother Terry became acquainted with the Marianists when his family moved to Fort Sam Houston and he attended Central Catholic High School. He entered the novitiate

and graduated from St. Mary's in 1955. In 1983, he returned to teach languages at St. Mary's. Thus was born his title of "Reader of the Names." With a distinct voice and a knack for pronunciation, Brother Terry served as the announcer at Commencement ceremonies and other important events, ensuring that proper pronunciation ruled the day. Thousands of alumni crossed the graduation stage as Brother Terry announced their names. He was a beloved teacher, and credits the Marianists with shaping his zest for teaching that served him and his students well over the years.

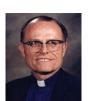
#### THE REV. PAUL RYAN, S.M.



Graduates of 1973 through 1986 will remember him as the cigarchomping Registrar, who paced up and down lines of students waiting to register for classes. In Ryan's era, students received a slip of paper upon which their time to register was printed. Pity the undergrad that showed up a minute late ... tardiness

was unacceptable to Ryan, who took great pride in the efficiency of registration. The Rev. Paul E. Ryan, S.M., passed away peacefully at the age of 95 on Dec. 2, 2011.

### 



The Rev. Adolf Windisch, S.M, Ph.D., passed to eternal life on Oct. 26, 2011 at the Marianist Residence at St. Mary's. Windisch, a St. Louis native who met the Marianists while a high school student, was an exemplary educator and administrator. Known

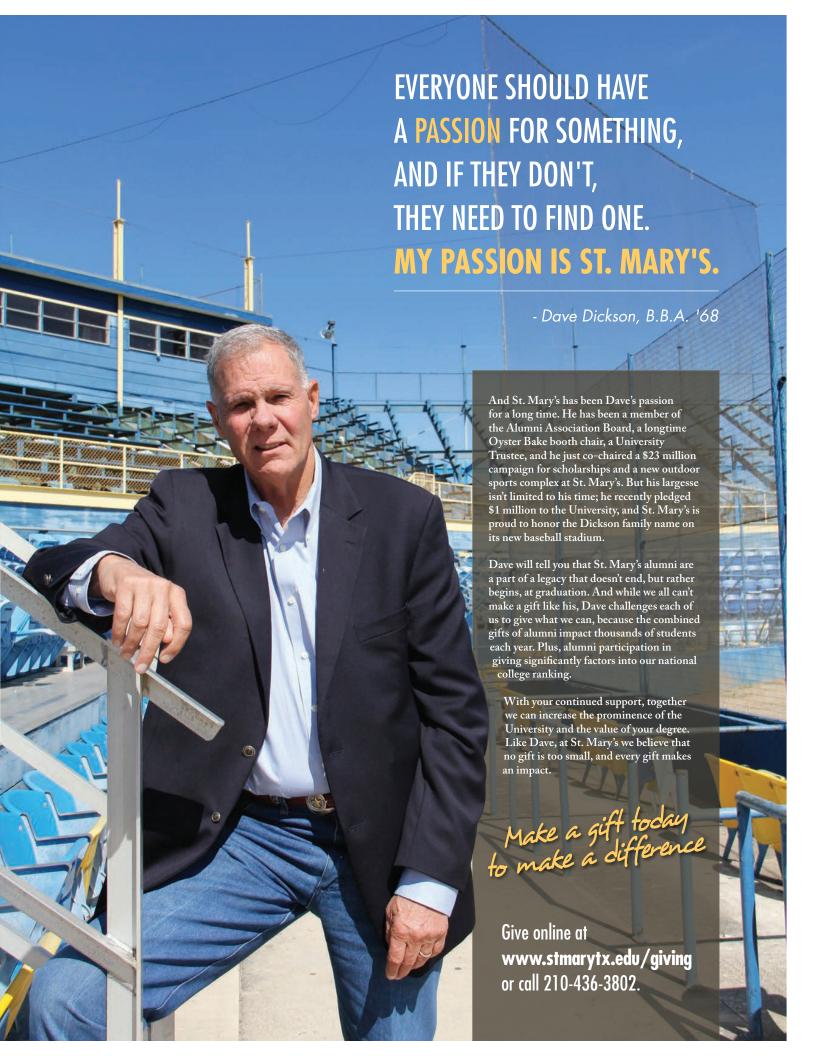
for being a deep thinker and prolific writer, he was a scholar-in-residence at the North American Center for Marianist Studies in Dayton, Ohio, for many years before retiring to San Antonio in 2004.

#### Brother Gregory F. DeMoor, S.M.



Although the St. Mary's community only got to know Brother Gregory after he arrived on campus in 2001 to begin an active retirement, his smiling countenance became a fixture at University events and he was happiest being around students.

Brother Gregory died on Feb. 1, 2012, at age 84.



#### ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY



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#### ON THE FRONT COVER:

President Cotrell speaks with a few students on the Quad on a sunny Tuesday afternoon.

#### ON THE BACK COVER:

Four athletes and an associate made up the St. Mary's University Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2012. Inducted into the Hall on Jan. 21, 2012 were (from left): Kyle Thornton (B.B.A. '95), soccer; Natalie Hill (B.B.A. '02), softball; President Charles L. Cotrell (B.A. '62, M.A. '64), associate; Rodney Williams (B.A. '97), baseball; and C. Tyrell Whisenton (CL '98), basketball.

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