

#### Digital Commons at St. Mary's University

Gold & Blue Gold and Blue

Spring 2013

#### Gold & Blue, Spring 2013

St. Mary's University- San Antonio, Texas

Follow this and additional works at: https://commons.stmarytx.edu/goldblue

#### **Recommended Citation**

St. Mary's University- San Antonio, Texas, "Gold & Blue, Spring 2013" (2013). *Gold & Blue*. 82. https://commons.stmarytx.edu/goldblue/82

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Gold and Blue at Digital Commons at St. Mary's University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Gold & Blue by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons at St. Mary's University. For more information, please contact egoode@stmarytx.edu, sfowler@stmarytx.edu.

HAVE RACE CAR, WILL TRAVEL 12

MISSIONARY BLOGS FROM PERU 24



Spring 2013

## UNEARTHING A WARRIOR QUEEN

'98 ALUMNA'S FIND OF A LIFETIME 19

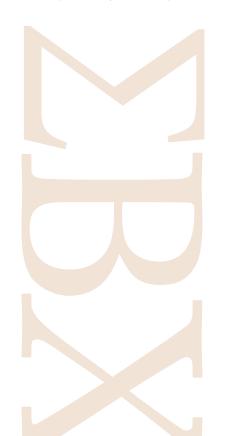
For months, Steven Jansma has been picturing what it will be like to drive into the new Park at St. Mary's outdoor sports complex and its FIFA (International Federation of Association Football) regulationsize soccer field. Specifically, he pictured that field carrying the name of the University's oldest fraternity, Sigma Beta Chi.

Jansma (B.B.A. '89), a former Rattler soccer player and member of Sigma Beta Chi, spearheaded the fraternity's push to make that vision a reality. Together, they have raised \$208,000 for the outdoor sports complex project, a gesture the University honored by naming the soccer field Sigma Beta Chi Field.

Jansma, a partner with Fulbright & Jaworski LLP, said the effort was about continuing Sigma Beta Chi's legacy of giving back.

"We're not just about ourselves and our group of guys," Jansma said. "We're about what St. Mary's University represents."

Leading the fundraising effort, pictured from left, are Joseph O'Hare (class of 2013), Alvaro J. Rizo-Patron (B.S. '82), Steven Jansma (B.B.A. '89), Luis Pinto Jr. (B.B.A. '96) and Walter Duvall (B.B.A. '64, M.B.A. '70).









## Preparing for Change and Opportunity

by Thomas M. Mengler, J.D., St. Mary's University President

This is an exciting time at St. Mary's University — a time of change. As an institution rooted in more than 150 years of tradition and excellence, we know that although change brings uncertainty, with preparation and planning it also brings opportunity.

We are now developing the University's next strategic plan, which will be our blueprint through 2020 and will lead us to become a gateway for the next generation of leaders. We know the direction we are heading, and our success depends on cooperation, bold action and innovation.

First, we know that recruiting and retaining talented students while keeping an education at St. Mary's affordable and accessible is a top priority. Federal and state financial aid dollars are dwindling, even as costs rise, and scholarships will be integral to filling the gap.

This is an area in which we call upon those who most know the value of a St. Mary's education — our alumni — to step up. And Bill Greehey (B.B.A. '60) is an alumnus leading by example. Bill recently gave a \$1 million gift that, among other things, will provide valuable scholarships to top students in the MBA program.

A second priority is ensuring that we produce graduates ready to be the next generation of exceptional leaders. We can do that by providing unique experiential learning opportunities through internships, mentoring relationships and undergraduate research opportunities. Such experiences help our students see and model the commitment and dedication required of top ethical professionals and leaders. To that end, Harvey Najim's \$1 million gift will establish the Center for Business Innovation and Social Responsibility. As a member of the Board of Trustees and a community and business leader, Harvey understands and supports our vision.

Finally, we must continue to emphasize who we are, a Catholic and Marianist liberal arts university, by providing students in all disciplines with the strong foundation of the St. Mary's Core Curriculum. That's where another alumnus, Ed Speed (B.B.A. '70, M.A. '86) and his wife, Linda, come in. This longtime businessman knows the value of liberal arts and has given nearly \$300,000 in recent months to support our efforts. You can read more about Ed on page 18.

Regardless of the amount, every gift counts for the students who benefit. Consider Willie Ng, a 2010 graduate of our Master of Public Administration program; he established a scholarship for that program even before he graduated and has set up two more since. A small business owner and a San Antonio Police detective, Willie knows it does not take millions to make a difference. It takes each of us working together to move forward the St. Mary's University mission of academic excellence, faith and service.

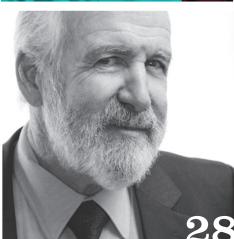
I hope that you will join me as we continue our quest to make St. Mary's the finest Catholic University in the Southwest.

#### CONTENTS









Denver Daredevil 73-year-old race car driver represents a generation

Schizophrenia: Cinema vs. Reality

Professor finds that at the movies, seeing isn't believing

Meet a modern-day **Indiana Jones** 

Alumna endures looters, mosquitoes and mud pits to uncover a Maya queen Not Just a 28 Talking Head

Rick Casey once traveled by camper van gathering stories for newspapers. Now he's covering new ground in television.

**CAMPUS NEWS** 

7

**ENGINEERING** A BETTER WORLD

New prof says engineering and the liberal arts can make the world a better place

15

LIGHTS, CAMERA, EMMY

Student scores first-of-its-kind internship, helps win coveted award

18

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BECOME CEO?

A liberal arts education, according to one successful businessman

22

URBAN LIVING, **REDESIGNED** 

Law grad wants people back in the heart of the city

24

FROM PERU, WITH LOVE

A young missionary blogs about what it means to live the mission

26

**CLASS NOTES** 

30

**FONDEST FAREWELL** 



Thomas M. Mengler, J.D.

CHIEF OF STAFF AND COMMUNICATIONS Dianne Pipes (M.P.A.'11)

EXECUTIVE EDITOR Gina Farrell (M.P.A.'11)

> ASSOCIATE EDITOR Nicolette Good

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR Candace Kuebker (B.A.'78)

> GRAPHIC DESIGNER Kim Kennedy

PHOTOGRAPHY Cleveland Museum of Art Lucia De Giovanni Josh Huskin Robin Jerstad Robin Johnson (B.A.'11) Antonio Morano Bill Sallans Clem Spalding **ZUMA Press** 

CONTRIBUTOR Will Elliott (B.A.'93)

(Denotes degree from St. Mary's University)

Gold & Blue is produced for alumni and friends three times a year by the Office of University Communications.

CONTENTS © 2013 BY ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

#### 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.

## Campus News



School of Science, Engineering and Technology (pictured lower right), and President Tom Mengler (pictured above him) meet children in a primary school in Gurgaon that is run by Raghav Sharma (B.B.A. '05). Also on the trip was School of Law Dean Charles Cantú. The trio's trip was intended to foster cooperation with several Indian universities as a way of extending St. Mary's global connections.

#### Series to Examine Environmental Justice

Community Conversations at St. Mary's University will focus on how the U.S.-Mexico border fence impacts environmental justice issues at its April 23 event.

The featured presenter will be journalist Krista Schlyer, author of the book Continental Divide — Wildlife, People, and the Border Wall (Texas A&M Press). Her writing and photographs have appeared in publications including National Parks, National Geographic News, Audubon and Outdoor Photographer.

The event is free and open to the public. It begins at 6 p.m. with a reception, and the program is at 6:30 p.m. It will be in the University Center, Conference Room A.

#### Preservation of St. Louis Hall **Receives National Award**

The St. Louis Hall preservation project has been honored by Associated Builders and Contractors at its annual Excellence in Construction Awards program. SpawGlass, the construction manager for the project, submitted the project in the national competition.

The project was selected as the first-place winner in the Historical Restoration/ Renovation (projects under \$25 million) category for projects completed in 2012.





#### **New Scholarship** Remembers Marianists

The Sigma Beta Chi Endowed Scholarship has been established in honor of The Rev. Louis A. Reile, S.M., and Brother John Donohoo, S.M., thanks to a \$50,000 gift from William Combs III (B.A. '70).

The scholarship will provide financial assistance to a member of the Sigma Beta Chi fraternity with financial need. Combs, who is now a retired businessman and banking executive, has said that he is thankful for the role St. Mary's played in his success and wants to "give a little back."

#### Marianist Heritage Award Winners

Seven members of the St. Mary's community were honored in January at the annual Marianist Heritage Awards, which recognizes faithfulness in supporting and promoting the Catholic and Marianist charism at St. Mary's.

Student Leadership Award recipients were Anietie Akpan, a third-year law student; Daniel Vasquez (B.A.'12); and Selena Rangel, a senior. Faculty and staff recipients were Ann Karam, associate director of Residence Life; Guillermo Martinez, J.D., Visiting Professor of Marketing; Peggy Curet, Ph.D., Professor of English and Communication Studies; and Palmer Hall, Ph.D., director of the Louis J. Blume Library, who recently passed away.



#### 2013 Distinguished **Faculty Honored**

The St. Mary's Alumni Association's 2013 Distinguished Faculty honorees were Roberto Rosas, Instructor of Law; Rafael Moras, Ph.D., Professor of Engineering; Brother Dennis Bautista, S.M., Ph.D., Associate Professor of English and Communications; Kathleen Maloney, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Chair of English and Communication Studies; Gail Kaciuba, Ph.D., Emil C.E. Jurica Professor of Accounting; and Gopalakrishnan Easwaran, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Industrial Engineering. Richard J. Bauer Jr., Ph.D., Professor of Finance, was awarded the Undergraduate Research Mentor Award.

#### Catholic Speaker Series Concludes April 3

The 10th annual Catholic Intellectual Tradition Lecture Series concludes April 3 with a presentation by St. Mary's Philosophy Professor Glenn "Chip" Hughes, Ph.D., speaking on the topic "Art, Love and Conversion."

Hughes has been on the St. Mary's faculty since 1990. He is the author or editor of six books on philosophy, and his most recent book is A More Beautiful Question: The Spiritual in Poetry and Art. He has been the recipient of a Fulbright research grant and is currently writing a book on human dignity and degradation.

The theme for this year's series is "God's Mysteries and Greatness: Ingredients of Human Dignity."

#### New Program Brings Students, **Professionals Together**

St. Mary's University has started the Gateway Mentor Program, which connects community leaders with current and prospective students in a unique, small-group format.

"Our shared vision for the University challenges us to be innovative in the programs we offer that will best prepare our students for their lives beyond St. Mary's," said President Thomas Mengler.

The program brings together students whose majors relate to the mentor's area of expertise or profession. The students and mentors interact in a setting of no more than 12 people. So far, mentors have included Bishop Oscar Cantú, now of the Diocese of Las Cruces, N.M.; former Trustee and USAA executive Barbara Gentry (B.A.'71); and retired banking executive Ed Speed (B.B.A. '70, M.A. '86).

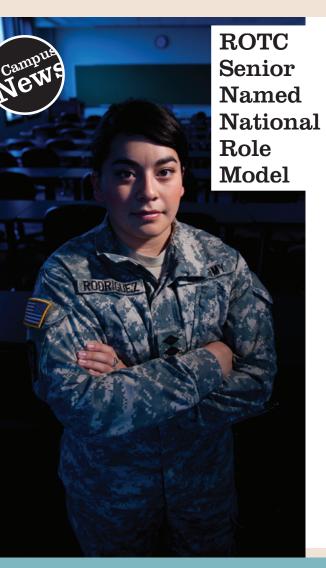
#### **New Athletics Director Hired**

Elizabeth Dalton, a longtime University of Texas at San Antonio administrator, joined St. Mary's University in February as director of athletics.

Dalton was with the UTSA Athletics Department for 12 years, most recently as deputy athletics director and senior woman administrator. Before joining UTSA, she managed the administrative aspects of recruiting and football operations for the University of Notre Dame. Dalton holds a bachelor's and a master's degree from Texas A&M University, where she played soccer as a student-athlete.

Although the athletics director position has long been held by an active coach, construction of the new \$16 million outdoor sports complex known as The Park at St. Mary's means that responsibilities of the position have become full time.

Dalton was selected after a nationwide search, led by a committee of faculty and staff members, alumni and Head Baseball Coach Charlie Migl, who served as AD for the past 12 years. Migl — one of the winningest coaches in St. Mary's history asked to continue coaching in lieu of being a full-time AD.



Cristal Rodriguez, a senior Computer Science major from Santa Rosa, has been honored as a model scholar, athlete and leader by Great Minds in STEM — a national organization that promotes awareness of science, technology, engineering and mathematics among underrepresented students and professionals. A member of the St. Mary's ROTC program, Rodriguez has been a member of the Ranger Challenge Team for four years and has served as Battalion Commander, all while maintaining a 3.5 GPA. She was honored during a 2012 Future STEM Leaders event last fall and recognized as a Model Scholar by the organization. Rodriguez will graduate in May with an Army commission.



#### New Housing Complex Marks Step in Revitalization Efforts

The \$30 million Woodlawn Ranch Apartment Community near the St. Mary's University campus has opened as a new and attractive housing option on the city's northwest side.

Woodlawn Ranch, a 252-unit multi-family community, is located on the former site of the Chaminade Apartments, which were built in 1969. The new apartment community, providing a combination of workforce and student neighborhood housing, was developed as a public/private venture of Hogan/HomeSpring Realty Partners for the San Antonio Housing Trust Public Facility Corp.

The St. Mary's University Neighborhood Revitalization Project has spearheaded numerous efforts addressing infrastructure, housing, commercial transformation and quality of life improvements in the area surrounding the University.

As the original anchor to San Antonio's northwest side, St. Mary's continues its mission of academic excellence in education and service to the community.

#### **HUMANITIES**

#### Alum Recognized for Shaping Law and Policy

Forbes magazine recently named alumnus Greg Pardo (B.A. '05) to its "30 Under 30 in Law & Policy" list.

The publication described the winners, who were selected by a panel of experts in the fields of law and policy, as being "young people who want an active role in charting the future direction of the country, instead of passively reaping the rewards of [an] elite education." Pardo, who also was recently named to the Edgewood Independent School District's Hall of Fame, is currently vice counsel of the U.S. Embassy in India.





Since graduating, Pardo has traveled around the world, including to Thailand, Burma and Bangladesh.

#### Hufford Lectures on Peace at Taiwan Event

Larry Hufford, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, is back on campus this semester after traveling to Kaohsiung, Taiwan, where he presented lectures and co-facilitated a workshop for master's and doctoral students on themes of democracy and peace education. The lectures were given at National Kaohsiung Normal University and Shu-Te University.

Hufford's research and travels to nations experiencing past-conflict trauma while transitioning to more democratic societies provided the foundations for his lectures. In December and January, Hufford returned to Kaohsiung to attend the 15th World Conference in Education sponsored by the World Council for Curriculum and Instruction, a nongovernmental organization.

#### Production of *RENT* Set for April

The Drama and Music Departments are teaming up for a production of the Pulitzer Prize-winning rock musical RENT, scheduled for April 11-17.

The play, with music and lyrics by Jonathan Larson, tells the story of a group of poor young artists and musicians who are struggling to survive and practice their arts in New York's Lower East Side.

For more information or to make reservations, email stmutheatre@stmarytx.edu or call 210-436-3545.



#### Stay with me here.

What that means, to you and me, is that she's tested materials that are lightweight, yet can also withstand high temperatures and speeds so they can be used in fighter jets or space shuttles. This is the kind of unique expertise she brings to St. Mary's University as Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering. She helped design a Mechanical Engineering program, which will be offered in the fall.

"It's a fun, flashy sub-area, but similar procedures are used on things we see every day," said McClung, who earned her doctorate from the Air Force Institute of Technology.

She spent the past seven years in Dayton, Ohio, working at the Air Force Research Laboratory and collaborating with colleagues from the University of Dayton. She came to St. Mary's in March 2012.

McClung has a very technical expertise, but she doesn't want students to just memorize facts; she'd rather instruct them in hands-on assignments and teach them how to learn.

"When I was a student, I really liked having projects in classes — projects where you get to make something and then test it," she said.

McClung plans interactive labs and envisions trips to area industry locations so students can relate what they learn in the classroom to career options. She also would like to do a service-oriented project for a local business.

"One of the exciting things about St. Mary's is that it's a liberal arts university, and I can figure out ways to give the students projects that have more of an impact on the local community or society in general," she said. "One of the tenets of engineering is to make society better, and hopefully I can focus on that even more here."

#### **BUSINESS**

#### Math Students to Study **Texas Rivers**

A grant from the Center for Undergraduate Research in Mathematics (CURM) at Brigham Young University is funding a new undergraduate research group that will blend math and biology. The group will operate under the direction of Ian Martines, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics.

The \$18,000 grant will fund the formation of the Mathematical Biology Undergraduate Research Group, which will include three undergraduate students and Martines. They will focus on a yearlong research project using mathematical modeling to investigate the role of toxin production by Prymnesium parvum (commonly known as golden algae) in the river systems of Texas. The research will help scientists better understand harmful algae blooms and the impact of toxin production on fish and other organisms in Texas waterways.

The program includes training in advanced mathematics topics, such as numerical methods and nonlinear dynamical systems theory. The funding provides stipends for the students and travel funds for both the students and faculty member to present results at national undergraduate research conferences.

#### **Alumnus Establishes Engineering Scholarship**

Leland T. Blank, Ph.D. (B.S. '67), Professor Emeritus of Industrial Engineering at Texas A&M University, and his wife, Sallie Sheppard, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Computer Science at Texas A&M, have established the Leland Blank and Sallie Sheppard Engineering Scholarship with a \$50,000 gift to St. Mary's University.

The scholarship is for undergraduate engineering majors who have demonstrated leadership activities in high school, the community, church or at a prior university.

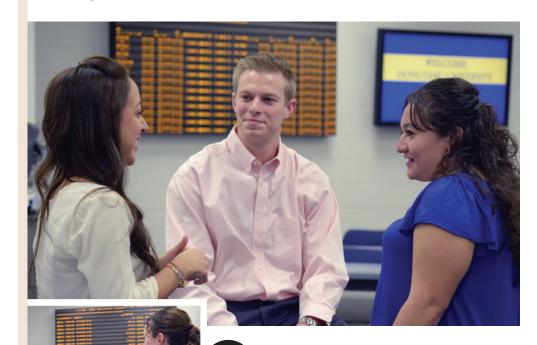
Blank received his master's and doctoral degrees from Oklahoma State University. Blank and Sheppard have conducted research together and co-developed a street inventory and management system adopted by the city of San Antonio in the 1980s.

#### Greehey Honored by Harvard Business Review

NuStar Chairman and distinguished alumnus Bill Greehey (B.B.A.'60) was ranked near the top of Harvard Business Review's listing of the 100 Best-Performing CEOs in the World.

Based on his tenure as CEO of San Antonio-based Valero Energy Corp., Greehey was ranked 12th among U.S. CEOs and 31st among all CEOs in the world. In the energy industry, he ranked second among U.S. CEOs and fifth worldwide.

The independent and unsolicited study ranked the CEOs of more than 3,000 publicly traded companies from 37 countries on key performance indicators such as shareholder return and change in market capitalization from 1997 to 2010. The study noted that between 1997, when Valero spun off its natural gas and pipeline operations to form a new, independent refining company, and 2005, when Greehey retired as CEO, Valero enjoyed a country-adjusted total shareholder return of 721 percent; an industry-adjusted total shareholder return of 629 percent; and a \$36 billion increase in market capitalization.



Students in The Greehey MBA participate in the Values-driven Leadership Lab, or V-Lab, where they learn about Advanced Behavioral Skills that distinguish top performers in the workplace.

#### Grant to Fund Startup Experience

The Bill Greehey School of Business has received a \$48,000 grant that will give MBA students a unique opportunity to experience the process of technology

The grant is from the 80/20 Foundation, founded by Rackspace's Graham Weston, and funds a partnership with 3-Day Startup (3DS), a nonprofit organization in Austin. The project will involve MBA students spending a weekend at Rackspace's Geekdom this summer, developing ideas for technology startups that focus on social innovation.

To register for an upcoming information session on The Greehey MBA, call 210-436-3708 or go to www.stmarytx.edu/mba.

### Meet Mathew Joseph, Ph.D.

by Andrew Festa

Mathew Joseph, Ph.D., takes an active role in the lives of his students. Case in point: In just the time it took for a short interview, a line of students had formed outside his office.

Joseph, who is the Emil C.E. Jurica Distinguished Professor of Marketing in the Bill Greehey School of Business, plays a key role in many campus programs, such as the Faculty Academic Mentor (FAM) program, the McNair Scholars Program, and study abroad. Now he adds one more duty: serving as the new director of the Greehey Scholars Program, a marquee program for outstanding business students who want to learn, serve and lead.

He takes over for the previous director, Stephanie Ward, Ph.D., who successfully led the program for six years, ensuring a smooth transition.

Noting that the Greehey Scholars are "the cream of the crop," Joseph expects to focus on getting them ready for graduate school.

"I provide a lot of advice to students and encourage them to go to graduate school. Right now, with an undergraduate degree by itself, it's very hard to get a job."

A native of New Zealand, Joseph spends his summers traveling the world, giving academic workshops to doctoral students free of charge. In many developing countries, "the students are really interested in education but they don't have the skill sets or the supervisors who can help them. In a lot of these developing countries, people are hungry for knowledge."

Joseph is a busy man, but makes time for the students. "My office is always open," Joseph said. "If I can make a difference in someone's life, I'm more than happy to do it." And the line of students waiting to see him proves it.



#### LAW AND GRADUATE

#### Briseño Named to Chamber Leadership

The San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce announced new officers for its 2013 board of directors, naming Alexander E. Briseño as its new chair.

Briseño is a Professor of Public Service in Residence at St. Mary's, where he teaches in the Master of Public Administration program. He is also retired as city manager for the city of San Antonio.

#### Noll Portrait Unveiled

A portrait of the Hon. Larry Noll (J.D. '72) was unveiled and is now hanging on the School of Law's Wall of Honor among other distinguished graduates. Noll was honored for his notable legal career and his dedication to St. Mary's. He is a 2012 Distinguished Law Graduate, past president of the St. Mary's University Alumni Association, member of the Athletics Hall of Fame and current board member of the Hispanic Law Alumni Association.

#### Law Student Wins National Pro Bono Award

Elizabeth Gutierrez, a third-year law student in the St. Mary's University School of Law, has been awarded the National Association for Law Placement's (NALP) and the Public Service Job Directory's (PSJD) 2012 Pro Bono Publico Award.

Gutierrez was called "a tireless advocate and true change-maker in the San Antonio public service legal community." She was honored for her work through the Center for Legal and Social Justice and her internship with Catholic Charities of San Antonio, where she offers bilingual legal services to immigrants.

Gutierrez previously worked as the research assistant for the Center for Legal and Social Justice's Pro Bono and Public Interest Program and as a teaching assistant in the Civil Justice Clinic. She has participated in many pro bono projects, including the Ask-a-Lawyer Clinic and the People's Law School.

#### St. Mary's Law Journal Ranks No. 22 in Nation

In their recently released annual survey of law reviews, Washington and Lee University School of Law again ranked the St. Mary's Law Journal among the best in the nation for citations by state and federal courts.

The St. Mary's Law Journal ranked No. 22 among 667 law reviews published in the United States; it was cited 75 times by American courts during the period covered by the survey, 2005-2012. It was also cited 417 times in scholarly and professional articles during the survey period, placing the St. Mary's Law Journal among the top 30 percent of the 970 American publications in that category.

Washington and Lee's Law Journal Rankings Project provides scholars with a resource for locating law journals by different criteria, displays journal editorial information, and facilitates article submission to those journals.

#### **SPORTS**



#### Baseball's O'Neal Records 21 Consecutive Wins

For a while there, St. Mary's pitcher Carl O'Neal said it was getting hard to remember what it felt like to lose a game. With a 21-game winning streak, it's easy

The St. Mary's senior ace's win streak, which was nearing the unofficial NCAA Division II record of 24, ended in early March. O'Neal's streak dated to 2011 and included two Heartland Conference championships, a South Central Region title and an appearance in the national tournament.

As a junior, O'Neal went 14-0 and won St. Mary's first National Pitcher of the Year honor while also earning All-America honors.



From left: Crystal Keller, Maricela Bissaro, Vianna Gutierrez and Emily Brittain.

#### St. Mary's Softball Enjoying Rarefied Air

Throwing a no-hitter is a pitcher's dream — a feat both rare and revered. But for the four St. Mary's softball pitchers, it's the norm.

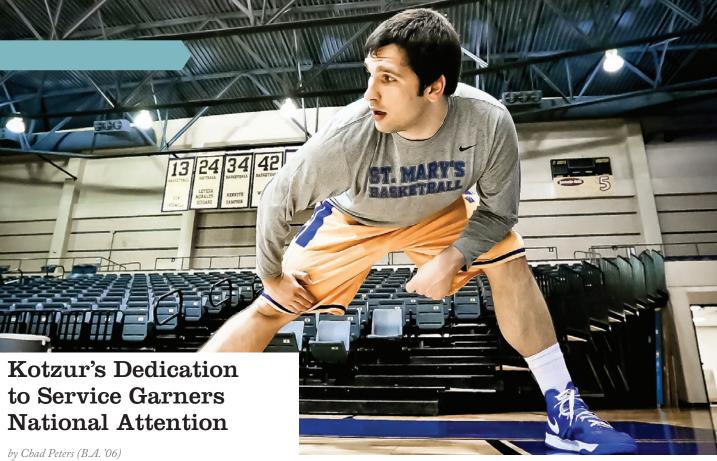
Senior Crystal Keller and sophomore Vianna Gutierrez each recorded no-hitters this season, on the same day, no less. Junior Emily Brittain recorded a pair of no-hitters last season, including a perfect game, while junior Maricela Bissaro threw one as a freshman in 2011.

"I feel very proud to be part of a pitching staff that all have no-hitters to their names," Keller said. "It shows how strong we are as a bullpen. No-hitters are so rare, so I feel very blessed to have the accomplishment of throwing one in college."

Keller, a LaCoste native, pitched a five-strikeout no-hitter in a 12-0 victory over Colorado State-Pueblo on Feb. 16. It was the sort of performance that typically stands alone in a headline.

That was the case until her pitching mate Gutierrez went out several hours later and no-hit Angelo State, ranked No. 4 in the nation at the time, in a 14-0 victory.

"Before the game, I told myself, 'You are going to pitch a no-hitter against Angelo,'" Gutierrez recalled. "In the first inning on the mound, I made it up in my mind that with God all things are possible. ... When you believe in something, you will see it happen."



One glance through the Heartland Conference's men's basketball record book provides a clue of how good Kevin Kotzur is on the basketball court. But a recent national honor for volunteering and service reflects how good he is away from the court as well.

Kotzur (B.A.'12), who is working on his master's degree in Communication Studies, has been named to the inaugural National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) Allstate Good Works Team, a prestigious honor that speaks directly to St. Mary's University's mission of civic engagement and community service.

The honor, awarded nationally to just 10 college basketball players from across all divisions, recognizes student-athletes' contributions in the areas of volunteerism and civic involvement.

Kotzur, a native of La Vernia, was the lone representative from NCAA Division II to make the team.

"It's a great honor, not just for the basketball team but for the entire University," said Kotzur, who in February became the Heartland Conference's all-time leading scorer with 1,904 career points and already owned the league's alltime rebounding mark at 967. "It reflects the community outreach we do here. The school's value of community service here touches everybody in athletics. We really try to work just as hard off the court as we do on the court."

Among Kotzur's community-service initiatives were visiting with ailing children at University Hospital and wrapping presents for families in need through the University's Angel Tree program.

St. Mary's men's basketball coach Jim Zeleznak could not be happier for his star pupil.

"For one of our student-athletes to be recognized in this fashion nationally speaks to what we're trying to do here at the University," Zeleznak said.

Kotzur will travel to Atlanta in April as part of the Good Works Team, where the entire team will be introduced during the Final Four. The men's team, as well as the Women's Basketball Coaches Association's Good Works Team, will join together for a service project while they are in Atlanta.

"The men and women being recognized with this award have demonstrated a commitment to excellence on and off the court," said Pam Hollander, senior director of marketing for Allstate Insurance Co. and a member of the 2013 NABC and WBCA Good Works Team selection panels.

As a three-time All-Region selection, Kotzur is no stranger to racking up awards. But this one seems a bit different.

'This honor has me speechless," he said. "I'm truly blessed." ■



Kotzur (left) and teammate Moses Sundufu wrap presents through the St. Mary's Angel Tree program for families in need.



Photos by Lucia De Giovanni



by Chad Peters (B.A. '06)

The scene unfolds rather predictably whenever Dan Weyland tells someone he owns a race car.

"They look at me," the 73-year-old says, "and they say, 'You're doing what? Do you mean you own a team?'"

Not quite. He's driving the car.

Weyland (B.B.A. '60) races professionally in the American Le Mans series, regarded as one of the world's leading prototype and GT endurance circuits. He's been circling the tracks for 18 years, all thanks to a spontaneous purchase of a race car he made when he was 55.

A little grayer — OK, considerably grayer — than the competition, Weyland laughs off the disbelief over his hobby.

"I don't take offense anymore," he said. "When we put those suits and helmets on, you can't tell a 16-year-old from a 73-year-old. We all look the same, and the car doesn't know the difference."

Continued on page 14.

Weyland recently competed on one of the sport's biggest stages, racing before an international audience of nearly 120,000 in November in the Pirelli GT3 Cup Trophy USA West, a support event at the Formula 1 US Grand Prix weekend at the new Circuit of the Americas in Austin.

Driving a bright orange car with a large St. Mary's University decal covering the driver's-side door, Weyland knows the crowd probably didn't expect someone of his age to be inside the car.

"People are surprised I took racing up when I did, and then they're surprised that I'm still doing it," he said. "But why wouldn't I? I wouldn't give this up. I would get much older much faster if I gave up racing.

"I feel like I'm representing a generation."

Following months of preparation and excitement heading into the November Grand Prix race — one of the few times he has raced in Texas — Weyland strapped into his car and took off from the starting line. But heading for the second turn of the opening lap, his engine began to fail, leaving Weyland facing the distinct possibility his day would end mere minutes after it started.

"All of a sudden, I had gone for a gear and got nothing," he recalled. "My crew asked if the engine was



Weyland made most of his living in real estate development, having specialized in developing medical office buildings in Houston before moving to Denver, where he now lives. He is president of Weyland Enterprises and MedPro Management, and he also founded the WECANDO Foundation, which supports charities in the Denver area. Despite his busy career, Weyland still found himself looking for new hobbies later in life.

Enter racing.

A lifelong sports fan who grew up in San Antonio playing basketball, baseball and football, Weyland never shied away from a competitive challenge. He later picked up tennis and skiing and always admired racing from afar.

"It was the only sport that I watched that I didn't understand," Weyland said. Eager to change that, Weyland, 55 at the time, signed up for a racing lesson in hopes of learning the nuances of the craft. He figured he'd learn a little about technique and mechanics — just enough to make watching the sport more enjoyable.

But by the time the session was over, he had purchased the car and the license to go with it. Just like that, he was ready to race.

"It was instantaneous," Weyland said of falling in love with racing.

Weyland knows some people might think he's eccentric, or just a daredevil. But while he enjoys the speed of a race, it's the camaraderie with his crew and the other drivers that keeps him going.

"When you read about the Class of 1960 ... there are not too many of us competitively driving race cars." As such, Weyland has become an ambassador of sorts for the sport — and on how to live life.



running. I wasn't really sure. I hit the ignition again and it restarted, but by then I was behind everybody."

Something had triggered a built-in safety feature to kick in, shutting off the engine. While Weyland never expected to win the race, the breakdown nixed his chance to remain competitive at all.

Weyland was, in the end, last to cross the finish line.

"I was actually in good shape until the engine stopped," said Weyland, who included the St. Mary's logo on his car in honor of a place that remains close to his heart after receiving his marketing degree in 1960. "St. Mary's was good for me. Now, here I am, doing something like this that is a different type of thing. I'm proud of it."

Which is why his temporary engine failure was all but irrelevant in the end.

"The car is clean, and the St. Mary's sticker is still looking good. That's got to be a good ending, right?"



## Lights, Camera, **EMMY**

**Student scores** first-of-its-kind internship, helps win coveted award

by Rosemary F. Segura (B.A. '12) Photo by Josh Huskin

It's common for St. Mary's students to land prestigious internships. But how many walk away with a pair of Lone Star EMMY Awards? Jesús Garcia, a senior from El Paso, did.

Last spring, the Speech Communication and Music major participated in the first year of "Proyecto U" (Project U) — a first-of-itskind program hosted by local Univision affiliate KWEX in partnership with San Antonio schools, including St. Mary's University. The program provided students hands-on and on-air experience working in a newsroom with professional news personnel as mentors.

Guided by experts, students worked in pairs, with one behind the camera — Garcia's specialty — and the other as the on-air talent. These teams would identify interesting stories and pitch 90-second videoversions of their story ideas during editorial meetings, complete with interviews, sound bites and a reporter voice-over.

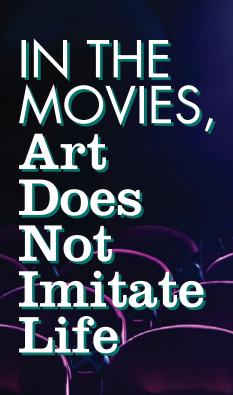
"My partner and I went outside of what most others were willing to put in, and our packages were consistently chosen," he said proudly.

For three weeks, the teams' pre-recorded stories aired during the station's weekend broadcasts. The fourth week, the participants were in charge of an entire live 5 p.m. broadcast. They literally ran the show: in front of the camera, behind it and even in the booth. That night, Garcia worked as an audio operator in Master Control.

"It was great because no other station has ever allowed students to do that," he said. "Ever."

Students helped Proyecto U to win Lone Star EMMYs in the categories of community service and education.

"It was exciting just to get the nomination. I never imagined being part of a project like this."



Psychology professor studies film's influence on schizophrenia stereotypes

by Chris Jarvis

It's the kind of happy ending that makes Patricia Owen, Ph.D., shake her head.

The 1998 blockbuster "A Beautiful Mind," starring Russell Crowe, depicts a brilliant mathematician obsessed with his work who mentally deteriorates to the point of hallucinations and paranoia. After being hospitalized for schizophrenia, his personal and professional life crumbles until willpower and the support of his devoted wife help him return to academic prominence.

To Owen, a clinical psychologist and chair of the Psychology Department, it's a romanticized portrayal of the very serious mental illness schizophrenia. And she has seen enough schizophrenia cases to know that they seldom end like a Hollywood fairy tale.

"I just think, 'Wait a minute. This is a beautiful film, but it has all of these distortions'," she said.

It's certainly not the only movie to distort schizophrenia in order to create a compelling story. Owen has spent the past several years trying to understand how schizophrenia is portrayed in contemporary motion pictures and the effect it has on public perception of the illness. Her conclusion?

"Misinformation breeds stigmatization," she said.

When Owen tried to find films realistically depicting schizophrenia that she could show in her abnormal psychology courses, she was hard-pressed to find any.

Even more unsettling was the fact that, when surveyed, many of her own students were confused about what schizophrenia actually is; many incorrectly believed it was the same as multiple-personality disorder, or Dissociative Identity Disorder.

"My students, who are college-educated people, believing this misinformation surprised me," Owen said. "Most of them don't have people in their lives with schizophrenia, so where are they getting this? I think perhaps the cinema is pretty powerful in perpetuating some misconceptions about schizophrenia."

It was enough to make Owen forgo the soda and popcorn for a pencil and coding sheet. Owen analyzed 72 movies made between 1990 and 2010, identifying 42 characters that met criteria mandated by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for

did, and his genius knack for mathematics is largely to thank. The movie also suggests love can cure such mental illness, but don't count on it — there is no known cure.

Movies are clearly for entertainment, but Owen maintains they are also a source of information. And when that information is distorted for entertainment purposes at the expense of a demographic, it can lead to negative stereotypes.

"To those who struggle with severe mental illness, the pejorative stereotypes found in movies about schizophrenia have detrimental consequences," she wrote in her study. "People with schizophrenia have reported feeling hurt or offended by media messages and have anticipated discrimination resulting from the portrayal of schizophrenia by the media."

Owen has always felt a deep-seated connection to patients with

"I have this fundamental respect for people with schizophrenia," she said. "Intellectually, I find their experiences to be very fascinating, but emotionally, I feel for the hardships they go through."

During the years she worked for different psychological hospitals, Owen got to know many patients on a personal level and has even invited a few to speak in her psychology classes. If diagnosed early, psychotropic medications along with a proper support system, usually family or an outpatient treatment facility, can enable patients to lead a mostly functional life.

In the films Owens studied, characters with schizophrenia are commonly misrepresented.

of characters displayed dangerous or violent behaviors

33% 52% 33% 25

of characters suffered from visual hallucinations

of characters displayed homicidal tendencies

of characters were cured through the power of love \$

Mental Disorders for a diagnosis of schizophrenia. She assessed the prevailing symptoms and treatments portrayed by the characters and determined that many were embellished or misconstrued.

More often than not, the films depicted characters with schizophrenia in an unflattering light — movies like "Donnie Darko" and "Shutter Island" have helped fuel the perception of a correlation between schizophrenics and homicidal maniacs. In actuality, past research has indicated that patients with schizophrenia are more likely to be the victims of violence rather than the perpetrators, Owen said.

Schizophrenics are also often introverted and susceptible to depression, two traits that "A Beautiful Mind" did capture. Seldom, though, do they achieve the levels of professional success that John Nash (both the character and the real one)

Untreated, schizophrenia is debilitating — patients are typically unable to maintain jobs or hold meaningful relationships. Those who cannot afford medication frequently turn to drugs or alcohol and, in many cases, end up homeless.

Owens acknowledged that further studies will need to be conducted to determine methods to correct stereotypes and misconceptions. Until then, Owen accepts the responsibility of teaching others that people with schizophrenia are not to be feared.

However, as long as mental illness is associated with horror films, Owen said there will continue to be an "us versus them" mentality among the public. She believes filmmakers should become more aware of the power they have to shift negative perceptions.

"I think Hollywood directors need to be more concerned with the message they are portraying," Owen said.

### What Does It Take to Become CEO?

A liberal arts education, according to one successful businessman.

by Andrew Festa

"My undergraduate degree got me the job, but it's the liberal arts that got me the CEO chair," said Ed Speed (B.B.A. '70, M.A. '86), who completed master's and post-master's programs in theology.

#### "It's OK if you quote that; it makes the business people completely bats."

Speed and his wife, Linda, met new St. Mary's President Thomas Mengler last summer and were impressed with his vision for the University and his belief in the value of a liberal arts education. So they gave \$125,000 to the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) to create the Edward and Linda Speed Endowment for HSS Faculty Development and Research. Soon after, they gave an additional \$137,500 to establish the Edward and Linda Speed Peace and Justice Fellows Program, benefiting HSS faculty scholarship that advances Catholic social teaching, human rights, social justice and peace-building. He didn't forget his business education roots, however. The Speeds also donated \$25,000 to The Greehey MBA program.

"We wanted to give back to St. Mary's, but we felt if we could help with faculty development - in philosophy and theology

specifically — that would help continue to influence the formation of the whole person," said Speed, who spent 35 years in financial services, real estate development and construction.

Under Speed's leadership, Texas Dow Employees Credit Union (TDECU), the largest state-chartered credit union in Texas, increased total assets from \$700 million to more than \$2 billion. He unlocked productivity by probing the minds of his leadership team for their motivations, feelings and concerns.

"There are no purely business interests; there are always personal and business interests," he said. "And those had to be on the table."



Ed Speed, who recently retired after 10 years as CEO of Texas Dow Employees Credit Union, defied traditional business practices, choosing to connect with people on a personal level.

So he'd bring in prominent leadership and personal-skill authors for multi-day management sessions. He even reached into his own pocket to take seven executives to Rome as a teaching opportunity.

The Houston Chronicle named TDECU a 2012 "top workplace" among Houston's large companies because of its strength of leadership, organizational health and employee satisfaction.

"This makes me so proud," he said. "This is what St. Mary's graduates can produce: a place that not only is highly successful financially, but is a place where human dignity is always paramount."

Speed's extraordinary business approach featured "disciplined conversation" - a term he learned from The Rev. Bernard Lee, S.M., Th.D., at St. Mary's. The goal of group discussions was to understand one another, he said, not necessarily to agree.

Speed realizes that disciplined conversation starts at the top, which is why the endowments focus on faculty. He envisions professors interacting with their peers at conferences, conducting research and supplementing their education.

"Buildings don't teach. Faculty teaches," he said. "Faculty forms people."

Speed previously was an adjunct faculty member in the Theology Department, and he'll return to teach Introduction to Theology in the fall.

Speed was awarded the Brother Paul Goelz, S.M. Award in 2003 for his community impact and Marianist values in business. He also helped establish the Houston Business Ethics Forum to encourage Catholic social teaching in commerce.

"I think what you see is not so much me at work, it's St. Mary's at work," Speed said. "I appreciate accolades, but I had to get that from somewhere. I wasn't born with that. Where did I get it? I got it here." ■



## UNEARTHING A WARRIOR QU

Olivia Navarro-Farr, Ph.D. (B.A. '98), and a team of archaeologists made a career-defining discovery this past summer: In a collapsed chamber in Guatemala was the tomb of Lady K'abel, a powerful Maya queen who ruled the ancient city of El Perú-Waka' with her husband more than 1,300 years ago.



"She was very well renowned," said Navarro-Farr, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the College of Wooster. "One of her titles is 'kaloomte' which means supreme warrior. She is a rare woman with this powerful designation that sets her apart, even from royal men."

Navarro-Farr has spent the past 10 years visiting and studying the site of an ancient Maya city in Guatemala. Its palaces, plazas and residences now lie in rubble, but one of its buildings still contains relics, tokens and other offerings left by people centuries ago.

"I hypothesized that there were deep and important memories associated with that building, powerful enough to be remembered for centuries to follow."

And she was right.

"This is one of only around five royal burials in the Maya world that have associated epigraphic (inscriptional) evidence that gives the historical identification of the individual," she said.

#### A MODERN INDIANA JONES

"We spent long days on our sides, under cramped and uncomfortable circumstances," said Navarro-Farr of working on El Perú-Waka' Archaeological Project.

Her team worked tirelessly despite the physical strain because, as more and more valuable artifacts were uncovered, looters threatened to move in. Navarro-Farr's group had the cooperation of the Guatemalan army, which was camped nearby for protection, but even that did not guarantee the site's security.

"We didn't have a lot of time to waste," she recalled. "Every day that you're not finished is another day that things are exposed and vulnerable to looting.'

Thieves were not the only risk they faced. As the rainy season began, the makeshift roads that weaved through the forests quickly turned to mud.

"There is no real road — just paths. At one point the truck I was in had to be pulled out with a pulley, and it took hours."

But after four months, the team had unearthed the remains of the powerful Maya figure whom history had only known through the objects and works of art that referred to her.



Photos courtesy of El Perú-Waka' Archaeological Project

Previous page: Olivia Navarro-Farr, Project co-director, uses tools to uncover the delicate headdress of Lady K'abel at an archaeological dig site in Guatemala. She began working on El Perú-Waka' Archaeological Project as a graduate student at Southern Methodist University under Professor of Archaeology David Freidel, Ph.D., Project director. Other co-directors are Griselda Pérez, Juan Carlos Pérez and Francisco Castañeda. Supporters of the Project include Pacunam and The Alphawood Foundation, among others.





#### THE WARRIOR QUEEN UNVEILED

Navarro-Farr's lifelong interest in Prehispanic Mesoamerica and her experience working side-by-side with indigenous peoples in Guatemala helped her grasp the weight of this discovery — both in and out of the history book.

"It's remarkable because it's a Maya woman with a strong, political cache and the incredible title of warrior," she said. "That does a lot for young women, indigenous women and indigenous communities. Every little bit of knowledge is important."

In many ways, the archaeologists' work had only just begun. The news of Lady K'abel was broadcast to the public, but many Guatemalans live rurally with limited access to this kind of information. Indigenous communities were even more disconnected due to language and other barriers.

"Largely, the onus is on anthropologists and archaeologists to give lectures to local and indigenous communities and advocate for education, just as we would in our own country."

#### ARCHAEOLOGY FOR THE PEOPLE

Navarro-Farr often reflects on the roles that ethics and values play in her field, especially when she gives lectures to Guatemalan communities on her findings. She watches as the people become more connected to their own history.

"St. Mary's has influenced my way of doing archaeology. Its emphasis on social justice helped me understand what is right or appropriate versus doing something merely because it advances my career."

St. Mary's is also where she first tried her hand at a dig: She went to Belize with The Maya Research Program as an undergrad and found herself spearheading excursions to archaeological sites that weren't even on the itinerary.

"Before that, I wasn't sure I would even like excavating, but I always had an intellectual fascination with the past. I was fascinated as a kid with ancient places, things and cities. I would imagine what it would have been like back when these places were actually bustling."

Today, Navarro-Farr and her team explore the very same questions she asked herself as a young girl. She plans to continue work at the site of El Perú-Waka' for years to come, but not every day will contain a discovery of Lady K'abel's magnitude. When asked if she thought she'd ever come across the Maya queen's tomb, she calmly said, "We can never know."

- 1. Navarro-Farr with co-director Juan Carlos Pérez inside the burial chamber whose ceiling had naturally caved in. After locating the tomb, the team worked tirelessly for 10 days to excavate and record their findings. Since 2003, they have collaborated with members of a nearby indigenous community on the Project.
- 2. An alabaster jar discovered in the tomb bears an inscription, deciphered by Stanley Guenter, that was key to identifying the individual's remains. Inside the tomb of Lady K'abel, the team had to remove rubble, map and record the location of each artifact, and then photograph them as part of their research.
- 3. Front cover and left: A free-standing stone with relief, 692 AD, depicting Lady K'abel at The Cleveland Museum of Art. Mesoamerica, Southern Lowlands, Maya people (AD 250-900), Classic Period (AD 200-1000). Limestone; 274.4 x 182.3 cm. Photo courtesy of The Cleveland Museum of Art.



## Law grad wants people back in the heart of the city

by Beth Barbee

Terry Mitchell (J.D. '83) doesn't want to talk about the woeful realities of modern city living, like stark landscapes and excessive traffic snarls.

He would rather talk about his vision of what cities can be — communities with people who are mindful of their environment and their neighbors, with short commutes and all the perks an urban habitat can offer. To Mitchell, it's not a tall tale; it's his life's work.

Mitchell is not your everyday real estate developer. He set out to be an architect, but instead became a banker and a lawyer. He earned business degrees from the University of Texas and St. Edward's University before completing his law degree at the St. Mary's University School of Law. He sees himself as a "student of architecture" drawn to beautiful and efficient design, but he credits his banking, real estate and law backgrounds for his success.

"I use my law school training every day, assessing risk, evaluating what is and what is not possible, and drafting contracts," said Mitchell. "Most of all, I am a great researcher, thanks to law school. I'll look at 60 projects to see what people value in order to create a new community."

In 2003, Mitchell started Momark Development and began living his dream of revitalizing Austin and central Texas, one neighborhood at a time. He is passionate about neighborhoods with a broad range of housing options (from large family homes to smaller spaces for young singles or emptynesters) and about how a well-functioning sense of community affects quality of life. Mitchell believes that a neighborhood is not simply a conglomeration of houses with a common clubhouse, but a series of gathering places that enable human interaction among neighbors.

"How do we make it feel like home for each demographic?" Mitchell asked. "We listen

We need to move the workforce closer to their jobs

to what they value, whether it is time outdoors walking their dog or hip restaurants nearby, and we cater to those values."

He also theorizes that by making urban home ownership affordable, he can place people back in the heart of the city, which will revitalize the city, improve quality of living and — a boon to everyone — reduce traffic.

"Creating huge housing developments on the outskirts of cities naturally causes terrible traffic problems. We need to move the workforce closer to their jobs," he said.

Many of Mitchell's projects concentrate on

just that — moving the workforce back into the city. This includes building what he calls "vertical communities" with common green space and lower prices than what is generally offered in cities. Austin, which Mitchell calls home, is known for its high housing costs.

"We just completed a high-rise condo that appeals to empty-nesters as well as younger urban folks who want the emotional connection of a real community," Mitchell said. "I take the potential buyers to the top floor with a 25-mile view. Their jaws drop. They can see 75 percent of the Austin metro

area; they find it fascinating and know it is a special place to call home."

The awe-inspiring view is nice, but it is just one of the

unique draws to a project. Mitchell carefully researches and considers specific needs of each location and the groups he is serving. He judiciously plans everything from the flow of the neighborhood to unique features like a common backyard on one floor and a gym on another. He wisely uses the environment to provide more green space.

"Neighborhoods should be filled with a variety and range of homes filling different needs," Mitchell said. "We are, as an industry, rediscovering that."

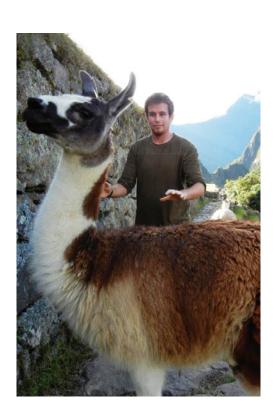


# Dispatches from a Journeyman

A YOUNG ALUM SPENDING TWO YEARS IN PERU DETAILS WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE THE ST. MARY'S MISSION

Compiled by Andrew Festa

The following are excerpts from Kyle Seymour's (B.A. '11) blog, which details his experiences in the rural town of Cambio Puente, Peru, as a missionary for the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word. Seymour has been in Peru since August 2011, and his experiences provide a window into how this alum is living the St. Mary's mission.





In Cambio Puente, there is a 6-year-old boy named Jesús with cerebral palsy ... I imagine all the help I could give him if I could only get him out of that environment.

And therein lies the rub. Yeah, maybe I would be able to help Jesús ... but then, what about his sister? What about his mom? And the rest of his family? What about his neighbors who are living in bamboo and thatch houses as well? And the other people in Cambio Puente?

Sometimes I feel like one of those National Geographic reporters who, after watching and meticulously recording the first eight months of the life of a baby gazelle, also has to watch as it is caught and eaten by a hungry lion or cheetah or whatever eats baby gazelles.

But unlike those reporters, I can do something to help. While I may not be able to kidnap Jesús, I can do everything in my power to help him become more independent and help to advocate for his health.

I know that I'm only one person. And I know that over the next two years, I'll only have added a small contribution to the betterment of Chimbote and Cambio Puente. But after reading about the violent conquests in the name of Spain and in the name of Jesus Christ, in some way, I feel like I'm here to repair some of the damage done by my forefathers. To seek some kind of reconciliation for the actions of past "missionaries" done in the name of my religion.

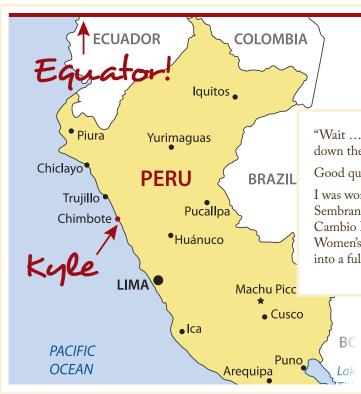
The past six months have shown me what it means to live in solidarity with the economically poor and marginalized, and how powerful and life changing that is.

When I was interviewing for a spot as an Incarnate Word Missionary a little more than a year ago in San Antonio, I said that I understood and I was fine with the idea of possibly never seeing any concrete outcomes from any of my service. That I understood how real change requires long term goals and patience. I believed that then, and still do now.

But sometimes it can get more than a little discouraging when you're actually here living it. When you stop and wonder to yourself, "Am I even doing anything?"

I have seen many fruits of my labor, thankfully. Sometimes manifested in the form of new friends. Other times in a new opportunity for Pushaq Warmi (a women's group). Or maybe through a nice email from someone I love a lot.

About the time I started really recognizing and (more importantly) appreciating moments like these, I realized that it isn't so much about seeing the fruits so much as the labor that went into bearing them.



"Wait ... what is it exactly that you're doing down there again, Kyle?"

#### Good question!

I was working with the nutrition program Sembrando Infancia in the small town of Cambio Puente, but now my work with Women's Global Connection has turned into a full-time operation.

The women's group that I had been working with is a "group" no longer! Pushaq Warmi is a full-fledged asociación, albeit with training wheels.

## Class Notes



Gabriel Hernandez (B.S. '09, M.P.A. '10) (left) and Richard Olague (B.A. '03), both members of the Washington D.C. Alumni Association Chapter, pose in front of the U.S. Capitol before President Barack Obama's second inauguration festivities in January.

#### **Recent Graduate Lands Dream Job at ESPN**

When Raul Tovar was producing and broadcasting St. Mary's Rattlers' Internet broadcasts as a student, he didn't quite anticipate his next move being similar work at ESPN, but that's exactly what happened. The sports-programming giant hired Tovar (B.A. '12) in January as a technical operator, less than a year after graduating from St. Mary's.

"For me, ESPN is a dream come true," said Tovar, who spent three years working alongside his brother, David, for St. Mary's Athletics broadcasts. "To go from watching it on TV one day to being there the next, well, it is something that I never imagined would happen to me."

Tovar credits his time at St. Mary's for making the move to ESPN possible.

"To me this just feels like a great opportunity to make my dream a reality, and to continue to learn the different sides of sports entertainment. I would encourage everyone to pursue their goals and dreams, because you never know where life can take you."



#### **CPA Finds His** Calling in the **Medical Field**

by Candace Kuebker (B.A. '78)

As CEO and executive director of the Bexar County Medical Society, John Wisniewski (B.B.A.'84) may not be what you would expect as the head of a 4,200-member medical organization. He's a Certified Public Accountant, not a physician, but he has dedicated his professional life to helping medicine deal with the realities of business.

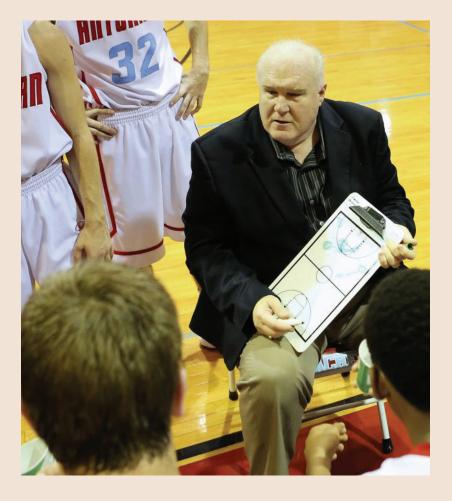
"Accounting is the language of business; I learned the language in order to do something else. I felt I had an obligation to do something for people, and the medical field is a good balance.'

Wisniewski's focus sharpened when his late brother, Ted, a physician diagnosed with HIV, spent his last years in charge of an underfunded and understaffed HIV outpatient treatment program for the state of Louisiana, serving those who most needed assistance. Wisniewski redoubled his dedication to helping those in the medical field do their job efficiently and effectively. "In the medical field, there is an obligation to serve viability."

After passing the CPA exam, he started his career with Deloitte Touche, Ross & Co. But accounting was always a means to a greater end, and he spent the next 21 years serving the healthcare industry as a chief financial officer, learning about hospital administration and the medical field. In 2008 he became CEO of the Bexar County Medical Society.

"My role is helping to create value for our members who each have unique responsibilities, needs and opportunities as physicians. In today's environment, a physician must be an exceptional clinician, but also possess the skills to be an adviser, carecoordinator, manager and business owner."





#### One for the Record Books

by Robin Johnson (B.A. '11)

Now in his 35th season of head coaching, Charlie Boggess (B.A.'71) has become the winningest high school boys' basketball coach in San Antonio's history. And he still has a few seasons left in him.

Boggess, head coach at Antonian College Prepatory High School, took the title after marking his 824th win in December. His record surpassed the previous all-time-wins mark held by fellow St. Mary's alums Joe Cortez (B.A.'56), who tallied 823 career victories, and that of Wayne Dickey (B.A. '74), who is third.

But that record-setting game shook the unflappable Boggess, 63.

"I don't ever really get antsy before games, but that game I did," recalled Boggess. "I watched the scoreboard more than I ever have and I was like, 'Come on, get it over with."

A flood of congratulations followed the game, and Boggess said it was a powerful moment.

"I had flashbacks to the very first game I coached at Harlandale and Alamo Heights. There was a lot of emotion; I was wishing my parents could have seen it."

His big win came during his first season at Antonian, after 33 successful seasons at Alamo Heights. But his preparation for coaching really started during childhood with parents who both spent their careers in the sports arena. Boggess began basketball as a player, but a high school injury stunted his plans.

"As a kid I always dreamed of being a great player," Boggess said, "but when I realized it wasn't going to happen, I said, 'If I can't play, I'm going to coach.'"

Boggess has coached a total of 42 years, and he has plenty of basketball left in him before retiring.

"I have no plans for a stop date."

### **Behind the Scenes With** Rick Casey

by Candace J. Kuebker (B.A. '78) Photo by Josh Huskin

**Name:** Rick Casey **Occupation:** Host of the local PBS affiliate's TV show "Texas Week with Rick Casey" **Age:** 66 **Hometown:** St. Louis, but calls Texas home Today, you'd never know that he: flunked both Latin and typing in high school

After 40-plus years in print journalism, Rick Casey (B.A. '68) is tackling television. His show airs on San Antonio's public broadcasting affiliate KLRN, where he presents the week's most important stories, people and issues in depth. We chatted with him about his career, which took root at St. Mary's.

What was the biggest story you covered while you were editor of The Rattler student newspaper?

I don't trust my memory after so many years. But we were dealing with major national issues, especially civil rights and the Vietnam War. One big story happened when Dick Gregory (an African-American comedian, civil rights activist and social satirist) spoke on campus, and a reporter from the now-defunct San Antonio Light took his comments out of context, sensationalizing them and causing a huge reaction. The alumni office was deluged with hateful calls.

Is it true your first job in journalism involved traveling the country in a camper?

I proposed to the National Catholic Reporter that I travel around the country to find and write features for them. I submitted clips of mine that persuaded the editors I could pull it off. I learned how to go into a community I didn't know and talk to enough people to identify and research a story of national interest.

#### Why the move to television?

An 18-minute interview is considered "in-depth" by TV standards, whereas for a single column I might conduct hours of interviews and other research to get command of the topic. The two forms accomplish different things. The TV interview gives the viewer a sense of the person being interviewed in a way I couldn't do in a column.

One thing I appreciate and enjoy is that, unlike writing a column, television is a team sport. At KLRN about half a dozen people see it as part of their job to keep me from looking stupid. It's a tough task, but they're very good at it.

#### Any advice for aspiring journalists?

It's a difficult time for journalism because the economic model of its largest traditional employer - the daily newspaper - is under such stress, but there will always be a demand for good writing. My advice is to write and publish (or post, or air) as much as you can while in school, and expect to spend your 20s in an informal apprenticeship, looking for jobs at which you will learn more than you earn.





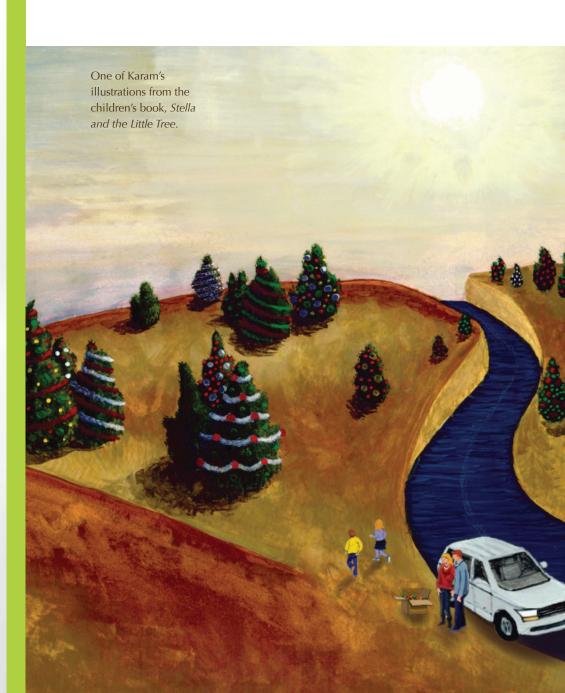
#### Angela Karam (B.A. '99)

is completing her doctorate in Learning Technologies from the University of Texas at Austin, but that's far from the only project she has going on.

She also found time to illustrate a children's book, *Stella and the Little Tree*, which gives the message that it's OK to not always be perfect. This was a passion project for Karam, whose godson Liam was born with Down syndrome, as proceeds from the book support Down syndrome research.

"I was inspired to volunteer for this project. It seemed like the perfect way to support Liam and the other folks who have Down's," Karam said. The story revolves around the unique Austin tradition of decorating random cedar trees along the roads at Christmas and is based on a real child named Stella.

Karam also recently launched a mobile application company called NowAPPening LLC, and her first app is out this spring.





## fondest Farewei



#### H. PALMER HALL, PH.D.

H. Palmer Hall, Ph.D., longtime director of the Louis J. Blume Library, passed away Feb. 9, 2013. Hall first joined the University in 1976 as a bibliographer and reference librarian, and was named director in 1980.

During his decades as director, Hall led the remarkable transformation of the library as advances in technology changed the way libraries function. Just last fall, the University dedicated the new Charles L. Cotrell Learning Commons, which came from Hall's longtime vision for the space. The Cotrell Commons, a new learning environment developed on the first floor of the Blume Library, is a popular study and gathering spot for students, faculty and staff, and includes comfortable new furnishings, extensive access to technology and on-site technology assistance, extended library hours and a coffee shop.

Hall, a tenured faculty member, taught classes in creative writing and poetry in the Department of English. He is known for mentoring several generations of artists, both on campus and in the community, particularly through the University's Pecan Grove Press.

An accomplished writer and poet, Hall was the author of 11 books, including Into the Thicket, The Big Thicket: Requiem and Redemption, and Foreign and Domestic. His work appeared in various literary magazines, including North American Review, The Texas Review, The Texas Observer, The Florida Review and many others.

In 2008, he was honored with the Art of Peace Award from the University's President's Peace Commission, and in January 2013, he received the Marianist Heritage Award for his contributions to and support of the Catholic and Marianist traditions of St. Mary's. In 2005, he was elected to membership in the Texas Institute

Hall is survived by his wife, Susan, and son, Stephen.



#### **SYLVIA AUCHTERLONIE MCLAREN**

Sylvia Auchterlonie McLaren died on Dec. 5, 2012 at her home in San Antonio at the age of 94. A native New Zealander, McLaren

was a journalist before spending 26 years in the public relations office of St. Mary's.

In the late 1960s, McLaren emigrated to the U.S. to be closer to her two sisters. While living in Pocatello, Idaho, she worked at Idaho State University for nine years in publications, while also earning bachelor's and master's degrees in English. In 1974 she relocated to San Antonio where she worked at St. Mary's University in public relations, retiring in 1998 as editor of the Gold & Blue magazine.

#### MARSHA LYNN MERRILL

Marsha Lynn Merrill, age 59, passed away on Dec. 23, 2012 in Spring Branch. Merrill was director of the Law Clinical Programs at St. Mary's School of Law from 1986 to 1995, when she left to go into private practice.

She graduated from Stanford University in California with a degree in Anthropology and received her law degree from the University of Houston. She was board certified in and practiced juvenile law. Merrill is survived by her two sons, Seth Roy Crockett Terry and Maxwell Terry.



Chapter Spotlight / Austin

2,019 alumni in the area

104 current students call Austin home

Undergraduate: 28 Graduate: 14

Ph.D.: 1 Law: 61

#### **Upcoming event**

6th Annual Austin Alumni **Chapter Golf Tournament** Saturday, May 18, 2013 Plum Creek Golf Course 750 Kohlers Crossing Kyle, Texas 78640

#### Want to get involved?

Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 210-436-3324 or go to www.stmarytx.edu/alumni.

Harvey E. Najim knows that success in business means more than the bottom line. That's why he's given \$1 million to establish the Harvey Najim Center for Business Innovation and Social Responsibility at St. Mary's University.



Harvey Najim is a St. Mary's Trustee, executive chairman of Sirius Computer Solutions, and founder of the Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation.

"St. Mary's puts social responsibility, ethics and its Catholic and Marianist values at the center of its educational process," said Najim. "Because of efforts already in place and new ones such as this Center, St. Mary's has become a gateway for the next generation of great leaders who will find ways to make business more efficient while addressing important social challenges."

The interdisciplinary Center based in the Bill Greehey School of Business will engage students in developing responsible and innovative business solutions for real companies to advance global, social and environmental change.

Learn more about supporting St. Mary's and the next generation of great leaders. Go to www.stmarytx.edu/giving or call 210-431-4244.

#### ST.MARY'S UNIVERSITY



One Camino Santa Maria San Antonio, Texas 78228-8575

www.stmarytx.edu

A Catholic and Marianist Liberal Arts Institution

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
St. Mary's University

