

# St. Norbert

College Magazine | Fall/Winter 2018

Lost in Time

Face to face with  
the Cretaceous



## In Print

Vol. 50, No. 3, Fall/Winter 2018



### Page 7

A new Wellness by Design initiative at St. Norbert is meeting the needs of today's college students – a generation that is increasingly attuned to the importance of emotional wellness, say campus professionals.



### Page 10

**Joy Pahl** (Business Administration) can't claim to feel joyous all the time, but fortunately she says her extreme optimism "can pass for joyfulness in a pinch." It's an interesting thing, says Joy-with-a-capital-J, to be named for an emotion!



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"If it isn't a struggle for beauty, what are we struggling for?" – **Brandon Bauer** (Art)

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## Cover Story



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## Unpacking a Plesiosaur

When **Rebecca (Schmeisser) McKean '04** (Geology) discovered a plesiosaur fossil in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, she knew that it was unlike anything else so far found in the Tropic Shale. Now, after three years of diligent work on the shoulder section – three years of toil over bone fragments little larger than dust – McKean is finally face to face with her find once more. She is beginning work on the skull.

**On our cover:** Rebecca McKean at work in the field. Photo courtesy McKean.



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## My Room/His Room: Burke 215

They're both SNC-educated. They like to think about things. And they have both, in different eras, fitted their tall frames happily into one of the smallest spaces on campus: Burke 215. One, a history and political science major, has the world at his feet and will graduate this year. The other is now a college president – president of this very institution, in fact.

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## Cradle of Coaches

The collegiate sports landscape is littered with coaches who pursue positions at bigger schools or higher NCAA divisions only to find they had things pretty good where they were. That's not the case at St. Norbert, where the coaching carousel stops intentionally for many of those who lead the Green Knights' athletics programs.



## Online

A sampling of related content available at [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine).



**Involved:** There are 109 student orgs active on campus, this year. We spoke with a few of them at September's Involvement Fair (**page 9**).



**In the beginning:** It's a new year on campus (**page 11**), the place never looked better, and we're looking forward to sharing it with you!



**In the hands of the experts:** Revisit some of our most notable buildings via our student-led virtual tours (**page 12**).



**Installed:** When the seventh abbot of St. Norbert Abbey (**page 14**) was blessed at his Installation, he found a unique way to honor those who had held the sacred trust before him.



**In pieces: Rebecca (Schmeisser) McKean '04** (Geology) and **Riley Hacker '17** talk about their discoveries (**page 18**) and the painstaking work of finding out more about fossils unlike any ever seen.



**In hockey futures: Spencer Carbery '06**, head coach of the Hershey Bears, is one of many hockey alums now taking lessons learned at St. Norbert into the future of his sport (**page 26**).



**In the '60s:** Athletes of the 1960s (**page 27**) huddle up to share memories.



**In living color:** As a new mural (**page 34**) takes shape in the Bush Art Center, many hands join in the work.

Keep an eye open throughout this edition for more links to content on the web. Follow us on your favorite social media channel, too. Just search for **St. Norbert College**.

[snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



### Small matters

Cute critters, faculty children, mud and water: It's all in the name of science. When **Adam Brandt** (Biology) and his students trap small mammals as part of a long-term biodiversity study at the abbey pond, he invites his colleagues to bring their children out to watch the fun. Here's Brandt talking to his daughter Lily in company with other young scientists Emilia (left) and Lucy (right), the children of **Erik Brekke** (Physics).



## Let me level with you



**Lee Reid**, chief information officer and vice president of information technology services, initially joined the ITS team in the spring of 2016. Prior to joining SNC, Reid's career spanned 33 years with IT and engineering teams. Lee holds four U.S. patents and several certifications, having worked at General Motors, IBM and three startup firms on numerous assignments that encompassed robotics, control systems, networking, software development and enterprise architecture. Reid has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Kettering University and a master's in computer engineering from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

A few weeks before I first joined the Informational Technology Services team at St. Norbert, I met the division directors Krissy, Scott, Ravi and Rob. It was over lunch. I gave a little talk about plates and bowls, and I think the group was puzzled a bit by my analogy – except for Rob who was busily enjoying his burger. The lunch was nice and somehow, later on, I learned I'd got the job.

The talk goes like this: The name of the game is Plates & Bowls, and the goal is for a team of three to lower a plate of six marbles through a hole in the floor to a basement where a dinner table is set below each hole. To achieve this they each use a short fishing pole, fishing line, and a 9-inch plate with three evenly spaced holes drilled around the rim. Each player ties their fishing line to the plate and then the team places the marbles to begin the task. The first team to lower the plate of marbles to the waiting table without dropping any of the marbles wins.

Oh, and the players are blindfolded.

How can you win such a game? Success, I believe, lies in the level of experience and, more notably, trust among the team members. A team that trusts one another to maintain the delicate balance that is required, that uses the right amount of communication among players and manages to compensate for shortfalls during the competition will have the same confidence in lowering a plate of rolling marbles as if it were a bowl of marbles.

I love this analogy. And, although, three years in, the team still often looks at me as if I'd lost my own marbles, I think it has a lot to do with our work here at St. Norbert.

One of the first things we need to do, in order to help our teams transform from lowering plates to lowering bowls, is create a "no-blame" environment. That's a key principle of the lean-process approach we're beginning to adopt at the college. That's where a team says to itself, "If there's something not working – some service we provide that is not meeting the needs of our faculty, students and staff – let's not blame.

Rather, let's dig in to analyze and improve the process."

A culture of no blame opens up ideas, lowers feelings of vulnerability and starts to build trust. We start to listen better, we get excited about making small improvements, we're not afraid to experiment, we don't get down when things go awry, and we start to transform our precarious plates into safe bowls. It's the same safe environment, in fact – one that welcomes diversity of perspective, critical thinking, experimentation and hands-on learning – that our students have always experienced in their classrooms. We become more effective, together, in working toward our goals.

Along the way, inevitably we drop a few marbles. In the IT world, these are the times where the internet connectivity is down, deadlines are missed and systems don't perform well. We run over to try and restart the technology in a classroom, only to find we don't have the right tools. We launch a few ideas; for all those that help move the college forward, there are some that don't pan out so well.

But we have colleagues to help us with their feedback – both when we get it wrong and when we get it right. They help us to learn how to be better; and we're especially grateful for the times when they trust us to be a supporting partner in their success at SNC. Working together, we in IT can develop the tech they need and the services to keep it useful, and build up our partnership as we define what's our best "next" for the college. We as a college can refine and streamline our processes so we can keep our focus clearly on our mission to create the best possible learning environment for our students.

So, back to my lunch with the ITS directors. As we parted, I think we all pondered how things might pan out. Well, the team has gotten used to my fondness for analogies, and I still haven't lost my marbles. And all the while, we've continued to build up the sides of those plates, starting to form them into bowls – into vessels that can do the job more easily and more successfully.

### #1 CONCERN

Sixty-one percent of college students nationally head to their campus counseling center due to anxiety, according to the American Psychological Association. Other reasons for their visits include depression (49 percent), stress (45 percent), family concerns (31 percent), academic performance (28 percent) and relationship issues (27 percent).



### What is TAO self-help?

Therapy Assisted Online (TAO) Self-Help offers materials and interactive modules to assist with a variety of health concerns such as stress, anxiety, anger management, communication, and evaluating alcohol and drug use. The site is available 24/7 to students, faculty and staff.

## Wellness initiative for a healthy campus

As mental health issues are finally losing their remaining stigma, changes in attitude are especially noticeable among today's college students. A study by the Center for Collegiate Mental Health revealed a 30 percent jump in the number of college students across the country seeking counseling services over a seven-year period, from the 2009-10 school year through 2014-15. And that's despite the fact that college enrollment during this time increased just 5.6 percent.

That's a sign that today's students are much more aware of emotional wellness than previous generations, say campus professionals. The college's approach to investments in wellness was recently the focus of a cover-lined article in Healthy Campus, a publication of the American College Health Association.

The stigma around mental health has decreased over the years, and St. Norbert, like other colleges, is also seeing a higher demand for on-campus counseling and related services. And St. Norbert is well-positioned to help.

The college has always viewed the health and wellness of its students as critical to their success and core to its own mission. Over the years, St. Norbert has updated its programs and facilities to offer students healthier food, better workout facilities, financial-wellness services and spiritual-wellness programs, among other enhancements.

This fall, St. Norbert unveiled its new Wellness by Design initiative. The initiative, several years in the making, is based on the eight dimensions of wellness identified by the United States Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (USSAMHSA): emotional, environmental, financial, intellectual, occupational, physical, social and spiritual. While the college



devotes resources to all of these wellness dimensions, it will focus on the emotional, environmental and physical dimensions during the next three years, responding to a survey of SNC students that showed those were the most critical.

Two enhancements already in place: The campus will become 100 percent tobacco-free from Jan. 2, 2019, and the St. Norbert community can now access Therapy Assisted Online (TAO) Self-Help in addition to the full range of on-campus counselling and psychological services. TAO offers educational materials and modules to help users learn strategies and skills that foster wellness.

"We're trying to make the healthy choice the easy choice," says **Chrystal Woller** (Health & Wellness). "We want to prepare students to adopt healthy lifestyles as a foundation for optimal health after graduation."

### Eight Dimensions of Wellness

The USSAMHSA says wellness encompasses eight dimensions:

- **Emotional:** life skills, satisfying relationships
- **Environmental:** stimulating, pleasant environments
- **Financial:** positive finances
- **Intellectual:** recognizing abilities, growing knowledge and skills
- **Occupational:** enrichment from work
- **Physical:** healthy diet, sleep and activity
- **Social:** healthy connections, support
- **Spiritual:** expanded sense of purpose and meaning in life

## Noted / Pinnacles of Achievement

## Homeward bound



**Paul Tutskey '74** had no doubt which band he hoped to see on the marina stage this summer. And the fact that the artists were based at some distance from De Pere was no deterrent to the Knights on the Fox sponsor.

New York-based duo The Guthrie Brothers were wrapping up a cross-country tour that had taken them to 21 states in the last 12 months. And the De Pere gig July 31 would be a form of homecoming: **Jock Guthrie '75** and his brother **Jeb** are both alumni of the former Abbot Pennings High School on campus, where they played for the Friday-night dances of their era. Jock stayed on to major in English at the college.

Tutskey would serve as emcee for his friends at the Simon & Garfunkel tribute concert, which was designated as Alumni Night in the popular outdoor summer series.

## Bump, set, spike



Men's volleyball is the newest program to be added to the Green Knights slate of varsity sports. The Green Knights will begin competition next year as an associate member of the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference. An emerging sport at the NCAA Division III level, men's volleyball was sponsored at 94 institutions during the 2018 season, with at least nine schools adding the sport for the 2019 campaign. "Men's volleyball is quickly growing at the Division III level, as well as in recruiting areas in Green Bay, the Fox Valley and metro Milwaukee and Chicago," says **Tim Bald** (Athletics).

## Newly decorated for services to France

**Tom Conner** (Modern Languages & Literatures), has been recognized by the government of France as a *chevalier* (knight) in the *Ordre des Palmes Académiques* (Order of Academic Palms). The order, established in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte, is France's highest national order for distinguished academics and figures in the world of culture. Conner receives the decoration this fall at the French Consulate in Chicago.

Conner is being recognized for his service over more than three decades to "promote French language and culture in the United States" as well as for his pioneering work in the former French colony of Cambodia. The citation accompanying the decoration also includes mention of his extensive service to the profession and of his two most recent books (on André Gide and on the Dreyfus Affair).



## Author

St. Norbert faculty members break new ground in their fields with a crop of new books that includes "Mary, Mother of Martyrs: How Motherhood Became Self-Sacrifice in Early Christianity" (2018), an examination of notions of early Christian motherhood by **Kathleen Gallagher Elkins** (Theology & RS), published by Feminist Studies in Religion. "The Importance of Organizational Knowledge: An Exploration of Knowledge Management in the Trenches" (2018), a rigorous study for both academics and practitioners by **Jamie O'Brien** (Schneider School), is published by Common Ground Publishing; and "Queering Trans-cultural Encounters: Bodies, Image, and Frenchness in Latin America and North Africa" (2018), an interdisciplinary approach by **Luis Navarro-Ayala** (Modern Languages & Literatures), is published by Palgrave Macmillan in the series

Palgrave Studies in Globalization & Embodiment.

## Advocate

**Cole Johnson '21** and **Jason Salisbury** (Emmanuel Center) traveled to Washington, D.C., as members of the recent Student Ambassador Leaders Together summit group called by Catholic Relief Services. They met with staff of Sen. Ron Johnson, Sen. Tammy Baldwin and Rep. Mike Gallagher to advocate for maintaining funding for poverty-reducing international development and humanitarian assistance.

## Friend

**Bob Boyer** (English, Emeritus) is to be inducted into the Chicago Filipino Asian American Hall of Fame as a Friend of the Filipino. The award honors high-achieving friends of the community for accomplishments in their own fields, and for their work in promoting the positive image of the Filipino. It recognizes "uncommon, inno-

vative and civic responsibility, along with service as an inspiration and role model to the Filipino people."

Boyer, who served as a visiting professor at the University of the Philippines, is the author of "Sundays in Manila" (2012), a travel memoir. He writes a monthly column for ViaTimes Newsmagazine, a Philippine-American publication out of Chicago.

## Ultimate discer

Nicely calculated moves served **Seth Meyers** (Math) well on his way to the American Ultimate Disc League championship title in August. Meyer's professional ultimate disc team, the Madison Radicals, overpowered the Dallas Roughnecks 20-16 in Madison, Wis., for the No. 1 spot.

## Expert

Research by **Sabine Hyland**, former associate professor of anthropology at St. Norbert, is included in a recent New Scientist cover story on how to read Inca.

"We thought they left no written records. Now, we're untangling the truth," says author Daniel Cossins. Hyland, a long-serving member of the SNC faculty along with her husband, **Bill**, now teaches at St. Andrew's University in Scotland.

## Next generation

At this year's national MathFest, **Allison Gerck '20** earned the Janet L. Andersen Award for Outstanding Student Exposition & Research in Mathematical or Computation Biology for her work on "Columnaris Disease and the Population Dynamics of Infected Fish," and **Bao Van '19** was recognized with a national Pi Mu Epsilon speaker award for his presentation on "Common Configurations in Rank-3 Simple Matroids on Small Number of Elements." **Mark Nichols '20** was also accepted to present at the conference, on "Examples of Graphs that Admit No Normal Nonabelian Sylow P-Subgroup."

## Involvement Fair / Sights High

## Strength in numbers

**Daijah Brown '22** shows her power at the ROTC booth on Involvement Fair day. There are 109 student orgs on campus this year, so it was a busy afternoon for our video team as they tried to keep up. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



# Making a name for yourself

We all have one: the name that was bestowed upon us at birth. Those parents of ours didn't know anything about us yet, and still they carried out some kind of decision-making process to arrive at a label for us. Of course the name selected would have to carry meaning, because this given name would be part of this new person's identity ... forever. This word would be hurled at, whispered to and cooed to this person thousands of times over the course of her life. But how to decide? What do we know of this little lump?

Some parents take the "Junior" path. I'm not sure if all of these parents envision Jack Jr. to be the younger essence of Jack Sr., but I think there might be certain expectations riding on his name. Other parents take the unique route – "we want our child to be the only one in her class to have this name." The uniqueness strategy can be effective, but it can also backfire. Where did all of these Olivias come from, anyway? Of course, there are always parents who are quite happy to stick to traditional names associated with certain character traits depicted in the Baby Names books. One can only speculate that these parents are hoping their child will possess those same character traits.

And then there are parents, like mine, who went for emotion. How does a baby end up being named for a feeling? According to my parents, it went like this: One day, when my mother was tending to her 4-year-old son, Jay, who was running circles around his 8-month-old baby brother, Jon, a call came in: "Congratulations, Mrs. Stevens. You're expecting!" Was this news met with jubilation? Quite the opposite – which would not surprise any busy young mother. By the time she gave birth, my mother was convinced that this child would most certainly be another boy, so when she and my father learned it was a girl, the name Joy presented itself. (After all, the name Shock was a bit edgy for 1963, plus it didn't have three letters and begin with a "J").

So, what is it like to be named for an emotion? Do people treat a person named Joy differently than they treat other people? As a social scientist, I should study this, perhaps. However, I have not, so I will simply share my observations. Yes – I think when people meet me, they have an expectation that I will spread

my name on them somehow. I try to oblige!

Some might view this as an unreasonable expectation. "You cannot possibly be joyful or joyous all the time! Come on!" This is true. I am not. That would be humanly impossible; however, I do tend to be extremely optimistic, and this (fortunately) can pass for joyfulness in a pinch. In fact, I am lucky that a friendly smile can often suffice. But here's the twist: I think that the expectations others have of me help me live up to my name because, before people encounter me, they are already anticipating some kind of positivity, so they treat me positively.

Who can resist that? Well, maybe some. I distinctly remember the first time I met someone else with the name Joy. I was 16 years old, and I was playing in a summer basketball league against girls from various small towns around the Mankato, Minnesota, area. Other Joy was not only not joyful, she was downright negative! I have to admit, her behavior was so upsetting to me that it put me off my game. Other Joy was tarnishing the name – my name! Of course, being the optimist I am, I chalked up Other Joy's crabby attitude to her having a bad day; it couldn't have anything to do with her normal disposition, after all!

So much brings me joy: having a conversation with my husband that only the two of us can appreciate; watching and listening to our two children thoroughly enjoy one another's company; reading the work of a student who has made a fascinating insight; sharing a favorite story with friends, family or students and knowing that they really get it; unexpectedly hearing from an old friend or a former student because they want to share something with me; making an amazing curling shot (and it doesn't matter if I am the deliverer of the stone, the skip calling the shot or one of the sweepers of the stone, it all brings me joy).

Two of the most joyful people I know are my father and my daughter. And their names are Bill and Chloe. These two amazing individuals manage to spread joy around, even without an emotional name as a cue! I cannot imagine either one of them being any more joyful with different names. But still, the way I see it, my parents gave me a great gift when they bestowed my name. They gave me a leg-up on joyfulness.

**Joy Pahl, associate professor of business administration, is director of International Business & Language Area Services. She joined the faculty in 1998. An avid curler, she has taken youth and SNC teams to national success.**

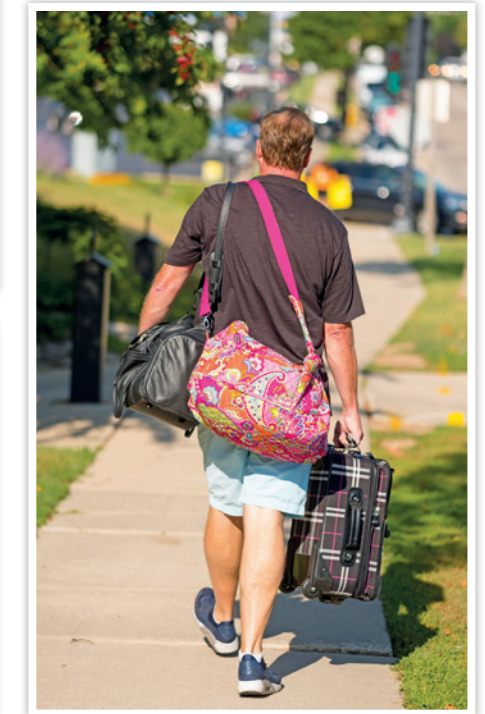
NEWS OF ST. NORBERT



### Home away from home

Teddy bears, photographs and other reminders of home filled the duffel bags, totes, backpacks and boxes that were carried into residence halls as incoming new students made St. Norbert College their home. Parents, veteran students, faculty and staff – and even a few furry friends – were on hand to make the first day of college life run smoothly for the largest-ever class of first-year students.

It's a new year on campus, the place has never looked better, and our cameras were there to record it. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



NEWS OF ST. NORBERT



stnorbert



178 likes

**stnorbert** Humans of St. Norbert: "There is a big stigma surrounding it. Everyone thinks: 'Oh you teach in urban Milwaukee, it's going to be tough there, you got some tough kids. Or, you've got your work cut out for you, good luck.' I will agree that it is a tough job, but these kids are so much more capable than society gives them credit for – even though they are in an urban setting and even though they may not come from the best home lives, even though they may be underprivileged in a variety of ways. My experience with the Center for Urban Teaching has taught me that these kids really are capable. It's really about building that relationship and showing them that they matter, that you love them and that Christ loves them. Once they see that other people believe in them, they are more motivated to do great things. I've seen the great things my students can do both in the classroom and outside. I've seen the great things they can accomplish. As we continue to do this and spread awareness for teaching in an urban setting, my hope is that someday that stigma will be erased and those kids can be seen as equal to the rest of the students because they are just as capable and just as smart as any other student." – Laura Riegg '20

**bobbischlennvogt** Yes Laura!!!!

**margaretbentley5593** You go girl! Teaching is hard gig ANYWHERE! I have done it for almost 40 years. Still love it...

*The campus is getting to know itself just a little bit better through the every-Thursday Humans of St. Norbert posts. Says social-media correspondent **Kyra Kronberg '20**: "Once people start talking about what*

*they're passionate about, you can kind of hear ... oh, this is going to be good!" Humans of St. Norbert runs on the St. Norbert College Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts.*

**Big-ticket ticker**

When student researchers set about developing a lab exercise to model the process of cardiac defibrillation, their shopping list posed a problem. They needed a model of a human torso created out of electrically conductive ballistics gel, as well as real AED units for testing – all big-ticket items.

**Ink-stained**



Psychology major **Claire Rosenberger '19** reached out to a number of companies asking how a team like theirs might acquire old, out-of-service AED units. Cardiac Life responded with a donation of 10 units – enough to equip an entire lab with two left over for testing/spares.

**Michael Olson** (Physics) says: "I think this is an excellent example of self-advocacy, something we are always trying to promote with our students. Moreover, the seniors are providing mentoring for a promising first-year student."

Rosenberger is working with her project partners **Alexis Puyleart '19** (see p. 15) and **Leah Zimmer '22** – both physics majors – to not only draft an official thank-you letter but also make a plan to keep the company informed of their progress as the year goes on.

Oh, and the human torso created out of electrically-

conductive ballistics gel? "Ah, yes," says Olson. "No such thing exists. A major part of their research is to figure out how to create one. In fact, that's what they are working on right now."

The work of tattoo artist Rick Harnowski – masterpieces that have been featured in museums, galleries and media around the world – can currently be seen in the art galleries on campus.

Harnowski, a leading proponent of tattoo regulation, is known for his imaginative custom pieces. Among his clients are former Green Bay Packers Donald Driver and Charles Woodson.

**Virtually there**

You'll find yourself in expert hands if you choose to revisit some of the most notable buildings on campus via our student-led virtual tours. Leading the way are the same SNC student tour guides who orient prospective students to campus. They get rave reviews and play a key role in bringing in the next new class. **snc.edu/magazine**

XVI

.... to nights of travel that rushed along on high and flew with all the stars –



**Brandon Bauer**  
Associate Professor of Art

It's wonderful that we have this portfolio by Ben Shahn. What's really nice about lithography as a process is that you can have both a painterly and a graphic sensibility in the work. That blue in the center of Print XVI becomes a real focal point, and then he has those little points of gold for the stars with these delicate lines that radiate out. . . . It demonstrates his wonderful abstract sensibility. Even this dark at the bottom is almost like an emotional weight that you see expressed as human figures in other pieces in the portfolio.

It would be wonderful to see the complete series displayed in an exhibition, to be able to walk through and experience the poem and his work both spatially and sequentially. Shahn defines the sort of beauty we see here and at other points in the portfolio as a source of strength through hard times. If it isn't a struggle for beauty, what are we struggling for?

**Brandon Bauer uses art as a space for critical and ethical inquiry, discourse and dialogue. He joined the St. Norbert faculty in 2011.**

### Celebrations

During the Solemnity of St. Augustine this August, the Rev. **Frater Patrick LaPacz '09** was ordained to the priesthood.

**Frater Jordan Neeck '11** professed Solemn Vows, forming a mutual lifelong commitment to the canonical life between himself and the entire professed community. Neeck was also ordained to the diaconate.

**Frater Johnathan Turba** and the Rev. **Peter Ambting**

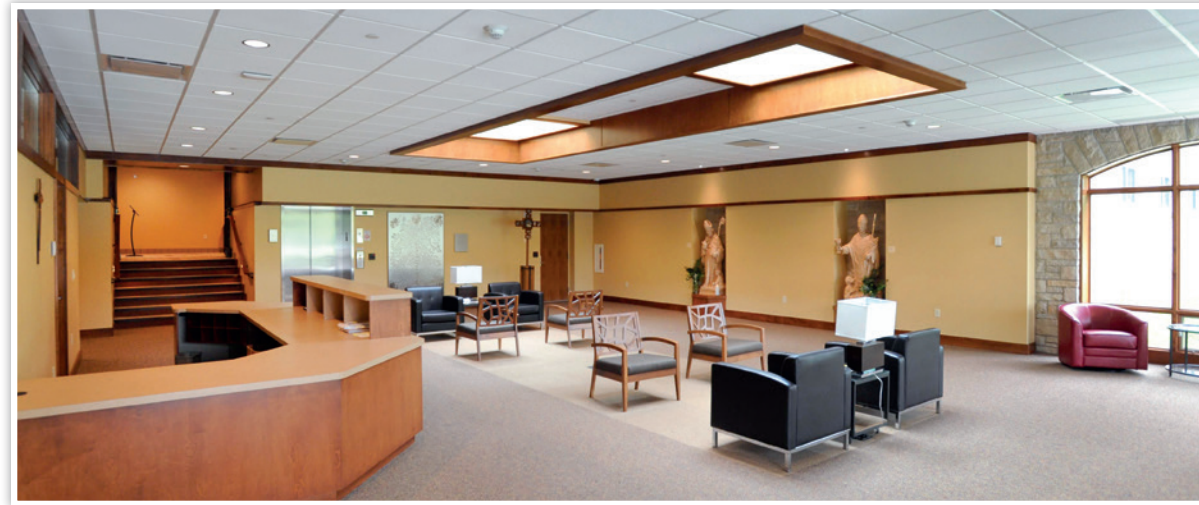
(Parish) professed Simple Vows, committing themselves to the traditional vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. (Poverty reflects simplicity of life, chastity opens the avowed to growth in the Holy Spirit in union with others, and obedience makes them attentive to God's will.)

Simple Vows precede Solemn Vows, typically by three years.

### Abbatial blessing

When the Rev. **Dane Radecki '72** was blessed as seventh abbot of St. Norbert Abbey in June, **Jerry Turba '74** was on hand to capture moments both splendid and sacred. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

## Norbertine Now / New Center for Spirituality



## All are welcome in this place

St. Norbert Abbey's new northeast entrance is now officially open to the De Pere community and beyond. The renovated northeast corner of the abbey, under construction for about a year, now serves as the building's main entrance and provides easy access to the Norbertine Center of Spirituality (NCS) while also reinforcing an important tenet of the mission of the Norbertine order: radical hospitality.

The remodel strengthens the order's capacity to be inclusive and welcoming to churchgoers and visitors, no matter their level of ability or mobility. The reimagined space includes an elevator, a reception hall with two new conference rooms, the Cloister Art Gallery, the abbey's main office and the spirituality center.

The center currently sees more than 10,000 visitors and hosts hundreds of events each year, but those numbers are anticipated to continually increase as they offer more workshops, multi-day retreats, conferences and other popular programs.

**Tony Pichler M.T.S. '94**, director of the NCS, says: "The largest spaces we had were the Killeen Room and the Abbey Chapter Room. The Killeen Room seats approximately 50 people comfortably yet some of our programs have drawn over 100 people. The new space, with two new large conference rooms that each hold over 100 people, adds to the programming options that we have. We will no longer need to limit what we currently offer."

The new conference rooms can seat 180 and 150 people and also include a small kitchen and accessible bathrooms. The hope is to invite larger groups within the parish, from the diocese and from the community to use the space. The Norbertines

also plan to hold community receptions, celebrations and other special events, which previously were not feasible.

Pichler is pleased to see that the abbey and the center are becoming all-inclusive with these additions. "It was so difficult watching people who have mobility issues [walking] up the steps of the old [center] entrance," he says. "The elevator goes to all floors and opens up the possibilities for inclusivity when welcoming people here."

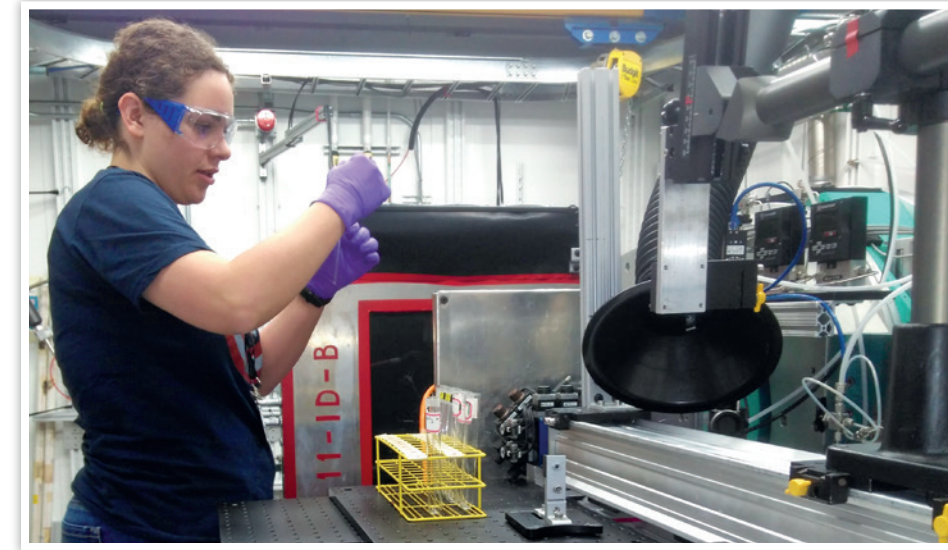
"There is such a great collaboration between the college, the abbey and the center. With this space, groups from [St. Norbert College] that have come here for years, students, faculty, [the] board of trustees, will be able to enjoy a new, fresh place to gather as they connect to the hospitality and *communio* of the Norbertines."

When visiting the abbey, guests can find the church by walking through the main entrance and then the chapter room. The church's front entrance, which faces the cemetery, will be open at Mass times throughout the year.

The need for renovations on the Webster Avenue side of the building has been a long time coming, with talk of adding an elevator starting in the mid-2000s. After some thorough planning and a generous gift from an anonymous donor, construction kicked off last summer.

Since the abbey was originally built in 1959 as a home for members and seminarians of the order, there was much to be done to ensure the new facilities met the growing needs of everyone in the community, from laypeople to administrative staff to the Norbertine priests who are its permanent residents.

## Battery-powered summer



Most college students pull all-nighters. Few do so in a national laboratory, conducting high-stakes experiments using billion-dollar equipment.

In addition to taking part in an extremely competitive National Science Foundation (NSF) program, **Alexis Puyleart '19** spent part of her summer conducting round-the-clock experiments at the Argonne National Laboratory.

Puyleart is partnering with **Nick Mauro** (Physics), who has received approval from the Department of Energy to use the high-tech X-Ray machine at Argonne National Lab in Illinois. It's one of few places in the world that has the equipment Mauro needs for experiments in a research initiative that, ultimately, will contribute to improved batteries.

"It's really hard to get beam time on these things," Mauro says. "More to the point, it's a really unique experience. These are 24-hour-a-day experiments, and so the preparation that goes into these things is very intense. It's not like research in a lab here where you can screw up three times, screw up four times. ... You only have 24 hours."

Before Mauro, the newest member of the physics faculty, arrived at St. Norbert, Puyleart had already been accepted to one of the handful of Research Experience for Undergraduates programs

funded each year by the NSF. She was one of eight students to be accepted out of hundreds of applicants nationwide to a program that assisted Ralph Wheeler, professor of computational chemistry at Northern Illinois University (NIU). Coincidentally, Wheeler and Mauro were already working together, members of a five-person team researching electrolytes, a component of ion batteries.

This summer, Puyleart and her newest professor headed to Argonne for two experiments: one 48-hour experiment in which Puyleart took the 12-hour 2 a.m. shift, and one 24-hour experiment when Puyleart worked straight through.

"Being able to do research for a few hours is one thing, but being able to fully immerse yourself in the field that you love and the field that you're studying for 24 hours straight, with multi-million-dollar equipment, it was huge," Puyleart says.

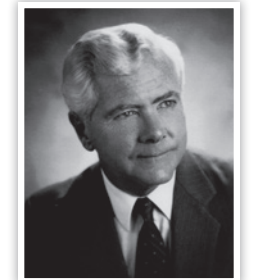
Mauro adds: "It was challenging, and it was stressful. And it was great, and it was terrible. And it was fun, and it was exhausting. But at the end of it, she did really well."

"It's science on a scale most students don't get to experience. You simply do not get these experiences very often. So, to be able to capitalize on them is super-important."

## Farewells / Passages

### PRESIDENT EMERITUS THOMAS MANION

1934-2018



St. Norbert College bade farewell to its fifth president at a funeral Mass that brought him home to campus once more. **President Emeritus Thomas Manion**, who died June 26 at the age of 84, was laid to rest after a service at Old St. Joe's.

During Manion's presidency, 1983-2000, SNC saw an expansion that was reflected in the rigor of its educational offerings, the updating and expansion of campus facilities, the focus on international education, the success of its athletics programs and the institution's outreach to the business community. Both Manion and his wife, **Maureen** — a member of the college's political science faculty 1983-2012 — devoted themselves to improving the college's profile and reputation. Manion's view of the college's destiny was unwavering: "The college's vision is to be a first-ranked, quality institution — the best Catholic college in the Midwest," he said.

Manion is survived by his wife and his children Gregory, **Marcy O'Malley (Michael O'Malley**, both formerly of International Education), Andrew, **Margaret Close '87, Christine Manion Reiss '88**, Victoria and **Thomas III '98 (Jennifer Pishko '99)**. His grandchildren include **Mary Close '15** and **Michael O'Malley '19**.

### WOODY WILSON

1942-2018



The college mourns the loss of **Woody Wilson**, assistant basketball coach. Wilson devoted his career to teaching life lessons and the fundamentals of his sport to "just help kids get better." He is survived by his wife, **Joanne**, who recently retired from the education department at SNC.

### BEVERLY ALLEN

1926-2018

St. Norbert College remembers **Beverly Allen**, instructor in library science and catalog librarian. Allen played a key role in facilitating the introduction of women undergraduates at St. Norbert and is also remembered for numerous roles on the SNC stage. She is survived by her son, John.



# My Room/His Room



## BURKE 215

*They're both SNC-educated. They like to think about things. The inventories of their dorm-room furnishings in both cases include a basketball, a turntable. They make the most of their educational opportunities, and ascribe great value to them. They appreciate the changes they've seen on campus over the time they've known it. They're both above average height. And they have both, in different eras, fitted their tall frames happily into one of the smallest spaces on campus: Burke 215. One, a history and political science major, has the world at his feet and will graduate this year. The other is now a college president – president of this very institution, in fact. **Mike Dauplaise '84** sat down with **Nicolas Schmudlach '19** and **Brian Bruess '90** as student and president chatted about life on campus from their shared residential viewpoint.*

**SCHMUDLACH:** I lived in Madelaine/Lorraine as a freshman and 3M as a sophomore. That was the river end of campus. Now I find that I'm on the south end of campus, and given my majors, I never go past GMS [Gehl-Mulva Science Center]. I remember when I toured here as

You and I are what I call performance introverts. – Brian Bruess

a junior in high school, GMS was up but nothing was in it yet.

**BRUESS:** When I graduated, Cofrin Hall was not here, Bemis was not here, and of course the Mulva Library and the new residence halls were not here. Last summer, the Class of 1957 was here celebrating their 60th. Carol and I were talking to a table of people. [Bruess is married to **Carol (Sessler) Bruess '90**, who also lived in Burke.] They were having trouble navigating on campus because of all the new buildings! I understand. Half of the meetings I'm going to I don't know where they are. It's kind of amazing!

**SCHMUDLACH:** The first two years I was rooming with people and then last year I went to a single room in Burke 215. The room itself was small. It was kind of tough in the early going. When you have a roommate, they're always there if you need something. I counteracted that by inviting people over to my room or going to their place to hang out. A single room is very nice because you don't have to worry about rowdy roommates. If there's a mess in the room, the mess is yours. There are pros and cons to both.

**BRUESS:** I chuckle when I hear you describe the room as small. I had a roommate when I lived in Burke 215. At the time, students could make their own lofts and we constructed a single loft across the top of the room that was no more than 16 inches from the ceiling. Underneath we had a small couch and a beanbag chair. We also had 4-foot-tall cabinet speakers for our stereo, and we didn't have video games or computers.

Burke didn't have any lounges and we didn't have a Campus Center then, so there was a lot more hanging out in the residence halls than there is today. It was common to see five or six people hanging out in the rooms and all sorts of chaos going on in the halls. Good memories!

**SCHMUDLACH:** This past year was the first year I had my turntable on campus. I got into vinyls because my friends collect. Half of my collection, bands like Asia, are part of my dad's collection and I get good use out of it. I tend to lean toward heavier music when listening to CDs or digital, so having many of my vinyls fall into the easy-listening category provides a nice selection, especially for my guests.

The misconception about introverts is, they can't do any social interaction. If you need to survive, you're going to do social interaction. It's part of how we're wired.

**BRUESS:** I grew up more of an introvert, but I've watched my preferences evolve a bit. When you recharge, you're doing it solo. For someone like you who's really good at interacting with other people and can function well, you and I are what I call performance introverts. You can turn it on when you need to.

Do you study much in your room?

**SCHMUDLACH:** No, I have established in my mind that my room is the hangout spot and the sleeping spot. I can't do anything productive in my room. It's a black hole of turn-off-the-brain!

**BRUESS:** Students have to find the space that works. I'm always curious about where that is.

**SCHMUDLACH:** I have an on-campus job in the library. It's a great place to study, don't get me wrong! But I actually go to the Pennings Room off the church atrium to study. I've gone in there maybe three dozen times and only had other people in there maybe three times. It's super chill in there.

**BRUESS:** What are you excited about for your senior year?

**SCHMUDLACH:** I only have to take three classes for the last two semesters in order to finish both of my majors. I'm looking forward to getting more work experience. I'm working in the library, I'm working for athletics. I do the filming for volleyball and basketball. When you watch it on the computer, that's usually me doing the camera work.

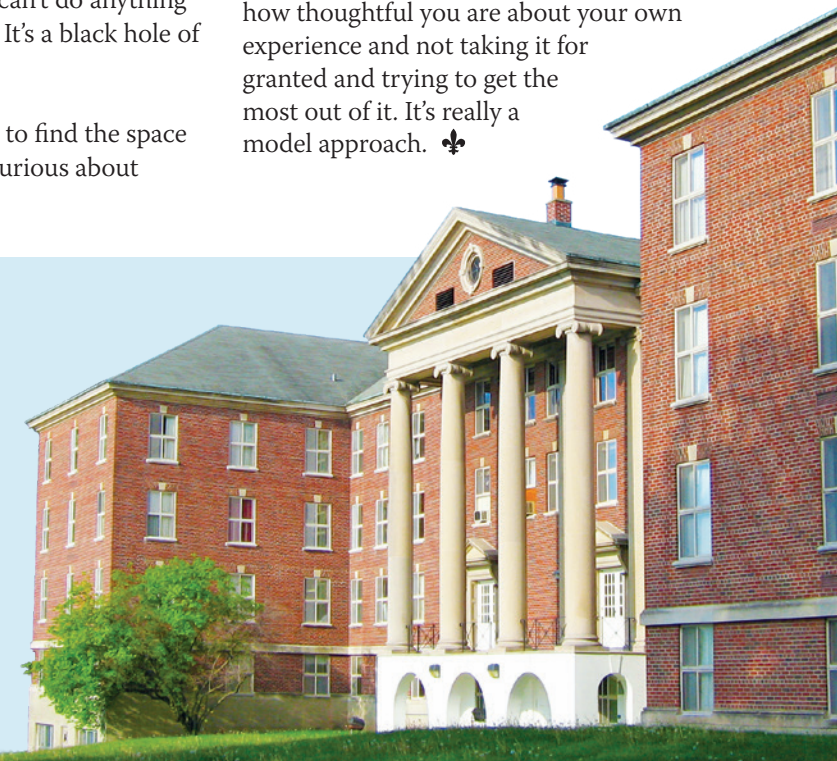
**BRUESS:** How aware are you that this is the most fun time of your life? Once you graduate, the pressures are different.

**SCHMUDLACH:** I'm aware of [that]. I'm just pushing it away and trying to keep it at bay for a while. It's going to be interesting, but in a way I'm looking forward to it.

**BRUESS:** I think it's really good that you're holding off. I also think it's important to fully immerse yourself in the college experience because it is so unique. It never happens again, even in grad school. It's such a precious time. I love how thoughtful you are about your own experience and not taking it for granted and trying to get the most out of it. It's really a model approach. ♣

Dennis M. Burke Hall underwent a significant renovation in 2018 that converted most its double-occupancy rooms to singles. The renovation project includes redecoration of its beloved colonial-style fireplace lounge, traditional home of the Wednesday-night Burke Hall Mass. A newly furnished lounge on the lower level provides another place for hanging out with friends.

Burke, completed in 1942 in a classical style that makes it a true icon on campus, was first named Residence Hall and then (more imaginatively) Berne Hall. In 1979, it was renamed after the college's second president.



# Unpacking a plesiosaur

By Rachel Mueller '14



Confirming a new species is not something that happens in a lightbulb moment, and no one knows this better than **Rebecca (Schmeisser) McKean '04** (Geology).

It's been six years since McKean spotted some particularly interesting bone fragments while surveying the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Southern Utah. ... Five years since her plesiosaur was finally excavated from the Tropic Shale, its bones packed into two large plaster jackets, one small jacket and several bags of fragments. ... Four years since she was able to bring it to St. Norbert, where the science faculty was still dispersed pending the remodeling of the old John R. Minahan Science Building. ... Three years since she was finally able to open the first jacket in her new state-of-the-art prep lab.

This fall, after three more years of diligent work on the shoulder section – three years of toil over bone fragments little larger than dust – McKean is

finally face-to-face with her find. She is beginning work on the skull.

## Patience and paleontology

It was the summer of 2012 and McKean was at work in Southern Utah. It was hot, it was uncomfortable and, after several unsuccessful trips to the desert, she began to think she was not going to find a fossil worth her time. Then, she noticed some bone fragments sitting in an area behind a ridge she'd never explored before.

Pieces of bone on the ground aren't uncommon and typically don't lead to a fossil find, but once McKean located intact vertebrae, and the skull within the hill slope shortly thereafter, she knew she'd found the remains of a prehistoric carnivorous marine reptile from the Cretaceous Period: a 92.5 million year old plesiosaur.

"You just never know what you're going to get in any given field season," says McKean. "I've been out

[many times] before and found nothing, but to see that skull in such beautiful condition was so exciting."

After three arduous years brushing, cleaning and putting together the fossils in the first of her plaster jackets, the one containing the plesiosaur's shoulder area, McKean is ecstatic that she's now able to start the same process with the skull this fall. Excavating a complete skull of any specimen is something to celebrate, says McKean, since it's the part that's widely regarded as the most reliable path to species identification.

But the entire process requires the utmost patience, both in the field and in the lab, and discovering a fossil worthy of excavation isn't all that easy either.

McKean's trips require a prospecting permit that allows her to collect anything on the surface or a few inches beneath the ground. When researchers find specimens larger or deeper than that, they need to apply for a separate excavation permit in order to remove the fossil. This tends to take a full year to



## The original Nessie

**Old-timers:** Plesiosaurs swam in the oceans of 205 to 66 million years ago.

**Long-necks:** These 35-footers with snake-like necks and smaller heads used their sleek form to chomp on schools of fish.

**Short-necks:** The 15-footers with larger heads ate bigger fish, turtles and squid, and were more agile and hydrodynamic. Their compact bodies with muscular front and back paddles helped them dart through the water.

**Weight:** Plesiosaurs tipped the scales at 1,000 pounds.

**Still with us?** These "fierce dolphins" are akin to the mythic Loch Ness Monster.

Images courtesy Dan Varner and Rebecca McKean

### Now in 3D!

McKean has experimented with creating digital 3D images of her plesiosaur and others from the Museum of Northern Arizona with photogrammetry, using photography to map and measure objects. With help from **Erik Brekke** (Physics), she has printed 3D models of these images with his department's 3D printer.

She plans to bring them into the classroom so her students can work with model fossils without having to travel to a digging site or use the lab.

 **Rebecca McKean '04** (Geology) talks about the moment of discovery in 2012. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

process, so the discovery site itself can't be disturbed. "It can be nerve-racking because you don't have eyes on your site for a whole year," says McKean. "You worry about big storms that may come through, or further erosion, or even poachers who could steal the fossil."

It wasn't until the summer of 2013 that McKean's plesiosaur was finally excavated, with help from **Allison Shackelton '14** and **Shannon Fasola '14** with Dave Gillette and volunteers from the Museum of Northern Arizona (where McKean currently partners as a research associate). The excavation of this particular specimen presented a unique challenge. It lay in thick shale near the bottom of a cliff where a car-sized boulder had fallen to rest upon it. While sections of the skeleton a few feet from the boulder were fractured, the skull fossil underneath was in pristine condition.

"We later learned this actually improved the quality of preservation by preventing expansion of the shale during weathering," says Gillette. "The boulder's weight kept the ground compressed."

The field team had to tunnel far enough beneath the boulder to make a plaster jacket around the skull. Fortunately, the boulder didn't shift, the bones remained undamaged and the team safely removed the fossil, which constitutes about 25 percent of a complete plesiosaur skeleton. (It's incredibly rare to find an entire fossil of any species, explains McKean, and most complete fossils on display are composites of several skeletons.)

The plaster jackets were then transported to the Museum of Northern Arizona for safekeeping for an additional year while work began on remodeling the

former science building at St. Norbert. Because of the fragility of the specimens, McKean decided to go to Arizona in 2014, load up the two plaster jackets (one containing the shoulder and the other the skull) and drive them back to Wisconsin herself. Meanwhile, work continued on the new science center with its geology prep lab. McKean had to be patient a little while longer.

### Putting the puzzle pieces together

By the time McKean finally cracked open the first jacket in 2015, it had been almost three years since she first laid eyes on her plesiosaur. Revealing the fossils once more, in her brand new lab, was exhilarating. "To have this space is enormous for me. I had a modified setup that worked, but it was so cramped," she says. "I designed this new space for my research. I have the ventilation, the surgical lights, the table that's hydraulic – all the bells and whistles of a prep lab that a big research institution has. I would've not been able to work on these fossils here if GMS [the Gehl-Mulva Science Center] hadn't been built."

With the plaster jacket opened, the fossil preparatory work began. The work includes carefully removing pieces of rock and bone from the jacket, piece by piece, cleaning them with toothbrushes and dental picks, and then gluing the pieces back together.

McKean, with the help of St. Norbert geology students (including her Introduction to Paleontology class), recently finished examining the contents of the first jacket. Its contents were fractured and weathered due to erosion. This jacket contained part of the plesiosaur's chest, one shoulder, the humerus, the scapula, a coracoid and several vertebrae and ribs. (The coracoids are two large bones that stretched across the plesiosaur's chest and helped them maneuver their huge wing-like front flippers, or paddles.)

"When you find tiny pieces that fit, they lock into place and it's so satisfying," says McKean. "I'm really pleased with how the first jacket turned out."

This fall she has started on the second jacket, which contains the full plesiosaur skull. It's too early to confirm whether or not this plesiosaur is a new species – but it doesn't resemble anything else that has been found so far in the Tropic Shale, which is compelling in itself.

"I love the prep work because it's fulfilling," McKean says. "These bones are 92.5 million years old. It's amazing because they were in the ground for that long, and I'm the first one to see them since."

As the work proceeds, McKean compares her reconstructed fossil with other specimens that have been discovered: first, with others from the same rock formation; then, with others on which research



has been published. She photographed bones from several plesiosaurs from the Museum of Northern Arizona and generated 3D models so that she could undertake comparative work on campus.

After McKean officially identifies the species and publishes her research, the fossil will be transferred to the Museum of Northern Arizona as required by her permit. Museum staff there catalogue fossils of all kinds and manage them so they are accessible by other paleontologists.

Along with shared time in the field, McKean regularly incorporates hands-on experiences inside and outside the classroom. It's a chance to introduce St. Norbert students to the hands-on processes of paleontology.

Some of her upper-level students also work in her lab during the semester. They discuss taphonomy (the study of fossilization), talk in detail about preservation, and open plaster jackets to clean fossil pieces. McKean also advises students on their own undergraduate research projects, which might involve examining specimens that they themselves have found while working in the field in Utah with their professor.

**Sara Schreder-Gomes '19**, a geology student who's graduating this December, is currently assisting McKean with fossil prep work.

"Sara asked if she could get more experience, so

right now she's taking bags of fragments, cleaning them up and putting them together to try and identify what we have," says McKean. "She's getting that knowledge and making huge progress."

Schreder-Gomes spends hours in the lab cleaning the fossils and putting them together, but when she finds the perfect fit, she says it's like no other feeling.

"When I work in the lab I get a little awe-struck just thinking that I have the privilege of being one of the first people to handle this specimen in around 90 million years," says Schreder-Gomes. "It has its ups and downs. Sometimes I'll spend an hour in the lab and only find one or two bone fragments that fit together. Other days, I'll find five or six."

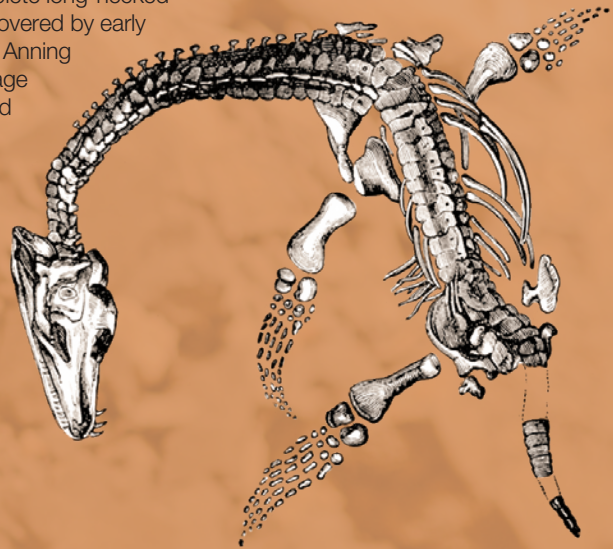
### Coming full circle

As a St. Norbert alum, McKean knows first-hand the immense benefit she and other faculty can bring to their students.

"How cool it's been for me to be an alum to come back here as a professor and contribute to those same types of student experiences that I was fortunate to have as an undergrad," says McKean. "Tim [Tim Flood] and Nelson [Nelson Ham] were my professors when I was here and strongly emphasized field-based learning, which had a huge impact on me."

McKean has worked hard to provide similar


The first more-complete long-necked plesiosaur was discovered by early paleontologist Mary Anning (1799-1847). An image of Anning's fossil find hangs in Rebecca McKean's office.



### Path to paleontology

**Sara Schreder-Gomes '19** vividly remembers the moment she developed a desire to study paleontology. It was SNC Day in 2015, and she was regaling her visiting family with tales about her fascinating geology class while walking through the Gehl-Mulva Science Center. When they came upon Rebecca McKean diligently working in her lab, the professor stopped to explain what she was doing – sparking Gomes' curiosity in learning more about the history of life on Earth.

**Alison Shackelton '14**, who helped excavate the plesiosaur in 2013, is in a Ph.D. program studying fossil hippos. And **Riley Hacker '17** (below) is now in grad school studying Cretaceous fish.

 As an undergrad, **Riley Hacker '17** was able to prospect a Utah site for discovery, find a fossil fish, excavate it, identify it as a 92.5-million-year-old *Xiphactinus audax*, and present on his findings at a national Geological Society of America conference. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



McKean's plesiosaur *in situ*.

field-based opportunities for her students, whether it's a summer excursion in Utah or a trip elsewhere. She understands that her research can slow depending on how her responsibilities shift from semester to semester, but her most worthwhile moments are when she involves her students in that research and field work. "If I were at a big research institution, I wouldn't have these experiences that are the most valuable to me and to our students," she continues. "Faculty-student research for our undergrads is a game-changer, and I know that because it was for me. And, for me personally, it's way more rewarding instead of just cranking out paper after paper."

Undaunted by the amount of work still ahead, McKean understands her plesiosaur has already given up many secrets and is looking forward to discovering what the creature's skull has to share.

"I found [the plesiosaur], I got to excavate it and I got to bring it here," she says. "I get to tell its story, whatever that may be, and that is one of the most enjoyable parts of my job." ❀

## Rebecca McKean reflects on working in the field with a toddler in tow

Doing field work in the unforgiving desert environment of southern Utah is hard enough, but adding a toddler into the mix changes all the rules.

Last fall, I took my first sabbatical. I felt a great deal of excitement over the research goals I was about to tackle, but I was also apprehensive about how I would accomplish the work with a toddler in tow. I had two weeks of field work and two weeks of museum work planned for my sabbatical. My son, Séamus, had just turned 1 and was still nursing, so being physically separated from him for either trip was not possible.

At 5 months old, Séamus had already traveled to Arizona with me when I presented at an event for research associates at the Museum of Northern Arizona. He had also traveled to Utah at 10 months old when I was the speaker at Bryce Canyon National Park's Geology Festival. So the logical choice my husband (Colin McKean – a St. Norbert grad, too, Class of 2005) and I made for these trips? Séamus would join me, of course! For the museum work, we traveled as a family of three. Colin and Séamus enjoyed time together while I did my work safely inside the museum.

Field work, however, is a different story. Field work in southern Utah is intense. Searching for new fossil sites involves hiking miles every day on steep terrain with a heavy gear-laden backpack. Temperatures soar well above 100 degrees with no shade in sight for miles, gnats

buzz incessantly around your face, and rattlesnakes sun themselves in the same zones the fossils can be found in.

And, there is no guarantee of success. You can go days without finding a single new fossil. You can also find beautifully preserved fossils that have never been seen by a human eye and are millions of years old. High-risk, high-reward.

The only way I was able to take my son on these trips was through the support of my family. For the field work, my parents each took a week to come and hang out with Séamus while I searched for fossils. Almost every day, they would bring Séamus out to my field area around lunch time so he could see me (and so I could see him). He would then watch me trek my way back out to the rocks to begin my hunt again.

My behavior during field work definitely shifted having a toddler along. I pushed myself to cover as much ground as possible, wanting to make the time away from him worth it. I also took fewer risks than I typically do, avoiding the steepest slopes and the places most likely to contain rattlesnakes. With a little one relying on me, I intensely felt my responsibility to stay healthy.

While Séamus did not help me find any new fossils on this trip, I'm looking forward to when he is old enough to participate in the search. Certainly, with eyes closer to the ground, he'll see all kinds of things that I won't!

# CRADLE OF COACHES

By Mike Dauplaise '84



Gary Grzesk  
NCAA Division III  
record 72-game  
conference winning  
streak

The collegiate sports landscape is littered with coaches who pursue positions at bigger schools or higher NCAA divisions only to find they had things pretty good where they were.

That's not the case at St. Norbert College, where the coaching carousel stops intentionally for many of the men and women who lead the Green Knights' athletics programs. The vast majority of the college's head coaches choose to avoid the nomadic nature of the coaching business and spend a significant portion of their careers at a small liberal arts college that competes at the NCAA's nonscholarship Division III level.

"There have been other opportunities for me, but at the end of the day, you realize the grass isn't always greener on the other side," says Dan McCarty, who is in his fourth year as head football coach and fifth overall at St. Norbert.

Coaching stability is a common denominator in the college's current history-making run of success across the spectrum of sports. In addition to creating a shared expectation of excellence, head coaching consistency is a beneficial variable in the recruitment of high-level athletes.

"We have an institution that people want to be around," states Tim Bald. He has served as the college's director of athletics for 15 years. "Our coaches have the chance to be successful and fight to get into the NCAA Tournament on a pretty regular basis. When other opportunities come up, they have to think, 'Am I going to be able to do that somewhere else?'"

Dan McCarty  
Unbeaten  
regular season  
in first year



"Everything comes at a price. You can't have do-overs in life. If you're not careful, you'll look back and your kids are seniors in high school. There is such a thing as quality of life, and our coaches are professing all the right life lessons to our students."

### 'Quality knows no divisions'

Men's basketball coach **Gary Grzesk** knows all about the pressures of Division I athletics. A member of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay team that upset California in the 1994 NCAA Tournament, Grzesk is familiar with the pressure cooker that big-time athletics can be. But it is the words of his legendary coach that continue to resonate with him more than two decades later. Dick Bennett, who made a name for himself at Division III UW-Stevens Point prior to leading the UWGB and Wisconsin programs, was fond of saying that "quality knows no divisions or boundaries."

"I firmly believe in that philosophy," says Grzesk, who served as an assistant at Division I Youngstown State and UWGB prior to accepting Division III head coaching positions at Lakeland and, for the last 13 years, at St. Norbert. "It's very flattering when you hear your

name mentioned for other jobs, but I'm at the point now where I don't need to take a bad job to try and prove myself as a coach, or go up to D-I or D-II to prove myself.

"The pressure to win at the Division I level is very real," Grzesk notes. "I put enough pressure on myself to do well. I don't need the extra pressure."

Division III athletics also allows for part-time coaches to contribute their expertise without sacrificing their day jobs. Women's soccer coach **Dennis Detrie**, also a former Division I athlete at UWGB, has filled that niche through 16 successful seasons at St. Norbert. Detrie, a part-time coach, does not have time outside of his full-time job to do the level of off-campus recruiting that would be required at the D-I level.

"There's still a time commitment for me, but the travel some of these coaches do is crazy," Detrie says. "I use the school itself as my biggest recruiting tool. We don't chase kids. We try to get them on campus and once they have some interest, then I have a chance."

### Family matters

Good coaches know the value of time management, along with other performance skills bred from a life lived in balance. McCarty comments: "This is the place I've decided to stay, and part of that decision ties into the personal side of things. The higher you go in the coaching ranks, the greater the time commitment. Here we can go home to be great husbands and fathers, and that's very important to me."

Above all, family is the most important consideration for Grzesk and his wife, Liz, both of whom coached at Youngstown State and UWGB. Their two school-aged children are entrenched in their own lives, and the couple sees no need to uproot them.

Other coaches echo the Grzeskes. "For us it's a family-comes-first mentality," says **Tim Coghlin**, who has led the men's hockey team to five national championships in his 25 years as head coach. Coghlin and his wife have had multiple opportunities to move, dating back to the late 1990s and a Division I job at Alaska-Fairbanks: "We both went up there and decided against it."

### Skewing the average

Few coaches in the country can approach the longevity of **Connie Tilley**, who is embarking on her 42nd season as head coach of the women's basketball team. With 18 basketball conference titles (and five in other sports), a dozen trips to the NCAA Tournament and a Final Four appearance, Tilley is the embodiment of coaching stability and the consistent success it can produce.

Tilley had an opportunity to jump to the Division I program at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh following the 1984-85 season, when her Green Knights advanced to the NCAA Final Four and posted a 24-4 record. After much deliberation, she decided to stick with what she knows best.

"That was a very tough decision," Tilley recalls. "Once I made the decision that I wanted to stay at St. Norbert, I didn't look any further. This is where I started my career and this is where I wanted to end my career. When I looked at it as a whole, a lot of it was the philosophy of Division III sports. I feel I align much better there. Basketball for me is a passion, not a business. [Division I] wouldn't have been a great fit for me."

Tilley's career coincided with the emergence of women's sports at the college following Title IX taking effect in 1972. She has been able to observe how a culture of playing the game the right way and holding athletes accountable can carry on through generations of athletes.

"The huge advantage of being at a place your whole career is witnessing the development of the campus and the rise of all the sports," she says. "When you have multiple successes in all the sports, it feeds on each other. As a department, we're very close that way. That in and of itself is a culture. There's not a single coach or program that I don't highly respect and cheer for, and I encourage my athletes to support their fellow athletes."

### Following a positive example

**Don Augustine** witnessed the success of his high school football coach who, not unlike Tilley, had in a 37-year career that played out at a single Ohio school. Augustine knew that example should serve as the blueprint for his own career. Now in his 12th year as head coach of the men's and women's cross country teams as well as both track and field teams, he is the first person in St. Norbert history to hold all four positions in a full-time capacity.

"To see all of the tradition and history that he established and the success he had, I just felt I needed to be somewhere for a while to create that type of program," Augustine says. "When I looked at St. Norbert as a young coach coming in, I saw the success that particularly the football and men's hockey programs were having, and how you need to establish yourself and your program in order to reap the benefits."

Augustine's commitment to St. Norbert has produced quantifiable gains in participation, especially in track and field where the combined men's and women's rosters have grown from 35 in his first season to 108 this year. The question of his future plans comes up often when high school athletes and their parents

visit campus.

"In about 50 percent of the visits, I will have a parent ask what my plans are. 'Do you intend to be here for my child's four-year career?'" Augustine says. "You try to be as honest as you can. As an Ohio native, if the (Ohio State) Buckeyes called I'd have to listen. But this is kind of home now and I see myself staying here for a long time."

The stability and growth of the track program also has attracted a number of alumni back as part-time or volunteer assistants.

"The fact that so many people want to come back and try to grow it beyond what it is," notes Augustine, "says a lot about St. Norbert and what we're trying to do."

Connie Tilley  
23 conference titles across all sports

Tim Coghlin  
Five national championships

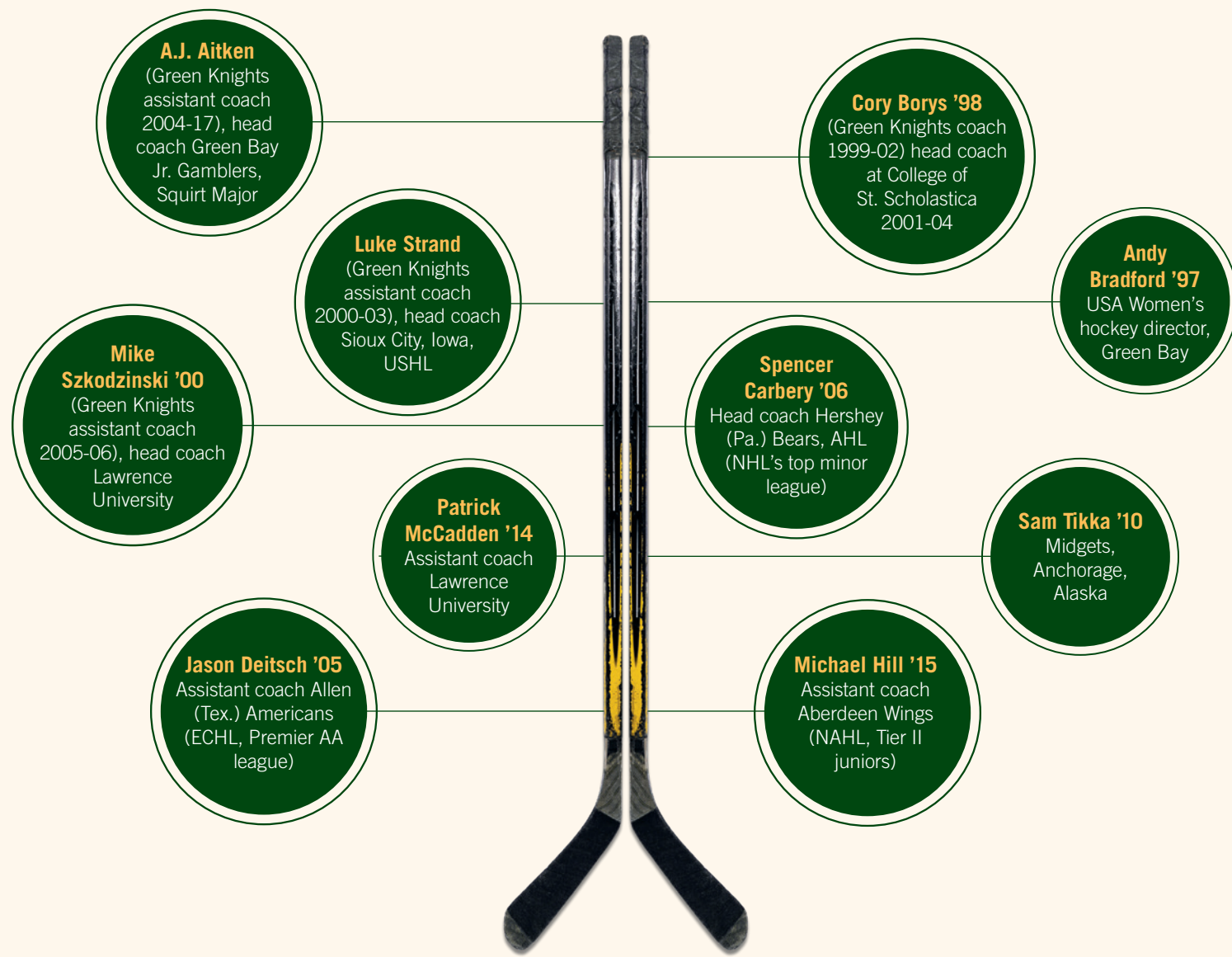


Dennis Detrie  
12 conference tournament trips in 16 seasons



Don Augustine  
2015 dual track and field conference title





## Coaching tree seeds hockey futures

The hockey world is perhaps as tight a community as any in all of sports, so it is of little surprise the extent to which the über-successful St. Norbert College men's hockey program is impacting teams from youth hockey through the professional ranks across the USA.

**Tim Coghlin**, who has guided the Green Knights for the past quarter-century, is proud of a coaching tree that features more than 20 former players holding positions at various levels of organized hockey. Even Coghlin himself coaches a Pee Wee A team outside of his St. Norbert duties.

"Many of our graduates have spent time coaching youth hockey in the Green Bay area," Coghlin says. "It's one of the biggest assets we can bring to the table."

Collegiate hockey crosses international borders and blurs the lines between full-scholarship NCAA Division I programs and nonscholarship Division III programs such as St. Norbert. Since there are only 60 Division I and no Division II programs, Coghlin and his staff often recruit against much bigger programs for the same pool of athletes worldwide.


"If you're playing college hockey, you're either in Division I or the next tier is Division III," Coghlin explains. "We get Division I-caliber athletes here at St. Norbert."

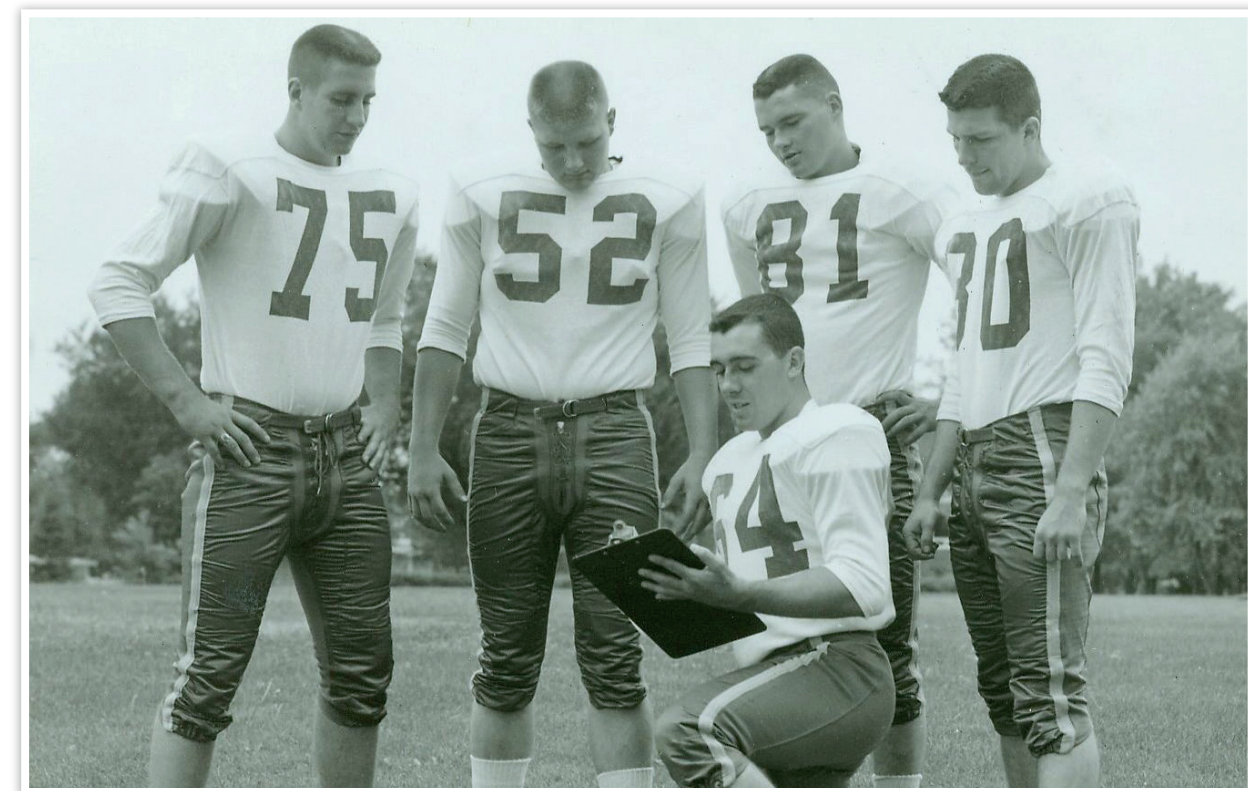
**Meredith Roth** has noticed a carryover effect from the men's success to the women's hockey program she is leading for the fourth season.

Despite women's hockey having only eight seasons as a varsity sport at St. Norbert, the name recognition generated by the men's dozen Frozen Four appearances gives her a recruiting head start virtually anywhere she goes. "The hockey world is a small one, so someone will know about St. Norbert wherever I go into a rink," she says. "I'll wear a jacket with a logo on recruiting trips over in Europe or Canada, and people will recognize it."

Roth, a native of Dubuque, Iowa, has witnessed the spectacular growth of collegiate women's hockey beginning with her own recruiting visit to the University of Wisconsin to watch that program's very first game.

"We definitely benefit from all the time Coach Coghlin and his staff have put into building a highly reputable program," Roth says. "Growth-wise, we're at a different place, but at least we have that connection that [a high level of success] is possible." ❁

 "Coach Coghlin does a tremendous job of teaching young men values and what it takes to be part of a successful team," says **Spencer Carbery '06**, who is now in his first season as head coach of the Hershey Bears, the top minor league affiliate of the defending NHL-champion Washington Capitals. Read more online about Carbery and the other hockey alums who are now taking lessons learned at St. Norbert into the future of their sport. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



## Athletes of the '60s huddle to reminisce

Games, practices, coaches, teammates, bus rides, the locker room, Buck's bar: All were in bounds as topics of conversation at a summer reunion for St. Norbert College athletes from the 1960s. Ninety Green Knights from various sports returned to campus to exchange stories and reminisce.

Much of the talk in the football room revolved around legendary coach **Howard "Chick" Kolstad**, who led the program from 1960 to 1978. **Dave Gagermeier '65** recalls an instance when "Howie" threw his clipboard in anger at the close of practice at Minahan Stadium.

"He said, 'I'm not going back on the bus with you, I'm going to run back,'" explains Gagermeier, who also played basketball in college. "So we all get on the bus and everybody is real quiet. We get to the bridge coming back to school and we see an assistant coach dropping Howie off. He starts running across the bridge. We are all in the bus laughing. Nobody had any guts to say anything to Howie."

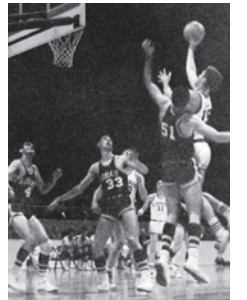
Kolstad "was a Marine Corps guy, boxer and football player," says **Wayne Lubner '71**. "When you played for him, he was tough, but you always knew that he would take care of you." **Ed Sturzl '71** says: "Even the guys who struggled to get along with him, respected him."

Unlike today's Green Knights football roster of 135 players, teams in the '60s had only 40 to 45 players. Everybody had to show up to play. **Dave Simon '66** recalls cutting his eye open in the first quarter of the game at Augustana during his junior year. The police took him to the hospital where he received nine stitches.

"We got back and it was halftime," he explains. "I played the second half with a broken nose and a stitched-up eye."

The reunion included a slideshow of athletic photos from the decade, including images of the wrestling team that competed for three seasons. The alumni also toured the athletic facilities and visited the locations of their old home fields and courts.

### Good sports



Among the games discussed during the reunion for athletes from the 1960s was one of the worst defeats in St. Norbert history: when the basketball team faced Division I Loyola of Chicago.

Then-athletic director **Mel Nicks** scheduled the game during the 1961-62 season – one year prior to Loyola's NCAA championship win.

"Somehow he got us on their calendar," says **Dave Gagermeier '65**, who played football and basketball. "It was a filler game. ... I was on the bench. I can remember we were ahead of them 12-7. I was thinking, 'these guys aren't that good.' We got beat 105-52."

 What a decade it was! We share readers' memories of sports teams from the 1960s, and invite you to share your own, at [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine).



## Pulling an all-Knighter

Green Knights from all corners of the world were invited to head to their favorite watering holes on Sept. 6 to welcome the Class of 2018 into the ranks of St. Norbert alumni.

SNC Knight Out is an annual Green Knight get-together that takes place on the first Thursday of September. The night gives alumni the opportunity to reconnect and welcome the newest graduates into SNC alumni status.

"I was surrounded by people who came from the same school, and that made me excited for the coming years," says **Matt Matuszak '18**, who joined the festivities in De Pere. "It's one thing to be welcomed to 'adult life' after college by your parents and other people, but it's definitely another to be welcomed to life after college by people who have been in my shoes, specifically as an alum of St. Norbert College."

This year, Alumni & Parent Relations hosted alumni in five cities: De Pere, Chicago, Minneapolis (pictured above), and Wauwatosa and Sheboygan, Wis. Alumni from other areas joined in the fun, too, gathering in their own locales and sharing photos on social media with the hashtag #SNCKnightOut.

Don't want to wait until next year's SNC Knight Out to see your fellow alumni? Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- An afternoon at the Autry Museum in Los Angeles, Nov. 17.
- The second annual track and field and cross-country alumni reunion, Jan. 19.
- A tour led by the **Rev. Jim Neilson '88** of the Art Institute of Chicago, March 21.
- The spring Knight Lights event at Branching Out & Co. in Appleton, Wis., hosted by **Casee Meach Hawkins '04**, April 10.

Get more information and register for events at [snc.edu/alumni/event](http://snc.edu/alumni/event).

## Births/ Adoptions

**2002 Kris (Hilsgen) and Mike Johnson**, Bayport, Minn., a daughter, Avery Harper, May 18, 2018. Avery joins brother Benjamin, 3.

**2005 Andrew and Ingrid Davis**, Milwaukee, a daughter, Augusta Elizabeth, Aug. 28, 2017. Augusta joins brother Trygve, 2.

**2005 Kristen (Feller) and Gabe Weidenbaum**, Fox Point, Wis., a son, Benjamin, Oct. 13, 2017. Benjamin joins sister Norah, 3.

**2005 Amber (Dehne) and Andrew Baillon '05**, Tacoma, Wash., a daughter, Callista, Feb. 12, 2018. Callista joins sister Mallory, 3.

**2005 Abbey (Johnson) and Mike Sanders '04**, Madison, Wis., a son, Ethan Robert, March 5, 2018. Ethan joins brothers Lucas, 4, and William, 1.

**2006 Amye (Cawley) and Joseph Johnson**, Mazomanie, Wis., a son, Joshua, Oct. 24, 2017.

**2006 Jackie (Zimbauer) and Nate Bond '07**, De Pere, a son, Samuel James, March 28, 2018. Sam joins sister Cavanaugh, 2.

**2007 Amie (Marthaler) and Rick Lee**, Green Bay, a daughter, Makenzi Debra, March 19, 2018.

**2007 Crystal (McClure) and Jon Keddie**, Oro Valley, Ariz., a son, Jackson McClure, March 30, 2018.

**2007 Lindsay (Draeger) and Ted Krueger**, Sussex, Wis., Theodore Orwin, March 30, 2018.

**2007 Christine (Tener) and Scott Wyman**, De Pere, a daughter, Allison Mary, April 7, 2018. Allison joins brothers Chase and Parker.

**2008 Amber (Hartl) and Eric Seitz '08**, Madison, Wis., a son, Dominic, Dec. 17, 2017.

**2010 Chris and Kate Haskins**, Villa Grove, Ill., a daughter, Natalie, April 10, 2018.

**2010 Rachel (Chmill) and Chris Obligato**, Brookfield, Wis., a daughter, Aida Bell, April 25, 2018. Aida joins sister Liliana, 2.

**2011 Elizabeth (Mylenor) and Ryan Walters**, Oconto Falls, Wis., a boy, Brooks Brian, Feb. 2, 2018.

**2012 Nicole (Harp) and Brian Pietsch '12**, Milwaukee, a son, Lucas Pietsch, Nov. 26, 2017.

**2013 Madeleine Skemp and Samuel Gordon**, La Crosse, Wis., a son, Henry Joseph, Sept. 1, 2017.

**2013 Olivia (Freundl) and Kory Freeberg**, Holmen, Wis., a daughter, Addison LeeAnn, April 21, 2018.

**2014 Kelsey (Boettcher) and Brad LaPierre '18**, De Pere, a son, Grayson Richard, March 2, 2018.

**2014 Amanda (Kiger) and Jeff Hayes '14**, Green Bay, a daughter, Savannah Lynn, April 29, 2018.

## Marriages

**1995 Brian Foster and Rose Metcalfe**, Feb. 24, 2018. They live in Celebration, Fla.

**1999 Christopher Merle and Ashley Parzero**, July 28, 2017. They live in Chicago.

**2006 Amye Cawley and Joseph Johnson**, Oct. 22, 2017. They live in Mazomanie, Wis.

**2012 Amber Duerwaechter and Scott Pulak '11**, Jan. 12, 2018. They live in Chicago.

**2012 Rachael Rogers and Adam Pritzl**, Feb. 17, 2018. They live in Green Bay.

**2013 Katie O'Neil and David Jacobson '15**, Oct. 21, 2017. They live in Madison, Wis.

**2014 Chelsea Marin and Erik Tauschek '14**, July 22, 2017. They live in Green Bay.

**2014 Lindsey Osgood and Austin Sook**, April 28, 2018. They live in Sauk City, Wis.

**2015 Kaitlyn Miller and Jeff Balsewicz**, Sept. 22, 2017. They live in Winfield, Ill.

**2015 Katie Vanden Avond and Kory Guns**, Nov. 11, 2017. They live in Allouez, Wis.

**2016 Lindsay Miller and Blake Nass**, Oct. 14, 2017. They live in Green Bay.

## Deaths

**1950 William Salutz**, of Green Bay, died Feb. 15, 2018, at the age of 94. He served his country during WWII. He spent his career working in logistics management for Larsen Canning, which later became Dean Foods. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and two children.

**1951 Robert Linck**, of Green Bay, died Jan. 20, 2018, at the age of 91. He served in the South Pacific as a member of the U.S. Navy in WWII, piloting the landing craft used for personnel transport from ship to shore.

He spent his career as a superintendent of the Allouez (Wis.) Water Department. He is survived by his wife, Martha, and four children.

**1951 Dr. Adrian Popelka**, of Sun City West, Ariz., died May 2, 2018, at the age of 92. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during WWII. He opened his own dental practice, which was passed down to his son after 43 years. He is survived by five children.

**1953 John Duffy**, of Edmonds, Wash., died April 7, 2018, at the age of 89. He served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Japan after the end of WWII. He spent his career in pharmaceutical sales at Mead Johnson/Bristol-Myers/Squibb. He is survived by three children.

**1953 Patrick Finnegan**, of Waupaca, Wis., died April 13, 2018, at the age of 85. He served in the U.S. Army, stationed in Fort Benning, Mass., and Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He worked for Home Mutual Insurance Co. & Agency for many years in the positions of computer programmer, data processing manager and internal auditor. He is survived by three children.

**1954 The Hon. Thomas Linck**, of Norton Shores, Mich., died April 1, 2017, at the age of 84. He served in the U.S. Army before beginning a career in law. He was president of the Michigan Probate Judges Association, Michigan Judges Association and Muskegon (Mich.) Area Intermediate School District Board of Education before he retired. He is survived by his six children.

**1954 Gregory Koerner**, of Green Bay, died Feb. 10, 2018, at the age of 91. He spent some of his career teaching at Wrightstown (Wis.) High School before working at the Wisconsin State Reformatory/Green Bay Correctional Institution. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis, and six children.

**1955 Mike Oettinger**, of Appleton, Wis., died March 22, 2018, at the age of 85. He served in the U.S. Army before beginning a career with the U.S. Social Security Administration. He is survived by his wife, Judy, and two daughters.

**1956 Ronald Engles**, of Green Bay, died Jan. 30, 2018, at the age of 83. He spent most of his career as a sales representative at Metropolitan Life Insurance. He is survived by his wife, Kay.

**1956 L. Grant Bourgeois**, of De Pere, died Feb. 3, 2018, at the age of 83. He served as a commissioned ensign for the U.S. Navy before beginning a career as a sales engineer in the hydraulic and pneumatic industry. He is survived by his wife, Jean, and six children.

**1956 James Lawler**, of Green Bay, died Feb. 21, 2018, at the age of 83. He served in the U.S. Army, stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He dedicated his career to Metropolitan Life, working as a sales manager. He also managed program sales for the Green Bay Packers. He is survived by six children.

**1957 Derbert Coonen**, of Seymour, Wis., died March 24, 2018, at the age of 83. He served in the U.S. Army as an ambulance and bus driver, and as camp photographer. He began

his career working at Coonen Inc., eventually purchasing the company from his father. He ran the business until his retirement, during which he worked as a volunteer policeman and volunteer firefighter before he became one of Seymour's first EMTs in 1974. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, and six children.

**1958 Richard Jacobs**, of Allouez, Wis., died March 3, 2018, at the age of 82. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves, retiring as a captain. He spent his career working in the family grocery business until its close, and then worked in accounting at Morning Glory Dairy, Phillips Getschow and Alwin Manufacturing Co. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie, and four children.

**1959 Francis De Broux**, of Manitowoc, Wis., died Aug. 29, 2018, at the age of 83. He served as a specialist third class in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. He worked for IBM's Green Bay division as an advisory-systems engineer for many years, as well as for Badger Wood Products of De Pere and Heiden Inc. He is survived by his wife, Donna, and five children.

**1960 Richard Smits**, of De Pere, died Feb. 5, 2018, at the age of 80. He began his career as a banker with De Pere Federal Savings, holding the positions of president and chief executive officer, as well as serving on the board of directors. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and three children.

**1961 Stanley Crevier**, of Gurnee, Ill., died Feb. 11, 2018, at the age of 78. He served many years stateside in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War and toured on the USS Rankin as an

### From the heart of friendship

Friends and teammates of **Sophie Rafa '87** are honoring the St. Norbert College basketball player's memory by funding an endowed scholarship in Rafa's name. Rafa died in 1988.

"Sophie Rafa was the type of person who touched many lives. She would do anything for you and could make others smile with simple words or acts," Rafa's friends say in an announcement for the scholarship.

The scholarship will be awarded to an SNC student from the Chicago area who is interested in pursuing a business major.

air-traffic controller. He also worked as controller officer for the Atomic Energy Commission. He is survived by four children.

**1961 Beverly (Ford) Aschenbrener**, of Shawano, Wis., died Feb. 19, 2018, at the age of 78. She began her career as an elementary school teacher before becoming a full-time mother and homemaker. She later returned to work as a substitute teacher in Shawano. She is survived by her husband, **Dan '63**, and four children.

**1961 Glenn Francken**, of Menasha, Wis., died March 10, 2018, at the age of 79. He was the owner of Pierquets TV and Appliance in Green Bay, Appleton and Sturgeon Bay, Wis. He also managed Bergstrom's Saturn of Appleton for many years. He is survived by his wife, Janet, and two daughters.

**1965 Dr. Joan Cox Gill**, of Greendale, Wis., died May 9, 2018, at the age of 75. She worked as a pediatric hematologist and was part of a research team that was the first to identify immune abnormalities that ultimately became recognized as AIDS. She served as a professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin and was the director for the Comprehensive Center for Bleeding Disorders. She was honored in 2017 with the St. Norbert College alumni award for distinguished achievement in natural sciences. She is survived by a daughter.

**1966 Michael McHugh**, of Nine Mile Falls, Wash., died Feb. 27, 2018, at the age of 74. He spent his career as a store general manager for Sears, Roebuck & Co. He is survived by his wife, Retta, and three children.

**1966 Mary (Reetz) Scesney**, of Atlanta, died May 2, 2018, at the age of 76. She began her work at Montessori schools, later working at Encyclopedia Britannica Educational Corp., Garlington Group Insurance, Cigna Insurance Co. and ACE USA. She is survived by her husband, George, and three children.

**1967 Michael Hickey**, of Green Bay, died March 30, 2018, at the age of 73. He worked in the biomedical field for many years, including at DuPont & Dade Behring in Delaware, Aksys in Illinois, and Nichols Industrial Diagnostics in California. He earned an Industrial Research 100 award in 1980 for his assay that could diagnose heart attacks prior to physical symptoms, and he was honored by St. Norbert College as a distinguished alumnus

## Matt Sullivan '95



## Is a busy bee

*Matt Sullivan '95 spends his days as a recruiter for Express Employment Professionals in Green Bay, which he owns with wife Kim (Lopas) Sullivan '95. But his mornings and evenings are spent looking after his 11 chickens, eight homing pigeons, six ducks and about 60,000 honey bees.*

**Counting your chickens** We've kept chickens for about eight years. At the end of the season, there's chicken noodle soup or roast chicken or whatever. That's all part of it. It teaches the kids about the natural cycle of life.

**The bee's knees** It's very relaxing. It's almost mesmerizing to me. Every once in a while, I'll just come out here, sit down, have a drink and watch the bees fly by. You're not a beekeeper until you're stung. I've been stung a lot, but it very rarely bothers me.

**Having a field day** People ask, "Why do you do some of this stuff?" And honestly, it's just for the fun of it. There's a big concern about bees and the environment – I guess I wish I had a noble cause, but I don't. I do it because it's just fun.

**Come home to roost** In my corporate positions, I very rarely disclose what we do for fun. I've worked with people for seven or eight years, and then they find out we do this stuff and they just can't comprehend. It's two different worlds, and I love both. I like variety and I like change.

**Don't chicken out** I don't know where it's going to lead. We have investigated alpacas. I'm not sure what we'll do next. I think there are two important things: having the courage to act on your interests and having a tolerant wife to allow you.

in the natural sciences in 1984. He is survived by his wife, Linda, and two sons.

**1967 John Brochtrup**, of Bellevue, Wis., died April 15, 2018, at the age of 75. He served in the Marine Corps in Vietnam and was a co-owner of Rubber Engraving in Green Bay. He is survived by two daughters.

**1968 Dennis Grasse**, of Cascade, Wis., died Feb. 14, 2018, at the age of 71. He began his career working for Grasse Bros. Oil Co. before becoming a real estate broker for various companies. He was the owner of Broken Spoke from 1981 to 1999 and of the Golden Lion for a short period. He worked for Watson's Vending before retirement. He is survived by his wife, Theresa, and three children.

**1968 Earl "Buzz" Jorgensen**, of

Shorewood, Wis., died April 5, 2018, at the age of 72. After college, he taught band, choir and classroom music for more than 30 years in the public schools of St. Francis, Wis. He is survived by his wife, **Mary (MackKnight) '68**, and two children.

**1969 Craig Casey**, of Wisconsin Dells, Wis., died May 5, 2018, at the age of 71. He served in the Army ROTC, attaining the rank of first lieutenant in the infantry division. He and his wife operated Thompson Floral, and he owned and operated Terra Landscape for four years. He also served as a city alderman, mayor and a municipal judge. He is survived by his wife, Sandy, and a son.

**1974 Mary Ellenbecker**, of Appleton, Wis., died Feb. 3, 2018, at the age of 66. She spent her career as a teacher in the Appleton Public School

District, working as an art teacher at Appleton West High School during the later years of her career. She is survived by a son.

**1976 John McDonald Jr.**, of Kalamazoo, Mich., died April 28, 2018, at the age of 63. He worked as a financial advisor for Ameriprise for many years. He is survived by his wife, Maureen, and three sons.

**1978 Gary Dercks**, of Kaukauna, Wis., died April 6, 2018, at the age of 67. He worked for Marriott Corp. He was a dedicated member of St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus Council 10919 in Little Chute, Wis. He is survived by his cousins.

**1978 Randy Trembl**, of Lawrence, Wis., died April 19, 2018, at the age of 62. He worked at DHIA and Schreiber Foods. He served as supervisor for the town of Lawrence and served on the Brown County Water Authority Board. He is survived by his wife, Sue, and two children.

**1980 Joey Colasuono**, of Palatine, Ill., died June 13, 2018, at the age of 61. A captain on the St. Norbert men's hockey team, he was at one time the third all-time leading scorer. He coached at the high school and junior level in the northern Chicago suburbs for 25 years. He is survived by a brother.

**1986 Steve Sinclair**, of De Pere, died April 9, 2018, at the age of 53. He worked as a technology trainer at RR Donnelley and at Humana, and taught chemistry at Menasha (Wis.) High School before working as an instructional technology innovation specialist at Northeast Wisconsin

Technical College. He is survived by his wife, Laura, and three children.

**1999 Vincent "Alex" Vigil**, of Freedom, Wis., died Aug. 18, 2018, at the age of 45. He worked as the sales operations manager for Cellcom during his 13 years with the company. He is survived by his wife, Melissa, and three children.

## Class Notes

**1968 Patricia (Rigney) Bellock** has been named director of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services by Gov. Bruce Rauner. She has served in the General Assembly since 1999 and is retiring from the House of Representatives, where she became the first woman to work as deputy minority leader.

**1969 Vickie Gillio**, a retired lawyer, is writing a book centered on news clippings from the early 1900s of her late grandparents' political journeys. She attended a storytelling and writer's workshop in Oaxaca, Mexico, last March, where her inspiration was her grandparents' part in the 1924 U.S. delegation to the inauguration of Mexican President Plutarco Elias Calles.

**1978 Denise (McDermid) Ristow** has been featured in the Sheboygan Press for her CrossFit achievements. She now holds a place in the top 200 CrossFit athletes in the world for her age bracket. *Ristow was featured in the September 2018 issue of @St. Norbert, which can be found online at [snc.edu/magazine/2018/summer/crossfitalum](http://snc.edu/magazine/2018/summer/crossfitalum).*

**1981 Joan (Diny) and Dean Sherman** proudly announce the May 2018

commissioning of their son, Matt, as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

**1989 Madia (Bendersky) Sargent**, previously employed at CDK Global (ADP Dealer Services), has accepted a position at Direct Travel as vice president/managing director of travel management consulting.

**1989 Jim Dietsche** has been named chief operating officer of Bellin Health, where he also serves as executive vice president and chief financial officer.

**1990 Matt Billings** has joined the advisory committee at The Securities Information Processors.

**1992 Scott Nikolai** has accepted the position of director of institutional research at Brevard College.

**1993 Peter Sloma** was featured in the Door County Pulse for his success as owner of The Peninsula Bookman in Fish Creek, Wis. He attributed his success to a number of factors, including carefully selected inventory as well as the nature of shoppers in Fish Creek.

"The clock moves in a different way in Door County," he says in the article. "When they are here, there's no urgency or responsibilities. They come into my store and spend time browsing the shelves."

Sloma opened the bookstore, which features primarily used books, in 2002 after working as a teacher in Texas and for a business book company in Chicago.

"When you stop to think about it, no other occupation indulges as broad a base of interest and knowledge," Sloma says.

**1994 Tracey Hassinger** has accepted a position at Catapult Learning in Milwaukee.

**1995 Kristi Martin** has accepted the position of athletic and activities director at Richmond (Ill.) Burton Community High School after a year of serving as the school's dean of students. She previously worked as a dean and assistant principal at Lake County Tech Campus.

**1995 Anne (Drees) Niederkorn** has published her first book, a humorous memoir called "Small Town Girl ... Livin' in an '80s World."

**1997 Jennifer Gavinski** has been named Madison Area Technical College (MATC) Distinguished Teacher of the Year for 2018. She teaches anatomy and physiology at the MATC Reedsburg, Wis., campus. She was featured by the Reedsburg Times Press for the honor. "Students love learning about how their bodies work, how to diagnose and figure out what is wrong, and how to treat them," she says. Gavinski was nominated by students and chosen by MATC's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society executive board.

**2001 Kelly Biese** has completed her master's in social work degree at Ohio State University. She is now a licensed social worker and independent chemical-dependency counselor. She serves as an outpatient therapist at Coleman Behavioral Health in Lima, Ohio, where she works with individuals involved in the criminal justice system, specializing in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of trauma, addiction and eating disorders.

## There's an app for that



Developing a philosopher's mind at a young age, **John Moss '07** recalls, "I've always been asking big questions my whole life." He continues, "Philosophy translates into every business: communication skills, business plan, everything that has to come together with logic."

Moss uses this logic in problem-solving, integrating technology in agriculture, and has developed two apps now in use on the farm. One application, called GrowerOne, monitors and controls the irrigation system from a smartphone. The other application, called Blossom, is a record-keeping system for cranberry farming, holding everything from crop and fertilizer information to equipment tracking and maintenance. Elm Lake Cranberry Co. uses both applications privately, but Moss hopes to roll out Blossom by the end of the year for other farmers to utilize.



Photo by Katherine Rodighiero

## BUMPER CROP

50%

"A lot of people don't realize Wisconsin produces 50 percent of the entire world's cranberry crop," says **John Moss '07**, who describes the unique land in central Wisconsin as perfect for cultivating cranberries, which grew wild before farmers moved in.

The cranberry harvest runs from mid-September to late October, and all Elm Lake Cranberry Co. cranberries go to Ocean Spray, a farmer cooperative. "It was started by growers and is completely owned by growers," says Moss. "We've been part of that since my grandpa joined it decades ago."

Moss notes that a huge part of the farm's success has been its collaboration with other growers, some of whom are also multi-generation farmers, to maintain a successful business. "It's unique in agriculture, to still have a co-op," notes Moss, who says that co-op models have disappeared in a lot of larger industries.

## Tech developer turns to farming

What do you get when you cross a tech wizard and a philosopher? How about a cranberry farmer? **John Moss '07**, a fourth-generation farmer at Elm Lake Cranberry Co. near Wisconsin Rapids, is a unique combination of multiple interests channeled through the liberal arts.

Moss didn't plan on studying logic, but ended up majoring in both philosophy and computer science at St. Norbert College. His entrepreneurial side took off in his senior year. He met a friend in philosophy class and the two did website and advertising work, providing travel recommendations in the Fox Valley area of Wisconsin.

That's how Moss got into technology: finding solutions for improving daily life. But desk work as a software developer started to wear on him: "I'm a social person," he says. With some discernment, Moss decided to return to the land.

"The thing about farming is that every day is something different," describes Moss. "It tends to repeat every year, having different work throughout the seasons. When I was in software consulting, seasons and the weather didn't matter.

You're programming no matter what the outside world is doing."

So in 2014, Moss returned to his roots: "The reason that I got into technology in the first place was growing up on the farm, wanting to help the farm. I sat down with my parents and had a long conversation about their plans and the future of the farm and how I fit into that."

Working on the family farm as a teenager, Moss would dream about how he could make things run better, quicker or more efficiently. "When you're out there doing 40 hours of weed-pulling a week, you have a lot of time to think!"

To increase efficiency on the farm, Moss relies on his tech experience, developing apps that help operate a cranberry farm.

Returning to farming was also a family decision. With young kids, spending time together became more of a priority. Now Moss, his wife and five daughters live side by side with his parents and grandparents on the farm's main road.

As a farmer, family man and tech developer, Moss uses his St. Norbert College training and entrepreneurial mind for innovation in agriculture. "It's a blast," he says.



## Tre Principesse hits the high notes

SNC sisters **Anastasia Lee '20** and **Tatiana Marie Johnson '20** brought home two Wisconsin Area Music Industry Awards in May. Their classical crossover vocal group Tre Principesse received the Album of the Year award and was named New Artist of the Year. Pianist **Elissa Ribbens '20**, the newest member of the trio, performed with the group during the awards ceremony. Tre Principesse's first album, "Getting to Know You," debuted at No. 2 on Billboard's classical albums chart. The group also won Best Soundtrack and Best Gospel Producer at the Indie Music Channel Awards in April. "We are a relatively new group, so winning such prestigious awards is really a boost to our confidence and an indicator that we are going in the right direction," Lee says.



# Alumni Award Winners 2018

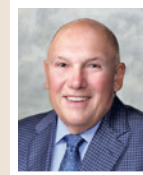
St. Norbert College annually celebrates alumni who exemplify Norbertine ideals in their daily lives.

## Young Alumni Award



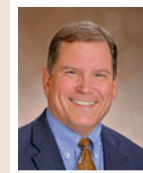
As a Science and Technology Policy fellow for the American Association for Advancement of Science, **Dominique Carter '09** works to create global partnerships in science and innovation.

## Alma Mater Award



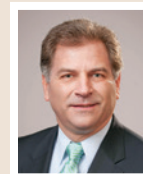
From volunteering as a chauffeur for the visually impaired to co-chairing a \$105 million advancement campaign for St. Norbert, **Ed Sturzl '71** has shown his devotion to service. Sturzl's long relationship with the college includes 23 years as a trustee.

## Distinguished Achievement Award for Religion



**Tony Pichler M.T.S. '94** serves as director of the Norbertine Center for Spirituality, which focuses on advocacy, education, fellowship and faith. He also was the driving force behind groups that aim to meet local community needs. (See page 14.)

## Distinguished Achievement Award for Business



As co-founder and CEO of Commerce State Bank, **Joe Fazio '83** is committed to helping people prosper through financial literacy. He shares his message of personal empowerment with various organizations.

Read more about our award winners. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

## Noted / Alumni Lives

**2001 Jason Housh** has accepted the position of principal within Bain & Co.'s performance improvement practice.

**2002 Jesse McAninch** has been promoted to chief warrant officer in the U.S. Army. He recently graduated from the Fixed-Wing Qualification Course and was assigned to the command maintenance office, operational support airlift-activity, at Fort Belvoir, Va.

**2003 Michael Bruening** has been promoted to director of technology of King & Queen County (Va.) Public Schools and of the King & Queen County Courthouse.

**2003 Eric Duoss** represented Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in a presentation covered by Science on Screen. Duoss' presentation, "3D Printing: From Imagination to Realization," covered 3D printing technologies, and how to design for the printing processes and test the performance of the products. The presentation was paired with the Disney movie "Big Hero 6."

**2004 Bridget (Mueller) Erwin**, previously employed at Sigman Janssen Law Firm, has accepted a position at Hager, Dewick & Zuengler S.C. in Green Bay as an associate attorney. Her practice focuses on estate planning, probate and trust administration, guardianship and special-needs planning, real estate, and business planning.

**2007 Lindsay (Draeger) Krueger** became a national board-certified teacher in December 2017.

**2008 Greg Callan**, previously employed by

Ball State University, has accepted a tenure-track faculty position at Utah State University as an assistant professor of psychology.

**2008 Lindsey (Pionek) Mattucci** has been promoted to senior art director of HDMZ in Chicago. She will continue to assist the health care and science brands at the company.

**2009 Brian Lueth**, previously employed by the administration department for Brown County, Wis., has accepted a position as the city's assistant city manager and clerk in Dundee, Fla.

**2010 Lindsay Moln** has joined the teaching staff at Breitung Township (Mich.) Schools.

**2011 Emily Yonke** has accepted a position as a French teacher at Kingsford (Mich.) High School.

**2012 Ashley Erdman** has been promoted to proficiency program manager at Cherney Microbiological Services. She moves into this role after four years in the laboratory.

**2012 Scott Fitzgerald** has accepted a position at St. Anne's Belfield School in Charlottesville, Va., as the coordinator of athletic operations.

**2013 Kaylee Beck** graduated with a Master of Arts in educational policy and foundations from Marquette University in May 2018. She is also a graduate of Trinity Fellows, a program dedicated to developing leaders with a commitment to social and economic justice. She now works in school operations at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Milwaukee.

**2013 Nora Delach** has accepted a position

teaching at Stockholm International School in Sweden. She will be teaching mathematics in the international baccalaureate program to students from all over the world.

**2013 Jack Hayford** received his graduate degree in December 2017 from Azusa Pacific University.

**2013 Kristina (Tyma) Lueth**, previously employed by Konop Cos. in Green Bay, has accepted a position with the Walt Disney Co. as manager of resident financial accounts and foreclosures in Celebration, Fla.

**2014 Zane Statz** was featured in the Green Bay Press-Gazette for his work in the #DistinctivePlace project. The third and final mural was installed at the end of April 2018. Statz was chosen from 19 other artists for the creation of the murals. He has participated in many Green Bay Packers-themed projects over the years, and has been referred to as the "unofficial artist" for the Packers.

**2014 Hannah Grahn** has accepted a position as a large animal veterinarian in Postville, Iowa. Grahn graduated from Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in May 2018.

**2015 Kelsey Whaley** has been named assistant director of athletic communications for the St. Cloud State University athletic department.

**2015 Steven Hofacker** received his master's degree in anesthesia in May 2018 from Case Western Reserve University. He has accepted a position as an anesthesiologist assistant at Gundersen

Health System in La Crosse, Wis.

**2017 Brittany Kuehn** has accepted a full-time kindergarten teaching position at Magee Elementary School in Two Rivers, Wis.

**2018 Fiona Hehir** has accepted a position teaching fifth grade at St. Bernard Catholic School in Green Bay.

■ Northeast Wisconsin communications provider Nsight is leveraging the talents of SNC alumni. **Patrick Riordan '69** has been reappointed to his role as chairman of the board, president and chief strategy officer. **Mark Naze '84** has been named chief executive officer, overseeing the operations of the company and its subsidiaries as well as focusing on strategy. **Dan Fabry '85** has expanded his role as chief operating officer of mobile operations to include oversight of Nsight Telservices fixed operations. **Brigid Riordan MBA '20** has been promoted to chief innovation officer and vice president of emerging services and public affairs.

■ St. Norbert alumni are making an impact at Miron Construction Co. The company promoted **Jen (Ebben) Bauer '02** to vice president of marketing and communications and **Tonya (Lamoreaux) Dittman '01** to director of culture. The company hired **Kelly (Schauer) Wildenberg '07** as a business analysis manager.

**CORRECTION**  
In our Summer 2018 issue, we misstated the age of the Sophomore Block program. This year the Sophomore Block turns 45, and the Jacobs Award that has done so much to support it over the years turns 25.

"I'm hoping to learn a lot, make friends that will last a lifetime, and prepare myself for a great future."

**Brett Brandner '22**, of Menominee Falls, Wis., is the first recipient of the Frank R. & Marylou C. Lucas Endowed Scholarship. Just weeks into his freshman year, Brett marvels at his welcome into the SNC community. He is eagerly awaiting baseball season, when he'll pursue his love for the game as a Green Knight.

The Lucases established their scholarship to help students like Brett manage the costs of college. Brett is financing his own education. "It's on me," he says, "and the scholarship helps so much."

Whether through planned or annual giving, generous spirits like the Lucases serve as critical partners in making college dreams a reality for our students.

[giving.snc.edu](http://giving.snc.edu)



### The big picture

For myself, I enjoy a big project. Truth be told, I'm not that fond of beginnings and endings: It's being in the middle of things – in the throes of creation – that floats my boat. I'd rather edit a magazine than a missive, a book than a brochure. Distant deadlines don't deter me at all, and I can get behind good process just as well as good outcomes. In fact, it was a visitor to campus, the (then) Jesuit activist Father John Dear, who sanctified this stance for me some years ago. He pointed out that the early abolitionists boldly declared a world free of slavery some 150 years before the first legislation was enacted. Some outcomes take more than a lifetime to achieve, but you've got to start somewhere.

All the same, as big projects go, Becky McKean's (page 18) is of a daunting scope. Her outcomes are measured in geological time. The processes that entombed, fossilized and then brought 1,000 tons of plesiosaur back to the surface took place over the span of 92.5 million years. The patient work of the geologist passes in the blink of an eye against such a backdrop, but even this editor couldn't wait until the reconstruction was complete to bring you news of its progress. It's fun being in the middle of things!

Susan Allen

### WORDS & PICTURES

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**College President:** Brian J. Bruess '90

**Vice President for Enrollment Management & Communications:** Edward J. Lamm

### TALK TO US!

We love to hear from you, and rely on you to keep us posted. You can find us at [www.snc.edu/magazine](http://www.snc.edu/magazine), on Facebook, via [magazine@snc.edu](mailto:magazine@snc.edu) or 920-403-3048, or at:

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### Recommended viewing: a brush with *communio*

As a new mural took shape in the Bush Art Center, many hands joined in. Chicago-based artist Shelby Rodeffer, who embraces evidence of the human hand in her work, invited passers-by to pick up a brush. "I'm having lots of great conversation, getting to know a lot of great people," she said. **Emerson Barch '19** was one of the students who stopped to work alongside the professional. He said, "As I'm working alongside Shelby, here, I'm learning the business aspects of what it means to be a working artist, and ... to be able to get grants for this process, or be hired for something as grand-scale as this." Find out more at [youtube.com/stnorbertcollege](http://youtube.com/stnorbertcollege)



A new course on the history and spirituality of pilgrimage will include an actual pilgrimage – in Spain. Students in the global seminar, taught by **Rosemary Sands** (Center for Norbertine Studies) next May, will walk the Way of St. James – the Camino de Santiago, an important pilgrimage route since the Middle Ages.

### A smashing good time

One bed of nails, one concrete block, one college president and one sledgehammer-wielding professor – what could possibly go wrong? According to the physics, nothing at all. And the short series of college presidents who have so far submitted to the SNC Day demonstration have walked away unharmed so we're inclined to believe **Michael Olson** (Physics) when he tells us it's all about force per unit area, or the distribution of pressure. **President Brian Bruess '90** was unavailable for comment ...



Three flavors launched the new academic year. This year's welcome-back-to-campus ice-cream social, hosted by **President Brian Bruess '90** on the mall, featured chocolate, vanilla and Blue Moon frozen custard from Zesty's (owner **Ted Ziemann '05**). There was more frozen fun over at the Bruess home near Schneider Stadium, with all 619 members of the incoming Class of 2022 invited over for ice-cream bars and lemon popsicles. Radical – if slightly sticky – hospitality!

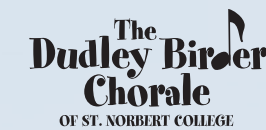
### Wired for puppy love



Few know that campus dog Abbey had a rival for student attention by a very similar name. But when golden retriever Abby died last semester, she took the hearts of many computer science majors with her. **Bonnie McVey** (Computer Science) and **Dave Pankratz** (Computer Science), who adopted the pup, introduced Abby to students as part of an Introduction to Computer Programming lab assignment. Over the years, more than 600 students practiced their computer skills on a photo of Abby, McVey says: "Dave Pankratz showed the students how to make the background transparent, place Abby in

outer space, and keep her safe from the moving UFO!" Abby also helped the Computer Science Club with highway cleanups, but spent much of her first outing with the club in the arms of **Zac Leider '03**, McVey says.

## Calendar



The Dudley Birder Chorale is going into its first Christmas season with a new artistic director at the helm. **Kent Paulsen** (Music) will conduct the chorale and the Birder Studio of the Performing Arts for the Holiday Pops concert.

### November

- 2-10 St. Norbert College Theatre presents "Almost, Maine"
- 12 Shelby Rodeffer Exhibit begins
- 30 Festival of Christmas 2018

### December

- 1 Breakfast with Santa
- 2 Brass & Organ Christmas Spectacular
- 7-8 Dudley Birder Chorale presents Holiday Pops
- 14-19 Christmas with the Knights

### January

- 19 Second annual Track & Field/Cross Country Alumni Reunion
- 24-Feb. 2 Knight Theatre presents "The Addams Family"

### February

- 2 Swimming & Diving at home vs. Lake Forest
- 10 Winter BandFest Concert

### March

- 1 Big Band Snowball Concert and Dance
- 2 Sacred Music Choral Concert
- 1-3 Green Bay Film Festival at St. Norbert College

For details of these events and more, visit [snc.edu/calendar](http://snc.edu/calendar).



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## Parting Shot / Friendship in the Fall

“I cannot endure to waste anything so precious as autumnal sunshine by staying in the house.” – *Nathaniel Hawthorne*

