Privileged Responsibility
Reducing Our Invisibility
Literacy & Social Justice
The Bellarmine-Ursuline Merger
Mock Trial Takes the Stand
5  THE READERS WRITE
Letters to the editor

6  REDUCING OUR INVISIBILITY
Bellarmine needs your help to spread the word

8  News on the Hill

12  ROCKIN’ CHAIR
The first endowed chair in education is a literacy expert –
but he wanted to be a rock star

17  ‘TRAPPIST, KENTUCKY’
A poem by Bellarmine grad Richard Boada

18  QUESTION & ANSWER
Can I get a witness? Mock Trial’s Chelsea Brown

20  FORTY YEARS OF MERGER
Amid the turmoil of 1968, Bellarmine and Ursuline combined forces

26  PRIVILEGED RESPONSIBILITY
Service learning has the power to change lives, including our own

32  Alumni Corner

32  ‘LARGER, FULLER LIFE’
Three newly endowed scholarships are the gift that keeps on giving

36  BELLARMINE TO BAGHDAD
An Alumni Soapbox from Iraq

38  FIGHTIN’ THE IRISH
The Bellarmine Knights take on Notre Dame in lacrosse

40  CLASS NOTES & IN MEMORIAM

42  THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

(COVER) BELLARMINE JUNIOR LINDSEY DURBIN MADE A NEW FRIEND IN GUATEMALA.
(LEFT) THE KNIGHTS TOOK ON NOTRE DAME IN LACROSSE —page 40

PHOTO BY AMBER SIGMAN
According to a very old legend, the Christian King of Great Britain once gave his daughter Ursula to the pagan king of Brittany to be married. This was roughly 1,625 years ago, give or take. Being leery of mixed marriages, the princess didn’t want to marry the pagan king, so she hemmed and hawed for three years or so, give or take, until further stalling began to seem like bad manners.

Finally, the princess set sail for Brittany. Her posse included 10 young noblewomen and 11,000 virgins, who traveled on 11 ships for three years to reach their destination, which any travel agent will tell you would have been complicated even if they’d had Travelocity, which they didn’t.

Complicating matters further, a sudden gale blew the ships off course, and the party landed at Cologne, which in those days smelled worse than it sounds, perhaps because it was inhabited by Huns. Not content to just enjoy a pleasant visit with their guests, the Huns demanded the women renounce their faith, which they refused to do. This is where the legend gets very objectionable: The Huns did what Huns do best and beheaded the entire party, which, besides being a mortal sin and a logistical nightmare, was pretty stupid when you think about it. For refusing to renounce her faith even in the face of cranky, well-armed Huns, Ursula got to add the title “Saint” to her business card.

Fast forward 1,150 years, give or take. Another remarkable woman named Angela Merici and her followers began doing for all young girls in her hometown of Brescia, Italy, what had previously been done only for the rich: educating them. These heroic educators chose Ursula as their patron saint and called themselves Ursulines. Fast forward another 470 years (give or take) and the Ursulines are still going strong: teaching, teaching, teaching.

If you are reading this, your life has probably been touched by Saints Ursula and Angela in many ways. Perhaps you are a student or an alumna of Sacred Heart Academy or Ursuline College. Or maybe you’re a student or alumna/us of Bellarmine-Ursuline College, Bellarmine College or Bellarmine University. Maybe you learned the intricacies of the First Amendment from Sr. Pat Lowman, like I did in 1980. Or maybe you’ve dropped some change into the hand of the St. Angela statue in the quad, hoping some heavenly intervention would convert that chemistry grade from a C+ into an A-. As the Ursulines celebrate 150 years of education in Louisville, we look back at the merger of Bellarmine and Ursuline colleges (see page 20). We hope you enjoy the trip down memory lane and hope you’ll share your memories (good, bad, happy or sad) of those days. As always, we love hearing from you.

Jim Welp ’81
Editor-in-Chief
A visit with Merton

I enjoyed your article about Thomas Merton in the Winter edition of Bellarmine Magazine and thought you might like to hear from an alumnus who had the good fortune to meet with him briefly. It was in November of 1966 while I was a graduate student at the University of Maryland that I met Napoleon Chow, a Nicaraguan, who knew an Ernesto (I may be mistaken about the first name) Cardinale, another Nicaraguan who had visited Gethsemani and had become friendly with Merton. Napoleon arranged through Cardinale a visit with Merton. During Thanksgiving break I brought Napoleon to my home in Glasgow (Kentucky), and the day after Thanksgiving we drove to Gethsemani and met Merton. He first wanted to go to Bardstown to the post office. So we drove him there and then bought a six-pack of beer and went back to the monastery, where we sat on a hill overlooking a lake, drank the beer, and talked.

I unfortunately didn’t take notes on what he said, but I remember how much he was concerned about the world and especially brought up the topic of Vietnam, which had just heated up in the past year. He also seemed to get some inspiration from nature, and I remember him using the term “woolly” to describe the surrounding wooded knobs and hills.

I have to confess that several years later when I sold the car, a ’66 Chevelle, I cut out the seatbelt he used and am saving it in case he is ever made a saint. Then I should have some sort of relic.

Joseph Rogers Dickinson, Jr. ’61 / Newburgh, Ind.

I enjoyed the letter from Natalie Stewart-Smith ’72 in the Spring issue of Bellarmine Magazine. By sheer coincidence, I met Ms. Stewart-Smith on a ferry trip to Ireland in May 2005. At the time we met, I was just graduating high school and knew I was going to Bellarmine University, but was a little anxious about it. She gave me her card and wrote a note on the back of it for Marilyn Staples and the encouragement that I needed to not be scared of what lay ahead. I found Marilyn Staples and agree with Ms. Stewart-Smith that she is one of the nicest people to meet.

I’ll graduate from Bellarmine in May ’09 and would like to thank Natalie Stewart-Smith for introducing herself that day and talking to me about Bellarmine. Like her, I feel that Bellarmine has been the best thing to have happened to me. I have met great people, have made great connections, and have thoroughly enjoyed my college years here. I have also had the opportunity to study abroad, which I will be doing this summer. I never thought that I would be able to afford to go back overseas, but Bellarmine has given me the great opportunity. I have often thought about that trip to Ireland, and how I made connections and received encouragement from a great Bellarmine Knight in a place I least expected.

Karen Stamm ’09

letters to the editor
Bellarmine Magazine, 2001 Newburg Road, Louisville, KY 40205, or jwelp@bellarmine.edu. Please include your full name, address and a phone number. We may edit letters for clarity, length and accuracy.
“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid; neither does anyone light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father, which is in heaven” – Matthew 5:14-16

REDUCTING OUR INVISIBILITY

by DR. JOSEPH J. MCGOWAN

Electronic engineers at the University of Pennsylvania have been working the past few years on something called a “plasmonic cover.” It’s an invention that prevents light from bouncing off the surface of an object, making that object appear so small that it can barely be seen at all. In short: a cloak of invisibility.

For the longest time, I thought we here at Bellarmine already had the patent on invisibility.

We were remarkably good at teaching and learning – unmatched in this region at helping students acquire the knowledge, values and connections needed to succeed in the world and to make it a better place. But we were also proficient at hiding this light of ours “under a bushel.” We were one of those universities the national magazines like to call “a hidden gem.”

So for the past few years we have been working very hard at Bellarmine to reduce our invisibility – to let our light shine so that more and more people would recognize and value all that we have to offer, and thereby help us to offer even more.

And, if you are reading this, you will have an important role to play.

Last year Bellarmine selected Doe Anderson, one of the best brand-building firms anywhere, to work with us on a brand audit and a marketing plan to support the university and Vision 2020, our fast-moving plan to become a nationally pre-eminent private university of significant size and stature for Louisville, the commonwealth and region.

The brand audit gave us a treasure trove of actionable research about how we are perceived by ourselves and by all our key constituencies – prospective students and their families, alumni, donors, business leaders, employers and the general public. The sophisticated marketing plan is already in the early stages of implementation. It will help us grow not just by enrolling more students, but by enrolling more students who are “right” for Bellarmine – who will love it here, and want to do well here.

The research confirms and refines what we know, and helps us talk about it more consistently and effectively. It shows that Bellarmine is an academically challenging place – serious about learning – but also a supportive place that helps each student meet the challenge. Students here feel strong personal connections with faculty; with each other; with the university community; with the city of Louisville; and with the world. They do not believe they would experience this deep sense of connection at a large public institution.
Our students believe the Bellarmine experience outfits them with the tools they need to succeed in life – academics, the ethical, spiritual side of things, and connections to networks in the real world. They like the fact that Bellarmine is a human-scale campus in a big city. (A lot of universities in our category are in rural surroundings.) And our students know we have an ongoing interest in their success after they leave.

I love this quote from a Bellarmine student in one of the focus groups:

_The academic curriculum is very difficult here and they push you. And recently, I had a class that I really struggled in. I had my professor e-mail me and say, “This isn’t like you. When can I meet with you? What can we do to help you get through this class and understand this better?” Do I think that would have happened at a big state school? Probably not._

Our work with Doe Anderson will help us shine our light so that more and more of these students, their parents and high school counselors – and more of the community and region at large – will see our good works and recognize the value of the experience this growing institution provides.

And this is where you come in. In addition to sophisticated advertising and marketing, we will be calling on many of you to be ambassadors for Bellarmine University. I want you to know how critical your help will be – and how just a little effort by you in this regard will make a dramatic difference for Bellarmine and the region. Soon we will provide various easy-to-use tools to help you evangelize for Bellarmine. We will give you a set of drums and ask you to beat them for us! Nothing will be more effective.

A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid; neither should a great university light a candle and put it under a bushel. Together, therefore, Dear Mother Bellarmine, we’re going to “make it shine, make it shine, make it shine!” Catchy lyrics for sure, but now it is up to each of us in our own way to make the music. ■
FONTANA DI VERITÀ

Bellarmine University’s gorgeous new landmark, the Fountain of Truth – in the plaza between Our Lady of the Woods Chapel and Siena Primo – was dedicated in May. The fountain is formally known as Fontana di Verità at Piazza Clayton and was made possible by a gift from the Francis Paul Clayton family.

The fountain’s black granite wall, 65 feet long and 6 1/2 feet tall, is engraved with our university’s Latin motto, In Veritatis Amore (In the love of truth). A sheet of water cascades over the face of the wall into a basin, where it continuously recycles. All who are present in the space are encouraged to speak only the truth, so plan your visit accordingly.

TOFTELAND ADDRESSES 2008 GRADS

Bellarmine University awarded 96 master’s and 377 bachelor’s degrees during its 55th annual commencement exercises in Knights Hall on May 10.

Curt Tofteland, founder and director of Shakespeare Behind Bars and producing artistic director of the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, addressed the crowd and was awarded an honorary doctorate. Tofteland’s Shakespeare Behind Bars program is the only North American Shakespeare Company contained within a medium-security adult male prison where the inmates produce a full Shakespearean play each year. The Kentucky Shakespeare Festival is the oldest free, professional, independently operated Shakespeare Festival in North America.

These student awards were given at graduation: the Archbishop’s Medal of Scholastic Excellence to Trish Todd and Jourdan Hubbuch; the Wilson W. Wyatt Fellowship to Tumaini Malenga; and the In Veritatis Amore awards to Trish Todd and Wesley Thomas.

The Archbishop’s Medal is awarded to a student who has a high academic standing, is an outstanding student leader and has completed a competitive interview and nomination process. The In Veritatis Amore award is named after Bellarmine University’s Latin motto, which translated means “in love of truth,” and is given to the best all-around male and female students.
NEW MASTER’S DEGREE IN COMMUNICATION

Bellarmine has a new graduate program: the master of arts in communication. Scheduled to begin this fall, the master’s in communication will be a 30-hour program designed to be completed in five semesters.

Bellarmine’s program will offer opportunities to specialize in areas such as healthcare communication, convergent media and strategic communication. Like all of Bellarmine’s graduate and professional programs, the new degree will be informed by the liberal arts and infused with ethical awareness.

“New media and communication vehicles are being developed at an astonishing rate, and we must have a workforce that is highly proficient and also attuned to ethical issues in its mastery and use of these tools,” Dr. Joseph McGowan said in announcing the new degree.

Joe Reagan, president and CEO of Greater Louisville Inc., said, “For Louisville to be the best city we can be, we need a well-educated workforce, and that means increasing educational attainment across the population. Bellarmine’s growth and ambitious plans are in line with this need. This new master’s degree in communication should be an outstanding and welcome addition to the area’s educational landscape, and to the region’s employers.”

The degree is being implemented in phases. The first will focus on developing ethical communication programs in the private, nonprofit and public sectors and using media critically. Future phases include the concentrations in healthcare communication and integrated communication.

Stephen A. Williams, president and CEO of Norton Health-care Inc. and a member of the Bellarmine Board of Trustees, said the degree and the concentrations offered by the new program are welcome additions to the area’s educational offerings. “The healthcare industry has a great need for qualified professionals in the communications field,” he said.

Gail Henson, chair of Bellarmine’s department of communica-tion, expects about 20 students from a variety of backgrounds to enroll in the new program initially. The master’s degree takes the department of communication one step closer to its elevation to the School of Communication: Media, Culture and Ethics, which is planned for the fall of 2009.

MAJOR GIFT TO HELP BUILD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Bellarmine University received the second-largest single contribution in school history in April with the $2.5 million gift from the family of Nolen and Maydie Allen, longtime supporters of the school.

The Allens’ gift established an endowment that will benefit several initiatives, including the construction of a Bellarmine Graduate School of Business, one of the key initiatives set forth in Vision 2020. The ambitious growth plan calls for the creation of seven to 10 new graduate and professional programs over the next 12 years.

“For Bellarmine to be successful in attaining the goals of Vision 2020, we will rely heavily on extraordinary generosity and visionary support from our good friends like Maydie and Nolen Allen,” said President Joseph J. McGowan. “We are most appreciative of this recent gift and for their support over the past 50 years.”

Nolen Allen, a founding partner in the Louisville accounting firm Cotton and Allen, has had an association with Bellarmine since 1956, when he began teaching tax and accounting courses. He joined the Board of Overseers in 1986, was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1988 and still serves as a trustee to this day. He has received two of Bellarmine’s biggest honors. In 2002, he was named a Bellarmine “Knight,” and in 2006 he was awarded an honorary doctorate.

“We have a long history with Bellarmine, and helping to guarantee its growth and future is something we see as not only a service to the school but as a service to the entire community and region,” he said. “For five decades now Bellarmine has been helping supply the Louisville workforce with outstanding employees. The university’s Vision 2020 plan will continue to make Bellarmine crucial to the community’s success.”
HUGHES WINS MCGOWAN PRIZE

Dr. Claire E. Hughes of the Thornton School of Education is the winner of the first annual Joseph and Maureen McGowan Prize for Faculty Development. In keeping with the university’s goal of increasing international experiences for faculty, this new prize provides the winner an opportunity to pursue research interests at The Harris-Manchester College Summer Institute at the University of Oxford.

In Hughes’ short tenure at Bellarmine, she has made significant contributions to the university and to the field of special education, particularly in the emerging area of teaching children with autism. She is published in highly regarded journals and intends to spend much of her week at Harris-Manchester College working on a book for educators who work with autistic students.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Bellarmine students, faculty, staff and alumni raised a whopping $39,000 for the American Cancer Society in April’s “Relay for Life” in Knights Hall. Bellarmine senior Kacy Vaughn served as event chair and Andrea Hasbrook ’07 chaired the alumni team. The annual event brings the community together to pay tribute to cancer victims and raise money via tournaments and challenges, some of them zany. “Some guys even got their chest hair waxed to help raise money,” said event coordinator Stephanie Pieper. For more information, visit www.events.cancer.org/rflbellarmineky.

BELLARMINE PITCHES IN

The students, faculty and staff of Bellarmine University put in a total of 83,636 volunteer hours during the past year on activities ranging from cleaning Beargrass Creek to coaching youth sports to helping build schools in third-world countries. According to the Independent Sector, a leadership forum for charities, foundations and corporate giving programs, each volunteer hour is the equivalent of $18.77 in hourly pay, bringing Bellarmine's volunteer total to nearly $1.6 million in contributed time.

ONE OF ‘BEST PLACES TO WORK IN KENTUCKY’

The Kentucky Society of Human Resource Management, in conjunction with the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, named Bellarmine University one of the winners of its fourth annual “Best Places to Work in Kentucky” competition. The program is a multiyear initiative designed to motivate the state’s companies to move their workplace environments toward excellence. It is based on Fortune magazine’s “100 Best Companies to Work for in America.”
RABOTEAU LECTURES ON MERTON AND RACIAL RECONCILIATION

The Thomas Merton Center sponsored a lecture by Princeton University professor Albert Raboteau on Feb. 28 titled “Thomas Merton and Racial Reconciliation.” Raboteau was also a guest on WFPL’s “State of Affairs,” which was broadcast from campus.

Raboteau specializes in American religious history with a focus on American Catholic history and African-American religious movements. He is the author of the book *A Fire in the Bones*, which includes a chapter on Merton and Martin Luther King Jr. Raboteau’s other books include *Slave Religion: The “Invisible Institution” in the Antebellum South*, *Canaan Land: A Religious History of African Americans*, *African-American Religion*, and *A Sorrowful Joy*.

Bellarmine University’s Thomas Merton Center is the official repository of Merton’s artistic estate, which includes more than 1,300 photographs and 900 drawings in addition to his writing. The center archives more than 50,000 Merton-related materials.

DORRIEN SPEAKS AT BELLARMINE

Gary Dorrien delivered this year’s Vernon Robertson Lecture in Theology on Feb. 27 in the Wyatt Center for the Arts. His topic: “The Crisis and Necessity of Protestant and Catholic Liberalism.”

Dorrien is a distinguished scholar in the fields of church history and social ethics. He currently serves as the Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary and is a professor of religion at Columbia University. He is the author of a series of books titled *The Making of American Liberal Theology*.

Bellarmine’s theology department presents the annual lecture, which is free and open to the public and is supported by a bequest from the Rev. Vernon Robertson.

PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDENTS HOLD ‘FUN RUN’

Physical therapy students sponsored their second annual “Fun Run” at the Louisville Zoo on April 19. The race, run entirely in the zoo, benefited the Jefferson County Public Schools’ physical therapy fund, which provides equipment and services to children with physical challenges.

THOMAS MERTON SQUARE


In *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*, Merton wrote: “In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the center of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all these people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers. It was like waking from a dream of separateness, of spurious self-isolation in a special world, the world of renunciation and supposed holiness. … We are in the same world as everybody else, the world of the bomb, the world of race hatred, the world of technology, the world of mass media, big business, revolution, and all the rest .... This sense of liberation from an illusionary difference was such a relief and such a joy to me that I almost laughed out loud .... As if the sorrows and stupidities of the human condition could overwhelm me, now I realize what we all are. And if only everybody could realize this! But it cannot be explained. There is no way of telling people that they are all walking around shining like the sun.”

Dr. Paul M. Pearson, Director of The Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University, was instrumental in the genesis of the Thomas Merton Square designation. The event coincided with an exhibit “A Hidden Wholeness: The Zen Photography of Thomas Merton” at The Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville.

FOR MORE BELLARMINE NEWS, VISIT www.bellarmine.edu/news
DR. ROBERT COOTER, THE NEW URSULINE ENDOWED CHAIR OF TEACHER EDUCATION, SAYS ‘LITERACY IS THE GATEWAY TO SOCIAL JUSTICE’

Rockin’ Chair

by CARLA CARLTON
DR. ROBERT B. COOTER JR.’S CHILDREN USED TO TEASE HIM: “HEY, DAD, when you were little, did you sit around thinking, ‘One day, I want to be a reading teacher?’ A lot of people wanted to be a fireman or something. Our dad wanted to be a reading professor.”

He didn’t, of course. He wanted to be a rock star.

In the late 1960s and early ’70s in Nashville, Cooter played the Hammond B-3 organ in a long-haired rock ’n’ roll group called the George Washington Bridge Band. They played gigs all over the Southeast, even cut a record on Music Row. “But alas,” he says, “we were not destined for fame and glory.”

Dr. Cooter never made the cover of Rolling Stone. But his research on improving how reading is taught, particularly to poor children, did make him a star in the literacy world – royalty, even. The Dallas Morning News dubbed him “the Reading Czar” for his work improving literacy instruction in the 10th-largest school district in the United States. His text Teaching Children to Read: The Teacher Makes the Difference is used in more than 200 universities. He is editor of The Reading Teacher, the largest literacy-education journal in the world with a circulation of 60,000. In November, he’ll receive the College Reading Association’s prestigious A.B. Herr Award for outstanding contributions to the field of reading.

And starting next month he will be the very first occupant of the Ursuline Endowed Chair of Teacher Education in the Annswy Frazier Thornton School of Education – Bellarmine’s first endowed chair in education.

“He’s a rock star to us,” says Dr. Cindy Gnadinger, dean of the School of Education, who was instrumental in persuading Cooter to come to Bellarmine from the University of Memphis. She has been familiar with his work since the mid-1990s, when she used one of his assessments to conduct research for her doctorate. The worn copy of Reading Inventory for the Classroom is still on the shelf of her office at Bellarmine.

But it was more than his renown that drew Gnadinger. “There are many big names in literacy research. He’s not the only one I could have gone after. But I didn’t want them,” she says. “Bob fits here. He gets that student learning – children – are the focus of what we do. And with his work with disenfranchised children, which is our focus too, it was a perfect fit.”

Cooter thought so too. He and his wife, Dr. Kathleen Spencer Cooter, a professor of special education and school leadership, were impressed that Bellarmine requires dual-certification for its undergraduates in education, preparing them to teach special education as well as elementary or middle grades. In a city with a large urban school district, he knew he could continue his work of developing programs for inner-city schools and children in poverty. As practicing Catholics who’ve been traveling to St. Meinrad Archabbev on retreats for years, the Cooters were familiar with the area and liked that Bellarmine has a Catholic identity.

Perhaps most of all, they admired the university’s commitment to improving the human condition in the spirit of Thomas Merton. That commitment is also at the heart of everything they do. Because to the Cooters, reading isn’t just fundamental. Says Bob: “We believe literacy is the gateway to social justice.”

What was your favorite book as a child?

“There was a book called Pilot Jack Knight. I remember checking it out of the library around second grade or so; I read it and read it and checked it out a zillion times. It’s a true story about a guy who was one of the first airmail pilots and had also been a World War I pilot. Years later, when I first started teaching in college, my first job was in Louisiana and I went into this old, old library. I had been looking for years to try to find a copy of that book and it was way, way out of print. This really nice librarian comes up and says, ‘May I help you?’ and I said, ‘I’m just wondering if you might have a book that I loved as a child,’ and I told her, and she said, ‘Oh, yes, I know that book.’ And she went over to the shelf and pulled it off. You could see where it had been read so much, the pages were soft. And I said, ‘Ohhh, this is a thrill, just to see this book again.’ And she said, ‘I can see you love that book. You may have it.’”

—Robert Cooter
Cooter refers to his time in Dallas as the assistant superintendent for reading and language arts, from 1997-99, as his “Road to Damascus” experience. It was there, where about 92 percent of the students were minorities and approximately 75 percent of them lived at or below the poverty level, that he clearly saw the stark difference between what is available to children from poverty versus those in the middle class - and more important, how that can affect their ability to read and to succeed in life.

A growing body of research shows that high school graduation rates are lower among racial and ethnic minorities and in the nation’s urban schools. According to a report released in April by a national group called the America’s Promise Alliance, less than half of the students in 17 of the nation’s 50 largest cities who entered high school in 2003 ended up graduating. (Jefferson County Public Schools, where 64 percent of elementary students qualify for free or reduced-price meals, had a graduation rate of 63.7 percent for 2003-04, according to the report.)

“A primary cause for the dropout rate is kids feeling like they can’t succeed in school. And the reason they can’t succeed is that they can’t read,” Cooter says. “By far most of the dropouts happen around eighth or ninth grade. It’s after you have been retained three or four times, and you get to ninth grade and you’re still reading on the third-grade level. Trying to apply those skills to textbooks written on a 10th-grade level, you become discouraged and drop out.”

It was also in Dallas, he says, that Kathy said, “‘You know, it is clearer to me now more than ever that literacy really is the gateway to social justice.’ And I said, ‘That is good. I’m putting that in a book if you don’t.’ I mean, it really does capture our sense of mission. Because without full literacy, you simply don’t have full access to all that is possible in the United States.”

So how do you address that problem? Check the title of Cooter’s successful text: The teacher makes the difference. “The best way to help all children in America is to make sure that every teacher in every classroom is as good as our best.”
Unfortunately, he says, the national response to lagging literacy rates over the past few decades has been to invest in off-the-shelf, one-size-fits-all reading programs. “If that would solve the problem, fine. Because in the end, it’s (about) how well the kids are doing. But the fact is, they don’t work. It’s very much akin to medicine. Would you want to go to a physician who didn’t really know anything about the human body but had some off-the-shelf treatments? ‘Oh, you seem to have strep throat, so we’ll give you this.’ Well, we’d have a lot of people dying.”

The better approach, he says, is to give teachers lots of ways to treat varying levels of literacy. “If you have an expert teacher in the classroom, and she tries an intervention to help all her children learn and some of them don’t get it, then she can adjust and try a different tactic to help the child learn. And that’s what our work is about: How do we raise teacher expertise, particularly (of) those teachers serving the poorest among us? How do we train principals to make sure they’re aware of their role in creating and sustaining school-wide literacy programs?”

In Texas, Cooter gave 5,000 teachers more tactics with his acclaimed Dallas Reading Plan, which was based on a model used by high-tech corporations to improve the expertise of scientists. Kathy Cooter developed a Principals’ Fellowship in Dallas to help school leaders understand how to sustain school-wide literacy programs. In Tennessee, they have replicated the approach with the Memphis Literacy Academy, which trains teachers and principals in teaching reading to urban children from kindergarten through third grade.

Crystal Perkins, who teaches English learners in grades one through three in a Memphis public school, is a graduate of the Memphis Literacy Academy, which she said helped her better understand how children learn to read and gave her new ways to assess their competence and help them improve.

“My reason for being a teacher is to move students toward success that extends beyond the classroom,” she says. “Being a successful reader is so important, and the Memphis Literacy Academy helped shape the type of teacher I am in the classroom: striving every minute of the day to ensure the time spent with my students is rich and worthwhile.”

Cooter is excited about continuing his work at Bellarmine, where Gnadinger says it’s a natural. “That’s what we teach — that you can’t take a one-size-fits-all approach. You have to tailor your instruction to a roomful of different learners.”

Embedding that idea in teacher education is crucial, Cooter says. Much of his work over the past decade has involved going into school districts and adding expertise, but “school districts, in my opinion, shouldn’t have to keep paying to retrofit their faculty, so to speak,” he says. Again employing a medical analogy, he likens schools of education to teaching hospitals. “As we discover new answers, they should become part of our training.

“Bellarmine is lucky because you have very high-quality students going here, you have very high-quality faculty, and you have a great teacher-education program already. Part of what we’ll have to do is see what’s in place, and as we learn new solutions from the research offer those ideas to the faculty and… continually renovate our program here so that we’re absolutely on the leading edge.”

A New Education Center

The Annsley Frazier Thornton School of Education will also open a new center this fall, to be led by Dr. Kathy Cooter, that will focus on enriching the teaching experience and enhancing educational programs that better the lives of children and their families.

“Literacy will be one element of the center, but not the only one,” says Dr. Cindy Gnadinger, dean of the School of Education. Through the center, Bellarmine will provide enrichment opportunities for both education students and veteran teachers.

“We hope to provide opportunities for teacher renewal, attract national speakers and grants, and help find solutions for school districts or other agencies that have needs,” Gnadinger says. The center hasn’t been named yet, and Gnadinger and Cooter say there is still much to discuss about what the first projects will be.

“Down the line we think of conferences, we think of publications, research monographs, bringing journals here,” Kathy Cooter says. “But we must spend some time with our colleagues and find out what ideas they have as well.”
“THIS IS WHERE WE ARE MEANT TO BE”

As the Ursuline Endowed Chair, Cooter will teach at the undergraduate and graduate levels. He’ll help develop new doctoral programs. He’ll continue to write and conduct research. He’ll likely work with Jefferson County Public Schools, continuing existing partnerships and developing new ones.

And he will continue to serve as editor of The Reading Teacher, which will now be housed at Bellarmine. The peer-reviewed professional journal is published eight times per year for literacy researchers, preschool and elementary teachers, reading specialists, administrators and teacher education professors. Each issue includes teaching tips, research findings and reviews of children’s literature. Kathy Cooter will direct a new center in the School of Education.

They say they plan to stay. “We just had that sense almost immediately, I think, that yeah, this is where we are meant to be,” Bob Cooter says. “We can do excellent work here. You have very high-quality faculty, you’ve got a president and administration with growth on their minds and with education as a pillar of constructing the future, and so all the stars seemed in alignment for us on this. And I think there is a spiritual side to it. You just have a sense that this is right, this is it. This is the one.”

They aren’t sure yet if they’ll move their 80-foot houseboat to Kentucky from Stones River in Tennessee, but if they do, they’ll likely dock it at Lake Cumberland, where its name is sure to draw smiles: Our Last Child.

And who knows? Bob Cooter may finally achieve real rock-star status. After a 37-year hiatus, the George Washington Bridge Band reunited in late March and played a few songs at a fundraiser for the Shelbyville (Tenn.) Arts Council in honor of a couple who started a teen club called “The Cellar” in Shelbyville 40 years ago. The George Washington Bridge Band was the club’s house band when they weren’t on the road.

“I sang our last song – what else – ‘Born To Be Wild,’” he says. He dedicated it to his 83-year-old mother, who was in attendance. “She always worried I’d never get over rock ‘n’ roll,” he says. “I suppose I didn’t!”

EVERY WEEK, BELLARMINE EDUCATION STUDENTS SUCH AS JESSICA HARDISON OF LOUISVILLE TUTOR AT FIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
Trappist, Kentucky

Jasper hatchets hickory bark into kindling chips, swings axe side-armed into a cedar, leaving it clung to the trunk under blued needles. Church bells across county lines circle him. Silt gathers on Salt River’s banks as harried water steals poplar leaves from Gethsemani’s cemetery. Bourbon mash cooks, limestoned water boils in copper vats, whisky stills in white oak barrels. Ryed air tilts, falls on the abbey’s lichenened headstones. November’d come, like briars prickling buffalo on the march.

by RICHARD BOADA

A 2002 Bellarmine graduate, Richard Boada is currently a PhD. candidate in Creative Writing at the University of Southern Mississippi. His poems have appeared in The Louisville Review, Poetry East, Limestone, Jabberwock Review, Touchstone, Santa Clara Review and others.
question & answer with
MOCK TRIAL’S CHELSEA BROWN

SOMETIMES, AFTER A ROUND OF COMPETITION, JUDGES ASK THE BELLARMINE Mock Trial team, “Is that your real accent?” Maybe once, says team member Chelsea Brown, “we should pretend like it’s not.”

But opposing teams underestimate Bellarmine at their own peril. In 22 years of Mock Trial competition, Bellarmine teams have placed first or second in the nation five times and have qualified for the championships in all but one of those years. The team finished sixth at Nationals this year, defeating Stanford, Northwestern and Michigan.

The Mock Trial program has been led since the beginning by Bellarmine alumni Ruth and Jim Wagoner, a professor of communications and a Louisville attorney, respectively, and is currently coached by alumni and practicing attorneys Jason Butler (a member of the 1999 National Championship team) and Matt Rich.

Every team in the nation presents both sides of the same fictional case. This year’s involved a defendant charged with assault for stabbing a state worker with an HIV-infected syringe when she came to take his child. Chelsea portrayed two witnesses: the defendant’s girlfriend and a reverend (who is also a convicted perjurer). In this, her first year of competition, she won three Outstanding Witness awards.

The Franklin, Ky., native, who plans to be an attorney, says her motto is “Talk slow, think fast.” That’s just what she did when we put her on the stand recently for a Q&A.

by CARLA CARLTON

Q. Please raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?
A. Yes

Q. Thank you. So, is being Bellarmine in a Mock Trial tournament sort of like being UCLA in the NCAA tourney?
A. People definitely know who Bellarmine is. They know we’ve won the national championships. We have a certain style of performance that isn’t like a lot of teams. We’re very aggressive. So there is a level of respect.
Q. What are the judges looking for?
A. It’s very subjective. They don’t just judge you on the words coming out of your mouth. It’s how you present it. How you carry yourself – your posture. They even look at the witnesses when we’re not on the stand to see if we’re still in character. They look at the attorneys: Are they sitting up straight? Are they paying attention and looking at who’s speaking all the time? Some teams have documents thrown all over the table, scattered. We have our table set up very neatly. From how you look to how you sit, it’s everything.

Q. As a witness, you study affidavits provided in the case. How much leeway do you have in what you say?
A. There’s a script, but you can’t always go by it. If they overrule an objection, you can’t give that answer; you just have to come up with something. And you can’t directly contradict something in your affidavit. But it’s mostly about how realistic and how conversational you are with your attorney. The reverend and the girlfriend are character witnesses and they are very theatrical. We call a doctor, a military man and then myself, and it kind of lightens things up. You try to just make everything link and make everything as entertaining and realistic as possible.

Q. During cross-examination you’re being questioned by another school. So you have to think on your feet, right?
A. Yes, but you always have your affidavit in the back of your head, making sure you don’t contradict it. I always try to have a good idea of what they possibly would ask on cross and my spin on it to help our theme. They’re going to try to be either bashing your credibility or saying something to help their side of the case. And you don’t want to be up there as a witness for Bellarmine giving answers that help Harvard.

Q. Has this experience changed your view of the law?
A. When I first read this case, I didn't know how I would be on the defense side of this case. Giving someone HIV, stabbing a social worker? But after working on it for a while I realized that the law does give you leeway, mitigating factors that allow you to give someone mercy – maybe for their background, maybe for psychological disorders. Justice is still being served.

Q. What else have you gained from Mock Trial?
A. I’m much more professional. And when I give presentations at school, getting up in front of people really doesn’t phase me at all, after being judged by attorneys and different people like that in pressure situations. It also teaches you discipline. We practice every day, and it’s nothing easy; it takes a lot of hard work and dedication to succeed.

Q. What’s your favorite part of being a witness?
A. It’s a performance. You’re up there for six to nine minutes, maybe. And for that six to nine minutes, it’s all about you and that witness you’re portraying. I also like cross-examination for the competitive aspect of it. Just knowing that someone is going to try to hurt my credibility or try to get me to say something that will benefit their team – that’s where the competition and the drive come in. I’m very competitive. I just love both sides of that.

Thank you, Chelsea. You may step down.
THE ST. ANGELA MERICI STATUE BY BELLARMINE
ART PROFESSOR BOB LOCKHART WELCOMES
STUDENTS AND VISITORS TO THE QUAD.
IN THE FALL OF 1968, COLLEGE CAMPUSES ACROSS THE GLOBE WERE HOTBEDS OF CHANGE. AT SCHOOLS AS DIVERSE AS THE SORBONNE IN PARIS AND SAN FRANCISCO STATE COLLEGE IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, NOISY DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE STATUS QUO WERE COMMON OCCURRENCES. WITH REVOLUTIONARY FEVER AND IN GROWING NUMBERS, STUDENTS WERE PROTESTING THE RISING DEATH TOLL IN VIETNAM AND RALLYING IN SUPPORT OF EDUCATIONAL REFORMS CONSIDERED RADICAL AT THE TIME – OPEN-ADMISSION POLICIES AND MINORITY STUDIES PROGRAMS, FOR EXAMPLE. THEY HELD SIT-INS. THEY OCCUPIED ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS. THEY BURNED DRAFT CARDS. THEY TRANSFORMED THEIR CAMPUSES.

AGAINST THAT BACKDROP, A VERY DIFFERENT FORM OF CAMPUS REVOLUTION ARRIVED AT TWO SMALL, SINGLE-SEX CATHOLIC COLLEGES IN LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY. IT WAS CALLED MERGER, AND IT MEANT THE END OF MANY THINGS THAT TO THIS DAY ARE MISSED BY THOSE WHO LOST THEM. BUT THIS TRANSFORMATIONAL PROCESS ALSO LAUNCHED SOMETHING NEW: AN INSTITUTION AND A MISSION NOT JUST BIGGER, BUT BOLDER THAN WHAT EITHER SCHOOL AT THE TIME COULD ACCOMPLISH ON ITS OWN.


FOR YEARS, THIS OUTCOME HAD BEEN LURKING IN THE WINGS. FORMAL PROPOSALS, INTERIM AGREEMENTS AND WORKING RESOLUTIONS HAD BEEN NEGOTIATED IN OFTEN-HEATED MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO SCHOOLS. WOMEN FROM URSULINE AND MEN FROM BELLARMINE HAD BEEN SHOWING UP ON EACH OTHER’S CAMPUSES, TAKING THE OCCASIONAL CLASS, FOR SEVERAL YEARS. BUT NOW IT WAS OFFICIAL.

THEY WERE ALL PART OF ONE BIG, NOT-SO-HAPPY FAMILY, TAKING THEIR COURSES TOGETHER ON ONE CAMPUS – BELLARMINE’S.

ONE THING WAS CLEAR IN THAT TUMULTUOUS FALL OF 1968: TIMES WERE CHANGING, AND FOR THESE TWO SMALL CATHOLIC COLLEGES, GOING IT ALONE WAS NO LONGER AN OPTION. EVEN AT OLDER, PRESTIGIOUS CAMPUSES, LIKE HARVARD AND VASSAR, THE TREND WAS AWAY FROM SINGLE-SEX CLASSES AND TOWARD CO-EDUCATION. IN LOUISVILLE, ECONOMICS AND COMPETITION WERE ALSO FACTORS PRESSURING THE DECISION TO MERGE. THE STATE-SUBSIDIZED JEFFERSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN DOWNTOWN LOUISVILLE WAS ALREADY EMERGING AS A POWERFUL ALTERNATIVE FOR THE POOL OF LOCAL STUDENTS THAT BOTH SCHOOLS HAD DEPENDED UPON. IN THE BACKGROUND, THE UNIVERSITY

by DIANNE APRILE

photos by GEOFF OLIVER BUGBEE
of Louisville’s imminent entry into Kentucky’s state system of higher education promised significantly reduced in-state tuition, further forcing the two schools’ hand.

“It was a must. Neither one of us could survive on our own,” recalls Sister Pat Lowman, an Ursuline who had a doctorate in history from St. Louis University and had taught at Ursuline College for three years when the schools combined their faculties. She moved to Bellarmine’s campus with reluctance, if not trepidation, but stayed for 31 years, becoming a popular history teacher and a legend among athletes for her support of their programs. She served as scorekeeper for women’s basketball teams for 29 years, and when she retired in 1996, she took with her an honorary doctorate from Bellarmine and the distinction of being the last Ursuline on its faculty.

“I loved teaching there, and later on, it was such a good thing,” she recalled. “But it was very difficult at first. We felt we were submerged because we were smaller.”

TWO OF THE MOST-PLAYED ROCK-N-ROLL TUNES OF the year 1968 were Otis Redding’s hard-driving “Respect,” (which later became Aretha Franklin’s signature song) and Francis Lai’s “A Man and a Woman,” the lushly romantic title track from a popular French movie.

In truth, if a movie were made of Bellarmine’s first year of merger, these two tunes would be the perfect soundtrack.

“R-E-S-P-E-C-T” - with its adamant demand to be heard and valued – certainly reflected the disgruntlement of the Ursuline faculty and student body that year, just as “A Man and a Woman” symbolized the often frustrating adjustment that men and women from both schools had to make as the campus turned co-ed.

In the fall of 1968, the total enrollment of the newly merged school was 2,021. While Bellarmine’s student body, prior to merger, had topped out at 1,870, Ursuline’s numbers had peaked at about 600. Neither school had been growing fast enough.

“We were too small. We needed at least 1,000 students to survive, and we never got much above 600,” Sister M. Angelice Seibert, then president of Ursuline College, explained years later when asked about the merger decision. “We were putting a lot of Ursuline Sisters’ money and resources into the college and finally decided that we should spend it elsewhere.”

At the time of merger, Bellarmine was barely 18 years old, not much older than its own youngest student. It had opened its doors in 1950, in the wake of the post-war education boom,
holding its first classes on the same Newburg Road campus where it sits today. Ursuline, on the other hand, was founded prior to World War II, in 1938, and had roots dating back even further, to Sacred Heart Junior College, established by Louisville’s Ursuline Sisters in 1921 to educate members of their community who taught and administered Catholic schools across the country. Housed in a stately brick building on the Ursulines’ tree-filled Lexington Road campus, the college was smaller in size than Bellarmine but just as proud of its rich tradition.

During its 30-year history, more than 1,000 women earned degrees there, including former Louisville deputy mayor Joan Richm, who died earlier this year. Speaking of the nuns who taught her there, Richm once told author Wade Hall: “They encouraged us to go out into the world and be good citizens and take part in society and speak our minds and do our parts to save whatever parts of the world needed saving.”

Not unlike the campus unrest elsewhere in 1968, the radical change that transformed Bellarmine and Ursuline ushered in a fair share of friction and discord. But, at least among students, most of it took the form of good-natured family squabbles.

According to Hall’s authorized history of Bellarmine, High Upon a Hill, the Ursuline campus newspaper ran an angry letter from a student in 1966, during an early trial exchange of faculty and students between campuses. “As of yet,” she wrote, “I have found only smirks of sarcasm from the boys and looks of indignation from the girls.” Such grousing continued, from both sides, as all but a handful of activities and classes moved to the Bellarmine campus by 1967.

For Ursuline students and faculty, the most obvious blow, and clearly the most symbolic of their sense of betrayal, was the decision to keep Bellarmine as the name of the newly formed school. Although both sides had agreed to temporarily hyphenate the name as Bellarmine-Ursuline, the way some couples combine their last names when they marry, the Ursuline Sisters had long lobbied for a brand-new name, one that signified a new institution. Sister Angelice had pushed for naming it after Thomas Merton, the Trappist monk who died in 1968, leaving his papers to the college. According to Hall’s history, other names were put forward in jest by a writer for The Record, including Ursabell, Bellsuline and Catholic College of Louisville. Not everyone found the joke funny, however.

During the years of negotiation leading up to merger, the sisters had also strongly advocated for an independently chosen new president – free of ties to either institution – who would represent a fresh start. They specifically did not want the new school led by either Sister Angelice or Bellarmine’s president of 19 years, Msgr. Alfred Horrigan. During the negotiation process, they felt reassured that their wishes would be honored.

---

SISTER PAT LOWMAN, A BELOVED HISTORY TEACHER WHO TAUGHT AT BELLARMINE FOR 31 YEARS, TOOK A STROLL ON THE URSELLINE CAMPUS ON A RAINY SPRING DAY IN APRIL.
But that’s not how it turned out. Horrigan was retained as president of the new school and remained in that post for five more years. (Sister Angelice left for a Fulbright Fellowship to teach biochemistry at the University of Ireland and later served stints at Smith College and Jefferson Community College.) And after three years of hyphenated attachment, Ursuline was dropped from the name and Bellarmine was kept.

“We felt humiliated,” said Lowman. But with characteristic good humor, she stresses that she immediately felt accepted by male students in the classroom (“I loved teaching the guys”) and by sports enthusiasts across the campus who appreciated her irrepressible candor.

“Originally, the girls’ basketball team was called the Lady Knights,” she laughed. “But I said, ‘Who in Sam Hill ever heard of LADY knights?’ ”

In his book, Hall quotes Lowman’s comments on the bitterness that merger engendered for a time:

“I know the merger was necessary because both colleges were in an economic bind, but it left a lot of bad feeling with the Ursuline side, especially among the alumnae, who felt that it wasn’t a merger but rather a submerger. Many of the women felt the men had taken advantage of us.”

Today, she says, “Much of the animosity has disappeared.”

THAT’S NO ACCIDENT. FORTY YEARS LATER, BELLARMINE University is going out of its way not only to welcome into its fold alums of the old Ursuline College but also to re-emphasize the importance of its connection to the spirit and contributions of the Ursuline Sisters. In recent years, President Joseph McGowan placed a statue of Saint Angela, the founder of the Ursuline order, in a prominent spot on campus. Sister Angelice, like Sister Pat, was given an honorary doctorate from the merged institution.

The first ever endowed chair in the Annelsey Frazier Thornton School of Education is named to honor Ursuline College and the Ursuline Sisters. Robert B. Cooter, Jr. has been appointed to the Ursuline Endowed Chair of Teacher Education. (see page 12)

A reunion last summer of the last group of women to graduate from the intact Ursuline College made it clear that, while some sadness persists for those whose true alma mater no longer exists, members of the Class of 1967 found a great deal to connect with during their weekend of activities on campus.

Mary Ellen Gunterman, who attended Ursuline and married a Bellarmine grad, helped organize the reunion, which she said “was wonderful and welcoming.”

This fall, as a tip of the hat to 40 years of collegial connection, Bellarmine students will join with students from the five schools now thriving on the Ursuline Campus to build a Habitat for Humanity house. Significantly, the house will be built at 921 S. Shelby, very near the site of the Ursuline Sisters’ first home in Louisville, a modest frame building on Campbell Street where they settled in 1858, and its first motherhouse at Shelby and Chestnut streets. Bellarmine donated $5,000 to help with a down payment, and Ursuline Campus Schools are promoting the project as part of the Ursuline Sisters’ 150th anniversary celebration this year, a series of events and endeavors aptly titled “Pay It Forward.”

What’s more, some instructors of Bellarmine’s “freshman focus” classes, one-credit-hour orientation courses required of all first-year students, have already committed to having their students participate in the Habitat project.

As another sign of Bellarmine’s burgeoning desire to reidentify with its once-submerged Ursuline College ties, Sister Martha Jacob, the order’s archivist, points to McGowan’s reflection not long ago on the “three traditions” that inform Bellarmine University: the female tradition, the male tradition and the co-ed tradition.

R-E-S-P-E-C-T, indeed.
ALTHOUGH WOMEN STUDENTS AT BELLARMINE TODAY HAVE NO OFFICIAL link to the Ursuline students who first broke the campus gender barrier, they carry the torch in some ways. Where once they were a distinct minority, out-numbered in those early years by 3 to 1, females now make up 60 percent of the student body. But in the beginning, their presence was disconcerting — and not just to male students and faculty.

Margaret Mahoney, already a member of the Bellarmine history department faculty at the time of merger and the first female to teach there, recalls Horrigan asking her and faculty colleague Kathy Lyons what they thought of expanding the student body to include females.

“Kathy Lyons and I both said we preferred having men students only. I wasn’t out there stumping to bring women here.”

Once the change took place, Mahoney still wasn’t sure of the rightness of the decision. “It took a while for me to get used to having women in the class,” she said. The female students seemed less assertive and, to her mind, less academically qualified than her male students.

“But over the years, that changed, and the women started getting higher grades than the men,” she said. That trend applied not just to academics but to campus leadership roles as well. Recently, while working on graduation awards, Mahoney noticed that all but one of this year’s honored recipients is female.

She also remembers her first sensory experience of the difference between female and male students at Bellarmine. She was leading an honors section on a field trip to New York, her first co-ed trip with men and women sharing a bus. What she noticed was greater animation in the women’s conversations.

“You could hear the women’s voices over the men’s. That was something new to me.”

Sculptor Bob Lockhart, a longtime faculty member in Bellarmine’s art department, was still a “very green” teacher at Ursuline College at the time of merger.

“It was very difficult for some of the Ursuline College teachers. It was an edgy time, wondering who would be going and who would not,” he said. He considers himself one of the lucky ones who made the cut. After two years on Bellarmine’s campus, Lockhart left to head up the Louisville School of Art in Anchorage, where for eight years Bellarmine students took their art classes. Later, when the art department returned to campus, he became chair for a time.

It’s appropriate, then, that Lockhart, an artist who taught on both campuses, designed the statue of St. Angela that was dedicated on April 16, 2003, in Bellarmine’s Maurice D.S. Johnson Quadrangle. It’s fitting, too, that the sculpture was donated by Robert Bailey, a 1958 Bellarmine graduate, in memory of his wife, Patricia Jean Stauble Bailey, a 1953 graduate of Ursuline College. Their marriage, too, was a merger of traditions.

Memories persist, and legacies endure. But history, including that of a university, is a living thing, ever-changing and evolving. Perhaps that’s what Sister Angelice Seibert had in mind when she spoke these words, quoted in High Upon a Hill, in the mid-1990s:

“As for what happened in 1968, I have no regrets. The merger was the way to go.”

Thanks to Kate Vogt Talamini for sharing the Bellarmine/Ursuline pennant (p. 21) which belonged to her mother, the late Catherine “Puddin” Vogt, a member of the Board of Overseers.
Privileged Responsibility
We do not exist for ourselves...

—Thomas Merton
During my many years in higher education, I’ve known many individuals whose unique stories have inspired me and made me proud of my work and the students I serve. The power of service has changed the quality of my life.

After working alongside hundreds of students, faculty and staff who make a difference through service, the term “privileged responsibility” came to me. This raised many questions. What is privilege and how does one define it in terms of what is enough? When and how do we learn to serve? Is this a principle that should be discussed and practiced in college? Are we privileged if we are in college? How is privilege defined in your life and how will you take your many privileges and deliver on your many responsibilities?

Privilege is easily defined by Webster’s Dictionary: “the rights and advantages enjoyed by a relatively small group of people.” Does everyone with a college education have a sense of privileged responsibility? How should “privileged responsibility” be defined within an academic community? Where and how does responsibility begin? I believe college is the place and time to introduce the concept and experience of privilege of education and the responsibilities that must accompany this privilege.

Most college and university mission statements are similar across the country: “Teaching, Research and Service.” But we often do less than our best to instill in our students the importance of giving back. I applaud national and regional gains over the last few decades in service and service learning.

At Bellarmine University, I have had the good fortune to travel internationally and serve others along with our students. The students I work with understand the wonderful opportunities they have, the gifts they hold, and the possibility of making a difference. The teachable moment is profound when you observe a student working with a young child, helping a senior citizen or assisting an adult at a shelter. Service comes in many forms, but the result is usually the same: one person helping another, making our campuses, our communities and the world a better place.

Here is what Beth Grammer ’07 had to say about her experiences in Guatemala and Belize:

“Guatemala was my first International Service experience and it definitely changed my life. Before my experiences in a third world country I was ignorant and unaware of the world outside the United States. Being able to see the way two-thirds of our human race lives was an opportunity for which I am so thankful. When you travel to a place like Guatemala, you realize how many aspects of your life you take for granted every day. I now think about the amount of food I put on my plate and whether money really leads directly to happiness. It was amazing to see how happy Guatemalan families can be without the basic necessities that we take for granted.

“My experiences in Guatemala led me to an interest and passion for helping those who are unable to help themselves – that’s when I discovered microfinance and the idea of the poor being self-sufficient. Through my business finance class I was invited to work with the Louisville Downtown Rotary which was interested in developing a micro-loan program in Belize. Micro-loans are often considered the most effective and efficient ways to tackle global poverty. I was able

by Dr. Fred Rhodes
to participate as part of the group that went to Belize to establish and disburse our first loans. This was one of the most inspiring moments of my life. Not only was I participating in an international service project, but I was witness to the change in someone’s life. That $250 loan will change the recipient, her family, and possibly her entire community. That was powerful!”

As an educator, I am especially interested in reaching the students who, for whatever reason, do not take the opportunity to serve others. I often hear my colleagues share the same thoughts, but they aren’t sure how to approach the students who graduate without ever experiencing service. We often worry about coming across as too “preachy” or demanding too much of our students’ time, yet serving others stimulates and develops all of us who serve. I know without question that once a student has been involved with service, his or her life will be different and, in many ways, better. It is our responsibility as educators to help students learn their capabilities, reach their potential and give back through service.
Bellarmine junior Anna Ament also participated in the Belize service trip in 2007. Anna describes her experience:

“The business that we established in Belize had tremendous meaning to me. On the plane ride home, I remember sitting next to a couple from England. They were very interested in learning about what our group did while in Belize. At that moment I realized the amazing impact our H.O.P.E. initiative could have for single mothers in Belize. Sure, we just got the business started, and we still had a lot more work to do before giving out our first micro-loan, but the thought of lending a hand to one person was unreal.”

The responsibility of making service an experience for all students is there waiting for a crusader or champion on every college campus. I would challenge each educator to make a difference by promoting and structuring service at all levels, starting with the students and including the entire campus community. It is our duty to our academic and local communities to lead. We already have the “privilege” and the “responsibility” to make a difference.

We as a nation are privileged. If you have had the opportunity to travel internationally, you understand and appreciate our good fortune. It is true that we also have many problems, such as poverty, homelessness, insufficient healthcare, education and a long list of other important concerns. These are serious and often life-threatening issues, but we are also one of the strongest and most capable countries in the world. I believe we have an obligation to introduce and teach our students the principles of service in our academic and co-curricular experiences.

I am challenged daily by the notion of how to prepare our students to build a better world as leaders, educators, teachers, doctors, nurses and world citizens. After 17 years as a member of the faculty and staff here at Bellarmine, I am confident that we are doing an excellent job preparing our communities and graduate and professional schools with talented and motivated young people. I am privileged to be a part of this dedicated academic community where we work every day to produce outstanding and responsible citizens for a global community. I look forward to the future and a new world in their care.

Accompanying this article are inspirational pieces that may help all of us see our opportunities and realize the potential we have to serve and make a difference. The first message comes from the book “If the World Were a Village” by David Smith and Shelagh Armstrong. The second is adapted from “The Star Thrower” by Loren Eiseley. Both of these messages inspire me and help me realize the duty to see my world with a new sense of responsibility and privilege.

I want to challenge others to gain a new perspective and jump on board and help make a difference today. It will do you good, and it just might make a world of difference.
One day an old man was walking along the beach in the early morning and noticed the tide had washed thousands of starfish up on the shore. Up ahead in the distance he spotted a boy who appeared to be gathering up the starfish and one by one tossing them back into the ocean.

He approached the boy and asked him why he was spending so much energy doing what seemed to be a waste of time.

The boy replied, “If these starfish are left out here like this they will bake in the sun, and by this afternoon they will all be dead.”

The old man gazed out as far as he could see and responded, “But, there must be hundreds of miles of beach and thousands of starfish. You can’t possibly rescue all of them. What difference is throwing a few back going to make anyway?”

The boy then held up the starfish he had in his hand, threw it into the ocean and replied, “It made a difference to that one.”
‘A LARGER, FULLER LIFE’

Three recently endowed scholarships will give new generations of students the opportunity to pursue a liberal-arts education at Bellarmine. Here is a glimpse at what inspired these benefactors to make a gift that will keep on giving.

THE DAVID L. CHERVENAK (’58) ENDOVED SCHOLARSHIP

David L. Chervenak Sr. was a distinguished accountant, a teacher, an avid golfer and an enthusiastic Bellarmine booster. He was also an actor and director and a loving husband and father to six children. In short, he was a man who fully embraced all aspects of life.

And Patricia Schimpeler Chervenak hopes the recipient of the scholarship she endowed in her husband’s memory will have a similar outlook. “I would hope they are following their passion for accounting. They have perhaps an ideal of a wholesome and full life in all areas. And that they like to laugh every now and then.”

David Chervenak graduated from Bellarmine in 1958 and maintained a lifelong connection to the school. He was a member, board member and president of the Bellarmine Alumni Association and the first alumnus ever to serve on both the Board of Trustees and the Board of Overseers. His honors included being named Alumnus of the Year in 1963.

He was completing a three-year term as overseer when he died in May 2004, and was fundraising from home even when he became too ill to attend meetings, said Patricia, a 1953 graduate of Ursuline College. (Their daughter, Claudia McCrocklin, is a 1989 Bellarmine graduate.)

“I think he felt enormous gratitude to Bellarmine, that his life would not have been as rich as it was without that background,” she said. “He loved it.”

David Chervenak was also very involved in his profession, serving on numerous boards from the local to the national level. At Cotton & Allen, where he became a partner in 1963, he encouraged others to become involved in the community. “It was part of having a larger, fuller life than just the profession – and of giving back,” Patricia said.

David’s full life included a passion for the theater. He and Patricia met in the Catholic Theater Guild as teenagers and appeared onstage together several times over the course of their marriage. David was involved with the Louisville Theatrical Association for 25 years. With their liberal-arts backgrounds, Patricia said, “the humanities, and specifically the arts, were very important to both of us.”

by CARLA CARLTON
Students at Bellarmine, where David taught accounting part-time for about 10 years, saw him as a mentor, she said. “Some letters we received from former students after his death indicated that he was a deciding influence in their continuing in that profession and developing very impressive firms for themselves” across the country, Patricia said.

The recipient of the David L. Chervenak Endowed Scholarship must be an accounting major who maintains a GPA of 3.0 or better. But preference will be given, Patricia said, to those who take part in community service or volunteer activities – who, like her husband, embrace life with “a sense of joie de vivre.”

“WE WANT TO GIVE BACK SOME OF THE BLESSINGS WE’VE RECEIVED…
we love Bellarmine, and we hope our fund can grow.”

—Jane McCabe

THE JIM (’57) AND JANE MCCABE ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Ask Jim and Jane McCabe why they endowed a scholarship fund at Bellarmine, and you’ll get a heartfelt answer.

“You can be so blessed, but if you don’t give back something, there’s no use having anything,” says Jane McCabe. “We just wanted to give back.”

Jane and Jim McCabe, a 1957 Bellarmine graduate, are giving back by creating a renewable scholarship to help a full-time student with a strong work ethic and a strong desire to earn a degree. The guidelines specify that preference will be given to a single parent with children, and there’s a heartfelt reason for that, too.

“I was a single mom and would have loved to have gone to college,” Jane says. “But I was not able to. I wanted my son to go to St. X and for him to go to college, and you just don’t have money for everything. To be able to help another single mother go to college and realize a dream and better herself for her and her family was just what I wanted to do.”

Jane did take some night courses in accounting at Bellarmine. Her young son, Michel Lentz, accompanied her to her classes and did his homework while she was taking notes. “He feels close to Bellarmine, too,” she says.

Jim’s son, Michael McCabe, graduated from Bellarmine in the mid-’80s. Like his father, he is musically inclined. Michael McCabe played in the Bellarmine pep band, while Jim played the saxophone in The Belle-aires, Bellarmine’s orchestra, for four years and became the group’s leader for a fifth when it was between directors. Jim has served on the alumni Board of Directors and was named Alumnus of the Year in 1984.

Jane’s twin brothers, Daniel and David Schoenbaechler, are also Bellarmine grads.

Jane McCabe worked for L & N Railroad and CSX as a legal assistant before retiring in 1998. Jim McCabe was a vice president for National City Bank in the trust department and retired in 1995. The couple now divides their time between Louisville and their winter home in a retirement community in Ocala, Fla.

“We want to give back some of the blessings we’ve received,” Jane McCabe says. “We love Bellarmine, and we hope our fund can grow.”
“WE VALUE BELLARMINE IN OUR COMMUNITY. 
It pulls us all a little bit higher.”
—Mary Ann Kopp Hubbs

THE HUBBS/KOPP FAMILY ENDOwed GRANT

From an early age, Gerald Hubbs and Mary Ann Kopp Hubbs knew education was something to be valued.

Mary Ann’s parents were children of the Depression. Her mother had to leave high school and get a job to help support her family but took night classes so she could graduate. Her father was able to attend St. Xavier High School only by winning a scholarship. “Dad would sit us kids down and do vocabulary drills with us,” she remembers. “Those are the kinds of things that stick with you.”

Gerald recalls his father, Clarence Hubbs, a member of Holy Family Catholic Church, raising money for a new college on Newburg Road. “I was 8 or 9, and I remember he drove us past the site,” Gerald says. “There was a cattle fence there.”

That college, of course, would be Bellarmine.

Both Gerald and Mary Ann went on to earn college degrees. Mary Ann graduated from Ursuline College in 1963, five years before it merged with Bellarmine. Her sister was one of the first graduates of the newly merged school. Three of the Hubbs’ five children are Bellarmine grads, as are numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and in-laws.

Although Gerald Hubbs didn’t attend Bellarmine, he’s “there all the time now!” says Mary Ann, laughing. The Brown-Forman retiree organizes and leads courses for the Veritas Society, which offers lifelong learning experiences to those 54 and older. Most recently he taught classes in genealogy and the wines of Kentucky. Mary Ann takes an occasional Veritas course herself, when she isn’t busy tutoring elementary-school children.

Because they had several children in college at the same time, scholarships made a big difference to their family, Mary Ann says. She and her husband established their scholarship fund to help students who otherwise might not have the opportunity to attend Bellarmine.

“We value education,” says Gerald Hubbs. “So what do you do about it? You can contribute.”

And giving to a scholarship fund is “a little more personal way of donating to the education that Bellarmine provides,” Mary Ann said, because they can get to know the recipients. She and Gerald hope that family members will make annual gifts to increase their fund.

“I see Bellarmine as a continuation of the Catholic education. I hope it maintains its Catholic identity,” says Mary Ann. “We value Bellarmine in our community. It pulls us all a little bit higher.”

How to Establish A Scholarship

These three scholarships add to a distinguished list held at the university. You may establish your own family fund, or one in memory of someone, with a minimum gift of $25,000. Endowments grow not only through interest earned, but also through additional contributions from friends and family, such as birthday, anniversary or holiday tributes.

For information on how to establish a fund or to contribute to one of the existing funds, contact Joan Riggert, director of planned giving and stewardship, at joanriggert@bellarmine.edu or 502.452.8330.

For a list of the nearly 50 endowed scholarships at Bellarmine, visit www.bellarmine.edu/development/scholarship.asp
FROM 1992-1996, I WAS A STUDENT AT BELLARMINE, SURE OF MYSELF, SEEING the world as black and white. At a young age I knew I wanted to be a U.S. Army officer, and I worked hard to earn a commission with a tunnel-vision approach. Almost 12 years later I find myself in Baghdad, Iraq, serving a 15-month tour and a vastly different person than I was at Bellarmine.

I was drawn to Bellarmine for the liberal-arts program and the opportunity to run cross country for coach John Wellerding. As a student, I was always focused on the next class or the next race. Now, sitting here in Baghdad, I realize how valuable having a liberal-arts education can be when you’re trying to understand a complex counter-insurgency and the political issues involved in bringing peace to a country torn by civil war.

My time at Bellarmine was about balance between being a student, an athlete and a cadet in the University of Louisville ROTC program. Soldiering in Iraq is about balancing kinetic operations with building a new government that can gain the support of the Iraqi people. Soldiers must use critical-thinking skills to solve highly complex issues. Learning about history from Sister Pat Lowman, struggling through music literature with Dr. A.T. Simpson or writing a paper for Dr. Carole Pfeffer taught me to think outside the box and to see other world views.

Now I see the world in varying shades of gray. I despise war and violence. I wish for peace across the globe and for military service members to never have to experience the loss of a comrade again. I cannot help but think that if more people served in the military, were challenged to think and to learn about other cultures, perhaps we could prevent future wars with more diplomacy and understanding. Contrary to many views,

“REMINISCING ABOUT MY DAYS AT BELLARMINE,
I wish I had spent more time pausing to sit in the grass...”
soldiers prefer peace over war. Seeing firsthand the violence of war in the Balkans and the Middle East I have learned that most people across the globe want to live in peace, make enough money to support their family and to see their children have opportunities they did not.

Reminiscing about my days at Bellarmine I wish I had spent more time pausing to sit in the grass, had read more books, had gone to more parties; in short, enjoyed living in the moment. I learned a lot about myself during my time at Bellarmine, from being challenged by professors in the classroom, to running numerous hill repeats at Creason Park, to living in Newman Hall. Now all I wish for is to grow old with my wife, Gwen (whom I met while taking classes at U of L), raise my family and ensure that my children (Thomas, 6, and Mary-Kate, 2) have opportunities that I did not; but I do hope they each experience a Bellarmine-quality liberal-arts education.

I thank Bellarmine for the memories and the liberal-arts education. I challenge the faculty to challenge their students to think outside the box to address global issues. I encourage Bellarmine students to work hard, but also to enjoy their short stint at Bellarmine and to ask themselves what they will do to serve their country in some capacity and to improve the world in some way.
Fighting the Irish

Bellarmine lacrosse fans packed sold-out Frazier Stadium on March 29 to cheer on the Knights against No. 7 Notre Dame. The day featured alumni tailgating, live music, and lots of food and fun. The Knights made a good showing and jumped out to an early lead, but eventually fell to the Irish, 19-7.
photos by AMBER SIGMAN
1960s

LAWRENCE “LARRY” BARKER SR. ‘63 published a book titled Bury Me I’m Dead, which discusses the possibility of a future collapse of the United States. Larry credits Dr. Thomas M. Sheehan, his English professor at Bellarmine, for helping him develop a love for writing.

1970s

SR. LYNN JARRELL ’71 will become the president of the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville on July 30. She replaces Sr. Jean Anne Zappa.

NATALIE J. STEWART-SMITH ’72 won the Gold Award as Chaves County (N.M.) Teacher of Character. She received a trip for two to Alaska on Carnival Cruises. The New Mexico Military Institute Board of Regents selected her as recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for Sustained Superior Performance of Duty.

DAVID X. THURMOND ’71 has been named to the new position of director of development for the Louisville Theatrical Association, which manages Stage One and Broadway at Iroquois and presents the PNC Broadway Across America series. Thurmond, who began his career as a dancer with the Louisville Ballet, was most recently program manager of the Oldham County Arts Center.

1980s

PAM ELZY ’86 has been named the new director of the nursing education department at University Hospital.

1990s

LYNNIE MEYER ’93, director of philanthropy at Norton Healthcare and former executive director of the Center for Women & Families, has been nominated for the 2008 Martha Layne Collins Leadership Award.

CHARLOTTE RUNYON ’95 has earned the clinical nurse leader certification as announced by the Commission on Nurse Certification of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. She is one of 200 certified clinical nurse leaders nationwide.

JENNIFER MILLER ’96 has been named resident services director at Atria Stony Brook.

BILL RALSTON ’97 recently completed the certified financial planner certification process. This certification is among the most esteemed designations in the financial services industry. Bill works with individuals and business clients at Kentucky Financial Group in Louisville, where he has been employed for five years.

2000s


VALERIE REPINK SCHAEFFLER ’05 and Jim Schaeffler were married on Oct. 20, 2007, in St. Charles, Mo., where they live. Jim is a software engineer for a medical software company and Valerie is a nurse at Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital in St. Louis.

MEGAN LARKIN ’07 had an article on academic advising published in the scholarly journal The Mentor.
JUDGE KATHLEEN VOOR MONTANO, 46, died of complications of pneumonia on April 21 after a brief illness. Montano worked more than a decade as a judge in circuit, district and family courts. She had also been a staff attorney for the Kentucky Court of Appeals and had worked in private practice for the firm Mosley, Clare & Townes.

She was a 1980 graduate of Mercy Academy; a 1984 graduate of Bellarmine, where she was a member of the Cardinal Section honors program for four years; attended the University of Oxford in England in 1984; and received her law degree from the University of Louisville in 1987.

She was very involved in the community, giving her time to many organizations including the Jefferson County Women Lawyers Association, the Jefferson County Delinquency Prevention Council, the Boy Scouts, the Alumni Association and Board of Directors at Mercy Academy and the Alumni Board of Directors at Bellarmine, where she served on the awards committee.

Montano’s sudden death was “a horrible shock to everybody who knew her,” said Harry Rothgerber ’69, first assistant commonwealth’s attorney and chairman of the alumni awards committee.

“I can remember sitting with Kathy and Joe (her husband, also a Bellarmine graduate) at all-class reunions and having a wonderful time. I remember watching her dance with President McGowan back then, before she was on the bench.”

As second-in-command in the commonwealth attorney’s office, Rothgerber regularly saw her in the courtroom while observing his attorneys. “She was a very fair and even-handed judge, and it was pleasant to be in her courtroom. She treated everybody fairly, whether a litigant or a lawyer.”

He said her extensive community involvement could be traced to her time at Bellarmine. “She always said that Bellarmine instilled in her a service-to-others ethic, and I think that’s one of the reasons she was involved in as much as she was. At Bellarmine she learned how to give back to the community and how to give to those underprivileged something of her time and talent.”

Rothgerber said the last time he saw Montano in a Bellarmine capacity was in March, when the committee was deliberating over recipients of the 2008 alumni awards. “I’ve chaired the awards committee for eight years now, and I’ve always regretted that she served on it,” he said. “I had always looked at her as an award recipient, but obviously we couldn’t give it to her with her on the board. I was waiting for her to rotate off the board and then award her. She was definitely a good example of a Bellarmine grad.”

In addition to her husband, also a 1984 graduate, Montano is survived by four children: Joseph Michael, 18, Catherine Clare, 17 and twins Therese Marie and Michael Bernard, 16. Memorial donations may be made to Mercy Academy, St. Xavier High School or Saint Albert the Great Catholic Church.

ANN ELIZABETH ROBINSON Houck, BSN ’03 passed away Feb. 1 in Tacoma, Wash., after suffering critical injuries when she was hit by a bus in a crosswalk while walking her dogs. Ann was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army after completing the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps program. She deployed with the 47th Combat Support Hospital from September 2005 to June 2006 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After completing her time in the military, Ann worked as a staff nurse at Madigan Army Medical Center in the mother/baby unit. She was a native of Cincinnati and is survived by her husband, Captain Kerry Houck, her parents, David and Peggy Robinson, a brother, Scott, and a sister, Karen. Contributions may be made to a scholarship established in her honor: The Ann Robinson Houck Scholarship at Archbishop McNicholas High School, 6536 Beechmont Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45230. The scholarship will help fund tuition for a female student interested in a science career such as nursing.

THE REV. CLYDE H. CHETWYNE, who was chaplain at Bellarmine University for five years, died April 12 at St. John the Evangelist Parish Rectory in Swampscott, Mass. He was 59. Father Clyde was born in Duxbury, Mass., and attended Greenfield (Mass.) College before entering St. John Seminary. He received a master’s degree in pastoral counseling from Emmanuel College. He was ordained in 1980 and began a career as a pastor that would find him also assisting various police departments and school systems, most of them in Massachusetts. In 1989, Father Clyde began a five-year term as chaplain of Bellarmine University. A man of great humor, “he was very popular with students – an awful nice fellow,” said Father Clyde Crews, who noted that having two “Father Clydes” on a relatively small campus sometimes caused confusion. After returning to Boston in 1994, Father Chetwynde served a succession of three parishes in that area until 2005, when he was assigned to Swampscott.
**An Exciting Year**

This has been an exciting year to be an active participant in the BU Alumni Association! Alumni Director Peter Kremer has brought a lot of new ideas and energy to the job. It’s hard to avoid “catching” his enthusiasm. The Alumni Board of Directors is very eager to get started on our plans for the next year.

I hope you were able to join us for the BU vs. Notre Dame Lacrosse game and tailgating. It was great to see so many faces from the past. To see what events are coming up, please visit www.bellarmine.edu/alumni and register so that you will receive periodic updates in your inbox.

For the 2008-09 year, the board has big plans and expectations. Our goals are to provide great events and programs, engage more alumni and improve communication. We also want and need your input. What activities do you want? What would draw you and your friends back to campus? We are looking to add networking opportunities, social events and service projects. Please feel free to contact me with any ideas you have. I am looking forward to hearing from you!

*Jessica Rothgerber Murr ’99*
President, Alumni Board of Directors
Jessica.murr@gmail.com

**Awards & Reunion Weekend: September 12-14**

Mark your calendars for the Alumni Association’s annual Awards & Reunion Weekend! All Bellarmine alumni are invited to join us in celebrating the achievements of our 2008 Alumni Award recipients on Saturday, Sept. 14. The event will feature cocktails, dinner, the awards presentations and entertainment.

In addition to the award winners, we will also celebrate our 50th, 40th and 30th reunions that weekend with the Bellarmine and Ursuline classes of 1958, 1968 and 1978.

Watch your mailbox for more information on this weekend of celebration.

**JULY**
17 Alumni Night at the Louisville Bats Game

**AUGUST**
20 Knight to Knight Networking Alumni Breakfast
7:45 to 9 a.m.
Owlsley B. Frazier Stadium

**SEPTEMBER**
12-14 Alumni Awards & Reunion Weekend
18 Accounting Alumni Luncheon
20 Alumni Athlete Day
First ever alumni athlete day. Relive the glory days with games and festivities.

For more information on any of these or many other alumni events, please visit the Alumni Website at www.bellarmine.edu/alumni or contact the Alumni Office at 502.452.8333

**HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT bellarmine.edu LATELY?**
At Last! It's Bellarmine-Ursuline College

College Boards Approve Merger, Set Target Date Of June 1, 1968

By Sheila Conway

After a long semester's silence, the administrations of Ursuline and Bellarmine College have announced that June 1, 1968, is the effective date of the merger of the two schools.

The Board of Trustees of Ursuline met Monday, Jan. 22, to approve the terms for merger, and Bellarmine's Board of Visitors met last Friday for the same purpose. Formal ratification will take place at a joint meeting on Friday, Feb. 2.

In an interview on the UC campus, Sister M. Angeline, president of Ursuline, said that on June 1 the name of the new school will become Bellarmine-Ursuline College.

Sister added that the long period of no news on the merger has been due to a disagreement on the naming of the new college, but that both administrations are in full accord with the name, Bellarmine-Ursuline.

She also said that there has been no news on the merger on the executive committee of the two boards, which includes Sister M. Angeline, Sister M. Josephine, Chancellor for Bellarmine, and Sister Mary John, R.S.M., of the Ursuline administration.

In 1961, Bellarmine College suggested that the two Catholic colleges in the city, Bellarmine and Ursuline, consider a merger. Although the merger was not immediately agreed upon, the idea of cooperation was discussed and the two administrations were in agreement on the subject.

In 1963, the idea of cooperation was revived and the two administrations met again to discuss the possibility of a merger. The discussions continued for several years, and in 1968, the two administrations agreed to merge.

The merger is expected to benefit both institutions, as it will provide a stronger financial base and increased opportunities for students.

From the January 31, 1968 issue of Ursuline's "Counterpoint"