Faith and Reason

Catholic paleontologist Kate Bulinski digs beneath the surface.
The Bellarmine Knights kicked off their season against the University of Louisville Cardinals in an exhibition game on Nov. 4 in Freedom Hall. The Sporting News preseason guide for college basketball and Basketball Times both ranked the Bellarmine men’s team no. 1 in NCAA Division II - the first time that any Bellarmine sports team has held a no. 1 national ranking.

Photo by Brian Tirpak
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*Cover:* DR. KATE BULINSKI, SHOWN HERE IN OUR LADY OF THE WOODS CHAPEL, EXPLORED FAITH AND REASON LAST FALL IN HER IDC SEMINAR, HONORS 150: CREATIONISM AND EVOLUTION. STORY, PAGE 18.  
*Photo* by Geoff Oliver Bugbee.
I’ve been looking into some other career opportunities just in case this whole writing/editing thing doesn’t work out. One interesting example I recently read was that of innovative thinker John Vonderheide, who robbed 40 homes in Louisville in the 1840s after chasing the residents outside using a trained raccoon on a leash. Then again, they hung Vonderheide.

Or I could go into the food-service business like Junius Brutus Booth – father of John Wilkes Booth – who set up a stand in downtown Louisville and attempted to sell dead rats to passersby as, you know, gourmet lunch. True, they tossed Booth in jail, but anybody who’s seen Andrew Zimmern on the Travel Channel knows Booth was simply ahead of his time.

I read about both of these interesting career choices in Father Clyde Crews’ fascinating book Crossings, recently published by Bellarmine University Press. Fr. Crews, professor emeritus and university historian, examined the history of a roughly two-mile rectangle surrounding (surrectangling?) Merton Square in downtown Louisville. The result is an exhilarating trip through both geography and history that is a must-read for anyone interested in Louisville’s past.

There’s Lewis and Clark meeting up at the Louisville Wharf before their cross-continent journey. Travelers like Lincoln, Tocqueville, Dickens, Whitman, Emerson and Melville stepping off the boat to behold an antebellum Louisville that was a cosmopolitan outpost on the American frontier.

The bustling city’s intersections come to life: Thomas Edison getting fired from his Western Union job at Second and Main. Mark Twain’s 1885 public reading at Liederkranz Hall at Second and Market. W.C. Fields acting on the vaudeville circuit at the Buckingham Theatre at Second and Jefferson. Louis Armstrong playing at the Club Madrid at Third and Chestnut.

There’s George Rogers Clark having his leg amputated in a doctor’s office at Fourth and Main. Sufragette Elizabeth Cady Stanton suggesting that “obey” be stricken from marriage ceremonies in a speech at the Masonic Temple at Fourth and Jefferson. Imagine Groucho Marx getting booted from a confectionary at Fourth and Chestnut for over-promoting his Louisville appearance. Or Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., addressing a crowd of 9,000 at the Armory.

Picture running into Al Capone, Jackie Gleason or F. Scott Fitzgerald at the Seelbach; or seeing Elizabeth Taylor or Victor Mature at the Brown. Imagine seeing Dylan at the Kentucky Center, Elvis at the Armory or Edgar Cayce at Morton’s Bookstore at Fifth and Main.

But perhaps the best stories in Fr. Crews’ new book are the stories of average Louisvillians coping with the challenges of life: war, flood, zealotry, upheaval, disease, oppression and slavery. And those celebrating the good times: prosperity, wars’ end, the arts, Derby and just plain ol’ fun.

Lavishly illustrated with vintage photography, Crossings was artistically designed by our own Brad Craig. Find out where to buy your copy at www.bellarmine.edu/crossings.

JIM WELP ’81 | Editor-in-Chief
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From the President

‘A COMMUNITY OF MEMORY, A COMMUNITY OF HOPE’

“On Nov. 18, 1949, Archbishop John A. Floersch announced that a Catholic college would open soon on the Newburg Road. For 10 years and more, it had sat vacant. Now construction equipment began to dot the landscape. And on July 30, 1950, its founders placed the first cornerstone.”

SO BEGINS THE NARRATION OF A Community of Memory, A Community of Hope, a 14-minute film created especially for the 2009 Knight of Knights about the past, present and future of Bellarmine University, which celebrates its 60th anniversary in this, the year 2010.

With a combination of new and archival photographs and video footage, the film takes viewers on a journey from Bellarmine’s rather humble beginnings – a “campus” of one building that didn’t even have a front door yet when classes began! – through its many periods of growth and expansion, to today. The journey is both heartwarming and exhilarating, as we are reminded of the ambitions of those who began our great institution and see how far we have come in making those ambitions a reality – and, with Vision 2020, in setting new goals that they might never have dreamt possible.

The film was first screened at Knight of Knights, our annual black-tie event in the fall. We gathered in honor of Leonard M. Spalding Jr., a 1959 Bellarmine graduate and trustee and longtime supporter of the university whose voice can be heard on the film.

As always, Knight of Knights was a wonderful coming-together of our friends, a festive occasion filled with much reminiscing, music and laughter. But there was not a sound – not a cough, not a clatter of silverware – as the film unfolded, and not many a dry eye at its conclusion. It was clear to me that for those people in that room, this was not just the story of an institution; it was their story.

“Thousands of alumni, hundreds of faculty, myriad board members, staff, athletes, professionals and supporters have blended their lives with Bellarmine. As much as Bellarmine shaped them, these people also shaped Bellarmine. Their time here is woven in the very fabric of the university culture.”

I cannot say often or loudly enough how much I believe this, how very important the members of the Bellarmine community, particularly our alumni, are to this university. You were important to us as students, of course. As graduates, you are and will continue to be important in developing and improving your Alma Mater for your children and grandchildren and for other undergraduate and graduate students.

As our number of alumni grows, we know you are making the world a better place through your good works. And you are also helping us to build the resources we need to realize our vision, to become the premier independent Catholic university in the South, and thereby the leading private university in the commonwealth and region.

As we begin this 60th year of Bellarmine University, I leave you with the inspiring final words of the film, spoken by Len Spalding himself:

“I’m truly convinced that Bellarmine’s best days are ahead of it. Its full impact, in terms of this community, is yet to be felt.”

You are, and will be, an important part of that legacy, and I am so grateful to embrace you as a member of our Community of Memory, and of Hope.

I invite you to view the video at bellarmine.edu/video/community.asp.

DR. JOSEPH J. MCGOWAN
president@bellarmine.edu
I TAUGHT MY SONS HOW TO PLAY GOLF ON Bellarmine’s par-three course. Our favorite hole was the downhill No. 4. The elapsed distance from tee to cup can’t have been more than 20 to 30 yards, but the hill itself sloped down 40 yards or more. A good tee shot required not muscle but a deft touch – how fine it was to tee off with a pitching wedge, loft the ball high into the sky, and drop it softly onto the green. My sons always relished coming up on the fourth tee. My younger son, Ben, once almost had a hole-in-one there. He sculpted a lovely tee shot that soared high, then dropped a few feet from the pin and literally rolled right over the hole. He putted out for a birdie. The chief value, of course, was the chance for some good talk as we walked the course together – many a father-sons conversation unfolding across the green swards that would not have happened otherwise.

Frederick Smock
Chairman, Department of English
Director, Creative Writing Program
Bellarmine University

I HAVE SEVERAL FOND MEMORIES OF THE Bellarmine Golf Course. Here are a few:

1) 1986: Being a kid and playing my first round of golf, ever. My parents were new to the game as well, and I remember that we hit woods off the tees. Well, I can’t speak for my parents, but I am pretty sure they did hit woods off the tees as well... and they, of course, were woods that were made of real wood, unlike the metal clubs of today. They were also horrible hand-me-down clubs...and by horrible I mean GREAT!

2) As a senior, I participated in the Senior Golf Outing, and the tiebreaker all came down to one shot on the first green: my shot. I was chipping off the side of the green, so I picked a spot on the green where I wanted to hit the ball. I hit my spot, and the ball trickled on down to the hole and went in for the win!

John A. Blakeney, Jr. ’95
Cincinnati, Ohio

AT THE END OF THE ARTICLE “PARADISE LOST” IN the fall edition of Bellarmine Magazine, it asked readers to share memories of the golf course, as a portion of this land is now being converted into parking. Therefore, I would like to share a not so “fond” memory of that rolling terrain.

I had the extreme good fortune/privilege to attend Bellarmine University and to be a member of the baseball team from 1978 to 1981 (you know...when it was still Bellarmine College!). The head coach at that time was a guy named Al Burke, who also happened to be my brother. As with all of the pitchers on the staff, we were subject to a great deal of running. Coach loved to send us out for early Saturday morning runs through campus, often times commencing at the back of Knights Hall or from the baseball field. Regardless of the starting point, our multi-mile jaunts, at some point, sent us through the demanding up and down hills of the par 3.

The golf course, however, was not the only itinerary for our conditioning. Coach Al (“The Brow”) Burke made sure that we pitchers experienced all the beautiful, vastly rolling hills and terrain of our Highland hilltop campus. As I recall, several Saturday mornings began with Coach telling us to start by running over to Kennedy/Newman Hall to beat on the dorm door of a certain senior pitcher, who had once again overslept. I will not mention his name, as to not cause embarrassment to one of our supposed senior leaders...okay, I will. It was Chris Adkins!

Also, during those years, the hill overlooking the baseball field had not yet been excavated and a road cut into the middle of it. This was a steep hill and it served as the perfect punishment running venue – say, for example, if someone was doing poorly in a class, late to a practice, late for a bus trip to hell, not wearing their uniform correctly, using language unbecoming of a Bellarmine athlete, wrongfully accused of drinking, etc. There was a perfectly worn path in those days from the back of our home (first base) dugout, up the hill and around the flag pole. How many “poles” you ran depended on the extent of your infraction, as determined by Coach Burke.

Because of those wonderful running memories on the old par 3, forever etched in my brain, whenever playing golf these days, I make sure I am riding in a cart!

Kevin (“Little Brow”) Burke ’84
Jeffersonville, Ind.
'32 DeSoto from '54 yearbook

The picture in the 1954 yearbook is of Jim Miller’s 1932 DeSoto. The people shown are freshmen (all graduates of Flaget High School) and are, from left to right: Jerry Lindauer, Jim Miller, Richard Mazzoni, Kenneth Medley and Harold Hayes.

Jim Miller ’57
Louisville, Kentucky

FROM THE EDITOR Thanks, Jim. We also heard from George O’Mary ’64 of Sierra Madre, Calif., and from Pat Medley, wife of Kenneth Medley, of Wilmington, Del.

Travels with Bellarmine

Olin Sell, a longtime friend of Dr. Joseph J. McGowan and a Navy commander who is currently deployed to Afghanistan, gets a kick out of photographing his Bellarmine jacket at points around the globe. He is pictured here at Petra in Jordan (which he notes you might recognize from Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Please include your full name, address and a phone number. We may edit letters for clarity, length and accuracy.
What’s On...

...Your bookshelf?
I have a tendency to re-read books, especially ones that address social and leadership issues, so I am reading (for the fifth or sixth time) *Closed My Eyes: Revelations of a Battered Woman* by Michelle Weldon. The author describes how she recreated her life after domestic violence entered her world. *The University: An Owner’s Manual* by Henry Rosovsky provides an overview of the university, specifically the role of liberal education, the admission process and tenure issues. Another book on my bookshelf is *Cracking the Corporate Code: The Revealing Success Stories of 32 African-American Executives* by Price Cobbs and Judith Turnock. The professional experiences of African-Americans executives in majority organizations is the starting point for a discussion about the importance of mentoring, establishing internal and external support systems, and the role of senior leaders in creating an environment that is supportive of all its employees. Finally, the *TouchPoint Bible*, a recent gift from my Mom, is on my shelf.

...Your iPod?
Songs from James Cleveland, Donald Lawrence, Chris Botti and Pieces of a Dream.

...Your mind?
I have so many things on my mind, dealing with work, friends, life, etc. Questions and issues I continue to ponder: What are instructive and creative ways to meet the needs of students, staff and faculty as they relate to multicultural issues? How can I be accepting of individuals who do not understand the importance and benefits of integrating reflective practices in their lives? Intergenerational issues: How can I assist students in cultivating an appreciation and understanding of the personal sacrifices of past generations? The short-term and long-term impact of the economic crisis on under-resourced communities. Is it possible to balance work and life issues?
“Fr. Treece and Fr. Horrigan wanted to indicate an openness to science,” said Fr. Clyde Crews, Bellarmine’s university historian and archival coordinator. “They could’ve used religious names or historical names, but it loomed large to put faith and science together at the foundation of the new school. It seems fitting in this year of Galileo.”

At the dedication of the new building in 1950, Msgr. Felix N. Pitt, Catholic School Board secretary, said, “In Bellarmine, the students will not be given truth and error and allowed to choose. Here the teachers will teach the truth of which they are convinced. There will be no conflict between science and religion because God is the author of both and God is truth.”

Pasteur was also a devout Catholic, which was no doubt instrumental in the naming of Bellarmine’s Pasteur Hall, which opened on July 30, 1950. “Fr. Treece and Fr. Horrigan wanted to indicate an openness to science,” said Fr. Clyde Crews, Bellarmine’s university historian and archival coordinator. “They could’ve used religious names or historical names, but it loomed large to put faith and science together at the foundation of the new school. It seems fitting in this year of Galileo.”

Pasteur Hall

By JIM WELP
jwelp@bellarmine.edu

Here’s a Bellarmine trivia question for you: Before it was named for the famed French founder of bacteriology, what was Pasteur Hall called? OK, it’s a trick question. The answer is “Bellarmine College.”

Pasteur Hall was the school’s first and only building until the Administration Building (now Horrigan Hall) opened in 1954. So, in addition to classrooms and science laboratories, the original building housed a library, bookstore, cafeteria, chapel, offices for faculty and staff, and a student lounge. As hard as that might be to imagine, picture this: That creaky, drafty old building we all love so much doubled in size in 1969. And that’s not even counting the sleek Norton Health Science Center, which opened in 2003 and connects to Pasteur Hall, creating a delightful “Back to the Future” experience for all who enter.

Louis Pasteur (1822-1895), of course, is on the extremely short list of geniuses who saved millions of lives while also improving the quality of beer. A chemist, microbiologist and artist, Pasteur discovered that heating vinegar, wine, beer and milk to a low temperature could slow microbial growth and make those products safer to consume without destroying flavor and quality. That process, pasteurization, can prevent tuberculosis, diphtheria, salmonellosis, strep throat, scarlet fever, listeriosis and typhoid fever.

Although germ theory was widely known among scientists before Pasteur’s time, it was not widely believed among the masses. (Yes, it’s true: Some people didn’t listen to scientists back in those days!) Next time you wash your hands with antibacterial soap or slather on some Purell, consider this: Before Pasteur, many doctors commonly didn’t wash their hands or equipment before treating their patients.

Nowadays, not only can we make foods like juice, eggs, canned food, milk, soy sauce, wine and beer safer through pasteurization, but we have a whole popular entertainment subculture of germophobes like Niles Crane, David Sedaris and that Monk detective guy feeding our germ-based neuroses. Besides all that, Pasteur also created the first rabies vaccine and saved the French cattle and silk industries through his work on anthrax and silkworms. Even if you’re a raw-milk foodie, you’ve got to admit that’s some impressive stuff.

Pasteur was also a devout Catholic, which was no doubt instrumental in the naming of Bellarmine’s Pasteur Hall, which opened on July 30, 1950. “Fr. Treece and Fr. Horrigan wanted to indicate an openness to science,” said Fr. Clyde Crews, Bellarmine’s university historian and archival coordinator. “They could’ve used religious names or historical names, but it loomed large to put faith and science together at the foundation of the new school. It seems fitting in this year of Galileo.”

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Pasteur would have no doubt agreed. Said he: “Happy the man who bears within him a divinity, an ideal of beauty and obeys it; an ideal of art, an ideal of science, an ideal of country, and an ideal of the virtues of the Gospel.”
“PEOPLE LIKE TO THINK ABOUT IMAGINATION TAKING FLIGHT, BUT BELIEVE ME, IF YOU WANT A SENSIBLE TRIP, IT HAD BETTER TAKE OFF FROM A VERY LONG RUNWAY.”

Question & Answer: Barbara Kingsolver

If you’ve kept up on the latest environmental issues, you’ve probably heard about (and hopefully cracked open) Barbara Kingsolver’s book on sustainable eating habits, *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*.

If you’re less “in-tune” but more “attuned” to minute happenings in the natural world, you may have come across her sharp and lucid non-fiction essays (*High Tide in Tucson, Small Wonder*) and been re-inspired to go outdoors more often, to notice and appreciate the many wonderful things around you.

The bookworms among us have no doubt devoured Kingsolver’s *The Bean Trees* and *The Poisonwood Bible*, both prize-winning and highly acclaimed works of fiction.

And even if you’ve missed all the above, most of us have heard by now that she came to Bellarmine in November and gave a remarkable speech (sponsored by Carmichael’s Book Store), that she’s touring behind a new novel, *The Lacuna*, or that she just so happens to be related to Bellarmine’s own Environmental Studies czar, Dr. Robert Kingsolver.

Barbara Kingsolver was kind enough to sit down before her tour began and answer a few questions for Bellarmine magazine about her new book, her lasting influences (a childhood in rural Kentucky), and what inspires her.

By EMILY RUPPEL ’08

emily.ruppel@gmail.com
How were you first inspired to write *The Lacuna*?

For many years, I’ve wondered why we have such an uneasy relationship between art and politics in the U.S. – as opposed to most other countries, where the two are inseparable. I suspected our discomfort might go back to the mid-20th century, what we now call “the McCarthy era,” when artists here were persecuted, lost jobs and were even imprisoned for expressing dissident opinions. Those times established a powerful fear, and I wondered if they’d left a legacy. I thought it would be useful to set a novel in the 1930s and ’40s, and trace that fascinating history.

Did anything surprise you while working on this novel?

Yes, every day. The research took years, and opened my eyes wide. Here are just a few things I hadn’t previously known: That the entire city of Asheville, N.C., was quarantined in the summer of ’48, because of polio. That the continental U.S. was attacked during World War II, several times – the Japanese sent a submarine up the Columbia River and deployed a floatplane bomber. (Their plan was to set the Oregon forests on fire and throw the country into a panic.) Another surprise about the war years: Not one car was available for sale to ordinary citizens, who also submitted willingly (on the whole) to extreme rationing of gasoline, sugar, meat, cheese, wristwatches, bedsheets, hairpins and a thousand other things. The law forbade skirts longer than knee-length or more than one ruffle per sleeve – fabric was rationed for military use. Can you imagine U.S. citizens accepting rules like this now? History turns on so many things that get forgotten – and so did my novel.

Where and when do you write?

My career as an author has coincided exactly with my career as a mother: My first novel was accepted for publication the day after my first child was born. So I manage my professional life the way any working mother does, with the greatest possible efficiency. If you asked a school principal or a bank loan officer with young children “where and when do you work,” she would say, “at my desk, every weekday, while my kids are at school or daycare.” That’s my answer too. My kids are growing up, the youngest is now 13, but my daily routine doesn’t change. Writing books is a profession I dearly love, but it is in fact a job, not a magic trick. My muse is the school bus. “Writer’s block” is something I’ve never had time to work into the schedule.

Does your writing process change between fiction and non-fiction?

Every project is different, so it’s hard to generalize. A novel might require more years of research than certain non-fiction books. But some elements remain consistent: voice, character, a narrative arc, a strong resolution. Whether it’s fact or fiction, a story is a story. It should have a compelling reason for imposing itself on readers, and it should give them good reasons to turn every page.

The Lacuna includes some major historical figures (Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera). How did you come to “know” these characters in order to write them?

By reading everything ever written by or about them. Then, traveling to Mexico City to see their artworks, thumb through their archives, and walk around in their homes, which have been beautifully preserved as museums. Looking carefully at everything. Cooking their favorite foods, and tasting them. People like to think about imagination taking flight, but believe me, if you want a sensible trip, it had better take off from a very long runway. I was trained as a scientist, so I don’t shrink from research. Good fiction is all in the details.

Your brother, Robert Kingsolver, is the driving force behind Bellarmine’s new Center for Regional Environmental Studies. Did you always share an interest in science and agriculture?

I’m impressed with Bellarmine’s commitment to environmental studies, and their wisdom in placing Dr. Rob Kingsolver at the helm of this initiative. I can vouch for his dedication to promoting more thoughtful relations between humans and their habitat, dating back to the days when we rescued snakes from the hay-mower in the alfalfa field behind our house.

How did your rural Kentucky upbringing most influence your life as a writer?

The strongest influences on any of us are probably invisible to us, ourselves, because they present themselves as atmosphere, and we breathe it. I grew up in a place where people loved good stories, and knew in their bones it was wise to stay on good terms with the people who made you. If scholars note that I address themes of “balancing the need for individualism against the good of the community,” well then, fine, call that early influence. But I would call it being a citizen of the world.
News on the Hill
Bellarmine taps the earth for truly renewable energy

When faced with a challenge from Dr. Joseph J. McGowan to make Bellarmine’s campus more environmentally sustainable, facilities managers looked down. Five hundred feet down, to be precise. During most of the fall semester, construction crews took over a chunk of the parking lot between the Brown Activities Center and the SuRF Center to build a geothermal field that will heat and cool the air in five buildings. The schedule calls for the parking lot to be re-paved and ready for students when they return for the spring semester.

Crews went to work in September drilling 88 wells, each 500 feet deep. Pipes were then threaded through the holes and gravel placed around them to hold them in place. Once the system is complete, pumps send a water feed in one hole, down to the bottom and back up again (see illustration).

“The geothermal technology uses the earth’s temperature to cool and/or warm the water going through the pipes. It gets the temperature back to about 56 degrees and puts it into the system,” said Tom Fisher, assistant vice president for facilities management at Bellarmine.

The system pumps the water through the buildings, helping warm the air in the winter and cool it in the summer.

“By the time it gets all the way through Alumni Hall, Norton Music, Norton Fine Arts, Wyatt Center for the Arts and Brown Activities – the five buildings that field will help – that water temperature may be up to 90 degrees,” Fisher said. “We pump it out into this field and when it comes back into the building, it’s back to 56 degrees again. That happens over and over again.”

The buildings were already heated and cooled by water running through internal pipes. The difference is in how the old system returned the water to a usable temperature. Before the geothermal field was created, large fans cooled the water in a tower. The new system will do the same job by tapping the earth’s consistent temperature, making it much more energy efficient.

Fisher says the university will save enough in heating and cooling costs each month to pay for the system within 13 years. With proper maintenance, the system should last at least 50 to 70 years.

But geothermal technology is just part of the current sustainability effort. A rainwater collection system in the Brown Activities Center will collect rainwater off the roofs and use it to operate the flushing systems in toilets and urinals in that building. A back-up system using city water is already in place to take over if the region experiences a drought. –Tabatha T. Thompson

Geothermal Heat Pump System
SAVING ENERGY BY USING NATURAL RESOURCES
Knight of Knights honors Spalding

On Saturday, Oct. 17, 370 people entered the SuRF Center’s indoor tennis courts, which had been transformed into a beautiful banquet hall for the 2009 black-tie Knight of Knights celebration honoring Leonard M. Spalding Jr. ‘59.

The group ate a delicious meal, heard Dr. Joseph J. McGowan highlight the university’s progress, watched a documentary film, A Community of Memory, A Community of Hope, about the past, present and future of the university, and then danced to the sounds of The Sensations.

The five-hour ball netted $125,000 for the Annual Fund for student aid, a record amount. The movie was made entirely in house, especially for this event, and can be viewed on the university’s website at www.bellarmine.edu/video/community.asp.

Spalding earned a bachelor's degree from Bellarmine University in 1959 and an MBA from Indiana University. After years of progressive leadership in the financial industry, he became president and chief executive officer of Chase Global Mutual Funds Corp. in New York City, now known as the J. P. Morgan Global Mutual Funds. He and his wife, Susan, returned to his childhood home of Springfield, Ky., following his retirement in 1998. Since then, he has pursued many commercial and philanthropic interests, notably serving on the Bellarmine Board of Trustees, where he has been instrumental in advancing the goals of Vision 2020.

O, CHRISTMAS TREE

Bellarmine had a new Christmas tree this year to replace the ice-storm-ravaged evergreen in front of Horrigan Hall that was taken down last March following 19 years of holiday service.

The campus community overwhelmingly favored the Quad as the site for the new 25-foot Norway spruce, which was grown on the Carl Ray Landscape Nursery in eastern Jefferson County and planted near the Franciscan Circle during Thanksgiving week.

In order to give the new tree a chance to get established, a 20-foot-tall blue spruce in the Quad was bedecked for this year’s lighting ceremony on Dec. 1. For more on the tree, visit www.bellarmine.edu/about/photos/.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

About 70 people, and not quite as many dogs – including Dr. Joseph J. McGowan’s Rosie and Dooney – came together on Oct. 7 for the annual Blessing of the Animals in the Quad. This ceremony, which began in the fall of 2001, celebrates and honors the Franciscan heritage of Bellarmine University, especially the teachings of St. Francis of Assisi.

St. Francis is associated with a Prayer for Peace attributed to him, as well as his gentle spirit around animals, but he has also become the patron of the environment because of his Canticle of Brother Son and Sister Moon. In light of this, the program, presided over by Fr. Adam Bunnell, included a recitation of the St. Francis Climate Covenant Pledge to protect the environment.
Bellarmine to Host National NCAA Festival

Bellarmine’s improved athletic facilities will be showcased on a national level when the university serves as the host institution for the NCAA’s Division II National Championships Festival, an Olympic-style event, on Dec. 1-4, 2010.

The Division II Fall Sports Festival will feature 70 teams and more than 800 student-athletes vying for championship titles in men’s and women’s cross country; women’s field hockey; men’s and women’s soccer; and women’s volleyball.

Knights Hall and Owsley B. Frazier Stadium will serve as the practice and competition venues for volleyball and soccer, respectively. In addition, University of Louisville’s Trager Stadium will serve as the field hockey venue and E.P. “Tom” Sawyer State Park will serve as the cross country venue.

This is the fifth national championship festival hosted by Division II, which is the only NCAA division to host a multiple championship festival.

NEW MILKY WAY IMAGES UNVEILED

On Nov. 19, Bellarmine partnered with the Gheens Science Hall and Rauch Planetarium to celebrate the International Year of Astronomy by unveiling new, mural-sized images of the center of the Milky Way Galaxy as seen by all three of NASA’s Great Observatories: the Hubble Space Telescope, Spitzer Space Telescope and Chandra X-ray Observatory.

The event was part of nationwide NASA image unveiling. For more details, http://hubblesite.org/newscenter/archive/releases/2009/28.

Maroon 5 rocks Hillside

About 1,650 people came out on Nov. 3 for Hillside, headlined by Maroon 5. The annual concert was held in Knights Hall and moved from late summer to fall to accommodate the band’s touring schedule.

Kate Earl, whose music has been featured on Grey’s Anatomy and Private Practice and whose self-titled album dropped the Tuesday of the concert, opened the show after K’Naan had to cancel at the last minute.

Maroon 5 was the biggest, most expensive act ever booked for Hillside, said Sarah Fromm, assistant director of student activities, and the Student Activities Council began working on the project in August. A record number of tickets was sold to the general public, she said, and a record number of student volunteers – more than 40 – worked the show from 6 a.m. until 1:30 a.m. the next morning. “This concert truly was put on by students,” Fromm said.
EXPLORE DOWNTOWN LOUISVILLE’S INTERSECTIONS IN A NEW BOOK FROM FR. CLYDE CREWS

On March 18, 1958, the renowned Trappist monk Thomas Merton stood at Louisville’s Fourth and Walnut streets (now Fourth and Muhammad Ali) and experienced an epiphany: He was suddenly struck that the many people crossing this urban intersection were all deeply connected to himself. They shared a destiny in which both fragility and grace intermingle. He wondered if it were truly possible to convince people that they were “walking around shining like the sun.”

So significant did the City of Louisville consider Merton’s experience at this core downtown center that in 2008 it officially designated the area “Thomas Merton Square.”

But what about the corners that border this urban crossing? Might they have wrapped inside their histories other stories of the human condition in all its range and diversity?

In *Crossings, Historical Journeys near Louisville’s Merton Square* (Bellarmine University Press 2009, $39.95), Fr. Clyde Crews, professor emeritus and Bellarmine University historian, sets out to explore the often forgotten historical narratives of people and events in the 40 blocks that form a rectangle in the downtown section of Louisville around Merton Square.

Richly illustrated with archival photos and filled with compelling stories – some funny, some tragic, all intriguing – *Crossings* invites the reader to join in the historic adventure and search.

Faculty and staff news and honors

On Sept. 28, a bronze memorial honoring fallen Kentucky K-9 officers was unveiled on the Bell County Courthouse lawn in Pineville, Ky. **JAIME CORUM**, a 1996 Bellarmine graduate and now a part-time faculty member in the university Art Department, sculpted the German Shepherd in the likeness of King, a K-9 dog killed along with Bell County Sheriff’s Deputy Sean Pursifull when a driver being chased by Kentucky State Police crashed into their parked cruiser on Jan. 10, 2008. The monument also honors the six other K-9 dogs killed in action in Kentucky. It’s the first bronze for Corum, who specializes in equine paintings.

The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded $165,000 to fund a proposal by **DR. ERIC ROORDA**, professor of history, for a Summer Institute for college faculty. “The American Maritime People” will be held at Mystic Seaport Museum in Connecticut as part of the NEH “We the People” initiative, with Roorda as the director.

**RICHARD BURCHARD**, associate professor of music, has been appointed composer-in-residence with Voices Novae for the 2009-10 concert season. Burchard will compose eight new works for the choir. The appointment will culminate in a CD release and full performance of Burchard’s works in November.

**PAUL CULLIGAN** and **TODD HILDRETH**, Bellarmine jazz instructors, will appear in the upcoming Disney film *Secretariat*, starring John Malkovich, Diane Lane and James Cromwell. Culligan and Hildreth play musicians in the dance band in a scene depicting the Belmont Ball. The movie, filmed at the Pendennis Club and Churchill Downs, among other locations, will be released later this year.

**DAVID DOMINE**, adjunct faculty in Global Languages and Cultures, signed a contract with Globe Pequot Press in August to write a comprehensive travel guide about Louisville. *An Insider’s Guide to Louisville* will be released in spring 2010. His fourth book, *Haunts of Old Louisville: Gilded Age Ghosts and Haunted Mansions in America’s Spookiest Neighborhood*, was published by McClanahan Publishing in mid-August and received a good review in the Sept. 12 Courier-Journal. In September, Domine signed a contract with Arcadia Publishing to author a pictorial history of Old Louisville, one of the nation’s premier historic preservation districts. *Images of America: Old Louisville* will be released in summer 2010.

**STEPHANIE BARCLAY** has joined the Division of Student Affairs as director of campus recreation, a position that includes operation of the SuRF Center. **ALICE KIMBLE**, who formerly shared the responsibility of campus recreation director in addition to her role as the campus nurse, will now focus full-time on health services as the director of health services.

**DR. HANK ROTHGERBER**, a member of the Psychology Department in his 10th year at the university, has assumed the role of Honors Director. Having been involved previously in the Honors Council, thesis-directing, and the Bellarmine Scholars competition, he brings key experience to this new position, as well as great passion for the work.
‘The Struggle for the Soul of Science’
ACCLAIMED AUTHOR DAVA SOBEL DELIVERS 2009 GUARNASCHELLI LECTURE

By TABATHA T. THOMPSON
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“I WAS FIRST DRAWN TO GALILEO BECAUSE I THOUGHT HE WAS A REBEL,” said Dava Sobel, author of Galileo’s Daughter, as she began the 2009 Guarnaschelli Lecture in Frazier Hall on Oct. 29. But through the course of research for an earlier book, she came to believe that the Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei made all his discoveries about the heavens “as a good Catholic.”

Sobel’s lecture, “Galileo, Bellarmine and the Struggle for the Soul of Science,” examined faith and reason through the relationship between Galileo and the university’s namesake, St. Robert Bellarmine. Her discovery of a series of letters written to Galileo by his eldest daughter, the cloistered nun Suor Maria Celeste, provided the seed for Galileo’s Daughter, which opens a window to Galileo’s life as a father and a man of faith. The letters range from the mundane, with promises that she would bleach and starch his collars, to serious entreaties that her father guard his health. Regrettably, the letters the astronomer wrote in return have not been found, even though Suor Maria Celeste often referenced the fact that she had saved them all.

“This was 17th century Italy. Even the air was Catholic!” Sobel said in a preview of her lecture on WFPL’s State of Affairs program, describing her reaction upon first realizing that Galileo considered himself a devout Catholic.

For those unfamiliar with the history between Galileo and the Church, Sobel provided a brief primer. Galileo did not invent the telescope, as so often has been misreported. That honor belongs to an inventor in the Netherlands. Galileo copied the instrument, and eventually improved the design. His troubles began when he agreed with Polish scientist Nicolas Copernicus’ theory that Earth and other planets rotated around the sun. This heliocentric belief ran counter to the accepted science of the day, and more important, seemed to oppose Psalm 104: “He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved.”

The Church gave then-Cardinal Bellarmine the task of telling his contemporary and friend, Galileo, to keep quiet about the Copernican Theory. Bellarmine even looked through Galileo’s telescope. Several years after Bellarmine’s death, Galileo went before the Inquisition, where he recanted his findings to avoid being burned at the stake. He spent the final eight years of his life under house arrest.

Sobel, who studied Italian during three years of college, went back to school to brush up on the language so that she could translate Suor Maria Celeste’s letters into English. The letters detail a reverential and loving relationship between father and daughter, along with anguish at how the Church had received Galileo’s findings.

“Most Illustrious and Beloved Lord Father - Just as suddenly and unexpectedly as word of your new torment reached me, Sire, so intensely did it pierce my soul with the judgment that has finally been passed, denouncing your person as harshly as your book,” reads one of the letters Sobel translated and included in the book.

The university invited Sobel to speak as part of a yearlong exploration of faith and reason during the International Year of Astronomy. It was, she said, “an invitation too good to pass up from a school named after Bellarmine.”

A former New York Times science reporter, Sobel also is the author of Longitude and The Planets. In her 30 years as a science journalist she has written for many magazines, including Audubon, Discover, Life and The New Yorker, served as a contributing editor to Harvard Magazine and Omni, and co-authored five books, including Is Anyone Out There? with astronomer Frank Drake.  

DAVA SOEBEL ALSO SPOKE TO BELLARMINE PHYSICS STUDENTS.
Creationism:

DIGGING BENEATH THE SURFACE IN CATHOLIC
&

Evolution

PALEONTOLOGIST KATE BULINSKI’S IDC SEMINAR

By CARLA CARLTON
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Photos by GEOFF OLIVER BUGBEE
SHE’S A PALEONTOLOGIST AND A SELF-DESCRIBED “rock nerd.” She’s also a practicing Catholic who is almost as fascinated by the study of religion as she is by the study of deep science. Dr. Kate Bulinski is the ideal person, in short, to teach Honors 150: Creationism and Evolution, a freshman IDC (Interdisciplinary Core) seminar.

Just those words, creationism and evolution, are enough to stir up controversy in some quarters these days. In the 150th anniversary of the publication of Darwin’s *The Origin of Species*, battles are still being waged about the teaching of evolution in some public high schools and some Christian colleges that have statements of faith endorsing a literal interpretation of the Bible. But take note: Bulinski’s course isn’t called “Creationism versus Evolution.”

“I thought it would be nice to explore both with them,” she says of her class. “As college students, they’re a little more sophisticated. They’re able to look at both and understand the logic that underpins both of them, rather than just having the notion of them being embattled, which is what we see in the media all the time — that one is completely diametrically opposed to the other.”

Bulinski, an assistant professor of geoscience who is teaching Bellarmine’s first class in paleontology this semester, didn’t know much about IDC seminars when she came to work at the university in the fall of 2008. “But once I found out about them, I was clamoring to teach this class.” She offered it as a freshman IDC seminar in spring 2009 and then as an honors course in the fall. The classes are small — a dozen students — and largely discussion-based. Students read assigned pieces and prepare at least one discussion question for each. They also have a Facebook page where they can comment on the readings and post links to other related content — everything from a BBC News report on head transplants to a website called darwinismrefuted.com.

So far, Bulinski has found that most of the students in her seminars come from a faith tradition. “Usually the majority believe that God created life, perhaps had something to do with the infusion of the soul, but that God
also created the mechanism of evolution. I would say that’s where my belief lies as well,” she says. “I believe in God, but I also accept the evidence for evolution and for science. I don’t think they have to be mutually exclusive.”

Not all of the students have been equally prepared by their high school science classes, however. “There seems to be a lot of misconceptions going into it about what science really is, what is the nature of science, how does it work, and a lot of misconceptions about evolution itself. ...There are a lot of facets to evolution, and students don’t always appreciate that until they take this course and we really get into the nitty gritty.”

Students learn about macroevolution (modifications over millions of years) and microevolution (small changes, such as bacterial resistance to antibiotics) and about various types of creationism, including intelligent design, as well as creation stories from religious traditions other than Christianity. Throughout, Bulinski fosters an atmosphere of trust, where students can disagree with her or with each other, so long as they are respectful.

“This is what I say on the first day of class, just to be up front with them: There is absolutely nothing wrong with having a belief, having faith in anything. You just have to understand that when you have a belief system, you don’t require evidence. That’s why faith and belief are powerful.

“They understand that I’m not going to judge them. I have a belief system myself. That’s not the problem. The problem is incorrectly understanding what science is, and the limitations of science and the limitations of faith.”

Bulinski’s Creationism and Evolution is a thoughtful examination of faith and science, of intent and fact, of black and white and shades of gray. At its core, it’s an introduction to the critical-thinking skills that are increasingly valuable in a world where students are bombarded with messages that sometimes play fast and loose with facts, whether the topic is evolution or global warming or health care.

“What I’ve discovered after teaching it is that it’s a lot more than just the topic of evolution and creationism – it’s understanding how to communicate and how to use logic and how to use reason,” she says. “That part is really rewarding. To be able to analyze what is out there, and what is fact and what is not, and what is opinion and what is emotional response – being able to discern between those things is a very important skill, and not everybody knows how to do that.”

POVOCATIVE TOPICS

Just as there are different parts of evolutionary theory, there are different types of creationism. Bulinski’s students spend a great deal of time talking about Young Earth Creationism, whose followers take a very literal interpretation of the biblical story of creation – that the earth was created in six 24-hour days and that it is approximately 6,000 years old.

In mid-September, one of their readings is Chapter 8, “The Evils of Evolution,” in The Lie: Evolution by Ken Ham, director of the Answers in Genesis ministry and the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Ky., which the students will visit on a field trip later in the semester, paired with a visit to the Museum of Natural History & Science in Cincinnati.

“It must be understood,” Ham writes, “that our worldview is inevitably affected by what we believe concerning our origins and our destiny.

“As the creation foundation is removed, we see the Godly institutions also start to collapse. On the other hand, as the evolution foundation remains firm, the structures built on that foundation – lawlessness, homosexuality, abortion, etc., logically increase. We must understand this connection.”

“What do you guys think about that?” Bulinski asks.

“It’s almost seems like they’re trying to demonize evolution” by linking it to things that are morally objectionable, offers one student.

“Is there any truth to this?” Bulinski asks the class.

“I think it’s way farfetched to link abortion to evolution,” says another student, but “I can see where it’s related to it. A lot of creationists would say that if you believe in evolution, then you think there’s no point to life.”

“What do you guys think about that?” Bulinski prompts.

“I think that’s nihilism, which is more philosophy than science,” another student responds. “To say that life is pointless – that’s something that science can’t support or not support; that’s just the outlook you choose to take on life.”

Over the course of the class session, the students offer other provocative topics for discussion – one wondering, for instance, whether the theory of evolution would be more
accepted had it been established before the birth of Christ, and another noting the irony that another author, in an argument against evolution, “kept using the word ‘adapt.’”

It is also apparent that students have absorbed Bulinski’s focus on making deliberate word choices. “One thing I try to practice is separating emotion from logic. Thinking from feeling. A lot of people will say ‘I believe in evolution,’ but that’s really untrue — you accept the evidence for evolution. There is no ‘belief’ involved in a scientific concept,” she says. “There is belief when faith is involved with understanding the supernatural. There is a distinction there.”

“I believe evolution,” one student begins before quickly self-correcting: “I accept evolution.”

What, ultimately, does Bulinski hope students take away from her class?

“Understanding how science works. That’s really important, especially for those who are not science majors. Understanding what the difference is between a hypothesis and a theory, because those are very misunderstood terms. You may hear in the media when they’re talking about creationism, they’ll say, ‘Well, evolution is JUST a theory.’ But what people don’t understand is that theories are the cornerstones of science. They’re overarching explanations that are supported by so much evidence. So there’s the theory of relativity, and the theory of evolution, theories of gas law — there are all kinds of different theories that are accepted. And evolution is accepted in the scientific community.

There is so much controversy that is stirred up by people who have a very emotional tie to why creationism is important to them, and that’s where it gets really confused — not in the scientific literature, in the public perception.

“If students can understand the difference between science and faith, that is very important.”

**THINKING DEEPER**

**“Kentucky fossils: I dig ’em!” reads one of the stickers on the door of Bulinski’s office (this one advertising the Kentucky Paleontology Society). Her office doubles as a lab space for now, and in mid-September, as she prepares for a Geological Society of America conference in Oregon, her desk is covered by a blue tarp, rocks and fossils. More rocks are lined up neatly on the floor.**
Her bookshelves are filled with books about earth science, geology and paleontology and copies of Science magazine. One shelf is devoted to books for the IDC class, titles like In Six Days and The Genesis Debate: Three Views on the Days of Creation.

Although she went to high school in Dover, Pa., where parents took the school board to federal court in 2004 after teachers were ordered to present intelligent design as an alternative to evolution, she says she had a good grounding in evolution and wasn’t really aware of the controversy until she got into grad school at the University of Cincinnati, where she earned her Ph.D. in paleontology.

“As a paleontologist, you really get a very deep understanding of how evolution works – macroevolution. You can do that as a biologist as well, but when you’re dealing with the fossils and the rock record together, you really get an understanding of how things have changed over vast amounts of time.

“And once I started to get more and more into paleontology, it’s hard to avoid this controversy because you feel like you’re faced with it all the time. Your friends bring it up. They send you emails about something in the news and say, ‘What do you think about this?’ And you just tend to absorb the stuff. I understand evolution very deeply, and so it’s easy for me to sort of counteract what the creationists are saying when they misrepresent science. But also part of the reason I’m so interested in it is that as a college student I was also interested in religious studies. I took quite a few religious study classes. I was just personally interested in understanding my religion and my faith, and so merging the two has been sort of a pet topic for me.

“The nature of this controversy is...evolving all the time,” she says with a smile. “You see new creationist arguments and strategies for trying to get it into public schools, for example. And with evolution there are new ideas and studies that come up too, so you kind of have to stay on top of both. It’s interesting.”

She also enjoys watching her students’ ability to process complex ideas evolve, although she acknowledges that only so much of that can happen in one semester.

“I think it’s something that takes four years. It’s what college is supposed to be: a way of figuring out who you are and how you think about things. It may not happen in the course of a semester. But having a course like this, an IDC course, as a freshman, I think gets the ball rolling, gets them to think in a deeper way, if they haven’t had the opportunity to do that before. It sort of opens up the horizon, and hopefully they’ll take the things they’ve learned in this class and apply it to other classes, too.”

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**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ROCK?**

If you want to stump a geoscientist, that’s the question to ask.

Dr. Kate Bulinski, who collected rocks as a child and makes the natural history museum her first stop on a trip to any new city, pauses, then laughs. “I love them all. My students learn that pretty quickly in my regular geology classes. I’m really passionate about these inanimate objects, and they kind of make fun of me. But that’s part of why I like going to museums so much. Everything is interesting. Everything has a story to tell.”

She does, however, have a favorite fossil: *Isorophus cincinnatiensis*. “It’s related to a sea star. A really cool little creature.” It’s also the Official Fossil of Cincinnati.

To learn more about how Kate Bulinski rocks, visit www.bellarmine.edu/video.
The exotic enigma of ISTANB

STUDY-ABROAD STUDENTS FIND HISTORY, CULTURE — AND MEHMET THE WRINKLER

By JIM WELP
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Photos by JIM WELP and TIM WELLIVER
The feribot ride across Istanbul’s Bosphorus River is surely one of the world’s most scenic treks. The great river, a major shipping lane connecting the Black Sea with the Sea of Marmara, laps against the European and Asian shores of Istanbul, providing rhythmic accompaniment to the sights, sounds and aromas wafting about: grilled bluefish, lamb kebap, fresh-baked breads and exotic spices; scurrying tourists and workaday Turks; cargo ships and pleasure craft from around the world; and the ancient mosques and modern skyscrapers of the swelling metropolis.
History just outside the classroom

A short bus ride from the port of Kadiköy on Istanbul’s Asian side lies Yeditepe Üniversitesi, a large private university housing schools of arts and sciences, medicine, law, communications, education, pharmacy and dentistry. The school is only 13 years old, but 15,000 students fill its 300 classrooms. In Istanbul, which had a population of just one million in the 1950s, it seems as if everything is growing quickly.

For five weeks last summer, Yeditepe was home to students and faculty enrolled in the Kentucky Institute for International Study (KII) Turkey program, which included students and faculty from Bellarmine. KII is a consortium of Kentucky colleges and universities that sends students and faculty to more than 20 countries, striving to make the experience affordable to as many students as possible.

Students in the KII ’09 program traveled to Istanbul to study Turkey’s deep history, stunning geography and rich culture. The program offers courses like Early Christian and Byzantine Art and Architecture, Art and Architecture of the Ottoman Empire, History and Civilization of the Ottoman Empire, Turkey in the Contemporary World, and The Middle East Since 1800. Classes are closely tied with excursions to some of Turkey’s most important architectural, cultural, religious and historical sites, especially focusing on the Byzantium and Ottoman empires.

Dr. Timothy K. Welliver, associate professor of history at Bellarmine, taught two classes in the 2009 Istanbul program: Turkey in the Contemporary World and The Middle East Since 1800. A 17-year veteran of Bellarmine’s History Department, Welliver has taught abroad in Turkey and Egypt and knows firsthand the benefits of being able to connect a history lesson with the world just outside his classroom.

“I remember talking about the British trying to come up the straits in World War I – the Dardanelles Campaign – and I pointed out the window and said, ‘Well this is where they were trying to get.’ You could see the Sea of Marmara from our classroom. And I’ve got (President Mustafa Kemal) Atatürk looking over my shoulder – and I’m talking about Atatürk and the foundation of Turkey and here it all is.”

Atatürk, Turkey’s founder and first president and a commander during the Dardanelles Campaign, is a national hero. Flags and photos of him appear everywhere in Istanbul, including the wall behind Professor Welliver as he teaches his classes at Yeditepe Üniversitesi.

“If you’re teaching about religion and the students haven’t been to a mosque before, you can visit the great historic mosques – the Süleymaniye Mosque and the Blue Mosque – as well as the Hagia Sophia,” Welliver said.

Indeed, all students in the program studied and visited those historic mosques as well as the famed Topkapi Palace, which was the residence of the Ottoman Sultans dating to 1465 and today is a museum of the imperial Ottoman dynasty, housing a spectacular collection of porcelains, armor, jewels, manuscripts, art and artifacts of the Prophet Muhammad. The program also included a four-day trip to Turkey’s capital, Ankara, and Cappadocia in Central Turkey, an otherworldly landscape of rock temples, cave cities and sandstone chimneys and minarets.

“The (students) see the things you’re talking about,” Welliver said.

‘High-impact learning’

Dr. Gabriele Bosley, director of Bellarmine’s International Programs Office, has seen students come back from study-abroad trips deeply moved and changed. Bosley pioneered the study-abroad program at Bellarmine and says the experience is transformational.

“Those of us who are trained in learning theory know that the human brain retains and learns faster and better when we do rather than when we just think about it,” she said. “International studies and learning on-site allow us to do this. That’s ‘experiential learning.’ If I send students
to Turkey to study the complex history of the Middle East and they set foot into those ancient sites, they can feel their way into this knowledge and from there they can derive a totally different level of engagement with learning and with retention and with critical thinking because learning is all about engagement with the topic.

“Cognitively we can do that anywhere,” Bosley said. “But (it’s different) if you bring in that experiential component of a student walking up to passersby in Istanbul and asking, ‘How do you see yourself? Do you want to be part of the European Union? Or do you identify with Asia?’ It’s a totally different identity. If faculty teach a class on Middle Eastern history, and assign a student that task to go out there and bring back five interviews and write an essay and a reflective piece, that’s something totally different than to give them an assignment here on the Bellarmine campus.”

“International on-site learning is high-impact learning,” she said.

An eye-opening experience

An historic city that’s both European and Asian and was once the capital of the Byzantine, Roman and Ottoman empires, Istanbul is a great place to study religious history both ancient and recent. On a hot Turkish morning in July, Dr. Welliver’s Turkey in the Contemporary World seminar class discussed Bliss, a 2002 novel set in Turkey written by accomplished Turkish author,
composer and former member of the Turkish Parliament, O.Z. Livaneli. The gripping, controversial novel paints a no-holds-barred examination of modern Turkish life, fundamentalist Islam, modern warfare and urban alienation. The story weaves together the lives of a 15-year-old girl condemned to death by her own rapist uncle, her commando brother and an alienated Harvard-educated professor who abandons his comfortable life in Istanbul and gets wrapped up in the lives of the two young people.

“*It’s really fun to watch students exploring and learning about themselves – TO SEE THEIR EYES OPENING.*”

In Welliver’s class discussion, the students struggle to explain their reactions to the events described in the book. A conversation about “honor killings” under Islamic law leads to a discussion about interpretation of the Holy Qur’an, and on to Hezbollah, religious fundamentalism, poverty and life in the shantytowns that sprawl on the outskirts of the massive city. Like most observers of the Middle East, the students don’t have any easy answers to the problems posed in Livaneli’s book. But clearly, Professor Welliver has them engaged and Istanbul has them rethinking any prejudices they might have brought along.

“Istanbul is a modern, cosmopolitan city and we stay at a modern, gated campus,” Welliver said. “I had a student who said, ‘Wow, there are all these high-rise buildings. I thought people would be living in mud huts!’ He was expecting a much more primitive experience.

“Most of our students haven’t taken public transportation on a regular basis. Then they go to Istanbul and find a much better public transportation system than Louisville has, and you can get around on busses and trams and the subway and the funicular and the ferries and they’re all networked on the same system and you just buy a chip and it works on everything. The students are very impressed with that.

“It’s really fun to watch (students) exploring and learning about themselves – to see their eyes opening. We had a student last time who’d never left the country and who had never flown on a plane before. So her first plane flight was to Istanbul. She had a great time – she didn’t want to leave and she’s still in touch with some of the friends she made there. She was like a pro. I’m really proud of her.”

**Creating a safe and rewarding experience obviously, a five-week study abroad program doesn’t come fully formed out of Expedia or Travelocity. The program and curricula are the handiwork of KII S study-abroad experts, as well as administrators and faculty like Welliver and Bosley. But the buck stops with KII S program directors, who arrange for the housing, classrooms, academic planning and excursions, and manage the budget, while also teaching in the program. The KII S Turkey program director is Dr. Tom McCollough, professor of history and religion at Centre College. Charming and witty, McCollough is a veteran of teaching abroad in London, Rome, Istanbul, Cairo and eastern Turkey. His enthusiasm is infectious, and hanging out with McCollough in Turkey is like having your own personal tour guide with an encyclopedic knowledge of history and religion, and a heartfelt passion for teaching. McCollough structured the program so that students would have classes at Yeditepe Monday through Thursday, along with a required excursion to Istanbul’s historic sites each Friday. In addition, he led optional excursions each Saturday, and planned the trip to Cappadocia and Ankara, something he felt was crucial to understanding the region. “There’s no experience like it,” he said. “Most tourists skip the central plains. And Ankara is Turkey’s capital and administrative center. Ataturk wanted to disconnect the history of the republic from the Ottoman history. The turban and Ottoman Turkish were banned. No women in government places could wear scarves. Religion could not be taught in universities. And he moved the capital to Ankara. There is also a fine museum of Anatolian civilization — showing the ancient side of Anatolia.”

“Ankara was also an important Roman base here in Asia Minor,” McCollough noted. “When Paul writes his letter to the Galatians – Galatia is a territory in Asia Minor and we think Ankara was the capital of it. It became a Roman city and when Emperor Augustus proclaimed a place as a new Roman city a temple would be built to honor it. There’s only one where the full inscription is left and it’s in Ankara. It’s incredible!”

**Opposite (Clockwise from top): THE SULTAN AHMET, OR BLUE MOSQUE. A MASSIVE TURKISH FLAG ADORNS A BUILDING AT YEDITEPE ÜNİVERŞITESİ (www.yeditepe.edu.tr/). KII S PROGRAM DIRECTOR TOM MCCOLLOUGH. SHOPPERS JOSTLE OUTSIDE ISTANBUL’S FAMOUS GRAND BAZAAR.**
When an ancient artifact wows Tom McCollough, it’s not something to be ignored. The man is also an accomplished archaeologist and author who has led archaeological expeditions to Israel every year for 28 years. He and his students were part of a team that uncovered rare amulets at Sepphoris that are estimated to be around 2,000 years old. His team also excavated at a site they believe could be Cana of Galilee, which was featured in the Gospel of John as the site of Jesus’ first miracle.

“The first cave we excavated, we discovered a marble ledge behind an altar and it replicates exactly what the fourth-century pilgrims said it looked like when they went there to reenact the water-to-wine miracle,” he said. “The site includes painting and graffiti from the fourth century on.”

In addition to his historical and religious knowledge and his accomplishments in archaeology, McCollough’s experience in the Holy Land brings considerable administrative advantages to his work in Istanbul: “Managing 60 people in Israel has equipped me to do some things that are somewhat unique – making sure people are safe, negotiating customs in the Middle East, and avoiding certain kinds of foods.”

‘Do something adventurous’

Kevin Edelman, a Bellarmine senior from Lexington, made the trip to Istanbul as part of the KII S program. After changing his major from psychology to history during his junior year, Edelman thought the program would be a great opportunity to study abroad, while also earning six history credits he needed to graduate on time. He said he enjoyed the architecture of Istanbul and talking politics with the Turkish students at Yeditepe Üniversitesi.

“The trip was a great way to catch up after swapping majors so late,” said Edelman, who plans to attend law school after graduation. In the bargain, he learned a lot about Turkish language, culture and customs, and had a chance to reflect on his own country.

“I picked up Turkish fairly quickly,” he said. “It was the first time I felt some way bilingual. I’m obviously not fluent but I could manage and get around. It came out of those encounters where I spoke no Turkish and they spoke no English. After a couple of days of cluelessness, everything really started kicking in and I realized, ‘I’m actually picking this up!’ Whatever sociological fear that kicks in of being isolated – you just start acquiring stuff.

“One of the things I found really interesting was how students in Turkey all had it mapped out what they were going to do post-grad. They’re more of the old, classical sense of being a student. ‘I’m going to be in the library for 12 hours and this is my job.’ There was no ‘I’m gonna go tailgate, go hit a party and maybe between hangovers I’m going to slip in a class.’

“We had a good back-and-forth about our governments. We got into the ideas of how much do you vote for the politician on the basis of what they represent, how much their policies matter, versus what that intangible ‘character’ represents. It was topical at the time because Turkey, being purely secular in their government, now has got some (politicians) promoting the fact that they’re Islamic versus others who promise to vote from the perspective of what’s best instead of being influenced by this outside third thing.

“If we had an atheist candidate run here, he wouldn’t get the necessary signatures to get on the ballot, much less the primary. We’re OK with picking apart the little tidbits here and there, choice of synonyms, rather than look at the big, hulking scope of policy.”

There were also some comical moments of dealing with day-to-day life in another country. Edelman described an encounter with a staff worker at the university:

“The guys’ dorms have full-service laundry. This employee’s job was to work the laundry room. However much you brought down to have done, that’s how much went into one washer and one dryer. The first time of the reasons of my friends waited until everything was dirty and took it down. He got it all back and it was soaked. So it became a process of figuring out, OK, you can send a pair of jeans and three shirts and that’s fine. That’ll come back OK. Anything else comes back damp and wrinkled. My friend Ted and I were taking Dr. Welliver’s class and we’d just gotten to Mehmet the Conqueror, who had taken Constantinople from the Byzantine Empire. We later found out the laundry worker’s name was Mehmet from our friend Salim who interpreted for us, so we started calling him ‘Mehmet the Wrinkler.’

“Hey, he was just doing his job.”

A veteran of family trips to England, Italy, France, the Czech Republic, Germany and Mexico, Edelman challenged his fellow students to study abroad and to seek adventure in doing it.

“You’re gonna pick up the language and customs pretty quickly. Try something different,” he said. “By no means am I Indiana Jones, and if you’ve got Celtic heritage and you want to go to Scotland, that’s fine. But if you’re wishy-washy about where to go and you want a study-abroad experience, don’t wimp out. Go somewhere interesting.”

Opposite (Clockwise from top): Students prepare to enter the Eyüp Camii mosque. Bellarmine senior Stephanie Kortyka in Central Turkey. Spectacular sandstone formations. A restaurateur opens for business. Touring the holy sites in Istanbul.
FOR A BRIEF VIDEO ABOUT ISTANBUL STUDY-ABROAD, PLEASE VISIT www.bellarmine.edu/video.
What a long, strange trip it’s been.

Back in the early ’70s, Bellarmine graduate Mike Seibold and townie Bill Tullis put together a band. They called it Leslie’s Motel after a seedy place out on Dixie Highway frequented by soldiers from Fort Knox, and their blues-tinged Southern rock packed fans into Louisville clubs. Then they took their act on the road, playing just about everywhere east of the Mississippi and opening for big names like Ted Nugent, Charlie Daniels and John Lee Hooker.

There’s a story that when the Sounds of the South record label signed Lynyrd Skynyrd, the choice came down to Skynyrd or Leslie’s Motel. But the concept album that Leslie’s Motel recorded in 1972 was never released, and rising gas prices and other economic concerns made it harder for a journeyman band to survive. Seibold left the group in 1975, and by 1976, Leslie’s Motel had closed for business.

Skip ahead three decades. Last February, that concept album, Dirty Sheets, was finally released by Gear Fab Records, a small label in Orlando, Fla., devoted to “Legitimate and Authorized Reissues of Psych, Garage and Rock Sounds, 1965-72,” which described the CD as “great sound in the same vein as the Grateful Dead.” And in November, Leslie’s Motel reunited for an appearance on WFPK’s “Live Lunch” and two concerts—all in support of an album they had recorded 37 years before.
A strange trip, indeed.

“WE’RE ALL RATHER FREAKED OUT,” LEAD GUITARIST Seibold ’71 said in a phone interview from Illinois in late October. “We haven’t played — well, we did a small reunion around 1994 — but it’s been 15 years since we’ve played together, and over 35 years since we’ve played this music. I haven’t played guitar in years. I’m trying really hard to get those callouses back.”

Seibold, who grew up in Baltimore, came to Louisville to attend Bellarmine College, which was strongly recommended to him by a counselor at his Catholic high school. As he delicately put it, “I was a less than sterling high school student. I was more interested in playing music.”

He knew nothing about Louisville, but found to his delight that it was “a pretty solid original-music town.”

“Louisville generates more music than most towns of its size. There is more innovation, more creativity, in many ways, than even a place like Chicago. I don’t know what it is, but it’s always had a vibrant music scene. There were places to play, and people came out and supported local musicians.”

Seibold played in singer and rhythm guitarist Tullis’ band, Conception. “When it broke up, we decided to do something different — something with a bigger sound, a keyboard and a rhythm section. We recruited (keyboard player) Richard Bush (’72) and a couple of drummers. The personnel changed several times, but the band that recorded the album in 1972 was myself, Bill, Richard and two drummers, Paul Hoerni and Roy Blumenfeld.” Blumenfeld had been the drummer for the Blues Project, a seminal blues band in New York that also included organist Al Kooper, who had played on Bob Dylan’s Highway 61 Revisited album and was a founding member of Blood Sweat & Tears. On bass was Ray Barrickman.

The band took off, Seibold says. “We were on the road a lot. We did it for a living.” Whether Leslie’s Motel really did vie with Lynyrd Skynyrd for spot on a label, he doesn’t know, but “Al Kooper produced Lynyrd Skynyrd, so it’s possible.”

Eventually, though, times got tough. “We tried to make it. But it was starting to be a bad time for bands. ...I thought, ‘I’ve got a college degree and I’m making no money.’”

So he quit the band and enrolled at the University of Chicago, where he earned his master’s in public policy. He went into health-care administration, working at Blue Cross of Illinois from 1988 to 2001, eventually serving as president and chief operating officer. He now runs a health-care consulting business in Barrington, Ill.

Bellarmine, he said, “started me on a wonderful academic and professional life.” In 2002, Seibold was inducted into Bellarmine’s Gallery of Distinguished Graduates. In 2007, he endowed a scholarship for African-American men; the first recipient is set to graduate this year.

Music faded into the background of Seibold’s life. But he had kept a copy of the tapes from the Dirty Sheets recording sessions. “They were getting really old, and I was worried about them not being viable. So I took them to a recording studio here in Barrington, had a guy put them onto discs and sent it to the guys. Everybody got a kick out of it.

“Paul Hoerni played a copy for Jay Petach, who had been the band’s recording engineer and is now at Gear Fab Records. Jay barely remembered it. But the president of Gear Fab was a real fan of the Blues Project, and when he heard that Roy was on the album he thought this might be something to release.”

The “new” album got a favorable response, with one reviewer writing that Seibold’s solo on the signature track “contains riffs Jimi Hendrix might have been proud to claim.”

“The next thing you know,” Seibold said, “we have this reunion weekend. We’re all shocked — but it’s been fun to reconnect.”

Roy Blumenfeld is a full-time musician, playing on both coasts. Ray Barrickman went on to play with Hank Williams Jr. Richard Bush, an attorney, moonlights as a musician in Louisville. Like Seibold, the other guys had to brush up on their skills — but it didn’t take too long to get into a groove.

“Rock bands are like marriages — you live together, work together, you develop these really close friendships,” Seibold said. “Even though we haven’t toured together for 35 years, we have this connection. We started playing Monday and it was ragged, but by the end of the second day things were coming together. By the time we get to the actual shows, we’ll be OK.”

DIRTY SHEETS is available at ear-x-tacy, amazon.com and at http://gearfab.swiftsite.com/index.html. To hear My Sweet Woman, a track composed by Richard Bush and sung by Ray Barrickman, visit www.bellarmine.edu/cas/music/magazinesongs.asp
The final frontier?

By EMILY RUPPEL
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Bellarmine to help NASA look for Earth-like planets

“Put three grains of sand in a vast cathedral, and the cathedral will be more closely packed with sand than space is with stars.” So said Sir James Jeans, an English astronomer, in describing the vastness of the universe.

Those of us who’ll admit to having occasionally envisioned Star Trek as less science fiction than scientific reality might hear Jeans’ metaphor, picture its almost-too-grand scale, and blush at our own whimsy. At current spaceship speeds, it would take almost a year for man to reach the closest planets in our solar system, and well over an astronaut’s lifetime to venture past the Milky Way. (Think Star Trek: The Generation after the Next Generation After the Next. …)

During Bellarmine’s celebration of “The Year of Galileo,” even the most starry-eyed interstellar aspirations don’t seem quite so far-fetched. (2009 marked the 400th anniversary of Galileo’s first telescopic viewing of the heavens.) Take, for example, Bellarmine’s own involvement with NASA’s SIM Lite (Space Interferometry Mission) project, in which scientists will use new photographic techniques in the hopes of discovering Earth-like planets orbiting the stars in our galactic neighborhood.

Scheduled for launch in 2015, the SIM Lite lab will use interferometry to begin collecting data in space with such precision that scientists will be able to calculate the orbit, mass, and density of planets roughly the size of Earth, and also to determine whether these bodies might be capable of supporting life. Taking pictures from the ground or from station-based telescopic cameras – the “old” technology – is inefficient when trying to find small planets, for one main reason: Stars are really bright.

Dr. Akhtar Mahmood, who over the summer received a $25,000 grant for a collaborative research project to assist NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology with developing the SIM-Lite prototype, explained the need for new data-taking techniques. “Imagine trying to take a picture of a ball-point pen in L.A., when you are standing in New York. (Even if the world were flat), there’d be too much noise, too much interference. We can take pictures of planets as big as Jupiter, but when you look through just one telescope for a small planet, the light from its star will overwhelm the picture.”

The interferometry technique, which uses light from more than one telescope to measure multiple light rays, has the ability to let the rays “interfere” with one another to help cancel out some or all of the excess light, thus creating a more clear picture. SIM-Lite will also compare data from target stars with nearby reference stars to measure any difference (i.e., a small orbiting planet) on their light-waves over a period of time. Two upperclassmen in the Bellarmine Physics Department, Ben Draper and Richard Jelsma, will be studying data from the interferometer at JPL on a network of computers loaded with special software here in Louisville.

“This is the perfect way to continue the work of Galileo,” Mahmood said. “I’m excited that a non-Ph.D.-granting institution is going to be involved, and this project will have a deep impact on Ben and Richard, both of whom hope to extend their academic careers in astrophysics.”

Though the students and their professor may not “boldly go where no man has gone before,” they will get to go to California to assist JPL researchers in making any necessary adjustments, as well as a chance to work on one of the most exciting projects currently in progress at NASA.

WINTER 2010
Art imitates Life imitates Art

REALITY MAKES CAMEO IN THEATRE PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S NEW PLAY

By JIM WELP
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Professor Carlos Chavarría teaches classes in acting, directing, playwriting, screenwriting, movement, improvisation, theater history, multicultural theater and special theater topics.

But Chavarría is also a playwright, performer, director, podcaster and all-around raconteur. With a passion for U.S./Latino theater, bilingualism, multiculturalism and LGBT issues, he writes about fairness, understanding, conflict and reconciliation. His one-man show, *La Vida Loca*, took him to national and international showcases and universities where he performed and led workshops on playwriting and screenwriting. He even started his own podcast, *Teatro Latino Conversations*, to share information about U.S./Latino and Latin American theater in the United States.

And now his latest play has unexpectedly collided with reality. *Lloronas* is a play based on the Mexican folklore story of *La Llorona*, “The Crying Woman.” In Chavarría’s play, a Mexican family living illegally in the United States finds itself in turmoil when an older daughter, Marisela, decides to go to Mexico in search of her own daughter, who she previously thought was dead. Her state of mind deteriorates and she has nightmare visions of *La Llorona*.

Meanwhile, Marisela’s brother researches the origins of the *Llorona* myth, taking the audience to the 17th century, where a love story between a Mexican Indian and a young Spaniard develops, and also to pre-Colonial times, where the author reveals the origins of the myth and its connection to the Aztec goddess Cuaticue. *Lloronas* will be produced in Spanish by Teatro Bravo in Phoenix, Ariz., in February (http://teatrobravo.org/). Chavarría will produce the English-language version of *Lloronas* at Bellarmine in Fall 2011.

A central theme in Chavarría’s story is the far-too-common contemporary tragedy of abducted children. *Lloronas* was partially informed by the 1991 disappearance of Jaycee Dugard, the 11-year-old California girl who was abducted from a bus stop in Lake Tahoe, Calif., near where Chavarría’s family lived.

“The disappearance of Jaycee Dugard affected me a lot,” Chavarría said. “In the 1990s there were several abductions around the area, and that affected my view of America. I had been living in the U.S. for only five years and finding out about kidnapping really scared me because I was in a new country, didn’t speak English very well and I felt very unsafe. Yet, at the time of her disappearance, there were other child abductions happening around our area and I witnessed how people came together to search for the missing children. It was around this time where I started asking myself the question, ‘What happens to the ones who are left behind?’ ”

To his surprise, Jaycee Dugard reappeared last August, garnering national news coverage. Police believe she was held prisoner by her alleged abductor for 18 years. “I was a little surprised at her reappearance,” Chavarría said. “But because I’m a little twisted, I thought, ‘See, she was always alive but the police didn’t do their job well enough to find her.’ I also immediately thought about the ones left behind and how they have been affected by her disappearance and now how they are going to be affected by her reappearance — especially the stepfather, Mr. Carl Probyn, who had been accused of the kidnapping since he was the last one to see her by the bus stop.”

Jaycee Dugard’s reappearance has Chavarría’s creative juices flowing again. “I am planning to write a new play based on the reappearance of Jaycee Dugard — not necessarily about her, but using her as the basis for the play,” he said. “This play will concentrate on the ‘what happens to the ones left behind’ question once again (but also) the aftermath after someone is found alive and then it’s known that the main suspect is not the one who did it. I’m still thinking about the whole play, though. It takes a year or two to simmer the idea and then, when I feel I’m ready, I start writing. However, I have been doing my research on the Jaycee Dugard case, since her reappearance will be the basis for my new play. Would this be a follow-up to *Lloronas*? I don’t know. But it does come from the same dark place I initially started writing it.”

TO CHECK OUT CARLOS CHAVARRIA’S PODCAST, VISIT teatrolatinoconversations.com.
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY THEATRE DEPARTMENT, AND TO SEE A SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING PLAYS, VISIT www.bellarmine.edu/cas/theatre.
First Responders

BELLARMINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM HELPS MAKE CAMPUS SAFER

By JOAN COMBS DURSO ’78
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Photos by GEOFF OLIVER BUGBEE

ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL 16, 2007, CNN PLAYED INTERVIEWS with two student members of the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad, who were first into the building once SWAT teams had pronounced an all clear following the deadly rampage of a student. As a faculty member at Bellarmine, I wondered how the Bellarmine community would respond to any emergency, especially such a large-scale disaster. Then, in August of that year, my neighbor Molly Martin (BU MBA 2002) died of injuries sustained in a massive explosion in her home, not far from the Bellarmine campus.

My response to Molly’s death was a proposal to integrate disaster preparedness across the undergraduate curriculum at Bellarmine. I read about the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation and learned that there were already more than 200 student-run EMT squads on campuses around the country, so I added that to my proposal. Drs. Carole Pfeffer and Fred Rhodes encouraged me to get students involved.

It took another semester for that to happen. I had been teaching senior seminar for several semesters. We spent the first half of the semester on Catholic social teachings and the second half doing work on particular subjects of the students’ choice or taking on a class service project. Classes did everything from tutor in a fifth-grade classroom at Byck Elementary to work with Chef Timothy Tucker at the Salvation Army’s dining facility.

In the spring of 2008, my senior seminar included two lacrosse players, Cameron Adams and Ray Finnegan, who had been on the field the day that Rick “Tuggy” Passfield died at a lacrosse practice. Other class members included Matthew Cahoe, Ami Desai, Michael Durnil, Matt Fritsch, Jean Guenthner, Christa Mattingly, Mara Piechowski, Sarah Roney, Megan Sarason, Stephanie Schwebler and Nathan Spalding. My talk about disaster preparedness fell on ready ears.

Evan Kuhl, a freshman member of the Brown Scholars program, spoke with my class about becoming an EMT and volunteered to help with their project. Already certified as an EMT-Basic when he arrived on campus in fall 2007, Kuhl was a pre-med working with the Red Cross and as an ER tech in area hospitals. After much negotiation, the class agreed to the goals of having a registered student organization recognized by the end of the semester, and getting everyone in the class CPR-certified by classmates. Ami Desai and Mara Piechowski became American Heart Association CPR instructors and taught the rest of the class Heartsaver CPR that semester. The Bellarmine Emergency Response Team (BERT) was officially recognized as a student organization by the Bellarmine SGA on April 9, 2008, and the seniors elected Evan Kuhl as BERT’s first president.

BERT was founded on the principle that we should all be able to take care of ourselves and the people around us in the event of an emergency. BERT’s original mission was threefold: to increase emergency education on campus, particularly CPR and first aid training; to research and start an EMT squad to respond to campus emergencies; and to create a workable model for other schools in Kentucky.
BERT first responders, (left to right): Tiffany Dahman, Kime Le Phuong, Evan Kuhl, Rachel Bossi and Kristen Storrie.
Nurse Alice Kimble, who oversees all CPR instruction on campus, was glad for the chance to have more qualified CPR instructors on campus. Dr. Christy Kane, faculty member in Respiratory Therapy, the advisor of CPAPS (the student group for Respiratory Therapy majors) and another CPR instructor, helped get respiratory therapy students involved. Student-led CPR instruction was easy to sell, but campus EMT squads were less well-known in Kentucky. EMTs were needed.

During the summer of 2008, a group of Bellarmine students and I took the EMT-Basic course taught by Major Mike Will at Louisville Metro EMS. Bellarmine students did so well in the citywide class that Major Will approached EMS Director Neal Richmond about further supporting the BERT program. Dr. Richmond volunteered to become the team’s medical director. All that was left was the legal paperwork.

With six student CPR instructors, seven nationally registered EMTs waiting for authorization to give first aid and many volunteers, BERT became part of Bellarmine’s Public Safety Department in the fall of 2008. Director Joe Frye was cautiously supportive while mentoring Kuhl and BERT’s officers through the paperwork process. “What about liability?” the questions always began as we were making the rounds of campus officials, from the SGA to the Faculty Council. “What does Lance Edwards say?” As Campus Risk Manager, Lance Edwards obtains liability insurance for the university. He discussed the idea of a student-run team of EMTs with the university’s insurance provider. Their answer was, “Terrific idea! How can we help?”

As a graduate student at Fordham in the early ’80s, I remembered the Student Emergency Response Group, or SERG, as a bunch of guys with first aid kits in an office that had once been a closet. By the time Dr. Joseph J. McGowan left Fordham, SERG had become a full-blown student EMT squad with an ambulance for transport. President McGowan had always wanted such a team at Bellarmine. During the 2008-09 academic year, the Louisville area suffered the after-effects of Hurricane Ike and a major ice storm and the campus experienced two major shutdowns. Timing is everything.

In the fall of 2009, BERT’s organizational procedures were approved. A legal agreement between the university and the city spells out the mutual aid agreements. Bellarmine student volunteers who are nationally certified EMT-Bs have begun providing first aid by prior arrangement at major campus events. Their eventual goal is to provide 24-7 emergency response capability. BERT members are also training the campus community in CPR and first aid. A large number of BERT volunteers await their own training as EMTs and CPR instructors. BERT students are advising other schools in the region. Dr. David Porta is now faculty advisor to BERT students.

You can’t wander anywhere on Bellarmine’s campus without running into copies of the Merton Prayer that starts, “My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going.” The prayer ends with this line: “I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.” The student members of BERT are prepared to take care of themselves and those around them during emergencies. These students have figured out, for now, where they are going, and they want to make sure that no one on campus will ever have to face peril, injury, or sudden illness all alone.

JOAN COMBS DURSO ’78 served as a Navy Supply Corps Officer, earned her M.A. in International Political Economy and Development and her Ph.D. in Economics from Fordham University, and taught in the Rubel School of Business at Bellarmine from 2002-09. An EMT-B and CPR Instructor, she continues to volunteer with BERT.
‘A God-send of a guy’

EDDIE WEBER TENNIS COMPLEX NAMED IN HONOR OF A LEGENDARY COACH

EDDIE WEBER STARTED CONSTRUCTION on the new Eddie Weber Tennis Complex at Bellarmine more than 50 years ago. He just didn’t know it was one of the many things he was building at the time.

He was building so much. During two decades of service to Bellarmine – from 1952 to 1971 – chemistry professor Edward H. “Eddie” Weber also served as the school’s athletics director, intramurals director, basketball coach, baseball coach, golf coach, track and cross country coach, and tennis coach.

More than any other person in the school’s formative years, he created the opportunities in team sports that guaranteed students a more complete college experience. And he built connections with young men who would grow up, move on, and never forget what he did for them.

“Webber was the founding father of competitive athletics at Bellarmine University,” said Athletic Director Scott Wiegandt (’89, ’01). “He made a real strong impression on hundreds of students. You talk to them today, and they’ll tell you. He was a God-send of a guy.”

It is hard to imagine that any school, old or new, big or small, could have landed an all-purpose coach with more athletic expertise and credibility than Weber brought to Bellarmine College in 1952.

At St. Xavier High School (1920-24), he was All-State quarterback in football, leading scorer in basketball, undefeated in tennis, All-Star in baseball – and was inducted into the St. Xavier High School Hall of Fame. At the University of Louisville, he earned his bachelor’s degree in chemistry – along with an astonishing 13 varsity letters in four sports: tennis, baseball, basketball and cross country. And he was inducted into the University of Louisville Hall of Fame.

In tennis, he won the Southern Boys’ Junior Championship and the Kentucky Men’s Singles title in 1924. He won the Falls City Doubles trophy in 1927 and the singles crown in 1936. And he was inducted into the Kentucky Tennis Hall of Fame.

At Bellarmine College he and his family organized all aspects of athletics, from building the baseball field, the original tennis courts and the track, to washing and sorting the teams’ laundry. And he was inducted into the Bellarmine University Hall of Fame.

Incredibly, those turned out to be the little things. The coach’s real accomplishments are the foundation he built for Bellarmine University athletics, and his legacy of teaching, leadership and service. Seasons and seasons of players remember their coach, what he did for them, and what he did for their school.

On September 12, 2009, a bright and perfect day, many of them returned to campus for a ceremony to dedicate the Eddie Weber Tennis Complex on top of the hill.

By HUNT C. HELM
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‘THANK GOD FOR EDDIE WEBER, OUR BELOVED COACH AND FRIEND.’
— MARTY J. CONNELL ’56

John Flynn (’70) and Jesse Flynn (’71) – the major donors who led the fundraising effort to build and name the Weber Complex – greeted Weber’s son, Dave, and thanked more than 50 generous alumni and friends who helped them build a memorial to what Weber, who died in 1993, built at Bellarmine. The blue and green courts looked beautiful in the sun, their white lines delineating the perfect geometry of the game. Dwarf umbrella trees and knock-out roses, hydrangeas and boxwood, lilacs and liriope – 117 plants in all – made a landscaped garden surrounding the courts.

“As a student, I never met Father Horrigan,” Jesse Flynn told the gathering. “But I met Eddie Weber. And he was the most important person to me the rest of my college years.”
2009 Alumni Awards & Reunion Weekend

On Sept. 11-13, Bellarmine University celebrated the reunions of the classes of 1959, 1969 and 1984 and honored the following distinguished alumni:

Top to bottom, left to right: Jean Anne Zappa ’72, Doug Strothman ’87, Maggie Schneider Peak ’00, Dr. Maggie Miller, Michael Gough ’83, Dr. Lynn Simon MBA ’02, Dr. Mark Petrik ’79, Kathleen Voor Montano ’84 (Alumna Tribute in Memoriam), Angela Mason ’80.

To read more about the Alumni Awards, visit www.bellarmine.edu/alumni/recognition/2009awards.asp.

Photos by JAMES MOSES
The Outdoor Drinking Season lives on

By IAN PATRICK
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IN THE LATE 1960S, A TRADITION WAS ESTABLISHED by a group of “deep thinkers” known as the Podiceps. One student took the initiative to let professors know they would not be in labs that day. The reason? The group had determined that it was the first day of the Outdoor Drinking Season, and the only way to drink outdoors was not to be in class. Makes perfect sense, right?

In fact, it made such sense that by the time those sophomores were set to graduate, some professors had begun to join them in their annual rite.

After graduation, many former Podiceps and their group of friends continued the tradition by meeting at the home of Bob French ’69 in Pekin, Ind. This past summer, the Podiceps took a “road trip” to Barrington, Ill., to tour the Chicago area, share stories and meet at the home of Steve Kirn ’69. The group maintains a strong connection even though the attendees vary and the consistency of meetings has become sporadic due to busy schedules and busy lives.

“I had not seen Fred Gerwing in like 40 years,” said Dave Elder, who made the summer trip from Cincinnati. Gerwing flew in from Arizona, Gerry Lynch came from West Lafayette, Ind., French from Pekin and Mike Abell from Elizabethtown. Jim Schnieders even stopped by from nearby Grayslake, Ill.

As the host, Kirn gave every guest a memento (pictured) to remind everyone of the power of the Outdoor Drinking Season.

“It may sound corny, or like something out of a college recruiting brochure, but we made friendships at Bellarmine that have literally lasted a lifetime,” Kirn said. “The ODS is really just an excuse (as if we needed one!) to get the guys and their families together. We try to do it every year and have done pretty well, although people have scattered all over the world.

“What started with a spur-of-the-moment softball game on the first warm day of spring has turned into a 40-plus-year tradition and a great way to involve our families. We’ve missed a few years, and this was the first ‘long-distance’ ODS, but it’s still great to see everyone!”

(left to right): BOB FRENCH, STEVE KIRN, DAVE ELDER AND MIKE AVELL.
Class Notes

1950s

“Here’s a photo of three OLD Bellarmine grads checking out the even OLDER ruins at Ephesus, Turkey,” writes MATT BUECHLER ‘55. “We three and our wives enjoyed a 7-day cruise of the Aegean Sea, visiting Athens, Istanbul, Ephesus and several Greek islands. We returned safe and almost sound.” Pictured from left, JOE WAGNER ‘57, BOB GIPPERICH ‘55 and Buechler, in September.

1960s

J. VINCENT APRILE II ‘65, who practices with Lynch, Cox, Gilman and Goodman P.S.C., was elected in August as one of the two executive directors of the Professional Development Division of the American Bar Association’s Criminal Justice Section. Also in August, he concluded four years as the chair of the editorial board of Criminal Justice magazine; he will remain a member of the editorial board and continue as the author of the magazine’s Criminal Justice Matters column. He also concluded a three-year tenure as co-chair of the Criminal Justice Section’s membership committee in August.

STEPHEN F. JOHNSTONE ’66, executive vice president of the Falk Group, a Milwaukee-based public relations agency, has been elected to the College of Fellows of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), the international association of public relations professionals.

1970s

Founding members of the Alpha Delta Gamma fraternity took an Alaskan cruise this summer with their significant others (not pictured). Attendees included front row (l to r), WILLIAM “BJ” NEVITT ’72, PETE RASTOCNY ’71 and JOHN FLYNN ’70, and back row (l to r), JESSE FLYNN ’71, JOE CLAYTON ’71 and GEORGE BALLARD ’71.

1980s

JEFF FRAZIER ’84 competed in the Louisville Ironman (2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run), finishing in 16 hours, 5 minutes. Jeff has been teaching at Sacred Heart for 19 years and has three teenagers at home, all of whom would like to attend Bellarmine one day.

RICK WALDEN ’86 was named Arch Chemicals’ senior vice president for global Health & Hygiene and Preservation & Protection Biocides businesses, Performance Products and Asia Pacific in September. A member of the Arch team since its founding, he had previously served as vice president and general manager for Industrial Biocides and Performance Products. Rick received his engineering degree from Tennessee Technological University and a master’s in business administration from Bellarmine. Arch Chemicals, headquartered in Norwalk, Conn., is a global biocides company with annual sales of approximately $1.5 billion.

1990s

 CRAIG C. DILGER ’91 was recently re-elected unanimously to serve as the chairman of the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance, marking a third consecutive term for the Louisville attorney.

MICHELLE (ACKERMAN) MEIMAN ’99 and JB MEIMAN ’03 (’06 MBA) were married on Jan. 30, 2009, at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Louisville. Michelle is a senior human resources analyst at Kindred Healthcare and JB is a barge dispatcher for American Commercial Lines. Michelle will complete her master’s in human resource education from the University of Louisville this year.

BRIAN WATERS ’99 was named as one of the “Thirtysomethings Doing Something in the Arts” in Bravo! magazine. He was also named a 2009 Bell Award Corporate Honoree for his work with Louisville’s Fund for the Arts program.
2000s

Emily Smith '00 has been promoted to senior manager of the Audit and Enterprise Risk Services practice in Deloitte & Touche LLP.

Amy Bonner '02 is a real-life “Army Wife” who offers a window into the world of a new mom and soldier’s wife in her blog, clickclackmom.com.

Melinda King '02 MBA has been promoted to assistant vice president of Brown-Forman. She will continue to lead human resources for the North American Region Sales Team and assumes responsibility for NAR Marketing, as well as Travel Retail. Melinda has been with Brown-Forman for 11 years and has progressed through several roles in Human Resources.

Peter Kremer '02 and Kelly McKenna '07 ('08 DPT) are happy to announce their engagement. Peter proposed to Kelly at Cumberland Falls, and they are looking forward to celebrating their wedding in the fall of this year.

Robert Lewis Jr. '04 was selected from a national applicant pool to attend a summer study opportunity supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Robbie '04 and Amanda Tindall '04 proudly welcomed John Robert Tindall IV, to be called “Jack,” on Oct. 14. The future slugger weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and stretched out to 21 inches.

Damien Nash '06 currently co-owns TNG Publications, which is publishing its first children’s picture book, along with an animated DVD. The title: Big Box, Little Box: How One Little Box Finds His Way. TNG Publications’ mission is to enhance the development of moral character in families and help children develop a sense of self-worth and the courage to act on their beliefs.

Elizabeth Magee '08 recently accepted the position of membership registrar for the Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana.

Bridget Cromien '09 was selected for the AmeriCorps VISTA Program with the American Red Cross, teaching disaster relief and preparedness classes along the Mexican border.

Carolyn Payne '09 has obtained a position with the Passionist Volunteer Corps in Honduras.

In Memoriam


Jack was a graduate of St. Xavier High School, the Bellarmine Class of 1954 and the University of Louisville School of Law. He was chairman of the Floyd County Democratic Party from 1970-84, Floyd County deputy prosecutor from 1963-78 and Floyd County public defender from 1978-84.

His other survivors include his wife, Kay Cooper Garry; a son, John R. Garry III; and three grandchildren. Expressions of sympathy: Boy Scouts of America Troop #36 at Holy Family Catholic Church.

A visit to the clinic

In September, the physical therapy program’s Service Learning Clinic (Show Me Where It Hurts, Summer 2009) welcomed Mike Hobbs ’71, who stopped by to see the impact of the endowed fund he established in 2008.

Hobbs is president of Engineered Glass Products in Chicago. He and his 90-year-old father have had their share of physical therapy visits—which motivated Mike to set up the Michael E. Hobbs Endowed Fund for the Physical Therapy Service Learning Clinic.

“I don’t know if Mike fully realizes the numerous individuals his gift will touch,” said Dr. Sue Davis, dean of the Lansing School, “but we know firsthand he picked a great place to designate his generosity.”
Alumni Corner

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January
6 Alumni Board of Directors meeting
14 ADG Night at the Basketball Games
   Reception: 5:45-7:45 p.m.
16 ’60s Alumni Day at the Basketball Games
   Reception: 2-3 p.m.
23 Bellarmine Men’s Basketball vs.
   Northern Kentucky on CBS Sports
26 St. Angela Merici Mass
   Our Lady of the Woods Chapel, 4:30 p.m.

February
6 ’70s Alumni Day at the Basketball Games
   Reception: 2-3 p.m.
12-21 Homecoming Week (see next page)
15 Indianapolis-area Alumni Event

March
9 Alumni Board of Directors meeting
13 Event celebrating 25 years of physical
   therapy education in Louisville

For more information on these or many
other events, please visit the Alumni
Website at www.bellarmine.edu/alumni
and click on “Upcoming Events” or contact
the Alumni Office at 502.452.8333.

FROM YOUR ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT

Can you feel the excitement? As we enter the winter
months of the school year, there’s a real sense of expecta-
tion for both our women’s and men’s basketball teams,
which are rated highly in the Great Lakes Valley Con-
ference – with the men’s team ranked No. 1 in several
preseason polls. While Bellarmine’s student athletes have
always been a source of pride for the university, both
on their fields of competition and in the classroom, this
added notoriety is especially gratifying for the first team
in our university’s history to hold this distinction!

With this in mind, I’d like to ask all of you to mark
As always, there will be many exciting alumni events
planned for the entire week, leading up to the Home-
coming games on Feb. 20. Homecoming Week is truly a
time for all alumni to reconnect with Bellarmine and, as
always, feel welcome at your alma mater.

I also want to draw your attention to an exciting new
initiative – the Alumni Ambassador program, a collabor-
ative effort between the Office of Admissions and the
Office of Alumni Relations. The purpose of this endeavor
is to create a special group of alumni dedicated to helping
recruit students to Bellarmine. Look for more information
about the Alumni Ambassador program below.

As always, please let me know how the Alumni Board
of Directors can serve you better, or if you would like
to become involved with our many activities. I’d love to
hear from you and look forward to seeing you on campus
this winter. Go Knights!

Joseph F. Weingardt MBA ’02
joseph.weingardt@insightbb.com

You can be an official Bellarmine Alumni Ambassador

The Alumni Association is looking for graduates who will serve as a
resource to the Admission Office by participating in college fairs, calling
prospective students, submitting student referrals, and much more.

To learn more about this exciting program, visit the alumni website at
www.bellarmine.edu/alumni and click on the Alumni Ambassador tab
or contact Stephanie Pieper, assistant alumni director, at 502.452.8286
or spieper@bellarmine.edu.
Friday, February 12
Alumni Trivia Night
Knights Hall | 7 - 10 p.m.

Tuesday, February 16
Alumni Networking
Hilary’s | 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 18
Alumni-Student Mock Interviews
Frazier Hall | 11 a.m. - noon
Alumni Career Consultants needed

Alumni Happy Hour
Shenanigans | 5:30 - 8 p.m.

Home Basketball Games
Knights Hall | W-5:45 p.m. M-8 p.m.

Saturday, February 20
BU Lacrosse vs. Maryland | 1 p.m.

Alumni Tailgate
Frazier Hall | 5 - 8 p.m.

Homecoming Basketball Games
Knights Hall | W-5:45 p.m. M-8 p.m.

Sunday, February 21
Alumni Mass
Our Lady of the Woods Chapel | 10 a.m.

50th Anniversary Society Brunch
11:15 a.m. | Classes of 1954, 55, 56, 57, 58, & 59

2010 ALUMNI TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Transatlantic Cruise

**JULY 13 – 31:** Fire and Ice Explorer, Princess Cruise Line – 18-day transatlantic crossing on the Ocean Princess, sailing from New York to London, including stops in Greenland and Iceland.

*Planned and hosted by Lou Conkling ’76 of Knights Travel. For more information visit www.bellarmine.edu/alumni/travel or contact Lou Conkling at 502.292.4750.*

Romantic Rhine plus the Passion Play at Oberammergau

**JULY 24 – AUGUST 4:** A Trip of a Lifetime! Seven-Night Rhine Cruise from Amsterdam to Basel aboard the new Avalon Felicity, plus a three-night land package including the world-famous Passion Play at Oberammergau (only performed every 10 years).

*Planned and hosted by Kaelin Rybak ’74 of Knights Travel. For more information visit www.bellarmine.edu/alumni/travel or contact Kaelin Rybak at 502.292.4749.*
Far Out, Man

Do you know what’s going on in this photo from the 1972 yearbook?
E-mail Jim Welp at jwelp@bellarmine.edu