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Letter from the Editor

There are various theories and pedagogies, each offering a better way to assist students in the learning process. At Loras, we have been implementing experiential learning in multiple facets over the course of the last decade.

Experiential learning can mean many different things and it encompasses so much. Truly, though, we all have an understanding of learning through experience. As small children, that is how we came to know the world. The powerful nature of experiential learning, however, is in its innate way of combining classroom teachings, interactions and one’s own character, among many other things, to create a learning experience. The best way to describe it is as an infusion which you will read about in the cover story on page 14.

The multiple opportunities that exist for Loras students to learn through experience are amazing. I have listened firsthand to students who have studied abroad and to those who have participated in service learning locally. They shared their fear in setting out on these journeys and their powerful stories of connecting what they had learned in the classroom with their experience.

January Term has created a new opportunity for students to really embrace experiential learning. Many of the courses involve hands-on learning through travel or working within the Dubuque community. You will see how two Loras professors used their experiences as Fulbright Scholars to develop intriguing J-term courses in the story, “An Educational Adventure: From Fulbright to January Term” (page 22).

As I speak to students who take advantage of the many facets of experiential learning on our campus, I am impressed by the maturity they exhibit. Their experiences provide them with an avenue to not only learn, but to grow as individuals, giving them insight into how they intend to live their lives.
Kristin Anderson-Bricker, Ph.D., associate professor of history, has been named the John Cardinal O’Connor Chair for Catholic Thought for the 2008-09 academic year. The chair is a one-year appointment that allows faculty members to pursue an avenue of Catholic thought and teaching that can be applied to the Loras curriculum. The focus of Anderson-Bricker’s research will be, “Catholic Thought and Sexuality: Engaging the Loras College Community in Controversial Conversations,” which will allow her to apply Catholic moral theology and social teachings to specific challenges facing the Loras community.

Erin Dahlke, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry, and David Oostendorp, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, accompanied the following students to the 235th American Chemical Society National Meeting and Exposition, held April 6-9, 2008, in New Orleans, La.: Loras Even (‘08) (Waterloo, Iowa), Heather Goodrich (‘08) (Fredericksburg, Iowa), David Goetz (‘08) (Dubuque, Iowa), Adam Hayek (‘08) (Decorah, Iowa), Mark Jordan (‘08) (Orangeville, Ill.), Regan Keeney (‘09) (Miles, Iowa), Patrick Knapp (‘08) (Crestone, Colo.), Nicole Novy (‘08) (Marion, Iowa), Brian Tiach (‘08) (Britt, Iowa), Brandon True (‘08) (Mount Morris, Ill.) and Tyler Whitcomb (‘09) (Fort Madison, Iowa). The seniors presented their senior thesis research and the chemistry club presented an activities poster.

Matthew Garrett, Ph.D., associate professor of physical education and coordinator of the sport management program, had the book, Preparing the Successful Coach, published by Jones and Bartlett Publishers in January 2008. He was also presented with the 2008 Mike and Linda Budde Award for Teaching Excellence. This award is granted annually to a person nominated by the faculty who demonstrates effectiveness in classroom teaching; concern for the role of one’s discipline within a Catholic liberal arts institution; and effectiveness in providing accurate academic advice to students in order to create an environment conducive to student learning.

Janine Marie Idziak, Ph.D., professor of philosophy and director of the bioethics resource center, received a certificate of recognition from the Catholic Health Association of the United States in honor of her nomination for the Sister Concilia Moran Award for visionary leadership in Catholic health ministry.

Tom Jewell-Vitale, M.A. (’64), professor of art, had a solo exhibition of oil paintings at Olson-Larsen Galleries in Des Moines, Iowa, in October 2007. He was also invited in April 2008 to exhibit work in a group exhibition at the Sioux City Art Center to commemorate the
20th anniversary of the “Morningside Review,” a literary publication of Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, where one of his paintings was included in the 20th edition. Jewell-Vitale also had a solo exhibit in May 2008 at Outside the Lines Art Gallery in Dubuque, Iowa, a gallery co-founded and operated by Loras alumnus Stormy Mochal (’99).

Janine Kane, Ed. Sp., instructor of education, presented a poster titled, “Driven to Succeed: Surviving the Stress and Isolation of a Doctoral Program,” in November 2007 at the Iowa Education Research and Evaluation Association Annual Conference in Iowa City, Iowa, and again in April 2008 at the University of Northern Iowa Graduate Student Research Symposium in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Mark E. Kehren, M.A., assistant professor of history, presented, “Carioca Consumption,” at the European Social Science History Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, Feb. 26 through March 1, 2008, where he also chaired a panel on the history of social relations in contemporary cities.

Kevin Koch, Ph.D. (’81), professor of English and chair of the division of language and literature, had the essay titled, “The Garden and Wild: Union Park,” published in Art and Ethos of Dubuque, a May 2008 publication produced by the Dubuque Area Writers Guild in celebration of Dubuque’s 175th anniversary.


Catalin Mamali, Ph.D., adjunct professor of psychology, presented a poster titled, “The Oracles Sphinx Model: The Development of Questioning and Answering Abilities,” at the annual convention of the Association for Psychological Science held in Chicago. He presented another poster titled, “Participative Pictorial Representatives of Self-Other Relationships: Social-Autograph Method,” at the 15th General Meeting of the European Association of Experimental Social Psychology held in Opatija, Croatia, June 10-14. Mamali also presented two papers at the International Congress of Psychology, held in Berlin, Germany, July 20-25, 2008: “Motivational Empathy: The Accuracy of Reciprocal Inferences on Motives within Dyads” and “Motivational Balance at Different Levels of Social Complexity: From Intrapersonal Level to Inter-Groups Level.” Additionally his article, “The Communist Mega-Violence,” was published in the summer 2007 issue of Apostrof, a literary magazine published in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, under the Romanian Writers’ Union.

Kenneth McLaughlin, Ph.D., professor of physics and engineering, was recently one of 20 participants in Project CLEA (Contemporary Laboratory Experiences in Astronomy), a workshop funded by the National Science Foundation that seeks to disseminate the latest astronomical research techniques in order to increase the hands-on activities for students in astronomy classes. This workshop involved two days and two nights of observing with the 40-foot diameter radio telescope at the National Radio Observatory in Green Bank, W. Va., and six nights of optical observations using the campus observatory at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania.

Joyce Meldrem, M.A., M.B.A., director of the academic resource center and associate professor, presented, “Are We Having Fun Yet?: Putting Fun into the Workplace!” at the 7th Annual Brick and Click Libraries Symposium in Maryville, Mo., in November 2007. She also presented, “It’s Not Your Traditional ILL Anymore: Fun with ILL!” at the 2nd Midwest Interlibrary Loan Conference hosted by Loras College in April 2008.

Julia Omarzu, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology, was invited to write an entry, “Minding the Relationship,” for the Encyclopedia of Human Relationships, which will be published next year. She also presented a poster, “Incorporating Art and Music into Psychology Courses,” at the annual convention of the Association for Psychological Science held in Chicago May 22-25, 2008.

Robert Palmer, M.A., assistant professor of criminal justice, was invited to present at the “War and Peace: Art and Cultural Heritage Law in the 21st Century” conference held March 4, 2008, at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York City.

Sr. Marlene Pinzka, O.S.F., Ph.D., professor of mathematics, co-presented a workshop on probability at the 86th Annual National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, April 9-12, 2008.
David Pitt, Ph.D., assistant professor of moral/sacramental theology, presented the keynote address, “Singing the Liturgy: Music, Text, Ritual, Performance,” at Enter the Song, a liturgical musicians workshop held in Cedar Falls, Iowa, in February 2008. He and Bruce Kotowich, D.M.A., associate professor of music, served as clinicians at the event.

Craig Schaefer, M.A. (’89), professor of communication arts, announced that Loras College Productions received the top award in the Corporate/Internal Communication category by the Iowa Motion Picture Association in Des Moines on May 10, 2008, for the Fieldhouse Tribute video. Contributors included Chris Lenart (’03), media producer, Jill Olson (’01), coordinator of media operations, and Bobbi Earles (’88), executive director of alumni and communications. Loras College Productions also received two Achievement Awards at the ceremony for production work on the Carnegie-Stout Library campaign video and a television commercial for a local company.


Christine Steiner Apel, M.A. (’75), associate professor of communication arts, presented, “Gatekeeping: Ethical Decision Making,” at the 43rd Annual Iowa Communication Association Conference held Sept. 21-22, 2007, in Cedar Falls, Iowa. The program was part of a panel presentation on creative methods of instruction in the classroom. Apel is a former president of the Iowa Communication Association.

Breyan Strickler, Ph.D., assistant professor of English, had the article, “The Addams Legacy: ‘Quantum Writing’ and the Language of Authority,” co-authored by Beth McGowan, accepted for publication in the book Jane Addams, Hull-House and the Call to Education. She has also had the article, “Grunging Identity,” accepted for publication in the edited collection on Barbara Kingsolver including Animal Dreams and The Poisonwood Bible. Her article, “The Pathology of Violence in Australian Environmental Fiction,” is currently at press for ISLE (Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment). In addition Strickler presented, “Frankenfish Alert!: The Threat of Food Impurity in Contemporary American and Australian Fiction,” in The Meaning of Food panel at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Convention on Oct 5-8, 2007, in Calgary, Ontario. At the conference she also chaired a panel titled, “Teaching English: Teaching with Technology.”

Maggie Sullivan, Ph.D., associate professor of communication arts, presented, “The Puzzling Thing About Groups: Exploring, Explaining and Engaging in Key Concepts,” along with, “And Now a Word From Our Sponsor, Aristotle,” as part of a session titled “GIFTS” (Great Ideas for Teaching Speech) at the Central States Communication Association’s annual conference in Madison, Wis., April 9-13, 2008. At the conference she also participated in a panel presentation titled, “And the Dundee Goes to…. Using The Office to Illustrate Communication Course Concepts.”


Lee Zhu, Ph.D., associate professor of history, was awarded a 2008 ASIANetwork Freeman Student-Faculty Fellowship. He will be assisted by four students this summer: Christopher Bodane (’09) (Brighton, Colo.), Andrew Border (’10) (Crystal Lake, Ill.), Nickolas Helten (’09) (Garwin, Iowa) and Erin Horst (’09) (Vinton, Iowa) on a project titled, “Chinese Towns in the Past and Present: A Documentary Film,” which will take them to towns near Shanghai. Craig Schaefer, M.A. (’89), professor of communication arts, will serve as technical advisor at both the pre- and post-production phases. Zhu has also been awarded sabbatical for the spring 2009 semester.
President Collins Offered Unprecedented Contract

In recognition of his exemplary performance, the Board of Regents has offered Loras College President Jim Collins (’84) a six-year contract which he has accepted.

“This contract represents the Board’s strong vote of confidence in President Collins,” said Thomas J. Tauke, chairman of the Board of Regents. “Loras is on the move and we have taken this unprecedented step to assure that President Collins will be leading the College as we implement a new, ambitious strategic plan.”

Under Collins’ leadership, Loras has garnered significant national recognition. During the 2007-08 year alone, Loras earned the 12th spot in the Top Tier among Best Midwest Baccalaureate Colleges in the 2008 edition of “America’s Best Colleges” by U.S. News & World Report; Loras was cited by President George Bush’s Commission on Service as one of only six colleges nationally for its outstanding service learning programs; and Loras was chosen as the only College to be featured in an upcoming Eye on America program regarding strong faith-based higher education institutions.

In response to the six-year contract, Collins stated, “I am grateful to Chairman Tauke and the Board of Regents for their confidence in and support of me. I am blessed and privileged to be among a talented group of faculty and staff committed to serving and educating students for an ever-changing world by delivering a quality Catholic, liberal arts experience.”

During Collins’ presidency, Loras has launched several unique and pioneering initiatives. Loras served as the catalyst in founding the Consortium for Diocesan Colleges; partnered with the Verizon Foundation to promote literacy for youth by establishing a program called “Loras for Literacy;” garnered a Carver Foundation gift to create a state-of-the-art digital media lab to support Loras’ nationally recognized media studies program; and implemented a new academic calendar, featuring a three-week January Term and weekly common time.

In addition, since Collins took office in 2004, the academic profile of students has improved, the diversity of the student body has been enhanced, a Catholic Identity statement has been adopted, the financial viability ratios have all increased on an annual basis and several facilities improvements have been made, including the Rock Bowl Stadium renovation and the construction of the Athletic and Wellness Center. Loras received the largest gift in its history, over $15 million, made by J. Paul ('60) and Frances Breitbach and recently received a Circle of Excellence Award from CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) for pronounced three-year growth in fundraising.

Considering all of these accomplishments and looking forward to the next six years, Collins commented, “Much has been accomplished, but I am energized by the exciting plans we are about to unfold and the additional benefits they will deliver.”

Loras Revamps Curriculum, Adds Engineering and Physics Minors

BY JOANNA BRADY ('08)

The Loras College Division of Mathematics, Engineering and Computer science (MECS) worked on revamping the curricula over the last year. One set of changes is the creation of two new minors for two majors that have been in place for some time: engineering and physics. The MECS division also collaborated with the Division of Business Administration in combining the management information systems and computer science courses into a new major, Computing and Information Technology (CIT), effective for the 2008-09 academic year.

The new 27-credit CIT major requires a common core of classes plus two tracks of upper-level courses. Students choose either: the CIT-Management track or the CIT-Science track by the time they are juniors. The CIT major will offer both the broad introduction to the fields of computing and information as well as an opportunity for in-depth work in either the theoretical or applied areas.

In developing the engineering and physics minors, faculty hope to spark more interest in the general student population. The minors have fewer requirements than the majors and can be combined with other majors or interest areas. The engineering minor requires 20 to 22 credits, with course offerings like “Mechanics of Materials” and “Engineering Dynamics.” The new physics minor requires a total of 21 credits offering courses such as “Physics for Engineers and Scientists,” “Calculus III” and “Modern Physics.”

Danial Neebel, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of the division of MECS, notes that the new minors were created to expose students to the disciplines and give them the foundational information they will need to work with specialists or as members of project teams. Neebel also observes, “I could see someone in chemistry or biology who had already taken some physics wanting to broaden their background to engineering to perhaps work with chemical engineers or biochemical engineers.”
New Members Join Board of Regents

Dennis Houlihan and Natalie Schramm have joined the Loras College Board of Regents where they will each serve two four-year terms. Houlihan, of Dubuque, received his bachelor of arts degree from Loras College and a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Iowa. He currently serves as vice president and financial consultant for A.G. Edwards, a division of Wachovia Securities, LLC, in Dubuque, Iowa. Past positions include financial consultant and branch manager for Shearson Lehman Brothers and district administrator for Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District. Houlihan maintains membership with the Iowa Higher Education Loan Authority and Resurrection Endowment Committee.

Schramm, also of Dubuque, received a bachelor of business administration degree specializing in accounting from the University of Iowa. A certified public accountant, she is currently the chief financial officer for Peninsula Gaming, LLC, in Dubuque, Iowa. Concurrently with this position, she served as the general manager of the Diamond Jo Casino from 2003 to 2007. An active member of the community Schramm holds board and/or committee positions with the Grand Opera House, Archdiocese of Dubuque, American Trust and Dubuque County Historical Society.

President Collins Appointed to IAICU Committee

Loras College President Jim Collins (‘84) was recently appointed to a three-year term on the executive committee for the Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (IAICU).

In this role, Collins will aid the committee in overseeing work of the organization and help set policy.

IAICU is an organization that speaks for, defends and promotes 30 member institutions in Iowa that have created a rich heritage of independent higher education. These independent colleges and universities are committed to developing students into citizens who think critically, communicate well and adapt creatively to change in today’s global society. IAICU also works with state lawmakers to ensure the availability of funds for students to attend the college of their choice and sponsors Iowa Private College Week each year during the month of August.

Generosity Abounds

Harry “Bud” (‘60) and Connie Hart generously donated $2,500 to Loras College in honor of accounting professor Bill Merkel (‘55).

Loras College received a $500 gift in memory of Chaplain Aloysius Schmitt (‘32) from the surviving crewmembers of the USS Schmitt. The spokesperson for the crew, Alton Blanks, wrote that since most of his shipmates have passed there would no longer be reunions of the crew and hence as a token of their respect for Chaplain Schmitt, they wanted to give the money left in their reunion fund to Loras as a memorial to their ship’s namesake.

The Dubuque Racing Association has granted $18,838 to Loras College to construct a new observatory. The current observatory, built in 1966, houses one telescope and can accommodate only a small group of students on an elevated platform. With this funding, the College plans to replace the current observatory. It will include a second mounted telescope, doubling viewing opportunities, as well as provide room for individual telescopes mounted on tripods. The building will be arranged to accommodate groups of 15 to 20 people comfortably. The new observatory will be a tremendous improvement over the current facility, giving Loras and the Dubuque community a resource unparalleled within 100 miles, welcoming thousands of visitors each year.

The Humanities Iowa Foundation awarded Loras $1,353 toward the Arts and Culture Series event “Book Art!” held March 29, April 5 and April 12.

The Diamond Jo Casino granted $1,500 and the Alliant Energy Foundation granted $3,000 for Center for Experiential Learning internships. This money will be used to support students who choose to intern with Dubuque-area nonprofit organizations.
Nick Irving (’02)

Hometown: Chariton, Iowa
Profession: I work at RSM McGladrey as an associate risk management consultant.

Why did you choose to come to Loras College? I had originally planned on attending another college until my cousin, who was a student-athlete at Loras, insisted that I come and visit. When I came for my official campus visit I was amazed with what I saw. I was given a tour by Chris Starbuck (’01) and saw firsthand a thriving campus and sensed a strong campus community. I instantly felt like I belonged at Loras and proved my cousin right. Loras was the place for me.

Name some of the activities you participated in while at Loras.
While at Loras I was heavily involved in Student Senate. I served as class senator, executive board vice president and as executive board president my senior year. Through Student Senate I had the unique opportunity to serve on a number of committees. My committee work on the Academic Council, the Curriculum Review Taskforce and the Hearing Board allowed me the opportunity to learn more about Loras as a non-profit organization rather than just as a college. It was those experiences that opened my eyes to the importance of and to the need for donor support. Through those experiences I learned that tuition does not cover all the costs associated with attending Loras or all the costs associated with operating an institution of higher learning. I also learned how crucial alumni support is to helping advance the College.

What are some of your fondest memories of college and what do you miss most about Loras?
Loras was an important building block in my life personally, spiritually and professionally. Loras showed me the importance of a strong community and showed me the value of team work. I miss the learning environment Loras offered and the spirit felt on campus. I also miss my friends and the faculty and staff at Loras.

How do you continue to be involved with the larger Loras community?
I stay connected to Loras in numerous ways. I communicate with former Duhawks on a daily basis through phone and online networks. I am also involved in the Loras Club of Des Moines and help promote Loras by encouraging others to visit and apply. Another way I stay connected to the Loras community is through my financial support of the College. Since I graduated in 2002, I have supported Loras every year. Every year, I make it a priority to give back to the College. Starting out after college it was not easy to give financially, but I committed myself to doing so because Loras had given me so much. Over the years, I have realized that it is not the size of the gift that matters, but the fact that I am giving.

What does philanthropy mean to you?
Philanthropy to me means giving back and paying it forward. Simply, giving what you can and serving others. Sharing not only your treasure, but also your time, your knowledge, your wisdom and your love with Loras, your community and the world will make a difference.

How did Loras prepare you for your current position?
My education at Loras prepared me to see and appreciate all sides of an issue which has allowed me the opportunity to think critically and thoughtfully. Loras also taught me how to effectively work in a group and how to prepare a professional presentation, all of which have been useful tools in my current position.

How do you continue to actively live the Loras mission?
Loras helped me discover my natural curiosity. At Loras I learned how to ask questions and how to seek answers. Loras also helped me discover the joy in giving and serving others. As a student, because of my experience at a Catholic, liberal arts college I am more aware of the need to share my time, talent and treasure with others. Loras also put me in touch with my spirituality and helped me to learn to see God in the world and people around me.

Why do you give back to Loras?
Loras has given me so much that even if I won the lottery and gave all of my winnings to Loras I would still feel like I had not given enough. I can never repay Loras for the friendships I have made or for the personal and spiritual growth I experienced while there. With that being said, I still know Loras needs my help. I support Loras because I want to help keep the College moving forward, I want Loras to have the ability to offer more financial aid to students and that is why I continue to give back.

Why should other people consider making a gift to Loras College?
When thinking about whether or not to make a gift to Loras think back to the experiences you had as a student. Loras gave each one of us many fond memories. It was through Loras that many of us met great friends and mentors. Our time at Loras has ended, but our connection to the campus can live on through our generosity. Remember those experiences a long way and Loras needs our support.
Michael Hoban ('08)

Hometown: New Berlin, Wis.
Major: Marketing

How did you decide to come to Loras?
My grandpa, Edward Butler, graduated from Loras in 1938. He had always said how great Loras was and how much he missed it. I also had two uncles who both attended Loras and had very memorable experiences. My family connection and the fact that I felt Loras would be a good fit for me were my reasons for choosing to attend. I also came to Loras because the campus atmosphere is warm and welcoming and I liked the smaller, more intimate class sizes. I felt that Loras gave me the opportunities larger colleges offer while providing me with all the benefits of a private, Catholic, liberal arts college.

What was your J-Term experience like?
This past January, I had the opportunity to travel to New Zealand while enrolled in The Cultural and Natural History of New Zealand course led by Robert Palmer. While in New Zealand, I experienced the country’s history and culture firsthand. Our class learned about the customs and beliefs of the Maori, the natives of New Zealand, while traveling to different areas of the country and working on an actual archaeological dig site. Studying abroad, although it was for a brief time, allowed me to actively learn about another culture by interacting with natives of New Zealand and by integrating what we were learning with what we were seeing and exploring. This experience has opened my eyes and has piqued my interest in traveling and learning more about other cultures. New Zealand is one of the most beautiful places in the world and it was a once in a lifetime experience that I am thankful for and will never forget.

How has the Center for Experiential Learning (CEL) helped prepare you for your life after Loras?
My relationship with the Center for Experiential Learning began when I was searching for an internship. I was fortunate enough to find an internship that allowed me to use my creativity and marketing background to advance its mission. This past year I interned in the Development Office at Loras College. While interning in the Development Office, I learned the importance of philanthropy in Catholic higher education. I was also able to sharpen my marketing abilities by helping create numerous direct mail pieces in addition to assisting the Senior Class complete its Senior Class Gift. My internship was one of the best things I did while at Loras. The exposure to an office setting and gaining experience in my field before graduation has helped better prepare me for the workforce. The support I received from the CEL office helped guide me throughout the entire internship process.

What are some of the important lessons you have learned during your time as a student?
Over the last four years I have truly grown into the person I want to be. I have become more independent while building friendships to last a lifetime. I have become more confident as a result of being challenged by faculty and staff inside and outside the classroom and I have learned to work through challenges in order to become successful in many areas of my life.

What do you think you will miss the most about Loras College?
I will definitely miss the close relationships that I have made over the past four years and the supportive Loras community.

What would you like to say to the generous donors who make a difference at Loras every day?
I would like to thank them for their generosity and for their continued commitment to Loras and students like me. It is because of them and their generosity that I was able to have such an incredible experience at Loras. Their gifts make it possible to keep Loras moving forward. They made the Athletic and Wellness Center possible among many other things which have enhanced my time at Loras.

How do you plan to give back to Loras?
Loras has played too large of a role in my life to not stay connected and give back. I plan on staying connected with the Loras community by joining the Loras Club of Milwaukee and encouraging others to give back. I have learned that even the smallest gift goes a long way and can help improve the overall Loras College experience. I want to give back since Loras and its alumni and donors have given me so much.
Collins and Loras Sign on to ‘Go Green’

BY TROY RABBETT ('06), COUNSELOR FOR ADMISSIONS

With all the trends encouraging people to ‘go green’ to help reduce the effects of global warming, Loras College President Jim Collins ('84) has taken on the challenge and has gone one step further. He has signed on to take an active approach to sharply reduce and eventually eliminate all of the College’s global warming emissions.

The pledge came with Collins’ signing of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), joining the leaders of more than 500 other institutions across the country to accelerate the research and educational efforts to equip society to re-stabilize Earth’s climate.

Since the signing of the pledge, the College has instituted a Sustainability Committee to oversee the execution of the plan.

By the end of the 2007-08 academic year, Loras had already begun to implement a comprehensive action plan to move toward climate goals. This plan includes recommendations in such areas as landscape and grounds, new building construction, demolition and renovation, energy consumption, food, purchasing, air quality and water usage.

In commenting on the College’s climate initiative, Collins said, “These efforts will build on Loras’ ongoing commitment to sustainability, which as a natural outgrowth of its Catholic identity will bear witness to careful, thorough, lasting and sustainable stewardship of all creation for the sake of present and future generations and for the common good.”

A common good Loras has already explored in the construction of two of the campus’ newest sustainable buildings: the Academic Resource Center and Athletic and Wellness Center. In addition, the student senate has taken a proactive approach, planning to purchase recycling bins for each individual residence hall room, classroom and outdoor spaces across campus.

The Presidents’ Climate Commitment is the first such effort by any major sector of society to set climate neutrality focusing on elimination and not reduction as a target. This undertaking by America’s colleges and universities has inspired countless other efforts since its inception.

The Loras Sustainability Committee has requested that upon finalizing the recommendations they be communicated to the Loras community in order to encourage the fullest and widest participation possible and to assure the greatest degree of involvement from all members.

Unlike many trends aimed at reducing global emissions, the initiative by the ACUPCC aims at eliminating the problem and not just reducing it, and the readiness of President Collins and the rest of the ACUPCC members has proved to start a trend that will no doubt make a difference, not just at Loras, but on hundreds of campuses across the country.
Apartments Named for McCarthy

BY SHANNON GAHERTY, DIRECTOR OF DONOR RELATIONS

This spring Loras College proudly named the east wing of the apartment complex near Henion Street the “McCarthy Apartments” in honor of the late Leo A. McCarthy (‘58) and his wife, Joy. The McCarthy Apartments are representative of what college students across the country look for in campus housing. The east wing houses 38 students in 10 suites. Each suite has a common living area and kitchen and individual student rooms. In addition, the facility includes a lounge with a full kitchen and large student gathering area with a cozy gas fireplace.

“We are privileged to be able to name the McCarthy Apartments in honor of two dedicated and faith-filled individuals—the late Leo McCarthy and his wife Joy,” said President Jim Collins (‘84). “Their generous contribution is a small representation of the many ways in which they have supported Loras College.”

McCarthy was a beloved and respected Dubuque attorney who passed away on Dec. 29, 2006. He was a member of the Dubuque law firm Reynolds and Kenline, L.L.P., and served as a trial attorney in the courts of Iowa until his retirement in 2001. He was a lifelong supporter of Loras College through several generous donations and served as a member of the Board of Regents for nine years, then was named Regent Emeritus. His commitment to Loras and the Dubuque community was an example to all.

The McCarthys are leaving a legacy of faith and caring that is truly an inspiration.
The Loras College Center for Dubuque History recently received a $4,920 grant from the City of Dubuque as part of the city’s 175th anniversary celebration. This year marks 175 years since the Black Hawk Purchase Treaty went into effect, legally permitting settlers in the area now known as Dubuque.

Last fall the City of Dubuque approved a $25,000 grant program designed to encourage community organizations and groups to develop a wide variety of projects, contests, events and displays to commemorate the 175th anniversary. Forty-six applications requesting a total of $166,000 were submitted and only ten were selected and approved for funding.

The Loras College Center for Dubuque History’s successful grant is entitled “A 175th Anniversary ‘Face Book’ of Downtown Dubuque.” The goal is to use photographs to document downtown Dubuque, specifically a 75 square block area as it looks today. A second goal is to illustrate how Dubuque’s streetscape has changed over the years. Historic photographs from the Center’s collection will be used to make visual comparisons. What viewers will see is a story of Dubuque “then” and “now” as told in high-quality, digitally-mastered photographs. The presentation will be widely available in two formats: a public traveling exhibition mounted first in the Woodward Art Gallery of the Visitation Complex at Loras College and a PowerPoint presentation linked to the College Web site. Brief descriptions will accompany each image.

“There are many ways to preserve the heritage of a community—through written narratives, letters, diaries, interviews, material artifacts—and this project will add a visual documentation through use of photographs,” said Mike Gibson, director of the Loras College Center for Dubuque History. “Students of all ages will have access to a collection of images that depict a multitude of changes. The educational value of the project is exceptional as the images tell stories of life in historic periods, changing architectural styles and fashions, different modes of transportation and forms of public service and new attempts at urban planning.”

Loras students will create a master index to provide better access to specific images and students in the Integrated Visual Arts program will create a Web site for the project using selected images. The traveling mounted exhibit will be available free of charge to interested schools and civic organizations.

The project will produce both a commemorative opportunity and a valuable educational tool, not only for current citizens, but for those in future generations who will be able to see that indeed one picture is worth a thousand words.

A Loras student employee of KLOR radio demonstrates his skills with hands-on learning. KLOR began in 1964 and was one of the oldest college radio stations in the U.S. Located in old St. Joseph’s Hall (now Hoffman) it started as a totally student-financed campus organization with 59 members who each paid dues to the radio club. Additional funds were raised from the residence halls and the local community. In 1967, it expanded coverage to Clarke College and Mercy Hospital and in 1981, FM with 24-hour music was added. Basketball and baseball games were broadcast, as were track meets. Live talk shows were hosted in an “open mike” format. The “Voice of Loras” was best described as the “electronic pulse” of the campus. Today students continue to explore radio through KLOR which is run as a volunteer student organization. It offers a variety of opportunities to students interested in radio production, radio management, public relations, radio journalism or just playing music.

Photo courtesy of the Loras College Archives. The archives, as well as the Center for Dubuque History, are interested in collecting Loras College and Dubuque memorabilia including photographs, postcards, letters, diaries, etc. Contact Mike Gibson, archivist at Loras College, 1450 Alta Vista, Dubuque, Iowa, 52001, or call (563) 588-7163, or e-mail michael.gibson@loras.edu.
Promoting Social Justice

This summer the Father Ray Herman Peace and Justice Center is implementing collaborative initiatives with the Archdiocese of Dubuque to increase awareness of peace and justice issues.

The Archdiocese contributed $5,000 to help enhance and maintain the Peace and Justice Center’s current Web site, http://depts.loras.edu/ministry/herman.html. The goal is to create an online resource that will be beneficial to people interested in social justice issues, specifically those on parish social concerns committees.

“Fr. Herman’s life exemplified a deep concern for the poor and lowly, and a commitment to work toward changing oppressive structures. In so doing he was trying to sow the seeds of justice which lead to peace. I am pleased with this new initiative between Loras College and the Archdiocese,” commented the Most Reverend Jerome Hanus, archbishop of the Dubuque Archdiocese.

A section of links relevant to these issues will be added to the Web site, including a link to the Iowa Catholic Conference. Space will also be available on the site for promoting upcoming social justice events.

Another possibility of the partnership that is being explored is the addition of an online social justice course. This would primarily entail online conversations that would deepen participants’ knowledge of Catholic social justice teachings.

President Jim Collins (’84) remarked, “It is a natural outgrowth of our mission as an archdiocesan college to collaborate with the Archdiocese. As a Catholic institution we also are called to support Catholic social teaching, to advocate for justice and human dignity and to build peace in our world. I am confident that this partnership will assist that effort.”

The enhanced Web site is expected to go live in August 2008.

The Father Ray Herman Peace and Justice Center, established in 1982 at Loras College, is a living memorial to the life and vision of Father Ray Herman, a priest of the Archdiocese of Dubuque who was murdered in 1975 after 13 years of serving the spiritual, medical and educational needs of Bolivia’s poor. The Center is dedicated to the realization of his vision of a more decent, loving, just and peaceful human community.

join the friends of the
loras college library!

The Friends of the Library encourage better understanding, appreciation and support of the Library. In addition, they are dedicated to increasing the stature of an already significant collection of books and manuscripts in the Rev. Karl G. Schroeder Special Collections Room at Loras.

Most of the materials in the collection have been donated, notably by the Rev. Karl G. Schroeder, the Rev. J. Kenneth Downing, the Friends of the Library and others. The Loras collection includes the largest set of books in Iowa printed prior to 1500. It also boasts 20 manuscript books, hand-written from the 12th to 15th centuries; over 500 volumes from Bishop Mathias Loras’ personal library; along with first and limited editions of printed books.

SIGNIFICANT COLLECTIONS ALSO INCLUDE:

• Shakespeare
• William Faulkner
• Charles Dickens
• General Encyclopedias
• William Gill
• James Joyce
• English wills and indentures
• Virginia Woolf
• Willa Cather
• Fathers of the Church

You can become a Friend of the Library for a nominal membership fee, which is used to further these collections. As a member you will enjoy library borrowing privileges, special invitation to Friends of the Library programs and events and a special preview night before the annual used book sale.
More than ten years ago Loras College faculty and administrators began talking about an approach to learning that has gained significant currency throughout higher education. Experiential learning, as you will discover throughout this Loras College Magazine, recognizes the power of applying or living one’s education by integrating classroom experiences with experiences in the world beyond the classroom. Or to characterize experiential learning another way: it is the integration of theory and practice. Precursors to this approach to learning are found in laboratory work, studio-based learning and internships. The distinguishing feature in contemporary experiential learning approaches is the reflection that is required of students as they explicitly document the learning that occurs outside of the classroom, often through constructing portfolios.

At Loras, experiential learning parallels the way our students now want to learn in “hands on,” collaborative and relevant or purposeful ways. It also builds upon Loras’ history of offering broad-based liberal learning that focuses on critical and ethical thinking alongside preparation for careers and professions. We have been intentional in creating structures, promoting curricular revisions and emphasizing pedagogies that move experiential learning into the mainstream of a Loras education. Presently, experiential learning encompasses study abroad, study away, internships, field work, practica, research, simulations, community-based and service learning, discovery and problem-based instruction, among other classroom practices.

The original groundwork for experiential learning at Loras began with the 1996 strategic plan that promoted developing study abroad opportunities. By 1997-98, John Waldmeir, Ph.D., then associate vice president for academic affairs, began working on study abroad and internship development. The first study abroad program in Dublin was designed by Andy Auge, Ph.D. (’78), professor of English, and John Burney, Ph.D., then vice president for academic affairs, during the next academic year. The Center for Experiential Learning (CEL) was established in fall 1999 with new programs in Chicago, Santiago, Spain, and Pretoria, South Africa. Simultaneously, Burney and Waldmeir, along with many faculty, were instrumental in revising the general education curriculum of the College to emphasize student engagement in learning. Consequently, the Loras “Dispositions” were inaugurated as learning outcomes for the new curriculum and, implicitly, supported the experiential learning philosophy.
The “Dispositions”—active learning, reflective thinking, ethical decision-making, and responsible contributing—now permeate courses within and beyond the general education offerings. Students regularly collaborate on projects, are involved in simulations and debates, work on discovery-based assignments and consider the broader ethical and social implications of their learning. As one example, every student at Loras takes the “Democracy and Global Diversity” course in which they role-play the individuals or positions of an historical event in which ideas about citizenship, civil society and developing political structures were being strongly argued. Similar examples exist in majors courses.

When Loras College returned to strategic planning in 2001 and again in 2006, the community recognized the impact that the “Dispositions” and experiential learning had already had on students. The obvious next step was to create more opportunities for—and place greater emphasis on—integrating classroom and experiential learning approaches. Mary Ellen Carroll, Ph.D., joined the College as associate vice president for academic affairs and dean of experiential learning in 2004, bringing experience in service- and community-based learning, another major form of experiential learning. The CEL study abroad, internship and service-learning programs have grown significantly under her leadership.

Because of my own previous experience with the single-course term, I was eager to introduce a structure that could support experiential learning more fully while also challenging students intellectually. The result was the addition of a January Term during which students focus on a single, intensive and accelerated course with a required experiential component. The first January Term courses in 2008 offered the full range of experiential learning approaches, examples of which are highlighted by Jacob Heidenreich, Ph.D., Lisa Grinde Budzisz, Ph.D., and Chris Budzisz, Ph.D. Faculty and students reported they were deeply and meaningfully engaged in the new courses. As a result, we are seeing increased student interest in other experiential learning opportunities and for next year’s January Term courses.

Our intentional emphasis on experiential learning is becoming a distinctive feature of Loras College. We believe it enables us to fulfill our commitment to prepare students for their increasingly diverse and complex world.

So, just what does Experiential Learning mean at Loras College?

BY MARY ELLEN CARROLL, PH.D., ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

While it is true that Loras College students are engaged in and exposed to experiential learning in many different forms, from the course-embedded opportunities of service-learning, simulations, performance, research and laboratory work to the stand-alone experiences of internships, study abroad, field work and pre-professional practicums, what truly defines experiential learning at Loras College are three key components woven into every experiential learning opportunity.

First, experiential learning is planned and purposeful. Whether faculty have designed a course with a single experiential component or built a course around a semester-long experience, they begin by identifying how the experiential component will support students achieving the learning outcomes of the course.

Secondly, students are required to critically reflect on what they are learning from the experience as it unfolds. Challenging students to analyze their prior knowledge in light of new experiences requires them to synthesize and apply their emergent thinking in thoughtful and coherent ways.

Thirdly, the focus of experiential learning at Loras is on what students have learned through their experience, not just on what they did. Students are evaluated based on their ability to demonstrate and articulate what they have learned. In this way, the value of the experience is related back to the desired learning that gave rise to the experience in the first place.

Providing students with planned and purposeful learning experiences and the structure to critically reflect and learn from them is what makes experiential learning a distinctive feature of a Loras education.

**ACADEMIC INTERNSHIPS**

This form of experiential learning puts students into learning environments where ideas are tested and career-ready skills are developed. Students gain insights into the professional world, acquire invaluable on-the-job experience and learn more about themselves. They discover hidden talents, sharpen their competencies and learn first-hand the interpersonal complexities that abound in the workplace. Students face these interpersonal and intellectual challenges by applying classroom theories to practical problems. Internships allow students to investigate work roles, environments and career possibilities and, in some cases, provide a valuable service to the community.
Service Learning: A Reciprocal Experience
BY ANDREW BEHAN ('08)

In fall 2007 I was enrolled in a course titled “Service Learning.” When I signed up for this course it seemed the logical thing to do as it was part of the honors curriculum. I was not the least bit excited about taking this particular class as I had already formed negative opinions of what the course may entail. I knew it would be different from most courses; the majority of the work would be completed outside of class. However, about midway through the semester, I had a completely different outlook on the course and service in general.

As a part of the course I was required to find my own site to complete at least 40 hours of service. I had a wide variety of places to choose from, ranging from schools and retirement homes, to shelters. I had experience with after-school programs and worked as a CNA in a retirement home prior to enrolling, so I chose to complete my service hours at Hills and Dales, a facility designed for people who are developmentally disabled.

The experiences I had at Hills and Dales are ones I will never forget. I worked with a young man who was 17 years old and could not speak. My first day there I had no idea how to begin to communicate with him, much less aid him with daily tasks such as feeding himself. I put myself into an environment where I had never been, one that required me to change my own form of communication and to become much more observant of what was happening around me. Before long, I could read his body motions and understand what he was trying to tell me. I could meet his needs, while also keeping him on task.

Although my first priority was helping him with daily tasks, the best part of my time volunteering was listening to music and dancing. His love of music and the simple fact he loved dancing allowed me to reflect on my busy life and take the time to appreciate all of the small, yet enormous gains I had made as a person during my time at Hills and Dales. I would like to assert he was the only one receiving the service, but I feel like I took much more from the experience than I was able to provide. I enjoyed my time at Hills and Dales so much that I continued to volunteer after the course was completed and I am thankful I am able to take from Loras a new appreciation of life on a much simpler, basic level.

STUDY ABROAD

Loras College is globally connected to provide students unique learning experiences around the world. Whether students are looking to enhance their foreign language skills or simply immerse themselves in a different culture, the Center for Experiential Learning helps students identify international programs that best match their learning goals. International study broadens perspectives, enhances self-confidence and strengthens adaptability. Studying abroad also makes graduates more attractive to potential employers and graduate schools. Study abroad experiences are life changing. Loras College sponsors study abroad semesters in Ireland, South Africa and Spain and short-term travel options are available through January term courses.
The idea of experiential learning may seem obvious to a Spanish major studying in Spain; my friends and I have many stories regarding cultural blunders and embarrassing vocabulary mistakes. For instance, I first learned the word *pulpo* when my host family took me out to eat and a plate of octopus (a delicacy in Santiago de Compostela) was placed in front of me. While I truly believe there is no better way to learn a language than through immersion, my experience in Spain was more than just learning grammar and vocabulary.

The benefit of experiential learning is that course material is concurrently applied to experiences in the real world increasing its impact and likelihood for retention. I think that after three years at Loras, many students would admit that this is one of the best and most enjoyable ways to learn. Unfortunately, it is not always so easy to have an experience with the things you are studying. In Spain however, it was quite easy; in fact it often happened when I was least expecting it.

After a month of studying basic civics, the geographical and political boundaries of the 17 different states that make up the country of Spain, my friends and I went for a weekend trip to Salamanca, a small city in central Spain. Our seven-hour bus ride started off rather bumpy as we wound up and down the hilly, green mountainsides of Galicia in the northwest, but then, after about three hours of driving southeast, the ground suddenly leveled out, the landscape turned orange and the plants became sparse. We had entered the dry plain states of central Spain. Before my eyes the landscape changed and because I got to see that for myself, I know that I will always remember the geography of Spain better than had I simply read about it in a book.

Experiences like the one above happened to me all the time in Spain. While I like to think that my travels around the country during my semester in Santiago were one of the most fun parts of my semester abroad, I know that my travels would not have been as special if the classes we took there had not taught me so much about the rich history and culture that I later got to experience for myself.

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**SERVICE LEARNING**

Service learning courses come from a variety of disciplines and require students to engage with the community through direct service, community-based research or consciousness-raising activities. These courses challenge students to identify the complexity of social and community issues; to critically analyze issues from competing perspectives; and to deepen their solidarity with those found most often at the margins of society. In these courses students are prompted to think beyond their semester-based contributions to the larger systemic changes that may be needed to bring about a more just world.
Internships: Applying Concepts and Meeting Challenges

BY BETH THEISEN ('09)

Last fall several students and I discovered one of the best opportunities at Loras when we spent the semester living in the Chicago Loop, taking a service-learning class through Roosevelt University and completing an internship as part of the Chicago Center Program. During that time I challenged myself to embrace the experience by stepping outside of my comfort zone, gaining career experience and absorbing new perspectives.

I obtained a special events internship with the Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organization, Illinois Affiliate—a nonprofit organization whose mission is “to ensure through information, empowerment and peer support that no one faces breast cancer alone.” I was able to assist in such events as The Chicago Marathon, The One of a Kind Art Show and The Big Night Out-Indulgence for a Cause, a fundraising gala held in Great Hall, Union Station.

As a result I have a greater understanding of the logistics of a nonprofit organization and the value of committed employees who often wear many hats. While applying some of the concepts from my marketing classes in the workplace, I was also faced with aspects of the work environment not covered in a textbook, such as the value of networking, the role of politics and handling time and money constraints. Though faced with the continuous challenges of limited resources and high turnover rates, it was a gratifying experience which helped enhance my skills while grounding me in what is important in the world.

As part of the service-learning segment I spent time each week completing service hours on the Near West side at the Chicago Christian Industrial League (CCIL). CCIL is a nonprofit organization which provides the resources, opportunities and support necessary so poor and homeless Chicagans can return to the workforce and lead independent lives by providing the highest quality employment, housing, counseling and health services. I focused my time in the food pantry where once a week over 200 people would line up, sometimes waiting hours, to receive the nonperishable food items they depended on to help subsist from one day to the next.

Listening to personal trials and tribulations from some of the North Lawndale residents, one of the poorest districts in Chicago, I experienced the heartrending reality of putting a face to poverty. Ultimately I realized that each of us is one natural disaster, illness or job loss away from being homeless. Because of this I have attained a new appreciation for the gifts and talents that God has given me.

By taking advantage of this opportunity to supplement my course work I was able to adapt and then embrace life in a major metropolis, immerse myself in diversity, grow as an individual, network, discover more of the skills needed to be successful in the workplace, see the reality of capitalism full circle, but most importantly become empowered to contribute more to society.
In the Classroom: Loras College
Experiential Physical Education Program

BY DEBRA SAZAMA, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

I joined the Loras College family and the Division of Physical Education and Sport Studies in 2007. First and foremost, I wanted to provide opportunities for physical education teacher education students to have hands-on teaching experiences early in their preparatory sequence. My goal is to provide pre-service teachers with two to three semesters of experiential learning prior to their student teaching experience.

We took the first steps toward reaching this goal in fall 2007 when we invited families who home school their children to be the first participants in the Loras College Experiential Physical Education Program. Our first class of participants met in the Graber Sports Center on Friday afternoons for four weeks and included 26 students ages five to 13. Each week, the Loras College pre-service teachers were organized into stations for each of the fundamental movement skills. These stations involved activities in locomotion (walk, run, hop, skip, jump), manipulation (throw, catch, bounce, roll, kick, trap), and stability (balance, transferring weight, rolling).

In addition, the pre-service teachers introduced program participants to juggling, cup stacking and fitness concepts. The fitness concepts station allowed participants to learn about bones, muscles and exercises to strengthen them. The participants spent 15 minutes at each station, rotating though all of the activities offered each Friday.

The second offering of the program, which included some significant and exciting changes, concluded this May. We expanded the program to six weeks and included preschool-aged children (four years old). This time rather than asking the participants to rotate from station to station, we grouped each pre-service teacher with a small group of participants and they rotated the stations together. This allowed the pre-service teacher to work closely with the same participants each week and to build a relationship. It also challenged our pre-service teachers to prepare developmentally-appropriate lessons for each station every week.

Another exciting change was the addition of rhythmic activities to the program. It was a big hit for both the participants and those of us observing. Not often do you see a four-year-old and a college student performing the Macarena together!

This has been a wonderful experience for our pre-service teachers and the home school children of the greater Dubuque area. We look forward to further development and enhancement of the program and continuing this experiential opportunity.
Along with the community of Loras College, I had been looking forward with hopes and expectations to the wide array of opportunities allotted for the introduction of January term in 2008, a new branch of experiential learning for students at Loras College. I remember signing up for the Rev. William Joensen’s January study-abroad course, “Philosophy and Rise of Christianity” to Sicily and Rome, Italy, with excitement to see another part of the world, but also wary of how I might be stretched and pushed outside my boundaries. Now as I look back on my travel course during January term, I recall it was the moments when I applied what I was learning in class and the moments when I was pushed outside my comfort zone that helped me completely understand experiential learning and relate what I was learning to real life.

I have been told that experiential learning at Loras College is planned and purposeful, while also allowing students the opportunity to reflect on what they have learned, not just what they accomplished. My January term course provided just that through more creative ways of learning and time for reflection. My fellow students and I performed in modern dialogues that were based on Christian philosophy at an amphitheatre in Taormina, Sicily. We were individually tested on what we had learned through oral exams that forced each of us to understand our philosophy coursework, not just memorize. To wrap up the course, we each wrote a final paper that was from the perspective of a Roman growing up in Italy during the introductory half of the first century, while Christianity was first developing. Outside the classroom experiences included the chance to truly understand the Catholic Church as a universal church, by standing in St. Peter’s Square with nearly 600,000 people, listening to Pope Benedict XVI speak about uniting the church and her people. These experiences allowed me to view the course topic, growth of Christianity, from a different perspective. By understanding the risk of being Christian through the beginning years and viewing significant places of growth in the religion, it challenged and redefined what it means for me to be a Catholic Christian in today’s world.

Though Loras’ experiential learning is planned and applies to the course topic, several of the lessons I learned through my January term course were self-directed. One experience that is fresh in my mind today is an experience with an Italian banker in Agrigento, Sicily. At that time it was early in the trip and I had little knowledge of Italian, outside of “ciao” (hello). I was determined to walk into one of the few banks open in the afternoon, for Europeans take longer lunches than we do in the states, and exchange my American money for euros. I walked in and greeted the banker, only to find myself at a loss of communication and pointing to my dollar bill and asking “euro?” The banker proceeded to speak to me in numerous Italian words I’d never heard. Once I realized that I would not be walking out with any European currency, I practiced my other learned word “grazie” (thank you), and proceeded to leave the bank. Outside of laughing about the experience, I recognize that I pushed myself outside of my comfort zone and learned more than I would have if I were sitting in a typical classroom, reading a textbook or listening to a lecture. Needless to say, I studied more Italian phrases that night to practice throughout the rest of the trip.

My three-week, intensive January course was full of outside-the-classroom moments where I came to understand that experiential learning is ultimately learning how to learn for a lifetime. Still today there are lessons and meanings that I do not understand through experiences like my unsuccessful money exchange with the Italian banker and other experiences where I submerged myself in the native culture. For me, learning, especially from experience, is looking at the big picture and applying the lessons to my own life. Though experiences have the capability to be both good and bad, I would dare to say that experiential learning is the best way to learn.
Through the Eyes of a Mathematician

BY JACOB HEIDENREICH,
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS

My January Term “Mathematics of Games” course was the most exciting class I’ve taught in my career at Loras! Thanks to the experiential learning component, I was able to give my students a glimpse of how a mathematician sees the world.

On the first day we played a two-player game called The Board of Pair-of-Dice. In this game, the players each distributed eight tokens across a board with 11 slots numbered two through 12. They took turns rolling two dice and adding up the results. If either player had tokens on a slot whose number was just rolled, they removed one of those tokens. The first player to remove all their tokens won.

At first many students would scatter their eight tokens across eight different numbers. After a few rolls, however, they noticed that sevens came up more often than twos and 12s. So in their next game many students would put all their tokens on the number seven slot. This, unfortunately, put too many eggs in one basket. Although sevens come up most often, the majority of rolls were not sevens and hence were wasted. The students discovered that the best way to distribute their tokens lay somewhere between these two extremes. This was when they were forced to start looking at the world like a mathematician. They started asking questions like “How often does each number come up?” They started looking for patterns. They started figuring out combinations (How many ways can you roll a nine?) and probabilities (How likely is it to roll a five?). The students refined their distributions more and more. At the end of the day, we looked at whose distributions were most successful and figured out why. All this on the first day of class!

Each day the games became more complicated and the students had to think harder. They gave formal presentations on what they discovered and shared their knowledge to form a tight-knit community of mathematical learners. Students began playing collaboratively to figure out the game instead of just playing competitively to win. By the time we reached the final game, Magic: the Gathering, students were showing up early to play, playing through lunch break, staying late to finish games, and even asking if it was alright to play and collect data outside of class. During lunch in the cafeteria, I was thrilled to listen to them argue over how the games worked and what strategy was best. They were totally immersed in the experience of looking at the world through the eyes of a mathematician and I look forward to teaching the class again.

2008 January Term Courses

Collage, Photomontage and Assemblage
Population Biology*
Business Tour*
Career Options in Science*
From Caveman to Scientist
Civility in Service
Theatre Performance Through Workshopping
Roots: Discovering the Birthplace of the Blues and Rock & Roll**
Multicultural Education**
Chicago Literature
Native Voices, Native Lives**
Labor and Catholicism
The Cultural and Natural History of New Zealand**
A Greek Odyssey: An Archaeological Tour of Greece**
Celtic & Roman Christianity**
Mathematics for Survival
Latino Experience la frontera**
Soundscapes*
Philosophy and the Rise of Christianity**
Iowa Caucus: The Road to the Whitehouse*
Psychology of Stress*
The Working Poor*

* Indicates the course involved an off-campus component
** Indicates the course involved a travel component

To check out the 2009 January Term course offerings, go to:
http://www.loras.edu/academics/jterm.asp
An Educational Adventure: From Fulbright to January Term

BY CHRIS BUDZISZ, PH.D., ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF POLITICS, AND LISA GRINDE BUDZISZ, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

It has been remarked that a person’s wisdom is in proportion not to their experience, but their capacity for experience. One interpretation of this is that it is openness to things, and not necessarily a specific set of experiences, that allows one to gain insight and meaningful knowledge. Experience and adventure can be powerful sources for learning and it is as a community of learners, a people and an institution committed to gaining and applying insight and knowledge, that Loras fulfills its mission of Pro Deo et Patria. Loras challenges students to expand their capacity for experience, to grow and to learn. This growth and learning is essential for students in an increasingly complex world and Loras has committed itself to providing students educational opportunities beyond the traditional classroom through what we call experiential learning. From service trips, internships, study abroad and study away, to the new January Term (often referred to on campus as J-Term), current Duhawks have more choices and outlets for experiencing their community and the world than ever before. With the newly announced strategic plan Loras further signals its commitment to strengthening student, faculty and staff opportunities to learn through unique experiences—adventures, if you will.

Over the last year we have been fortunate to do our own bit of experiential learning and adventuring, as teachers, students and travelers. In these few paragraphs it is, of course, impossible to capture all the excitement, frustration, joy and lessons learned through our own experiential education. We hope only to give a glimpse of our experiences and to lend our voices in support to the Loras initiatives aimed at increasing the opportunities and resources for experiential learning. Along the way, we hope to impart some thoughts on experience, learning and the importance of having a capacity for adventure.

For spring 2007 semester we both served as Fulbright Scholars to Ukraine. We taught courses at Chernivtsi National University and served as visiting professors at Odessa Economic University. In addition, we gave presentations and guest lectures in a variety of public and private fora and presented research at professional conferences in Ukraine. We met with Ukrainian students who had studied at Loras in years past and had current Duhawks visit to conduct a faculty-student research project examining the education of children with disabilities in Ukraine. Together we moderated a panel which included the German Ambassador to Ukraine, participated in a conference on NATO expansion, visited numerous schools and nurseries, started an English Club at our host institution and much more. We even hiked the tallest mountain in Ukraine! Throughout it all we tried our best to understand and experience the people and places of our adopted home. We tried, in short, to learn from our experiences.

After leaving Ukraine in June we continued our experiential learning as travelers. A dozen countries and two months later we returned home to Dubuque, a little travel worn and we hope a little wiser, with our dog-eared notebook and beaten backpack indicating an adventure.
Based on these adventures, we humbly offer the following advice for anyone interested in trying to get the most out of an experiential opportunity abroad. First, try not to turn down any invitation offered. While sometimes landing you in awkward situations, fantastic learning experiences themselves, this openness to opportunity allows for a deeper understanding of the people and places encountered. From visiting people’s homes, sharing meals and attending cultural events, relationships and insights grow. The learning occurs in both directions. Not only are you gaining insight into individuals and the community, but so too are those who invited you. Remember that in some form you serve as an informal ambassador and representative. Second, get out of the main cities and tourist areas whenever you can and try to experience the range of communities. Third, make a serious attempt at the language and be observant of the patterns of life within the community. A little effort will make your experience much richer. Fourth, and finally, be flexible. Mishaps and miscommunication will likely abound if you step away from the tourist routes, but you will be often rewarded by memorable and spontaneous experiences that will increase your education immeasurably. Allow yourself to have an adventure and you will likely learn much. While this advice is mostly for those going abroad, experiential learning can occur anywhere, and often times the most important learning comes from experiences in one’s own community.

On our return from Ukraine and post-Fulbright travels we quickly grew eager for the new and exciting form of experience on the way. As we prepared to live and work in Ukraine we also had proposed courses for the inaugural J-Term starting in 2008, an intensive experiential term now required of Loras students. This time the experiential learning would come right here in Dubuque, and this time we would be teachers designing and executing experiential education for our students. Lisa, along with Nancy Zachar Fett, L.M.S.W. (’90), associate professor of social work, offered a course titled, “The Working Poor,” while Chris, taking advantage of the upcoming presidential election, offered a course on the Iowa Caucus and the presidential nomination process entitled, “The Road to the Whitehouse.”

“The Working Poor” J-Term class engaged students in understanding the individual and societal factors affecting the lives of the working poor. Through making and sharing of meals with local working poor families, through attendance at the two-day “Bridges Out of Poverty” workshop and through experiential assignments, such as taking public transportation, visiting a payday loan operation, purchasing an interview outfit for under $10 and eating a meal at a local soup kitchen, students gained a greater understanding of the challenges facing the working poor. Students also visited with professionals representing local agencies, including Project Concern, the Dubuque Housing Department, HeadStart and Iowa Workforce Development. In addition, students were active participants in a simulation activity in which they worked in small family groups to address daily, randomly drawn, life challenges such as unemployment, family illness, child care issues and lack of access to transportation and health care.

While the shift in the Iowa Caucus date posed a challenge for the “Road to the White House” course, coming as it did at the beginning of J-Term, the intensity of both the Iowa Caucus and primaries and caucuses in other states provided ample opportunity to study the presidential election process. By keeping a flexible real-time schedule of topics, the connection between the classroom experience and the actual campaign was impressed upon the students. Through the course students participated directly in the caucus, examined and analyzed the strategy and tactics of the campaigns, examined voters and election data from the subsequent primaries over the three weeks of the course and even spent some time in the Hoffmann Hall media lab crafting commercials for the campaigns. From concept to storyboard to script, sound, images and final execution, the students were responsible for the commercials. Even without backgrounds in the specific software and hardware many of the students created impressive
work in only a few lab sessions. The course experience was magnified by the intense nature of the election itself. Many of these students continue to discuss and analyze the election and hopefully many will increase their political involvement and openness to the political experiences available to them in the future.

Building from the knowledge gained from that inaugural J-Term, Lisa is again offering the poverty course for January 2009 while Chris is preparing a study abroad course examining political development in Eastern Europe, including Ukraine. We hope to continue to build upon what we learned from our experiences and help students have their own unique opportunities for experiential learning. Teaching at Loras allows us to share in these opportunities and to continue our own experiential education. We look forward to the new adventures!

A political rally in Ukraine.

the fulbright program

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by then-Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas.

Designed to “increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries,” the Fulbright Program has provided more than 286,000 participants—chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential—with the opportunity to study, teach, conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State, the Fulbright Program awards approximately 7,000 new grants annually and currently operates in over 155 countries worldwide.

For more information about the Fulbright Program, go to http://fulbright.state.gov/
SEVERAL LORAS FACULTY MEMBERS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS HAVE HELD THE DISTINGUISHED CREDENTIAL OF FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR INCLUDING:

- Alfred Wittine, Ph.D., professor emeritus (former professor of modern foreign languages) (Germany, 1973)
- The Rev. William Wilkie, Ph.D., professor emeritus (former professor of history) (Germany, 1983, 1989)
- Gerald Eagleson, Ph.D., professor of biology (Netherlands, 1984)
- John Deely, Ph.D., former professor of philosophy (Brazil, 1988, 1994)
- David Speckhard, Ph.D., professor of chemistry and chair, division of molecular and life sciences (Germany, 1988)
- Larry Zettel, Ph.D., professor emeritus (former professor of mathematics and computer science) (Malawi, 1988)
- Jeffrey Buller, Ph.D., former professor of classical studies (Italy, 1991)
- Roman Ciapalo, Ph.D., professor of philosophy (Ukraine, 1991, 1993)
- Fred Morton, Ph.D., former professor of history (South Africa, 1999)
- David Thompson, Ph.D., former associate professor of communication and fine arts (Germany, 2005)
- Christopher Budzisz, Ph.D., assistant professor of politics (Ukraine, 2006)
- Lisa Grinde Budzisz, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology and director, MOI (Ukraine, 2006)

Loras has also had the honor of hosting several Fulbright Scholars-in-Residence from other countries including:

- Anatolij Karas, Ph.D., professor of philosophy, Lviv State University, Lviv, Ukraine (1998)
- Mohamed Abdur Razzaque, Ph.D., associate professor of philosophy, Rajshahi University, Rajshahi, Bangladesh (2002)
- Igor Hanzel, Ph.D., professor of philosophy, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovak Republic (2005-06)

There is also a Fulbright Student Program for undergraduates in which the following Loras students have participated:

- Terry Averkamp ('73) (1973)
- Karen (Schroeder) Streit ('76) (1976)
- Michael Haupert, Ph.D. ('83) (1983)
- Felicia Kruse, Ph.D. ('83) (1983)
- Maureen (Carroll) Senn-Carroll ('86) (1986)
- John Balong ('94) (1994)
- Douglas Fischels ('95) (1996)
- Glen Freymann ('91) (1996)
- Kathrin Parks ('98) (1998)
- Nicole Westphal ('99) (1999)
- Leslie Harlson ('02) (2002)
- Elizabeth Elsbernd ('08) (2008)

THE YEARS FOLLOWING LISTINGS ARE THE YEAR IN WHICH EACH PERSON SERVED AS A FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR.
Liz Elsbernd ('08) (Postville, Iowa) was selected to receive a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to Spain. She will spend the 2008-09 year in the metropolitan Madrid area of Spain teaching English at a secondary school called IES Isaac Albeniz. Her primary duties will be assisting classroom teachers 16 hours a week, sharing her knowledge of the English language and U.S. culture and working with students in small groups to help them develop their oral and written communication skills in English. In addition, she will be responsible for designing educational activities and projects.

Elsbernd came across the Fulbright Web site last summer while exploring post-graduation options. Kathleen Jeffries, Ph.D., associate professor of modern languages and cultures and Loras’ Fulbright program advisor, guided Elsbernd through the application process which included an extensive application form, acquiring three references and completing both a campus interview and Spanish language evaluation.

“When I first began this application process last fall I honestly was not expecting to be selected as a Fulbright Scholar,” said Elsbernd. “But I thought it wouldn’t hurt to give it a shot and I’m glad I did.”

“Liz’s attainment of the Fulbright grant is a testament to the possibilities available to students like her who take the fullest advantage of the wide spectrum of learning opportunities provided by a Loras College liberal arts education,” commented Jeffries. She mentioned that the scope and availability of programs available to undergraduate applicants has grown in recent years, but that competition is strong among some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the country.

In addition to teaching English on her Fulbright Scholarship, Elsbernd will also participate in service work, studying the differences and perceptions of service in Spain compared to the United States.

“Fulbright programs have an excellent reputation worldwide and U.S. Fulbright participants play a unique and crucial role in enhancing positive global perceptions of the United States. In this and many other respects, Liz epitomizes our institution’s best hopes and expectations in preparing Loras graduates for global citizenship,” said Jeffries.

The Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships Program (ETA), an element of the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, is designed to improve foreign students’ English language abilities and knowledge of the United States. Participants are placed outside of capital cities in over 20 countries and are fully integrated into the host community, increasing their own language skills and knowledge of the host country. English Teaching Assistants may also pursue individual study/research plans in addition to their teaching responsibilities.

Liz Elsbernd ('08) (Postville, Iowa), pictured here in Granada, Spain, during her study abroad experience, will return to Spain as a Fulbright Scholar for the 2008-09 academic year.
Loras Administrators, Regents Witness Pope Benedict’s Message Firsthand  BY MAGGIE MILLS (‘08)

Acknowledging and affirming the role of United States Catholic educators was among Pope Benedict XVI’s priorities in his first visit to the United States. Loras College President Jim Collins (’84) had the opportunity to hear the pope’s message firsthand.

Collins, along with other Catholic college presidents, superintendents and select leaders in U.S. Catholic education, was personally invited to attend a papal address hosted by Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Just two weeks after returning from his journey to see the pope, Collins was happy to sit down and discuss the tremendous effect it had on him.

“I’m the oldest of six kids, I’ve attended Catholic schools my whole life and now I’m serving my alma mater. Even with all of that as a backdrop, to be in such a special audience with the pope, I never would have imagined,” he said.

The 30-minute speech the Holy Father gave made a lasting impression on Collins. “He was very clear and unequivocal in stating his profound gratitude,” Collins said. He also felt an impression of comfort and passion from Pope Benedict as he spoke. “He himself came from the vocation. He talked, in effect, like one of us,” he said.

The Pope spoke warmly to his intimate audience, concentrating on the need for Catholic educators to realize the importance of God at the end of each day. Speaking directly and candidly, Pope Benedict articulated a sense of responsibility that lies in the vocation of Catholic education. “…society in general has high expectations of Catholic educators. This places upon you a responsibility and offers an opportunity,” he said.

Collins admits that he faces challenges in his day-to-day work, and that the pope’s message was well-suited. “Among the most difficult challenges I face day-to-day are Catholic challenges. Some people say we’re ‘too Catholic’ or ‘not Catholic enough.’ Given the universality of the Church, our reach must be broad and these types of comments help to reinforce what I believe to be our success. Too often people try to justify political stances with spirituality,” he said. “It’s supposed to be about the dialogue, but it’s also supposed to be about enhancing and embracing the faith – it’s part of life’s journey.”

In his address the pope also stressed a continued call to service, voicing the need for a focus on those who are oppressed and underprivileged – a challenge that Collins believes Loras confronts directly. “Loras isn’t serving the elite and never has. In addition, we offer opportunities to gather in liturgy and in service and that sets us apart from other colleges,” he said.

After reflecting on the important lessons Pope Benedict communicated, Collins said he realizes how momentous an opportunity it was. “As time goes by, I understand better just how significant it was,” he said.

Collins wasn’t the only Loras representative to get a chance to see the pope during his visit to the United States. Jack Wertzberger (’75), vice president for institutional advancement, also attended a unique papal Mass that was held at Nationals Park in Washington. Wertzberger, who worked for Georgetown Law School before coming to Loras, received tickets to the Mass from former students. He found the experience to be unlike any other. “The stadium was packed. People started arriving at 6 a.m. The crowd welcomed the pope with wild applause,” Wertzberger said.

Amidst cheering fans and a packed stadium, Pope Benedict’s homily again addressed a respect for Catholic vocations. “It was a very pastoral address,” Wertzberger said.

Loras College Board of Regents members Tom Tauke (’72) and J. Paul Breitbach (’60), along with his wife Frances, also attended the papal Mass. For all who were there to celebrate a most unique and holy Mass, it seemed that Pope Benedict’s messages were well-received. “It was a very moving experience. It really was,” Wertzberger said.

For Collins, his papal experience wasn’t just a personal one. He believes his experience offers a valuable opportunity to spread the messages he believes are at the heart of the College’s mission. “I’ve already been able to use and call upon the pope’s message to justify what we do here at Loras,” Collins said. “To think his messages were to affirm and acknowledge the importance of our roles as Catholic educators, it really meant a lot to those of us who were there.”
The Loras for Literacy (LFL) program has had a busy, innovative year as it helped several elementary schools within the Dubuque community provide an interactive learning environment to students. In 2005, LFL received a $366,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation, a company committed to being America’s literacy champion by increasing community awareness and creating additional funding and support of literacy programs for adults, children and families. These funds have recently helped the LFL program provide the third-grade classroom at Holy Ghost Elementary School with 21 ThinkPad laptops, a laser printer, LCD projector and an innovative system called mimio Interactive + Capture.

The mimio system can transform the standard classroom dry erase board by connecting directly with the teacher’s computer and projector, which allows the teacher to control the computer’s desktop applications directly from the board using the mimio pen as a cordless mouse. Students are then able to create and write stories, play interactive games for reading comprehension and practice cursive handwriting. When finished with their collaborative projects they can save everything created on the whiteboard back to the computer.

“The mimio is a great technology-based teaching tool,” said Carrie Massey-Watters, third grade teacher at Holy Ghost. “The students are highly involved in learning and think they’re playing with a video game. It’s high interest for both my students and me.”

However, the list of assistance still goes on. To add to the program’s productive year, LFL sponsored training for Holy Family school teachers on the Verizon Foundation’s Thinkfinity Web site on Feb. 18, 2008, at Mazzuchelli Middle School. Thinkfinity is a free online resource for teachers, students, parents and the literacy community that is designed to improve educational and literacy success by providing quality content and professional development. At the in-service training teachers learned how to effectively navigate more than 55,000 educational and literacy resources available on the Thinkfinity site. The teachers specifically learned how to find lesson plans on the site, how to implement those lessons into their classrooms and to utilize the assessment instruments available.

After examining Loras for Literacy’s busy year it is evident that the program lives up to its objective of striving to help educate future early childhood and elementary teachers, as well as current teachers, to be better prepared in teaching basic literacy skills to all children. The program has also shown that it truly does focus on better preparation in working with diverse learners and those who are struggling as readers.
Loras College Yearbook Inducted into Gallery of Excellence

Loras College’s yearbook staff has been honored with the induction of its 2007 *Purgold* yearbook into Walsworth Publishing Company’s prestigious Gallery of Excellence.

Under the direction of Mike Gibson, director of the Loras College Center for Dubuque History and *Purgold* moderator, the 2007 edition was produced by the following students: Michele Gelaude (’10) (Delmar, Iowa), Kristen Davidson (’08) (Grundy Center, Iowa), Gina Kubik (’10) (Clutier, Iowa) and Rosie Guerrero (’08) (Kewanee, Ill.).

Only 15 percent of Walsworth’s college, university and trade school yearbooks earned the Gallery of Excellence distinction, making the 2007 *Purgold* one of only 22 yearbooks selected in that category. Among other notable Gallery of Excellence inductees are the yearbooks from the University of Notre Dame and the University of Texas.

The *Purgold*, along with other Gallery of Excellence yearbooks, will be loaned to schools across the country to serve as an idea generator and will be displayed at regional, state and national conventions and workshops. Also, pages from many of these yearbooks will be used for example illustrations in Walsworth’s Educational Advantage resource materials.

“Perhaps the greatest duty laid upon each generation is to preserve intact the great heritage it has received, to develop and expand it and to transmit it to the generation that follows.”

– FATHER HENRY CARR, CSB

**WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?**
Learning writing skills and artistic techniques outside of a textbook has proven to be very beneficial for students who want to extend their understanding of art. This subject was taught in an enlightening manner when renowned printmaker and author of numerous children’s books, Arthur Geisert, was artist-in-residence last semester at Loras College. Geisert’s residency was sponsored by the Loras College Arts and Culture Series, “Learning Through the Arts.” He taught Introduction to Printmaking to 11 students in the Visitation Complex using techniques that have been standard in the industry since the 1400s.

Geisert grew up in Los Angeles, received his bachelor’s degree from Concordia College in 1963 and his master’s degree from the University of California at Davis in 1965. He currently lives in Bernard, Iowa. An etcher and artist by trade, Geisert retired from a successful teaching career in 1994 and now works as a freelance writer and photographer. He has published 27 books through Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, Mass., including New York Times Best Illustrated Books, Pigs from A-Z and Roman Numerals I to MM. He is also a cartoonist for The New Yorker magazine. His most recent project was a book titled, Hogwash, which was published in March 2008.

In addition to teaching Introduction to Printmaking, a three-credit course offered in the art department, his stay included an art show and presentation. An exhibit of his cartoons was on display in the Woodward Art Gallery of the Visitation Complex from March 7 through April 4. Pieces Geisert had submitted to national magazines, including The New Yorker, were on display. The exhibit opened to a packed gallery of students, faculty, staff and members of the tri-state community.

Geisert’s presentation titled, “Art that Makes the Book,” was held on April 5 in the Academic Resource Center as the second in a three-part book art series sponsored by the Arts and Culture Series, funded by Humanities Iowa and Kendall/Hunt Publishing. Bookmaker Peggy Johnston of Des Moines, Iowa, joined Geisert in the presentation and together they discussed printmaking and illustration as well as presented examples of book art.

Geisert’s residency was unique and above and beyond the traditional forms of learning art, and although it eventually came to an end, his expertise and passion for art are remembered by the students, faculty and staff who benefitted from this educational experience.
Your Support to the Loras Fund provides the foundation for most everything at Loras College including unique, meaningful and memorable experiences.

Most importantly, though, the Loras Fund creates opportunities for students.

THE OPPORTUNITY TO:

• Conduct research collaboratively with faculty.
• Study abroad in a J-term course.
• Compete at the NCAA Division III level.
• Help others on service trips.
• Build lasting friendships.
• simply attend a distinctive Catholic college.
• BE MORE.

Help create these opportunities. Be difference-makers.

SUPPORT THE LORAS FUND.

Sandra Gonzales ('05)
Director of the Loras Fund
563.588.7328
sandra.gonzales@loras.edu

The Loras Fund
Loras Players Continue Theater Tradition

Students Present Moving Performance of *Little Women*

BY JOANNA BRADY (’08)

Throughout the years the Loras Players has seen its fair share of changes, with hundreds of different sets, cast members and even a couple different directors, but quality theater performances for the Loras and local Dubuque communities have not changed.

This past spring semester, the Loras Players proudly presented *Little Women*. Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott, the musical portrays the adventures of Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March as they grow up in Civil War America. Similar to the strong family bonds in the musical, the cast members also formed a tight-knit bond. “Our cast became a family of sorts. I think everyone enjoyed each other’s company,” stated Patience Chiles (‘11) (Glenwood Springs, Colo.), who played Beth March. “Also, participating in tech activities (set-building, costuming, etc.) brought about relationships by providing opportunities for us to work together and get to know each other. Some of my closest friends were members of the *Little Women* cast and I think that’s because we had that common bond.”

That common bond was evident in the production as the performance was truly moving. Audience members were captivated by the sternness of Aunt March’s character, played by Kristi Olberding (‘11) (Dyersville, Iowa), the passion displayed by Erin Horst (‘09) (Vinton, Iowa) in her role as Jo March and the expression and dedication of all the cast members.

The Loras Players is the oldest amateur theater group west of the Mississippi. Participation in a production is open to any student. The group produces four to five plays a year that cover a wide range of production styles from musical, modern and classic comedies to tragedies or absurdities. The Loras Players is also associated with the national dramatic fraternity Alpha Psi Omega and with the local theater company Fly-By-Night Productions.
Loras Students Selected for National Ethics Competition

BY TWYLA (MCCABE) MARLOW ('03), EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

A team of five students represented Loras for the first time in the undergraduate division of the 10th Annual National Intercollegiate Business Ethics Competition: Joanna Brady ('08) (Alpha, Ill.), Charles Bermingham ('08) (Rockford, Ill.), Karen Easton ('08) (Rockford, Ill.), Brittani Lenz ('08) (Loves Park, Ill.) and Brandon True ('08) (Mount Morris, Ill.).

During the spring semester, Idziak and Schnee worked closely with the students to help prepare them for the competition. The Loras team chose to present a case detailing the agricultural company Monsanto and its efforts to protect its Roundup Ready Gene Patent.

“Our team analyzed the ethical issues of the patent’s terms and really questioned whether those terms granted fair and just compensation to Monsanto for its work in developing the Roundup Ready seed or whether they exceeded reasonable returns,” stated Brady.

The team’s presentation particularly addressed their concern with the hardship this patent placed on farmers, as it did not allow farmers to save and reuse the seed for replanting unless they repurchased it from Monsanto. In the end, the team found it to be in the best interest of Monsanto and the farmers for Monsanto to limit its patent rights to an initial, one-time purchase of the genetically modified seed.

McGill University from Canada won the overall competition and although the Loras team was not formally recognized with any awards, the judges were very impressed with their PowerPoint and overall presentation.

“I was very proud of the efforts of our team,” said Schnee who accompanied the students to Los Angeles for the competition. “It was hard because this was the first time a team from Loras had competed against larger schools such as McGill University and St. Joseph University. The judges, however, made a point of letting us know how impressed they were by our first efforts and I am sure that everyone’s hard work and sacrifice will make next year’s effort much easier.”
Loras College held its 169th commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 17, 2008. The day was an historic one for those in attendance. Thanks to the beautiful spring weather, the class of 2008 was only the second in the last decade to graduate outdoors at the Rock Bowl Stadium, and the first class to have their graduation ceremony take place there since the renovation of the facility, which was completed in 2005.

The College presented 304 students with the following degrees: five honors bachelor of science degrees, 10 honors bachelor of arts degrees, one honors bachelor of music degree, 34 bachelor of science degrees, one bachelor of music degree, 238 bachelor of arts degrees and 15 master of arts degrees.

Graduates seated alongside one another shared in the culmination of four years of hard work and friendships. Knowing, however, that the bond of Loras will forever tie them, these new graduates were welcomed into the alumni community by Senior Class President, Marianne Giovingo (Rockford, Ill.), who in the closing remarks of her speech encouraged her fellow classmates to, "Go, be more. Be alumni!"

This year’s commencement address was given by Melissa (Franzen) Jones, Ph.D., a 2002 alumna of Loras College. Jones graduated with a bachelor of science degree in chemistry and went on to become the first student to receive a doctoral degree from the space and planetary sciences program at the University of Arkansas in May 2006.

Upon completion of her doctoral degree, Jones accepted a position as engineer in the Planetary and Lunar Mission Concepts group at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., where she has focused much of her research analyzing the potential benefits of using resources on the moon and Mars to make propellant, water and breathing gases for use by astronauts for long-term inhabitation of these bodies.

Jones shared in the excitement and pride of the new alumni by illustrating the importance of staying connected. She said, “I have enjoyed reading and hearing about the changes that Loras has made over the years since my graduation.” Furthermore, she expressed how important it is to begin building a network of contacts and to take chances, sharing that, “Sometimes you have to take the risk of going down the wrong path to find the right path.”

However, Jones’ message of reaching for the stars proved to be just one of many high points throughout the afternoon, as Loras also bestowed two honorary degrees.

The first of which was to Sister Jeanette McCarthy, who received an honorary doctor of laws degree. She is the director of the Dubuque Office of Hispanic Ministries for the Archdiocese of Dubuque. McCarthy joined the Presentation Sisters of Dubuque in 1957 before receiving her bachelor of arts degree from Clarke College in 1962. During her 35 years teaching across the state of Iowa, McCarthy learned Spanish and volunteered with the Hispanic community in Sioux City.

Her role with the Hispanic ministries eventually took her to Texas, but she returned to Iowa in 1998 and for the past 10 years has ministered to the unique needs of Hispanics in Dubuque and the tri-state area through her work at Saint Patrick’s Catholic Church.

The second honorary degree was awarded to John V. Hartung, Ph.D., a retired president of the Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (IAICU). Hartung was presented with an honorary doctor of letters degree.

After receiving his bachelor of arts degree from Grinnell College, his master of arts degree from the University of South Dakota and his doctoral degree from Southern Illinois...
University, Hartung held various positions within the education community. He has served as a teacher, coach and administrator at both the high school and college level. Hartung also served as vice president for college relations at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa, before assuming the presidency of IAICU in 1984.

Hartung is a passionate promoter of private higher education in the state of Iowa, particularly to Iowa and national legislators. He was instrumental in promoting the continued support of the Iowa Tuition Grant to the state’s 29 private colleges and universities, a huge funding source for lower income students. Thousands of students have benefitted from his work and thanks to his dedication, millions of dollars have been raised for students seeking private education in Iowa.

Class of ’08 Leaves Great Gift

BY ALANA CALIGIURI ('09)

Although they have graduated, the Class of 2008 will not be forgotten. They have left their mark on the College through a generous Senior Class Gift. The graduates purchased one set of power operated doors for the west entrance of the Alumni Campus Center (ACC) which will enhance the building’s accessibility.

The senior class exceeded its goal by raising more than $6,600 with an outstanding class participation rate of nearly 30 percent. The cost to purchase and install a set of push button-operated doors for the ACC was $5,800. Some of the surplus went toward purchasing a plaque and the remainder was gifted to the College.

The Class of 2008 chose making the ACC more accessible as their gift because they wanted to show their gratitude for all Loras has given them. They also wanted to leave a legacy that would benefit the College as a whole. Marianne Giovingo ('08) (Rockford, Ill.) said, “This is a gift that not only current students can use, but past and future Duhawks as well.” The entire senior class participated in providing suggestions for the class gift but ultimately the senior senators chose this idea as the best option.

In September 2007, the seniors started working on their class gift and quickly found that personally asking others to give was the best way to raise awareness and support for their project. They went to the residence halls asking for donations and informing underclassmen of the importance of giving back. They directly encouraged all seniors and underclassmen across campus to donate and also sent letters to parents of the seniors asking for their support as well.

Sandra Gonzales ('05), director of the Loras Fund, said she is extremely proud of the Class of 2008’s efforts and final results. She admired the dedication and work the senior class put into making their class gift a reality. “The senior class officers and their classmates remained focused, enthusiastic and driven throughout the entire school year and continued to encourage their classmates to get involved and to give back and make a difference,” said Gonzales.

The Class of 2008 is the first senior class in nearly a decade to raise enough money to complete their Senior Class Gift.
This year’s Dance Marathon proved to be a huge success, raising significantly more than last year’s total of $37,127 and surpassing this year’s $40,000 goal. The theme of the event was Staying up Late in ’08 and was held April 11-12 where students raised an amazing $53,182 to benefit the Children’s Miracle Network (CMN). More than 150 student dancers registered at this year’s event and contributed a $25 entry fee while also raising donations through letter writing and other forms of fundraising. Fifteen families who have benefited from the CMN joined students throughout the night, arriving at 8 p.m. on April 11, and dancing through the night until 8 a.m. on April 12.

Many activities motivated the participants throughout the night: dancing; various skits performed by students, faculty and staff; watching nine people donate their hair to Locks of Love; video games; inflatable amusements; creating music videos; and Jazzercise®. The student dancers were on their feet the entire night and the event was substance-free, including caffeine.

Loras College has committed to annually fund a vending machine program at the University of Iowa Children’s Hospital in Iowa City. The program allows families to use free vending machine tokens toward healthy food options during their child’s stay at the hospital. The money raised this year will also support pediatric research, funding CPR kits for families with premature babies as well as provide toys, games and activities to brighten the lives of hospitalized children.

After being on their feet for 12 hours, students, faculty and staff had to eventually see the fun and rewarding event come to an end. Amanda Stecker (’09) (Williamsburg, Iowa), 2008 chairperson of Dance Marathon, said that this year’s Dance Marathon went above and beyond and achieved some incredible feats. Stecker also stated, “This organization is one which embodies what it means to be a Duhawk and has truly made the community proud.”
Dear Friend, Colleague, Professor at Loras Responds to Call

BY JOANNA BRADY ('08)

In her nearly 20 years at Loras College, Sister Marlene Pinzka, O.S.F., Ph.D., made quite an impact on the campus community—as a professor, colleague and friend—but the time came to respond to a calling which had been gently knocking on her door. Pinzka, a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Rochester, Minn., since 1968, will now serve as the treasurer for the community. She had been asked to take on leadership positions before, but her love of teaching and of Loras prevented her from accepting. However, this time she felt that there was a need to fill the position and respond to the call from her community. “I have a deep love for Loras College and for teaching, so it was a very difficult decision when I was asked to take this leadership position,” she remarked.

Among the many aspects of her life at Loras that Pinzka will miss is her position as assistant professor of mathematics. A member of the department since 1989, she formed a tight-knit community with her colleagues in the mathematics division; a bond which according to Pinzka, is strong. “I think we’re one of the closest divisions on campus—I really value my colleagues, we spend a lot of time talking about teaching; about what works and doesn’t work.”

“Besides being one of my favorite math professors, Sister Marlene has been a role model who constantly exemplifies leadership based on faith and Franciscan values,” expressed Loras student Maria Gonzalez ('09) (Bogotá, Colombia).

In addition to her teaching position, Pinzka was also the co-chair of the Catholic Identity Committee from 2005 to 2008 and the moderator of Loras’ Alpha Chapter of Delta Epsilon Sigma (DES), a national honor society, since 2000. For her service to DES, she was nominated as the 2007-08 Advisor of the Year. Pinzka was also awarded the 2007 Distinguished Service Award by DES and the John Henry Cardinal Newman Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award in 2002.

“Although I’ve only known Sister Marlene a short time, it is obvious to me that she is someone who makes an impact wherever she goes,” said DES secretary Amy Hall ('08) (Orland Hills, Ill.). “Throughout the past school year, Sister Marlene was a great help as moderator to the DES honor society and its officers.”

In a special way, Pinzka has a unique relationship with some of the Colombian students on campus. Her community of the Sisters of St. Francis has a school in Bogotá, Colombia, and through that relationship, an exchange program between students and teachers at that school and Loras College began in 1991. Since that time more than 30 Colombian students and approximately eight teachers have attended Loras College and 16 Loras students have traveled to Bogotá to work and/or study there for a summer, a semester or a year. “She has supported all the Colombian students with her wise knowledge and her friendship. In short, she has taught me valuable lessons that are determinant in my life,” stated Gonzalez.

“I think Loras is a very caring community,” shared Pinzka. “I will definitely miss the people; very warm, dedicated, caring individuals—the students, my colleagues, my friends.”
Media Students Have Rewarding Year
BY ALANA CALIGIURI ('09)

Creativity and excellent technique were demonstrated by Loras College students involved with campus media this year. Students had a rewarding year as they received several awards from various organizations recognizing college and university work.

The Iowa College Media Association Awards (ICMA) video festival was held in Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 7-8, 2008. The ICMA is an organization comprising Iowa college and university student media organizations, such as student newspapers, radio stations and television stations. Its goal is to advance the knowledge of student media producers by allowing them to interact with media professionals. Students were given the opportunity to choose which pieces they wanted to submit for the ICMA video festival. Loras students chose a combination of media studies class projects, work for Loras College Television 13 (LCTV) and the student newspaper, The Lorian (see list of awards to the right).

Along with the ICMA awards, LCTV’s “SportsZONE,” produced and anchored by Nickolas Helten ('09) (Garwin, Iowa) and Lauren Squires ('08) (Germantown, Tenn.), won a first place award in the Sports Program category at the Northwest Broadcast News Association (NBNA) annual awards ceremony in Minneapolis, Minn., held March 28-29, 2008. This is the top award in its category from all colleges and universities in the six-state Upper Midwest region: Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota. No other school in Iowa won an award in the College Television category. Chartered in 1949, The NBNA is an organization of radio and television journalists working in the six-state Upper Midwest region. NBNA's goal is to serve and improve the broadcast industry through educational and professional programs.

At the Iowa Broadcast News Association (IBNA) spring convention in Waterloo, Iowa, held May 3, 2008, Loras media students also received multiple awards (see list to the right). The IBNA is a nonprofit corporation of radio-TV news directors, reporters, producers, public relations professionals and others from Iowa and its neighboring states, who work together to improve electronic media news for the stations and the public.

Lauren Squires ('08) (Germantown, Tenn.) received the 2008 Dick Petrik Outstanding Student award by the Iowa Broadcast News Association. Pictured are (l to r): Craig Shaefer ('89), professor of communication arts, legendary Iowa broadcaster Grant Price and Squires.
Media Students Earn Prestigious Individual Recognitions

Two of Loras College’s media studies students were recognized for their work in the field with impressive individual awards. Katrina Berning (’09) (Cuba City, Wis.) was recently named to the UWire 100, a listing of top student journalists in the nation.

“It’s such an honor to be recognized by a national organization, but I know I couldn’t have done it on my own,” said Berning. “It’s a real tribute to the program here at Loras and all the opportunities that I’ve been able to explore in the past three years. My professors and co-workers have really pushed me to become a stronger journalist.”

Operated by CBS College Sports Network and founded in 1994, UWire is a free membership organization that promotes the work of college media students. Its online Student Media Affiliate Program allows more than 800 student media outlets to share content and facilitate intercollegiate collaboration, generating more than 500 stories a day, including news, opinion, sports and entertainment coverage. The UWire Web site is the only career networking community exclusively dedicated to aspiring media professionals.

Lauren Squires (’08) (Germantown, Tenn.), was named the 2008 Dick Petrik Outstanding Student by the Iowa Broadcast News Association (IBNA) at its convention on May 3, 2008, in Waterloo, Iowa. Squires is the fourth Loras student to receive the Dick Petrik award in the last six years.

“It’s an absolute honor to receive this award,” said Squires. “It means a lot to me because it reinforces that this is my passion and I want to continue to follow it.”

The award is named after the late Dick Petrik, longtime news director at KOEL Radio in Oelwein, Iowa. It is the most prestigious broadcast journalism honor in Iowa for students to receive. The IBNA presents the award annually to the student whose work shows outstanding potential for a career in electronic media journalism.

**ibna awards**

LORAS STUDENTS WERE RECOGNIZED IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES FOR LORAS COLLEGE TELEVISION 13 (LCTV):

- 1st Place – Overall Excellence
- 1st Place – Sports Coverage – “SportsZone” – Lauren Squires (’08) (Germantown, Tenn.) and Nick Helten (’09) (Garwin, Iowa)
- 2nd Place – Sports Coverage – “Alex McGrew Spotlight” – Lauren Squires
- 2nd Place – Best Newscast – “From the Boulevard” – Katrina Berning (’09) (Cuba City, Wis.), Jordan Rasmussen (’09) (West Des Moines, Iowa) and Erin Horst (’09) (Vinton, Iowa)
- 2nd Place – Farm and Agribusiness – “Alternative Fuel” – Erin Horst and Jesse Weiler (’07) (Aurora, Ill.)
- 2nd Place – Sports Play-by-Play – “Loras vs. Simpson Football” – Rob Hermes (’08) (Lake Forest, Ill.) and Cullen Clamage (’10) (Evanston, Ill.)
- 3rd Place – Farm and Agribusiness – “Harvest Season” – Katrina Berning
- 3rd Place – General Reporting – “Boundaries: The Lines Between High Schools” – Lauren Squires and Nick Helten
- 3rd Place – Feature – “Dinosaurs in Wisconsin” – Katrina Berning

Loras media students received multiple awards at the Iowa Broadcast News Association spring convention.
MEN’S BASKETBALL
The Loras College men’s basketball team qualified for their second consecutive NCAA III Tournament this season after winning the Iowa Conference Tournament for the second time in as many tries. The team also hosted the first Loras varsity athletics competition in the brand new Athletic and Wellness Center with the season’s first game on Nov. 16, 2007. Individually, four players were named to the All-Iowa Conference team and head coach Greg Gorton won 22 games in his first season at the helm.

An 0-2 start to the season was immediately wiped away by a seven-game winning streak. The Duhawks won those seven games by an average of 14.8 points. A climb to the top of the Iowa Conference standings followed and a pair of slim losses to Buena Vista set the stage for a late season run. Loras was 9-1 in their final 10 regular season games. They hosted Coe in an IIAC semifinal rout, winning 82-64, and traveled to Storm Lake trying to knock off the Beavers and punch their ticket to their second straight NCAA tournament. Junior Jake Oeth ('09) (Ogden, Iowa) was largely the hero in the IIAC championship game scoring a team high 21 points, making four three-pointers, dishing out three assists and adding a block and a steal. Iowa Conference Most Valuable Player Kyle White ('08) (Antioch, Ill.) added 19 points and 11 rebounds.

The 77-69 win came after the Duhawks trailed by six points at halftime of the road contest. They shot 58 percent in the second half and made 14 of 18 free throws to help seal the win and earn the league’s second straight automatic bid to the NCAA III Tournament.

Head men’s basketball coach Greg Gorton rallies the team during the NCAA III Tournament.
The emotion and on-court execution in Storm Lake carried over six days later when the Duhawks traveled to Whitewater, Wis., for the NCAA III Tournament opening round matchup with the #2 Warhawks. Trailing by 10 points at the break, and 12 early in the second half, the Duhawks fought their way back to within two points on the shoulders of two-time IIAC MVP White. He scored 21 second half points (8-10 from the field, three three-pointers and two free throws) and finished with a career high 33 points. His final three points of the night came on the game-winning shot with just seconds remaining. A top-of-the-key jumper, that surprised his defender, never touched the rim as the Warhawks tried to answer with a defensive stand around the three-point arc as the Duhawk faithful stormed the visitors’ court.

The season concluded the next night with another dramatic ending against Wheaton College and the careers of four Duhawks came to the end. White, Luke Slater (‘08) (McHenry, Ill.), Reggie Rowe (‘08) (Fredericksburg, Iowa) and Kyle Sperfslage (‘08) (Edgewood, Iowa) each wrapped up their careers in purple and gold. During the season both White and Slater joined the 1,000 point club. White entered the group during a road game with the University of Dubuque in December and Slater converted an old-fashioned three-point play in a home game against Wartburg in early February. Each were members of the All-Iowa Conference first team in their senior seasons and were joined by second team selections Brian Centella (‘09) (Grayslake, Ill.) and Ricky Kolze (‘09) (Palatine, Ill.). White also earned both All-Region and All-American honors for his efforts during the 2007-08 season, achievements he also garnered as a junior.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

The 2007-08 women’s basketball season was off to a record-breaking start at the end of the calendar year. The Duhawks won 10 consecutive games under first-year head coach Justin Heinz, a streak that was also the longest in program history. Late January proved the most difficult stretch of the season and when the book closed on Heinz’s rookie campaign, Loras had 17 tallies in the win column, finished fourth in the Iowa Conference and earned two spots on the All-IIAC roster.

Standout performances were usually turned in by senior shooting guard Natalie Pucci (‘08) (West Dundee, Ill.) and sophomore guard Lindsay Bava (‘10) (Downers Grove, Ill.). Loras’ one-two scoring punch each earned first team All-Iowa Conference honors after scoring in double figures all year long. Bava averaged 14.5 points per game and was second on the team in rebounding. Pucci (second team as a first year, first team in her final three seasons) led the team with just under 17 points per game and was second on the all-IIAC roster.

Other major contributors this season were post presence Mindy Meyer (‘10) (Colesburg, Iowa), who led the team in blocked shots (40) and rebounding (6.7 per game) and point guard Lisa Morrissey (‘10) (Urbandale, Iowa). The class of 2008 included Pucci, Sarah Wilson (‘08) (Brown Deer, Wis.) (18 minutes per game, 6.3 PPG), Kelly McIntyre (‘08) (Arlington Heights, Ill.) (12 minutes per game) and injury-plagued Jessica Piascecki (‘08) (Roundlake Beach, Ill.). These four ladies were leaders of the team throughout the season and provided the squad with on-court experience and guidance.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

The Loras College men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams continued their way toward the top of the NCAA III world and set a couple of records along the way. When the season was over, the women’s team claimed second place at both the Iowa Conference meet and the Liberal Arts Championships while the men’s team finished second in the league and were third at the Liberal Arts Championships.

The women were led by junior standout Lauren Lehenbauer (‘09) (Davenport, Iowa). The team MVP this season, Lehenbauer was also the IIAC Swimmer of the Year following her performance in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, at the IIAC meet. She won three, events claiming victory in the 200 yard butterfly, 400 yard individual medley and the 1,650 yard freestyle. Kenzie Murray (‘10) (Muscatine, Iowa) won the 100 and 200 yard breaststroke races in early February.

Lehenbauer also swam legs on three different runner up relays (400 free, 800 free and 400 medley). Her efforts
in the 1,650 freestyle catapulted her into the record books. Her 1,650 time of 17:54.83 broke both the IIAC meet record and the Loras College record in that event. As a part of that race, she also set the 1,000 yard school record with an intermediate split time.

Joining Lehenbauer and Murray on the All-Conference team in 2007-08 were Michelle Goebel ('09) (Caledonia, Ill.), Lindsey Kurtz ('08) (Cedar Rapids, Iowa), Liz O’Donnell ('10) (Tipton, Iowa) and Jennifer Parker ('08) (Ottumwa, Iowa). Ashley Rivard ('09) (Palatine, Ill.) was awarded Most Improved Swimmer.

For the men, the 400 yard medley relay and the 400 yard freestyle relay each finished second at the Iowa Conference meet. Zach Gries ('10) (Byron, Ill.), Joe Rys ('09) (Mokena, Ill.) and Cody Seil ('08) (Fort Dodge, Iowa) each swam in both races and earned All-Conference status. Ryan Quigley ('11) (Deerfield, Ill.) joined them for the freestyle race and Matt Ross ('08) (Dubuque, Iowa) for the medley. Gries was the team’s MVP this season. Pat Moore ('10) (La Grange, Ill.) was the Most Improved Swimmer on the men’s side.

WRESTLING
The 2007-08 Loras College wrestling squad earned another top 20 final ranking and also hosted two memorable events on Feb. 7, 2008. Two Duhawks qualified for the NCAA III Championships and were runners-up at the Iowa Conference meet.

Jay Figgins ('08) (State Center, Iowa) set the career wins mark on Senior Night in the Graber Sports Center. He pinned his opponent from Simpson College in 26 seconds to pass Jim Brophy ('96) and reach 123 wins. Figgins would add two more wins at the Iowa Conference meet and conclude his career with 125. He was also a National Wrestling Coaches Association Academic All-American for the second consecutive season.

On the same night, the Loras College community gathered to honor a former head coach. The team and current head coach Randy Steward named the practice room after Pat “Flash” Flanagan ('63) in a ceremony prior to the dual meet with Simpson College. Flanagan was the head coach of the team from 1966-1981. He coached six All-Americans, including national champion Salvatore Fiorella ('75).

Other notable performances from this season included Erik Hanson ('10) (Lansing, Ill.), who won a team high 32 matches at 157 pounds. Hanson was regularly in the top ten in his weight class during the season. The team also made a strong run during their annual trip to the Budd Whitehill Duals in Williamsport, Pa. The Duhawks finished third in the 19-team tournament and registered wins over York (#15), Rhode Island College (#14) and Lycoming (#13). Hanson, Figgins and Jordan Loy ('09) (Normal, Ill.) each went 4-0 over the weekend. Immediately following the tournament Loras reached their highest ranking of the season, 12th, in the NWCA Brute-Adidas national poll. They finished the year #19.

INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD
The Loras College men’s and women’s indoor track and field teams had four All-American performances after the March 15 NCAA III Championships. Senior Ben Grant ('08) (Peosta, Iowa) concluded his impressive Loras running career with a fifth place finish in the mile during the indoor season and also ran on the distance medley relay team which finished sixth. Joining Grant on that team were Cody Dreyer ('10) (Elkader, Iowa), Nate Gee ('09) (Galena, Ill.) and Ray Orris ('09) (Dubuque, Iowa). Orris was also on the team a year earlier with Grant when they finished fourth in the same event. Kyle Calvert ('08) (Pekin, Ill.) rounded out the indoor All-American performances with his third-place finish in the pole vault. The men finished eighth in the team standings at nationals and second in the IIAC.

On the women’s side, Ellen Thys ('08) (Victor, Iowa) continued to add to her collection of trophies and All-American performance list with a fourth place finish in the weight throw. In the IIAC, Liz Ulferts ('10) (Anamosa, Iowa) won the weight throw and the team finished fifth.
BASEBALL
The 2008 baseball squad finished the season with an even 23-23 overall record under head coach Carl Tebon. In the Iowa Conference the Duhawks were 11-12 and finished in fifth place after the regular season. The league saw considerable parity in 2008 as Loras was three wins from second in the standings and four wins from last place in the nine-team conference.

Once the IIAC tournament started, the Duhawks 18-21 record was in the rear view mirror and the slate was clean. Using that clean slate and a very loose, nothing-to-lose approach to the early May tournament, the Duhawks played the maximum seven games over three days in Cedar Rapids and marched all the way to the winner-take-all championship game. The double-elimination tournament began with a win over #4 Luther College and a loss to #1 Wartburg College on Thursday, May 8. The loss on Thursday night set the stage for five “elimination games” over the next 48 hours.

On Friday, May 9, the Duhawks outscored #2 Simpson and #3 Coe by a combined 23-7, had 29 hits and upped their record to 3-1 for the weekend before heading back to the hotel for Saturday’s games. Loras started Saturday with a convincing 10-3 win over #6 Central. That win meant the Duhawks had defeated the two, three, four and six seeds in less than 48 hours and earned a berth in the championship game. Only #1 Wartburg, who remained in the winner’s bracket with a 2-0 record, hadn’t been defeated by the Duhawks. That changed in the first game of the championship series. A win by the Knights meant the run was over, but the Duhawks won the rematch 4-2 after a clutch performance on the mound by Pat Thostenson (’09) (Oskaloosa, Iowa) and three hits by Tyler Shireman (’09) (East Dubuque, Iowa). A nail-biting third game of the weekend between the teams was a one-run game until the bottom of the seventh inning when the Knights opened up a 5-1 lead and eventually won 10-2.

Tebon was proud of the effort over the weekend. “You can’t ask a group of players to do any more than what they did those three days. I don’t think any player left Veterans Memorial Stadium feeling beat...61 innings in three days and beating every team in the tournament speaks volumes for what these players accomplished in three days. Amazing!”

Five Duhawks made the All-IIAC squad: first baseman Don Pirkle (’08) (Frankfort, Ill.), shortstop Nick Olberding (’09) (Dyersville, Iowa), designated hitter Clark Egdorf (’09) (Paullina, Iowa) and right fielder Brock Schneden (’08) (Burlington, Iowa) were each second team selections. Kevin Moriarty (’11) (Evergreen Park, Ill.), who led the pitching staff in wins (six total, five in IIAC games), was honorable mention.

SOFTBALL
This spring the Duhawks won 11 games including five in the Iowa Conference. They also lost 15 games due to weather conditions across the map from Florida to Nebraska and the tri-states area. When the final out was made at Faber-Clark field on April 22, three seniors completed their careers and three Duhawks brought to a close All-IIAC seasons. Headlining some of
the team’s accomplishments in 2008 were record-setting performances from the pitcher’s mound and an All-Midwest Region selection.

Sophomore pitcher Kate Earleywine ('10) (Brodhead, Wis.) continued her assault on the Loras pitching records in 2008. She broke her own record for strikeouts in a single game and also set a new record for strikeouts in a career during the same game in early April. In one of a doubleheader against Buena Vista, Earleywine struck out 15 batters in an extra inning game in Storm Lake, Iowa. The Duhawks went on to win the game 2-0 after a Kim Chalekian ('09) (Prospect Heights, Ill.) home run. Earleywine’s 15 strikeouts were three more than her previous record and also helped eclipse Laura (Simenson) Schroeder’s ('00) career record of 279. She will enter her junior season with 350 strikeouts in 355.2 innings pitched.

Sophomore second baseman Michelle Bahl ('10) (Sherrill, Iowa) led the offense in 2008 and earned herself third team Louisville Slugger NFCA All-Midwest Region honors. She hit safely in 19 of Loras’ 26 games and led the team in hits, total bases, on base percentage and doubles. She also earned second team All-IIAC honors as well. Joining Bahl on the All-IIAC second team was sister and first baseman Stacy Bahl ('08) (Dubuque, Iowa), who earned her third consecutive appearance on the list and Earleywine, who was the pitcher of record in all 11 of the Duhawk wins and is now a two-time All-IIAC selection.

Head coach Katie Koopmann ('03) and the Duhawks also said goodbye to three seniors. Stacy Bahl, Jamie Wendt ('08) (Le Mars, Iowa) and Sara Medeiros ('08) (Houston, Texas) each completed their careers. The senior trio combined for one third of the team’s hits and over one fourth of the runs and RBI.

OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

The Loras College men’s and women’s outdoor track and field teams had four All-American performances after the late-May NCAA III Championships. Kyle Calvert ('08) (Pekin, Ill.) was once again among the country’s best in the pole vault. For the fourth time in his career he earned All-American status. He finished second on May 22 (16’-3”). The runner-up spot was the highest finish of his career of any season.

Chris Buersh ('09) (Naperville, Ill.) also finished 15th in the high jump at the NCAA III Championships. The men’s squad was third at the IIAC Outdoor Championships. Among the event winners at the IIAC Championships was Barb Kremer ('10) (Clinton, Iowa) in the 100 meter hurdles, where she posted her best time in the event and qualified for nationals.

MEN’S TENNIS

Under the guidance of first year head coach Pete Weber ('07), the men’s tennis team won three matches in 2008. Two of those three wins came at home – one over IIAC opponent Buena Vista (9-0) and the other Dominican University (6-3) – both on April 5. The third win came over Simpson College (9-0) on the road in Indianola, Iowa.

Jared Levy ('11) (Port St. Lucie, Fla.) was the Duhawks’ top singles player, earning six wins during the season. John D’Orazio ('11) (Middleton, Wis.), Adam Holland ('11) (Pleasant Hill, Iowa) and Daniel “Digger” Kurt ('09) (Dubuque, Iowa) each tallied four wins in singles competition. On the doubles side, Andy Behan ('08) (Independence, Iowa) and Levy proved to be the top tandem for Loras in 2008, with all three of their regular season wins coming from the number one doubles spot. They went on to a 4-1 record during the IIAC Flight B Doubles tournament finishing in third place.

Kate Earleywine ('10) (Brodhead,Wis.)
A youthful roster in 2008, the Duhawks will look to build on the experience of the five first year players who played in a total of 41 singles matches as they work their way into the Iowa Conference team tournament, a competition they just missed out on this season.

MEN’S GOLF
The Loras College men’s golf squad was led by a trio of players in 2008. Steve Stark (*'10) (Hainesville, Ill.), Eric Drane (*'09) (Stockton, Ill.) and Mark Dolphin (*'10) (Schaumburg, Ill.) were regularly atop the Duhawks’ portion of the leaderboard. Drane and Dolphin traded top spots most of the season, with Dolphin edging Drane three wins to two. The weather also contributed to some difficult rounds this year, including the very chilly annual Duhawk Spring Invitational at The Meadows in Asbury, Iowa.

The Duhawks finished sixth at the IIAC Championships this season. Mother Nature did not provide much relief in late April, shortening the first round of the tournament by nine holes on April 25. Dolphin was the top Loras golfer, finishing 20th. Other top tournaments for Dolphin were the season-opening Knox tournament and the Wartburg Invitational. Drane was in the 70s twice at Buena Vista and was also the top Duhawk when the team hosted the Spring Invitational. The trio of Dolphin (79.74), Drane (80.52), and Stark (81.22) were separated by only 1.48 strokes per round.

Golf’s elusive and exciting hole-in-one found its way into the 2008 season for one Duhawk. Sophomore Noel Frideres (*'10) (East Moline, Ill.) dropped the first ace of his career on the par-3 12th hole at Lake Creek Country Club in Storm Lake, Iowa, at the Buena Vista Invitational. “It couldn’t have come at a better time because I was off to a bad start on the first few holes,” Frideres said when he returned to Dubuque. He started his round on the ninth hole and head coach Denise Udelhofen (*'90, MA ’92) was walking with his group at the time. “It was a good thing coach was watching me on the par-3 because she helped calm me down. [She] told me to just hit a good shot in order to regain some momentum. I hit a really good shot at the pin but we couldn’t see the hole because of a mound, so coach told me she would walk up to the green with me ‘just in case.’ I didn’t know what to say...I have never experienced anything like it before!”

Frideres followed up his third-place finish in the Loras lineup at Buena Vista with another one at the IIAC Championships to conclude his sophomore season. The Duhawks return each of their top 10 golfers for the 2008-09 season.

**Keep Up with Duhawk Sports**

Call the Sports Hotline at 563.588.7014 or visit the Athletics Web page at www.loras.edu/athletics to stay up to date on your favorite Duhawk teams!

Live audio broadcasts are available for certain sports and games – check it out online.

GO DUHAWKs!
National Alumni Board Welcomes Three New Members

Kendall Griffin ('94)  Luke Vandermillen ('88)  Todd Welu ('86)

The National Alumni Board welcomed three new members in April. Kendall Griffin ('94), Luke Vandermillen ('88) and Todd Welu ('86) have each been elected to a four-year term. Loras College and fellow board members wish to thank Paul “Chip” Kurt ('80) who completed a second four-year term in April.

Griffin graduated from Loras College in 1994 and left a lasting mark on campus. He was a two-time All-American in football, the IIAC MVP in 1993, two-time IIAC All-Conference and still Loras’ all-time receiving leader. His accomplishments continued off the field as well. Griffin has received a master’s degree in teaching from Aurora University and a master’s of educational leadership degree from Concordia University. He has been part of Maryville Academy, Brother Rice High School, Fenwick High School and Argo Community High School. Recently he was hired by Schaumburg High School, the largest high school in Illinois, to serve as the assistant principal. Griffin is a member of the Illinois Dean’s Association, the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He and his daughter live in Forest Park, Ill.

For the past 20 years Vandermillen ('88) has made a career with Principal Financial Group. His job has taken him to Southern California, Louisville, Ky., and Des Moines, Iowa. Vandermillen’s work centers around corporate employee benefit programs with a special emphasis on qualified retirement plans such as 401(k) plans. His current role as vice president of worksite solutions involves delivering financial planning to employees as part of their employer’s benefit plan. Vandermillen has been quoted in several publications such as USA Today and the New York Times on retirement issues. He and his wife, Dawn, live with their three children in West Des Moines, Iowa. When he’s not busy coaching his children’s basketball and football teams he enjoys playing golf.

Welu ('86) is a finance and operations executive. He graduated from Loras College with magna cum laude honors and a bachelor’s degree in accounting. Welu is a certified public accountant with over 21 years experience in client service, finance and operations of large multi-national professional services firms. He has spent his entire professional career in Chicago and the surrounding community, working first with Arthur Andersen followed by Heidrick & Struggles. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Illinois CPA Society. Welu currently resides in Naperville, Ill., with his wife, Karen, and children, Jerry and Abby. He currently serves as a board member for the local country club and the club’s swim team.

MISSION STATEMENT
The National Alumni Board was formed in 1989 under the direction of the Loras College Office of Alumni Relations. The board serves to develop and promote support of alumni and friends through a variety of programs, events and communication in an effort to strengthen the College.

In support of the priorities of Loras College, the National Alumni Board of directors created a scholarship. Tara Kilburg ('11) was the first recipient of the $2,500 scholarship and will receive it each of her four years at Loras contingent on the financial and academic requirements. In addition, the National Alumni Board has expanded the scholarship to be awarded to another student for the 2008-09 year. The board continues to raise funds for the scholarship and you can be part of this effort. Learn more by logging on to http://alumni.loras.edu.
LA CROSSE PRE-GAME PARTY — The Loras Club of La Crosse and friends of the College gathered for a pre-game party at the Eagle's Nest Bar & Grill prior to the men's basketball game against UW-La Crosse. Pictured (l to r): Charles Link ('58), Michael Canan ('54), Phil Quillin ('58) and Denis Kuennen ('58).

ALUMNI TRACK AND FIELD MEET — Loras track and field alumni met back in the Graber Sports Center on Saturday, Jan. 19 for a friendly competition against current Loras student athletes in an indoor alumni track meet. Following the competition everyone met at the Moracco Supper Club to relive their Loras memories.

CEDAR RAPIDS $125 DINNER — On Jan. 27, the Loras Club of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City started the new year with their annual $125 Dinner at the P-3 Retirees Hall. Each year the club provides $10,000 in scholarship funds for area students attending Loras. Dale Blesz, Ph.D. ('83), associate professor of education and chair of the division of education, shared with the group new initiatives underway in this area. Pictured (back row l to r): Jim Brems ('71), Joe Zachar ('64), John Gavin ('65) and (front row) Kevin Heilers ('88).

PIZZA PARTY IN LA CROSSE — The Loras Club of La Crosse and area alumni met at Happy Joe’s Pizza Parlor Feb. 13 to welcome students from local high schools that were interested in learning more about Loras College. They took time to answer questions and highlight areas of the College.

LORAS CLUB OF CHICAGO — On Dec. 7, the Loras Club of Chicago kicked off the holiday season with alumni and friends at the Cubbie Bear in downtown Chicago for their annual Christmas Party. Alumni also collected money to donate to a local homeless shelter in downtown Chicago.

FOOTBALL COACHES UNITE — On Jan. 7, former Loras College football coach Bob Bierie ('65) and several Loras alumni met in Anaheim, Calif., for the American Football Coaches Association convention. The Loras “Garden Spot of Coaching” is an annual get-together that former players and coaches look forward to during their convention each year.
ALUMNI BASKETBALL GAMES — Former basketball players were welcomed back to campus for the annual alumni basketball games on Feb. 9. Prior to the Loras double-header tipoff against Wartburg, alumni from the 1950’s through 2007 hit the hardwood for some friendly competition in the new Athletic and Wellness Center. Following the games, everyone was invited to eat lunch with Coach Greg Gorton and his team. All alumni players were recognized during the halftime of each game.

ALUMNI SOFTBALL GAME — Alumni softball players met back on campus and spent a rainy morning in the Fieldhouse playing wiffle ball. With better weather next year, alumni will be invited to a friendly fast pitch game on Faber-Clark Field. Pictured are (front row l to r): Jessica Nahorski (‘05), Trina Reed (‘01, MA ‘03), Amanda Reiss (‘06), Sara Neverman (‘06), Michele Kearney (‘05). (back row l ro r): Katie (Rasmussen) Koopmann (‘03), Laura (Simenson) Schroeder (‘00), Laryn Lutz (‘03), Brandy Howard (‘98) and Laura Vogt (‘98).

FLANAGAN HONORED — On Feb. 7, the wrestling room in Graber Sports Center was named in honor of legendary Loras coach Pat “Flash” Flanagan (‘63). Former student athletes and friends attended the dedication for Flanagan. The renovation of the wrestling room was made possible through the generosity of Loras donors.

LIFE AFTER LORAS — Loras College’s John Upstrom (right), professor of finance, presented, “Life After Loras” on Wednesday, March 19. Alumni and friends of the College were invited to campus to this “lunch and learn” session. Upstrom provided insight about many personal finance issues ranging from flexible spending accounts and 401(k) to umbrella policies. Joe Bernardi (left) of Bernardi Investment Services Inc., sponsored this event.

COLLEGE UPDATE IN ATLANTA — Atlanta area alumni and friends gathered at Harp’s Irish Pub in Roswell, Ga., on Feb. 28 with President Jim Collins (‘84) and the Rev. Charles Lang (‘61), development officer, for a college update. Pictured are John O’Brien (‘84) and Amy (Meyer) Merry (‘87).
CHICAGO ALUMNI HOCKEY — The 2008 Alumni Hockey Game was held on Friday, March 28, at the Northbrook Sports Center in Chicago. Teams were coached by Roman Ciapalo, Loras College club hockey coach and professor of philosophy. Pictured (l to r): Tom Keenan ('92), James Keefe ('93), Brian McLaughlin ('92), Sean Ryan ('93) and Steve Westol ('92).

CHICAGO SPRING LUNCHEON — The Loras Club of Chicago Annual Spring Luncheon was held April 24 at the Union League Club. Loras Club of Chicago board members and friends of the College enjoyed Head Men’s Basketball Coach Greg Gorton’s presentation on how Loras is setting itself apart from other higher educational institutions and how Loras is dedicated to helping students become the best that they can be. Pictured (l to r): Bobby Stineman ('05), Mike Flood ('05) and Gorton.

HOMECOMING '08
October 3-5

For more information on the weekend’s events, continue to check for updates at http://alumni.loras.edu

You can also contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 563.588.7170
DUBUQUE SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION — The Loras Club of Dubuque held their annual Scholarship Reception on April 16. This year the club gave out 20 scholarships to area students. Funds are raised through their annual golf outing and dinner held each August, membership dues and other functions. As a result of their successful fundraising, as of this year they will have given nearly $300,000 in awards to more than 330 students since 1983. Pictured (back row l to r): Tom Thomsen (‘86), Bob Wagner (‘76), Scott Peterson (‘76), (front row) Carol Peterson, Mary Ann (Beck) Wagner (‘80), Chuck Korte (‘76), Larry Schmitz (‘63) and Joyce Schmitz.

DRAKE RELAYS — On Thursday, April 24, the Loras Men’s and Women’s Track Team had dinner with the Loras Club of Des Moines to kick off the Drake Relays. Coach Bob Schultz (MA ’94) gave an update to alumni and friends about the season and what to expect from the athletes at the Drake Relays. Pictured (back row l to r): President Jim Collins (’84), Alexia Hemesath (’11) (Dubuque, Iowa), Kelly Wiederholt (’11) (Cuba City, Wis.) and Casey Kettmann (’11) (Bellevue, Iowa). (Row 1): Margo Soppe (’09) (Manchester, Iowa), Kelli Theisen (’09) (Bellevue, Iowa), and Carla Schmidt (’10) (Preston, Iowa). (Row 2): Anthony Geistkemper (’10) (Dyersville, Iowa), Lindsey Spoden (’09) (Dyersville, Iowa), Kate Schwager (’10) (Maquoketa, Iowa) and Elizabeth Theisen (’09) (Bellevue, Iowa). (Row 3): Benjamin Kurt (’09) (Dyersville, Iowa), Jacob Bahl (’09) (Dubaue, Iowa), Ryan Domeyer (’09) (Earlville, Iowa) and Elizabeth Mescher (’09) (Edgewood, Iowa).

CHICAGO AREA POLITICS LECTURE — Loras College’s David Cochran, Ph.D., associate professor of politics, met with friends and alumni of the College to present his thoughts on the 2008 elections on Feb. 21 at the Marriott in Burr Ridge, Ill. Loras Club of Chicago board member Kenn Nemec (’76) and his law firm hosted the gathering.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS MEET ALUMNI — On March 12, the Loras Club of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City and the Loras Admissions Office held their annual prospective student event at Elmcrest Country Club in Marion, Iowa. Area high school students who were interested in attending Loras were invited to come for a night of socializing with staff and alumni of the College.
HOLY HOUR — Christ the King Chapel was packed on May 12 for the annual priests Holy Hour. Alumni, family and friends celebrated Mass with the priests, many of whom were marking various milestones in their ordination. Silver Jubilarian the Rev. Michael J. Mescher (’72) presided over the service. A social and dinner was also held in the Alumni Campus Center. Pictured are (l to r): Faye Finnegan (’78), academic internship coordinator; the Rev. Msgr. Everett Hemann (’67), the Rev. Msgr. Mel Hemann (’65), the Most Rev. Archbishop Jerome Hanus, O.S.B., the Rev. Msgr. John Hemann (’56) and Bobbi Earles (’88), executive director of alumni and communications.

2008 GRADUATION — Loras College welcomed more than 300 new Duhawks into the alumni family. For some graduates, the Loras legacy spans many generations. Stephanie Beer (’08) (left) of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, received a bachelor of arts in psychology just 55 years after her grandfather, Charlie Weepie (’53) (right) graduated from Loras. This fall Stephanie’s sister Megan Beer will be attending Loras as a first year student.

DES MOINES REBUILDING TOGETHER — The Loras Club of Des Moines met on May 3 with “Rebuilding Together.” Alumni and friends of the College worked together on a local community member’s house for the day painting, plumbing, inserting new windows and doing yard work. This national service project rehabilitates the homes of low-income homeowners, particularly the elderly, disabled and families with dependent children.

introducing...

LORAS COLLEGE

e-mail for life

The Class of 2007, while still students, began researching and advocating for a way in which graduates would be able to retain a Loras e-mail address for life. We are so happy to be able to share with you that this project has finally become a reality! The Classes of 2007 and 2008 have already been offered their lifetime e-mails and now you can have one too!

Simply go to http://alumni.loras.edu and click on the “E-mail for Life” link. This page will give you instructions on how to request your e-mail address. We hope that you are as excited as we are to have this opportunity to stay connected to Loras as well as your classmates!
Scrapbook

Working Together
Premier Bank, a community bank based in Dubuque, Iowa, finds leadership in its multitude of Loras alumni. Pictured are (standing l to r): Darin Fischer ('92), senior vice president and senior loan officer; Staci (Edmonds) Duerr ('98), vice president and chief credit officer; Todd J. Link ('91), senior vice president of operations and chief risk officer; Mathew Langenberg ('94), vice president of commercial lending; Patrick Niemer ('90), senior vice president and chief financial officer; Jerod Driscoll ('02), senior accountant; and (seated) Jeffrey Mozena ('75), president and CEO. Premier Bank was started as a de novo in 1998 and has three Dubuque locations.

Future Classmates
Old roommates now get together and reminisce about their Loras days with their little future Duhawks. Pictured are (l to r): Donnie and Emma Swanson, children of Sherri (Worden) ('94) and Jim Swanson ('00); Grace Wright, daughter of Terri (Waldron) Wright ('94); and Keegan and Addison Spahn, children of Angie (Weber) Spahn ('94).

A Duhawk Wedding
Ashley (Caccia) Cleary ('04) and Paul Cleary ('03) met at Loras in 2003. After their wedding on June 30, 2007, they stopped for a picture “back where it all began.” Duhawk alumni, students and faculty in attendance at their reception included:

Row 1 (l to r): Katie Cleary ('02), Erin (Hodges) Fischer ('04), Rob Lagoni ('03), Paul Cleary ('03) Ashley (Caccia) Cleary ('04), Ryan Haggerty ('08), Caleb Dietrich ('08), Don LeRoux ('02), Randy Steward (wrestling coach).

Row 2 (l to r): Leo Costello ('92), Jackie (McGonagle) Lagoni ('04), Dave Ilaria (MA '05), Sacha Healy, Lisa Vogel, Rick Healy ('01), Mary Quan ('03), Dr. Donna Bauerly (professor emeritus), Laura Radakirtz ('06), Ryan Allen ('09) and Christine Bochniak ('09).

Row 3 (l to r): Melissa (Zeimet) Casey ('04) holding Nathan Casey (future Duhawk), Kristen Anderson ('04, MA '07), Bryant Mangler ('04), Terry Morgan ('08), Pete Cleary ('00), Chris Vogel ('03), Travis Andrews ('03), Erin Hall ('05), Rich Schroeder ('03), Sean Chinski ('03), Laura LeRoux, Sister Marlene Pinzka (faculty), Leah Holle ('09), Jay Figgins ('08) and Shannon Cox ('09).

Row 4 (l to r): Msgr. Charles Schluter ('67), Charles Runde ('70), Travis Kueter ('04), Ryan Muenster ('04), Ken Kurt ('03), Chris Speziale ('98, MA '05), David Fischer ('04), Joe Roling ('04), Tim Cundiff ('04), Chris Michel ('03), Clark Lichty ('04), Seamus Ahern ('04), Pat Thomas ('03) and Jerry Ross ('76, MA '87).
Robert Naughton ('60) and his wife Peggy escorted Galveston-Houston Archbishop Daniel DiNardo to Rome on Nov. 24, 2007, as DiNardo was elevated to cardinal by Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican.

Ronald Blouin ('70) recently retired as the executive director of Blue Cap. He spent his entire career working for the not-for-profit organization which is committed to providing community-based services and support to people with developmental disabilities.

Robert Blouin ('71) has been appointed vice president of flight operations at Hawker Beechcraft Corporation.

David Walsh ('71) has been appointed CEO of Amalgamated Life Insurance.

Richard Doria ('75) was inducted into the newly created Arizona Highland Games Athletics Hall of Fame. He recently won the Arizona Archery State Championship in the 50+ Barebow and the Grand Canyon State Championship in the 50+ Barebow Target and 50+ Barebow 3-D Animal Field Archery. He also qualified for the Senior Olympic Nationals, State Games Nationals and National Field Archery Championships.

William B. Burns ('82) has been recently elected to a second term on the executive board of the Fraternal Order of Police as sergeant at arms and is starting his 22nd year as a Chicago police officer currently working patrol in the 018 District.

Roger Neuhaus ('84) has been named senior vice president of development and university campaigns for the University of Arizona Foundation. It is a newly created position that is part of a larger reorganization of the UA Foundation.

Susan (Heintz) Smith ('88) was named Prairie Lakes’ 2006 Iowa School Social Worker of the year.

Will Anderson, Ed.D. ('89) has been awarded tenure within the College of Communication and Fine Arts at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Mich.


David Dwelle ('92) has been hired as regional sales manager for Babolat Company, one of the leading manufacturers of tennis products. Dwelle will be responsible for the southern region of the country.

Sara (Lensing) Borland ('96) has been named the marketing manager for SMART Public Safety Software, Inc., in Waterloo, Iowa.

Beth (Nischik) Mund ('96) has been hired by the City of St. Charles, Ill., as the first community and public affairs division manager. She will support city communication initiatives, manage news and information delivery for the city and serve as a key communication liaison and city spokeswoman.

Shawna (Kerndt) Stringham ('95) was the winner of the 2008 Virginia Hart Special Recognition Award. This award is given annually to a woman in state government in honor of exemplary performance in public service that improves the quality of life for Wisconsin citizens. Stringham is the Conservation Warden for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in Viroqua, Wis.

With his wife Ann at his side, Gary Glenn, Ph.D. ('62) (left), is congratulated by Bruce Cole, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Glenn was sworn in as a member of the National Council for the Humanities at a May 22 ceremony in Washington, D.C.
Holly (Stoffel) Wille ('97) received a masters of education degree with an emphasis in classroom and instructional leadership from Upper Iowa University on May 10, 2008.

Tom Foley ('98) recently earned his Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential from the CAE Commission of the American Society of Association Executives.

Nick Schneiderman ('03) has joined the teaching and coaching staff at Forreston High School in Illinois. He teaches high school physical education and health, is the eighth grade basketball head coach, sophomore head basketball coach, assistant varsity basketball and assistant high school boys track and field coach.

Dane Lisser ('05) has been appointed director of communications for the Odessa Roughnecks football team.

ALUMNI WEDDINGS
Mary Beth Mullaney ('84) to Stacey Thomas on Oct. 20, 2007.

Dave Flanagan ('91) to Amy Reed on June 8, 2007.

Marty Callaghan ('01) to Kathleen Petzold ('03) in May 2007.

Daniel Ruba ('02) to Kellie Quint on Aug. 11, 2007.

James Milner ('05) to Sarah Simon ('07) on June 7, 2008.

Rob Sieverding (MA '07) to Erin Thielen on June 9, 2007.

To Bob ('84) and Cathy Sabers, a son on April 18, 2008.

To Ron ('90) and Carla Brosius, a son, Bradley, on April 14, 2008.

To David ('90) and Joni Houtakker, a daughter, Cheyann, on Jan. 28, 2008.

To Ty ('92) and Julie Petsche, a son on Jan. 17, 2008.

To Randy ('92) and Carolyn (Quinn) ('99) Tomkinkin, a daughter on April 18, 2008.

To Susan (Andrukaitis) ('96) and Kendall ('97) Schwartz, a daughter, Malachi James, on Feb. 18, 2008.

To Kevin ('93) and Laura Dreessens, a son, Benjamin, on April 25, 2008.

To Kelly (Francois) ('94) and Scott Arlen, twin daughters, Elizabeth and Natalie, on Feb. 22, 2008.

To Carrie Ann (Seymour) ('94) and Brian Preston, a daughter on Nov. 8, 2007.

To Becky (Strohmeyer) ('94) and Jeff Schmelzer, a son on Oct. 27, 2007.

To Sara (Lensing) ('96) and Jeff Borland, a daughter, Hannah Marie, on July 31, 2007.

To Sarah (Haas) ('96) and Matt Merz, a son on Feb. 26, 2008.

Dwain Trenkamp ('74) has been named market president of U.S. Bank in Maquoketa and DeWitt, Iowa. He will oversee commercial lending activities and coordinate market activities for U.S. Bank’s two offices in Maquoketa and the branch located in DeWitt.

Dwain Trenkamp (74)

Eric Flemming (’00) has been hired as corporate development manager for Wisconsin Public Television (WPT). He will work with the Wisconsin business community and foundations to secure financial support for WPT programming and events.

To Kevin ('93) and Laura Dreessens, a son, Benjamin, on April 25, 2008.

To Kelly (Francois) ('94) and Scott Arlen, twin daughters, Elizabeth and Natalie, on Feb. 22, 2008.

To Carrie Ann (Seymour) ('94) and Brian Preston, a daughter on Nov. 8, 2007.

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To Sarah (Haas) ('96) and Matt Merz, a son on Feb. 26, 2008.

To Susan (Andrukaitis) ('96) and Kendall ('97) Schwartz, a daughter, Malachi James, on Feb. 18, 2008.
To Jolene (Berning) ('97) and Terry Belken, a daughter, Karley Jo, on Feb. 19, 2008.

To Ryan ('97) and Megan (Wagner) ('98) Block, a son on April 16, 2008.

To Andrew ('97) and Tiffany Elwood, a son on March 15, 2008.

To Sara (Redfern) ('97) and Jeremy Funston, a son on March 15, 2008.

To Shane ('97) and Julia (Scholl) ('97) Holdridge, a daughter, Leah Katherine, on Feb. 16, 2008.

To Jennifer (Seipp) ('97) and Douglas Send, twin daughters, Jacinta and Felicity, on Nov. 27, 2007.

To Amy (Feltes) ('98) and John ('00) Freund, a son on March 3, 2008.

To Thomas ('98) and Amy Rossi, a daughter, Sara Renee, on Dec. 19, 2007.

To Robert ('99) and Angella Hohmann, a daughter, Mia Veronica, on Jan. 31, 2008.

To Margaret (Moroney) ('03) and Fred Peck, a daughter, Kreighton Lorraine, on Sept. 2, 2007.

To Chris ('03) and Lisa Vogel, a daughter, on March 31, 2008.

To Christopher ('04) and Valerie (Otto) ('04) Loewenberg, a son, Hayden Dean, on Nov. 3, 2007.

To Sara (Klosterman) ('00) and Dr. Matthew Rauen, a daughter on March 25, 2008.

To Sera (Klosterman) ('00) and Dr. Matthew Rauen, a daughter on March 25, 2008.

To Curt ('01) and Molly Deutsch, a son on March 2, 2008.

To Robyn (Chase) ('01) and Gabriel Lucas, a son, Zachary Chase, on Feb. 18, 2008.

To Bob (Chase) ('01) and Gabriel Lucas, a son, Zachary Chase, on Feb. 18, 2008.

To Shane ('01) and Molly Deutsch, a son on March 2, 2008.

To Jennifer (Seipp) ('00) and Dr. Matthew Rauen, a daughter on March 25, 2008.

To Robert ('00) and Dr. Matthew Rauen, a daughter on March 25, 2008.

To Chris ('03) and Lisa Vogel, a daughter on March 31, 2008.

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To Curt ('01) and Molly Deutsch, a son on March 2, 2008.

To Robyn (Chase) ('01) and Gabriel Lucas, a son, Zachary Chase, on Feb. 18, 2008.

To Robert ('00) and Dr. Matthew Rauen, a daughter on March 25, 2008.

To Christopher ('04) and Valerie (Otto) ('04) Loewenberg, a son, Hayden Dean, on Nov. 3, 2007.

To Sara (Klosterman) ('00) and Dr. Matthew Rauen, a daughter on March 25, 2008.

To Curt ('01) and Molly Deutsch, a son on March 2, 2008.

To Robyn (Chase) ('01) and Gabriel Lucas, a son, Zachary Chase, on Feb. 18, 2008.
To Alicia (Davis) ('05) and Jeremy Kapp, a son, Blair Michael, on Nov. 14, 2007.

To Shannan (O'Meara) ('05) and Andrew Noonan, a daughter, Emma Marie, on Nov. 6, 2007.

To Jill (Hoffman) ('06) and Tom Kult, a son on March 17, 2008.

To Jackie (Weiss) ('06) and Chris Reuter, a daughter on March 14, 2008.

ALUMNI DEATHS


Vincent Koehler ('48, A '44) on April 1, 2008, in Elgin, Ill.

Perry Schappe ('49) on Jan. 22, 2008, in Madison, Wis.

Glen Billmeyer ('49) on April 10, 2008, in Des Moines, Iowa.


Lloyd Seaman ('50) on March 5, 2008, in Dubuque, Iowa.

Dr. Terence Spencer ('50) on April 1, 2008, in Pultneyville, N.Y.

James Welu ('50, A '44) on March 7, 2008, in Dubuque, Iowa.


William Anhalt, Ph.D. ('54) on Nov. 10, 2007, in Alamo, Calif.

Thomas Ries ('54) on Feb. 18, 2008, in Blue Springs, Mo.

Raymond Lenahan ('57) on Aug. 15, 2007, in Madison, Wis.

James Steimel ('57) on March 28, 2008, in Waukesha, Wis.


Patrick Best, Ph.D. ('59) on April 14, 2008, in Detroit, Mich.

Abraham Gomez, Jr. ('60) on Feb. 7, 2008, in Highland, Ind.


Bernard J. “Jim” Murphy, Jr. ('65) on Dec. 13, 2007, in Indio, Calif.

James Gallagher ('67) in Nov. 2007.


Stay Connected

NewsBytes keeps you up-to-date on Loras happenings in between magazine issues!

This informational e-newsletter is sent periodically to alumni and friends of Loras College.

If you would like to receive NewsBytes, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations with your email address.

563.588.7170 or alumni@loras.edu


Kenneth Recker (‘69) on Dec. 15, 2007, in Indianapolis, Ind.

Dennis Franke (‘69) on Nov. 4, 2007, in Minneapolis, Minn.


James Hoefler (‘72) on Feb. 23, 2008, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Richard Collins (‘77) on March 10, 2008, in Dubuque, Iowa.

Shirley Conry (‘82) on March 15, 2008, in Sun City West, Ariz.


Audrey Fitzgerald (student) on March 2, 2008, in Dubuque, Iowa.

Ashley Pins (alumnus) on Dec. 26, 2007, in Dubuque, Iowa.

James Feeney (alumnus) on April 1, 2008, in Scottsdale, Ariz.


Hilbert Rogers (alumnus) on Dec. 2, 2007, in Osage, Iowa.


Michael Healy (‘04) married Alison Brogan (‘05) on Nov. 10, 2007. Several Loras friends attended their wedding. Pictured are (first row, l to r): Alison (Brogan) Healy (‘05) and Michael Healy (‘04), (Second row, l to r): Colleen Holland (‘06), Paul Morreale (‘05), Mike Doyle (‘04), Kevin Bulava (‘06), John Healy (‘11) and John Blecha (‘05). (Third row, l to r): Matt McElligott (‘04), Nick DeMoss (‘05), Maggie (Moore) Arundel (‘02), Alexandra Becker (‘05), Elizabeth Singer (‘05), Jackie (Taylor) Reed (‘05), Kathy Bochnak (‘05), Stephanie (Janke) Blecha (‘05), Colleen (Brogan) Black (‘02), Kathleen (Healy) Osland (‘00), Meghan (Healy) Teeling (‘03), Colleen (Dolphin) Kramer (‘77), Jeanne (Duffy) Halbleib (‘77) and Marianne (Duffy) Gonzales (‘78). (Fourth row, l to r): Sean McFarland (‘05), Matt Leahy, John Arundel (‘04), Ben McDougal (‘04), Matt Reed (‘04), Nicko Sifnaios (‘04), Jenny Noonan (‘05), Katie Morrissey (‘08), Kristin Lindemeyer (‘03), Kelly Meyer (‘05), Elizabeth Priczak (‘05) and Kirsten (Doolittle) Williams (‘03). (Fifth row, l to r): Mike Schrom (alumnus), Jon Harle (‘04), Brad Johnson (‘03), Troy Neideen (‘04), Matt Updegrove (alumnus), Tim Walsh (‘03), Brenton Teeling (‘04), Erick Kephart (‘05), Brendan Porter (‘05), Chris Williams (‘04), Jon Weidemann (‘05), Bob Braband (‘76) and Kathy (Ryan) Braband (‘77). Not pictured: Billy Duffy (‘75), Brian Duffy and Pat Molloy (alumnus).

Katie Mueller (‘06) married Jeff Laban in Bellevue, Iowa, on May 10, 2008.

Maggie Moore (‘02) married John Arundel (‘04) on April 28, 2007. Over 50 Loras alumni helped them celebrate their special day.
Jessica La Fleur ('00) married Kevin Malm on April 28, 2007. Celebrating with them were (l to r): Mark Lawler ('99), Mary Jo (Scordato) Le Grand ('00), Elizabeth O'Connell ('01), Kristin Kramer ('00), the Rev. Douglas Wathier, S.T.D. ('78), Jessica La Fleur Malm ('00), Roger Hellman ('75), Renee LaFleur ('99), Jillian Frideres ('01), Karen Wiebel ('01), John Freund ('00) and Amy (Feltes) Freund ('98).

To Mike ('99) and Jennifer (Johnson) ('00) Specht, a son, William Michael, on April 23, 2007.

To Ross ('06) and Erin (O'Brien) ('06) Dillavou, a son, Landon Dooley, on May 9, 2008.

To Michelle (Weightman) ('03) and Nick Olsen, a son, Wyatt Riley, on March 31, 2008.

To Kyle ('04) and Tasha (Splinter) ('04) Lippold, a son, Jackson Theodore, on April 17, 2008.


Donald Huber (alumnus) on Feb. 6, 2008, in Manchester, Iowa.

Gary Maus (alumnus) on March 14, 2008, in Albuquerque, N.M.


Bruno Schildmeyer (alumnus) on March 21, 2008, in Los Angeles, Calif.

Roman Vetter, Jr. (alumnus) on March 23, 2008, in Madison, Wis.

Sr. Mary Elizabeth Presseller, PBVM (alumnus) on April 19, 2008, in Dubuque, Iowa.


Marcellus Timmerman (A '38) on March 15, 2008, in Dubuque, Iowa.


Donovan Kelleher (A '51) on Jan. 4, 2008, in Dubuque, Iowa.


James Metz (A '60) on Feb. 7, 2008, in Iowa City, Iowa.
To Mike (’92) and Angie FitzPatrick, a son, William Robert, on March 8, 2008.

To Daniel (’99) and Christine (Lorenz) (’01) Tropp, a son, Andrew Thomas, on Dec. 9, 2007. Pictured with Andrew are big brother Michael and big sister Mary.

To Brian (’97) and Brooke Schermerhorn, a daughter, Brenna, on Jan. 23, 2008.

To Jon (’04) and Stephanie (Burgmeier) (’05) Ludovissy, a daughter, Lauren Marie, on Dec. 12, 2007.

The Dewey Callers thank you for your dollars!

Over $300,000 was raised for the Loras Fund during the 2007-08 fiscal year as a result of the College’s annual phone-a-thon. The Loras students who work as “Dewey Callers” always look forward to speaking with alumni and they are appreciative of your gifts and pledges!

THE DEWEY CALLERS WILL BE ON THE PHONES AGAIN BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER. Please welcome their calls with your generosity and support to the Loras Fund.
Experiential learning played a huge role in my life as a Duhawk. From the day I set foot on campus to the day I received my diploma from President Collins, experiential learning flooded my daily routine. When I arrived at Loras in fall 2003, I did not expect to be so greatly impacted by experiential learning. After all, I was at Loras College – in Dubuque Iowa. What type of profound experiences could I have?

My first opportunity for experiential learning came through the Honors Program and my Modes of Inquiry and Democracy and Global Diversity courses. Both of these courses utilized role playing techniques to teach the subject matter. As a first year student I was terrified. Not only would I have to speak up in class, but I’d be debating issues with classmates I barely knew. While the experience was challenging it was also rewarding. Through this experience I developed a proficiency in research and oral communication, two skills which continue to benefit me today. I also forged many lasting relationships with my classmates, many of whom I call my closest friends.

During my tenure at Loras I was also fortunate to take my development out of the classroom and into the community. I studied abroad in London during the spring semester of 2006. The five months I spent living, working and studying in London taught me more about myself than I could have ever imagined. I was able to put the skills and concepts I had learned in the classroom into practice during an internship in the finance and resources department of a UK-based charity. It was one of the first times I had the opportunity to actively demonstrate the skills and knowledge I had been building during those long hours spent in Hoffmann Hall. In those days of travel and exploration I was forced to try new things, meet new people and reflect on how the experience would affect my future.

My thirst for experiential learning did not end when I returned to the Loras campus. I was fortunate to receive the Valder Social Justice Award which affords students the opportunity to spend time doing service and social justice work the summer before their senior year. This experience challenged me to evaluate many issues from both an academic and values perspective. I wasn’t just reading about labor unions and issues of unemployment, I was working side by side with union leaders and serving people in the Chicago community. The experience enhanced my understanding of key economic theories and led me to research issues of corporate social responsibility for my thesis.

When the time came to look for post-graduate employment, I focused my efforts on finding an employer that fit with my interests and personal beliefs. I knew I could use my background in finance and economics to be successful wherever I went, and thus the company’s business principles became of utmost importance. I focused on companies that valued community involvement, excellence, diversity, integrity and teamwork. My decision to join Goldman Sachs Asset Management was influenced by the firm’s strong reputation, business principles and the emphasis they place on learning through experience while striving for excellence.

The impact of experiential learning on my career has been tremendous. While each of the experiences was focused in different academic disciplines, they all had similar outcomes and have come to shape the way I think, act and live. My involvement in internships helped me solidify the skills I learned through classroom work and further application of these skills has allowed me to be successful in my current position. Through study abroad and service learning I was exposed to the ideas of diversity and community involvement. Both of these ideas are central to my professional success. Without the many experiential learning opportunities I embraced at Loras, I would be a different person.

With the support of my family, friends and the Loras faculty I was able to take the risks associated with experiential learning. Thank you to all of you who believed in me and encouraged me to step out of my comfort zone. I would encourage all students to take a chance and give experiential learning a try. You don’t have to leave the country or even Dubuque to participate in an experiential learning opportunity; you just have to be willing to step outside of the box and into a world of possibilities.